



Oct., Nov., Dec. 2010

# Down On The Farm

## The Quarterly Newsletter of Crossroads Farm

### Jesus Spotted In Church Van - an RCI update

Some things in ministry are just so right that you know God is directing. When churches come together for a cause that each is involved in, and band together in the spirit of



Christian body life, well, it bears the image of Christ.

That is exactly what has happened within our RCI community. Three churches came to a meeting in order to address the issue of transportation to Crossroads Farm activities. The results

were frankly humbling.

The Crossroads Farm bus will (beginning in January) run through the southern portion of our county with six major stops. Those stops have been determined to be Hillsdale 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church, in Hillsdale, Betzer Community Church and Waldron High School, Frontier, Camden High School, and downtown Camden. The route will last approximately one hour for the first riders on, and will provide transportation to at least 100 riders over two nights of programming.

In an act of selfless service, the churches, which have generally provided transportation to their own students via vans, will now send their vans in three different directions. One van will make stops in the northeast corner (Sommerset, North Adams and Jerome, stopping as well in Jonesville and Allen. Again the duration of the route is one hour. The second van will head north to Litchfield, Quincy, Algansee and Reading. The route will also be about an hour. A fourth route is being discussed currently in order to accommodate increasing numbers.

There are ways that YOU can become involved in the growing need to spread Jesus to the four corners of Hillsdale County.

You can join our transportation team and volunteer to drive a van route one Sunday or Tuesday a month. We currently need 16 drivers each month, with the effect of no one having to drive more than once a month.

You can also be an area pick up driver. That is a person who drives a fifteen- minute loop in their hometown and delivers students to the central pick up location in town. It would require little more than 20 minutes each Sunday or Tuesday nights. Just think. Your limited investment of time and gas could reach many students with the gospel. Please call the CRF office if you would like to make a difference in student's lives.

Like I said. Some things seem to bear the imprint of Jesus!

If you know of a student that would like to attend Crossroads regular events (High School Barnyard, Sunday, 6:30 P.M. and Middle School Trough, Tuesday, 7:00 P.M.) please set it up with the Crossroads Farm office @517-283-3982. 🍷





## Unexpected growth in small places...

-by Megan / Program Intern

Three days a week the student ministry center basement is filled with some fairly strange noises. I can say this because some of those weird noises come out of my own mouth! Have you heard Chewbacca before? I thought he was in the basement last week. Turned out it was a new kid, Jake. I've been running the lunch time program for about 2 years now and it's really quite simple. I leave the front door unlocked and they come wondering in. "They" are my lunchtime kids, high school students from Reading High school. Some of them appear to be the less "cool" kids, but some I believe are quite popular. When they come over for lunchtime, it's not about who is "cool" anymore, but having a safe place to hang, safe from being mean to each other, safe from inappropriate music (funny story there), and currently safe from the

events, but they do know my name and we make fun of each other. For right now that is enough. Maybe Jake will be the lunchtime kid that comes to Winter Retreat this year and accepts Christ as his Lord and Savior, maybe not. Either way I will show him and every other one of my lunchtime students love every day they set foot in

