

FALL NEWSLETTER

The colors have changed; the leaves are falling; the deer are gleaning the garden, and we are enjoying the fruits (and vegetables) of our labors.

THE FARM FAMILY

An important and integral part of Nazareth Farm is the concept of FAMILY. It incorporates many connotations yet each is rooted in LOVE.

The extended family of The Farm continues to grow as people from all walks of life are offering support to us and the local community with prayer, volunteerism, and financial assistance. This year alone we had 560 volunteers. More and more people from the local area are joining us for work, community nights, and celebrations.

The nuclear family as we all know is imperative. If we are to build a peaceful world and the kingdom God envisioned based on justice for all then, we must begin at home. It is family that gives us the support to be the people of faith and integrity we are called to be.

Stories of Family abound with our experiences here at The Farm, but four are notable. The first is reflected in a short note from a recent volunteer accompanied with a donation from her summer employment. On the back of her letter her mother wrote, "my daughter was so impacted by her experience at The Farm that I felt the least I could do was match her donation; keep up the good work." Second is the story of a young lady nominated for the Board of Directors. As a college student her funds and time are limited. Air travel from the Northeast would be a financial burden, but the evening following her notification of nomination she called and said, "My parents said they would make sure I made it to the Board meetings." For us, as staff, it stood as an unquestionable act of support which quietly says, "We believe in you and what you stand for." Third is the story of a young man and his father. This young man started coming to The Farm very early on and has had a deep desire to continue to serve the people from his native New York. He has thus become involved in the collection of clothes for the Bargain Cellar. Through his coordination we are receiving a 18'-24' truck of clothes every six to eight weeks. His retired father helps him load each truck. Just a few weeks ago the two of them responded to a quick call for a shipment, and had a truck loaded and on the way in less than 36 hours. Single-handedly they loaded the 24' truck themselves. Fourth is the story of Family Week. This year we were blessed with having five families join us for a fun week of play, prayer, and work. Five families took a week of their vacation to help others. We had children from two to sixty-two (John Donnelly). Just a few weeks ago I spoke with a couple who joined us and they said, "My kids still mention something about The Farm each day."

NOTE: Family week next year is scheduled for August 15 - 21. If interested please contact us by mail or phone at (304) 782-2742

"Home is where the heart is." We thank you for sharing your hearts with us and the people of Doddridge County, and hope you always consider this to be a home you can come to if needed or desired.

ENVELOPE ENCLOSURE

As I am sure you have noticed, we are now enclosing envelopes in our newsletters. Yes, one reason is definitely to be a reminder that we need your financial support. The second reason for its enclosure is to encourage you to write us and let us know how you are doing. WE LOVE GETTING MAIL!

STAFF NEEDED

Nazareth Farm is doing great things, the current staff is FANTASTIC, and the need for our services is increasing dramatically. We are limited only by personnel and funding. We are aggressively pursuing both. If you know of anyone age 21 or older who could give of their time for a month or longer please contact them and us. People with construction skills are of utmost importance at this time. Please put your "feelers" out, and ask your pastor or administrator if you could place an announcement in the bulletin. If you are in need of a sample announcement please let us know.

ANNUAL APPEAL UPDATE

Thank you to all who have generously responded to our Annual Appeal. The rewards of the appeal have been two fold; the donations will continue our work and we have heard from many with whom we lost contact. We are grateful on both accounts. If we have not heard from you, please drop us a line even if it just to verify your address. REMINDER: Please send us anyone's name and address with whom we may have lost contact or anyone who is interested in learning of The Farm.

SMALL WORLD STORY

Recently I was privileged to attend a youth group meeting of one of The Farm's long standing participants. While there I was fortunate to learn of a coincidental encounter from a past volunteer. (F.Y.I. we at The Farm like the following definition of coincidence, "Coincidence is God's way of staying anonymous.") This young lady attended a fraternity party at her university this Fall and noticed a young man wearing a cross from Nazareth Farm. Subsequently she approached him and asked, "Did you go to Nazareth Farm?" and a two hour conversation ensued. God is alive and active in our lives. Let's make sure we see God even in the ordinary.

PEOPLE ARE THIRSTING

Young and old alike are thirsting for service and justice. For the most part, our entire 1993 schedule through next summer is full. It is exciting to see the enthusiasm. We are trying to accommodate as many people as possible. If you or anyone you know is interested in this type of experience please contact us. We will try to make whatever arrangements we can. We are anxious to have all-adult groups next Fall; so, if you have a group interested in an "alternative" vacation give us a call.

F.Y.I.

ALL ILLINOIS NAZARETH FARM REUNION: Saturday, November 28th at St. Mary's Church in Downersgrove at 5:00 p.m. You, your family and friends are all welcome. Contact Betty Krupp for more information (708) 325-0854.

