



The Family Update

The Newsletter of Family Empowerment Centers

December 2009

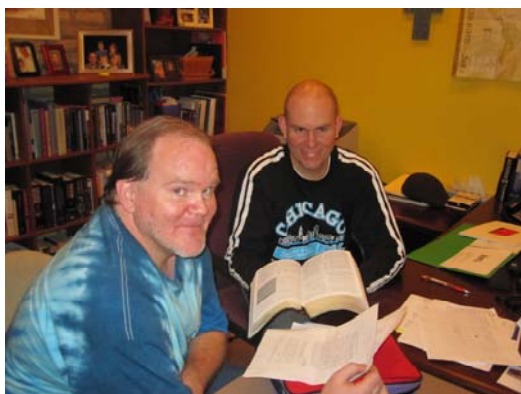
Feeding the Hungry is a Holiday Tradition at the Center

We will have the opportunity to feed more than 200 people with a full holiday meal this December through two of our annual events. The first event is our Christmas Pot Luck in which we cook up Turkey's and Ham's along with all the fixings and invite those who participate in our programs during the week to come and enjoy a hot meal, good conversation, and an evening of fun. Just today one of the mothers of a child we have in the After School program asked with excitement if she could bring her sisters and their families. The event also allows us to reach out to those who are our friends and neighbors from the community who do not necessarily participate in our day to day programs and catch up with them on community happenings. This will also be a time for us to reiterate our mission and Christian perspective on the Holidays.

Our second event will be our Holiday Food Basket outreach in which we will bring two full baskets of food (turkey, stuffing, potatoes, fruit, vegetables, gravy, tea, cookies and other items) to 35 families in the community who we determine would have a need to be blessed with all the fixings for a traditional holiday meal. Pray with us that people would experience the love of Christ through these events.

The Many Faces of Family Empowerment Centers

I (Scott) have a lot of opportunities to share with others what God is doing at the Center throughout the year and I am always encouraging people to come visit and see firsthand what God is doing. That is not always possible however and so we are always trying to find new and better ways to help you stay connected to the work going on here. In order to continue telling the stories we are working on some improved communication pieces for 2010. One of those pieces will be to post a "Face of the Day" along with a few lines pertaining to that person and how they are involved or cared for at the Center on our website. The goal is to have a different person up each day of the year with no one being up more than once. So be sure to check our website in January for the launch of this communication piece.



Tom and Brennan have been spending a lot of time together studying the Bible. Pray for Brennan that he would continue to live in freedom.



It is not uncommon for my (Scott) office to become a revolving door of kids and adults looking to be loved on and encouraged in life.

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Schedule of Events

- AMI GA Moms Group
Wednesdays 9:30-11:00
- The Gathering - Sundays
at 6:00pm: a time of worship and Bible study.
- SAY Yes After School Program - Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:00-6:00
- AWANA Wednesdays
6:00-7:30
- English as a Second Language classes - Tuesdays
6:30-8:30
- Christmas Dinner December 6th 5:00-7:00
- Holiday Food Basket Outreach December 19th
8:30am

**"We are deeply passionate about
Glorifying God by Holistically Loving Young Urban Families in Christ"**

Electronic Funds Transfer

We accept credit cards and electronic fund transfers directly from your accounts to ours. The process is fast and secure. When you use our EFT process you can track and manage all your giving to our organization quickly. Visit www.familyempower.org and follow the instructions on our donation page to get started today.

Prayer Support

We believe that our ability to do what we do comes from the grace of God providing our team with wisdom in making decisions and guiding our daily activities. Praying for us daily would be a great encouragement to our team and a powerful tool in our goals of glorifying God and loving our neighbors well. Send us a note letting us know of your commitment to us in prayer.

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The Family Empowerment Center Christmas Wish List!

During the Christmas season everyone is putting together their Christmas lists of things they need, want and desire in the hopes that they might receive a few things from that list. That of course is especially true for those of us who have children. I find myself explaining often what the difference is between a "need," want, and desire especially when I hear children say things like I really "need" a new cell phone. Now the last time I checked, although cell phones are handy, they are not life critical. Wants are often things which would be nice to have and the things we desire are often dream type items. I want a cell phone but I desire a Blackberry.

Last February we were at a critical financial position and "needed" God to provide financially. We still need finances on a regular basis to continue operations but God has found a way to provide for our needs each month since then and he has used faithful partners such as yourselves to meet our needs.

As we move into 2010 we want to present our Christmas Wish List with the hope that God might encourage some to help meet our needed and desired items.

Needs:

- People to pray regularly for us and the people we serve. If you send us a note via e-mail with your current phone number and e-mail address we will be able to keep you better informed.
- We need to continue to increase our base of donors who make a regular monthly financial commitment. Would you consider signing up on line with a minimum monthly commitment of \$25.00
- Complete Heating and AC requirements for the city of Chicago. We have free labor and need \$1400 for the needed supplies.
- Complete Plumbing requirements for the city of Chicago. We have free labor and need \$1000 for supplies.

Wants:

- We would like to change the lighting in our Multipurpose room and carpet the floor so that we can create a more multipurpose environment when it comes to our Sunday evening gathering and special events. We have free labor for the Electric al installation and only need to buy the supplies. Electric \$3000. Carpet \$3400.
- We would also like to install a sign on our



Chris has been focusing a lot more on mentoring the youth and children that come through the Center.



Running to raise money for the Center as a
2010 Chicago Marathon charity - more to come in January

