



February 2010
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*Putting God's love
into action...
where the action
is at!*

THE MINISTRIES OF
HARVEST EVANGELISM
INCLUDE:

- *His Place Downtown
- *His Place Farm
- *Higher Ground
- *Hosanna Home
- *Hope's Inn
- *Holy Ground
- *Hope Clinic
- *Harvest Thrift Store
- *Missions Experience & Outreach
- *Hagans' Pulpit & Teaching

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SPRING BREAK MISSION TRIP TO MEXICO

We're headed to Mexico for Spring Break (March 13-20). No, we won't be sunning in Cancun or snorkeling at Cozumel. We'll be doing something better!

We'll be serving God in Reynosa. A team from Times Square Church in New York will be joining us for a week of praising God, building houses for the poor, working at an orphanage, feeding the hungry, backyard Bible clubs, preaching and having a great time serving our Lord. Getting drunk and sunburned don't compare.

We still have room for a few of you to join us. If you'd like to come you'll need to contact Pastor Rick (334.332.3932, rickhagans@harvestevangelism.org) or Blake Gilbreath ((205.586.4844, missions@harvestevangelism.org). We only have room for 50 people and we're filling up fast. So contact us right away if you'd like to go with us.

Winchester's Irish Internship

Thanks to several of you, Winchester is well on his way to Ireland. He raised close to one half of the funds he needs to do **one** year of the internship at County Cork's Donnybrook Church. He is so excited and encouraged. This is his first time at seeing God come through to fulfill a promise he's heard from God Himself. He's seen it in his parent's lives, but now this faith he's heard about all his life, is becoming his own.

We expect great things of Winchester in the years to come.

Winchester used to tell his little brother, Elliot, back when they were so young (sigh), "One day Elliot, all of this (looking out over a pile of junk in the parking lot of His Place) will be our's." And who knows, maybe one day it will...

Winchester is still in need of support to help him be able to accomplish his Irish internship (and to stay the 2 additional years he feels led to complete there). His dad (me!) is still praying for enough money to come in to help him stay in school. If you'd like to help with either, PLEASE send in your gift (or pledge), right away. He'll be gone before you know it. (and before his momma is ready to let him go...)



Alabama Association of Christian Recovery Ministries Bill To Be Introduced:

We finally have a Bill ready to be introduced which will prevent the Alabama Department of Mental Health from destroying ministries like our own His Place and Hosanna Home. The Bill is being introduced by our good friend DuWayne Bridges in the House and Ted Little in the Senate.

You can help by contacting your State Representatives and State Senator and ask them to support this Bill. Let them know how important ministries like our's are to you and remind them how much you treasure religious freedom. You can call, email or write your representative or state senator.

Their contact information is available at:

www.directory.usayfoundation.org/AL.html

If you can't get their contact information please call us (334.749.2130) or email (contactus@harvestevangelism.org) and we will get it for you.

Please share this important information with your friends, co-workers, those you go to church with, family members, and neighbors, etc...We need everyone to contact their representatives and senators as soon as possible. Thanks.

"The only thing necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing." Edmund Burke

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Harvest Evangelism "Friend Raising" Luncheons

We've started a new way for people to get to know the ministries of Harvest Evangelism, meet some friends AND get a great hot lunch, FREE! We are meeting the LAST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH at His Place for an informal lunch and short sharing time. We promise to have you in and out within an hour.

This is not so much a fund raiser as a friend raiser. We simply want to have an opportunity to get to know you and hopefully share a little more about the ministries of Harvest Evangelism. We want you to get to know us.

We will have a couple of our men and women from His Place and Hosanna Home share some of their stories. Maybe sing a song of praise. Hear a little about what the Lord is doing through the ministries of Harvest Evangelism. Eat a great meal. Share a prayer. And be back to work within an hour. You'll have to spend longer than that standing in line at a burger joint and not receive nearly as much of a blessing. So, please come out and join us on the LAST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH at noon. Coming up dates will be on February 25, March 25, April 29, and May 27. You get the picture.

This month we had Kay Ivey join us. We invited several of the gubernatorial candidates but she was the only one who made it. Her comment about the luncheon was, "The highlight of the week came Thursday. I toured a fascinating men's rehab facility in Opelika called "His Place" and had lunch with its board of directors. They do an outstanding job of helping turn around troubled lives." (Weekly Campaign Progress Report January 25-29, 2010)

There is no charge, but our cook does need to know how many are coming. You can make your reservation with us by calling His Place (334.749.2130) or emailing us (hisplace@harvestevangelism.org).

