

Volunteer spotlight: Fran De Haan

Fran and Sheila De Haan have volunteered for New Life since it began in February of 2011. These Pella residents attend Calvary Christian Reformed Church. They have four children and six grandchildren. Their son Andrew often plays bass guitar for New Life worship services.

What summer activities will you enjoy?

We love to go camping. The two grandkids who live in Pella love to come along. We also enjoy boating and waterskiing.

Why are you inspired to help men in prison?

Matthew 25 challenges us to visit those in prison. The men have many emotional and spiritual needs. By partnering in the ministry of New Life I can help to reach out to those men.

How is running New Life's sound system challenging?

Each time you come into the prison, the praise team is different, so the setup has to be adjusted. In the gym, it's difficult to provide good sound. Transporting the equipment is hard on the components, so regular repairs are necessary. After upgrading parts of the system over the last couple years, it's working pretty smoothly now. I appreciate Matt Roozeboom for backing me up when I am not able to make a particular service.

Describe some of the improvements you've made to the New Life sound system.

When we started, we had some used sound equipment that had been donated. I started by putting together a system that can be rolled into the prison on two carts. Over time some new speakers, a sound board, and a high-quality cordless mic were purchased. Recently we added several more cordless mics.



Fran De Haan is New Life's sound person.

In your opinion, why is it crucial for us to reach out to people in prison?

People in prison are often at a point in their lives where they have reached bottom. They eventually say to themselves they can't keep going like this; there has to be a change. Others will give them false hope in other religions but we need to show them the true love of Christ through our interaction with them.

What do you enjoy most about your time as a volunteer?

I think all the volunteers feel they are more blessed than what we are giving. I enjoy being able to use my gifts in technology for New Life!

Prayers & praise

by Rose Admiraal

- Pray for mentors to come forward for the men at Newton desiring a Christian friend.
- Pray for the inmates at Newton and their families, as they are separated.
- Pray for forgiveness and release from the doubts and fears from the devil.
- Pray for the men who struggle with their faith and being true in their walk with the Lord.
- Pray for men that have been released that they will stay close to God and thrive on the outside.
- Praise God for the many men desiring to be baptized or to profess their faith this coming June!
- Praise God that Pastor Rick and Howard and Cathy Vroom had a great prison ministry summit at Wheaton College.
- Praise God for blessing New Life Prison Community with financial, prayer, and volunteer support!



Pastor Rick Admiraal

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Please support Pedal for Prisoners 2013

Contributions may be sent to: **New Life Prison Community, 408 Maple St., Pella, IA 50219**

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Piercing the Darkness inspires *by Pastor Rick*

Piercing the Darkness made an inspired visit to the Newton Prison on May 3. The band energized the packed gym of 150 inmates. Many men stood in the back after we ran out of chairs. Pastor Rick and New Life volunteers Todd Rowland and Doug Nikkel also enjoyed the show. Pastor Rick was fired up when the band played “Swamp Jesus,” which featured a harmonica solo from Ken Finch. Certainly the band entertained, but their music highlighted the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Men who attended the concert provided solid feedback. Brandon shared, “That’s my type of music—they could really play!” Jesse added, “They were real! That’s what I liked about it.” The lead guitar player’s wife, Sherry Root, gave her personal testimony in between the band’s two long sets. Doug said, “My favorite part was Miss Sherry’s testimony.” Anthony also appreciated her testimony and gave a shout out to

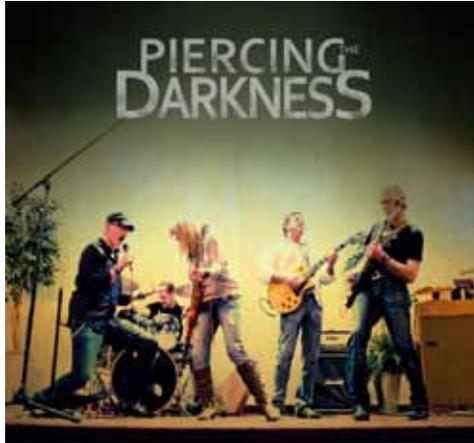
Sherry’s husband Brian: “That guy sure could play the guitar!”

Lead singer Steve Shettler shared, “We love coming to the Newton prison because the entire atmosphere is great. People from the outside would never guess that. But it’s the truth! These guys are hungry for God! They are hungry to praise and worship our Lord and

Savior, Jesus Christ! They allow the Holy Spirit to move in their midst. And they are by far the most respectful audience we’ve ever seen. Never before have we done a concert where each person comes up afterwards and shakes our hand and thanks us for being there. It just shows how appreciative they are that we’ve come to hang out with them for an evening.”

Steve summarized, “It’s been an all-out good time each time we’ve been there.”

We’re grateful for the band members and their spouses, too. They are a light shining in the darkness. They show us that we can have a lot of fun while we still giving God the glory. I’ve got no doubt that God is glorified through their music and ministry. In the words of one of their inspired tunes: “All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son. Come on, Holy Spirit. Until your kingdom comes!”



Piercing the Darkness rocks.

New Life and Women at the Well provide mutual encouragement

by Pastor Rick

Every year, Calvin College schedules home and away basketball games with Hope College. It’s a legendary battle between two schools only 36 miles apart. This rivalry has been going on for 94 years. It’s quite a tradition. In contrast, New Life is starting a brand new tradition. This spring we scheduled home and away meetings with our sister congregation: Women at the Well. Unlike the basketball teams, this was less about competition and more about cooperation and mutual encouragement. The two prison congregations are only 22 miles apart. Our first meeting was at the Women’s Prison in Mitchellville on Good Friday. The roles were reversed as Pastor Rick had the opportunity to worship as the only man among all the women. Rose must’ve finally felt at home after worshipping so often among the men at the Newton Prison. Our second meeting was at the Newton Prison on May 13. Pastor Lee Schott visited our afternoon prayer group. It was great to have her visit the men in prison. What a blessing to give each other mutual encouragement!

Pedal for Prisoners IV

by Pastor Rick



This year, three bicycle riders support New Life in their fourth Pedal for Prisoners. Unfortunately, this year we’ll be going our separate ways. Due to a family wedding, Pastor Rick will be opting out of RAGBRAI. Instead, he’ll ride TOMRV (Tour of the Mississippi River Valley) XXXVII. It’s a two-day ride in early June featuring gigantic hills and epic views. Corrine will ride in late July, tackling her 18th RAGBRAI (Register’s Annual Great Bike Ride Across Iowa.) The route for RAGBRAI XLII is a fairly flat journey across northern Iowa but still covers 418 miles in one week. Corrine’s ride will traverse Iowa from west to east, starting in Rock Valley and ending in Guttenberg. The riders will enjoy Lake Okoboji and Mason City, hometown of the *Music Man!* Finally, Bill Schinkel rides in August in Bike Van Buren XXVIII. This two-day ride covers the scenic country in and around Keosauqua, Iowa. Bill has done this ride before; he loves it so much he’s doing it again!

We’re united in our devotion to New Life

Even though we’re doing different bike rides, we’re united in our devotion to New Life Prison Community. We’re all riding for one purpose—helping New Life make a huge impact on the men at the Newton prison. Will you support New Life financially by sponsoring one of us? (See form on front.)