

Zach's House, a faith Community —support packet

Contact: Brian and Mary Ann Humek
2010 Ridgewood St. Irving, TX 75062
(972) 255-3789 or (682) 558-9861

Website: <http://zachshouse.org>
Email: zachshouse@gmail.com

Sponsored by the Norwich Church of Christ (Norwich, Kansas)
PO Box 284 / 106 Fairfield
Norwich, KS 67118

Partnering with Zach's House and the Humek Family

In **Winning with People**, a book by leadership guru John C. Maxwell, there is a section titled:

I Want to Make a Difference with People Who Want to Make a Difference Doing Something That Makes a Difference.

Wow!. That's what I desire for every part of my life, especially with this new church plant/faith community. Jesus helps us in our lives everyday, working hard in and through us and others in many ways. Today, we are looking for Him to help us through you individually or collectively. We need the help of individuals, friends, family, or others who are interested in making a difference doing something that makes a difference. We pray and hope you will decide to partner with *Zach's House* to create positive change. We are reaching into broken lives of those in our immediate area and making changes. The "we" I speak of is Jesus working through members and friends of *Zach's House*. We are helping relationships, those with God, those with family, and those with friends, to be restored back to their original beauty. Restoration is an idea found throughout the Bible. We embrace that idea and live it out in this new church plant/faith community. It is hard to give money to help a family you may not know very well. To learn more about us, please give us a call and talk to us personally. Mary Ann or I would be happy to discuss this new faith community or just life in general. You may also visit our website.



Our Story

We are the Humeks, Brian, Mary Ann and Ezekiel (Zeke for short). We are honored that anyone would allow themselves to be guided by God to give of their own hard earned money in order that we could have fun. Yep, that's what I consider ministry. Of course, there are negatives that come with ministry, but we must take those times and use them to help us grow. We understand that full-time ministry is not for everyone. We also understand that what we are trying to do (full-time church planting plus a written word devotional ministry/online magazine) is probably not tackled too often either. We also understand that there are a lot of individuals who wish they could spend more time in ministry work and since they cannot, feel honored to help others who do.

About Brian

I spent my early years in Illinois and moved to Tulsa, OK in 4th grade. I lived in Tulsa until early in 9th grade and then moved with my Dad to Dallas, TX. I have been in Texas ever since. My life was a bit turbulent as a youth. By 7th grade, I had witnessed three divorces by my various sets of parents. There were attempted suicides by one parent. During my 5th grade year, the police were at our home almost every weekend. While I lived with that set of parents, I and the rest of the neighborhood endured the violent arguing which resulted in the police coming over to say hello quite often. That time in 5th grade really brought me closer to Christ. I spent a lot of time with folks from the Park Forest South Christian Church, a congregation I was taken to as a baby when it was a new church plant. If not for them, things would have been mighty bad for my Mom and me.

Bouncing around between parents, I was able to take a tour of 12 different schools in 12 years. The only school I ever attended two years in a row was Mac Arthur High School in Irving, TX. Years after leaving Mac Arthur, never having taken much more than 18 college credit hours, I began attending the Center for Christian Education, formerly known as the Preston Road School of Preaching. I graduated from the Center in 2004. I began attending Dallas Christian College later that year and graduated in 2005. In early 2006, I enrolled in Lubbock Christian University working on a graduate degree in Bible.

I have had occasions to preach in Texas, Oklahoma, Nebraska and Kansas. I've worked at the North Irving and Airport Freeway congregations in the Dallas area. I attended a church planting discovery lab with my wonderful bride Mary Ann in late 2006. For much of 2007, and still today, we work with Zach's House, a faith community. I am also an avid writer. I have written over 130 picture books for children. I have written articles on ministry, devotional material, and a book titled Purple Ducks: Reflections on Jesus, Belonging, and the Beginning of a Faith Community. I am unpublished but have faith that God will use this skill to help provide for our financial needs in the years to come.

God has blessed us with a heart for those who reject religion but yearn for Him. The parables in Luke 15 speak about God's love for those who don't know Him and for those who have left Him. Those parables spur us on whenever we face struggles in our postmodern missionary work. We see our church planting work in a missionary context and every day we encounter those with postmodern views. I involve my wife and son in many aspects of this work, from our community picnics, women's groups to feeding the homeless.

Our Mission

To facilitate the planting of a vibrant family of Jesus Christ within close reach geographically and culturally of every person in the cities of Euless, Bedford and Irving.

Our Beliefs

The core of what we teach derives from what God has revealed about Himself through the Bible. You may visit <http://zachshouse.org> and click on "Our beliefs" to see exact details. You will see our core beliefs are similar if not exactly the same as taught in the Bible and in your congregation. In addition to these beliefs, we also have core restoration principles that guide our ministry.

