



July 2014

Trinityfocus

Written by Mike White

Almost as soon as they starting coming to Trinity Baptist Church, the three Larson sisters--Carleen, Katie and Hannah--became involved, serving nearly anywhere they saw a need or were asked to. Having an at-home career working on eBay helped the siblings have more time to become involved in the church auditorium renovation, and the three have also served in AWANA, Sunday School, Kidz Storm, at dinners and the Easter breakfast.

"The first thing we did was take apart the stage," remembered Carleen, the oldest sister. "We painted the baptistery." "And lift(ed) the pews out," Hannah, the youngest sister, recalled other work the sisters did during the renovation. The three also prepared the area being worked on for painting. They also stacked and unstacked chairs and helped with other assorted tasks.

"We didn't know anybody," Carleen remembered how she and her sisters started coming to Trinity. "Melissa Vaughn was going to be teaching a sign language class." The sisters became involved in the class because they have a deaf aunt. Although they already knew some sign language, they wanted to learn more.

After that, the Larson sisters became involved in AWANA, as table leaders in Sparks. They listened as children learned Bible verses. They will start their third year of service next year. "We were really scared," Carleen remembered. "We were reluctant. We're not used to kids. It didn't take long for us to love all the kids at our table."

Carleen, Katie, the middle sister, and Hannah have been involved in numerous areas of ministry, including being helpers at various church dinners and the Easter breakfast, helping with registration at this year's Kidz Storm and acting as helpers in the children's Sunday School ministry.

The sisters helped in Sunday School with sick children and by taking children in the second grade Sunday School class of Anita Nunez to the bathroom. They described their normal duties as "crowd control," Although, Carleen did teach a class once.

"Last Sunday I did the sign language for the songs in the morning," Hannah added, recalling another ministry.

Carleen, Katie and Hannah make their living selling Disney lapel pins and collectibles on eBay. The pins feature Mickey Mouse, Cinderella, other Disney characters, rides at Disneyland and shows. They also sell collectibles, such as figurines, toys and key chains. Katie said earning a living at home has helped the three of them become more involved at church in various ways, such as being able to "help with construction" during the remodeling at Trinity. The three of them said their career has given them more time to help with a number of ministries at church and take care of their grandparents.

Trinity Baptist Church is blessed to have many faithful servants, such as the Larson's, to ensure that our church works as a body. Carleen, Katie, and Hannah are very humble and have no desire to be recognized for their efforts, but it is hard not to notice Christ working through them.

Loose Change ~ Pastor Spann

Have you ever thought about how much loose change you've walked by in your life? *I heard a story about a family who started picking up loose change.* One Staten Island family got to thinking about it, and a few years ago this husband and wife and their two daughters began picking up loose change from the ground. It started when the wife was at college and saw some money on the ground. She said, "In my school people—they'd complain about not having money, but meanwhile, there's seven cents on the floor, nobody would pick it up." So she began to.

Now her whole family is into it. They see money on the ground; they pick it up and put it in their change pot jar. They keep a running tally on their Change Pot blog. How much did they collect in three years? \$1,013! Money off the ground. Perhaps it's not your thing to pick up coins off the ground. But God does expect us to be good stewards of the resources He has sent our way. *"When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost"* (John 6:12).

Now that summer is here, let's be a good steward of our time, talents, and treasures to give back unto the Lord. This is the time where it is easy for God's people to rest and relax from being a faithful steward and just give Him simply the left-over change in their life. I know we all need our time to rest and have fun with family on vacation, but always remember we are still called to be faithful stewards. Don't forget, there is a safe and easy way to give systematically through our online giving when you are out of town at www.trinitybaptistfindlay.org and click on the tab 'giving.'



The first half of 2014 is coming to a close and what a great first half of the year it has been in the Children's Ministry. Just in the last few months we have seen the Lord at work in our ministry and in the hearts of the children. Our Boys and Girls Overnights have continued to be a great success with 74 total boys and girls coming out for a great time of fellowship. At the girl's overnighter, 8 girls trusted Christ for salvation. Then our kid's storm event was the following week. Out of the four nights and an average attendance of around 110, we had 26 children trust Christ. The Lord is continuing His work in and through our ministry. We have just started up our kids Bible study on Sunday nights and that will continue for most of the summer. You can check our website WWW.TBCKidCity.COM for all event details.

I want to leave you today with some thoughts from a study I have been doing in Psalm 86. This passage speaks to me. In Psalm 86 we see David approaching the throne of God in what starts off to be a Psalm of praise, but before he praises God, he recognizes his position in the relationship. Sometimes we forget our position before the Almighty God who created us, but David understood his position and before he made his petitions, he stated his position. Then he goes on into his prayer in the next few verses. He comes to a place where he seems to maybe take a breath, a rest if you will. It shows an act of worship from David. Look at verse 10. David says "thou art God alone." When was the last time you came to the alter and proclaimed your position before God, praised His name, made your petitions before Him, and before you ever left the alter, worshiped Him. I think sometimes we wait for God to answer our prayer before we will praise and worship him. Let's not forget our position in Him. ~ Jeremy Grose