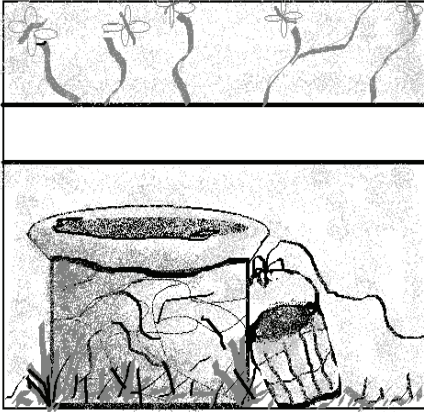


March 2010



The Well

The Newsletter of the Hyaets Community

In this issue of the Well, we are focusing on the idea of family and what it means to us, as well as what it means to our community.

**Vision, Dreams, Calling,
Community, Compassion,
Care... The Well...**

We are family—by Sister Sledge

We are family

I got all my sisters with me

We are family

Get up ev'rybody and sing

Ev'ryone can see we're together

As we walk on by

and we fly just like birds of a feather

I won't tell no lie

all of the people around us they say

Can they be that close

Just let me state for the record

We're giving love in a family

Living life is fun and we've just begun

Living life is fun and we've just begun

To get our share of the world's delights

high hopes we have for the future

And our goal's in sight

no we don't get depressed

Here's what we call our golden rule

Have faith in you and the things you do

You won't go wrong

This is our family Jewel

The Update...

by Jason

The Hyaets family tree has been growing over the past few months despite all the cold winter weather outside! We have welcome two new youth, Joe (18) and Kevin (15), to the Hyaets Community. Joe is a student at West Charlotte High School and Kevin at Bishop Spaugh Community Academy. Joe works at Wendy's, has just recently bought a car and is a very funny guy. Kevin is a great basketball player, very organized and a very respectful young man.

Faith and Jacob Neff are also two newcomers to the community. We have been getting to know them and are discerning their next step into the community. You can read more about Faith and Jacob inside The Well.

New partners have come our way as well. We have been working with and getting to know folks from Independence Hill Baptist Church and Grace Crossing. The Baptist Children's Home of Salem, VA is hosting a Hyaets youth mission trip during Spring Break. Synergeo (a non-profit organization and intentional community) and a Baptist Student group from the University of Richmond came to Enderly Park for a mission trip in January. We have begun to speak with and work with the Wesley Foundation of Winthrop University who we will be hosting in early March. And in October, Anna was a part of delegation to Grassy Narrows, Canada with the Christian Peacemakers Team (CPT), where she worked and advocated for the rights and lives of indigenous peoples and continued to connect Hyaets to the CPT organization.

In November, Hyaets hosted Mark van Steenwyck and several folks from the Missio Dei Community of Minneapolis, MN. Mark, a Mennonite pastor, helped us to build connections and relationships to others in our area connected to his work in with Mennonites. We were able to share our experiences across communities in some very encouraging and supportive ways.

Hyaets' presence as neighbors in the communities of Enderly Park and Parkview continues in strong and meaningful ways. We have gotten to know many new neighbors who you can hear about through our monthly e-mails and prayer requests (visit our website to sign up for our monthly e-mail if you do not currently receive it). Activities, such as Thanksgiving and Christmas meals, Halloween festivities, and Girls' Night, have been great times of relationship and community building. We continue to walk the journey with neighbors who are suffering the effects of a poor economy. And our Christian Women's Job Corps ministry has been doing much research and organization finding as it works towards mentorship opportunities for neighbors and our church partners.

So much more could be mentioned! Suffice it to say that even before Spring has sprung, the tree of Hyaets is in full bloom. We covet your prayers and support, financial and otherwise, as we continue to follow God and listen to the Spirit moving in Enderly Park and Parkview. Thanks, Grace and Peace to you.

I Was There To Hear Your Borning Cry- Ylvisaker

I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold.

In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.

I was there when you were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well;
In a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell.

When the evening gently closes in,
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been
with just one more surprise.

When you heard the wonder of the Word
I was there to cheer you on;
You were raised to praise the living Lord,
to whom you now belong.

I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold.

If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
from dusk 'till rising sun.

Write the Vision...

by Helms

“Our Father, Who art in Heaven....” Together, we speak this prayer at the end of every prayer time. That amounts to at least 4 times a week; same words, same routine, and usually the same inflection. We tell ourselves that Christ is teaching us to pray these words, that these words are shaping and molding our lives. Sometimes, though, when the prayer is over, I don't really feel changed or different. Sometimes the prayer just feels like memorized words.

