



## Prayer Updates August 2009

### **Items for Celebration and Genuine Thanksgiving**

- Regular, monthly support for my salary is now at \$1250 of the necessary \$2500! We're halfway there!
- Our committed ministry partners: the six (6) PCA churches and (9) families who faithfully provide regular, monthly support to this ministry—and the 22 individuals and families who have generously provided one-time gifts in the last year. We've also received very generous special offerings from several PCA congregations as well.
- Our many thoughtful ministry partners who encourage me through emails, written notes, phone calls, conference calls and face-to-face meetings. This is especially helpful as I work by myself from an office in my home on the end of a dirt road in Lancaster County PA! Engagement and encouragement are always welcome!
- MNA Special Needs Ministries has been named the recipient of the 2010 WIC Love Gift—which presents a wonderful and amazing opportunity that has the capacity to bless the entire denomination. (In 2009—please generously support the WIC Love Gift for the Administrative Committee. Go to [www.pcaac.org](http://www.pcaac.org) for more information.)
- In the first six months of 2009 we were able to...
  - Provide consultative services to eighteen (18) PCA churches to establish new or grow existing special needs ministries in their congregations.
  - Engage in mutual support and collaboration with twenty-one (21) different Christian disability-related organizations in the US and abroad.
  - Present plenary talks and/or workshop topics on special needs ministry at four (4) PCA-related conferences held in four (4) different states.
  - Coordinate the filming of the 2010 WIC Love Gift video traveling to four (4) different PCA churches for on-site interviews held with over fifty (50) people with disabilities, their families, their pastors and local special needs ministry leaders.
  - Participate in the production of a four-part video web-based interview series on disability ministry for elder training at Tenth Presbyterian Church (available to all PCA churches through our website: [www.pca-mna.org/specialneeds](http://www.pca-mna.org/specialneeds) ).
  - Receive generous grant funding from the Harris-Harper Family Foundation to film a 13-part DVD series of *Same Lake, Different Boat* for use in churches.

- Work with Joni and Friends and the Lancaster Christian Council on Disability to bring a premiere disability ministry conference (at a great price) to the East Coast in October 2009.

### Items for Seeking God's Guidance and Provision

- **Committed ministry partnerships with churches, individuals and families.** Monthly income of \$1250 (\$15,000 more annual) is still needed to complete my salary package and free me up to focus exclusively on ministry-related work.
- **Data management.** That may sound like an incredibly boring and “unspiritual” request! But organizing and keeping track of all of the people and churches I am in contact with...and networking people and churches to each other is a challenging task. I have a new software package I am hoping to set up in the next few weeks. Please pray that I can set aside the time I need to spend on organizational issues, such as this, so that it will serve MNA Special Needs well for a long time to come.
- **Wisdom.** With broad spectrum of topic areas that disability ministry addresses, please pray for wisdom to know which issues to focus on and address...and which ones are best left to another day or another person. This applies not only to my daily time management, but also to the work that the MNA SNM Startup Team does via conference call.
- **Protection of my time.** I have several major speaking engagements coming up in the next six months. Developing and delivering a quality keynote presentation requires a significant amount of time for reading, reflection, prayer and writing. It is challenging (at least for me) to produce quality presentations when I am under pressure from other directions or feeling distracted.
- **Devotion to prayer and study of the Word.** I suppose this request could be highly related to the previous one! Please pray for the spiritual discipline to be a woman of constant prayer and regular study of God's Word. Many days it is too easy for me to allow email and phone calls to drive the use of my time and set a task-oriented agenda for the day.
- **Here are some major events for which you could be praying.** Please pray that God will give me His message for the event...and that I would prepare it and deliver it in a way that honors and glorifies Him while advancing His Kingdom work.
  - October 17<sup>th</sup>: Joni and Friends Disability Ministry Conference (keynote)
  - January 12-14<sup>th</sup>: PCA Children's Ministry Conference (keynote)
  - March 11-13<sup>th</sup>: PCA Mercy Ministry Conference (workshop speaker)
  - March 27<sup>th</sup>: Disability Ministry Conference (Jackson, MS) (keynote)
- **The WIC Love Gift Video.** Please pray for our Christian videographer—Jon Carlson—as he works intensively at editing and compiling all of the hours of video recording to produce a 10-minute motivational message to the PCA. No small task!
- **Please pray that God would, even now, begin to prepare the hearts of people in our PCA congregations to hear and respond to the message in the video.**