A recent article in Parade magazine commented that “Front Porches have been part of American architecture since Colonial days. Other cultures have them, but no one else has embraced porch life as wholeheartedly [as Americans]. The Front Porch is ‘the interface between the private world and your community…[it] is a way of thinking about the world’.” It seems that the popularity of the Front Porch is on its way back in America. In fact, the word is being used as a verb: “Would you like to come over and do a little porching?”

I can honestly say that in my suburban neighborhood, though all the houses have a front porch, rarely do I see my neighbors sitting on them [self included]. We are a very busy society that has little time to think about other people in the world. We are typically very busy with “our” world...

Yet, there IS a world out there! And there is a world full of people in need of Light and Hope! People looking for answers: For what purpose am I living? How can I keep going? Where will I get the strength? Is there Someone who cares? Is there Someone that can help me? There are lonely people needing a Smile; a Hug; Encouragement…

Every 4th Saturday of the month, we are blessed to go “porching” and visit with the people in the Monticello Avenue Community of Clarksburg through our “Bread of Life” ministry. Through our partnership with Panera Bread, we are able to deliver delicious Panera breads and pastries to as many as 70 homes! Of course, the residents look forward to these delicious Panera delicacies each month, but even more than that, they enjoy the visits as we “porch” together! Especially during the warmer months, people are sitting on their porches and so look forward to “porching”!!! We know each others’ names! We talk! We pray!

But, how long we are able to “porch” is dependent upon how many Volunteers we have to help distribute this Bread of Life. This month we only had 4 people to help us deliver bread to 70 homes. It was a beautiful day and people were on their porches enjoying the day, but we couldn’t “porch” very long because while being blessed with much bread, our laborers were few.

Would you like to go “porching” with us? Is God calling you to bring the Light and Hope of Jesus to His world in the Monticello community? Let us know. We send out an e-mail reminder every month and would be happy to include your e-mail on that list.

Of course, there are other ways to bring Light and Hope to others!

WE HAVE THREE BIG EVENTS COMING UP THIS SUMMER:

- June 20th: Monticello Block Party
- June 28th - July 1st: Laurel Lanes Community Picnic and Vacation Bible School
- August 15th: 9th Annual Monticello Back-to-School/Health Fair

FINANCIAL HELP AS WELL AS VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED! CONTACT US!

Relationships are important to us at LightHouse of Hope Ministries. We have been blessed by God to build relationships with the people in all the communities in which we serve. YOU are important to us. We would love the opportunity to “porch” with you. Are you in need of prayer? Do you need a Smile or a Hug of Encouragement? Please let us know...for the love of Christ compels us...

Visit us at: www.TheLightHouseofHope.net Or E-mail us at: TShaw@thelighthouseofhope.net or GCornman@thelighthouseofhope.net
LightHouse of Hope Ministries is a Multi-Faceted, Non-Profit Organization dedicated to bringing the Light of Hope and Restoration to Individuals, Families and entire Communities throughout the various segments of our society through THREE MAJOR PILLARS:

**EDUCATION:**
- Bags to Buttons Sewing Class (Laurel Lanes)
- Children’s Easter & Christmas Plays (Laurel Lanes)
- GED/Education Helps (Laurel Lanes)
- Summer Children’s Story Time (Laurel Lanes)
- Annual Monticello Back-to-School Event
  (330 Backpacks filled with School Supplies & Personal Care Items)
- After School Program (FUTURE: Monticello)
- Life Skills/Job Readiness Training (FUTURE: Monticello)

**HEALTH AND SAFETY:**
- Monthly Monticello Bread of Life Outreach
- Annual Monticello Health Fair/Screenings
  (Held with Back-to-School event)
- Annual Christmas Outreach (Laurel Lanes and Monticello)
  (Bags overflowing with Paper/Cleaning/Personal Care Items distributed to 200 families)
- Addiction Recovery (FUTURE: Monticello)
- ZUMBA/Dance Class (FUTURE: Monticello)

**PROJECT GRACE INITIATIVE:**
- A Preparedness Outreach for the Church and our Entire Community
- An Emergency Chaplain Ministry
- An Encouragement Outreach to First Responders

**SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT:**
- 3 Weekly Prayer Meetings (Monticello)
- 1 Weekly Pastoral Prayer Meeting (Bridgeport)
- 6 Weekly Bible Studies
  (Monticello, Laurel Lanes, Bridgeport)
- 1 Weekly Children’s Bible Study (Laurel Lanes)
- Annual Vacation Bible School (Laurel Lanes)
- One-on-One Discipleship

It takes many partners, volunteers and workers to accomplish this work on a regular basis! For more information, please contact us!

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Gwen Cornman, Terri Wilson

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