Recycled Treasures

“I have a car that I’m thinking about donating to Righteous Rides, but I don’t think you’d want it because it’s junk!” This is a misconception that people often have when thinking about donating what they consider “junk” to Righteous Rides. We want to clearly communicate to you that WE WANT YOUR JUNK! The Lord has blessed us with the ability to recycle these donations. Case in point: a friend of Righteous Rides had taken his car to the local mechanic for repairs and was given the diagnosis that there was no hope for his beloved 1990 Saturn. He commented that he was thinking about donating his car to us but didn’t think we would want it. We communicated to him that this was a misconception indeed! Truly what was of no use to him was soon to be a recycled treasure. In fact we’ve had some real unusual treasures donated this summer which include a motorcycle, an ole’ motor home and a boat! What do we do with these treasures? Some are repaired then resold, some parted-out and some are scrapped.

Just recently we received an e-mail from Bekah. Her e-mail reflected an immediate need for transportation. She stated that she resided in Joplin, Missouri with her grandparents where the recent tornado had destroyed not only her grandparents home and car but her car also. She had plans to go overseas to serve in September but still had a few thousand miles to travel over the next two months. The loss of her car and replacement of it was overwhelming; purchasing reliable transportation wasn’t working out. As a last resort she reserved a rental vehicle which would cost over $2,500, not including gas, for the two months travel she needed to do. But God had other plans! At our monthly team meeting we prayed about Bekah’s situation and the very next morning we received a cancellation of a previous reservation. God opened up this window of time for us to be able to meet her need.

What does meeting Bekah’s need have to do with the treasures that are donated? The donated treasures are recycled into eternal treasures as they fuel our mission of providing transportation for missionaries.

A van is delivered to Bekah in Joplin, Mo. just five days after she sent a request!

Do you have something to Donate? Call 636-366-9500. A tax-deductible receipt is provided for all donations.
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 donating vehicles.

Newsletter: If you would prefer to receive this newsletter via e-mail instead of receiving a hard copy, please notify us at Karen@righteousrides.org.

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The Rest of The Story...
Recycled treasures are just a part of the equation in being able to meet the transportation needs of missionaries. In meeting Bekah’s need there were many volunteers who aided in getting a van to her just five days after she sent in a request. Her request came in on Monday. On Tuesday the Righteous Rides team prayed regarding her need. Early Wednesday morning we received a cancellation of a previous reservation opening up a window of time to meet her need. Thursday volunteers Layne and Shirley picked up the van in Indiana that Bekah would use. On Friday a couple of volunteer mechanics and several other volunteers worked to get everything together so the van could “hit the road” again the next day! As the Lord would have it, on Saturday some of our volunteers were able to deliver the van to Bekah as they drove past Joplin on their 4th of July travels! …now you know the rest of the story.

Our volunteers have been busy this summer!

“Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than men;…”
Colossians 3:23

Retiring Van Took Part in a “Red Letter Day”

We have hit a new phase in the ministry of Righteous Rides. With just over 1.6 million miles traveled, many of our older vans will soon retire. Our Pit Crew out of Dallas recently swapped out a van at the shop, bringing in fleet van # 9549 to retire and picking up a newly purchased van.

Righteous Rides fleet van # 9549
Purchased: 9/19/2007
Initial mileage: 108,768
Ending mileage: 230,600
Miles served: 121,832
Missionary families served: 7
Years of Service: 3.9 years

When a van is sent out, it is sent out with a Log Book. We ask the missionaries to track long distance mileage and to include brief notes of any blessings or events along the way.

In reading through a few notes from this we became aware that it had taken part in a Red Letter Day.

10-19-10  After our meeting in Tyler, Texas we headed to Springfield, Missouri to meet one of the directors. As we were heading out of town a man ran a red light and would have plowed into us if God hadn’t caused us to see him just in time. Praise the Lord for His protection!

10-31-10  We are somewhat tired now after being in five churches in the last seven days! The meetings have been good.

11-19-10  The van turned 200,000 miles somewhere between North Dakota and Minnesota. We missed it!

12-6-10  A Red Letter Day for us! We drove into Vermont, completing all 48 continental states, 45 in this lovely van. We celebrated by eating ice cream at Ben & Jerry’s Ice Cream Factory Store. They treated us to free ice cream for choosing to celebrate there!

1-13-11  Stopped in San Antonio, Texas to see our daughter. Our 13 year old son was having a hard time traveling again, so we left him with his sister for the next 10 days. Furlough travel is very hard on missionary kids, something to pray about.

When looking over the Log Book entries it’s exciting to get feedback on how Righteous Rides has played a role in ministry and even Red Letter Days.