

*May 2015 be filled with Love,
Opportunities, and Blessings
for you and your family.*

The Servant



Christian Churches Disability Ministry

and

Riverwood Campus

P.O. Box 310

Louisville, TN 37777

865 - 984 - 5178

www.ccdmonline.org

Volume 6 Number 1

Fall 2014/Winter 2015

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Knoxville, TN
Permit #573

THE SERVANT

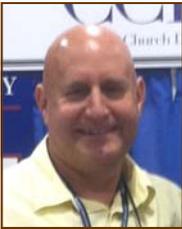
Fall 2014/Winter 2015



Groundbreaking in Versailles, Missouri, October 26, 2014,
for the New Hope Christian Community,
with John Wagner, Jim Kruse, and Gary Spangler.



FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Welcome to the Fall/Winter edition of **The Servant**! I am proud to say we have been busy at CCDM. This issue of **The Servant** has a lot of great news and information about our residents, our goals, and challenges that have been made. I

know you will want to read every article and share the news with others.

There are a couple of things I especially want to address in this article. We are a ministry that focuses on two areas; both of them are scriptural and very important.

First, we take care of people. My mother, after reaching her 50th year in nursing, was asked about the many changes in the health-care industry. Her response was, "Yes, we have seen many changes in technology, the tools of the trade and processes, too; but still nursing is about taking care of people." Several years ago, Eugene DePorter, from Southeast Christian Church in Louisville, Kentucky, on his first visit to Riverwood gave me some advice as we were talking about the future. His words of wisdom were, "Figure out what you are good at and go after it." So that's what we are doing. Our Board of Directors and I are creating an aggressive plan to build homes for people with disabilities; places where our population can grow in spirit, independence and self-esteem. We will create environments that follow Jesus' direction in Luke 14. Take the time to read 14:1-14.

Christian Churches Disability Ministry

Gary W. Spangler
Executive Director

Rhonna S. McBride
Director of Residential Services

Roy Row
Director of Development

Carol Hundley
Administrative Assistant

P.O. Box 310
Louisville, TN
37777-0310
865.984.5178

www.ccdmonline.org

CCDM Board of Directors

Walt Dooley
Edwin Griffin
Cecil Howard
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So our theme for the future is, *Building Homes, Changing Lives*. The first step is our new group home in Versailles, Missouri. Officially, it will be called *New Hope Christian Community* but will be referred to as *New Hope*. The picture on the cover is from our groundbreaking in Versailles on October 26th. Pictured are (l-r) **John Wagner**, our newest member of the CCDM Board of Directors and a strong supporter of our work in Missouri; **Jim Kruse**, a preacher in a small town, with a small population but with an enormous love for our Lord and people with disabilities; and me with my *Jack Ballard Church Builder* hat. The church builders will be building our new facility next spring.

Second, we are a voice for people with disabilities.

Proverbs 31:8-9 says, "*Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of the destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.*" That is what we do. People who have developmental disabilities are harassed by children, bullied at school, and made fun of by comedians and sometimes, treated badly by their own family members. Our population has so much of what God sees as important. Love, compassion, desire to help others, acceptance, humor, and the list goes on. If you only read one article in this edition, read **Kenny and My Little Buddy**. (Page 6) You will see why it is so important that our friends with disabilities have someone to speak up for them.

So, my friends, please be praying for us as we get aggressive. It reminds me of Christ's parable of the talents. God has given us the knowledge and the experience of building and managing group homes for adults with developmental disabilities and that's what He expects us to do.

In His service,

REPORT ON ICOM

The International Conference on Missions (ICOM) is a conference held each year in different cities across the country where missionaries from around the world, including the U.S., meet and share. Not only do we share information with each other, but it is a time to share with our Christian brothers and sisters from across the country who attend the conference. There are also many college students who attend the conference looking for opportunities to serve.



This year we met in Columbus, Ohio, and took two of our residents with us. You know we are always spreading the word that people with disabilities are just like us; we need Christ. Nowhere in the Bible do we read people with disabilities are exempt from needing a Savior. Nowhere in the Bible

do we read that our community is on their own when facing hardships. Nowhere in the Bible do we read that we need not build relationships with people whom the world deems as different. So the best way to share firsthand people with disabilities is to let people meet our "family" face to face, and that's what we did.

Stacy and Kenny attended ICOM with us and it was a real treat. Our booth looked great, and we had our folks ready to share. One of the most eye catching elements was the Golden Shovel (pictured to the right). This was the shovel that was used at the groundbreaking event we held in Versailles, Missouri. The exhibit gave our guys an opportunity to share with others. I was not sure how Stacy and Kenny would act



Gary Spangler with the "golden shovel."



