

The Milwaukee Outreach Center



JUNE 2005

Facing Change

Facing change creates a whole flood of emotions in our lives. Change often upsets our comfort level because we are so familiar with the way things are that anything new becomes an uninvited risk. Change also requires us to develop new relationships and skills for doing things in a new way.

For the Christian, any real change of lasting value is usually preceded by serious thought and prayer. This is the story of Nehemiah in the Bible. In the last seven chapters of this great book, the leadership shifts to Ezra and his task is to reinstruct the people in the Word of God.

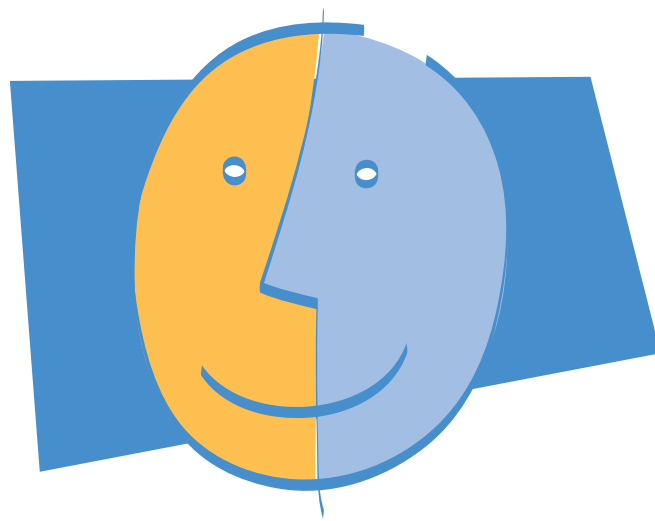
This was all preceded by prayer. In fact, Nehemiah 9 contains the longest prayer in the Bible. For three hours the people confessed their sins and prayed. In the middle of this prayer they acknowledge God's goodness and justice as well as the person and work of the Holy Spirit.

Facing change requires serious praying. At the end of this season of prayer in Nehemiah, the people signed and sealed documents declaring their resolve to follow God. They were nailing down in writing their promise to live for God alone. They wanted their lives to honor God. Whatever changes we may face, we can be assured that if we honor God, these will be good changes in our lives.

A great example of a man facing change is Augustine, an early church father. He had been converted after living with a prostitute. Once when he was tempted to go back to his old life, he said to himself: "You fool, don't you know that you are carrying God

around within you." At that moment he faced himself and by God's grace was changed.

One of our favorite words at The Milwaukee Outreach Center is change. We are not just interested in change for change sake, but change that brings us into a right relationship with God through His Son Jesus. Our programs are here to help you and our community face change for the glory of God.



Facing change means saying "goodbye" to something old and "hello" to something new.

Character Development Completes Pilot Program

At the beginning of the school year The Milwaukee Outreach Center (TMOC) launched three pilot sites to implement its after-school character development program. Under the leadership of Dr. Will Hope of TMOC, curriculum was created from 40 developmental assets. Each site was supplied with lesson plans, student handbooks and art projects.

The Homework Help program at Faith Lutheran Church near TMOC had the most success with the program. One of the greatest challenges was meeting students after school who needed to play before listening to a lesson. Lois Peterson, director of Homework Help, described the arts program as effective and enjoyable. Further development is needed in making the program meaningful in a relaxed after-school environment.

The results of the pilot program are being compiled into a report in preparing the curriculum for publication. Pilot sites and volunteers are needed for next year. Call TMOC if you or your church would be interested in reaching out to your community or neighborhood through this character development program.



An important part for TMOC's character development curriculum is its pilot program. Reviewing end-of-the-year results at Faith Lutheran Church are: Standing: Will Hope, general editor and writer. Left: Sandy Steckler, arts program director. Center: Kim DeZeeuw, youth ministry coordinator at Mount Carmel Lutheran Church. Right: Lois Peterson, director, Homework Help at Faith Lutheran Church.



Lois Peterson (back right), director of the after-school Homework Help program at Faith Lutheran Church, is accompanied by students and tutors who used TMOC's character development program during the school year.

We're Listening

Our monthly newsletter is a two-way communication between TMOC and our wonderful friends and supporters. We value your insight and input into the life of this ministry. We're listening! Here are some examples:

One of our donors asked: "Whatever happened to your monthly donation slip and prayer request form?"



Wow! Great question. When we designed our "new" newsletter this was not included. Now it is. We are a praying ministry and we want to pray for your requests.

Another friend asked: "Can I support TMOC through direct giving?"

