



**“windows” on God’s provision
 (or: why are husbands slower than wives?)**

This newsletter is about expansion and provision. Here’s a typical story:
 The upstairs windows at Lampost are anything but energy-efficient. They were on the “eventually replace when we can afford it” plan. Then we heard that heating costs could increase steeply this winter. The windows moved up in priority and we began to check out the cost for replacing them. At 200-300 dollars a window (and numerous windows in the house), the project was dropped back to “someday” list.

Just a week later a friend called us late at night and said: “Are you going to the university auction tomorrow?” We hadn’t heard about it, but decided to go to look at furniture. By now you’ve guessed it: Marsha found a stack of incredible industrial-grade windows.

“I wonder if these would fit,” says Marsha.

“I can’t imagine,” says Jeff.

Why is it that wives are always quicker than husbands on these kind of faith issues? Of course, Jeff knew the facts: how they would have to be a perfect fit because of the concrete and brick construction of the building. It was statistically dubious.

Marsha called home for measurements.

You’ve probably guessed again: perfect fit.

But in this little parable, as with all stories of God’s provision, it was a BIG fit. Two different sizes of windows at Lampost, two different sizes of windows at the auction. Both sizes, perfect fit. And these were not the windows we priced at Menards, but many times better.

Ok. This was just a little window story. But how characteristic of our Father. Providing unexpectedly, and in abundantly bigger ways than our plans foresee. “A man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps.”

Oh yah, and here’s the kicker (With God, there’s always a “kicker”): \$12.50 per window. Yes, you saw the decimal in the right place.

Marsha says “Hooray for God!”

Jeff says “Yes, but who’s gonna figure out how to put these things in?”

Why is it that wives are always quicker to turn to worship than husbands?

So the next week, we’re ministering at a church in a nearby town. At the potluck following the service, Marsha is telling some people how the Lord provides in little things like windows. Who’s in the group listening to the story? A contractor and a carpenter.

“I think we can get a team of guys together to put those in,” they say. “I’ll stop by next week to check it out.”

“Hooray!” says Marsha.

“Hooray!” says Jeff.

Husbands may be slow, but they’re not completely stupid.

Quick review: In little or big things, God meets the need on His own terms with impeccable timing, providing an infinitely better solution than what we had figured, and miraculously within the means He has given us in the first place. Then he uses members of His body working together to bring it to completion.

Marsha saw this coming.

Jeff had to write this article before it all came clear. Don’t ask why. (slow, not stupid.)

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JUST AROUND the

CORNER...

Frankincense, Myrrh, & Fools Gold is coming...

Have you experienced the delight of a Christmas dinner or dessert theater at Lampost yet? Well, your opportunity is coming. Lampost will be reviving this original production based on a classic medieval legend. It’s a colorful musical/comedy set in the period, complete with mistaken identities and juggling fools. What happens when a prominent church member trades places with a poor street jester? Timeless lessons are learned by all in this heartwarming tale.

Holiday dessert or dinner theaters are a great way to invite friends to focus on the meaning of the season. Or schedule a special night for your holiday office party, church staff, or small group. Reserve the entire theater or attend a public performance. December books quickly, so call for group or party information: 319. 277. 8034

Individual tickets for public performances go on sale in November.

more info: www.lampost.com
 or call 319. 277. 8034



EXPANDING TERRITORIES

East & West

This summer we had two teams take off in opposite directions. Dylan, Myka, Sarah, & Steven went to the Florida swamps for Teen Missions. Lampost trained teams for Namibia, New Zealand, Australia, Philippines, Brazil, Cameroon, and a motorcycle-riding ministry team destined for Africa - as well as several others. The troupe also presented *Connection Terminated* at a rally there, and approx. 200 students came forward in response.

Meantime, Jeff, Marsha, and Rachel headed to Colorado, where they taught and performed at the AALC national youth conference. Myka joined them as they went on to Snow Mountain Ranch, where they trained Navigator staff members for creative outreach.

As the rest of us traveled, Marissa held down the fort in Iowa with the aid of her mom - who came in from Wyoming.



Expanding team:

David Keel has become the newest member of our full-time staff team. We first met David in a HighSchool production we directed, but he has since graduated UNI and done a year's internship with college ministry in Louisiana.

Pray for David as he joins the adventure.

expanding space

More room! More room! Just before the new school year started, we knocked down a wall and expanded the coffeeshop. This was in response to the growing numbers who are coming for events, discipleship, and just to build community. We also re-arranged the theater space to accommodate the large crowds of students for after-BASIC and weekends.



“And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

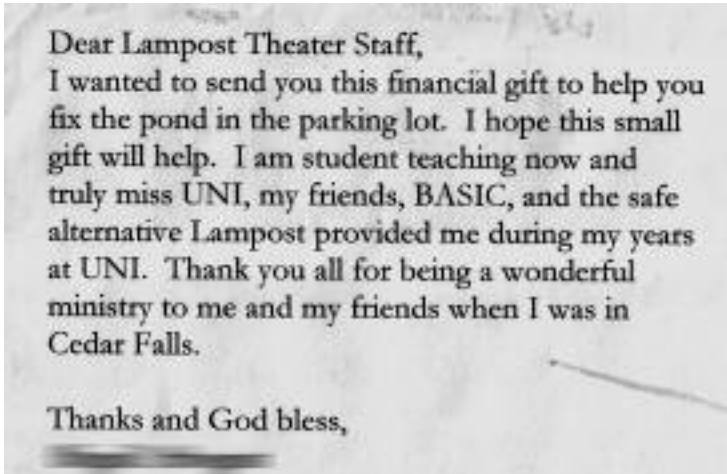
-Col. 3:17

Widow's mite:

The time has come for us to bite the bullet and do some parking lot repairs. Affectionately dubbed "Lake Lampost" by the students, the dip in the center of the lot threatens to do irreparable damage.

We recently sent out an email asking for people to pray about contributing toward the costly fix.

What a blessing to watch several donations come in from the students themselves (as well as former students) like the one pictured left. Their notes were great encouragement, indicating that they not only recognize, but appreciate what the Lord is doing here.



extending ministry

•Craziness & Community:

As summer came, we noticed a number of college and post-college singles who were hanging around town with no place to connect with their peers. So we started "Crazy Game Night" on Wednesdays. The idea was to create an environment where we could build community for these younger adults. Who would have guessed how well it would develop? People came, brought friends, and got connected into other events and small group studies here. Now the Wednesday nights continue. It has become a great "front door" for new faces, as well as a place to build relationships for ministry.



•Advance Through Retreat:

This Summer we also discovered another great use for our flexible facility and it's 2 acres of land. We hosted a team of jr. and sr. high students from Chicago for a three-day training retreat. They camped on the land, had campfires at night, and throughout the day received training in drama and street ministry. It was great to introduce them to drama evangelism -- but also to other new things. Some had never tented or roasted marshmallows before...

•Artistic License:

The theatre was once again transformed into an art gallery for the 2nd annual "Art on the Fringe" show. This showcase for local artists opens two special opportunities: believers are encouraged in their creative expression, and yet another segment of the community is exposed to Lampost as a place where faith and art meet.

