

PARTNERSHIPS

It is always exciting to make new connections with individuals and organizations where we can serve, and it is uniquely encouraging when we discover new friends who want to help TEP with our mission. A few weeks ago, Sarah, one of our volunteers connected us with Christine who works at Vineyard Senior Living, a company with a motivation to help others. While our original intent had been to offer Simple Gifts for their workers, we also found ourselves on the receiving end of their generosity.

Christine has started a program where funds are collected each month to be used to help local nonprofits with something that they need — anything from functional ink cartridges and paper, to various items for special projects. TEP was the nonprofit they chose to help this month, and we received multiple bags of chocolates and some organizing baskets for our Simple Gifts project. Their gift provided enough supplies to encourage many hundreds in the coming months!

The visit last week was uplifting, and full of wonderful ideas of ways to continue to partner with each other in the future. We are grateful for this partnership!



Trust in the LORD
and do good;
dwell in the land
and enjoy safe pasture.

Psalm 37:3



Sarah and Christine

WHERE HE WANTS US TO GO

As I have prayed for The Encouragement Project over the years, I have continually asked God for His guidance, help, and provision, and that He would connect us with those who need encouragement. Last summer, I started praying something different — that God would take TEP where He wanted it to go, in all aspects and in any direction. It didn't matter if we "succeeded" or "failed," in my opinion. This is God's project, and it's immensely better off completely in His hands.

Over the next months I began to see amazing things happen — things that were quite beyond me. I watched in awe at God's efforts on our behalf, and was humbled at the way He was using TEP. It was beautiful. *He is beautiful.*

We have been actively looking for a building space since November. As we continue the search, there are ups and downs. Last week, we were just days away from signing a lease, but realized it was not actually a good situation. While this "setback" could be discouraging, I remain grateful and fully confident that God will set TEP where He wants it to be — whenever that timing is right. God knows better than we do how much we need a space to work from, and I look forward to seeing how He will provide it.

The hunt continues for the right location, and we are exploring all options. God has a way of using unexpected and unusual avenues to bring about wonderful things! If you might have or know of an available space that TEP could use, please be in touch! I would be glad to fill you in on what we are looking for.

Please continue to pray — that we would be wise in our search, and that God would bring us to a useful spot in good time.

Have you ever asked God to "take you where He wanted you to go"? We would love to hear your stories if you have, and would love to encourage you to humbly ask Him if you haven't!

THE ENCOURAGEMENT PROJECT

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