As part of the Righteous Rides Crew, Dave and I were blessed with a visit by dear missionary friends LeRoy and Jane Ramsey. They drove to our home in their Righteous Rides van which they received to use while home on furlough. The Ramsey’s had been our neighbors for a year while serving as Missionary-in-Residence at LeTourneau University in Longview, Texas. Righteous Rides was able to purchase the van they were given through several gifts from folks in Texas. Their van has been dubbed the “Texas van” and is enabling them to visit numerous churches throughout this big state.

Have you ever met a stranger and after just one visit felt like you’ve been friends your whole life? Well, that’s how it was with the Ramseys. They became aunt and uncle to our children. Jane and I used to walk together early in the morning. It was at this time that we learned quite a bit about the closed country in Asia where they serve. It’s always a joy to get together with them to reminisce and hear about their work.

During the time we spent with them, we asked what they thought about the Righteous Rides van. “Surprise” was the word they used to describe how they felt when the van was delivered. They were expecting something a little older and more worn out. “Not so with this van, it is comfortable, rides smoothly, and is very quiet,” stated Jane. They consider their van a “first class” vehicle.

Because of the support of individuals and churches, Righteous Rides has been able to continue providing vehicles like the “Texas van” to missionaries such as the Ramsey’s. This allows them to focus their efforts on furlough activities without the worry of transportation issues.

Thanks to the “Pit Crew”
Written by Sylvia Ramaly

The Dash Board

- 5 vehicles are currently providing transportation for missionaries.
- 9 missionaries are scheduled to use RR vehicles over the next 18 months.
- 9 vehicles donated, 7 sold, 2 kept.
- 100% of any donation goes directly to the purchase and maintenance of vehicles.

The Filling Station

Join us in praising God for the following:

- Over 100,000 safe miles traveled in 2007.
- Generous donors.
- Minimal maintenance needed on vehicles.
- RR is completely debt free.
- Fleet vehicle insurance has been acquired.
- RR received tax free sales status.
- Enthusiastic responses from the churches where RR was presented in 2007.
- The need for this type of ministry has been affirmed over and over again.

Traffic Report

Thanks to the “Pit Crew”

Written by Sylvia Ramaly

The Ramsey’s visit with Dave and Sylvia Ramaly in Texas.

THANK YOU to those of you who have been helping the Ramsey’s and other missionaries who have been assisted by Righteous Rides in 2007 through your support.

David and Sylvia live in Longview, Texas along with their three children. David serves on the board of Righteous Rides.

Pit stop maintenance

In 2007, missionaries traveled over 100,000 miles in Righteous Rides vehicles. If you were to rent a car to drive those miles, you would pay thousands of dollars for the days you used the vehicle and the miles driven. With all of these miles, the vans do incur needed maintenance. Tires wear out, oil changes are needed, tail lights fall off, general and unexpected maintenance occurs. A pit stop for maintenance is inevitable. What happens when a Righteous Rides vehicle needs to make a maintenance pit stop? Simple, the vehicle is taken to a local dealer, an analysis is made, the missionary then contacts someone from Righteous Rides to get the OK to proceed with repairs. Non critical repairs are put on hold and completed when the vehicle is returned to Righteous Rides. Righteous Rides covers the fees for all maintenance through donations from generous supporters. One less headache and unexpected expense for missionaries on furlough paid for by YOU the pit crew, our supporters!
Our Mission: To further the spread of the gospel message of Jesus Christ by assisting evangelistic organizations in meeting their personal transportation needs.

Our Team: Righteous Rides is a team of auto enthusiasts donating their time, money, and expertise to ease the hassles often experienced by missionaries and mission organizations in acquiring and maintaining their vehicles. We invite you to join us by praying for Righteous Rides, giving financially, or vehicle donations.

If we mapped out the miles traveled in the Righteous Rides vehicles in 2007, using a different color for each missionary, we would spin a colorful web equating to over 100,000 miles. I wonder how many pit stops each missionary made? How many churches did they visit. How many homes did they stop by?

In thinking about the travel of missionary families, each RR vehicle has been equipped with a Global Positioning System (GPS). A GPS device is used by typing the destination address into the touch screen. A map will appear showing you the directions to your destination. As you travel your location is noted on the screen and a voice reminds you of upcoming turns.

After having a GPS system installed in their vehicle, we received the following message in an e-mail from Mr. Stockdale in speaking about Stephen, his older son.

"Stephen is excited about the GPS system and can’t wait to play with...er, I mean, "use" it."

With the many miles traveled, it is our hope that this will be a blessing to those missionaries using the vehicles.

Visits with the Righteous Rides Crew

The vision of Righteous Rides has always been to fill the transportation needs of missionaries on furlough. Some of the blessings of launching such a ministry never entered our minds. One of those blessings has been to meet the missionary families using Righteous Rides vehicles. Just recently, on three separate occasions, we were able to do just that.

On our first pit stop we meet with a family on a cool October morning. We enjoyed the warmth of their fellowship and conversation over coffee Jonathan had brought with him from the Middle East. The next pit stop was on the same day, in the evening. We met Tim and Carol Kopp for dinner near the St. Louis airport. They were returning their vehicle and shared with us how unexpected events had left them on the west coast without a vehicle. After finding out how costly it would be to rent a car they were excited to hear about Righteous Rides and appreciated the opportunity to use a vehicle. Our final stop was eating dessert with Jack and Joan Stockdale. How interesting to hear first hand of their ministry in Poland. They also filled us in on their travel adventures with their children in the full-size Righteous Rides van.

Each missionary family has been called to a ministry unique to it’s location, yet the mission is the same… to bring the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ to all.

“...How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!” Romans 10:15b