#### **Prayer Requests**



Tracey has lost 36 lbs and seven inches in her waist going from a size 19 to a size 9 using a nutritional cleansing program called Isagenix and she is providing free coaching to others who sign up by calling her to help them release the toxins and pollutants that are contaminating their bodies and sucking away their energy. Both Drew and Tracey, and the 15 people who signed up and have used the product have had great results in just 11 days. Praise God that we are getting healthier

and we're better able to do the work God has called us to do!!

Praise God for a full recovery for Drew's fractured ankle. He still feels it from time to time after a full day on a ladder, or after running & being on his feet all day, and while he won't be playing sports any time soon, he feels 95% and is Praising God!

Prayers for Godly wisdom on how to allocate our time between ministry opportunities & income producing endeavors. Financial provision.

Prayers for God to add a second car to the family: something in the 30+mpg, 4 to 5 door sedan family. We'd love to get a green colored hybrid, but that's a God-Sized dream. We're also asking God for a blue 7-passenger, 4x4 Dodge Durango with electric brake towing package to replace the 247,000 mile Jeep and haul the trailer for our Cope Home Services contracting work.

Praise God for all the friends who have invited us over for lunch or dinner. You guys have been amazing. Thank you for letting us share what God is doing. You are joining with us in this ministry!!

Prayers for wisdom as we try to take everyday activities like grocery shopping, meal preparation, family dinners, mowing the lawn, bedtime stories, car care, & family worship, and move them from ordinary activities and transform them into learning journeys that bring healing and wholeness to these wounded teenagers.

## Constant Contact 👾 🗹 💷

To sign up for our Constant Contact email list, scan this QR code or visit http://bit.ly/smQbW6 and enter your e-mail address into the online form. Thanks!!



We are called to share God's incredible love with badly wounded teens: helping and spiritually nurturing those kids, who have nowhere else to go, who have no one to talk to, and lead them to the healing power that Christ has for all of us.



We now have a constant contact e-newsletter mailing list for this House Parent Ministry Newsletter. Visit the constant contact web link found inside this newsletter, call **484-748-0008**, or email **Wired@DrewandTracey.com** to be added.

to God, a

facebook.com/Drew.Cope facebook.com/Tracey.Cope facebook.com/CopeHomeServices

### Drew and Tracey Cope November 2011 Newsletter

I [will] instruct you in the way of wisdom and lead you along straight paths. When you walk, your steps will not be hampered; when you run, you will not stumble. Proverbs 4:11-12

# Ramp & Steps built by Cope Home Services 10/2011

### Thank you for your interest in supporting God's plan in our lives.

For the past nine years, Tracey and Drew have been pouring their lives into average, everyday, middle class teenagers who appear to have great lives on the outside, but who are falling apart, both emotionally and spiritually, on the inside. Most of these teens are bruised by messy divorces, angry/ abusive alcoholic parents, and/or sexual abuse. They may also have self worth, abandonment, insecurity, and identity issues which often trace back to unhealthy relationships with their fathers.

God has placed His heart inside of us for these teens. Now we are waiting for Him to reveal where we are to do this ministry as we move forward, and how He is going to provide financially for us as we love His children.

Those who live in the shelter of the Most High will find rest in the **shadow** of the Almighty (you gotta be close). This we declare of the LORD: **He alone** is our refuge, our place of safety; He is our God and **we are trusting Him**. Psalms 91

Photo during Eastern Homecoming Ultimate pre-game prayer 10/2011

"Do not take advantage of the widow, the orphan or the fatherless. If you do and they cry out to [the LORD and He] will certainly hear their cry. — Exodus 22:22

#### Where have we been?

Life, is not a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in a pretty and well preserved body, but rather an adventure that ends skidding in broadside, totally worn out and proclaiming, "WOW, what a ride!" - Pastor Greg Hollis, 11/13/11

This quote describes the past few months pretty well. We've been on a crazy ride helping our 19 year old adopted daughter get through her first semester at college, building a contracting business, coaching 15 people in the Isagenix nutrition plan that helped Tracey lose 36 lbs and Drew lose 10 lbs, and working with area youth pastors on a couple of projects. We've provided several services to area youth pastors. We preached at a lock-in, at a Friday night youth service, we taught a group of student leaders how to run games on their youth nights, designed a flier for another youth pastor's event, setup a youth ministry with an automated way to post devotional PDF's to their facebook feed daily, attended a baby dedication for one of our kid's kids, had three other young adults over for dinner and a chat, and we've joined two small groups at the church on Sundays and Mondays. We also had two brainstorming conversations with a youth pastor who was dealing with a stressed out student who had started cutting due to issues at home. Busy doesn't begin to describe it all.

