

Emra Expressions

Happy New Year!

January, 2019
Volume 40 Issue 1

I love this time of year!

Sheryl and I spend time looking forward and planning personal and ministry goals: choosing activities to stay healthy, play with our grandsons, write new material for the Raising Responsible Adults Seminar, spend time with our grandsons, make new contacts for Life Is Full Of Choices, and enjoy our grandsons.

This year we will begin our schedule by teaching our seminar at our home church here in Dallas. This seminar will be held on Sundays, and, as is our custom, it will last for 8 or 9 weeks.

In June, we will be teaching at a Family Camp in Florida. We will be with them most of June, then we will be back in Dallas.

There are three churches here in Dallas who are asking for our seminar. After all the travel the past two years it will be wonderful to be close to our home base for a good chunk of this year.

We have included with this letter a 2018 Tax Statement for your records. Use these numbers as you file your taxes. If they do not look right, please contact me at pj@lifoc.org or call at (855) 285-4362 and I will work to answer your question.

If you are giving through another organization like a church or a foundation, your Tax Statement should come from them. In that case you are receiving a "Thank You Statement". Again, let me know if you have a question. We can talk to that other organization and try to straighten out any differences.

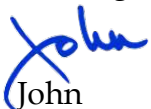
Thank you for your prayers. We could not do all the travel and the teaching we do without our ministry being covered with your prayers.

Because of sending out these letters by e-mail it feels like we are more separated from you. If you want to be removed from this mailing list please let me know. We do not want to clog up your mail box, but we do want to let you know what we are doing and how you can pray for us.

For you who support us financially I would like to say thank you.

This ministry has grown and changed over the years and we have been privileged to trust God for your support. Again, thank you!

In His grip,



John
for John and Sheryl Emra
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Answered Prayer

The Matching Grant from November and December generated donations from 37 people. Total donations were \$7,665!

Praise God!

We have been traveling a lot lately. We were in Michigan for a training from September into November, then Washington for three weeks the first part of December, then John was back in Michigan for two weeks the end of December into January.

Praise God for safe travel!

Prayer Requests

Continued prayer for teaching the Raising Responsible Adults Seminar.

We are putting together a Teachers Manual for the Seminar that will include video of each session.

Pray this tool would continue to meet peoples needs.

Please pray for our government!

The Rest Of The Story

I talked about how we will be sharing our seminar "Raising Responsible Adults" at our home church this year.

You need to have some background information to understand our choice.

This is a small Church.

We meet in a strip mall in an area that is about 1,000 square feet.

We are very multi-cultural and on any given Sunday there are usually 20 to 30 people in attendance.

This small Church, with very a very minimal physical plant this last Fall decided to adopt four families into our fellowship. We did a search on the neighboring schools and found what we considered to be the perfect families and gave them what they could not give themselves for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

They have been attending Church and individuals within the Church have been building relationships with them.

I am sure the things like the food and the presents were appreciated. However it is the relationships we are building that will make the long term difference in these families.

In order to impact these families, we have set up people within the church who are responsible for each family. Every week someone will visit them, find out how they are doing, help their kids with homework, be there in an emergency and bring the information back to the Church.

The Pastor asked us to share our seminar as a part of the effort the Church is making to reach into the lives of these families.

Our goal is not to just make their lives better - but to impact the eternity of the parents, their children, the extended family and their neighbors.

It is a good plan - it is based on Biblical principles - we will see how it works.

Pray for the new families and those who are responsible for their care. This effort could not only change life for those four families but radically change how the church functions for the whole Body.

Pray for Sheryl and me as we have a part in speaking truth to those who are hurting!

To have a financial part in this ministry use the response card and reply envelope. We will send you a receipt at the beginning of next month with another installment of the "Emra Expressions".