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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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HIS PLACE THANKSGIVING MIRACLE

This past Thanksgiving a volunteer from Cornerstone Methodist noticed how old and broken down a lot of our kitchen equipment at His Place was. The door to our oven came off while he was there trying to help with all the turkeys we were baking. Another oven didn't work at all. We try not to complain, nor do we want to seem forever asking for your help, so we teach our men and ladies to do the best they can with what they have, and to PRAY! We've been praying for a better kitchen at His Place and a bigger kitchen at our His Place Farm. At His Place Downtown most of our equipment is very old and at the Farm we have a kitchen and dining room built for 6, serving 25-30. God knew our need. So God sent Ronnie Hubbard.

Ronnie called me right after Thanksgiving and asked if he could help raise awareness and then the supplies to re-do our kitchen. We love friends like Ronnie who take on a project like the proverbial, "bull by the horns." He began to talk to his friends, his church, and potential donors right away. No doubt God heard his prayers now mixed with our's. Our Father, who is never slow to act, He who is always on time, saw now as the time to help us with our broke down kitchen. Ronnie Hubbard became His tool.

At the same time God was using Ronnie to help meet our need, He moved on another couple, Dick and Susan Hoisington with the same need. The Hoisington's don't even know Ronnie. They go to another church (Covenant Presbyterian). There was no interaction, yet God somehow impressed the same need at the exact same time on Dick and Susan. They called us and asked if we could use an entire commercial kitchen setup from a business they were consolidating (The Gourmet Tiger). When Don Sledge and I met Dick to see what he had, we were blown away; a commercial stove, 2 convection ovens, 2 stainless steel sinks, shelving, a stainless steel hood (regulated by law), and a huge walk-in cooler and freezer, pretty much everything you'd need to upgrade our His Place kitchen, with enough left over to get started on our kitchen at the farm. The Hoisington's generosity coupled with God's undoubtable timing and Ronnie Hubbard's resurrection of this old, ongoing need, moved us all to tears. Is there any doubt we serve a good God?

There are still a few things left before we can actually begin re-doing the His Place kitchen. We still need an electrician and electrical supplies. We are going to need a commercial dishwasher and a few other items. Ronnie wants to see the kitchen repaired and repainted. To do things right we really need some cabinets, trays and prep tables. We also need to take out a wall and reconfigure the kitchen layout. We thank God for Ronnie and the Hoisington's, but there's still time and need for you to help too.

We don't even have a building for the kitchen to go into at the His Place Farm. Our biggest need and dream for 2009 is a multi-purpose building (we call it the "Meet and Eat" building) at the Farm. We don't believe for one second that God would get this project going only to let it be half done. So we're excitedly praying and preparing for a building to get built at the Farm to meet this need. We've saved a couple thousand dollars that was designated specifically for this need. Obviously we will need a lot more to get it done. Our trust is in God. No doubt He will not disappoint us nor suffer His children to have no place to eat or meet to hear His Word.

If you'd like to help with any part of this project, please let Pastor Rick know right away. We need everything from an architect to help us draw up plans for this building to carpenter teams to help construct it. "Carpenters for Christ,"...here's your call!

We will need equipment for a commercial kitchen (there'll be some left over from the His Place Downtown renovation, but not enough) as well as chairs, tables, sound equipment and such for the 'meeting' part of our "Meet and Eat" building. We'll need a new well and septic tank. There will be dirt that needs moving and parking that needs to be put down. We'll want to landscape the new place to look nice. I'm telling you, there's something for everyone to do before this can get done. We're trusting the same God who moved on Ronnie Hubbard and the Hoisington's to get this started to move on as many of you as necessary to see it finished.

We've set up a special fund to pay for this project. Right now we have only \$2,000 in it. If you'd like to give towards this need we certainly need you. Our plan is to build everything debt free. Our Father is good for it! You can send your specifically designated offering to Harvest Evangelism, PO Box 2888, Opelika, AL 36803. You can also contact Pastor Rick (334/332-3932) if you have any questions or ideas about this need.

We're excitedly expecting God, who began this work to see it finished this year, even in the midst of economically hard times. To Him goes the glory. The men we serve at His Place, they're His children, He knows their need. He will see this done. In the days that follow, every man saved and discipled at our downtown location and out at the farm will know truly, surely our Father hears our every cry and runs to ever meet us with His arms thrown open wide.

On The Road With Rick...

