Save the Date

DECEMBER 24
Christmas Eve Services

Christmas Tributes

To make a gift in honor or memory of someone for Christmas, please contact the Development Office at 940-723-5663 or send your list and donation to:
P.O. Box 965
Wichita Falls, TX 76307

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Stories. Some are sweet. Some are heartbreaking. Some are victorious. Some are discouraging. Some are joyous. Some are questionable. But ALL stories matter to God.
From the CEO

When we say, “Every Story Matters,” we are really saying that every person who enters our doors deserves the respect and the consideration it takes to sit down and truly listen to them. At Wichita Falls Faith Mission, we are committed to listening and getting personally involved with the men, women, and children God sends to us. We know that programs and buildings don’t change lives and rewrite stories. It’s people serving people. It’s one person taking the time to understand and help another.

In this edition, you will find detailed information on our funding sources and expenses. As you will see, 85 cents of every dollar we receive goes to programs and services. That’s a case manager helping a client set goals and make plans for his or her future. It’s a program director counseling a student and helping her make better decisions. It’s a chaplain praying with a client and leading him to find his strength in God. It’s a cook serving a hot meal with a smile and a “God Bless You.” It’s an instructor teaching an Academy student how to balance a checkbook. It’s a job foreman showing a programmer how to read a tape measure.

The stories are endless . . . but so are God’s blessings. Thank you for helping us rewrite stories with brand new chapters of victory and success.

Stories from Volunteers

All types of volunteer opportunities exist at Wichita Falls Faith Mission, and Pete Greenlaw serves in a vital area — data systems management. Pete served in the Air Force as a logistician. Just shy of 28 years of service, he retired and went into data systems when data systems was not even a business. For the next 25 years, he worked at Joint Systems Planning Group, Inc. as President. Pete and his wife, Joey, became active supporters of Wichita Falls Faith Mission when Faith Refuge was built (2012).

In January 2017, Pete contacted Steve Sparks to ask if there was anything he could do for Wichita Falls Faith Mission. Steve utilized Pete to help in the management of the database that tracks the operations of both shelter locations and the progress of clients. Pete faithfully serves as our resident logistician and also teaches a Bible study to men in the New Beginnings Drug and Alcohol Recovery Program. If you visit Faith Mission on Monday, Wednesday or Friday mornings, you might see him working on a computer, teaching a Bible study or getting into a vehicle with a client to take them to an appointment.

To find out more about volunteer opportunities and how you can get involved, contact Lyka Walton at 940-723-5663 or info@faithmissionwf.org. You can also click the “volunteer” tab on our website: faithmissionwf.org.

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord.
1 Corinthians 12:4-5 (NIV)
Every year our organization undergoes an audit by an outside accounting firm to guarantee all funds are properly managed. Our fiscal year is from July 1 to June 30. The pie charts reflect the accounting audit of where each dollar comes from and how each dollar is spent. Another way to read this chart is for every dollar spent, 85 cents goes toward our programs and services.

*None of our funding comes from the government.*

**Stories from Donors**

Car donations help fuel our ministry. Retired Chief Master Sergeant Ray Spreitzer was a master instructor and a long-time member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church. He is still impacting lives even after his passing. His daughter and son-in-law, Denise and Quincy Krzewinski, donated one of Ray’s vehicles to Wichita Falls Faith Mission in September. We are grateful for the kindness and generosity of his family.

If you would like to donate a car, please contact Steve Sparks, CEO, at 940-723-5663. Depending on the wishes of the donor, we will either bless one of our program graduates or use the proceeds from the sale of the car to fund our ministry. All vehicle donations are tax deductible.

Many people do not realize they can help rewrite stories of homelessness long after they have passed from this earth. You can make a difference by supporting Christian causes and ministries like Wichita Falls Faith Mission. For more information on leaving a planned gift or bequest, please contact Frances Anne Manning, Director of Development, at 940-723-5663.
Faith Resale and Donation Center

Cold weather is approaching and many people will be in need of coats. If you have lightly worn coats or jackets, please drop them off at Faith Resale so we might sell those to people who find it hard to pay full price for a coat. Our shoppers include a wide array of people, but one population segment that is often forgotten about is special needs adults. These adults live on a fixed income and Faith Resale is a store where they shop to find bargains. If a person is in great need of a coat or clothing, our organization issues clothing vouchers to the general public at our Faith Mission location. These vouchers are used to purchase much needed clothing.

