

PUPPETS 4 Him



Team Photo

2010/2011 Year

Puppets4Him grew in leaps and bounds this year to 20 people! We were happy to welcome aboard new members Dale, Brent, Daniel, Abby, Ashley and our prodigal puppeteer, Laura!

You could say that we have really become a “family ministry” because our team is made up of: 3 sets of sisters, a father and son duo, brother and sisters, and even an entire family (that would be us, the Hieberts)!! The Marrasts have all served on the puppet team at one time or another, but this year they served all at once! Most of our team members have been together for more than three years so that alone can just start to feel like we’re family!

With a team so large, sometimes we had to break into two groups. We were thankful to have Gregory and Laura to provide leadership support throughout the year.

Our Sunday mornings were usually spent practicing, practicing, practicing, but we had a number of occasions when we were able to puppetize a few songs as a group and have some prop painting sessions. We were pleased to have the opportunity to present some country-themed songs a number of times in Sunday School and Godzone. By May, we felt that the family worship service was ready for our larger-than-life blacklight Kiss parody, “Praise the Lord All Night”!! We sure worked on that one a long time to get it just right! Our final presentation of the year, “Happy in Jesus”, was a lot of fun. How can you go wrong with a bus load of 70’s shepherds and singing sheep! That one really had our wheels turning, in more ways than one! With busses and life-size guitars and drum sets, it’s no wonder we are quickly outgrowing our prop storage area!



“Praise the Lord All Night”

After all the work and practice that goes into putting a song together, we are always pleased when we have the opportunity to present new material. This year we were able to debut three new choreographed songs. (We won’t even begin to tell you how long it took to get from the brainstorming stage to the puppet stage, you’d probably never believe us anyways!!)



“Stand”

We were able to capture all our performances this year on video and they have been posted on our Puppets4Him Facebook page and on YouTube.

“One Heart - Winnipeg”

It was an honour to be asked again to participate at the One Heart Winnipeg service in January at the MTS Centre. The service grew from twenty-six churches last year to more than 50 churches participating this year. The churches are all from a variety of denominations gathering to worship together for one morning church service. Over 13,000 people were in attendance and watched us share our puppet presentation. One of those 13,000 people was a staff member from the Billy Graham Association. He was quite impressed and commented that he had never seen puppets done like that before. This resulted in an invitation for our team to participate in the upcoming “Rock the River” Kidzfest event at The Forks in September!

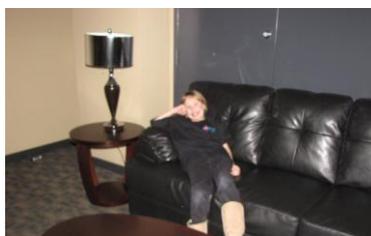
The team was given the use of the green room at the MTS Centre and boy did we have some fun with that. Maybe one year, Puppets4Him will be famous enough to demand just the red M&M’s in the green room prior to taking the stage!!! Yeah, maybe.....



MTS Centre



Could THIS have been where Justin Beiber showered?



Did Bon Jovi sit on this very couch?



Praise God Tonight

Into the classroom!



Cassidy and her vent partner, Sally

Cassidy incorporated some puppetry into her grade three school homework and ended up making her ventriloquism debut! She had to do a series of two-minute speeches and one theme was to tell jokes and riddles. Both Cassidy and her puppet, Sally, sported pink cowgirl hats and delivered a number of western themed jokes for her teacher and classmates. She was a big hit! Later, she took her school assignment on the road and performed her cowgirl routine between songs for about 100 kids when our family did a puppet presentation for an event at a local church. She had both young and old in stitches as she and Sally poked a little fun at their pastor!

Cassidy seems to have taken up an interest in ventriloquism from watching her dad and enjoying his routines. Over the years she has also met some very special people who have become dear to her and they just happen to be ventriloquists too!

At the end of the school year, Cassidy and a couple of classmates wowed their whole school with a little blacklight puppetry at the school talent show. Cassidy's two friends probably would not have participated in such an event, so puppetry was a perfect way for them to be involved. We had after school training sessions and weekly practices at our house. At the talent show, you could barely hear the music in the gymnasium from all the excitement expressed by the audience. The girls did great and it was encouraging to see them beam with joy at being so well received by their friends. At the end of it all, one of the school teachers quickly made her way over to us to get information about doing an event at her church!!



The Three Puppeteers!



www.puppets4him.com



... to **Daniel** who was faithful each week to arrive early and help us set up all that gear!

... to the **team parents** who supported us in many encouraging ways

... to everyone who remembers this ministry in prayer

It was great to be back with the puppet team this year and to see how much the team has grown both in size and puppetry ability. We now have the opportunity to perform during Sunday morning services and at the MTS Centre. I've enjoyed reconnecting with Pastor Marlowe and Carol and I wish the team all the best in the coming year.

~Laura Marrast



Laura served on the puppet team from 2001 to 2003. It was great to have her back this year in a leadership role. We wish her all the best as she travels to Washington, DC to pursue a two-year Masters Degree in International Affairs at George Washington University.

(Is it just a coincidence that all the brilliant kids come from being involved in the puppet ministry??!!) 😊

Mark Your Calendar!

One Day Training in
Puppet Ministry

SummerFest

September 10, 2011
Calvary Temple
You'll want to be there!

Have a safe and happy summer!