

Volunteer Connection

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January 2016

President's Prose

Doing our Lord's Kingdom work requires a cooperative effort; no one person can do it alone nor all of it. Bringing in the Kingdom on Earth and extending our Lord's righteousness (Matt 6:33) is an effort that will continue right up to the last trumpet sound! Our effort will end when His Kingdom comes "on Earth, as it is in heaven." So, all God's children are to be involved in this great undertaking. It is the Church's work locally and universally. It is each individual's work personally and cooperatively within their local community of faith.

The effort required is threefold: Prayer is first and foremost! Without prayer, spiritual power is lacking and the effort becomes drudgery! Second is personal involvement. While the Church is the lead dog in the hunt, individual members are expected to do their part in this kingdom effort. Their part in particular is the exercise of their spiritual gift. God the Holy Spirit places individual believers within local communities of faith as He chooses in order to make the whole body of Christ function efficiently and effectually. Third, each of us individually, as well as local communities of faith, shares their God-given blessing of possessions in order to advance and stabilize the kingdom.

Christian Life Crisis Intervention, Inc. continues to be the beneficiary of committed individuals and local churches. Thanks to the generosity of many, CLCI is able to touch many individual lives and families. Those who utilize Shepherd's Inn have, since the beginning of our ministry, had the opportunity to make contributions to our ministry and many have faithfully contributed what they could when they came and accepted our hospitality. In fact, generally speaking, what our guests contribute pays for most of our monthly electrical costs! But this year, and continuing, we have noticed that some of our guests have surprised us in helping us secure funds from other sources that we would have never expected! They have blessed our hearts by their ingenuity at finding funding unknown to us! This is cooperation. This is the whole body taking care of the whole body! No part of the body is insignificant. Each part is important to the whole. Bless you all for the way you help us help others as we travel down the rough road we call life!

In Christ Alone!

Big Jim Salles

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Special points of interest:

• 279!

Number of guests served between Thanksgiving and New Year's weekends.

• \$51,419.50!

Amount in the Raise the Roof account. We are one-third of the way to our GOAL amount to replace the roof at Shepherd's Inn.

It Takes a Village...

The familiar concept of “It takes a village to raise a child” was no more evident than in the outpouring of support for the children’s Christmas gift packages. There were 34 children registered for Christmas Eve and each child was blessed with love and treats. When Legacy Academy was here cooking in November, some of the group packaged 48 sandwich bags of assorted candies. Calvary Beaumont’s Women of Worship group provided 48 Christmas stockings to put the candy in. They also provided as many character themed toothbrushes as an extra treat. West End WMU made up Samaritan’s Purse type shoe boxes in appropriate age and gender categories. FBC Groves ladies provided games and toys. The final blessing came from Cove Baptist Church in the form of 34 handmade fleece blankets wrapped and sorted by age and gender. These gifts were bundled and presented in the names of the churches involved so that the families and children would know the degree of support that is shown behind the scenes.



Calvary House Ministry

We are pleased to announce that the Calvary House Ministry has received approval for funding by the Baptist General Convention of Texas for the year 2016 based on the following premise: Calvary House ministry to temporarily homeless families with children will be partnering with a local low-income housing apartment complex to provide assistance with deposits and other funding needs. In addition we would like to be able to continue to provide food assistance in the way of perishable items that are not available through traditional food banks. Per family \$35 can provide milk, butter, eggs, cheese, sandwich meat, chicken/beef, bread and fresh fruit. These items are commonly needed as an interim between applying for and receiving food stamp cards.

With the impending sale of the building that formerly housed the families associated with the Calvary House ministry, we are in transition as to maintaining the housing assistance and support that has been the mainstay of it’s mission. Since mid-December we have a family of four living at Shepherd’s Inn toward that end. Further plans are being discussed as to which direction the ministry should expand in during the course of the year as additional families appear.

Going Forward into 2016...

The first quarter of the year brings many exciting opportunities to expand the ministries of Christian Life Crisis Intervention. The following summary of a recently submitted proposal will detail the direction in which we are heading, whom we serve, and how we can facilitate support in their communities. We invite you to join us in what promises to be an exciting year ahead.

Our guests are a multi-national, ethnically diverse group that utilize our services from across Texas, across the United States, and periodically Internationally. In a semi-recent analysis of zip codes of our guests, 110 zip codes were extracted and yielded the following: Out of State 33 representing 22 states and 30%; 77 across Texas representing 60%; and the remaining 10% out of country and locally represented by our sister ministry to homeless families with children and Opportunity Camp ministry during the summer to juvenile offenders.

Approximately 35 percent of the 100 churches of the Golden Triangle Baptist Network support our ministry by means of monthly financial donations or weekly by providing a hot meal. The spiritual component of our weekend is reflected in a dinner/devotional service at 6 pm on Saturday which includes out of town guests, local pastors who rotate presentation of the message, and local church volunteers who prepare and serve a meal averaging between 45-60 guests per week.

Christ is currently shared through the ministry as a group during the meal devotional and then individually on a case by case basis. **The projected expansion of this ministry is to connect our diverse population with the spiritual and practical resources available to them in their own locations and to connect them with churches and Christian non-profits to nurture their growth and offer on-going support as well as facilitate transition from relief based to community development within their communities of origin.**

BAYLOR: Texas Hunger Initiative

CLCI will be participating with the THI through its *Community Partner Recruitment Initiative*. Be looking for more information as we proceed with this exciting new opportunity to serve our guests and our community.

Food Insecurity Statistics

- Texas has a household food insecurity rate that is significantly higher than the national average (along with six other states). 18.4% 2010-2012¹
- In 2011 there were 4,812,760 food insecure people in Texas.²
- Texas's Child Food Insecurity Rate in 2011 was 27.6% which includes 1,849,060 children and places Texas 9th highest in child food insecurity in the nation.⁴
- More than one in six Texans, 4.8 million people (17.9%), lives in poverty. ⁵
- More than 6 billion dollars of private and state funds designated for hunger related programs in Texas went unused in 2010.⁶
- In 2010, less than 73% of Texans who were eligible for SNAP participated in the program.⁷
- Of the more than 2.3 million Texas students who get a free or reduced price lunch at school in 2011-2012, only 59.7% participate in the school breakfast program.⁸
- Only 11% of the 2.4 million Texas children who qualify for free or reduced priced meals during the school year participate in the Summer Meals program.⁹

<http://www.baylor.edu/texashunger/index.php?id=85493>

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“Every Room Ready”

Shopping needs by category:

Pantry: instant cups of soup (all flavors), lemonade mixes, flavored coffee creamers, assorted jams/jellies (almost out), pork and beans, graham crackers, Goldfish crackers and similar types, mayonnaise, Ranch dressing

Cleaning Supplies: Clorox (or similar) disinfectant cleaner in spray bottle or refill size, toilet bowl cleaner, Bleach

Paper Products: toilet tissue, paper towels, Kleenex. Clorox wipes in canister, small dessert paper plates, large size sturdy paper plates (not Chinet), small Styrofoam cereal bowls

Miscellaneous: 16 oz. cold cups, 8 oz Styro-foam coffee cups, plastic knives

Gift Cards (HEB, Walmart, Market Basket, other)



Huge Shout Out to our Resident Intern **Andrew Benjamin**, a May 2015 graduate of Lamar, on being accepted into Baylor School of Dentistry and a scholarship recipient as well. Andrew has been a valued member of the SI team since December 2014.

Christian Life Crisis Intervention, Inc.

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