In an effort to try and offer more ministry to our friends who receive this newsletter, we have decided to include a message from Pastor Rick each month. He has hesitated to do this because he hasn't wanted our newsletter to seemingly imply it was all about him. It most certainly isn't. Everyday T.R., Phillip along with the volunteers and staff of Hosanna Home and Hope's Inn minister to our ladies and their children. Likewise, Glen, Mr. John Jenkins, John Smith, Jeffery and all our His Place staff and volunteers minister to dozens upon dozens of men. Mr. and Mrs. Sledge work 5, 6 sometimes 7 days a week reaching out to those who have no one. Genera, our ministry bookkeeper prays daily over how best to use the support sent in to this ministry and how best to serve with what we have. Greg Boyd, our Harvest Thrift Store manager is in fact more aptly titled our Harvest Thrift Store *Minister* because much of what we do there is ministry. Even Kim Hagans hosts a bi-weekly Bible Study which is nothing compared with trying to keep up with the rag-tag bunch of misfits Rick attracts (not to mention keeping up with Rick himself). Everyone who is a part of Harvest Evangelism is very much a minister.

With all that said, it is our goal to **minister to you** and we realize for most of you, our only contact is via this newsletter. So, beginning this month, we will be including a message from Rick we've decided to simply call, "On The Road With Rick..." These messages might be edited from a sermon he has preached, or come from his journals, or be something he writes specifically for you. With Rick, who knows?

You can know this, these messages are designed for you. It's our prayer that they build you up, touch your heart, convict you and teach you. Please let us know what you think when you read them. If they turn your heart towards Jesus and your hand out towards your fellow man, then we'll know we're on the right track, "Somewhere On The Road With Rick..."

Off to New York to Serve...

Steve Diamond came to His Place 2 1/2 years ago as a lost, desperate, drug addict. He had lived the tough biker lifestyle for years and was paying for it, death on an installment plan. He had long since burned all the bridges to his family. Strung out continually on methamphetamine, he had used and abused all his friends. Heck, he's used and abused himself. Death seemed his only answer but a way-back-yonder church background and a still praying for him momma had him scared of dying because he knew he'd go to hell. So, too weak to live, yet too scared to die. Steve showed up at the office of our good friend (and former His Place intern) Neal McKinney at Albertville's Life Point Church. Neal led Steve to Christ, then he brought him to His Place.

Steve grew like a weed at His Place. He soaked up the Word, learned how to pray, became a servant, got involved in helping other men grow and in general, just became like a Big Ole Sand Mountain Alabama Bona fide Christian. When he graduated from His Place he asked if he could stay around as an intern, and he did. While serving us here Steve has continued to grow in Christ and service for Him. The call of God is evident and obvious in his life.

In an effort to help Steve continue to grow in his gifts and callings, we have decided to send him to New York where he will be an intern at Times Square Church for 6 months to 1 year. He will actually be living in Times Square Church and working with their maintenance staff. He will be able to attend services there 5-7 times each week. How's that for a spiritual opportunity to grow? He won't be growing like a weed for long, but more like a beautiful fruitful tree! And then, when he returns to help us in 6 months or so...we'll have a trained, proven, tested man of God. We can't wait.

Please pray for Steve. You'll be able to write him at Steve Diamond, C/O Times Square Church Maintenance Dept., 1657 Broadway, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10019. He will be needing a good suit and a warm winter coat when he moves. He'd love to have a lap-top computer too. If you'd like to help him, I can assure you his life is fertile soil. You can send your donations here to us at Harvest Evangelism and designate them for "Steve Diamond."

You'll be glad, no, VERY glad you did.



With Steve off to New York as a Times Square Church intern, I got to thinking how many men have come through this program that are in the ministry today. Remembering how these guys came in addicted to drugs, alcoholics, out of prison, filled with anger, little to no education, poor self-esteem, no plans for their future, etc...They weren't, as we say in Alabama, "The pick of the litter." But once again, God's Word proves ever so true and timely. "But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty. And base things of the world, things which are despised hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to naught things that are: That no flesh should glory in His presence." (I Corinthians 1:27-28)

The following men are all graduates of our program, even more, they are Trophies of His Grace: Waymon Johnson-Director of New Birth Ministries; Josh Hunter-Worship leader, First Baptist Opelika; Tracey Hobbs-Director of Victory Outreach, Atlanta, GA; Mahlon LeCroix-Bible School Student @ Baptist College, Florida; John Jenkins-Harvest Evangelism Staff; Robert Zahran-International Mission Board, Brazil; A.C. Carter-Pastor, Evangelist, Tampa, FL; Jeffery Anderson-Director of His Place Farm; Captain John Smith-His Place Staff; Steve Diamond-Intern, Times Square Church; Adan Cintron-Director, Harvest Evangelism Celebrate Recovery; Greg Boyd-Manager, Harvest Thrift Store and Praise Team, First Baptist, Opelika, AL; Andy McClellan-Youth Minister, First Baptist, Greenville, AL, Harvest Evangelism Board Member; Miquel Meza-Evangelist, Texas; Bret Saylor-Men's Ministry, Cornerstone Methodist; James Booth, graduate, Mt. Zion Bible School, currently attending Liberty University; Lee Gilliland, Harvest Thrift Store, Student @ Southern Union Community College.

