

"BE THE CHURCH"

Stories of Hope, Joy, Giving and Love

Just today (Thursday, Dec. 17th) a van pulled up in our driveway to deliver a meal of pizza, breadsticks and Christmas cookies to our family. One of the small groups in our church had decided to go together to bless our family. It was a very thoughtful expression of what the church is supposed to look like. Thanks for choosing to 'be the church'. Our lives were blessed because of it.

We are new couple to the church. After just our 2nd week there, we rec'd the free turkey. I contacted the food pantry at Salvation Army and they were tickled to receive it , as they were going to put their baskets together on the 15th. Thank you very much and your contribution for the needy at this time of the year.

Jerry & Phyllis Frohwein

One of our small groups cooked three turkeys, made sandwiches along with some other things and had them taken to the homeless along the Des Moines river.

Imagine our surprise when we ended up with two turkeys to give away! We decided almost immediately that we would give our turkeys to an often forgotten group of people---those who reside and work in the Progress Industries homes. We took one turkey to our son Joel's group home and gave them the turkey and card. They were so thankful that they were remembered that day. With the other turkey we invited those who lived and worked in Eric's home to our home for an early Christmas turkey meal with all the trimmings. What a fun evening!!! I don't know who was more blessed---them or us.

The residents and staff of both homes thanked us for remembering them but also Community Heights for taking the church to the community. Jim and Cathy Tyson

As a staff at CHAC, we had the opportunity to bring a dozen plates of cookies to the courthouse and to several local businesses in town. Our goal was to be a blessing and to give our thanks to those that serve our community. One lady at the courthouse said, 'I've worked here for 14 years and have never had someone do this for us.' We serve a great God and it's both a privilege and a pleasure to be able to share His love with others... even in small and practical ways.

Community Height Alliance Church Staff (Cory, John, Jarrod, Lou, Paul, Jim, Kathi & Jeanette)

I brought the turkey home and put it in the freezer. We didn't wonder WHO to give it to because we did not know anybody in need. Everybody in the neighborhood bought their own bird.

However, we knew Someone who had all sorts of connections: the Lord. He brought to mind one of our close friends who works for DHS. We called her and told her we had a turkey to give away to a needy family, and did she know of such a family ... "Oh yes, I'll find one", she said.

"The turkey is in our outside freezer", we told her, "and when you find such a family, you are free to come and take the bird to that family." Time went on, we wondered if the turkey was ever going to find a home.

And, finally, the first of the year came a knock at our door and our friend was ready to take the turkey. Here's the story:

"Problems in a certain family had DHS removing the 3 children temporarily from the two-parent home until family counseling classes were taken. A job was later found for the father, and home-making classes were given to the mother. After 60 days the family was reunited. DHS checked regularly on this family to keep a watchful eye on the children, etc., and found harmony had been restored. Our DHS friend told the family about the turkey and the family was delighted to be the recipients of such a gift. The turkey got a good home."

We had written a "love letter" of sorts to go with the turkey, and our friend said she would be sure the family received this note.

Thanks CHAC, for this great gift. It sure made one family very, very happy.

Ray & Sharonn Buckman