Stacy and Kenny visit with a lady at the booth.

if I stood back and watched them work on their own by handing out brochures, but to my surprise, they took the challenge and made great ambassadors for CCDM.

Another reason we attended was to spread the news of our ministry. We made some great connections. One ministry we met is interested in helping us build homes...by that I mean doing the actual construction. In four days, the Student ICOM (SICOM) built the walls for small houses for one ministry saving them over \$900,000. This is what the Christian community can do when they pull together.

There were also services with great singing, updates about ministries, hardships, miraculous outcomes, preaching, and encouragement. At one of these events, we were standing and singing. I looked over at Kenny and he was sitting down with his head on his hand. I asked him if he was ok; he tapped his chest with his fist and said, "This song reminds me of my mom and it hurts in here." Kenny's mom has gone to be with the Lord, and this is another reminder that our population is just like the rest of us. When you lose someone, you hurt. When you cut yourself, you bleed. When you sin, you need a Savior.



Kenny, Roy Row, CCDM's Director of Development, Stacy, and Executive Director, Gary Spangle at our booth.

If you have never attended the ICOM, we invite you to plan to attend next year when it will be held in **Richmond, Virginia, October 29—November 1st**. This is a wonderful time to learn how the Lord is working through ministries and missionaries around the world. We hope we will see you there as we continue to reach out to the disability community to strive to meet their needs and to share Jesus with them.

KENNY AND HIS "LITTLE BUDDY"

Our God is an awesome God! That's one of our favorite songs to sing at Riverwood. Recently, we saw God at work again in one of our residents. At the International Conference on Missions (ICOM), a little two-year-old boy in a wheelchair came around the corner of the exhibit hall. He and his adopted mother stopped at our booth. The little boy's name was Charlie and he was from Haiti. He was a "rescue child." Charlie was born without hands or legs. He was sweet and happy. And then we saw God begin to work. Kenny, one of our residents, knelt down and began to tickle the little boy using Kenny's favorite friend, Curious George. They laughed for a moment and then Kenny said to Rhonna, who had also knelt down to talk to Charlie face to face, "Can we pray for him?"

Now Kenny doesn't normally ask to pray. When we are in a circle at Riverwood and the residents are asked who would like to pray, Kenny often speaks up and says, "I will pray." But this time, Kenny saw a little fellow with no hands and legs and made the suggestion to pray.

Kenny then began, "Dear God, help him learn to run, jump and play. Amen." The prayer was short, sweet, and to the point. But more than that, we had the opportunity to see Kenny seek God's blessing for this little boy. . . a little boy who was left for dead in Haiti. Kenny wanted so much to help this little fellow, yet his only recourse was to pray and what greater power to seek help than that of the Creator Himself. Again, we saw how our residents love, have compassion, and a real concern for others; most times more than the world we call "normal." The remaining conference Kenny asked me, "Remember 'my little buddy'? I hope he is ok."



MEET OUR NEW CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

The Christian Churches Disability Ministry proudly introduces **Walter Dooley** as the new Chairman of our Board of Directors. Walt lives in Lexington, South Carolina, with his wife Marilyn. They have been married 37 years and have two children, Annie and Leslie. He is a Mechanical Engineer for the Eastman Chemical Company. Walt is an elder at his church, the Midlands Christian Church, but is not serving this term. He also works in the finance ministry. His hobbies include model railroading, aviation, woodworking, shooting and home maintenance. (The last hobby may have been initiated by Marilyn.)



Walt Dooley

Jack H. Ballard was the Chairman of the Board of Directors for most of the time CCDM existed until his untimely death on February 21, 2007. Jack was a huge proponent for people with disabilities. His love of CCDM and Riverwood was evident through his sacrifices financially, physically and spiritually.

When Jack passed away and a new chairman needed to be put in place, **Webster Oglesby** stepped up to the task. When the decision was made to move forward with building a home in 1986, Webby was working with Jack at the Mount Carmel Christian Church and it was Webby who put the first stake in the ground to determine where the house would be built. All you need to do is ask Webby about those early days with CCDM and his love for this ministry is evident.



Webby Oglesby

Just a few years ago, the Board of Directors made some changes to the by-laws requiring a two-year limit to the tenure of the Chairman of the Board. We want to thank Webby for his many years of service. He will continue to serve on the Board of Directors. Now we welcome Walt Dooley to his new position.

