

Dear friends of Vital Signs Ministries,

October 2024

We are going to pepper in a few photographs into this LifeSharer amid several very brief reports on what we've been up to since last month's letter. And because it's been such a packed schedule, I'll get right to it.



* We ended August with a couple of shifts at the Nebraska Right to Life booth at the State Fair out in Grand Island. It was an important educational ministry on many fronts but, most important of all, was emphasizing to people the horrific nature of Initiative Measure 439 which will be on the Nebraska ballot this November. If that measure is voted into the state constitution, every pro-life law that the Unicameral has passed in the last 30 years would be erased! Indeed, the practical effect of 439 would be the granting of an absolutely unlimited right to abortion up to birth...and beyond. So, please join enthusiastically in this crucial effort against the abortion industry and the demonic forces which are behind it by spreading the word to all you can -- **Vote NO on 439 and vote YES on Initiative Measure 434** which will stabilize our existing pro-life legislative gains and provide further opportunities

to protect preborn children and their moms in the future.

* For 4 days in the first week of September we hosted Greg Gardner, our friend and longtime pro-life colleague from Birmingham, England. Greg is a physician, scientist, and pro-life advocate whose ministries have been effective and long standing across a wide spectrum. And, in addition to his being a stimulant and encouragement to Claire and I while he was here, there were several meals, coffees, and other meetings in which Greg was able to do the same for more than 60 people. And that's not counting the radio audiences for the interviews Greg did with Jackie Mahr on KCRO and 2 weeks' worth of interviews he did in Lincoln with Karen Bowling of the Nebraska Family Alliance. As the Brits say, brilliant!





Claire joins BP4L President John Kellogg in thanking Nebraska Lt. Gov. Joe Kelly for speaking at the luncheon.

* We were pleased to organize another key effort in the fight against 439 on September 12; namely, the quarterly luncheon of the Business and Professional People for Life. We invited Nebraska Lt. Governor Joe Kelly as our speaker and he did an excellent job, not only in explaining to the 54 people in attendance the political and legal complexities involved, but also the moral imperatives to pray and get the word out. Thank you, Joe!

* September's "When Swing Was King" shows proved to be as popular and effective as they've always been these last 14 years. And, of course, the entertainment program allow us the

chance to have the most heartwarming conversations with the residents of the senior centers where we present the program. But of special interest in September was that we made our boldest foray so far into the rock and roll era! Yes, you heard me right. You see, our philosophy has always been to provide seniors the music of their youth and so, as the population ages, "When Swing Was King" must also move forward in time. Thus, in recent years we have started adding to our repertoire of big bands and crooners a few "mellow rock" songs from the 50's and 60's -- songs from the likes of Connie Francis, Pat Boone, the Everly Brothers, Ruby and the Romantics, the Four Lads, and the Fleetwoods. But this last show pushed the envelope a bit by adding the definitely iconic rock and roll beat and vocal stylings of Sam Cooke on his 1961 hit "What a Wonderful World." And the reception of our audiences? They loved it!

* We were delighted to help organize a reunion of around 40 people who (back in the Jesus Revolution of the 1970s) were involved in the unique evangelism and discipleship ministry known as the Christian Brotherhood. That reunion took place on Saturday, September 21. Good food, wonderful fellowship, and a music and photograph retrospective we created for the event

which turned out to be deeply moving. I was also tasked with presenting a brief message about the biblical teaching on "remembering" with an emphasis on the life-lessons left for us by our Brotherhood friends who have preceded us into heaven.



* The Sunday afternoon church services at Aksarben Village Senior Living continue apace. We have had some new residents begin to attend and we're delighted at that. Alas, however, we have had a couple of our members decline in health to the degree that they can no longer come to church. And one kindly gentleman from our congregation died a few weeks ago. Yet even these sad moments emphasize how important it is for Christians who are healthy and able to find ways to serve those who would otherwise languish (as so many do in senior facilities) in boredom and worry and loneliness. So, thank You once again, dear Lord, for calling us into this inspiring ministry.



Among the significant ministries of the church services Vital Signs conducts at the Aksarben Village Senior Living are the visits over cookies and cakes, coffee and lemonade afterwards. On the left Don Kohls talks with Sharon and Verla while on the right is a photo of Allen Nelson talking with Ron, Emily, Norma, and Doris.



* Harold Berry and his wife Mary Dee were our guests at the VSM book brunch on the 21st. So too were 14 others. We enjoyed a delicious brunch of muffins, bacon and egg cups, cream puffs, bagels, fruit, and hot drinks. Harold talked about his new devotional book on Genesis but then led a lively discussion covering a wide range of theological topics as well as practical Christian living advice.

* The pro-life witness at the wicked Planned Parenthood business is always intense, heartbreaking, and frustrating. And, as the election comes closer, the abortion zealots have become more emotional and deliberately provocative. So please pray for us to stay calm, stay in the Spirit, and stay the course! Beyond that request, however, we also ask for your continued prayers for would-be victims to change their minds before they get to the abortionist,

that abortion workers would repent and find forgiveness and a new life in Christ, and that shame and scandal would become the portion of Planned Parenthood and the bloodthirsty abortion industry. (Indeed, for help in this mission, please check out VSM's "3 for 5" Prayer Campaign Against Planned Parenthood on our website.)

* Claire and I took another trip to Wichita in the last week of September to spend time with my little sister Sherry. Both Sherry's dementia and her general weakness are increasing. This, of course, makes our visits more emotionally difficult but, goodness me, do they ever intensify our yearning for heaven's splendors -- including transformed bodies and glorified souls! Even so, come Lord Jesus.

* September also included the regular duties of correspondence, intercession, hospitality, and such social media activity as Saturday's **Top 5** and Vital Signs Blog items. By the way, among those blog posts, we would specifically point out -- "An Autumn Prayer Strategy;" "If You Take Away Religion, You Can't Hire Enough Police;" "A Conversation About Government Schools;" "So, You're Pregnant;" "God's In the Math;" and an unusual, dramatic 8 and 1/2 minute video of me telling the exciting (and true!) "Adventure of The Black Paw." You will find all of these and more on Vital Signs Blog.



* Okay, one more September activity I should mention before I go and it's a nifty one at that. You see, we also managed to find 2 nights and a full day at the Prairie Creek Inn east of Lincoln to celebrate Claire's birthday. What a superb and rejuvenating time it was for us both. The quiet and serenity. The prayer walks. The reading. The horses and the dog. And the hospitality of Bruce, Maureen, Lesa, and Mandy. It was a marvelous getaway.

Well, there you have it -- September in an autumn nutshell. Please keep us in your prayers as we move through the fall for, alongside the usual duties, we're going to be tackling some overdue projects as well. We so appreciate your support.

Denny