



Spadework Newsletter



OCTOBER 2021

SPADE FOUNDER, HOWARD MCFARLAND WENT HOME TO BE WITH HIS LORD ON SUNDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

By Bill and Joan Rinehart

Howard McFarland was 98 years old. He was born in Ohio on March 10, 1923. His beloved wife, Charlotte, went home to be with the Lord on February 12, 2017.

Howard and Charlotte McFarland founded the ministry of SPADE International, Inc in 1987 and passed the directorship over to Bill and Joan Rinehart in March, 2004. It was such an honor and privilege to serve alongside this dear couple and to learn much from them about appropriate technology, gardening, hospitality and sharing the love of Christ, especially in the ministry to international students. We still serve on the Board at SPADE and do volunteer work as we are able.



**By Arasu Rajaratnam,
Chairman of the SPADE Board of Directors**

I met Howard and Charlotte in the fall of 1966 when I was an international student at Drexel University, and they were on the staff of International Students, Inc. in Philadelphia. During our periodic outings and fellowship retreats, I got to know Howard better. He had a passion for the lost-- especially the inner city residents of Philadelphia. Therefore, he was involved ministering to some of the West Philadelphia churches.

Subsequently, Howard shared the vision of SPADE and he wanted me to be part of it. I got to know him well, and his passion was to reach people for Christ: inner city residents, international students, and others, using the facility of SPADE as a hospitality and appropriate technology center, as a model for the gospel, and through this time, many made decisions for Christ.

Some of the international students and others returned to their homelands and were involved in being a witness to their families and fellow citizens. I remember Howard and Charlotte taking a trip around the world and visiting them in various countries.

Howard was a person who followed his God-given call and vision. He fulfilled it and gave his all for it. He has left for us a legacy to make sure this vision continues through SPADE in

reaching the unreached for the Lord Jesus and for the generations to come. What stands out to me is Howard's life of sacrifice for the cause of Jesus Christ Our Lord. His life is an inspiration and example to me.

Romans 6:13(b) NLT

"Instead, give yourselves completely to God, for you were dead, but now you have new life. So, use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God."

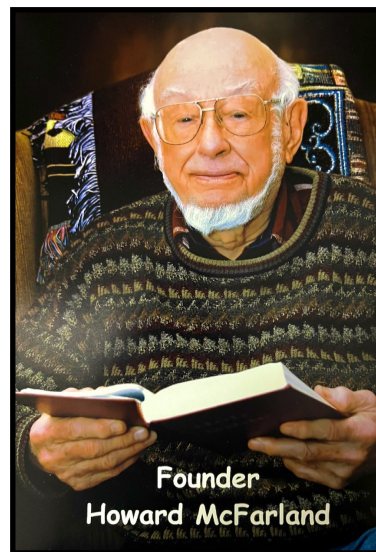
Closing thoughts from Howard and Charlotte's daughter, Beth Bennett

He served the Lord all his life—in the Congo, then with International Students, Inc, and then with SPADE, the non-profit ministry he founded. A few weeks before he died, he was still volunteering down at Spring Rescue Mission in Colorado, where he lived with daughter Becky, serving the homeless. He left this life owning a watch from Walmart. He would not have needed to be honored in any way, but if anyone wishes to, gifts can be sent in his memory to:

*SPADE International, Inc: spadeinternational.org or

*Hilltop Ranch, the community for those with intellectual disabilities, where his granddaughter Sarah lives:

hilltopranch.org



**The family will be hosting a Memorial Service
for Howard McFarland on Saturday, November 27
at SPADE International,
9077 Steinsville Road, Kempton, PA 19529**

The service will begin at 11:00 a.m.

A light lunch at 12:30 p.m. will follow.

Chapel doors will open at 10:00 a.m.

**SPADE INTERNATIONAL INC.
MATT AND CLAIRE PRINTZ- DIRECTORS
E-MAIL: directors@spadeinternational.org**

**9077 STEINSVILLE ROAD
KEMPTON, PA 19529
PHONE: 610-756-6510**

INTRODUCING NEW DIRECTORS MATT AND CLAIRE PRINTZ

By Bill and Joan Rinehart

BEHOLD, GOD IS DOING SOMETHING NEW AT SPADE in the appointment of, not a couple, but a family to direct the ministry of SPADE International.

We are pleased to announce that **Matt and Claire Printz are the new official Directors of SPADE International.** They moved into the Inn this past July 2021 along with their four precious children, Wendy, Micah, Calvin, and David. SPADE had been without formal directors since Lou and Linda Schimpf left in the Spring of 2017 due to the terminal illness of their daughter, Aimee.

During this interim period, former directors Bill and Joan Rinehart, along with many volunteers, filled in the gap. Then in November 2019, David Kyle came on board as Innkeeper and served SPADE faithfully until Matt and Claire were able to take over in July. As groups began coming again at the beginning of 2021 after the COVID shutdown, David and his wife Aidan prepared for and ministered to the groups. Our thanks go out to David and Aidan for their dedicated service.

OUR DEEPEST THANKS TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS WHO SERVE THE LORD AT SPADE.

Now **to Matt, Claire, and the children**, we welcome you and pray the Lord's special blessing upon you as you endeavor to direct the ministry of SPADE for His glory and praise.



SERVING PEOPLE THROUGH APPROPRIATE DEVELOPMENT – EVANGEL

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTORS

By Matt and Claire Printz

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves. Our names are **Matt and Claire Printz** and we have been here at SPADE since mid-July, when we hit the ground running – we hosted our first group and then moved our furniture in a few hours after they left! We are praising God that in spite of the pandemic, small groups have been able to gather regularly for retreats, conferences, debriefings, and personal times of refreshment. Even into the winter months it's looking like we will have a decent number of groups.