The eventual dream is for God to open the doors and provide the means for us to open a year round girls camp to address the issues He has called us to minister to. Short term, we are now approved foster parents, and will be available to provide respite care to area foster children starting December 1st. The Lord had us sketch up a dream addition on the house, that would allow us to accommodate more teenage guests in our home, and in our family, as God provides the finances to do so. It includes a lower level 3 car garage & workshop for the business, a master bedroom, office & nursery on the main floor, and a two bedroom transitional apartment on the third floor along with a deck out the back with storage underneath & solar on the roof. This would free up a bedroom in the "kids" wing of the house & give us some much needed office space. We've considered house hunting, but God has been very clear that we are NOT to move as we are located exactly where he wants us, and we are not to refinance the house at this time. That means that if God wants to build this addition, He's going to have to provide the expertise and the finances to do it as well as the finances to support the extra teens we would then have the facilities to minister to. We could do some of the work, but that might take away from the mission & focus God has given us. And maybe we need to see what it's like with two teens in here first... but when God speaks, we need to write it down.

## **How is God moving?**

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Here's a brief snapshot of what God has been doing in our work and ministry opportunities recently.

- A bit of a prodigal, one of our young adult kids was passing through town and we coaxed her to stop in for a home cooked family dinner and movie night. We were able to share God's love with her, pray with her and bless her. Later that evening, she posted on her facebook wall, "had a great day/night with my other parents who have always been there for me and have shown me true love. Really needed this. Thank you Drew & Tracey Cope."
- God has allowed us to use our many years of youth ministry experience to be a blessing to area youth pastors through consulting on tough student challenges, newsletter and flier design, and even some website and social media work, which is helping them be more efficient & more effective stewards. Praise God!
- We went out to dinner with two young adults who have worked very hard this summer to destroy the idols they created in their lives and are now working very hard to work out their salvation, desiring to follow God's plan for their lives, keeping Him first; before their own hopes and dreams, rules and expectations, and learning to trust Him for everything.
- We were invited by an area youth pastor to teach a group of student leaders how to run games at their weekly youth service. We had a lot of fun and the students seemed to enjoy the evening.
- We preached at a youth service on powerful prayers, addressing the power of our words, consistency in prayer, incorporating scripture and God's promises in our prayer, and challenging them to go deeper in their relationship with their Heavenly Father, with Jesus as their Lord and the Holy Spirit as their guide & counselor.
- We had the awesome privilege of attending the baby dedication for one of our kids' beautiful daughter. In spite of some poor choices in the face of overwhelming family drama & circumstances, this young woman is committed to finding a way to make a good life for her and her child. She has a long road ahead of her and several key people in her life have made it known that they are unwilling to help her, but she is undeterred. Pray that God makes her into fertile soil so that His word can take root in her life without danger of being snatched away and that God continues to put people into her life who will help her grow in the Lord.
- At a recent lock-in, we taught a group of middle school students how to deconstruct a movie and use it to communicate the good news to their friends, while at the same time, teaching them about the nature of the spiritual battle we all face. We showed various clips from the movie "Hook" and talked about the realities of life and how we can walk out scripture in our lives while being aware of the devil's schemes, fleeing temptation, standing firm against attacks from darkness, and praising and seeking the Lord our God through all of it. Both the message & ministry time were powerful. Several students shared their struggles and asked for prayer.

## Where are we heading from here?

In 2009, God showed us that we would have 5 kids in our home... The first and the fifth would be really tough cases. The three in the middle would a boy and two girls. We are already through the first three and are expecting another teenager to enter our home at some point. We know we are called to do short term work, emergency room style, which means we invest some intense effort loving them and helping them get their lives onto the right path, and then we are to help them find the resources to keep moving forward. We think that our role as foster parents will play into this. We haven't ruled out reapplying to Milton Hershey in the future, but it's not on the radar right now. We don't have a timeline for the home addition or the girls camp, but the Lord's timing is always perfect.

We continue to ask the Lord to show us His plan for how He will financially support the ministry He has called us to. We have five potential streams of income that the Lord has provided & we are seeking His direction for which one to focus our efforts on. Currently, we are (1) raising support, (2) doing contracting work, (3) coaching individuals in the use of Isagenix, the program which helped Tracey lose 36 lbs. (4) building custom bunkbeds through 1-800-BunkBed and (5) providing services to youth pastors including web design, social media integration, flyer design & creation and more.

Every day is an adventure in listening to the Lord and asking for fresh daily manna. Several folks have been led to partner with us to help kids. Some have given one time gifts, checks, gift cards to Giant, Acme, Redners, Sunoco & Wawa, and others have become automatic debit monthly supporters. We are so thankful for your support both in prayer and in financial support. All of this facilitates our ability to focus on teenagers rather than striving (Eccl 2:22) to pay the bills.

Mail your gifts or setup one-time & monthly e-donations:

Drew & Tracey Cope PO Box 50, Kelton, PA 19346 HTTP://DONATE.DREWANDTRACEY.COM

We invite those of you who have not yet experienced the privilege of joining with us in this service to God's kids (2 Cor. 8:4) to talk with Jesus and ask Him what He would have you do to partner with us. CopeHomeServices.com is a means to an ends, but our goal is to dedicate most of our time to ministry. We do not want entrepreneurial pursuits to take center stage or become our focus out of necessity, as God has proven that he can fill our calendar with appointments with students in need.