

LIFE Groups

A LIFE Group Steps Out of the Boat

By Charlotte Adelsperger

"Who are you people? I haven't seen anything like this!" said an amazed staff worker at a group home in Kansas City. She was watching a Colonial LIFE Group minister to people often overlooked.

These Colonial members are living out God's call to "step out of the boat" by helping those who live at Thompson Care Center. It's a group facility for adults with psychiatric disorders. Located at 3241 Paseo, residents receive regular visits and clothing from a LIFE Group facilitated by Nancy Morgan. The LIFE Group is excited about what they see God doing through their visits every two weeks.

"When we began to pray, this outreach got started," Nancy Morgan explains. We learned about needs at the home through Colonial's Cindy Becker, Special Ministries Associate Director.

She and two others from the church, Marty Lynch and Bill Kampell, lead Bible studies there.

The LIFE Group got lists of the residents' clothing needs and sizes and went shopping. Then members of the group went with Cindy, Marty and Bill to the home.

"It was so much fun, but I get teary when I talk about it," said Debbie Chiaverini. She had pur-

chased outfits for a man in his fifties, found extra used clothes to take others, and baked cookies. "It was life changing to see this man put on things I bought him. He beamed! I told him, 'Jesus loves you.'"

Cindy Becker was excited to see how well the Colonial group mingled with the residents. "They were way out of their comfort zone, but they were talking and loving on the people. And those people were showing love back. It was awesome!"

Group member Sarah Loring said, "It struck me how hopeless their situations are, but we are building relationships."

"What astounds me is the residents' expression of love of Jesus. We should be more like that," Dale Hausmann said. "It was easy to pray with them."



Pat Rabe loves this LIFE Group because it combines studying the Word and serving. In November, the group shared an early Thanksgiving dinner, eating with those at Thompson Care Center.

"I really see the Holy Spirit working," Cindy Becker adds. "He brought the right people to connect with specific ones there. I believe God ordained it all."

Want to
join a
LIFE
Group?

If you would like to join a LIFE Group, start a new one, or sign up for leadership training, contact Jan Neisess at 816-501-3039 or jneisess@colonialkc.org. Or sign up online: www.colonialkc.org/LGenrollment.

