

Shannon started work last week at Peddler and Sons. He got a bunch of warm clothing, because he spends a lot of time in the refrigerated section. He is enjoying his work.

Last week Shawn had his court date. By the time you receive this letter, he will have been released to CA parole. The court investigator told us his parole will be over November, 2018.

James came home a couple of weeks ago. We've visited with him in person a few times and talk nearly every day. He is doing well. He shares a house with Cameron, another registered citizen. Cameron is a very young Navy veteran. He works at a restaurant in Tempe. He was released about 3 years ago and lived in Tucson for a bit over a year. He violated his probation (didn't ask him how) and was returned to Maricopa, homeless. His sister is a Christian and stepped up and paid his rent for a couple of months allowing him to get his current job and become self-sufficient. We really like him. He has not yet committed his life to Our Lord. Please keep him in your prayers.

James has been cleaning and spending most of his time meeting with leaders of the area he is living in...he has met many Christians and is making a positive difference in the neighborhood. He has a possibility of a great job doing the drafting he enjoys so very much! He is arranging for us to meet the pastors of Mercy Hill. He has heard they are of like mind towards registered citizens.

I just spoke with James and he has encouraged me to include the following information. We are kind of looking in two different directions. One is to provide as much housing as possible and a church. The other is to provide a church and housing for church leadership (and possible leaders) with us, and then use the existing housing (owned by others outside of this ministry) for everyone else. We have been helping men with housing (outside of our home) for years now. We don't advertise, because we do not have limitless funds, but it has worked out well for most of the men we have helped. We regularly take food to registered citizens and help when they get into binds. So...one of the options would be to continue with that ministry and focus mainly on the church and church leadership... I really don't see that ministry ever ending, how can one ignore the needs of those God places in their lives, right? However, we do see a church as the most important need... Yes, we would welcome your opinion...

Since our last letter, we have looked into several property possibilities. We had found a location in NW Phoenix that was owned by the church across the street. It seemed so perfect, because the church welcomes registered citizens on Wednesday evenings. The men representing the church told us we would be accepted and supported by the church. We followed through and the pastors told us that SOs are tolerated, but not welcomed and the same would apply to us. We decided to continue looking. (that was VERY discouraging) Another location we are looking into is a large house in Mesa. It is zoned light industrial, is on an orange orchard, and not near any residential areas. We have presented it and our ministry to Mesa zoning and are waiting to hear back from them. We contacted Kokopelli about reserving a space for Steve, he is coming home at the end of April. We honestly did not think it would take so long to find a suitable facility, and want to make sure we have a good place for Steve, if we are still in limbo. Kokopelli told us they want to sell the business. We told them how much we can qualify for and they said they thought we could purchase the SO portion of their business for that price. We contacted our finance man and continued that process. We scheduled an appointment to meet with Kokopelli to get a contract in place and they told us they have another interested purchaser. They called us back last week and cancelled our meeting because of medical issues. We are thinking the other purchaser made a better offer and they are waiting to see if they can financially qualify, but that is just speculation on our part. So...many possibilities, but nothing definite yet.

Someone took down the signs that were pointing at our house last week (the signs said we are dangerous criminals and child molesters). We don't think it was the people that put up the signs, because they were not taken down gently...the metal that had supported them is still in place. Someone then put up a camera facing our home, but that has now been removed too.

Last letter I told you about my move to more challenging work (I work at Boeing). Three weeks ago, our team lead, from my previous team, had a heart attack and I was pulled back to fill in for him. I had to continue doing my new job, so it was a very stressful time for me. He returned to work last week and was told to off load some of his responsibilities to me. My new manager has pushed back, so it looks like I'll get to stay with my new team. It was upsetting, because I love my teammates and know that the lead needs help. My new manager says he will make sure the manager of the old team gets help in a more appropriate way!

Sekou has planted a garden outside of the trailer he lives in (for now). He is growing mint, strawberries, chives and other herbs. He has never tried his green thumb before, so it is fun to see him so excited and moving in a new area. His job continues to challenge him (a very good thing) and he is enjoying it. The garden is in mobile units, so he can easily move it when we get a new location.

My grandson, Ethan (9 years old), is being bullied by boys at his new school. They are calling him a fag and telling him to just kill himself. He finally told the vice principal and said he was thinking about killing himself. He was on suicide watch this weekend. We researched what to do on-line and found some good advice, so we trained him yesterday. His mom (my daughter – the one that helps with Eagles' Nest) trained him in the morning. Steve and I followed up in the afternoon with the same training. He remembered his morning training, so I think he will implement today. Please pray for him and

his safety. He is a fairly new Christian and we love him immensely!!!!!! The bullies will be disciplined by the school today. Please pray for him.

Our next Eagle Family Support meeting will be this Saturday. I'm going to make chef salad.

We had purchased a lot of mushrooms last week, so I made spaghetti sauce for our lunch with James yesterday. There is a lot left over, so I'm going to make lasagna today.

C and Gloria continue to have many health challenges and would really appreciate your prayers. C will start daily radiation treatments today. They plan to put him on a cartridge that will dispense chemo to him each day throughout the day. They are both feeling at peace and know that God is totally in control.

I asked C if he had a message for you...and he texted, "No matter what man says. GOD IS ON YOUR SIDE, and is inviting you to His banquet table! You are loved and prayed for."

Kevin (Raymond) is doing very well. He continues to attend a church service on Wednesday evenings and lead the worship portion. He is still looking for a more substantial job. James referred him to a place and he went there this weekend. He is waiting to hear back.

Mike had a surprise phone call from probation this week. They had him come in and removed his ankle monitor!! He is quite happy about that...he told me that he keeps walking in circles, because of the lightness of his ankle. Funny guy!!

How you can pray? Please continue to pray that we will recognize where and when God wants us to act.

We pray for your health – physically and spiritually – continuously. Keep your hope in Him and you will not be disappointed!!! Keep moving forward, do not be discouraged. Shine Him through you, so all will see and want to know Him! We are proud of you.

May God bless you above and beyond your imagination!

Blessings!

Steve and Deb

Jeremiah 29:11

"For **I know the plans I** have for you," declares **the** Lord, "**plans** to prosper you and not to harm you, **plans** to give you hope and a future.