Our Core Values

All aspects of our ministry efforts focus on the following six core values: Authenticity, Belonging, Love, Truth, Restoration and Community. We go into great detail about these core values on our website. Please visit it to become familiar with how we do ministry.

Our Vision

1. We will have a dynamic presence in the lives of unchurched and never churched individuals and put a welcoming face on Christianity by becoming Jesus with skin on for them.
2. We will gather people from the ranks of the unchurched, the never churched and those disillusioned with "check your name off the list on Sunday morning" religion and begin 10-15 groups consisting of 3-12 people each that will meet weekly and bi-weekly. These groups will have their own mission and ministry efforts.
3. We will see changed lives of those participating in our small groups. These changed lives will be seen in various ways, some people may get drunk only two times a week instead of their previous five times a week. Others may use illegal drugs only once a month compared to daily. Others may begin reading the Bible for the first time, while others may be baptized into Christ after living a life avoiding Jesus and His message.
4. Once a month, we will gather corporately within the confines of a local congregation for our own *Zach's House* led worship and fellowship.
5. We will have members of and friends of *Zach's House* provide an average of 100 volunteer hours to good works in our community each month by December 2009.
6. We will use our written word ministry to help the unchurched express their feelings about Jesus and offer opportunities for various members of *Zach's House* to help others locally, nationally and internationally by relating their own Jesus experiences.
7. We will set in place those steps needed (establishing relationships, nurturing them, teaching about God's desire in our lives, and raising up new group leaders) that will see **a new network** of small groups (faith communities) begin by 2010. **At that time, we hope to see these vision points repeat.**

Our Supporters

We are currently sponsored by the Norwich Church of Christ in Norwich, KS. We also receive funds from the Salmon Church of Christ in Salmon, ID. We have supporters at the Mid-Cities church (our former sponsoring congregation), the Airport Freeway Church of Christ and we also have supporters who attend various other churches or no church at all. At this time (January 2009), we are corresponding with many different congregations in hopes of raising enough money to get us through October when we have tentative commitments from two new congregations and we constantly working on obtaining more stable partnerships. I have been invited to speak at a missions Sunday in northern Pennsylvania in October and at a missions conference in Eastern Colorado in November. Please keep these speaking engagements in your prayers and pray that many more will come our way.

Prayer Partners

In addition to financial supporters, we also have prayer and moral support from local ministers in the DFW area who believe in our work as well as prayer partners in locations as varied as Edmonton, Canada to Hutchinson, Kansas and all the way across the ocean in Varazdin, Croatia. Our prayer partner list is growing weekly but there is still room for more. We want to cover every aspect of our church planting work in prayer.

Financial Partners

Our faith community is funded by donations provided to us by friends, family, individual church members and various congregations. In addition to the funds provided by these sources, we have additional money coming in from my part-time photography, writing and editing work and from Mary Ann's part-time work at a local day care. Our goal is to be self-sufficient, not relying on

money from supporters or a church, within two years. This may be a fine goal or a grand dream, but it is our desire. If our desire is not realized, we are not against outside funding for an additional two years. Our current support level, including various congregations, individuals, and part-time income equals \$1000 a month.

We need to raise \$2800 per month to meet our budget. Our health insurance, gas, and food costs are or have been rising tremendously and are a big part of this current need. Because we rely on other people's money to pay the bills, we live a simple life without a lot of typical 21st century gadgets like cable television, a vehicle that runs well, and we rarely put our air conditioner below 86 degrees in the summer. We are a strange family.

Your financial contributions make the work of this new church plant/faith community more effective. Your contributions allow us to spend more time with the people of our community, getting to know them, serving and teaching. We need people like you who want to make a difference to partner with us by pledging monthly financial support or by providing one-time gifts.

We encourage you to prayerfully consider becoming a financial supporter of Zach's House. A one-time gift of any size or a monthly pledge of \$500, \$250, \$100, \$50 or \$25 provides financial stability to our work and enables us to effectively use our time for relationship building, teaching, and serving. If necessary, you can even pledge \$5.00 with four other friends to make a total contribution of \$25.00.

Here is a picture from one of our bi-weekly efforts in service to our community, the Agape Meal.



