

November 2007

UnplowedGround

Dear friends, recently we stayed with Gustavo and Marta, previous landlords, and got talking around the dinner table about spirituality. Both Gustavo and Marta said, "I believe in God. I just don't believe in the church." They talked about how they see God in their friends and family, but the church is the last place they would go to find God.

This week, as we give thanks, April and I are grateful to be a part of a church community that is a spiritual family. We believe our church is a great place to discover what it means to love God, each other, and our city. Here are a few things about our church that we're thankful for...

Prayer



This summer we realized we talked about prayer more than we actually did it. Since then, we've been praying more at services, studying different forms of prayer in our small groups, and meeting bi-weekly to pray for our social justice work in the city. A number of us have even begun praying individually through a celtic liturgy every day.

Action



We've been talking a lot about vocation as well, and begun to see our friends putting their faith into action. For example, Laura and Shani are organizing volunteers to work with immigrant children stranded in Spain, and Mary is researching how we can best help the prostitutes that work in our neighborhood.

Community



A visitor recently said to me, "I've never seen a church that's so honest." When people begin to share openly and specifically about their struggles, others see they can do the same, and trust and healing begin. Only through death to our sin can we see the power of resurrection in transformed lives.

Sincerely,

Kelly, April and Alleke
Serving in Spain

Baby Photo



For Prayer

- meaningful advent and Christmas season for our church
- non-Christian friends who will be spending lots of time in our homes over the holidays
- wisdom for the leaders in our church who are mentoring others
- kelly lost his spanish residency this month due to a miscommunication with a government agency. give us wisdom and the finances for a trip to Chicago as we begin the process again
- kelly's computer also broke this week. pray that we'll be able to finance a new one and make due in the meantime.
- time to write emails to potential supporters