

The Oaks Ministry

OAK LEAVES

SEASONS of the Oaks Ministry

Summer/Fall 2020

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VIEW FROM THE TOP - OUTSIDE THE BOX IDEAS

by Robin Martin, Founder & President

Because of COVID many folks are wondering how to support their families and meet their basic needs without employment. We as a community are reaching out and working together to help those in need.

The Oaks Ministry as a PA Non-Profit has also been affected to some degree. Due to the recommendations of those in authority we chose not to hold our Spring Fund Raiser. We then began "thinking outside the box" about how to raise funds.

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ACORNS

WELCOME

We are blessed to have Karen Unterberger as our new Oaks Photographer. She responded to an invitation to "like" our FB page, and saw our ad for a volunteer photographer. God nudged, and Karen answered.



Karen & Robin take a break from a photo shoot at Oaks houses

GOD'S UNEXPECTED PROVISION

by Kate Fultz

I was in an emotionally bad place, about to be homeless, but

God brought me out of that dark place. I lived in Delaware and had never been to Oxford, but a friend of my pastor's wife knew about The Oaks Ministry. She called for information about their program for me.

Little did I know, they had been seeking a House Manager for six months. During a quick stop at the Oaks 1 house Robin sensed God saying, "You will have a manager by the end of the week." Within a few days she got that call about my need.

I talked to Robin on the phone, and we scheduled the interview for 2 days later. She explained how the program worked, said that she had an empty house in of a manager, and asked if I would be interested. I thought I was too emotionally raw to take a job like that, but my pastor and a friend from church convinced me that it was God's will for me to take this position.

God used my need for housing to fill this ministry's need for a house manager, which includes my room and board.

During my interview with Kathy Ayers and Robin I shared my testimony which they felt indicated a strong faith.

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FROM ROCK BOTTOM TO STANDING ON THE ROCK

by Dawn Wilbanks

I didn't come from a religious background, but it is by the grace of God that I came to The Oaks Ministry.

I had hit rock bottom in May 2019 and spent 11 days at Brandywine Hospital in the Behavioral Health Unit. In addition to that, I had overstayed my welcome at my sister's, and she wanted me out of her house. We were referred to The Oaks Ministry by the case worker at the hospital.

It was a matter of being in the right place at the right time I needed a safe place to live, and The Oaks Ministry could provide that and more. It was a win-win situation for all of us.

I moved into the Oaks 2 house on June 15th, 2019, and have been working for the Walmart in Oxford, PA for a year. I started going to church. Tuesday night is Celebrate Recovery, and Wednesday night we have Bible study.

This program saved my life. I will be eternally grateful to The Oaks Ministry.



HELP NEEDED

SEWING ASSISTANT
EVENT COORDINATOR
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Your gift of time, talent or service is as much an offering as financial gifts. Can you provide one of these services or another we haven't specifically defined?



CHRISTMAS IN JULY

It was Friday, July 24, 2020 when one of the Oaks 2 residents suggested a Christmas in July celebration. Their House Manager, Miss Brenda, had never heard of it, but thought it was a good idea. The next morning the residents awoke to find that “Santa” Brenda had decorated the downstairs to surprise them and had a small gift for each of them. Some were scheduled to work that day, so they decided to gather in the evening to watch Christmas movies and on Sunday cooked and ate their “Christmas” dinner together.

In the rush of last-minute preparations, Brenda noted regretfully later, “We didn’t bring the spiritual emphasis into it.” Since the event was such a hit, it may become an annual event. We’re sure that the true meaning of Christmas will be a part of it in the future!



THE OAKS MINISTRY

290 Bethel Road
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HOPE

HEALING &

RESTORATION

In a Christ-centered
residential environment
for women in need.



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GOD’S UNEXPECTED PROVISION

(Cont’d from pg 1)

Kathy asked if I could do “Tough Love”. I wasn’t familiar with that term, but said I could be firm because of my teaching background.

Although tough love *is* necessary, it can be a challenge for my soft heart. God has grown me, and I’m learning to temper the compassion I feel with the firmness my residents need. As House Manager, knowing I must walk the walk as well as talk the talk has caused me to dive into God’s Word and to pray more, and especially for the ladies at my house.

My friends here are friends of faith. Obeying God’s call gave me the opportunity to take a leap of faith, and I’m grateful to have had this opportunity. It’s been a journey, but coming here has broken a negative pattern in my life.

VIEW FROM THE TOP - OUTSIDE THE BOX IDEAS

(cont’d from pg 1)

Our ministry is blessed by “The Classy Quilters” a group of ladies who meet weekly and make items to donate to charities. They’ve given many beautiful things to Oaks. We decided to offer their items online since most of the public events where we generally sell these items have been cancelled. So in June we posted nine one-of-a-kind quilt items for sale on our Facebook Page, and they sold quickly.

Then the women of Union Presbyterian Church also donated four bed-size quilts, which we sold in a 10-day auction on our Facebook page.

If current restrictions prevent our annual Harvest of Blessings fundraiser, we will consider other fundraising options and welcome any ideas.

WE ARE SEEKING AN EVENT COORDINATOR

to plan and manage special events such as this

AS ALWAYS, THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!