

January 2009

Happy Birthday to me. I made it to #41 the other day. It's really not that many, after all I have at least 50 more to go, but every birthday is a blessing, right? Birthdays make a person think about how far they've come and how far they have to go. It all depends on perspective, a glass half full sort of thing. Can you believe how far Neighborhood Connection has come in the few short years it's been around? We started by begging for snow pants or coats in specific sizes over the e mail, to having a store front where everyone can come to try on coats and other necessities. We used to help only the kids we knew of in our schools, and now we help anyone who gets in touch. We help seniors and families and anyone else who might be struggling. The other day I said it was sometimes hard to listen to all the sad sad stories. My perspective was off again. It was pointed out to me that most people hear the stories, but few of us do something about them. I am in the wonderful position of actually reaching out to all those folks who could use a bit of help. That's a gift. But it's not just mine, any one of you who would like to help someone in the community can. All you have to do is stop by the store when we're there. You can help by organizing, or donating, or by praying over our space and clients and volunteers. December has been a month of blessings, we've collected a lot of donations to give away. We got to work with kids and families to give out meals. I even got to take very special donations of socks and mittens from a daycare group. They were all smiling and waving their socks at me. It's awesome. So yes, I've been blessed through the years. The New Year starts in just a couple of days, but I'm already resolving to do better when it comes to my attitude and perspective. We may not have reached all our goals yet, after all there isn't world peace yet, but every step is a positive one and every year is another opportunity. Make the most of them.

Colleen