



Amazing Love Ministries, Inc.

Matthew 25:35 "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink..."

December 23, 2010

Volume 2, Number 13

In This Issue:

- Comfort and Joy
- Volunteer of the Month
- Praise and Worship Spotlight
- Person to Person
- Our Hero
- Pictures of Nativity Scene
- Verse of the Month
- Prayer Requests
- News and Updates
- Reminders

Monthly Feeding Schedules...

- Jan.: Need Assistance
- Feb.: Need Assistance
- March: Need Assistance
- April: Need Assistance
- May: Need Assistance
- June: Need Assistance
- July: Need Assistance

*If you or your organization would like to provide food, please contact Jim and Barbara Killeen to schedule.

Comfort and Joy



Where would you turn during your time of need? Where would you go for comfort and protection? We would all do well in following the example of this Shepherd...German Shepherd, that is! In the small town square of Criciuma, in the southern Brazilian state of Santa Catarina, a church had erected a Nativity scene. During the night, as people walked by to admire the life-sized Christmas display, they noticed something

laying in the manger with the baby Jesus. It appeared that a homeless dog was looking for protection and a comfortable place to sleep for the night. What better place than with the baby Christ Jesus, Son of the Living God? The puppy was allowed to remain there, curled up in the manger with baby Jesus, as no one had the heart to send him away. During this Christmas season, let us be reminded that our God is a loving God who will not send us away! On the contrary, He sent us His one and only Son, to show us His abounding love and faithfulness. He is always waiting, arms wide open, for us to climb up onto his lap so that He can comfort and protect us. This Christmas, may you experience the warmth of his endless love and the comfort and joy which can only be found through Him. May you all have a safe and blessed Merry Christmas! (See page 4 for more pictures of the puppy and the Nativity scene.)

Volunteer of the Month: Natalie

Serving...that is the one word I would use to describe Natalie. She not only serves the **Lord** at **Amazing Love Ministries**, she also serves our country as a YN2 in the **United States Navy** (for you landlubbers that means: Yeoman/2=Petty Officer Second Class...looks like an algebraic equation, doesn't it?). As a matter of fact, she was honored in November at McDill Air Force Base when she received the **Volunteer Service Medal (MOVSM)** for her 300+ hours of volunteering! Quite an accomplishment!



Natalie also is involved with other organizations such as Habitat for Humanity and the Race-de-Cure. In her spare time, (what spare time?) Natalie loves to practice the **nine** musical instruments that she plays (yes, **nine**, that is not a typo), listen to old classical music, go running in different state parks located throughout Florida, and study as she works towards her Business and Administration Degree with a minor in Music. Originally from Toledo, Ohio, Natalie joined the Navy in July 2004 because she wanted to expand her interests and explore the world. Up until that time, her love for music was what filled her life. Now she sees the world in her travels and just loves being (cont.)

Volunteer
Of
the Month



Volunteer of the Month: Natalie

on the deck of a ship, surrounded by water, looking out across the vast ocean and starry night sky. Natalie became aware of the negativity in her life and how it was effecting her as well as others. She realized that she could either speak words of life or words of death into a person and by becoming a Christian and dedicating her life to Jesus in August 2009, she chose to speak life. Her favorite verse is Psalm 119:25-32. Natalie loves serving with **Amazing Love Ministries** and knows that it has made a positive impact on her life. She would love to see the ministry grow and continue to impact the lives of others by bringing them closer to the Lord. Natalie's parents still reside in Toledo and she has three brothers and one sister. Thus far she has been stationed in Groton, CT, Jacksonville, FL, and most recently (and hopefully for many years), Tampa, FL. Thank you, Natalie for your serving heart and all you do for **Amazing Love Ministries!**



