



— WICHITA FALLS —
FAITH MISSION
EVERY STORY MATTERS

www.FaithMissionWF.org

SPRING 2020



Unimaginable

INSIDE: From the CEO • Stories from Our Ministries • What's Happening

FAITH MISSION
940-723-5663
1300 Travis St.
Wichita Falls, TX 76301

FAITH REFUGE
940-322-4673
710 E. Hatton Rd.
Wichita Falls, TX 76302

FAITH RESALE
940-766-0705
4502 Old Jacksboro Hwy.
Wichita Falls, TX 76302



FROM THE CEO

UNIMAGINABLE

God is able to do more than we could ever ask or imagine. This verse, paraphrased from Ephesians 3:20, is evident at Wichita Falls Faith Mission every day.

I could never have imagined that a 20-year heroin addict would be providing case management for our guests.

I could never have imagined that a family of 5 and one on the way, on the brink of losing it all would renew their vows and start a fresh life together in one of our family rooms.

I could never have imagined that a judge in Oklahoma would seek our help in restoring men and women in our programs rather than sending them to jail.

Jamie's sister came to visit her at Faith Refuge. She passed Jamie in the hall and had to do a double take. "I didn't even know it was her. The darkness was gone." I could never have imagined that someone wouldn't even be able to recognize her own sister.

I could go on and on. The stories that are told at our shelters, by real people, just like you and me, are nothing short of miracles. It is sometimes hard to imagine how some of them are still alive. I have rededicated myself to listening to their stories. I am determined that our homeless, hurting neighbors will not remain invisible. I may not be able to imagine it the same way God can, but I can trust Him and be available to Him when He moves.

How about you? Will you be limited by what you can imagine? Our God is able to do more ...

Every Story Matters,

Steve Sparks
CEO



THE TEXAS A&M AgriLife Extension Agency is offering weekly classes to the men in the New Beginnings Program. Pictured is Diane Seigler, COO, with the men as they prepare the soil for planting in our raised gardens.

NEEDS LIST

Canned food (10lb cans)

OTC cold and allergy medicine (individually wrapped and unopened)

Razors, shaving cream, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, feminine products



BENEFITING FAITH REFUGE FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN

TOUR THIS BEAUTIFUL HOME AT 2303 FARINGTON



SAVE THE DATE: APRIL 24TH-26TH, 2020

For more information visit DSHWF.com





STORIES FROM FAITH MISSION

THREE YEARS! That's how long Keith has been sober. "I'm still here. I'm still standing. I'm still in the race," he said with a huge smile on his face.

Sometimes you just have to marvel at God's work in a person's life. Keith's story is one of those times. After years of addiction, failed relationships and lost jobs, he came to Faith Mission and entered the New Beginnings Recovery Program. He said about his experience, "It wasn't anything I did. It was all God. All I did was put in the work. He opened the doors. It's just Him, man ... it's just Him."

Keith completed 7 months in New

Beginnings, 6 months in the Faith Enterprises Job Readiness program and was the first man to move into our Transitional Supportive Home. He started a position at Magic Aire, riding his bicycle to work in all kinds of weather. Later, he purchased a scooter with money he saved. Soon he was able to save enough for a car, after he received several promotions at work.

With God still opening all the right doors, Keith moved out of the Transition Home into his own apartment. He said, "Who would have ever thought that right here in Wichita

Falls, where I died spiritually, that God would resurrect me, give me a new life and make me His child?"

Keith attended a New Beginnings graduation in January to cheer on the men who will be following in his footsteps. He drove to Faith Mission in a 2016 Toyota Corolla. His advice to the new graduates;

"You don't have to struggle alone. Allow God to speak to you and become the man that He has called you to be."

VOLUNTEER LIZ TALBERT



REVEREND LIZ TALBERT is pastor at First United Methodist Church (UMC) in Burkburnett, TX. Previously she has served the congregations at Floral Heights UMC in Wichita Falls and First UMC in Bonham, TX. When she arrived in Burkburnett,

the church had already been volunteering at Faith Mission for 10 years by serving evening meals and providing worship services every fifth Sunday.

She is the daughter of a UMC pastor and was ordained in the UMC after attending seminary at Southern Methodist University in 2008. Liz first started volunteering at the Faith Mission in the 1980's.

When Liz arrives on Sunday evenings, she joins other volunteers from the church that help cook. The meals consist of a well-guarded recipe for jambalaya,

fruit cocktail and rice crispy treats. In addition to helping cook, she leads the congregation in worship that evening.

"I do this because I hear God calling, 'come and feed my sheep.' I hear Jesus say that even as you have done to the least of these, my brothers and sisters, you have done it for me; you have done it in the name of Jesus Christ.

"And I do this because I have learned so much from **serv**ing my brothers and sisters in need, and **serv**ing **with** my brothers and sisters in need as we together build the kingdom of God.

"I would encourage everyone to sample the ministry that is Faith Mission. You come away with an amazing sense of God's presence during this ministry, and you would come away with some of the best stories of redemption. It truly is a rewarding ministry."

STORIES FROM FAITH REFUGE

LIVING ON THE STREETS, with no sober friends and an estranged family, Mary had reached her lowest point. She had lost interest in everything, including working, paying bills and taking care of herself. She was down to 100 pounds.

“Finally, she said, I had enough.” Someone told her about Faith Refuge. “I knew nothing about the programs. I just came for help.” What she found was hope, love and restoration through Jesus. She said, “He (Jesus) has restored my relationship with my mother and my

“I knew nothing about the programs. I just came for help.”

children. I’ve found that by being here I can totally focus on God.”

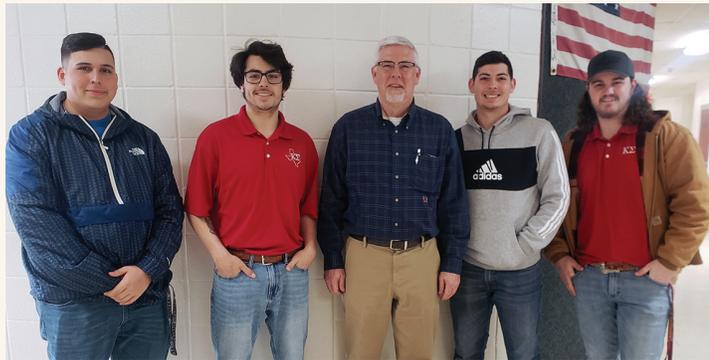
Mary has learned to accept responsibility for her mistakes and not blame others. She takes every opportunity to invite others to church wherever she is, even on the city bus. Her message is, “If they need help and don’t know where to find it, don’t give up. There are places where they can find hope and healing. Faith Refuge is one of those places, and they will help you one step at a time.”

When asked what she is most thankful for, she replied, “My sobriety and the caring people at Faith Refuge.



They have made this all possible.”

Mary is living in our Transitional Supportive Home for women, working full time and is a proud grandmother of four. “I wouldn’t trade that for anything in the world.”



On January 31st through February 2nd, the Kappa Sigma Fraternity of MSU-Texas conducted a Box-a-thon to raise money for the Wichita Falls Faith Mission. Many of the members spent the night in the boxes to demonstrate their empathy with the homeless.

SPRING CLEANING

Donate your gently used items to
FAITH RESALE



100% of the proceeds from the sales of donated items remains local.

FAITH RESALE & DONATION CENTER



Benefitting Faith Refuge and Faith Mission