

What an incredible opportunity we have to share God's word with children who have never heard! It is hard to understand that there are children in Chanute Kansas who have no idea that they are "fearfully and wonderfully made". That they are of infinite worth in God's eyes, and that his Son, Jesus Christ, died for each one of them. What an awesome task we have at Cherry Street to share the good news with these children who are literally little sponges. When the Bible talks about fertile land and the great harvest it is these precious children that are described! The new school year holds many opportunities to minister to these wonderful children. We will open our doors September 2nd to 101 children—57 of whom do not attend Church. The other 44 marked on the registration form that they attend Church on a regular basis. We left "regular" basis up to the parent's interpretation of what that meant. Everyone knows someone who goes to Church on Easter and Christmas and considers that "regular"! I suspect the number of children should be closer to 80 who do not attend 3 or 4 Sundays a month. Yes, we are going to have a lot of little sponges this year for our Bible studies! We are revamping our curriculum and expanding our witness to the children this year. Instead of an 8 minute object lesson each day with a 45 minute Bible study twice a month, we are going to have 20 minutes of Bible truths each day. The format will resemble Children's Church with praise and worship, and we are moving the class from the gym into one of our larger rooms. This will give the class more focus and a point of reference—THE BIBLE ROOM.

We have two dedicated gals, Carolyn Hurst and Gail Klaassen who are excited to take the challenge of leading our Bible Class and can't wait to get started! Well, what more do we need? We need YOU. We would like to use Praise and Worship CD's and a TV mounted on the wall to lead the praise and worship segment of the classes. The technology and tvs (one for each building) will be around \$10,000. The curriculum and accompanying teacher resources and student books will cost \$1,900.00. As you can see, this is another BIG step of faith for Cherry Street.

A CHALLENGE!

THE GOOD NEWS IS- - - - -A supporter has issued a Challenge for us to be able to purchase the equipment and curriculum to transform our Bible study with the children. He will match dollar for dollar what we can raise in the next two weeks up to \$8,000.00. What do you say? Can we do it? Only through God! We are asking that you pray about taking this wonderful opportunity to get the most bang for your buck! Two for one is a pretty good deal! We are praying Churches, individuals, civic groups, and businesses will take on the challenge and we will reach the goal! Our mailing address is P.O. Box 414, Chanute, Ks. 66720!

Thank you, thank you, THANK YOU! Our garden sale was a huge success! We were sold out by Tuesday and meant we were shut down on Wednesday. The kids had a great time under the big top (we borrowed a canopy for the hot sun). What an experience they had setting up for the sale, adding up bills, counting change, and literally becoming little sales people under Kevin's watchful eyes!



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Smiles were everywhere on our “trip” to Santa Fe lake to fish! The children had so much fun and a few of them actually caught a fish or two! The grilled hot dogs really hit the spot and added to the festive atmosphere. I don’t know who had more fun—the volun-



teers who helped that day or the children! A big thank you to Tony O’Rourke for re-

habbing the donated fishing poles (thanks to the anonymous donor too), and to Walter Aday who spent the entire time tying on new hooks, bobbers, untangling line, and giving some of his “expert” advice to the kids! Kevin Olson



was at the water’s edge also giving “expert” advice to the kids as they tried to cast out to catch that “big” one! I think the children really enjoyed all the fish tales that were flying around that day!



It seems whenever Kevin was in the garden this summer, a few of the neighborhood children would come by to visit. They had just moved into the neighborhood and knew very little about the Center, but had already made up their minds that they wanted to attend Cherry Street. At first they were very timid and would stay a “safe” distance from Kevin while always keeping a curious eye on him. They eventually came closer each time to check things out. Each opportunity gave Kevin a chance to speak a few words with them. He shared with the children the stepping stones with Bible verses and shared God’s love with the children. Kevin always has a handful of jolly ranchers in his wheel chair back pack for the kids. When he offered some to the children they told him no. He left a pile of them on the basketball court and told them they were welcome to them and then left for the day. When he came the next day, the jolly ranchers were gone! The unemployed father came with the children after that to visit with Kevin. We never know the impact we will have on the children, but through Kevin’s perseverance, new friends were made and God’s love was shared—what more could a person ask for?