We hope to see you at our next gathering, February 25, @ 12 noon.



Gubernatorial Candidate Kay Ivey with our own Pastor Rick.

Special Projects Administrator

I save our newsletters in a file drawer in my office. From time to time I enjoy going back and reading back copies. This week I read the copy containing the Thanksgiving testimonies of the men at His Place. I was blessed all over again by these short statements of God's blessing in the lives of these brothers of mine. This was a fresh reminder of why I feel so blessed to be a part of this ministry.

Until a few months ago I had been spending all of my time doing special projects and administration duties out of the main office. Necessary, but something was lacking. About this time Pastor Glen, Yvonne and I were discussing the growth of His Place; two locations, twice as many men as before, the Thrift Store and how all this had increased his workload. This discussion led to a plan for Yvonne and me to start working closer with Glen in the day to day operation of His Place. Praise The Lord, this decision satisfied that which was lacking.

We continue to cover the Social Work and Special Projects, but we are now much more fulfilled being back directly involved in the restoration of the men's lives. All along Yvonne had been part of the ladies' restoration; she spends a lot of time at Hosanna Home. So when I read these testimonies from the men I feel a personal involvement with what's going on in their lives.

Because He Lives,
Brother Don Sledge

You too can hear what's going on in the lives of our men and ladies by inviting us to your church, school or civic club and having our folks share. Pastor Rick was preaching a revival at St. Stephens Baptist Church and had our men and women come join him for Sunday night. The people and pastor there said it was the best service they could ever recall in their church. FIVE PEOPLE WERE SAVED! Everyone enjoyed themselves and were blessed.

If you'd like us to come, all it takes is a call; 334.332.3932

Social Services

Social Worker/Teacher

Greetings in the name of Our Lord,

The cold winter is gone and normal Alabama winter has come back. I thought I was back in Alaska at the start of winter. We saw it 65 below in Alaska with a wind chill of 85 below. Ahhh, I love Alabama winter. I love Harvest Evangelism. Investing our lives in the lives of others is the most satisfying feeling in the world. Sometimes the ones you invest so much in will turn and trample your heart. The pain is devastating but the successes make your heart glad and you keep on going. Proverbs says, "A merry heart is better than medicine." God called us to this ministry and obedience is such a wonderful way to walk with God. Walking with God is a relationship with Jesus His Son. I often think of myself (as Adam did) walking in the cool of the evening with Him. I love Him, I love your sons and daughters and I love you.

God bless you,
Yvonne Sledge



HOSANNA HOME/HOPE'S INN

I stand amazed in the presence of Jesus at Hosanna Home. We are so blessed to be able to teach the ladies of His love for them and watch how their eyes light up with joy. We serve an awesome God!

January began with new ladies entering the program as well as some graduating. We've started our new bible studies with Mary Harmon, Brenda Aughtman, Valerie Carson and Davide Melinowski, and Mrs. Sledge is still pressing on with the "Power to Choose" program all of which are making a tremendous impact on our ladies and their recovery. We are so blessed to have such Godly ladies investing time into the women at Hosanna Home and we truly appreciate the time they sacrifice in teaching truth through God's word on a weekly basis. I would also like to thank our teachers that come on a weekly basis helping with G. E.D classes (Angela Nichols, Bill & Kim Ford), also Ms. Charlotte, Ms. Debbie Holt and Debra Hamer that have been assisting with reading classes. There is no way to express what a blessing this is to our ladies for someone to assist them in reaching their goals with their spiritual walk as well as intellectually so that they feel more equipped to stand on their own again.

We have recently added two interns from Troy State University, Christy Pulsifer and Shaconda Screws started coming to Hopes Inn January 4th and both of these ladies have been such a blessing. Their focus in school is on Vocational Rehab and we are working with our ladies on short and long term goals and we will begin working on job interviews as well as financial classes in February. Christy and Shaconda are top notch ladies that love the Lord and we've embraced them both and now they are just part of the family here at Hopes Inn.

The month of January has been very productive in many ways and we are well on our way to embracing 2010 with many goals as well as challenges. Please pray for us in this next year and we would love for you to stop in and visit us at Hopes Inn. Please call if you would like to stop by for a cup of coffee or a glass of sweet tea and an opportunity to sit and visit with the ladies and see their heart of appreciation for what God has done in their lives.

Thank you so much for your prayer and support and may God bless all of you.

Phillip & TR Amason



Harvest Thrift Super Center

Wow! Just where does the time go? Well by now we should all be trained to write 2010 on our dated material and January is in the books. At the Harvest Thrift Super Center, things are happening fast as well.