THE COST OF SERVING

You cannot watch TV or listen to the radio for any period of time without being sought after as a donor to one cause or another. Many of those causes are noble and need to be done. There are several organizations, such as the Wounded Warrior Project, which reach out to our veterans and do a very good job of providing care for those needing moral and financial support. Also, St. Jude Hospital provides care without cost to those they serve. Let me tell you, I wish that was our case, but we are far from being able to do that. The one constant in providing any care is cost and that cost is great. Sure, sometimes it may require a great amount of time, but serving also comes with a financial cost. Maybe that is why Jesus talked more about money than He did Heaven and Hell combined!

Because I have been asked on numerous occasions to share the cost of giving care to our residents, I thought this would be a good time to do just that. At Riverwood, it currently costs about **\$3,000 per month** to care for a resident. Family members are asked to provide \$1,750 per month; *the remaining amount falls on us.*

There are two things you should know: 1) our employees work for us because each of them possesses a servant's heart and because of the many success stories of changed lives and relationships that are built through the years; and 2) we receive **no** Federal or State assistance; everything we are able to do is made possible because of the gifts we receive.

Thanks to God, we are debt free and growing. As we grow, costs per resident will go down as the number of residents increases. Please share our story with family, friends and business associates, encouraging them to partner with us. **WE NEED YOUR HELP!** Send them to: www.ccdmonline.org or give them our mailing address or phone number and ask them to contact us. We would love to tell them how they can help us to continue to provide the love and care that our residents have come to expect from us.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2015

As we begin to plan for **2015**, we wanted to share four major events with you. If you live in close proximity to any of these events, we would encourage you to attend.

The Next Level Conference - February 4—6
Savannah Christian Church
Savannah, Georgia

The Missouri Christian Convention
March 20,21
Tan-Tar-A Resort
Osage Beach, Missouri

North American Christian Convention (NACC)
June 23—26
Duke Energy Convention Center
Cincinnati, Ohio

International Conference on Missions (ICOM)
October 29—November 1
Richmond, Virginia



THE PROM AT SOUTHEAST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

The Southeast Christian Church in Louisville, Kentucky, is a ministry partner of CCDM. In October they had their annual *prom* for people with special needs; they call it *Shine*. It is held on the church's campus, and this year, instead of going with the traditional prom theme, they did a *cowboy* theme. I was happy to be able to participate.

There were folks on horses to greet the attendees. I told the leadership to use me wherever they needed me and "shore nuff," one of my first jobs was sweepin' up the stuff the horses left behind. I respectfully called this one "Mr. Had Too Much To Eat."



There was a cowboy town set up inside the atrium. Everyone was very excited. They even had a karaoke machine set up in the chapel. Let me tell you, there was some singing going on. A local TV station was on hand to get in on the excitement. I had the privilege of escorting two new friends and had a great time as we ate supper, played games, won lots of prizes, and

of course, did some line dancing. This was an exciting time and I consider it a privilege to have been a part of *Shine*.



"THANK YOU," BROADWAY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

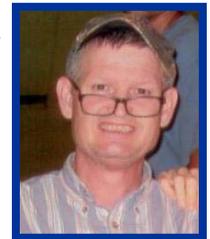
Another of our ministry partners is Broadway Christian Church in Lexington, Kentucky, and we want to thank them for our new pavilion. This is the second year they have provided an improvement for our Riverwood Campus in Louisville, Tennessee. In 2013 they purchased a new greenhouse and assembled it.



This year, their first visit in late summer produced a frame, including a double band so we would not need posts in the center. They then returned three weeks later and put on the finishing touches. So thank you Craig Yates and the Broadway Builders.

Me Buddy?

We have several residents who need financial assistance. If you or your Sunday school class or small group would be interested in helping one of our residents, please call Carol at **865.984.5178 (Monday — Wednesday)** or email her at carol@ccdmonline.org for more information. We will send you a picture and information about the person you are sponsoring. Won't your say, "Yes!" to Lee's question...won't you be a buddy to our residents?



SPOTLIGHT ON OUR DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT



In this edition of **The Servant**, we are spotlighting **Roy Row** (rhymes with *how*), our Director of Development. Roy has had a heart for people with disabilities for quite a while; that's because he has a heart for people in general. Roy started out with a campus ministry before attending Johnson University in 1976. He graduated and was ordained in 1978 and has served at various churches over the

years. Roy was very involved with The Christian Evangelizing Association now the Keystone Church Planting Network (Pennsylvania and Northeast /Mid-Atlantic area), planting churches, and he played a major role in starting the Manchester Christian Academy in Manchester, Kentucky that remains vibrant today.

