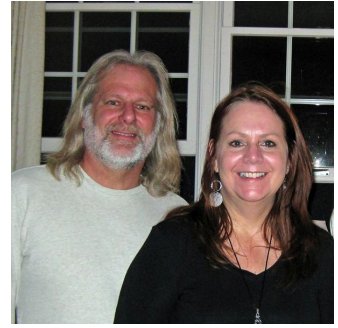


**Prescott Community Outreach
Lee & Dana Trotter
April 2013
Prescott Neighborhood
Kansas City, Kansas**



I'm sitting here working on bills, taxes, and waiting for the plumber to get here. Our sewer has been inoperable for the last 5 days. The last time this happened, it took a lot of \$\$'s to fix it. It is one of the joys of owning an 88 year old house in the city. On the bright side, I want to share Pastor Rick's reflection that he shared in the church newsletter about La Paz House.

I'm sitting in a cushy chair in the La Paz House. The kids have just crashed through the door after being dropped out of busses in the neighborhood. Lee is helping Idell with his homework. Others are looking over my shoulder as I stare at this blank page. All of a sudden, little Christopher, from across the street, appears at my shoulder, looks me in the eye and says, "Pastor Rick, how's your leg?" Surprised that he would remember, much less be concerned enough to ask, I reply, "Getting better every day. Thanks for asking!"

You see I'm just sitting here, in the La Paz House, thinking about the resurrection. It's that time of year after all and I need to write an insightful piece about the resurrection for you all to read in this lovely newsletter. But what new insight can I possibly have after 30 years of ministry. So I turn to Daniel, Luis and Gueydar who are on the couches across from me. What do you guys think the story of the resurrection is about? "Oh, that's about Jesus dying on the cross and being buried and then coming back to life, right?" What do you think it means? "It means he wasn't meant to die in the first place! . . . It's, like, WOW! He can do anything! . . . It's CRAZY! . . . It means he loves us and takes care of us . . . It's a GOOD story! . . . It's a good and BAD story . . . But waaaaay more GOOD than bad."

These young theologians remind me of a quote from an old Presbyterian named Fredrick Buechner who said, ". . . for all its confusion and wildness, it is a world where the battle goes ultimately to the good, who live happily ever after, and where in the long run everybody, good and evil alike, becomes known by his true name. . . . That is the fairy tale of the Gospel with, of course, one crucial difference from all other fairy tales, which is that the claim made for it is that it is true, that it not only happened once upon a time but has kept on happening ever since and is happening still." (Telling the Truth)

I sit here in this resurrected space called the La Paz House. I have been pastorally cared for by 7 year old Christopher. I have heard the gospel from teenagers Daniel, Luis, Gueydar and old man Frederick. And I'm beginning to think I understand. Who needs an insightful newsletter article when you've got La Paz House?

See you in Church or at La Paz House (same difference, right?) -Pastor Rick

Over the past few months, we have had a few meetings where I gather everyone who is spread out around La Paz House. Last week, we had our meeting on Good Friday. That day, we were not talking about school, homework, or even behavior. The topic for the day was Good Friday and Easter. I led a discussion with them about what these days mean and how we should

respond to God's love and salvation.

Everyday, anywhere from 15 to 30 kids rush to La Paz House to get help with school, to play, and to hang out. It has been a blessing to get to know so many neighborhood kids and get to love them and speak into their lives.

One of the kid's father, Manuel, just took the group of kids who come to play soccer every day and formed a team that will play in the KCK youth league. It is awesome to see our community coming together to invest in our kids with La Paz House being a big catalyst.

We are so grateful to you and all the love you have shown for our family and ministry. We are hosting a carnival this month and then starting to work on getting ready for our summer programs. Thank you all.



*We love you all,
Lee & Dana*

PS: I am running out of bikes! We have fixed up and given away almost all of the bikes I have collected and are looking for more youth bikes. I can pick them up. Thanks.

Please feel free to contact or visit us. We'd love to hear from you.
* Lee's phone: 816-665-1094 * email: danaleetro@gmail.com *
* blog: <http://lee-dana-trotter.blogspot.com> *

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