

Sabbath Rest

It's worth the wait!

The trees are full of fruit, the early harvest of berries is all but over, so what are we waiting for? Nothing less than moving into the new home! As mentioned in the last newsletter we had broken ground on December 4, 2004 and ever since specialists in their respective fields have been diligently working their craft in building the Mettler's new home. Although it is not on the grounds which will be owned by the ministry it will be an intricate part of its purpose. It's sort of like the gatekeeper's house, guarding the area where the cabins will be located.

Once the house is completed, the ministry of Shepherd's Refuge will be fully operational making use of the existing cabin and also utilizing the bedrooms in the new home. If you have read the history of the ministry you will be familiar with the fact that the year 2005 was mentioned as the starting point of our dedication to full time ministry. Did we plan it this way? No, but it is the Lord's plan and His timing that we are working under!

A lot has been accomplished in the last half year. That is why you had to wait for the latest update. In order to dedicate more time to the tasks at hand we have combined the Spring and Summer Newsletter. Thank you for your understanding.

The 'old' location of Shepherd's Refuge in Marietta does not look the same anymore, boxes everywhere, empty bookshelves and puzzled looks on the animals' faces. The move will be happening in July/August, that is something we have not been waiting for impatiently but rather have been dreading. Knowing the Lord, He will bring us through this time as well. We

What to do about Stress

The bestseller **The Purpose-Driven Life** by Rick Warren has brought an old truth to the forefront once again, we are not here by chance. We have a calling to fulfill, and the One who has planned it this way is also equipping us to succeed! It is up to us what we do with what we are given. Even if we think that we are in "in the flow" we have to be very careful to set the right priorities and not just fill the 24 hours we all have each day with busyness that will eventually be distracting us from what we are called to achieve. But, we might argue, I am doing the Lord's work!

covet your prayer covering over this transition period.

Mark your calendar already now, it's worth the wait! We will be hosting an open house to show you the new facilities on Saturday, October 22, 2005 from 1 to 5pm.

The Lord's timing is perfect and we have had more than one occasion when we wanted to push ahead, attempting to enforce our own timetable only to find out that we would be running ahead of the covering rather than being with Him on His schedule. We see the desperate need for what Shepherd's Refuge can offer and so does He. During our increased time of busyness, building, maintaining and moving we need to remind ourselves that we also have to increase our time with our Heavenly Father. As a wise man once said, 'I have so much to do today I need to spend more time in prayer'.



Yes, the question is only whether He would really burden us with so much work that our family gets neglected, work is done with less than the needed attention, and most importantly of all, there is not enough time given to nurture and deepen our relationship with the Lord. It has been well said in **When 2 Pray** by Barrie and Eileen Jones 'Take time to tune into God's heart, approach Him with joy, allow His graciousness and gentleness to open your eyes, to rearrange your priorities and to change you'. (for further information see www.oneaccord.org.uk)

So, instead of heading for stress and burn-out, we need to do what the Air Force did when they encountered several crashes in a short period of time, they were ordered to 'stand-down' and regroup, or what the Indi-500 racers do when they go for a pit stop before running out of fuel, or when battlefield soldiers are taken away from the frontline to a safe place to rest before they drop their guards on the battlefield.

And what about our greatest example, Jesus. Consider how many times He withdrew to pray and commune with His Heavenly Father!

Inside this issue:

- ◆ It's worth the wait!
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- ◆ More Networking
- ◆ Progress report
- ◆ Pictorial

Headlines

October 22, 05

Open House



The purpose of Shepherd's Refuge is:
To strengthen His church in fulfilling its Great Commission
by caring for its leadership!

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A non-profit ministry
recognized as a 501 (c) 3
organization.

*Caring for those
who care.*

Luke 10:34

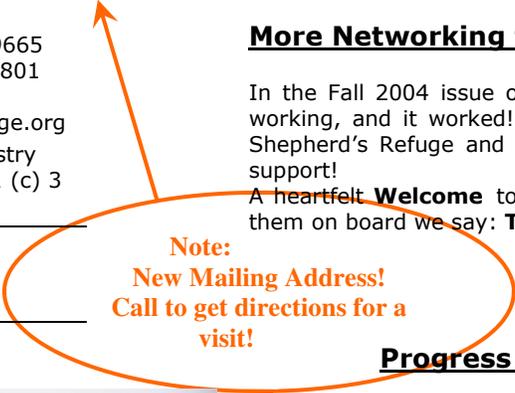
And coming near, he bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine, and set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn, and took care of him.



More Networking follow up

In the Fall 2004 issue of our newsletter we had made a call for networking, and it worked! Even more people have caught the vision of Shepherd's Refuge and have come aboard with prayers and financial support!

A heartfelt **Welcome** to our new partners! And to those who brought them on board we say: **Thank You!**



Progress Report

- ◇ The main house is close to being finished. (remember, although it will serve the ministry no funds from it have been used for the construction).
- ◇ The Mettlers have moved onto the property, using the cabin as temporary accommodation.
- ◇ Pastors, church leadership and missionaries are being served even during the transition from the Marietta to the North Georgia location.
- ◇ The land has been producing fruit in spite of all the rain! (But weeds love the wet blessing from heaven, too!)

Did you know?

- That pastors, as all of us, like to be told that they are appreciated?
- You can subscribe to have this newsletter sent by email (info@shepherdsrefuge.org)
- That Shepherd's Refuge can accommodate day long meetings of church leadership?
- That \$480 will cover the cost for a church leader with spouse to spend ONE week at Shepherd's Refuge?
- That the elevation of Shepherd's Refuge ranges from 1600 to 1800 feet with nearby peaks reaching 3300 feet!