Our involvement with SPADE started 15 years ago, when Claire volunteered as a teenager with the "Chambermaids," as Bill and Joan Rinehart's faithful cleaning volunteers were known. Our church has been holding its annual retreat here for 15 years as well.

On the personal side of things, we have been married for 11 years and have 4 living children – **Wendy (age 9), Micah (7), Calvin (5), and David (3)**, who are all delighted whenever a new group arrives. They have even taken on the job of porter unprompted. In addition to directing, Matt is temporarily continuing his job in I.T. three days a week while we raise support (see the note below if you would like to partner with us). As you pray for SPADE, would you pray specifically for our family and this adjustment period?

We'd like to give a big thank you to **Ray and Michele Gionet** for giving a month of their time to lend a hand at SPADE. From cleaning bathrooms to repainting the front porch posts to chatting with our kids, they blessed us with their kindness and heart to serve.

MISSIONARY SUPPORT FOR PRINTZ FAMILY

While Matt is currently working part-time in I.T. as our primary source of income, our plan is to raise full support so that he can focus his time on our work here at SPADE. If you would like to partner with us, **please fill out the form below and mail it back or click the Donate button on our website**, select one-time or monthly giving, and choose "Printz, Matt and Claire- Support" from the dropdown. If you have any questions or would like more information, feel free to email us at: directors@spadeinternational.org.

VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

Each Wednesday morning, we have a volunteer cleaning crew come in to help us prepare the inn for the next group. We have a few very dedicated and hardworking volunteers (a BIG thank you to them for their faithfulness!) who make hosting groups each weekend possible. SPADE simply could not operate the same way without them! We welcome you to join us and experience SPADE behind the scenes, either on an occasional or on-going basis.

There are many one-time opportunities to serve as well. Even a few hours can make a difference, especially with a team. Claire remembers the inn being newly re-decorated when she started as a volunteer; needless to say, after 15+ years, nearly every room could use a little TLC and a fresh coat of paint.

If you'd like to join us:

send an email to directors@spadeinternational.org or call the inn at (610) 756-6510 for details.

Please detach and mail the lower portion with your donation.

Matt and Claire, I want to join you in this gospel effort!

By faith, I want to partner with the Printz family to reach the unreached and disciple believers through the work of SPADE International.

I will partner with you in prayer: ☐ Daily ☐ Weekly ☐ As God Brings You to Mind

I would like to receive your ministry updates: ☐ via E-mail ☐ via Printed Letter ☐ Both

I will invest in your ministry:

\$_____ per month for Printz family SPADE missionary support. Enclosed is my first gift.

\$_____ annually for Printz family SPADE missionary support. Enclosed is my first gift.

\$_____ one time gift for Printz family SPADE missionary support.

Your Name _____ E-mail _____

Mailing Address _____

Telephone Number _____ Home Church _____

SPADE International is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a tax-exempt, non-profit religious organization. Unless otherwise indicated, no goods or services are provided by SPADE in consideration of this gift. This contribution is made with the understanding that SPADE has complete administration and control over the use of donated funds in the carrying out of its tax-exempt purposes. As far as possible, the expressed preference of any donor will be respected and carried out. Thank you for your faithful partnership with SPADE International.



SERVING PEOPLE THROUGH APPROPRIATE DEVELOPMENT – EVANGEL

MCFARLAND PAVILION PROJECT CHARLOTTE'S GATHERING PLACE



By Norm and Lori King

Greetings from Ohio. I am happy to say that since the last update, a large portion of the pavilion project was completed. All of the concrete flatwork is complete. A pad goes from the inn all the way to the end of the pavilion. It has created a usable place for tables and chairs, picnic tables, benches, grills and so forth. It is all on one level so it is accessible to the handicapped persons. A designated handicap parking space has also been added. It has been used extensively throughout the summer and many, including yours truly, have enjoyed its benefit. It is indeed a great addition to a great place for those who are brought to SPADE.

Though useful, the pavilion is not yet completed. Upcoming work will include a ceiling to keep out pests, and also additional lighting. Some lighting is already installed, but it isn't enough to light the pavilion's interior adequately. Overhead doors on the west side were proposed to control the wind in cooler weather.

Another part of the project was a fireplace at the driveway end. This would be great, so that regardless of the weather, groups could enjoy a fire. It would be a benefit to the directors as they could easily assist and keep an eye on the activity from the inn.



The wood of the pavilion will soon need to be stained and protected from the elements too. I may be forgetting some other parts, but I summarize by saying that much has been done, but we aren't finished yet. I also want to personally thank everyone who was present to labor, and those who contributed financially to make this pavilion a welcome addition to SPADE.



THANK YOU, DEAR SUPPORTERS FOR GIVING GENEROUSLY TOWARD SPADE GENERAL FUND NEEDS DURING THE PANDEMIC

By Amy H. Jibilian

The SPADE Board of Directors would like to express our gratitude to the many faithful prayer and financial partners who responded generously to meet the extra need during the height of the pandemic, when groups were not able to stay at this treasured ministry center.



Thanks to your generosity and God's abundant provision, SPADE received over \$19,000 in general fund donations for the 2020-2021 20 month period over and above the average pre-pandemic level for that time frame—enabling the electricity, heating and campfires of SPADE to continue burning brightly for the glory of Jesus!

2 Corinthians 9:8 ESV

“And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.”