

# The Oaks Ministry

# OAK LEAVES

SEASONS of THE OAKS MINISTRY

Winter 2020-21

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Pastor Jesse Johnson baptizing

## NEW LIFE IN JESUS

by Carole Barker

My life was a mess and I didn't know what was

missing, but I know now that it was God. On June 24<sup>th</sup> I accepted the Lord as my Savior.

I was homeless, living in my car; somehow God guided me to The Oaks Ministry and Miss Robin, which I think saved my life. God has done great work with me since.

## AN ANSWER TO PRAYER

Alcenia came to us with a limited English vocabulary. We prayed for a Spanish-speaking mentor for, and God sent Claudia Dodd. The two hit it off immediately;

Claudia's genuine love and enthusiasm has blessed all of us.



Claudia (L) with

(Cont'd on pg 2)

A SHOUT OUT OF THANKS to **GEORGE GOGLIA** of **SOUTHERN CHESTER COUNTY ELECTRIC**, Oxford, for his excellent service and help on many occasions. Recently he teamed up with **DENNEY ELECTRIC SUPPLY** of Kennett Square to donate and install a new fan & light combo that replaces our old exhaust fan!



Remember reading about our resident, Dawn? Well, here's the rest of her story.

Dawn graduated from our program in September. She's gainfully employed and has moved into her own apartment.

Many of our volunteers, staff and residents joined together to celebrate and "shower" her with gifts to outfit her new home. We are thankful that God allowed The Oaks Ministry to be a part of Dawn's journey.



## VIEW FROM THE TOP - 2020

by Robin Martin, Founder & President

For all of us 2020 has been a unique year. The Oaks Ministry has not been without challenges due to COVID, but God has continued to bless us in many ways. We do what we can do and trust Him to do what only He can do.

Some of the good things we have experienced this year are that two of our residents came to a deeper understanding of Christ which resulted in a request to be baptized. It's fun to celebrate with our residents in their spiritual growth as well as when they complete the program. To come with no job, no money, no place to live and often no vehicle, then leave with all the above.

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## ACORNS



### PRIVATE GIFTS

### & PUBLIC THANKS

Our ministry has been very blessed by "Secret Santas" who so lovingly take care of our Oaks House residents.

Every year the same group of ladies ask for a wish list from our residents, and every Christmas Season they show up with a large, generous package filled with lots of their desired items.

We will guard your secret, but want to publicly thank you for your thoughtfulness

You know who you are ❤️



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**Nichole Howell** is baptized by her mentor, **Pastor Angie Havelow**.

## THE TEST OF LIFE

Thank you, Lord, for giving me the strength to take the test of life. Thanks for standing with me, in all my struggles and strife. On this occasion of Christmas, a special thanks to the Almighty, Thank you for keeping me blessed, Merry Christmas!

Author Unknown

We couldn't do all we do without

FAITHFUL VOLUNTEERS like

HARRY BICKNELL,

our go-to handyman for whatever needs fixing at our Oaks homes!





*From our Homes to Yours*

We send greetings of this Christmas Season as we celebrate the birth of our Savior. May your life be filled with His joy, your home with His peace, and your heart with His presence.

**NEW LIFE IN JESUS** *(Cont'd from pg 1)*

Since moving into the Oaks Ministry Home I have been blessed with a wonderful job at Quarryville Presbyterian Retirement Community, by my Mentor Miss Arlene, and so much more.

Through the years I lost many things, my family, my children, and my grandchildren whom I've never seen yet. I know God has a lot of work to do with me to help me, guide me, to make amendments with a lot in my life.

I thank the Lord every day that I accepted Jesus Christ as my Savior and for my salvation.

**VIEW FROM THE TOP** *(Cont'd from pg 1)*

We know that is only possible with God's blessing through this ministry.

Most of 2020, our homes have been at full capacity. In God's perfect timing we look forward to expanding. One thing we need before we move forward with Oaks 3, is a responsible person to act at House Manager. This is a live-in position so join us in prayer for just the right person.

Again, we thank you for partnering with us. When we rejoice we hope you also rejoice, for without faithful supporters, volunteers and the generosity of many people, we could not do what we do.

*Thank you!!*

**ANSWER TO PRAYER** *(Cont'd from pg 1)*

Claudia says: I've always had a calling from the Father to minister to women in difficult situations, especially in the Spanish community.

A pastor friend of mine told me about the work the Oaks Ministry was doing to help women and their need for a Spanish-speaking volunteer.

I know from personal experience the challenges of being in a foreign country, struggling with personal difficulties and a language barrier. I am excited to serve this ministry and the women it is helping through prayer and mentoring as led by the Holy Spirit.

**A NOTE OF THANKS**

I'd like to thank The Oaks Ministry for being available to me during a time in my life when it was absolutely necessary. Not only did they help in assisting me in the direction of putting my life together but provided the support services I needed. I will be forever grateful.

Thank you,  
Nichole Howell

We appreciate your note of thanks, Nichole. It is a reminder of why we are here; we are honored and blessed to have served you in the name of Jesus. May you continue to grow in Him and allow Him to build your faith, confidence and strength.

The Oaks Ministry Team

*(Nichole is now gainfully employed and able to return to her home and children after 8 months in our program.)*