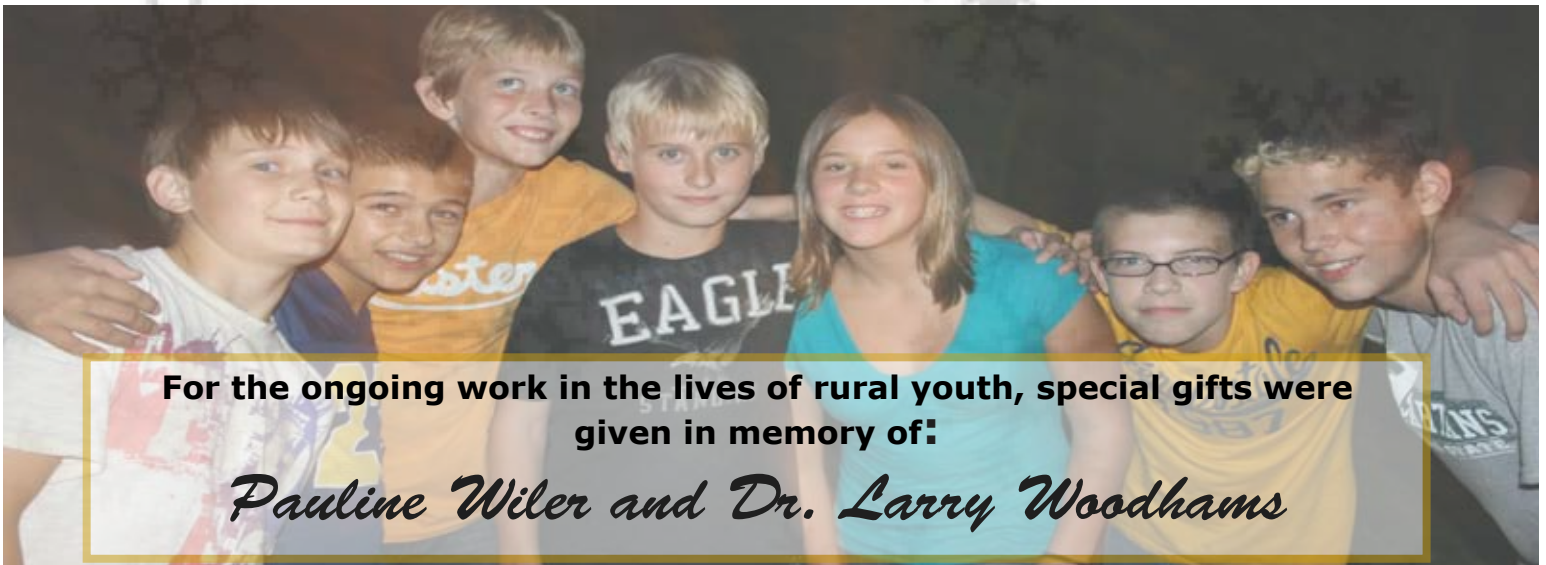


this building. This is just one part of my ministry but it's eternally huge.



On top of new lunchtime faces, we have many new international faces this year. For being such a small town we have 6 foreign exchange students that have made CRF part of their American experience! From Taiwan to Germany these students have been placed into our hands and are plunging into our ministry. Only one of these students professes to be a believer, but can you imagine sending home a student that has had their life changed not by our American culture as much as by our Almighty God? Pray with us that the Gospel will be firmly planted in their lives and they will take home the greatest gift of all = Salvation! A few short sentences can not tell you the depth of these two topics for our ministry but know that God is working in even the small things and we are watching with wonder! 🙏

winter wind. I would say safe from the cold, but the basement is actually quite cold and so we will just stick with being safe from the wind. These students are most often not believers. They do not attend our program or



**For the ongoing work in the lives of rural youth, special gifts were given in memory of:**

*Pauline Wiler and Dr. Larry Woodhams*

Our first big outreach of the year was a huge success. Middle school and high school students converged on the Farm over two nights; October 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>, to try and solve this year's mystery of "Who Shelled Goober Pea?" Over 450 students ran through a 3-mile corn maze trying to find 8 sites for clues on who shelled Goober. Our Hip Hop Rap Artist, Heath McNease, got the barn shaking and the students dancing. Two of our student leaders gave their testimonies during the night(s) and it hit home, with 21 students making a decision to start a relationship with

## "Who Shelled Goober Pea"

by Paul/ Program Assoc.



Christ. After the maze, students gorged on hot chocolate, cider, and donuts while anxiously awaiting the announcements of the winners. Middle school boys from Pine Ridge Church and a group of homeschool girls on high school night took the prize! We want to thank all the parents, community volunteers, board members, friends, staff, and area businesses for investing in these nights.

Look for us again next year in the corn... 🌽

## Blizzard of Events!

### Your Family's Creed

#### Parents and Healthy Family Seminar

This fun and interactive opportunity may be exactly what the doctor ordered.

Learn about how to set family goals that everyone will agree with.

Enjoy each other more and come together in a cause that is completely unique... *Your Family*.

This seminar is Free!

Refreshments are available as well!

Dates: Monday, January 17<sup>th</sup>

@ the CRF Student Ministry Center, 6:30pm  
call to reserve your seats!

### The Red Carpet.... Oscar Night

High School Winter Retreat  
Goes BLOCKBUSTER!

Speaker: Brian Kono

Worship: Sing Love Sing

PLUS!!!! DOWNHILL SKIING!

Portage Lake Covenant Bible Camp

Tournaments, game room, Gym, Polar Bear Plunge  
And More than you could ever imagine packed into 48  
hours!

Call the CRF office to make sure you have a  
registration form.

Dates: February 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>

Cost is Only \$95

\$25 holds your spot. This trip is going to fill!

Hurry!

### Middle School Does Barakel

Join us for a Middle School  
tradition: BARAKEL!

This trip is limited so you will need  
to get your registration in early.

The greatest tubing hill in Michigan.

Broomball, Ice Skating, Hockey, Cross Country Skiing  
and

Lots more!

Call the CRF office to make sure you have a registration  
form.

Dates: January 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>

Cost is only \$95

\$25 holds your spot. This trip is filling!

Hurry!



Crossroads Farm would like to thank the sixth grade class of Reynolds Elementary and the third and fourth grade classes of Camden Elementary school for taking a trip out



to the Farm. The field trip consisted of learning all the uses and products made from corn, getting a chance to groom and feed some of the farm animals, and running through the 3 mile corn maze. We were so glad to be able to have both schools back again from previous years and look forward to seeing them again in the future. 🌽



Crossroads Farm

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[www.crossroadsfarm.org](http://www.crossroadsfarm.org)

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## Loving The Rural Teenager



### The Prayer Closet

#### YAHOOOS:

- \*21 salvations at the Murder Mystery Outreach
- \*A precious middle school girl who gave her life to Christ just last week at regular programming
- \*You, our dedicated supporters: financial, prayer, community volunteers...
- \*Students exploding for Christ in the S.E. quadrant of the county
- \*Great weekly program attendance and unity!



- \*Winter retreats for both high school and middle school- more than we could ask or think in the lives of students
- \*Fresh vision for our CRF Board of Directors (next meeting in Jan.)
- \*Renewed energy for our staff and students leaders
- \*We are currently dealing with several difficult student situations. Pray for these hurting kids and for wisdom for our team.

#### TAKE IT TO JESUS: