

# Monthly Newsletter

**November**

*The Church Has Left the Building.*

November has come and gone! It has been an exciting month for our staff as we opened the mercy house and have been learning how to integrate that into our daily lives. The Mercy House season is a time when God challenges us all in our selflessness and the ability to die to ourselves daily and take up our cross as Jesus did. "But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when His glory is revealed." -1 Peter 4:13

But the joy we experience in seeing the lives of others changed by the power of Jesus far outweighs the challenges we face!



## Annual FM Fundraiser



This year's fundraiser was a beautiful evening when many of us were able to share testimonies of Gods goodness and saving grace. The night started out with the fundraiser attendees having the opportunity to print their very own shirts from our new mobile T-shirt press. After enjoying their meals, we began the program with a few worship songs from Autumn Bradley. Afterwards Tristan Bradley shared a little about the youth program to introduce the Bridge Youth kids who gave a ukulele performance. The kids performed two songs and they sounded amazing! The youth leaders have been working hard practicing with them so they

would be well prepared to perform and represent the ministry God has given us for them!



Next, Autumn Bradley and Jan England each shared their testimonies of how the Lord changed their hearts and called each of them into doing the Lords work full time. Then

Jeremiah Herrian shared a few words that God laid on his heart. We want to say a warm thank you to those who were able to attend our annual fundraiser. God used the evening for his glory, and we know that it impacted hearts. We were also able to raise a small amount of what it takes for our ministry to function in the year. Our annual fundraisers are such a vital part of making what God calls us to do possible! Our ministry runs solely from the support of businesses, churches, and individuals who believe in what we do. We are not supported by any government funding outside of that. God is our provider! We are still in need of funds and would like to ask that if the Lord moves on your heart to donate towards our daily ministry that you can follow this link

to the donate section of our website or mail a check to the address below. Thank you again and praise the Lord for what he has done and all that he has provided, we know that God is never late and that he will do it again and again.

Here is the link to donate on our website:

<https://www.forgottenministries.com/donate>

Here is our address:

1714 S 4<sup>th</sup> ST Enid, OK 73701

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## Mercy House

On November 15<sup>th</sup>, the Mercy House had its grand opening night for the season. It was so exciting to see our first guests file through the door and get checked in and get to have clean clothes and a warm bed. When a guest comes in the door, we first get them to sign a paper agreeing to our rules and then we take their picture and get them their own nametag to check in and out of the shelter. Once they're past the check-in desk, they move to our clothing check in window. Here they will hand over their bags and belongings to be stores in their own locker. They are assigned a number that corresponds with their bed number, locker number, and clothing bag number. Next, we will



give them a pair of clean pajamas and let them get some hygiene items before they go and take a warm shower. Once they're clean and have given us their clothes to be washed for the next day, they are able to relax in their bed or

enjoy a cup of coffee while they wait for dinner to start. At 6 o'clock someone will play a couple of worship songs, and then someone will share a message of the gospel. Then our volunteers will serve the guests a warm meal, letting them have as much as they want before putting the leftovers away and cleaning up the kitchen. After dinner usually most of the guests are ready to wrap up in a warm blanket in their beds and head to sleep for the night. It's our goal this year to help each guest with whatever they need to be able to get on their feet and start getting jobs or missing documents, or into rehab or transitional programs as needed! We don't want to only house them and then

send them back out on the streets after the Mercy House season ends. Rather, we want to empower them and fight with them to acquire whatever they need in order to take the next steps they need to take in life and let God change their hearts. We have been blessed with having a full volunteer schedule most nights so far, but we have a lot of gaps in the coming months where we need your help! There are a lot of different ways you can volunteer in the Mercy House. You can volunteer at the front desk, where you will greet the guests as they come in and help them to get checked in or fill out forms if they are new to the shelter. You can volunteer in our laundry room where you will give the guest their clean clothes and cycle through all the guests loads of laundry throughout the evening. You could also volunteer in the kitchen where you will prepare, cook, serve, and cleanup the guests home cooked dinner. You can always just sign up to volunteer and when you get here, and we will give you a job for that evening where you can help us serve! Please don't miss this opportunity to be able to be the hands and feet of Jesus and serve the least of these in the Mercy House this winter season. We opened the mercy house years ago because we simply saw a deep need for these people to have a place to survive the cold in the winter even if they come in drunk or high. And most importantly they can be saturated with the Gospel and the word of God each night they stay here. God can redeem anyone, even if they feel like they are too far gone, and that is our prayer for the people who stay here in the Mercy House. If you would like to sign up to volunteer, you can follow this link to sign up!