One of the more noticeable changes is the expansion of our floor space by relocating the "cube wall". Thanks to Montesha Durrell and her S.W.A.T. (Special Workers and Tactics) team, we have moved our wall, opening up quite a few more square feet of floor space in our store. These guys proved so effective at "getting it out" we allowed them to take over our clothing production area. Team members are: Mary Melton, Sean Morris and Willie "Buck" Buchannon and are supervised by Montesha Durrell. (That is why you may have missed her at the checkout line). They are doing an outstanding job so much so that we have increased our clothing area by adding 20 new racks of clothes, thus making our total clothes rack count a whopping 160 racks, compared to the 80 racks we had at our old store.

Another change created by the S.W.A.T. team has been the addition of a long gondola rack of slightly used shoes. Carlos (from His Place) put the rack together and the team added around 400 pairs of shoes.

We praise God for his blessing us with need to have the S.W.A.T team and I encourage you to come and see what they have done to improve the look and order in our store.

ALso, with all our increased sales space, we need your donations more than ever. You can drop your donations of at Harvest Thrift Super Center (2510 Pepperell Parkway, Opelika, AL-Pepperell Corners Shopping Center) or call us (334.705.8858) and we'll pick them up from you. As always, your donations are tax deductible with the profits of all our sales going to support His Place, Hosanna Home and Hope's Inn.



If you would like to receive notice of our monthly newsletter by email, let us know by emailing us at contactus@harvestevangelism.org or by sending us a comment on our homepage.

We are working on our website and hope to have it completely reorganized by March 2010.

If you have any comments or suggestions (or can help with this in any way) please let us know. We are always ready to do God's work in a more efficient and effective manner.

God bless you and thank you for taking the time to read about what God is doing in and through Harvest Evangelism in Alabama, and around the world.

Pastor Rick's Schedule:

******Jan 28--?**

**February 14-16 (10am, 6pm, 7pm nightly)
February 17-March 1
February 27 (9am-3pm)
March 3-11
March 12-20
April 11, Sunday, 6:30pm**

Emergency call to go to Haiti with Denny Nissley (Christ In Action ministries)

**Revival @ First Baptist Church
Irish Youth Conference & Donnybrook Church
Kim speak @ State WMU Conference
Join Winchester in Guatemala to Distribute Shoes
Spring Break Mexico Mission Trip
First Baptist Church Opelika**

**Reeltown, AL
Cork, Ireland
Birmingham, AL
Guatemala
Reynosa, Mexico
Opelika, AL**

Testimony:

Last night a young man who's graduated from His Place called me to tell me his wife was going to have a baby boy. In the midst of his excitement I realized they don't have but one vehicle. His expectant wife would be home every day without a car. The car they've got is no gem.

I told them I was going to pray that God would help them get a car.

TONIGHT, almost 24 hours ago exactly from the time of their call, a pastor friend of mine from Athens, Georgia called me to say, "I've got a car I want to donate." Can you believe our God's timing.

We still need vehicles. We always need vehicles. We simply put them in the hands of someone who needs them more. If you'll give a car or truck to a needy family.

God bless you Pastor Brody B. for pledging yours last night.

ITEMS NEEDED:

1. **Vehicles**
2. **Tractor** (and implements) for our farm
3. **Groceries and toiletries**
4. **Lap Top Computers**

Special Gifts Given in:

Memory of:

Patricia Martin given by Timothy Martin
Donald E Williamson given by Mac & Terry Plunkett
Richard McVey given by Charles & Nancy McAlister

Honor of:

Mary Mixon given by Opelika/Auburn newcomers
Mark Radford given by Helen Brown
Burt & Mitzi Jones given by Charlie & Margie Kennedy
Lee Gillian given by Raley & Sandra Gillian
Kris & Davide Malinowski given by Harold & Evelyn Harmon
Jep Davis given by Nalda Kitchens
Gary Wakstein given by James & Mary Wells Malone
Bubba & Lei Johnson given by Cary & Evelyn Senn
James & Mary Wells Malone given by Mary G Davis Kelley

******NEWS FLASH******

Many of you have asked us about Haiti: Are we going to help? To go? The answer is "YES". We've already sent \$1,000 and will any more you wish to funnel through Harvest Evangelism. We have a godly contact there, Pastor Harry Whitt (Blake's pastor in Boaz, AL).

Pastor Rick is actually in Haiti as this newsletter is being sent out, with Denny Nissley (Christ In Action), to scope out the level of disaster relief we will be able to provide there. As soon as we can, we plan to start sending teams down with Christ In Action. STAY TUNED for more information....