

# Christmas Store 2009



## Christmas Store At a Glance...

- 1,521 gifts sold
- 192 children served
- 92 families served
- 50 children shopped for parents in Kids' Corner
- 160 volunteers made it happen

## Transforming the Community

Parker Street Ministries' Christmas Store allows parents in this impoverished neighborhood to purchase brand new toys for a quarter of their retail cost. That's a \$40 gift for \$8-\$10!

Christmas Store enables parents to provide for their own children in a way that builds hope and dignity, not dependency. Christmas Store is also an outreach into the neighborhood where new connections are made each year.

**We thank our donors, staff and volunteers, wishing you a joyous Christmas season and blessed New Year!**



Photos by Jason Stephens

*"If you would be like Christ, give much, give often, give freely, to the vile and poor, the thankless and the undeserving."*

John Piper

## Volunteers and Donors Made it Happen

For two weekends in December, 92 families and 192 children were served at our annual Christmas Store. With the help of over 160 volunteers, 1,521 gifts were purchased, and, if desired, wrapped. Many thanks to all the individuals, churches and organizations that made it possible!

In mid-December giving to the Christmas Store was less than it had been in 2008, and the staff began making adjustments. However, after

the first weekend of the store, PSM received more donations enabling us to offer bikes, MP3 players, digital cameras in addition to the other toys. The gift limit per child was also increased.

The arrival of new donations enabled PSM to go back into the neighborhood and tell residents we had been blessed with more toys. As a result, we registered an additional 38 children and formed new relationships for 2010!



**"The WORD became Flesh and moved into our Neighborhood"**

## Parker Street Ministries

Parker Street Ministries, Inc. is a Christ-centered, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization committed to individual, family and community restoration, reconciliation and revitalization in Lakeland's Parker Street community.