

THE AUGUST NEWSLETTER

A friend sent me a beautiful desk piece the other day with the inscription, "We are unaware of what miracles may come." I do believe awareness is the key. God blesses us with miracles each day and I believe each moment. I encourage you to take some quiet time to see what miracles actually are working in your day and in your life. If I may suggest start by realizing what your body and mind do constantly; just in typing this I am amazed at how my thoughts get instantaneously transferred to this page. Here at The Farm we have been blessed with some pretty obvious one's of which we will share in this newsletter.

AMAZEMENT AT THE AMERICAS

Mike Abrahamson

On June 20th the America House caught fire do to electrical problems. The house burned to the ground, they lost everything for which they had worked their life, they could not afford insurance, and they still owed on remodeling loans on the burnt house. Three days later they agreed to accept The Farm's help in rebuilding. The afternoon of the fourth day a bulldozer pushed over the house and graded the property for the new house. That evening the local fire department burned the charred remains. The next morning at 10:00 a.m. the site was surveyed, and at 1:00 p.m. a backhoe was digging the footers for the new house. At 4:00 that same afternoon the concrete truck came and poured the footers. Giving the concrete a day to set up we began at 6:00 a.m. on Sunday morning laying 560 concrete blocks. While the concrete was setting we were working on sawing donated trees to provide the lumber for the new house. On Tuesday volunteers converged upon the site. The Farm has worked on the house during the day, and the local community took over in the evening and on weekends. In less than six weeks The Americas have moved into their new house.

It has obviously been exciting, and in our opinion miraculous. It has been beautiful to watch everyone in this area rally to help. The people of the area make us feasts each day for lunch. Weekend work parties are held for all the town people who come to help. It is a real sense of community. It is empowerment at it's best. The people just needed to be told they could do it, and they have. It embodies so much of what Nazareth Farm is all about, "Helping people help themselves."

NEWS BULLETIN

Martha White

We interrupt this newsletter for a special bulletin live from the Knudsen's mountain top. Yes... The water line has been buried and completed. A natural gas generator is coming this weekend from Pennsylvania to provide power for the water supply and the new house. Could it be that there will be water on top of the hill ??? See later letters for details.

Moving on... While the mud was flying (yes, fun filled mud fights) these past few weeks, progress on the house has been remarkable. The second floor frame is complete and the roof rafters are up. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of the volunteers, and the patience and hospitality of the Knudsen Family progress is rapid. The house and the new gas line will become quick reality as the water line already is.

ROOFING MADNESS

Dave Dominick & John Morgan

In the last month we have been busy putting on roofs through extreme heat and torrential rains. It is so exciting to see and here from the families we help as they experience a rain storm without worrying about where to place the next bucket or tack up the next piece of plastic to catch the water. Their gratitude touches us, and is best exemplified through a letter written by a family to the group of volunteers who helped put on their roof:

Hi everyone! Chuck and I want to thank all of you for your help in putting on our roof. You are such wonderful people giving of your time to help others. We can't remember all your names, but we'll never forget all of your kindness. If in the future you return to The Farm please feel free to stop in for a visit if you can. Chuck is a quiet person, but he wants all of you to know he has enjoyed working with you this week. The Farm has such a wonderful staff and we want to thank all of you also. I have enjoyed preparing lunch for you. I hope no one got sick. Again our thanks and love to all - Wilma and Chuck

P.S. We have a lot of compliments on our roof and we are proud of it.

GOD'S GRANDEUR IN GARDENING

John Donnelly

"For your realm is all the earth. We sing to you our hymns of praise." Psalm 47. We praise God everyday for the abundant produce of our garden. We have dug potatoes (which were delicious). We've canned beans (over 100 quarts). We've had many salads with lettuce, onions, peppers, tomatoes, broccoli, and cauliflower. Last night we celebrated God's realm by having corn on the cob. Truly we have much to thank and praise God for as we continue the harvest. God's blessings to us have been manifold

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT AND BODY

Joan Donnelly

We are participating in a program called Food Share. It is a nationwide co-op buying organization that is new to this area. For 13 dollars and two hours of community service you receive approximately 30 dollars worth of food including meat, fresh fruits and vegetables. We think it will be very helpful to the people around here and it also promotes a lot of community involvement.

EXTRA! EXTRA! COUP AT NAZ FARM

Rose Ratzki

Last week there was a revolution at Nazareth Farm. "Gorillas" (Mike and I) armed with spatulas took over the kitchen, but fortunately Mike and I did not win the popular support of the volunteers. So, after a week there was a counter coup and Joan is back in the kitchen ONCE again QUEEN of the KITCHEN. Praise the Lord! P.S. There were no injuries but we did break one spatula.

Our most popular dish was Zucchini Quiche Pie:

5 eggs	1 tsp. garlic powder
1 1/2 Cups Bisquit	1/4 cup shredded cheddar cheese
1/4 Cup salad or vegie oil	1 cup diced pepperoni
1/4 cup diced green pepper	1 small diced onion =
4 cups shredded zucchini without the seeds	
1/2 cup shredded romano or parmesan cheese	

Mix and bake at 350 for 55 min. use 9 x 13 pan.

TOUGH TRANSITIONS

We enjoy change as we believe it is one of the only constants in life, but it is also very sad. This month is a month of transition as Jim Lupie leaves on August 1st to return to Illinois, Martha White leaves on the 15th to return to school, and Liz Dowling leaves on September 1st to start her career in music. The Farm has been blessed one thousand times over by their presence. Please keep them and us in prayer as we move through this period of transition.

MISCELLANEOUS MEMOS

- 1) We have a new truck!! Prayers have been answered. We received a donation for purchase and were able to get a fantastic buy through a friend of The Farm, Wayne Venezia. Thank you God.
- 2) The new bridge is in and being used. Such a good was done that the gentleman who supplied materials has asked for our help in building another for a couple in their eighties who walk one quarter of a mile to their house from their car.

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