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

THE MINISTRIES OF  
HARVEST EVANGELISM  
INCLUDE:

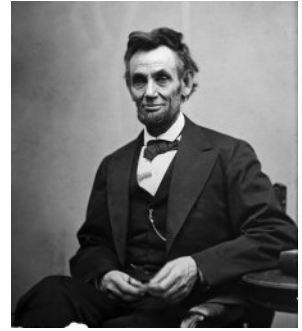
- \*His Place Downtown
- \*His Place Farm
- \*Higher Ground
- \*Hosanna Home
- \*Hope's Inn
- \*Holy Ground
- \*Hope Clinic
- \*Harvest Thrift Store
- \*Missions Experience & Outreach
- \*Hagans' Pulpit & Teaching

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Our President Obama  
aspires to be like  
Lincoln. O, that he would be



Our President, Barak Obama modeled his recent inauguration to be as much like Abraham Lincoln as possible. He quoted Lincoln and pledged to have a similar presidency. The press and the public have fawned over this idea. So, when I came across the following quote from then President Lincoln, I thought, "Good! May President Obama follow Lincoln indeed, and may our viligant press make record accordingly."

*"We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace, and multiplied, enriched and strengthened us. And have vainly imagined in the deceitfulness of our hearts that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us.*

*President Abraham Lincoln  
March 30, 1863*



**STEVE DIAMOND CHECKING IN FROM NEW YORK CITY:**

There's no way to get started without thanking God!! For all He does in our lives! (Psalm 5-mercy). Who can get over the awesome prayer and fasting for 3 days, February 10-12. Pastor Carter and staff set a pace that is hard to run with, above and beyond is the mark here! I have never done a fast, much less given it much thought, after the first ½ day, I had to get on board for the ride so I went 2 ½ days out of three. It is so awesome how God just takes you on through the day with a song of praise in your heart and a smile on your face.

It was like they pulled out the Big Guns in from all over to do this fast. Only the pastoral staff of Times Square Church led this and lead they did. I could not imagine such energy generated in such abundance! As they came one by one to the pulpit to preach and ask God for mercy on this generation and our world all over down to just little ole us! The fire gained speed and spread in God-Speed!!

I thought the church would explode by this night with energy, emotion and just pure glorification of God's Name. Not to say 100's coming to God to be saved, rededicating their lives or just to get set free from a binding chain! (Amen)

To end up this period with Pastor Rick preaching on February 10th, "10 Things I Will Miss In Heaven" was so awesome to me that was like Pastor Dave being here.

We are praying for Pastor Dave and his wife! I ask you to do the same. We love them all!

It was great to see the people just flowing out to the altar as Pastor Carter had an altar call before he even got to the Word, then Pastor Rick with his warm laugh and heart touching ways, as he led us through the 10 things and Praise God, the altars filled again!

WOW! What's next God? Blessed be the Name of the Lord.

From up here to down yonder,  
Steve Diamond

PS Special Thanks to Donna Bruce, John Curley, Bret Saylor and Britt Manican, Laura Fuller, Renaldo Gregg for all they have given.

I really miss my Dreamer hugs.

A Big Shout Out to all my brothers and sisters at His Place, Hosanna home/Hope's Inn and Harvest Thrift Store.

Keep on keeping on with the spreading of the Good News.

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## HIS PLACE

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. II Corinthians 5:17

The world system controlled by Satan combined with the sinful nature of fallen mankind have convinced us that we can never change. You have heard others say to you, "You will never change!" And you have caved in and believed the lie. Today, I bring you good tidings of great joy: GOD CAN CHANGE YOU!

It is possible to have a new heart full of love and compassion instead of a hard and calloused one. It is possible to be a forgiving person instead of a vengeful person filled with anger and bitterness. It is possible to be free from addictions and destructive habits instead of a slave to sin. Through Christ, we can be free from the lies that have tyrannized us – the unbelief, pessimism, and fatalism – and be transformed experiencing powerful, amazing, and lasting change!

I not only "believe" that God can change us – I have "experienced" this glorious, radical change in my own life and have observed it in the lives of many, many others. It happens supernaturally the moment one truly repents of their sins, and asks Jesus Christ to come into their heart – that moment one accepts His substitutionary death at Calvary and acknowledges His Lordship over their life. It is called being born again. The Holy Spirit comes in regenerates us (makes us a new creation) and lives inside of us. It is the Word of God quickened (made alive) in our heart by the power of the Holy Spirit that produces the transformation. This wonderful process of positive change will continue as long as we remain surrendered to the Holy Spirit. Philippians 1:6 states, "Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

It is my pleasure to spotlight two men that have been changed by God's love and grace. Each has gone from a lifestyle of bondage to sin to one of victory and praise. Both are HIS PLACE graduates. Their testimony is reflected in Ephesians 2, "1Once we were dead because of our disobedience and our many sins - 2we used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil—the commander of the powers in the unseen world... 4But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, 5 that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's grace that we have been saved!) 6 For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus."

