

Jim and Cassie's Newsletter

Ministering to the teenagers of Missouri

with **Midland Ministries**

August 2011

Hello everyone!

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Prayer Requests

-Our finances: that God would continue to provide for our needs

-The new school year: that God would lead us to the kids he wants us to be involved with, and that we would have the right words to say.

-That God would use our ministry to glorify Him above all, that we would be tools in His work.

This is Cassie Lumpkin writing to you from Saint Joseph Missouri. That's right, I'm still here. We've not been swept away by the rampant flooding, nor the record-breaking tornadoes. We are here safe and sound as can be. If, that is, you call living with a three year old "safe and sound," sometimes I have my doubts as I navigate my labyrinthine living room floor in the wake of James' Lego-building adventures. But what can I say? I think boys need to build; it's hardwired into their basic makeup. At least it certainly is with the two boys in this family (Jim and James). We've been busy with a number of building projects together. On the 12th of this month Jim and I will be celebrating our fifth wedding anniversary. Everyone knows building a marriage can be one of the most challenging things you do, and we've been no exception. We have learned a great deal in this time about what it takes to build a solid marriage, and I'm excited about the prospect of continuing to grow and learn together.

The other project we are working on now is more of a remodel, and that is specifically in relation to our ministry. One large difference is that I am going to be a great deal more involved from now on. I believe ministry is really and truly meant to be a team effort between husband and wife, and I am excited to see how God will use us together in the coming years. One of the ways in which I will be more involved is that I will be writing our newsletters from now on. It seems like a natural fit for me, and I hope you'll enjoy getting to know me a little better through it as I keep you updated on what is happening with our ministry as well as our family.

Right now we are at a point where is like the lull before the storm. Summer is winding down, Jim returned from four weeks of helping run Midland's summer camp, and we are getting ready for the new school year! Little James will be starting pre-school this year, which we will be doing at home together. He will also be doing AWANA on Wednesday nights at church for the first time this year! For Jim, autumn's approach means Bible Quizzing, Rallies, SQ632 (a weekly bible club with fun games, worship and teaching for local kids), small Bible Studies, and working in the Youth Center, and one-on-one discipleship with local boys. In fact, Jim and I are preparing a more detailed letter that describes exactly what it is he does and why, so if you would be interested in receiving that please let us know either through email or by checking the box on the little card that is included and sending it back.

I am dearly hoping that you would be willing to join our ministry by praying. Please pray that God will use Jim and I as tools for His ministry, for his work. Please pray that the teenagers we come into contact with would be open and receptive to the word of God and for His leading in their lives so they can be strong in the face of the pressures they are facing like sex, drugs and hopelessness, among other things.

Another prayer request I have this month is for our financial situation. We have really been struggling this year, as many people have with the economy like it is. All our income comes from supporters, people who believe that what we are doing is important and choose to help by making donations. We are missionaries to America's teens here in northwest MO. Thank you so much for keeping us in your prayers.

Next issue I will be giving you a brief look at what we've been up to this last year, how God has worked in our lives and the lives of the teens we've encountered.