Here is the link to the volunteer signup page:

<http://signup.com/go/forgottenministries>

## Oasis

The oasis men have been working on crafting raised beds for the Paradise Garden and are also beginning to grow their work program by putting the raised beds up for sale. Soon they will be continuing to expand their business by using their own hands to craft and sell many different structures and practical things made of wood. Please contact us through our Facebook page if you are interested in purchasing one of the raised beds they are selling! The oasis men also had the opportunity to go and learn how to properly slaughter a cow. They are so thankful for all the different life experiences they can have while they are letting God simultaneously change their lives from the inside out.



## T-shirt Business

After about 2 weeks of working hard at the T-shirt building until late at night, we finally finished our renovations and were able to move our equipment into the building. We are so excited! It looks like a completely different building. It was amazing to see how all our hard work together, every late night, and all the heavy lifting finally paid off. Praise the Lord! Now we are just waiting on a few last-minute fixes to pass the inspection, and then we will be getting started printing!





## Kids Program

A few new kiddos have been attending the after-school program, so it's been exciting to see the beginnings of God working on their lives. Also, the



Kids Program volunteers have had more opportunities to step into the leadership role more and take more responsibilities. This has shown a lot their growth and commitment as volunteers who have been constant in the kids' program

for a very long time. Becca Robinson, the Kids Program Director says that it's nice to know that she's not alone and that other people have the same heart that Jesus does for the kids. And that it's a breath of fresh air! We want to say thank you to our volunteers! A big praise report this month for our Kids Program was that Prairie View Elementary School in Enid collected a huge amount of donations for our kids! When we arrived in the school gym we saw a stage full of snacks, drinks, basketballs, volleyballs, bibles, notebooks, backpacks, art supplies, and even more! We were in tears and in awe of what God had done through this school. They were in a series teaching their kids all about kindness and wanted to give us all those items to show kindness to us. Becca, Tristan, Autumn, Jacob, and Maddie were able to introduce themselves to the kids and say thank you and tell them about the

program and the kids we work with daily. Jesus was glorified through just showing us how awesome He is and allowing us to show those kids how awesome he is through our Kids Program. And again, if you are interested in being a part of the after-school kids' program, you can follow this link to our volunteer page and sign-up! We would love to have you.

Here is the link to the volunteer sign up online:

<http://signup.com/go/forgottenministries>

## The Bridge Youth

This month we have been challenging our kids to use their voices and gifts for God's glory. They went with us to a revival in Longdale, OK and gave their first official performance with their ukulele's. Then later this month they represented our Youth Program by performing their two songs at our annual ministry fundraiser. We were able to see them grow in confidence and their ability to listen to instructions. We are so proud of the kids for being brave and performing for us, and we look forward to their next performance on December 16<sup>th</sup> at 'The One' Christmas event in downtown Enid. Their performing skills aren't the only growth we've been seeing in our kids, we've also been seeing spiritual growth in them as well. Maddie England and Autumn Bradley have started doing 1 on 1 bible devotions with the girls that have already chosen to start a relationship with Jesus. Discipleship is an essential part in growing and maturing in one's relationship with Jesus, so they hope to only continue doing it more in more. Their devotion times are usually after school or during one of our other youth evening events, and they are usually 1 on 1 or 2 on 1 so that the girls can open more comfortably. They will read a devotion from a plan on the bible app, and then have some time of



journaling time or question answering time when they are able to reflect on what they learned in the devotion. This is also a time when they focus are transparency and opening about their struggles, learning to

work through them with praying for one another and battling with scripture. Please pray that this 1 on 1 discipleship continues to help the kids bear more and more fruit!

We praise God because He provided for our kid's program immensely this month through our very first disc gold tournament fundraiser!

The fundraiser event was hosted by Chad Nech and Flight Farm, which is a disc gold store in Enid. Chad setup the entire doubles tournament and donated nearly 100% of the proceeds to our Kids Program and The Bridge disc golf



program. We are overjoyed for God's provision and beyond thankful that Flight Farm was gracious enough to put it all together for us and donate their time and resource to make it happen. Praise the Lord! We raised almost a thousand dollars to go towards our kids' programs.

## **Park Outreach**

Happy thanksgiving to everyone! We always want each person to be able to enjoy a warm and joyful thanksgiving no matter their financial or social status. With the help of William from Our Family Church, we were able to provide everyone

at park outreach with a home cooked thanksgiving meal on November 23rd. We were also able to do a turkey raffle and give away nearly 20 frozen turkeys to people and families so that they could use them to cook meals for their families at home! The spirit of gratitude was evident in everyone even if they didn't say it with their words. We praise God for providing us with the means to be able to bless these people with a meal and most importantly, the love of Jesus! Every Tuesday night we have park outreach at Don Haskins Park in Enid at 6 o'clock. We start off with a message and then the food is served, freshly cooked each week! Then the people are free to eat or go pick out some free clothes from the clothing truck. The clothing ministry is overseen by Jan England, who intakes weekly donations, sorts clothing and items, and restocks the clothing truck for park outreach each week.