Joshua Hunter who now leads the contemporary praise band at First Baptist Church of Opelika and Greg Boyd, a key member of the band, are both trophies of God's wonderful grace. They are living testimonies of God's ability to transform lives (Next month will feature more of Josh Hunter's testimony! Aren't you ready to let God change you?

### SPECIAL PROJECTS ADMINISTRATOR

In my last report to the Board of Directors I remarked about the amount of time I spend in meetings. This set me to thinking about how I spend my time. Attending meetings is a major part of my assignment; both internal and external. My external meetings include, but are not limited to, The Lee-Russell Council of Governments, The East Alabama Coalition for the Homeless, of which I am the co-chair, The Substance Abuse Subcommittee of the Alabama Department of Mental Health, The Alabama Community Partnership for Recovery and Reentry, The Opelika Chamber of Commerce, and thankfully First Baptist Church, Opelika several times per week. Without that I probably could not tolerate all the other meetings.

But the best part of my job is the time I get to spend with the men and ladies in our program. Group meetings with each of the houses and one on one counseling and sharing often times leads to the great experience of seeing someone come to accepting Jesus as their Savior.

All of these meetings are only a part of the support system that allows me to pursue my number one assignment, and that is Evangelism.

Bro. Don

**THANKS TO ALL OF YOU who have responded so positively to Pastor Rick's messages in our last two newsletters. We've never had so many wonderful comments from our newsletter.**

**Brother Dave was right when he told Rick to write a message for our newsletter. We hope these messages are a blessing to you.**

**Let us know what you think.**

### From the director's desk at Harvest Thrift Store Greg Boyd reports:

In a world full of turmoil, we are blessed at Harvest Thrift Store. It is such an honor and pleasure to be able to serve in a capacity that uplifts the Lord Jesus Christ.

Mary Core, our clothes production supervisor, states, "Working at Harvest Thrift Store has been a stepping stone in my life. It has shown me that I should not take the small things in life for granted. It was not by chance I came to work here but by divine intervention. I could be somewhere else making more money with my experience but for the past three years God has supplied ALL my needs and more. I thank God I am a part of Harvest Thrift Store, a soldier and servant for the Lord and others, whatever their needs may be."

What a testimony in knowing we can experience God by working in Harvest Thrift Store. I trust the Lord blesses all those who donate time, money and items for us to use in the kingdom work of our Lord.

Come and visit us at Harvest Thrift Store and see the blessings that are bestowed upon us and our community. What a wonderful Lord we serve !!!

To God be the glory!!!





## HOSANNA HOME/HOPE'S INN

Our God is so faithful and desires to pour out His blessings on us all. Sometimes we forget that and we also forget that He can use us to be a blessing. However through the entire month of February God has brought so many people into Hopes Inn who truly touched our lives in so many ways. We were blessed with the ministries of Andy over via one of our board members, Mark Gatlin. The spiritual insight that Brother Andy shared with us was amazing and not just for the men and women but our staff as well. We were fed spiritually but it didn't stop there because brother Larry Presley fed us physically with a wonderful fish fry. When God does it He does it all the way As the month continued the blessings continued as well. We had a group of about 35 come from Rocky Bayou Christian Academy in Niceville Florida. The teenagers as well as the staff were so helpful with making necessary repairs, cleaning closets and sharing their time with us instead of enjoying their four- day weekend with friends. I would like to commend their leaders, Lisa Eaves, Thomas Hamilton, Dan and Monica, and Ms. Shari for the wonderful job they did with a group this large. The whole weekend was awesome. God also used our men and women to speak into these young peoples lives in an effort to deter them from going down the wrong path in life. We recognize that God can take what the enemy tried to destroy and use it for His Glory and we saw this in action this weekend when their testimonies were being shared. The results from their willingness to speak into these young people's lives may not be evident right now but the impact for eternity is immeasurable. As I said, God is so faithful and we are so blessed to be on the receiving end of His faithfulness. We pray that as so many of you have blessed us that our testimony and changed life will be a blessing to you as well. Please know that you have an open invitation to visit us at Hopes Inn for coffee or tea. We only request that you call ahead to assure that we are at the home.

### Social Service Department:

Ministry at Harvest Evangelism is serving the needs of so many people that are in need. From a shoulder to cry on to a doctor or hospital visit. From a family losing their loved one to a child losing their parent. I thank God He uses Harvest Evangelism to meet these needs. I am glad to be a part of this great team. I love teaching the men and the ladies God's word. King David said, "I hide Your word in my heart that I might not sin against You." That is what we do for our men and ladies. I have taught the Passover to the men and would like to take them to Discoveries in Antiquities, in LaGrange, Ga. to see the Jerusalem there and eat the Passover meal. My budget for my department is very limited and I do not have the funds for this great teaching. If you could help us with this outing the cost is \$600.00 for all of our men to go, the ladies went back in 2008. If God leads you to help with some of the cost, on your check write for: Mrs. Sledge Passover. I am also in need of "Living Bibles". In teaching Old Testament I need the paraphrase for them. It is easier to read. If you have old paraphrased bibles around the house I really would like to have them. I have plenty of translations. I only want Paraphrased Living Bibles. God bless you that answered the call for Beth Moore books. The Word is changing lives. See you next month.

