



January Recap: Fun despite the weather!

We fought the winter "blahs" in January with lots of fun activities to keep our minds off of the weather!

We started the year off right by talking about our New Year's Resolutions and expectations for the year followed by Activity Bingo.

Our positive quality for January was caring. We learned about caring by reading and talking about the Good Samaritan story.

We put this into practice by serving others. We are doing lots of helping around the church ... things like sweeping, cleaning and shredding old documents.

Our big project for the month was for Hope Clinic. They had medical kits that were unusable in their current configuration.

So we took the kits apart, sorted the various items and repackaged them in a way that the clinic can use them.

Nancy introduced everyone to the Genesis Garden Club by putting together a cactus garden. We talked about the plants, soil and care of the finished product. We plan to make these as a fundraiser for the upcoming Mephibosheth Basket Auction.

We also read the old story "Stone Soup" and then made our own delicious version of the soup, without the stones, however!



Greg and Luther at Stardust Bowl.

Our big community outing was to Stardust Bowl and Pizza Hut. We had over 50 in attendance, so we did our bowling and eating in shifts which worked out really well. Everyone always has such a fun time with this outing!

February Calendar Highlights

- February's positive quality is Honesty.
- Heart fish craft for Valentines' Day
- Service Projects
- Genesis Garden Club terrarium
- Cooking: spaghetti lunch and birthday treats
- Movie day
- Basket for Annual Basket Auction



Inside this issue:

New Year's Resolutions and Participant Expectations	2
Photos on Shutterfly	2
February Birthday Celebration	2
January Photo Gallery	3
February Calendar Highlights	4
Thank you volunteers	4
Support The Way	4

Help wanted for annual Mephibosheth Basket Auction

Mark your calendars for this year's annual Basket Auction to benefit Mephibosheth Ministries. The date is March 8, 2009 at 5:30 pm here at the church.



The day program will be putting together a basket to donate, so be thinking about what type of basket you

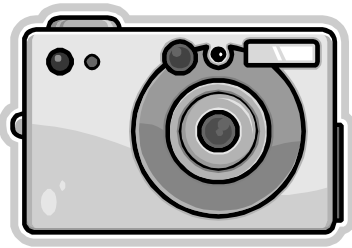
would like to do. How about a garden basket, movie basket or basket of family games?

We also need your help on the night of the auction. Volunteer jobs include serving the pie and ice cream, assisting with the auction and cleaning up. We also will be taking orders for the cactus gardens.

Mephibosheth Basket Auction
Sunday, March 8
5:30 pm

We will be providing you with a flyer in the next couple of weeks with more information about the auction and a form for you to sign up to help out.

This is an important fundraiser for the mission, so we need your help in any way you can offer!



View and purchase photos at Shutterfly

You now have the ability to view and/or purchase the photos we take during the day program through an on-line sharing website called Shutterfly.

To purchase any photos, you need to register for an account

which is free of charge.

4 x 6 prints are .15 each and are mailed to you.

You can also choose to become a member of the Mephibosheth site. This enables you to

receive an email digest of recently added photos and to add comments to the photos.

To become a member, click the "ask to become a member" link at the top of the page.

For a link to Shutterfly, go to www.mm-abilities.org and click The Way Day Program icon

February birthday celebration is the 12th

Our birthday celebration for February is set for Thursday, February 12.

If your birthday is in February don't forget to bring your "Life in a Bag" on that day.

Simply gather a few items from around your home that represent you, your family and friends, and the things you like to do. Put them in a bag (any kind will do) and bring them with you on the day of our birthday celebration.

Some items you might consider bringing would be photos, items from a collection, hobbies, etc. — whatever you want us to know about you!



So, if your birthday is in February, start thinking about what you could put in your bag.



Nancy introduces the Genesis Garden Club to participants by creating a wonderful cactus dish garden. The February Garden Club project will be a terrarium.

New Year's Resolutions for The Way

On January 5th, we spent some time discussing our New Year's Resolutions — both personally and for the day program.

We have four New Year's Resolutions for the day program:

To communicate our expectations of our participants.

Here is are the expectations we discussed:

- To be as independent as possible, and be willing to try new things.