There have been times, though, that I have sensed a mysterious connection with the words, an understanding, a love of sorts. I can remember singing the prayer as a part of Fort Caswell's summer staff and feeling the prayer being lifted up to God. I can remember being alone and struggling with the concept of “as we forgive those who trespass against us.”

Most recently and vividly, I recall the overwhelming sense of communion with God and others and the intercessory-ness of the word “Our”. Carrying and growing a child within me has made me more aware of the word “Our”. I am not just saying the word and letting it float out to some abstract land, but instead when I say the word “Our” now, I am reminded that I am speaking for myself and for this child within my womb. And when I remember that I'm speaking for this child, then I remember I am speaking for all children, and neighbors, and parents, and those who struggle, those who are growing, those who are naked....This mysterious yet very simple word, “Our,” shapes me into an all encompassing embrace and a newfound sense of community, family, and connectedness.

A reflection...

by Greg

When we think about families, we think about home. Until recently, many, or even most, families have had an association with a certain place – a landscape, a piece of earth, a house, certain neighbors, particular local customs. But the past 50 years have made that association more of a memory than a reality. We have witnessed, in that time, the destruction of family farms. We have seen the construction of interstate highways, and with them, the blight of our cities and the rapid suburbanization of our countrysides. We now take Wal-Mart and the other ‘big box’ stores as a given, willingly trading interesting, vibrant local economies for cheap goods. Gradually, movement has become our normal way of being. We move from place to place, from house to house, from city to city, gradually losing our attachment to any particular place. Our laws, our architecture, our economics, and even our lives have come to proclaim that one place is as good as another.

This is not how the Bible tells the story of the people Israel, however. For them, a particular piece of land was an essential character in their long story. It is not possible to tell the story of the people called Israel without telling the story of the land that they belong to. The land they inherited was itself peculiar – rugged, prone to long periods of dryness, and having only a thin layer of topsoil that the people learned how to protect by working with the land, not by subduing it. This was done out of awareness that people came from the land. The Hebrew word for human – “*adam*” – is derived from the Hebrew word for soil – “*adamah*.” The Latin roots are similar – the *human* comes from *humus*. To be God’s creation is to live in close relation with dirt. The recognition of that relationship calls us to take good care of the places we call home, knowing that working on behalf of the land that nourishes us is working for ourselves.

There still exists within us a longing for home. Though we pay scant attention to it, we eventually long for that spot of dirt from whence we came, the place that made us who we are. That longing is a call away from the ways of the culture of busyness to which we have become so accustomed. It is a call to slow down, to watch birds fly and flowers bloom, to notice the wind and the rain, to indulge our senses in the glory of bright summer and to rest our souls in the mystery of dark winter. And from that call we see that we belong to our homes even more than they belong to us. We recognize our places as gifts from God, and in gratitude cannot help but share the goodness of our homes with others.

Introducing Jacob and Faith Neff

Faith hails from the great big state of where everything is big: Texas! And her husband, Jacob hails from the suburbs of the second city (Chicago). Ten years ago everything went... differently as they migrated to the Dogwood state of North Carolina. Approximately 17 and 1/2 months ago Jacob and Faith met on E-harmony and shortly thereafter were married! “Our story is a small piece in a big puzzle.” Faith and Jacob are developing concern for those in need. They are also developing wonderful friendships with the folks in the Hyaets community. “We love to be here... I feel safe here” says Jacob. Faith and Jacob first met Anna T. and Derek Z. at Shane Claiborne’s event, Jacob recalls: “Yeah, Faith was leaning toward a more structured, missional plan, talking with some of the other folks with fancy brochures and while I was open to it, I was more interested in the guy with the CPT hat [Derek Z.] that made the sign of the cross after we prayed. Eventually Faith gravitated toward the Hyaets table and that was that.” Faith loves to be able to bring her EMT-certified and firefighting expertise with her, she also likes butterflies, human anatomy, chemistry and every book ever written by Donald Miller. She wants to go through the painted deserts for herself one day. She is a phenomenal artist as well. Faith is a Full-time [TSS] employee for the American Red Cross at the DCFC. Jacob is a student at UNCC and should be graduating soon. He likes hands on work: as an author and an advocate for labor through literary media. He likes that Hyaets can give him a chance to, as his favorite poet, Carl Sandburg writes, “[be one of] the real huskies that are doing the work of the world...”