“Go everywhere and preach the gospel, if necessary, use words.” – St. Francis of Assisi

Our monthly supporters will receive a monthly email reminder for their convenience. If you find sending a check each month an inconvenience, you might consider sending in a year's worth of monthly pledges as one lump sum. **PLEASE ASK US ABOUT MATCHING GIFTS. YOU CAN MAKE YOUR GIFTS WORTH TWICE AS MUCH.**

The Norwich Church of Christ is our sponsoring congregation. You can make your check out to the Norwich Church of Christ and send it to either address below:

Norwich Church of Christ
PO Box 284
106 Fairfield
Norwich, KS 67118
Attn: Zach's House

or

Brian and Mary Ann Humeck
2010 Ridgewood St.
Irving, TX 75062
(we can forward it)

Please include your email address and we'll sign you up for our monthly email newsletter. If you'd like, we'll also send you a bi-weekly devotional I write for church members, planters, other leaders and church bulletins. Feel free to call or email us any questions: Call 1-877-769-5311 or email us at zachshouse@gmail.com.

Below are two lists for which we are raising funds. One list provides our urgent requests that have unfortunately popped up in the last two months. The second list is general expenses we encounter each month. If so desired, you can pick a specific area to sponsor. If you, individually, your congregation or small group see an item you would like to sponsor but cannot afford to do so on your own, ask us about gift sharing. We can match you up with some another individual or group that has the same desire and dilemma. These expenses can be broken down further if you would like to specifically give to areas such as "Starbucks Group Meetings," "Pizza and Prayer Nights," "transportation expenses to feed or fellowship with the homeless," or "website management."

We dearly need your help at this time and thank you for taking time to read this packet.

Urgent Needs

It is very difficult to live in such a spread out suburban area to do ministry and to travel to churches that are considering providing regular support. We had to cancel one such meeting to Snyder, Texas in December. We also had to cancel some English lessons and a small Bible group, and postpone our Christmas party. We also were stuck at home for about a week unable to drive anywhere. This need is our most urgent. We need a vehicle that will get us into and out of some very high crime areas (our homeless feeding nights). Our vehicle will also need to get us to visit our future partnering congregations and to take our son to Grandma and Grandpas two times during the summer. We combine our grandparent trips along with church visits too.

\$5000-\$6000

To replace our old Buick. We are looking for a very reliable vehicle. We have very trustworthy *Zach's House* friends that can confirm we buy reliability instead of junk. Some of the possibilities are another 7-10 year old Buick or a similar aged Nissan Altima, Honda Accord or Toyota Camry or Avalon. We need a vehicle with 50,000-70,000 miles on it. We need this vehicle to have enough room to take some presentation materials for our church visits along with everything our son needs for a two week visit with Grandma. We need this vehicle by May at the latest.

\$400-600

To replace the sensors on the transmission of our 1995 Buick LeSabre which has 166,000 miles on it. We hope it is the sensors. A TCC code is showing and some had said to replace the transmission. It could be the sensors so we'd like to start there. However, if we need to replace the transmission, along with the upper intake manifold gasket and the brakes and struts and tires, it might be better not to do anything to this car but replace it like we would rather do.

\$170

To pay for an alternator and a battery for our 1990 Ford F-150. The pick-up has 212,000 miles on it. Our friend will help replace the alternator rather cheap. A second vehicle is very helpful for life in general. It is especially helpful so my wife and son are not stranded at home without a way to get to his special classes and for them to run errands when I am in the community meeting new people, leading a small group, or helping one of our *Zach's House* friends.

\$825

For our March 1st rent. We use our home for occasional gatherings including fellowship events such as dinners and small groups. This expense comes out of what we designate to be our \$2650 a month salary. If money is given to this expense, it would be counted as going to our monthly salary.

\$800

Dental check up and some minor dental work.

\$700

Complete physicals for my wife and I to confirm we have no health problems. It has been 18 months since our last physicals. Once we have a clean bill of health, we will raise our deductible to \$10,000 and save about \$300 a month on our health insurance costs.

Regular Monthly Expenses

\$ 2690.00 Salary (*We see this decreasing by \$400 a month by next year*)
\$ 255.00 Hospitality and Fellowship
\$ 80.00 (\$960 per year) for a retreat for our members
\$ 90.00 Internet/Phone
\$ 150.00 Benevolence
\$ 65.00 Printing/Curriculum/Books
\$ 50.00 Promotion/advertising
\$ 125.00 Community picnics & concerts (5 per year with total expense of \$1500 or less)
\$ 295.00 Gasoline/Travel Expense
\$ 3800.00 Total

Again, thank you for taking time to read about our work. We hope you have seen in these words, our desire to be used by God to help others. Please pray about helping us but also pray about helping other such efforts that want to reproduce themselves and take Jesus to people. Pray about your own congregation starting such a ministry or church plant.

Yours in Christ,
Brian and Mary Ann Humek