

TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2009

Mission Tuesday #8



I spent my day at Mission of Hope today. I arrived at 9:30 ready to help with whatever was needed. It didn't take long to realize all the things that needed to be done!

Tuesdays are busy at the Mission, so I'm glad it's the day that works out the best for me to be there. Ormal, a friend of the Mission, picks up bread from one of the local grocery stores on Tuesdays. He usually has five to six big totes full of an assortment of bread, buns, rolls, and etc. There are also usually containers of pies, cakes and cookies in those totes as well. We sort them, put the bread in the Food Pantry and the desserts in the cooler (refrigerator). That was my first job of the day.

Bobby, who put on the benefit concert for the Mission on Friday night that we attended, came about 10:00 and brought all of the canned goods that were donated on Friday night and also at Saturday night's concert. We unloaded his van and filled up the sanctuary with bags and boxes of the non-perishable food items. Will began to sort them, while Steve and I restocked the Food Pantry with what items were needed. What a generous amount of food! What a blessing! Bobby also shared with me that about \$1,800 was collected for the Mission at the concerts both evenings! WOW!

After restocking the Food Pantry, I organized some the food in the refrigerator. Scott and Jesse, two other volunteers were busy preparing lunch. Phyllis asked if I would give the blessing today before and meal...I was honored to do so. We served around 90 people for lunch. I wore the wrong colored clothing today...I didn't realize I would be serving lunch and I wore a white long sleeved t-shirt under a fuchsia short sleeved t-shirt. We served chili, hot dogs, corn, corn bread,

cake and brownies and soda to drink. My job was to the hot dogs, but I was standing by the roasters of chili. Guess what was all over me, and even splattered on my jeans and shoes??? Yep...chili!! :-) Thank goodness for Spray 'N Wash and Tide! :-)

After cleaning up from lunch, it was time for me to take off. A couple of neat things happened today...I had a great conversation with Ormal. He shared his good news with me about his heart and the tests he went through last week to make sure it was pumping normally...and it was. :-) I enjoyed serving the hot dogs at lunch today! To be able to look each person in the eye, smile and talk to each one was priceless to me! Even though I would say something like, "Would you care for a hot dog today?" I still got to converse with each person. I would most often get a smile back after they would see mine. :-)

Time flew there today! I wish more people could really see what happens at Mission of Hope. It's a place where people really experience hope! It's also a place where each one is made to feel welcomed. It's not a second-hand Mission...we believe in giving each person the best. I like that! NO ONE was unworthy in Jesus' eyes, and NO ONE is unworthy in the Mission's eyes. It's unlike anything I've ever experienced, and I love it! I am again amazed today by what God is doing there, and in the lives He's touching through His people! I look forward to next Tuesday!