Praise
and
Worship
Spotlight



Praise and Worship Spotlight: Jimmy

We had been praying for a man of God to assist with the Bible study on Monday evenings and God certainly delivered! For the past year, Jimmy has been an ever present source of support for the men and women who attend **Amazing Love Ministries**. Not only is he knowledgeable in the Word of God, he walks the walk and talks the talk...dynamically at that! Just listen to Jimmy as he delivers a message and you will hear the desperation in his voice for those who have not yet accepted Christ, to do so without hesitation. He knows all too well that life is short and can be taken away in an instant. Jimmy lived the life of drinking, getting high, and hanging with the wrong crowd. He was broke, unemployed and going through a very difficult time in his life when his neighbor and dear friend, Mrs. Loula, told Jimmy that she was going to pray for God to bless him with a job. Within two weeks he had not one, but two jobs! His first encounter with God definitely got his attention. Mrs. Loula continued to be a mentor for Jimmy and his then girlfriend, Roz. Then when Jimmy's best friend was murdered, he began to take a hard look at his life. If he were to die suddenly like his friend, he knew where he would go and he didn't like the destination. In December of 1980, Jimmy dedicated his life to Jesus Christ. He and Roz have been married now for 32 years and have been blessed with 7 children and 3 grandchildren. They currently reside in Plant City where Jimmy is employed as a fire inspector. His favorite verse is **Matthew 28:20 "And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."** Thank you, Jimmy, for all you do for **Amazing Love Ministries!**

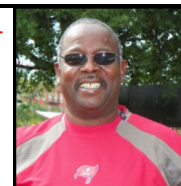


Person
to
Person



Person to Person: Melvin

You might have noticed Melvin has been missing lately from **Amazing Love Ministries**. Although he loves serving with us, Melvin has learned that family comes first. Born in Tampa at Lilly White Hospital, Melvin's mother placed him up for adoption at birth. He was adopted by a loving family with two other children. He graduated from Brandon High School and worked at a bank as an adjuster until his mother passed away. He then partnered with his father in the construction business. He soon married, had a son, and his life was good...until he started using cocaine. His addiction brought an end to his marriage, family, and employment...but began a cycle of prison stays. In 2000, he was reunited with his son when his first grandchild was born. They moved in together to support each other during difficult times. Melvin's son turned toward the Lord for direction and was saved, which began Melvin's salvation process. Four years later he joined his son as a believer and was baptized, dedicating his life to Jesus! In 2006, he met a brother and a son that he didn't even know he had! At one point he thought he had lost his family...now God was giving him the opportunity to get it back! Melvin currently has been taking care of his sister who has stage 4 lung cancer, and his disabled brother-in-law. He feels blessed to have this time to spend with them. Melvin has also been blessed by landing a job at a restaurant on Davis Island. In his spare time, he likes to read and watch football...go Bucs! We miss you Melvin, but you are still a part of our **Amazing Love Ministries** family!



Our Hero!

On Thanksgiving day, Andre returned to the **Amazing Love Ministries** building after a day filled with friends, family, and of course eating...eating a lot, I might add. His intentions were to check on the building and to visit his friend across the way. All of a sudden he noticed what he thought was a person, jump the chain link fence into the back yard area of the building. He quietly went over to the fence to check out the situation and found that our air conditioner was being tampered with! Rather than take the matter into his own hands, he did the right thing and contacted the Tampa Police Department who arrived quickly and were able to apprehend the culprit! Thanks be to God and to Andre's quick thinking and the TPD's rapid response, the damage to the air conditioning unit was held to a minimum and the cost of repair was only \$120...any more damage and the unit would have had to be replaced! In recognition of Andre's good citizenship, he received the letter below from the Chief of Police, Jane Castor. We asked Andre what he would like as a reward for his saving the ministry the replacement of an air conditioning unit. He asked for a whole pan of brownies. He received a double batch. Thank you, Andre, for your serving heart and dedication to **Amazing Love Ministries**! You are our hero!