This list may not mean anything to you personally, but I hope they at least give you hope. Perhaps you have an addict or alcoholic whom you love...there's hope.

Maybe you yourself are facing a seemingly insurmountable struggle...there's hope.

It may seem your bills, your deteriorating health, a life-controlling struggle with a secret sin or just the mully-grubby blues that come after Christmas' bright lights, have you feeling down or hopeless, then you need to remember there is hope, and that hope is in Him.



HIS PLACE

It is common knowledge that New Year's resolutions are easy to make and easier to break! However, personal growth and greatness cannot be realized unless one is willing to set lofty goals and to make a commitment to obtain them. Risk of failing is not an excuse for "playing it safe" and not trying. I have discovered that everyone fails from time to time! But we must learn from our mistakes and adjust our attitudes and actions accordingly – then we will "fail forward" and substantial progress will be made toward meeting our goals. There is no shame in failing, only in not attempting or quitting! With this idea in mind, the leadership and staff of HIS PLACE have set the following goals for 2009:

- To cultivate our relationship with our Heavenly Father through maintaining our devotional lives (prayer, Bible study, church attendance, fasting, etc.)
- To individually and collectively glorify God in our words, attitudes, and actions; in all that we are and do
- To be faithful in our calling and mission; ministering to and serving the men and families of HIS PLACE
- To be excellent stewards of everything that God entrusts to us, being accountable to those over us as well as to those that invest in this ministry
- To humble ourselves and ask forgiveness from God and others when we do fail them and fall short of God's standards thereby receiving more of God's grace (desire and power to do His will)

I challenge everyone who reads this newsletter article to believe God for great things in 2009! Mark 9:23 states, "Jesus said to him, 'If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.'"

Since we have moved the new residents to the HIS PLACE FARM in Chambers County for Phase I of our program, we have doubled the number of men that we are able to minister to! We have gone from averaging 15 to nearly 30 men. With the growth, come many challenges. But these kinds of problems are exciting. Two of the great needs are: 1) a new building at the HIS PLACE FARM that will serve as a kitchen/dining area and a classroom/meeting area; and 2) the remodeling of the commercial kitchen at the HIS PLACE MISSION building on 2nd Avenue in Opelika. Although both of these projects will be costly, I am believing God that we will see them done this year! Pray with me to this end – help us if you share our burden for these men and their families and if God has blessed you with the resources to do so. God will certainly continue to bless you for it!

We invite you to get involved with HIS PLACE. Come tour the facilities and fellowship with the men and staff. There are many ways for you to serve the Lord here – become a mentor, teach a class, disciple a man, cook a meal, provide transportation, help us in the office, provide counseling, be a case worker, simply spend time with the men and/or include them in an outing or family activity, donate funds, donate items to Harvest Thrift Store, pray for us, etc. Looking for a ministry – we have one for you! May God richly bless you in 2009! Glen Ward, HIS PLACE Director



HOSANNA HOME and HOPE'S INN

Happy New Year! As we bring 2008 to an end we reflect on the goodness of God and how His hand has guided us safely through the year and brought us to the beginning of a new one. We have been able to help over 100 women and children this year

directly through the ministries of Hope's Inn and Hosanna Home. We are very thankful we were able to make a difference in their lives. As we embark upon 2009, we would like to thank all of you for being a part of everything we do with the women and children that cross our path. We have been so blessed to have the assistance of others as we minister, teach, and provide these families with a safe environment to live in as they focus on getting back on their feet.

There seems to be a lot of uncertainty facing all of us as we enter 2009 but we plan to keep our eyes on Jesus and continue to mentor these ladies in the Lord just as before. We have been blessed with some wonderful ladies to help in the area of bible studies; Mary Harmon, Valerie, Brenda and Mrs. Sledge, and we hope to incorporate a more in depth study in an effort to continually make the ladies aware of how special they are to God. If any of you are able to help us purchase study materials please contact me so that I can let you know what we will be using. If you'd like to teach a class yourself please call. We have a place for you.

Another area of focus we want to improve on this year is in the area of job and educational skills. We would like to offer more hands on computer training as well as G.E.D classes to prepare the ladies for better jobs with a higher pay scale. So again, if you would like to serve in this area please contact me (334/864-0890) for a volunteer application.

