

Children and Youth's Mission Project

During the summer months and early fall, Mercy Gate typically experiences a downward slope in food donations, so let's continue to help fill Mercy's Gate pantry shelves and bring in those bags to help support our kids in their Mission Project. Thank you!

How (not) to deal with your enemies

When Narvaez, the Spanish patriot, lay dying, his father-confessor asked him whether he had forgiven all his enemies. Narvaez looked astonished and said, "Father, I have no enemies, I have shot them all."

Kindness

Mamie Adams always went to a branch post office in her town because the postal employees there were friendly. She went there to buy stamps just before Christmas one year and the lines were particularly long. Someone pointed out that there was no need to wait in line because there was a stamp machine in the lobby. "I know," said Mamie, "but the machine won't ask me about my arthritis."

Dress Clothes for Job Interviews

Nancy Stromer is collecting professional looking clothing (of all sizes) for women to enable them go on job interviews. She will be taking the clothing to Ecumenical Social Ministries at the end of December, and they will be distributed there. (Nancy learned from an ESM volunteer that there is a tremendous need in this area.) If you have any office-style clothing that's just collecting dust in your closet, please bring it to church and give it to Nancy. Any questions, please call her at 488-9590. Thank you!

Forgiveness

In his book, *Lee: The Last Years*, Charles Bracelen Flood reports that after the Civil War, Robert E. Lee visited a Kentucky lady who took him to the remains of a grand old tree in front of her house. There she bitterly cried that its limbs and trunk had been destroyed by Federal artillery fire. She looked to Lee for a word condemning the North or at least sympathizing with her loss. After a brief silence, Lee said, "Cut it down, my dear Madam, and forget it." It is better to forgive the injustices of the past than to allow them to remain, let bitterness take root and poison the rest of our life."

Update on Lydia

Lydia's birthday is coming up! Let's show her our support with lots of cards and gifts. She will be 33 years old! She just moved to a new apartment and below is a list of things she needs and wants. If you don't have time and would like to get her something let Cheryl Prince know and she can shop for you! Lydia's needs & wants list:

A microwave oven, an outdoor mat, nice smelly girl stuff, nice smelling candles. She loves unicorns, Axe Anarchy, a watch, a to-do list (pad), hoodies size 4X blue, black, green or purple, school supplies, large back pack, dark curtains for 48" x 48" window, she needs grocery cards, gas cards, and PetSmart cards. She needs to get her heating bill and cable bills paid off so we can get her on a budget. If you can help with anything please let Cheryl know. Bring cards and gifts to church. Her birthday is October 31st. Cheryl will get gifts to her by 10/30. Thanks for all your help and prayers for this young woman.

– Cheryl Prince

Financial Update – Fueling our Vision

	Sept.	2012 (Jan-Sep)
Budgeted Income	\$ 16,175	\$145,575
Actual Income	\$ 12,876	\$108,802
Difference	\$ -3,299	\$ -36,773
Budgeted Expenses	\$ 16,167	\$145,503
Actual Expenses	\$ 12,485	\$133,113
Difference	\$ 3,682	\$ 12,390

Even though our income and expenses were fairly equal in September, the overall numbers for the year are still off balance with income falling below expenses. We would like to end the year on a more positive note, so please prayerfully consider how you can contribute to a strong 4th quarter giving.