- To be safe. Stay with the group unless you tell someone where you are going and follow instructions.
- To be respectful. Practice personal space. Listen and follow directions. Act with kindness. Include others in your activities.
- To be positive!

To listen to your ideas for the program. We are always open to your ideas, suggestions and comments at any time!

To offer new experiences this year. We are now offering the Genesis Garden Club and focusing on a positive quality for each month. January's quality was caring.

To improve the way we do the day program. Soon we will be starting a new picture schedule that will offer more self-directed activities, smaller groups and opportunities to help each other.

When you are at The Way, be...

- **Independent**
- **Safe**
- **Respectful**
- **Positive!**

January Photo Gallery



Jon, Matt G. and Evan play Dance, Dance Revolution at our New Year's Celebration. DDR was one of the nine different activity stations for Activity Bingo.

Tony, Sean, Sonie, Daniel, Luther and Greg work on the medical kits for Hope Clinic. We do one service project per month at **The Way**. It's a great way to show we care!



Sean prepares some ingredients for our homemade Stone Soup. Everyone brought an ingredient to put in the soup. It was delicious!



Katie G. and Esther have some fun and get to know each other. We are so blessed to have Esther as a new volunteer!



Matt L. turns the pages of the story Stone Soup. We listened to the book on CD after we made our own version of the soup.

Doris and April enjoy pizza on Pajama Party and Movie day.



Chuck ices his belated birthday cake. He was sick on his birthday in December, so we decided to enjoy it in January. Hey, cake is good anytime!



Mom and son team Barb and Michael work together to get the bowling ball down the lane.

Sean visits with Pam and Sonie as they work on a puzzle during open activity time.



Calendar Highlights



February 2—
Groundhog Day
Activities

February 5—Service Projects

February 9—Genesis
Garden/Positive
Quality Activities:
Honesty



February 12—
Lincoln's Birthday/
Birthday Celebration/
Valentine's Day Craft

February 16—
Spaghetti Pitch-In



February 19—
Exercise Day

February 23—
Movie Day



February 26—Basket
for Basket Auction

February's Positive Quality: Honesty

President's Day and Abraham Lincoln's birthday are in February.

Since both Lincoln and President George Washington were known for their honesty, February is the perfect time to focus on it!

We will talk about Washington and Lincoln as well as discussing what honesty means, how it relates to being yourself with others and being a trustworthy person.

We will look to the Bible for God's word on honesty, too.

So be thinking about what it means to be like "Honest Abe!"

**Honesty is
the best
policy.**

— Benjamin
Franklin

NEW! Check out our website:
www.mm-abilities.org
The Day-ly Times newsletter
and monthly calendar are now being
posted each month.

Help support programming at The Way

We were blessed in 2008 with a great increase in the number of participants of **The Way!** We are always on the look-out for ways to help fund the quality programming we provide.

Last month, we reminded you of two easy ways to support this program: buying snacks from our snack machine and bringing in aluminum cans for us to crush and recycle.

You could also purchase an item for our wish list:

- Paper plates and bowls
- Napkins
- Plastic silverware

- Batteries: AA and AAA
- Popular magazines
- Books with lots of photographs
- 70" Round Cloth Tablecloths
- Recent worship cds
- Large floor sized checkers game
- Fabric Paint
- Craft Paint
- Digital camera

You can also make a tax-deductible contribution. Thank you for supporting **The Way** in any way you are able!



Program hours:
9:30 am to 2:00 pm
on Mondays & Thursdays

Please honor these hours when dropping off and picking up your participant(s). Thank you!

Thank you January Volunteers!

Thanks to everyone who volunteered at **The Way** during the month of January! We appreciate you very much! Thanks also to the many staff who may come with one person, but help with everyone!

- ◆ Pam Conder
- ◆ Evan Gardner
- ◆ Rich Hammond
- ◆ Barb Kabat
- ◆ John Knapp
- ◆ Karen McDole
- ◆ Neal McDole
- ◆ Esther Riggs
- ◆ Vickie McGaw
- ◆ Daniel Zell

THANK YOU



*...meeting the spiritual,
emotional and physical needs
of individuals who have
disabilities.*

1715 Stringtown Pike
Cicero, Indiana 46034
Phone: 317-984-4653, #30

becky@mm-abilities.org
nancy@mm-abilities.org
roberta@mm-abilities.org