Serving Him Together,  
Yvonne Sledge  
RN, BSN, MSN  
Social Worker



### **"Same Kind Of Different"**

If you know Pastor Rick, you know he loves to read. You'll seldom find him without a book (or two), be it waiting for a flight in some airport terminal or sitting 20 feet up in his portable deer stand in a loblolly pine tree. As such, he reads a lot of books, 1-2 a week, at least 100-150 every year. Most, he says, don't measure up to much. Some are ok, and a few, just a few, are worth recommending.

One such book he just finished (during a flight delay in LaGuardia Airport, New York), "Same Kind of Different As Me" by Ron Hall and Denver Moore. Rick says, "If you love Jesus and interesting people and ministries like His Place and Hosanna Home, then you'll love this book." "I wish everyone that supports us would read it. You'd be blessed."

You can pick it up at any bookstore or order a copy from us. We simply bought a case and are offering them as a blessing to our friends for the same price we paid for them, \$15 (which includes shipping and handling costs).

### ~~~~~New In Our Newsletter~~~~~

Remembering and honoring those we love is important. From time to time we have received special gifts here at Harvest Evangelism by those who wish to bestow this memory or honor upon those precious people in their lives.

From now on, when we receive one of these gifts, we will list it in our newsletter and give a place of "In Memory Of" and "In Honor Of:".

It is important to you, it is important to us and we are grateful.

### Gifts In Memory Of:

**Morris Bass;** by: Mrs. Judith Webb, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Dorsey, Jacqueline Reynolds, & Joy Wilson

**Scott Hodel;** by: Dan & Shirley Norman

### In Honor of:

**Smith & Betty Lanier;** by: Russell Lester and Elizabeth Lester

**Lee Gillian;** by: Raley & Sandra Gillian

**Al & Jo Ruggles;** by: Owen & Annette Waites

**Mitchell Bruce;** by: Mary Davis Kelley

## ITEMS NEEDED

We were blessed last month with a laptop computer for Steve Diamond (our intern in New York, see article on page 1). He only needs to get it updated with an operating system and software, and he will soon be posting a blog detailing his work and time in New York there at Times Square Church. It should be a blessing (and probably quite a 'hoot') to keep up with a true Alabama "Redneck", a Sand Mountain Alabama "Redneck" at that, there in New York City. We will keep you informed.

1. **Vehicles:** We know of at least 2 couples who need a vehicle (a car or a pick-up truck). One couple goes so far as to take a taxi to church on Sunday. This isn't New York, taxis aren't the norm. A car would change their life.
2. **Flat Screen Television** for our Harvest Evangelism office. We have staff 2-3 times per week, plus classes for our ladies and men and other special meetings where a television would greatly enhance what we're able to share.

## WE NEED VOLUNTEERS:

**There was a day last week when every day one of our staff were off or on the road taking our men and ladies to doctor's appointments, court and probation hearings. We're way under staffed, short-handed. If you can keep an eye on a class, teach, cook, drive, etc...and can donate a few hours a week, we need you.**

**Please call Yvonne Sledge (334/742-0777), TR Amason (334/750-1361) or Mr. John Jenkins (334/750-0221) if you'd like to help.**

**SPECIAL PRAYER NEED:** There is an ongoing effort within the state offices of the Department of Mental Health to force all faith-based programs who work with drug-addicts and alcoholics to become licensed and certified by that state bureaucracy. Such a move could and very likely would, make ministry impossible for works such as our own His Place, Hosanna Home and Hope's Inn. Other faith-based programs such as Teen Challenge and most inner-city shelters agree with us, this bureaucratic power grab would most likely make it impossible to continue the ministry we've done for years.

Pray for us.

## Pastor Rick's Upcoming Schedule

**March 8, Sunday 10am & 6pm**

March 9, Monday 10am-noon

**March 11, Wednesday 10am**

March 22, Sunday 9:30 & 11am

**March 31, Tuesday**

March 27-April 4

**May 3, Sunday 10am & 5pm**

**Bethel Pentecostal Church**

Special Called Mental-Health Sub-Committee

**Alabama Senate Mental Health  
Sub-Committee on Substance Abuse**

Auburn United Methodist Church

**Capital Bible Study w/  
Congressman Roger's Office Staff**

Mexico Couples Mission Trip

**Harvest Evangelism Day**

**Patterson, LA**

Montgomery, AL

**TBA**

Auburn, AL

**Washington, DC**

Reynosa, Mexico

**Calera, AL**



## Messages on DVD

We have begun to create a library of video recorded and audio recorded messages by Pastor Rick and one by Kim Hagans. If you would like to receive a copy of any of our DVD's or CD's, please contact us (334/444-2220, 334/740-1645 or info@harvestevangelism) and we will give you more information and get them right out to you.



**Currently we have available:**

**Pastor Rick: The Giver (Times Square Church)  
Dreams (Ireland)**

**Kim: Who Touched Me (Ireland)**

**Ten Things You Won't Get To Do In Heaven (Times Square Church)**