



**A Christ-centered community offering
God's love and truth to
refresh, retool, and rebuild
individuals, ministries, and organizations.**

June 2011

Volume 4

Issue 1

**Serving leaders, their families,
and organizations facing**

- Significant transitions & change
- Sabbaticals & learning projects
- Opportunities for growth
- Broken hearts, shattered hopes
- Weariness & Burnout
- A needed break and timeout

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1 Haft Lane
New Albany, PA 18833

thehaft@epix.net
www.thehaft.org
570-363-2189

A View From the Bridge

In our last newsletter we tried to give you a better understanding of what “The Haft Experience” is as we continue to move through this season of transitioning from the Haft past to the new thing God is doing here. We are called to develop and restore leadership in these days of great opportunity and challenge—in the Church, in America, and throughout the world. Much of our attention in the past couple of years has been on refreshing, retooling, and rebuilding the buildings, grounds, and infrastructure so that we can better serve the guests that we are seeking to draw here. In addition to the physical building projects, we have been building an on-site ministry team (now four families) that are committed to growing in servant leadership and in furthering The Haft’s mission. These two aspects of our building process are on-going, as you will discover throughout this newsletter. However, we are now entering a new season of ministry and outreach, as we see God opening doors for serving others, both those coming here as short and long-term guests and those living around us as neighbors in the community. We hope this edition of the Haft newsletter will not only inform you about the impact and fruit we are beginning to experience, but increase your confidence and willingness to stand with us as partners in this work.

It has been almost a year since we moved our primary residence and center of ministry operations to The Haft. We are overwhelmed by the evidence of the grace and provision of the Lord in sustaining us personally, bringing along wonderful and committed people to work with us, giving clarity in our planning and decision-making steps, and transforming those who are coming here for help. We are truly experiencing amazing grace and want to invite you more deeply into that experience. This news letter is from our hearts and we hope it touches your heart as well.

Bruce and Joan Boydell
Directors of Ministry and Operations



Refresh Retool Rebuild

MINISTRY AND ORGANIZATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Building Partnerships and Relationships

- ◆ **Hopewell Network** - The Haft has become an Associate Member of the Hopewell Network of Churches, as part of its commitment to strengthen ties and form mutually beneficial partnerships with those who share our vision and values.
- ◆ **Mission Agency partnership** - A long-established mission organization has begun to look to The Haft as a primary resource for serving the needs of its missionaries in dealing with challenges that require some off-field time.

Serving Others and Developing Leaders

- ◆ **Pastor Couple Retreat 2011** - Our second annual retreat for pastors and wives in late April addressed pastoral discouragers, marital matters, and personal renewal. It was a tremendous time of blessing and refreshment to those who participated. Resourcing the retreat along with Bruce, Joan, and Betsy from the Haft, were three of our ministry partners from the Philadelphia area: Phil Monroe (professor at Biblical Seminary), Dave Weidis (founder and Executive Director of ServingLeaders Ministries, and Ed Lochmoeller (national Director of Pastor-In-Residence).
- ◆ **Restoring Leaders** - The Haft is increasingly serving as a place of restoration to people in ministry suffering from burnout as well as those seeking a place for study and reflection. Guests stay for a few days up to two months.
- ◆ **Local Church Leadership Consultation** - Bruce and Joan have been working with the leaders of local congregations as they develop vision and plans for the future and seek a new pastor.
- ◆ **Women's Retreat** - "The Proverbs 32 Woman" for Living Hope Fellowship annual Women's Retreat in May. Joan served as speaker, bringing encouragement and practical wisdom to the ideal woman of Proverbs 31.
- ◆ **Coaching** - As part of The Haft's mission to develop and strengthen leaders, Bruce and Joan are providing weekly personal coaching sessions to each member of the on-site ministry team.
- ◆ **Men's and Women's discipleship training** - *The Ways of the Alongsider: Growing Disciples Life2Life* (Bill Mowry) and *When I am Afraid* (Ed Welch) have been very helpful in our weekly meetings for prayer and personal growth.
- ◆ **Team Leadership training and development** - The on-site ministry team recently completed a 10 part series called *The Heart of Christian Leadership* by Jon Byler.

