

Prayer Needs from your missionaries at New City Church - 9/16/2008

Praises!

- ASC license - Many of you have been praying for us as we work to keep our after school center open. Every 3 years our child care license must be renewed in order to keep about \$40,000 in government funding. The process is extremely involved. This year our license ran out August 9. We filed for an extension, but we are required to do about \$40,000 in what is officially called "environmental remediation" most of which is producing 20,000 pages of text about our site no one will probably ever read. On Sept 7 I stood in front of our church - Madison Ave. to pray we could get a stay of execution. On Sept 10, the licensing department gave us the extension! We can now keep the center open and have uninterrupted funding until Nov 9, when we'll ask for another extension. So thank you for praying and I'll keep you updated.
- Full ASC - Last year our goal was to have an average daily attendance (not including teens working for us) of 25 kids at ASC. We averaged 38. This year our goal is 40 and we've opened up to 60+. We've even had to shut down the enrollment and put kids on waiting list. I always shutter at this. A waiting list to receive life, education, love, and the good news. This year our ASC Director, Deborah Lemmen, has chosen the "I am" statements to be the theme. It is such a privilege to be the people who for the first time introduce kids to the unsearchable riches of Christ.
- All of our seniors went to college - in 2008, not only did every senior at New City graduate HS, but every single senior is now in college. Compare that to the statistics for HS graduation in urban areas (around 60%). Much of our success here is due to Josh Dornbos' late nights with kids filling in college applications and just giving moral support.
- Blooming and Expanding - with 4 full time interns, 7 part time staff, 3 full time staff and 25 paid teens currently working - we have a great team of people. This year we are offering more and better programs to bring transformation to kids than ever before. Praise God for the strength of this team. New programs include: Teen tutoring; Senior college application class, all-age worship services (5 scheduled for this year); Jr high outreach ministry and small groups; and more than I can fit on the page, as well as all the regular programming.

Requests

- ASC License and Environmental remediation - Our ultimate goal with this process is to get the NFA (no further action) letter from the DEP. To do this it is projected we will have to spend \$40,000 or so. We did not budget for this and we're praying it comes in less than that. Pray that the DEP will be satisfied with a less extensive process (we've already given them tons of paperwork). Pray for them to be satisfied or to give us another extension so that kids will not have to be turned away. Pray that the system could actually work for the kids instead of against them.
- NEW WORSHIP SERVICES- October 10, we will be having a worship service for anyone interested - our teens, staff, supporters - anyone. So often we do "outreach" events and don't have the time to go deeper or just spend time in worship (because we're often reaching kids who don't yet acknowledge God). This year we've responded by planning 5 worship services more for staff, teens who already are Christians and anyone else who needs refreshing. Pray for a strong beginning, and please come! (at New City, 7pm-8:30pm Oct 7)
- New Role for me. As long as I was running everything, the ministry was limited to my energy and range of involvement. Now we have great staff doing all the things Linda and I used to do. While this is so great, it is also a challenge to move from engaging on a daily basis with kids to management, admin and staff. Pray that I'll find ways to keep my hands in just enough discipleship to keep me going and that I'll lead my staff well.