If you have large items to donate, such as furniture, but do not have a way to get it to us, please call the store at 940-766-0705 to schedule a pick-up.

Open 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Monday - Saturday

There were 882 clothing and household vouchers provided between July and September 2017.

Tributes for July – September

In Honor of
Glen Cannedy
Andrew Cox
Jesus
Cedric Johnson, Sr.
Mignon Morgan
Stephen Scheurer
Lyka Walton
Elizabeth Elaine Woodard

In Memory of
Stacey Lynette (Bellah) Anderson
Wesley E. Bartlett
Bryan Chancellor
Reba Louise Donley
Sharon Hartman
Charlene Inman
John Holcombe
Gene Kellar
Blair Lang
Jerry Mathis
Ernest Dean McGee
Covey McIlroy
Parents of Laura Mitchell
Robert L. Moran
Bonnie Poole
Fannie Mae Gough Smith
Margaret Rose Trotter
Leroy A. Whitley
Parents of Ms. Karen Bagley
Parents of Susan Varnier

25,227
MEALS SERVED

8,020
BEDS PROVIDED

4,672
VOLUNTEER HOURS

67
GAINED HOUSING

30
GAINED EMPLOYMENT

Because of you, we are able to help rewrite stories of the homeless.
Statistics provided are for July through September 2017.
Stories from Faith Refuge

Forty years as a meth addict led many to believe that hope did not exist for ReDonna Phipps. ReDonna spent 11 years off and on in prison before she met a few women from Graham who ministered to her in the prison. These ladies dared to hope. When ReDonna finished her last prison stint, they provided a safe and drug-free place for her to live.

After leaving prison and getting off of meth, ReDonna reunited with her mother and daughter for the first time in 20 years. She eventually moved to Lubbock and stayed clean for two years. In a moment of weakness, she used drugs once again. Thankfully, her prison ministry friends recommended she contact Steve Sparks about becoming part of the New Beginnings Program at Faith Refuge. In 2014, ReDonna entered the program.

Most mornings at Faith Refuge, ReDonna sat at the picnic table located in the back of Faith Refuge while she watched the sunrise and spent her quiet time with God. One particular morning she prayed, “God, I need some confirmation if my daddy is still alive.” Her heart ached to know what had become of her father. A few days later, while working at Faith Resale, a lady approached her and asked, “What is your name?” ReDonna shared her name, and the woman said, “I’m Jan Phipps. I’m your aunt.” ReDonna’s first question was, “Is my daddy still alive?” The answer was, “Yes.” After 23 years of not knowing anything about her father, ReDonna became reconciled to him. ReDonna graduated our program several years ago and now has strong relationships with her father, mother, stepfather, daughter, and grandchildren.

Stories from The Mission

Thanksgiving and Christmas are soon approaching but not every family will celebrate in their own home. The Grants are one such family facing the holidays in a homeless shelter. Joshua and Bajetta, with their three children and another on the way, are living in one of the family rooms at our downtown location.

As a married couple, they have had their ups and downs. Joshua shared how not long ago he was separated from his wife and children due to his drug addiction. “It took me losing my family to realize what I really had,” Joshua stated. Joshua found God and soon learned what a man is supposed to do for his family. One night, Bajetta texted him, “If you really want this marriage to work and this family to work, you’re going to have to show some action.” Joshua left Dallas and a fully furnished apartment to move to Wichita Falls to be with his wife and children.

Bajetta and children were staying at Faith Refuge when Joshua arrived in Wichita Falls. The family moved to Faith Mission to be together. Joshua quickly secured a job. However, Joshua had setbacks with his seizure medication and a back injury he incurred during his youth from an ATV accident.

Wichita Falls Faith Mission’s Family Case Manager is working with the family to help them get the services they need and get into a home of their own. Faith Mission also partners with other agencies in the community who will assist this family in acquiring all that is needed for their current situation.

Joshua and Bajetta are truly starting anew. In October, Bajetta accepted a new wedding ring from Joshua as a symbol of renewed commitment and a fresh start. Bajetta asked for people to pray for the Lord to strengthen their family, give them a more established life, and to do only the Father’s will.
Christmas Eve Chapel Services

**Faith Mission Chapel**
1300 Travis St
Service and Worship begins at 7:30 PM

**Faith Refuge Chapel**
710 E Hatton Rd
Service and Worship begins at 6:00 PM

Christmas Tributes

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