



Spring 2018

Dear Friends,

Some of you have received our newsletters for years and know that there are certain verses we have a tendency to use over and over. One of those verses is 1 Thessalonians 5:24, "He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it." I depend on that promise! Any success in my personal life or in the ministry itself belongs to Him and Him alone. That verse reminds me of some GHH history.

It was 46 years ago that we left the secular work field and went into ministry. I am amazed that God allowed two simple people to start an outreach to children (of all ages) using chalk drawings and puppets to proclaim the love of Jesus. I am so thankful that God's vision is so much greater than ours. As a person who was born before TV and electric typewriters, I can't help but chuckle at how simple our visuals were then and the changes that have been made today using the technology of the day. I have no idea how to do any of it or even speak the language BUT nothing takes God by surprise. (Philippians 4:19) "My God will supply all your needs..." And so He gave us people on the staff who understand the technology and know how to use it for God's glory. The changes are things like podcasts for the kids online, video, MP3 instead of cassettes, from overhead projector to rear projection and now a 60-inch portable flat screen. It makes my head swim! And because I am so ignorant of how all that stuff works, I'm especially thankful that my place on staff is the discipleship program. And I thank you for continuing to pray and encourage me.

There is also history in the discipleship program which started before GHH was incorporated. In the early years, we used volunteers to work with the kids. By 2003, we had no more volunteers so I added the program to my schedule. What a blessing it has been to get to know the students and encourage them. We laugh and cry and pray for each other. I currently have 47 active students. I read this statement recently: "Children are the laughter of God." I like it!

Here are a few statistics from last year: LESSONS SENT - 394; STAMPS USED - 788 (2 for each mailing); CERTIFICATES GIVEN - 21 (completion of entire course); SMALL GIFTS GIVEN - 40 (for birthday and points earned).

PRAISE:

On a more personal note, I am doing fine after a setback with double pneumonia. I was sure it was going to be the hospital for me as I watched the doctor shaking her head while listening to my lungs. She said from the terrible noise she could hear, it certainly would have been the hospital if we had waited one more day to make an appointment to see her. She started me going on a strong antibiotic immediately and it worked.

I get such good care with my family as you can see in the picture. I have my own personal pedicure station. The only thing missing are the cucumbers on my eyes.

BJ took me to see my granddaughter, Ronde, and the twins. It was their second birthday. The boy, Sonny, has had a tough time but continues to be our miracle boy as he conquers each hurdle. In fact Ronde found him at the top of the stairs on the second floor one day. He is not really walking; but if he wants to get someplace, he will do it! He will have his tracheotomy removed in June. Layla, his twin, jumps circles around him. She better look out because he will probably catch up with her one of these days.

Thank you so much for your prayers, financial support and friendship.

Because of Jesus,



Shirley Friedl

