

### **All Things Work Together For Good** *by Shawn Ohlms*



Missionaries Wendy and Dave, along with their family.

The Righteous Rides team recently received the following note from missionaries Dave and Wendy:

*We want to express how grateful we are to God for the van we have been provided through your ministry. I need to back-pedal to the day I picked up the van, and discovered the gift bags for the kids. You know what makes a mom's heart glad - when her kids are cared for! They were so impressed with the personalization, with the well-thought-through practical things (like the thing to keep sunglasses around the neck) for the teen boys and the craft items for our daughter. One son discovered a love for Sudoku! The myriad of snacks, many new to our kids, was a bonus- full teen tummies make for happy travelers. Our kids were just shocked and filled with joy at the kindness, generosity and thoughtfulness that went into those gifts. So were we!*

*The greatest bonus was the DVD players. What a huge help to cross hours of Nebraska, Utah, Nevada, and later Kansas (other states didn't need the distractions, but those did). Our college-bound son watched episodes of Duck Dynasty across America, helping fill the cultural gaps he would need to be in-the-know.*

*In the busyness of getting ready (my husband got back from the field July 2nd, we hit the road July 5th), I hadn't even looked through the big blue bag until we got back from our Month Across*

*America Odyssey. This coincided with the crunch to get our oldest son ready for college, and lo and behold, many of the items he needed for dorm set-up were right there in the blue bag! He was pretty thrilled that he got first pick of all the treasures within. Thank you, thank you!*

*We are also grateful for the day the van's fuel pump went out. We were about ten miles outside of Champaign on the way to Carbondale to take our son to college. Pulling out of a parking place at a rest stop, the van died. One call to Bret told us what to do. Within half an hour, the tow truck arrived and took us to the Chevy dealer, with the cheapest hotel in Champaign just across the street (with free breakfast!). The Chevy dealer's service department just happened to be open an hour after closing time, and the manager was so kind and told us we would get first priority the next morning. My husband had wanted to take our son to a Bob Evans as his dad used to take him, and there was one a short walk from the hotel. After recreating that memory, we saw a Kohl's across the street and were able to use points to buy about \$100 worth of clothes for free. The next morning, the car was fixed, and we were rested and more ready to say goodbye than we would have been without our breakdown. God is in it all.*

*Please be praying for continued good transition for the kids as they have been in public schools for two weeks and are having a completely new experience. For my husband and I as we speak, serve, rest, remodel and seek God for future vision as well. We plan to return to the field December 31st.*

*God bless you all!!! The van has helped make this our best furlough ever.*

As I read this note, I could not help but think of Romans 8:28, "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose". What an encouraging reminder that, regardless of the situation we find ourselves in (despair, uncertainty, broken down, etc.), God can use it in an amazing way. The important thing to remember, though, is we must let go of control, and allow Him to do what He promises to do.

### **The Dash Board**

- 63 vehicles are currently providing transportation for missionaries.
- 160+ families are utilizing, or are on schedule to utilize a Righteous Rides vehicle.
- 66 vehicles drove over 460,000 miles during the 3rd Quarter of 2013.
- Over 4,500,000 miles driven since inception!

## Internship Opening

Righteous Rides is searching for an intern! Our desire is to expand our outreach into the social networks; we need someone to research and explore the options that are available right now. The position would be needed from June 2nd to September 1st, and although there is no salary, the intern would have complimentary room and board.

We are looking for someone to fill a position designed to explore new Internet and digital technologies. The intern will be asked to research and make recommendations on expanding our digital presence including our present social media networking venues, and to provide ongoing recommendations and examples of possible new venues of future social access and presence. If you, or anyone you know, may be interested, please contact [info@righteousrides.org](mailto:info@righteousrides.org) for the application or more information.



The 2014 Righteous Rides Banquet will be held at Old Hickory Golf Club in St. Peters, MO the evening of March 15th from 4:30 to 6:30.

## Prayer Requests

- Safe travels for our *currently cruisin'* missionaries during this upcoming season of inclement weather.
- An intern is needed to develop computer and web-related programs.
- Additional mechanical volunteers needed in the shop.
- Missionary families utilizing Righteous Rides vehicles who have great medical needs.
- A hedge of protection around this ministry and its volunteers.
- Additional car donations, which are desperately needed.

## Praises

- Four 2013 Dodge Darts and five 2013 Chrysler minivans have been added to the fleet.
- Righteous Rides was able to minister to over 75 missionary families who came to the shop this summer.
- A new connection with Enterprise has enabled missionaries to have reasonably priced transportation to/from Lambert St. Louis International Airport.
- Opportunities at the shop to disciple and share Christ's amazing love.
- His amazing grace, which is very evident among those working together at the shop.

## Righteous Rides

### Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 247  
Troy, MO 63379-0247

### Street Address:

51 College Campus Drive  
Moscow Mills, MO 63362

Phone: 636-366-9500

Fax: 636-356-9501

### E-Mail:

[info@righteousrides.org](mailto:info@righteousrides.org)

### On the Web:

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



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### Accelerating the Gospel

**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 [info@righteousrides.org](mailto:info@righteousrides.org).