

# PATTI'S PRESS ~ SPRING 2012

Ministry Update and Prayer Letter from Patti Nell



## THE POWER OF CAMP

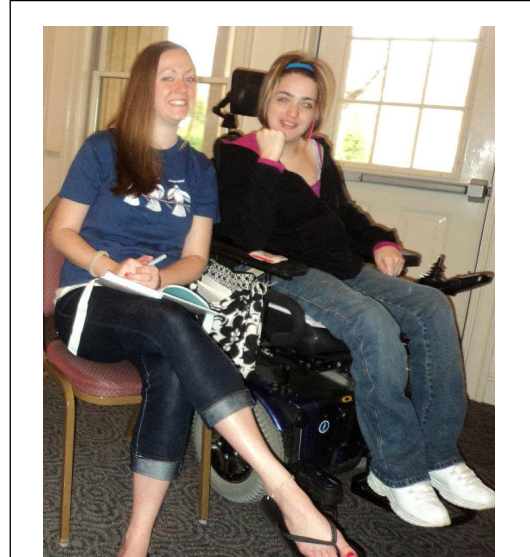
The “power of camp” was once again made evident to me during our March Handi\*Camp retreat. Fifteen young adults with physical disabilities gathered at Traber Center near Pottstown, PA for a weekend of fun, friendship, good food and times of studying God’s Word together.

I had the privilege of leading the small group discussion time for the ladies that followed our speaker’s Bible teaching session. As we talked together about the topic of making time in our daily schedules for Bible reading and prayer, many of the ladies felt free to share their personal struggles in this area as well as their questions.

Nicole, who came to know the Lord as her Savior last year during Handi\*Camp shared openly about how difficult it’s been for her to stay connected to the Lord and live out her faith among her family and friends. Nicole was so excited to once again be with friends who could relate to her struggles. She eagerly embraced the encouragement and hope they offered her from God’s Word and their personal experiences.

As I observed Nicole and the other campers throughout the weekend I was reminded of how the Lord uses the ministry of camp to transform lives.

What a blessing it is to have these glimpses of the Lord at work in the lives of the campers. It gets me excited about Handi\*Camp 2012 and all that the Lord has planned for the campers and staff.



Meagan and Nicole

Please pray... for preparation of the Bible teaching materials that include camper books, am/pm devotionals, power point presentations, learning activities and visuals...for the Lord to provide more nurses and male counselors for Handi\*Camp.

## THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIP

“...FOR YOU HAVE BEEN MY PARTNERS IN SPEADING THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT CHRIST...”

PHILIPPIANS 1:5

I’ve experienced the “power of partnership.” I’ve experienced for over 34 years now. It’s a blessing to be in partnership with others who see the need and vision for people with disabilities to come to know the Lord as their Savior and become serving members in the Body of Christ.

Whether I’m at Handi\*Camp teaching the Word of God or in a church providing disability training, I know that it’s a partnership between the Lord, myself and others that make it all possible. I couldn’t do what I do without the Lord’s enabling power and strength in conjunction with the prayers and financial gifts of others.

Thanks so much to each of you for the special way the Lord is using you to be in partnership with me. As you partner with me you are also partnering with H\*VMI. Our 2012 Lancaster County banquet will be held on October 13. Save the date and join us at Shady Maple for a time of ministry updates, good food and fellowship.

## THE POWER OF DISABILITY TRAINING

What a joy it is to be used by the Lord in the process of helping seminar participants begin, strengthen or expand their church ministries with people who have disabilities.

It's also exciting to observe participants from different churches sharing insights and helpful suggestions from their various experiences and disability ministries. During the Lancaster Christian Council on Disability seminar that I had the privilege of being a part of we had 36 participants from 10 different churches in Lancaster County. Everyone commented on how helpful it was to have this opportunity to learn from one another.

I'm looking forward to attending the Accessibility Summit at McLean Bible Church near Washington, DC the weekend of April 20<sup>th</sup>. This is a time for me to be a seminar participant and student. I'm looking forward to this time of learning and gathering of resources so I can share what I've learned with those I train in future seminars.



*Disability Training Seminar*

Please pray... for safety as I travel to the Accessibility Summit...for opportunities to learn and glean helpful ideas and suggestions for future disability training seminars.

## THE POWER OF THE CROSS

The following words are portions of two songs that I've been singing and thinking about as I prepare myself to celebrate Easter. These words speak about the "power of the cross." I hope as you read them, you too, will be reminded of all that Christ did for you when He died on the cross. Have a blessed Easter.

And when I think of God,  
His son not sparing,  
Sent Him to die,  
I scarce can take it in;  
That on the cross,  
my burden gladly bearing  
He bled and died to take away my sin.

Then sings my soul  
My Savior, God, to Thee  
How great thou art, How great thou art  
*(From How Great Thou Art)*

Oh, to see my name  
Written in the wounds,  
For through Your suffering I am free.  
Death is crushed to death;  
Life is mine to live,  
Won through Your selfless love.

This, the pow'r of the cross:  
Son of God—slain for us.  
What a love! What a cost!  
We stand forgiven at the cross.  
*(From The Power of the Cross)*



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