Improvements to Buildings and Grounds

- ◆ **Gatehouse** - a remodeled main floor for staff housing, with more light, open space, and a great view of outdoor beauty
- ◆ **Barn guest rooms** - three new guest rooms and bathrooms
- ◆ **Site development plan** - a first draft of a comprehensive plan for expanded use of the property in a way that preserves its natural beauty and features

Operations and Administration

- ◆ **Ministry Position Opportunity** - We are looking for a mature individual or couple to join us as Ministry Associates, with responsibility for housekeeping and hospitality for Haft guests
- ◆ **New Website** - We are finally moving from plans to results and hope to have a completely redesigned Haft website up during the summer. It will provide supporters and potential guests and clients with current information, as well as a way of making on-line contributions and reservations.



2011 Pastor Couple Retreat



Haft children ministering to a guest missionary serving children and families in Mexico



Elmer and Rosa Fisher celebrating the fruit of 10 years



New Barn Guest Room

People News & Community Life

Joan Boydell

Last Summer I was reminded that the lack of air conditioning here at the Haft, even though usually not an issue, could allow for some hot and humid evenings. As two fans drone within earshot, I am aware again that such conditions can exist here. It is hot again, and a whole year has passed since we moved back into the Barn for our “temporary assignment.” Our estimate of being here one to three years seems to be leaning towards three, as we realize we have barely begun. Our mission to help refresh, retool, and rebuild this ministry is well underway but not nearly done. It will only be so when the Lord declares it and brings us those who will carry on after us. We continue to look for our replacements, trusting that younger folk will come along. In the meantime, God is kind to allow us to do this in our advancing years. Most of the time we are having fun, too. We are slower than some, have less tread on the tires, but maybe a bit of wisdom to share as well. We are surrounded by wonderful companions, and the laughter and love of children fill our days. It brings balance to the work and delight to those who come for refreshment. We continue to encourage you to plan a visit, so you can have your own “Haft experience.”



JOAN AND BRUCE BOYDELL

David and Cheryl Coleman - Moving On

Last July we arrived at the Haft confused and broken by all the rapid changes in our lives. Because of our home mission experience, we had become deeply concerned about individuals and families leaving the local church, communities in crisis, and a loss of vision for the lost and hurting. This year we have experienced a life-transforming breakthrough at the Haft. After 15 years of ministry education, prayer, and community missions training and experience, David is sensing God’s leading to serve as pastor in a local church, hopefully somewhere in this region. In July we will be leaving The Haft with fresh vision and renewed confidence, and equipped to build up and restore broken lives and families. We are deeply thankful to you—those who support the vision of The Haft through your faithful prayers and sacrificial gifts of love. We also want to thank Bruce and Joan, the other families comprising the on-site ministry team, the Haft Board, and our Living Hope Fellowship Pastor-In-Residence support team and friends who have encouraged and helped to prepare us. You are invited to join us on Sunday, June 26th, for a very special community life celebration at the Haft—*“Then Sings My Soul...How Great Thou Art!”* Call The Haft to let us know your plans and get details.



THE COLEMANS

Gregg and Betsy Braun - Staying On

It has been almost one and half years since the Brauns moved to The Haft as caretakers. Following a thorough mutual discernment process, we are happy to share with you that they will be staying on as ministry associates, continuing to grow as servant leaders in support of The Haft’s mission. Gregg will be assuming more responsibility as coordinator of buildings and grounds maintenance. Betsy is moving into a greater lay-counseling role with guests, as well as providing worship leadership in various ways at The Haft and local churches. Gregg and Betsy have just been accepted into The Centurion Program, sponsored by Chuck Colson’s BreakPoint educational mission to train people to understand and communicate the Christian worldview into today’s culture. We consider this a great investment in their future ministry at The Haft and beyond.



