

Our New Year's Gift

Dearest Friends & Family-

Our heads are spinning! Since we began serving with MCD in August, a great deal has happened; God has been doing amazing things in our midst! We could easily scribble-out a dozen page letter – but we'll do our best to spare you by being concise and spreading it out over the next couple months.

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A Recap of MCD's Mission...

MCD is called to serve Jesus by *servicing the urban poor, marginalized, and at-risk communities* via the ministry of *restoration* (Luke 4) and to *serve the church* via the ministry of *reconciliation* (II Cor 5). Essentially this means we look for ways to participate with the Spirit 1) in *restoring* humanity into the wholeness of life it was intended for and 2) in *reconciling* the church with those on the fringes. In many ways, we believe these to be the first-fruits of the coming Kingdom (Matt 11).

Because true restoration necessitates the reconciliation of humanity under the headship of Christ (Eph 1), all of our programs strive to contain both of these essential elements. Historically MCD has sought to fulfill its mission via three major programs: Life On the Brick, Life Transitions, and the Creative Educational Center (please see www.MosaicCD.org for further explanation of each program).

What's the Latest...

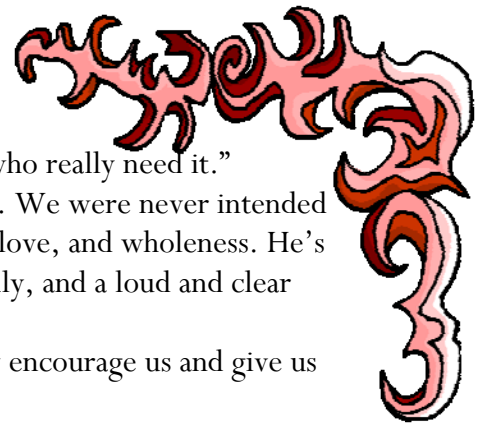
For the past several months, MCD has been experiencing an extraordinary growth spurt. In February we will be receiving four new amazing staff members, which will prayerfully give us the ability to continue to develop our existing programs, develop the new ones needed, and to take the first step in replicating ourselves throughout the urban US (via a move away from parachurch ownership towards local-church ownership).

Recently MCD has launched three new programs: the Concert Series (an outreach to the hardcore and metal music communities), the Art Gallery (an outreach to the art communities), and a bible study network for the urban poor, marginalized, and at-risk communities (so new it doesn't yet have a name). It also looks likely that 2007 will also hold the first Mosaic plant. This drop-in center will be planted in another area of urban Omaha and, prayerfully, will be the first step toward further expansion for MCD throughout urban areas in the US. God is on the move in some amazing ways! As the mission's director, Life Transitions coordinator, and bible study launch-team member, Christian's year in particular will be anything but dull.

Our New Year's Gift...

Recently Christian gave a lift to Sam*, one of the dear friends we've made from Life On the Brick (an MCD program referenced above). As he was hopping out of Christian's truck, Sam looked intently at him through his darkly tinted shades and said, "Thank you all [MCD] for what you're doing. You're a big part of a lot of people's lives and you serve the way no one else does – with care, respect, and





compassion... not making us grovel. You are helping out a lot of people who really need it.”

I fear that Sam doesn't realize how much Christian and I need him too. We were never intended to live independent of who he is and what he has to offer us in friendship, love, and wholeness. He's a part of our human family, prayerfully one day a part of our spiritual family, and a loud and clear reminder that all things truly are being reconciled under one head, Christ.

These words from Sam mean more to us than he can imagine; for they encourage us and give us hope at the beginning of such a promising New Year.

With great love and gratitude,
Christian, Sonya, Adina, & Elliott Gray

* Sam is a pseudonym given to protect identity

Please Pray

- for Christian's speaking engagements at a local college mission's conference the week of February 5th.
- for the four new staff beginning with us on February 13th.
- for the restoration of life and the reconciliation of the church in our city and in your's.

