

# News from Behind the Puppet Stage

Winter 2014

Greetings!

My summer ministry went really well. It is such a joy to see fruit being harvested as many children chose to begin a personal relationship with our Lord! Our theme for this year is “Light up your Life.” The theme verse is Matthew 5:14—“Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid.” If you know Christ as your personal Lord and Savior, you are His city on a hill, shining for all to see. The light you shine for Him cannot be hid. We can’t be afraid to show ourselves as a child of God and shine for Him!

The busy ten weeks of summer rolled right into a very busy fall schedule. For some reason this year it was hard for me to transition to being home and getting settled in. I have finally settled into a good schedule. I am kept very busy trying to keep up with all the office-type things needing to be done. There are days where it feels like there aren’t enough hours to get it all taken care of. And, yes, we are already in the process of getting things ready for next summer. Some of you may remember, from a few years back, the series “Monsters in your Life”— it is on the docket for next summer. I am really looking forward to doing this series again. We have all but one week booked for next summer. I am confident that the Lord has a specific place in mind to fill that week.

As you saw in the Glance that you received a couple of weeks ago, my support level has dropped. I had gotten up to 50% of my need and then because of some supporters needing to stop due to financial reasons, I have dropped down to 39% of my need. If 50 people committed to giving \$35 a month, I would be fully supported! Would you please pray about joining my support team? If you have any questions, please email me at [jcarlson@ghhinc.org](mailto:jcarlson@ghhinc.org) or call me at (616) 430-2003.

I have been on a journey to become healthy since last year November when my doctor looked at me and said, “What is going on with your neck?” I am so thankful she pushed me to have my greatly overgrown thyroid removed. Not only can I do my job better, I look back and realize I was sick. I was tired all the time, dealing with many headaches, and my joints hurt. Since January, I have lost almost 60 pounds! No more headaches or joint pain; and instead of needing 12+ hours to feel somewhat rested, I wake up on my own after 7 or 8 hours. I still have a ways to go to reach my goal weight but I am very confident in being able to achieve it. This fall I started training for a 5K but the weather has kept me inside and unable to complete the training. I went from barely able to run for 1 minute to running 2 miles at a time! I am looking forward to getting back out there this spring to start training again for a 5K in May. My parents bought me a plane ticket so I could come out and join them in Arizona for Christmas. I am looking forward to seeing them AND getting away from the snow.

Thank you for your prayers and support over the years!  
Merry Christmas,

Juliana



*I'm able to smile after a run!*