NASHVILLE WELCOMES KAY HETHERINGTON: She has been discovered!! After an audition in West Virginia, a Nashville audition company invited her down to play before recording contractors of the area. Yes, this was big time! Singing all gospel songs and using her beautiful God given gifts Kay had a blast and said, "Even if nothing comes of it, it was a dream come true." CONGRATS KAY! We're glad they are finally recognizing what we have known for a long time. You use your gifts for the glory of God, and you do a great job of it!

Winter 1993

— NAZARETH FARM —

THE ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTEERS FOR CHRISTIAN SERVICE CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER

The Christmas season is upon us once again and the staff at Nazareth Farm extends thanks and greetings to all those who have supported us throughout the year. Our accomplishments through the guidance of the Holy Spirit have been truly miraculous. We can only hope that 1993 will be rich in God's blessings and gifts. We at The Farm wish to pray for a blessed new year for your family. We ask that you join us in prayer for our brothers and sisters: the homeless, the destitute, the imprisoned, and all those lovers of peace who demonstrate this love by effective responses to life's challenges and trials.

MAJOR ANNOUNCEMENT

It is with bittersweet motivations that we make the following announcement: Joan and John Donnelly will be moving on from The Farm. It is "sweet" as we see God calling them to help start a program very similar to The Farm in their home diocese of Syracuse. It is "bitter" out of sadness for the anticipated loss of their beautiful spirits and myriad gifts. They have blessed The Farm richly with their presence over the last decade beginning with Family Weeks and culminating with the last three years as dedicated staff. They will be dearly missed. It will be impossible to replace them, but prospective staff are in the wings to help fill the gaps. Please keep us all in prayer during this transition.

A NOTE FROM JOHN

Dear friends of Nazareth Farm,

Joan and I have decided to leave Nazareth Farm after the Christmas Party. We've been asked to join a community in central New York State with a very kindred spirit to Nazareth Farm. Fr. Ted Sizing, Chairperson of the Nazareth Farm Board of Directors, will be part of the effort in New York. I've thoroughly enjoyed my stay here. It's hard to single out all the memorable moments. Suffice it to say, the spirit of the Lord which pervades The Farm is my foremost memory. The volunteers demonstrate another manifestation of God. The many conversions between Sunday night and Saturday morning have been especially touching to me. As I leave I ask for your prayers for the success of the new venture and for the continuation of life on "The Farm" as we know it.

A NOTE FROM JOAN

There is a sadness about leaving this special place after three years. Our community here, the people of Doddridge County, the young people who pass through here, the beauty of the West Virginia mountains; we will miss them all very much. We are also excited about a new challenge and looking forward to getting started. I hope some of you will be able to visit us in northern New York State.

ILLINOIS REUNION A SUCCESS

Over 100 people gathered at St. Mary's Church in Downers Grove this past Saturday, November 28th, to share stories, food, and ideas for furthering the mission of The Farm. It was rumored that they had a great time. The Planning Committee, Betty Bien, Frank Gallagher, Sean Gallagher, Elena Haas, Judy Kosky, Mike Kosky, Mike Krueger, Betty Krupp, Adrian Litwin, Jim

Lupie, Dan Murray, Betty Vitale, and Phil Vitale, deserve special commendation. Thanks to all who showed up. It's exciting to hear of your continued enthusiasm for The Farm.

SPEAKING OF KAY HETHERINGTON

She has been invited back for further auditions. This time she will be on the nationally syndicated Nashville Network on cable television. In her last audition she placed fourth in viewer response out of sixty six performers. Please say a special prayer for her.

PROSPECTIVE STAFF

We are getting responses to our request for staff. Please keep spreading the word as more are needed to fulfill our mission.

DOWN ON THE FARM

John Donnelly

Work at The Farm has continued during the fall months. We've had time to work on the greenhouse/chicken coop building. The concrete floor has been poured and the walls are up. Hopefully, the roof and glass will be completed this week. The big change is in the parking lot. We've torn down the red shed and put in footers for a very large garage between the mountain and the crushed stone of the parking lot. By the Christmas party we hope to have the walls built and some of the trusses in place. This building will allow us to tear down the old boys' barn. During the Winter and Spring one of the morning chores will be demolition, a chore so loved in the past.

THANKSGIVING

David Dominiak

This Thanksgiving holiday was a glorious celebration for all of us. God has truly blessed us here at The Farm. There is much to be thankful for. We were fortunate to share this holiday with students from The University of Dayton, members of The Donnelly Clan, friends from the local community, a past staff member, Liz Dowling, and a member of our Board, Wayne Venezia. It was a fun filled weekend for all with work, prayer, play, and a great mud wrestling match. We at The Farm pray that your Thanksgiving was as joyful as ours, and that God continues to bless you.

NAZARETH FARM
*The Association of Volunteers
for Christian Service*
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Non-Profit Organization

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