Our goal at Hope's Inn and Hosanna Home is always to offer these ladies hope and that Hope being Jesus Christ. We cannot and will not do it any other way, please keep us in your prayers as we all enter into 2009.
God Bless, Phillip & TR Amason

Harvest Thrift Store

January is here, the holidays are over and we at Harvest Thrift Store are looking toward the new year with a fresh anointing. Our heavenly father has blessed us and I believe he will continue to do so in the year of 2009.

Pastors, if you would be interested in having a Harvest Thrift Store day during the 2009 year, contact us here at Harvest Thrift Store and we can make arrangements to have our truck at your church function as well as a crew of men to load your donations. Individuals that have Christmas decorations or donations that are too big to bring to us, call us at (334) 705-8858 and we will make it happen.

Also the new year will bring forth opportunities to see a new look in our store. We will be rearranging our store to make shopping easier and will be expanding our new furniture department around the first of February.

We certainly appreciate the support of our donors and we know that without the obedience of those donors our work in God's kingdom would certainly be limited. We thank those that continue to support us and are thankful for those God will prompt to support us in the future. Come see us and God bless.

Items Needed:

Once again this past month you responded to our "Items Needed", this time with a lovely 1995 Ford Explorer which we gave to a deserving young man in desperate need of a vehicle. I know the need this vehicle met because the young man who got it works 3 part-time jobs, helps with our Harvest Evangelism missions, and goes to school (and he just so happened to be our oldest son, R.C.). One wonderful, long-time friend of this ministry, made this ministry, a family and a young man very happy. THANK YOU!

Whenever you give, we pray you will be as blessed in giving as we are in receiving, and often passing it on. Surprise, surprise, Jesus was right when He told us, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

1. Vehicles
2. Plow, Tiller, Implements for our International 244 tractor (It won't be long until it's time to start a garden)
3. Fruit Trees and Blueberry Bushes for our His Place Farm
4. Kitchen Appliances and Dishwasher (see accompanying article)
5. Deer Meat. If you shoot an extra deer, you can donate it. Bring your deer (preferable cut up and packaged) by His Place. We'll share it between all our ministry homes.

If one of your New Year's Resolutions is to volunteer some of your time at a deserving charity, we'd like you to consider volunteering at Harvest Evangelism. We need volunteers at Hosanna Home and Hope's Inn to help with our ladies and children (call T.R. @ 334/864-0890). His Place needs volunteers at our downtown location and at the farm (call Glen @ 334/749-2130). Genera can use your help at our Harvest Evangelism Office (334/742-0777) and Greg can always use volunteers at our Harvest Thrift Store (334/705-8858). If you'd like to help but just aren't sure where, you can call Mrs. Sledge at our ministry office (334/742-0777), she won't mind telling you where you'd be the most help and fit in the best. One way or another, one place or another, we need you. Make 2009 be the year you get involved, it'll become the year you remember most.

Don't Forget The Following Dates:

January 4, Sunday (11AM)	His Place & Hosanna Home at Pleasant Hills Baptist Church	Roanoke, AL
January 27 (8AM)	US Capital Bible Study with Congressman Mike Roger's Office	Washington, DC
February 1, Sunday (6:30PM)	Pastor Rick Preaching at Opelika 1st Baptist (For all you local friends , here is a chance to hear Rick at home)	Opelika, AL
February 20-24	Mardi Gras Outreach with Christ In Action	New Orleans, LA
February 24 (8AM)	US Capital Bible Study with Congressman Mike Roger's Office	Washington, DC
March 1, Sunday 10&11AM	His Place & Hosanna Home at 1st Baptist Church	Boaz, AL

Harvest Evangelism's 1st Ever "Couple's Mission Experience"

We're offering our first ever Mission Trip for couples, March 28-April 4. We will be teaming up with Times Square Church to serve our needy brothers and sisters in Reynosa, Mexico. If you've never gone on a mission trip or you've never gone on a mission trip with your spouse, then this trip is for you. We'll have some special times planned. There's nothing like serving God together to bring a couple together. Most marriage retreats are classroom--topic oriented. We've never done a mission trip purposely planned for couples, but I've got an idea God has a lot planned and prepared for us. I can promise you it'll be more than any classroom can hold.

If you're interested in joining us, you need to contact Pastor Rick for details right away (334/332-3932 or rickhagans@harvestevangelism.org). We will take along a limited number of singles who'd like to serve too. Maybe you'd like to sponsor your son or daughter and their spouse. Perhaps this would be a good trip for a church to send their staff couples. Give us a call and we'll talk about it.