

# The Huff Family

Spring Newsletter 2013

Sharing the Good News with  
spiritually destitute families and  
lost youth in inner-city Chicago

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## Hey Friends and Family!

It has been a long, cold Chicago winter and we are glad spring has finally arrived in full bloom! These past few months have been filled with new experiences and adjustments for our family. Through all the ups and downs the Lord is continually teaching us that we must depend on him for ALL THINGS and that apart from him we can do NOTHING! Jeremy had the opportunity to preach on this message from John 15 this past Sunday. We depend on Jesus daily in the midst of constant uncertainty with regard to our present circumstances and our future hopes. "But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience" (Romans 8:25).

## The needs we see all around us are overwhelming!

- **Gang violence is killing young lives!** Youth between the ages of 13 and 18 are the most common victims. Just a few weeks ago, a baby girl died as the result of a gang-related shooting.
- **Families are broken!** Fatherlessness, teenage parents, and domestic violence are pervasive!
- **Poverty is rampant!** A lack of jobs, inferior education, and dependency on government aid breeds hopelessness!

We believe that God has called us to address these issues through RELATIONSHIPS and PERSONAL EVANGELISM. By living in this community, we pray that the Lord will use us to be SALT and LIGHT in the midst of spiritual darkness.

## Outreach

**To our neighbors.** During the month of March, we went **door-to-door with other church members inviting our neighbors to the church's Grand Opening and Easter services.**

**Community Outreach Events.** Melissa has been working to help coordinate two upcoming events in May to reach out to our community: A self-defense course for women in partnership with local police and a **Children's Book Blast: giving free books to families to encourage reading together.** Jeremy and Brad worked together to start a **Men's Prayer Breakfast** and fellowship one Saturday a month. The first breakfast drew several men from the community.

## Discipleship

**Youth Ministry.** Both Jeremy and Melissa have spent many afternoons assisting with and teaching our church's **Y-Vibe youth program**, which includes tutoring, games, and bible lessons for kids ages 5 and up. This has been a great opportunity to get to know some of the kids in our neighborhood.

**One-on-One.** Jeremy is using his musical gifts to reach youth who have an interest in learning music (which is most of them)! He is excited to have this opportunity to relate to these youth and speak truth into their lives. He has also established a relationship with several young men in their early 20's with whom he plans to start meeting for discipleship.



Our family officially joined Living Hope Church on Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>.

## Worship and Community

**Worship.** Jeremy is continuing the work to bring greater unity, devotion, and dependence on Christ in our church body through planning and leading our services each Sunday, and preaching semi-regularly.

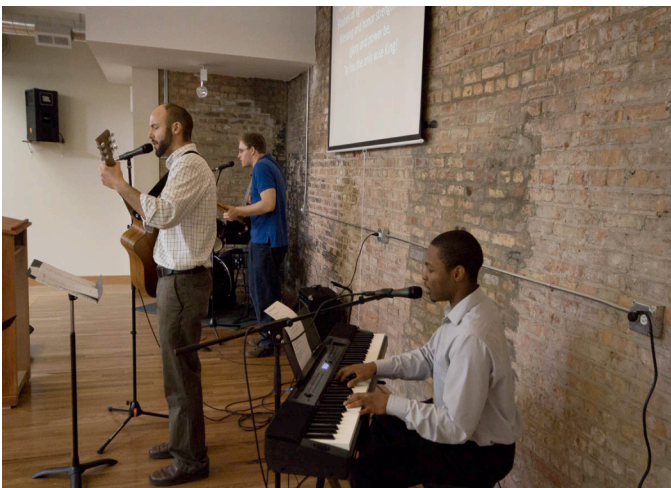
**Neighborhood Bible Study.** Jeremy and Brad will be leading a Bible study starting in May through the book of Ephesians. Our target audience is people from the surrounding community who know very little about the Bible and are not connected to a church.

**Prayer.** Jeremy has felt a burden to start a prayer ministry at the church as a place where church members and people off the street can come in to pray and be prayed for. This is truly where the work begins!

## How You Can Pray

As we continue to face our own need and the needs of our church and community, we have sensed our utter inability and dependence on Christ. Here are some areas to keep in prayer:

1. **The Church.** Pray for Living Hope Church and the new ministries starting up, that God would use them to reach the lost and grow His church.
2. **The Family.** Pray for Jeremy, Melissa, Amelia, and Lillian, that God would protect us from spiritual attack, keep our home spiritually healthy, and strengthen us to do His work.
3. **The Funds.** Pray that God would provide, that we would trust Him more, and that Jeremy would be able to quit his second job in order to minister full-time.



## How You Can Give

**Thank you for your prayers and financial support!**

We are still in need of additional partners to make a financial contribution to our ministry for 2013. One of the greatest challenges we have faced thus far is balancing ministry with family time AND work outside the ministry in order to make our monthly budget. We are currently at approximately 60% of our support for this year. It is our hope and prayer that very soon we would be able to reach our goal of 100% support at \$45,000 for 2013 so that Jeremy can quit his part-time job as a waiter and we can focus on this ministry full-time! **Would you prayerfully consider helping us reach our goal? All gifts are greatly appreciated!**

Please make all checks including monthly donations payable to **LIVING HOPE CHURCH** and mail directly to us at:

**Jeremy and Melissa Huff**  
**6414 S. Cottage Grove Ave. Apt. 2**  
**Chicago, IL 60637**

You can also donate at  
[www.livinghopechicago.org](http://www.livinghopechicago.org).

Feel free to contact us if you have any questions or would like to encourage us in some way! If you live in the Chicago area, we would love for you to visit us.

Your partnership is vital to this ministry. Please keep us in prayer. **May our Lord bless you as we all labor for the advance of the gospel in our world!**

Grace and Peace,

**Jeremy and Melissa**

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