FROM THE
HEART
AND
THOUGHTS
OF JOANIE

God, you are funny. You know my weakness—I don't like change—and you toss some more my way. Okay, okay... I'm learning to embrace change. But, I'm a little timid. I'll only move on with the things, if you are with us. Wait, Emmanuel. . .you are with us. And you have placed a family around us to make this work. Jamar said just the other day "we've got to do this as a team. We'll make it if we do it as a team." That's right. . .a team, and You are the coach—you are with us.
I know God is with us. God is Emmanuel to me. Amen.

Check out our updated website for news, as well as to donate with the DONATE NOW button!!!- <http://hyaets.org>

Passion, Calling, Desires...

by Michael

Family – not easy to define. Many of us think of family as folks who have some sort of named relationship with us (brother, sister, dad, uncle). We can also think of family in terms of our community of faith family, our family of co-workers, our global family, our family as children of God. We, as a society, often spend entirely too much time thinking about family solely as those folks who are related to us in some way (aren't we all related in some way?).

One of my goals in ministry is to get teenagers thinking about how they live out their faith in all parts of their lives. Many of us get caught up in being a Sunday Christian (insert your own day and religion if not Christian). In other words, we put on a nice face for others and for God on Sunday, and then very little about the rest of our lives shows that we want to be followers of Jesus. While I appreciate the fact that youth say that they don't want to tell a joke around me that might have some dirty words, it doesn't make it any less offensive just because they step outside.

I've come across some shows produced by the BBC that caught my attention. Several adults travel to see where the food and clothing that they "consume" is produced. Haven't watched the shows yet, but, from the previews, seems like their eyes were opened to all sorts of things – working conditions, the number of hours folks work for very little pay, etc. I've often said that I would have to be a vegetarian if I saw what actually happened to the animals. May God forgive me.

What does our faith say about how we care about people outside of our immediate family, members of God's family?

Why is it that I'm focusing my attention in prayer and money on the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere only after the earthquake?

Why do we too often think of convenience when shopping at certain companies instead of giving attention to how companies treat their workers or if they pay a living wage to the folks who produce the stuff they sell or how they care for the environment?

Why do I not gather some folks together at my church to host a community meal at Hyaets (BTW – we're needing some hosts)? Because I'm worn out from a long week at work and don't want to think about anything else but seeing my wife and my kids. What about the children and youth that I've built a relationship with in Enderly Park? Why are they not worthy of my time just as much as my own children?

Why do I see so many folks show up to a school board meeting to protest that their child will have to change schools to go where there is a large percentage of students who will receive free and reduced lunches? Because that will affect their child and they won't get the best. Why do we fuss about our own children's situation and no one else's?

Why am I concerned that my child's health will suffer or that I will have to wait for surgery for a longer period of time if certain health care policies are implemented, when millions of children in this country have no health care coverage at all?

We want the best for our family – I get it. But, why is it that we don't work to make sure that everybody's children get the best? Jesus didn't call us to come and follow because it is easy. Jesus is pointing us toward a more better way – a way that leads to the realization of the Kingdom of God on earth as it is in heaven. How do we live out our faith in all that we do? May we be found faithful.

**Vision, Dreams, Calling,
Community, Compassion,**



Hyaets, Inc.
2904 Tuckaseegee Rd
Or
2910 Parkway Avenue
Charlotte, NC 28208

Phone: 704.391.8529
704.392.2346
Web: <http://hyaets.org>

**Vision, Dreams, Calling,
Community, Compassion, Care...
The Well**

Wish List for Hyaets:

laundry detergent
toilet paper
trash bags
10 ride CATS bus passes
free babysitting
car repair
liquid dish soap
bath soap bars
people to work on group projects
community meal sponsors
summer volunteers
individually wrapped healthy snacks
dining room chair repair
2 fire extinguishers
monetary donations to Hyaets.

Upcoming Calendar

SHARE day- May 1

Spring break mission trip- April 5-10

Family Beach trip- May 7-9

**Summer is coming! We need your
help!**

Speaking Engagements:

CBFNC General Assembly,

March 19&20

CBF National General Assembly

June 23-26

WMUNC Missions Extravaganza

April 15-17

You can help to sponsor
the ministry of Hyaets by
sending a donation to :
Hyaets; 2904 Tuckaseegee
Rd.
Charlotte, NC 28208