



May 21, 2010

Southside Baptist Church
5613 South Robert Trail
Sunfish Lake, MN 55077-1410

Dear Friends at Southside Baptist Church,

This month we celebrate our 39th year as Awana Missionaries. As we look back on those early years, we thought we'd entertain you at our own expense.

There was no missionary training in 1971. It is a three-week long process now. We were eager to undertake our new ministry, and left Chicago with a copy of every club handbook and headed to Minnesota with a vintage "Kodaslide" projector that showed one slide at a time... great for making presentations. When someone gave us a second-hand filmstrip projector, we knew we had arrived! Later that year we acquired a used IBM Selectric typewriter with interchangeable balls and lift-off tape... wonderful technology in the 70's. Computers didn't come along for a few years, but it is amazing how much we were able to accomplish without one.

In those days, there were 10 churches with Awana in Minnesota and Wisconsin. Today there are 191 in southern Minnesota alone. Praise God for His faithfulness through the years.

Someone once said, "I know that when I offer my services as a volunteer, I can make a tremendous difference in the lives of children. One caring adult can change a child's life, and that change can affect families for generations."

If we have accomplished anything for the Lord in these many years, it hasn't been done alone. You play a crucial role as faithful partners of this ministry. We acknowledge you for that as well as your gift of \$150.00. Thanks be to God.

Kids for Christ for life... forever,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dale & Jean". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

The Gerard's