Yes you can! We now provide a monthly giving plan that can transfer your gift from your bank or credit card. Check the box in "Count on Me" for information.



A friend in Florida offered to design this year's Walk-A-Thon T-shirt. What do you think? Gifts are talents and talents are gifts. Give us a call.

A donor thought that we should have a professional display to promote TMOC at mission fairs and conferences. Our display is fabulous!

Our website is our next big project in telling our story and mobilizing people.



Count On Me!

Today I'm enclosing:

- My monthly commitment of \$ _____
- A special offering for _____ \$ _____



Bill Lange listens to a visitor at TMOC's booth during this year's Missions Fair at Northbrook Church. Invite us and we will come to your mission fair or conference.

I would like...

- to attend the Phoenix Life Skills program (June 6-10; July 25-29)
- information about the Golf Scramble (August 24)
- information about direct giving
- information about after-school programs
- to schedule TMOC at our missions fair/conference
- to visit with a Christian counselor



Meet

Bill Lange - Director of Phoenix Life Skills Programs

This month and in coming months we want you to meet the team members of The Milwaukee Outreach Center (TMOC). Your support in prayer and monthly giving enables us to reach people for Christ.

Now in his third year at TMOC, Lange first found out about TMOC from a friend at Elmbrook Church. Lange was going through a job change and he came to attend the Phoenix Life Skills program. After finishing the program, he went on to become a certified trainer and joined TMOC.

"I have watched people go from being frightened by their circumstances to becoming joyful in Jesus Christ."

—Bill Lange, Director of Phoenix Life Skills

The best part of his job is seeing change in people. "I have watched people go from being frightened by their circumstances to becoming joyful in Jesus Christ," states Lange. The most challenging part of his position is balancing responsibilities for Phoenix, Phoenix Work Adjustment, recruiting students for Phoenix and overseeing TMOC's facilities.

A graduate of UW-Milwaukee in social services, Lange is a very active member of Elmbrook Church. Please save this feature and remember Bill and his wife Sandy in your prayers.



Bill Lange (left), coordinator for 150 ushers at Elmbrook Church, confers with Mike Tanel (center) and John Albanese (right) for the third Sunday morning service at their church.



For the past eight years Bill Lange (right) has worked with adult male leaders for sixth grade students of the GodSquad at Elmbrook Church.

Inside



Facing Change



Character Development
Completes Pilot Program



We're Listening



Meet Bill Lange



Count On Me!

414.385.2233

Fax 414.385.2230

www.tmoc.org

email: tmoc@tmoc.org

724 S. Layton Blvd.
Milwaukee, WI 53215

Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MILWAUKEE, WI
PERMIT NO. 5116

THE
Milwaukee
OUTREACH CENTER



Michael Rintelman
Executive Director

Executive Director's Update

One of the many things I enjoy is the change of seasons. Right now I hope that spring ends and summer begins, but I also will enjoy the transition to fall and then winter. The Bible tells us that there is a season for everything. The Milwaukee Outreach Center has seen seasons change. Opportunities have come and they have gone. From the early 700

Club days, the days of abundant financial and commodity distribution, the Helpline ministry, the acquisition of the Church of the Open Door facility, the beginning of our counseling ministries, the WINGS program, the Phoenix Program and the character development curriculum are all things given to us by God for a season. We have sought God's guidance and adapted, changed and refocused.

We are moving into another season of change. Our facility, which God gave this ministry in 1994, is being sold to a church, back to the original purpose for which it was built. It has been almost two years since God convinced us that this transition process needed to take place. Since then we have talked with several groups and have found one that desires to make this facility their own and to impact the community. The closing date is set for May 25, 2005.

A new facility is being planned for The Milwaukee Outreach Center. This facility will provide space that is customized to our ministry needs and help us better fulfill our mission of penetrating

lives for lasting change. Our July newsletter will have more details on these exciting developments.

Embracing this new season requires us to say goodbye to some friends in ministry. As we move, we will say goodbye to our friends at The Gathering meal program. For over three years they have served meals in our facility three times a week. We will also change our relationship with Youth Works! For five summers we have hosted students from all over the nation who came to Milwaukee to experience urban missions. No longer will we house them, but are hoping to be a site to which students can come and experience missions in Milwaukee.

Please keep us in your prayers as together we ask for God's direction and guidance in this new season of ministry that He has called us to.



Michael Rintelman (left) and Ginny Schrag (right), executive director of The Gathering. Even though TMOC will be moving, The Gathering will continue serving meals at the South Layton Boulevard location.