PASTOR-IN-RESIDENCE TEAM

Heidi Eisenhard - An Honor to Serve

I feel greatly honored to have served The Haft and built wonderful working relationships with the staff, Board, and many of you over these past three years. I plan to continue in a supportive role as co-leader of the Haft Prayer Team and to help my replacement, Joan Rodriguez. Join me in praying for The Haft as it serves those who need to be refreshed, retooled, and rebuilt.

Joan Rodriguez - Introducing our new Administrative Assistant

I am thanking the Lord for this opportunity to do the work I love, with people who love and serve the Lord and want to share the Lord and His Love with others! Truly this is an answer to prayers I had been praying for about 3 months. It is such a great feeling to come to The Haft and be a part of what God is doing here. It brings a smile to my face and joy to my heart!



JOAN RODRIGUEZ

Growing Leaders in Crisis: Part 3. The Expectation Crisis

—Scot Magann—

Leaders grow in character and competence because they expect God to accomplish his purposes in them and through them. Distorted expectations can destroy a leader, but God will generate an expectation crisis to prepare us for phenomenal growth.

Only kingdom expectations produce kingdom results!

The 21st century Phillies consistently win, because the coaches nurture a *detailed mental image of success*. World Series victory is the team's goal, every play is a "big play", every victory is a stepping stone, and every setback is an opportunity to grow. Champions don't choke when the game is on the line, because they expect to win. They win because day in and day out they expect to grind through the lonely, miserable, repetitive work that produces championships.

But how many championship teams enjoy a perfect season? Do they shut out the opponent in every game? Even in the face of adversity, the coach uses an expectation of success to drive excellence in preparation and execution. After every disappointment, champions set another appointment with their destiny.

Take a close look at your leadership. How do you deal with disappointment? Failures and setbacks are a part of life, so we should expect to deal with them. When you encounter routine disappointments with people, including yourself, do you set a divine appointment? During these divine appointments, God shows us the character flaws that drag us into failure. He gives us the courage to admit where we were wrong. He changes us! He equips us to motivate the people we lead to keep their appointments!

Effective leaders use lofty expectations to energize a patient transformation of attitudes and behavior. Low expectations frustrate people with poor performance, and unrealistic expectations paralyze people with fear of failure, but an expectation crisis confronts us with this simple question:

“Are my expectations kingdom expectations?”

Perhaps it is time to say “Yes” to the King's expectations by surrendering your expectations to him. We are confident that God will finish the good work he has started in you and the people you lead.

Investing in The Haft CALL for HELP!

We are pressing to complete important improvement and repair projects essential in refreshing the Haft to better serve individual guests and groups. We want to make good use of the tremendous gift it is to have Elmer Fisher and his family with us for this entire year as part of our on-site team. Some projects have already been completed in the Barn, Gatehouse, and other on-site places. Your financial help in completing the following 2011 projects would be a tangible investment in the future of The Haft :

- * An administrative office and counseling and meeting room in the Barn
- * Major upgrade to Barn heating system that will allow us to conserve energy and provide more comfortable and zone-controlled heating
- * Remodel the kitchen and dining area to provide more open space, better lighting, and more efficient work area
- * Remodel the ground floor guest suite in the Gatehouse
- * Cover the hole in the ground at the back of the Barn (former root cellar) to provide safer and more attractive access and better use of the outside area.

We are also looking for individuals and groups who can volunteer their labor for a wide range of tasks and projects. If you can work this into your Summer and Fall plans, let us know. THANKS!

Come to the Haft—by Elisabeth Braun

Come to the Haft
A place I call home
Come to the Haft,
A place fun to roam.
Come to the Haft,
Smell the sweet dew.
Come to the Haft
We welcome you.

Come to the Haft
Fish in our pond
Come to the Haft
Form a new bond.
Come to the Haft,
Where love is the theme.
Come to the Haft
And be part of our team.

The Haft, Inc.

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Board of Trustees

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Joan Boydell

On-site Ministry Team

Bruce and Joan Boydell
Gregg and Betsy Braun
David and Cheryl Coleman
Elmer and Rosa Fisher

Administrative Assistant

Joan Rodriguez