CITY OF TAMPA

Pam Iorio, Mayor

Police Department

Jane Castor
Chief of Police

November 30, 2010

Ander Guion
15926 Bridgewater Lane
Tampa, FL 33624

Dear Mr. Guion,

It has come to my direct attention that as a citizen of our community, you took action against what you perceived to be a crime in progress, by notifying the Tampa Police Department. Your diligent and timely decision helped to apprehend a defendant in a burglary offense, which is a crime that we take very seriously in our city.

I just want to personally thank you on behalf of the City of Tampa, our department, and most importantly the victim for getting involved to make a difference. Our mission statement is to reduce crime, and enhance the quality of life through a cooperative partnership with all citizens; and your involvement exemplifies our meaning of "partnership."

Sincerely,

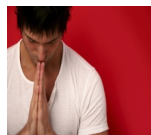
Jane Castor
Chief of Police



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Verse of the Month And



John 3:16
"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

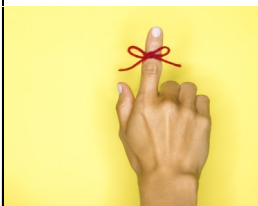
If you have a prayer request, please see **Pastor Greg** or **Dawn** on Monday evening at **Amazing Love Ministries** or send an email to amazinglovemin@verizon.net . A separate Prayer Request email will be sent out by mid-week to all of our faithful prayer warriors! There is POWER in PRAYER!!!!

News and Updates



- **THE RESULTS ARE IN!** Our BBQ benefit held by **Dawning Light Ministries** was a **HUGE SUCCESS!** With the proceeds, the following items were purchased for **Amazing Love Ministries**: 162 sleeping bags; 100 back packs; 390 pairs of socks; 320 pairs of gloves; 95 stocking hats; 84 men's boxers; 321 hand warmers; and 100 deodorants. Thank you for all who participated in this wonderful event! See you next year at our **2nd Annual Dawning Light Ministries/Amazing Love Ministries BBQ!**
- "Well the weather outside is frightful..." Well, maybe not quite yet! But it is getting chilly and the nights can get cold. While you are getting out your winter wardrobe, please go through them and any coats, gloves, scarves, blankets, sleeping bags, or hats you could spare, would be greatly appreciated. **We especially are in need of men's items: large, X large, XX large, XXX large; and XXXX large.**
- We continue to be blessed with an abundance of women's clothing, but we are in **need of women's winter wear**. Please bring your donations with you on Monday evening or contact amazinglovemin@verizon.net for more information.
- Thinking about what you want to do for the homeless and less fortunate for the Christmas season? There is always a need for bus passes and you can purchase daily passes for as little as \$3.75! For more ideas, ask Barbara and Jim, who will be able to provide additional information on the needs of those we serve.
- Are you computer savvy? Know how to set up a web site? You might just be the person we need! Please contact Jim or Barbara for more specific details.
- Come and join Chris and the **Amazing Love Ministries Men's and Women's Choir** for practice on Thursday evenings! They meet at 6:00 and have fellowship as they sing Praise and Worship. Make sure you visit and listen to them perform on Monday evenings before the message!
- After practicing with the chorus, why not join Nicole for a run or walk? Nicole meets with interested athletes on Thursday evenings at the building at 7:00. Our next race will be in February.....the Gasparilla Distance Classic!
- Don't forget Bible Study at 6:00 on Monday and Thursday evenings! Bring your Bible or borrow one of ours! Need glasses? Don't let that stop you! We have large print Bibles and cheaters (reading glasses) available to meet your needs. Come join us for The Word, questions, discussion, and fellowship! All are invited...hope to see you soon!

Reminders



During this time of hustle and bustle, let us all be reminded that the entire reason for the season is the celebration of the birth of our Savior, God's One and Only Son, Jesus Christ. While you are spending time opening gifts and breaking bread with your family and friends this Christmas, take some time to acknowledge the greatest gift of all! Read about Jesus' birth in the Bible (Luke Chapter 1-2), watch "The Nativity" movie together as a family, go to church to worship and celebrate His birth...start a new family Christmas tradition...just make sure you keep the **"Christ"** in Christmas! May you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!