Roy is involved with the Civitan organization whose goal is to help people with disabilities; and has emceed the Special Olympics for Blount County. In 2013, Roy hiked a large part of the Appalachian Trail to raise awareness of and funds for **CCDM**. We could go on about his accomplishments, but please welcome him as he continues meeting and calling old and new supporters of this ministry.



BUILDING HOMES — CHANGING LIVES

OUR RESIDENTS' BIRTHDAYS

In order to help you in planning ahead in sending your cards and good wishes to our residents for their birthdays, here are all the birthdays for this year. Please note we have a few new names to add to your list.

February	7	Christy
March	2	Jeff
	27	Kim
April	8	Deborah
	10	Scott F.
May	17	Don
	24	Tom K.
June	9	Stacy
	26	Frank
September	9	Scott W.
	18	Kathleen
	23	Rebecca
October	16	Tom W.
	25	Kenny
	30	Cynthia
November	14	Gary Lee
	20	Paula
	20	Glenna
December	22	Carol
	27	Brenda

Please send your cards to:

Resident's name
 Riverwood Christian Community
 3123 Pride Road
 (P.O. Box 310)
 Louisville, TN 37777

GIFTS TO REMEMBER

Through November 30, 2014

In memory of:

Jack and Charlotte Ballard
Edward Brock, Jr.
Maurice "Rex" Cogar
Jim Dryden
Frances Howard
Al Kattmann
Ed Kelly

Zahar Matrosov
Dillard L McBride

Given by:

Audrey Walker
Peggy McCord
Peggy McCord
Harry and Sandra Fuller
Peggy McCord
Peggy McCord
Peggy McCord
Jack and Dot Pickett
and Shay Nix
Sam & Gwen Stone
Bob and Darlynn Barrie
Dan and Anne Bohle
Brian and Katherine Bradley
Michelle Buscher
Cheryl Clark
Rich and Rosemary Dailey
Jan and Judy Davies
Geri Davis
Jim and Linda Edwards
Holly Fletcher
Jimmy and Judy Hayes
Bill and Peggy Hearn
Julie Hepp Family
Grace Joan Herbst
Dale and Lawanda Hunter
Dale and Nila Hutson
Paul and Lynn Keltner
Kelly Lawson
Ed and Bonnie McBride
Oren and Bobbie McBride
Paul McBride
Paula McBride
Pat and Beta McIngvale
Doug Merrill Family
Shirley Merrill
Dick and Sharon Nash
Robert and Carolyn Ottum
Stanley and Doris Pokojski
Arlie and Bonnie Ramsey
Rhonna Sanford
Jerry and Sara Scheiman
Kenneth John & Mary Shaver

We are blessed by many who honor friends and loved ones by making donations in their names or in their memory. If you would like to honor someone, simply call Carol at 865.984.5178 or email her at: carol@ccdmonline.org and she will be happy to assist you. Besides listing their names in our newsletter, they will also be notified by mail.

GIFTS TO REMEMBER

Concluded

In memory of:

Dillard L. McBride (continued)

Kim Maxwell
Mary Ann Moncrief
Dulcie Neal
Bennie Payne
Grandson of Dick & Janet Race
Rocky Rockmore

Lewis Sams

Ed Spencer
Robert Swiger
Don Treadwell
Barbara Williams

Given by:

Support Systems Associates, Inc., Palm Bay, FL
Joan Stedelin
Greg and Melanie Trone
Peggy McCord
Peggy McCord
Peggy McCord
Peggy McCord
Peggy McCord
Buddy Britt
Peggy McCord
Jack & Dot Pickett & Shay Nix
Wayne and Ida Spangler
Maxon E Boling
Johnson City (TN) Pioneer Telephone Retirees
Mr. & Mrs. Class (FCC, Johnson City, TN)
Jim and Norma Pierson
Gene and Shirley Wigginton
Beverly Spencer
Jane Swiger
Peggy McCord
Wayne and Ida Spangler

GIFTS TO HONOR

Through November 30, 2014

In honor of:

Glenna Sandefur

Dale and Dianne Sikes
Wayne and Ida Spangler
Val and Donna Walden

Given by:

Paul and Suzie Greene
Kathy Miracle
Tim and Ann Sandefur
Mortons Gap Christian Church
Gordon Dickerson
Carl and Pat Swearingen
Jack & Dot Pickett & Shay Nix