

**455 South Church Street** Winston Salem, NC Office Hours: Tuesday-Thursday 10am-2pm or by appointment 336-829-5060 sandra@onwingslikeadove.com www.onwingslikeadove.com

## Prayer Support at On Wings Office

**December 2nd** 6:30 to 8:00 pm-Carlise Roberts will share.. We will provide appetizers to nibble on. If you have a favorite, bring it along and we will fellowship together.

Prayer Support Groups

**River Oaks Church** Clemmons, NC Meet in Room #4 2nd & 4th Tuesdays@6:30 pm Currently studying The Strength You Need by Robert Morgan Led by Jeff and Sherye Hall

**First Baptist Church** Sparta, NC Wednesday night@6:30 pm Currently studying t's Not Supposed To Be This Way by Lysa TerKeurst Led by Joe & Carolyn Caldwell



Each Tuesday at On Wings Office from 12:30-2:00

12/18 Fellowship Luncheon ALL INVITED

New study begins 1/7 The Circle Maker by Mark Batterson

A MINISTRY TO LOVED ONE **OF PRODIGALS & PRISONE** 

A newsletter from On Wings Like A Dove Ministry December 2019 Vol. 15 Issue 12

## Our Doors Are Always Open

My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. 2 Corinthians 12:9.

On Wings is winding down for our thirteenth year of ministry. We have had many hurting loved ones walk through our doors during those years. Some come and go but many have been part of our outreach for several years because of their need for community and an atmosphere of safety to share their pain as they continue their journey.

I often review the database and see the faces of each one. Often you can see the cloak of shame and pain which lays heavily on them as they enter. Some come in almost in a fetal position, closed up, arms folded with all their sense of guilt and feeling of aloneness. Some have lost their prodigal for a season to the world and some unfortunately to death.

It always amazes me to see them transition after a season of prayer, encouragement, as a sense of hope is poured into them. Then in turn they are able to minister to new mothers, grandmothers, and spouses the freedom they have found in Christ. Their circumstances may not have changed but their countenance and viewpoint of their situation has. They have learned to let go, set boundaries, stop enabling, and work on their own healthy walk to Jesus.

I asked Diane to share briefly her experience with us which is on the back page. In the beginning she shared with me that she felt she had no where to lay down her burden because of her fear of judgement. At On Wings she shared she had finally found a safe haven of ladies who understood her pain. Since that time, I've seen her take off her cloak of shame and replace it with joy and hope for the future. She is like a ray of sunshine spilling out on others as she expresses her love for Jesus to everyone who enters.

I've also seen loved ones turn from the healthy journey God has in store for them in community to a life of isolation and depression with no hope of change. That is disheartening to watch but each one has a choice. I heard a quote one time: "There are two types of pain, one that hurts you and the other that changes you" (Anonymous). Let it change you!

Merry

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Our doors are always open to you. We might not always meet your every need or provide what you are looking for, but I promise we will always love you where you are because we understand the pain. We will also always point you to Jesus who will always remain the ultimate Healer of our souls. We will encourage you to never give up hope that your prodigal will one day return from the enemy's camp and find their peace and freedom in a God Who loves them unconditionally. Christmas!

Lord, I pray for each one reading this newsletter in whatever place they find themselves today. Be their Comforter, their Healer, their Counselor, their All Sufficient One in their time of need. Remind them of Your promise to always be near them in their time of need. Your grace is sufficient and may Your power fall fresh on them. Amen - Sandra

## Dear Sandra,

Never in my life have I been so loved and so accepted as I was the day I walked into the Bible Study at OWLAD. Here is how it all began.

In 2018, my son was in prison at Forsyth Correctional Center and one day he received a newsletter from OWLAD. In

newsletter from OWLAD. In that newsletter you gave your testimony of your walk with your son during his addiction. After reading the newsletter, he called me right away and told me what he read and he said to me "Mama

that is our story" and he was crying... so touched by your words. He asked me to please call you and find out more about the ministry. I called and talked to you and you invited me to come to the Bible Study and I came, and it changed my life.

I feel like I am part of a family who loves me and my son. I have been through 25 years of heartache watching my son in and out of prison and feeling so alone and not having anyone to talk to that understood what I was going through.

I have learned so much from our Bible Studies and our prayer time together. Every day is not without trials but I know that I have a place to go, where I will be loved and encouraged by the Word of God that He gave to the servants at OWLAD and they give so freely to me.

1 Peter 4:10,11 says "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen" And this scripture truly is the heart of the servants of

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The Lord, Our Shepherd

Scripture reading: John 10:7-15 In the ancient world, the man who was given charge of the flocks had a challenging job. He had the

Prayer Thoughts by Janet Linville

a challenging job. He had the responsibility of leading the sheep to new pastures and fresh water, defending them from predators, and finding the lost ones when they strayed. But his was a humble job because it was lonely and dangerous. The shepherd lived among the flock and slept across the doorway of the fold to keep the sheep in and the wolves

out. This was hard, constant, and thankless work. Yet Christ sat among His followers and said, "I am the good shepherd" (John 10:11,14). The modern church misses the impact of those words. We have a rustic but rosy view of Jesus as a shepherd. The sovereign God of the universe humbled Himself and got His hands dirty working directly with beings just as errant, willful, and sometimes dumb as sheep. Remember you read a moment ago that tending the flock required lying

The light shines in the darkness, the darkness can never extinguish it.

John 1:5

across the doorway of the sheep pen? Well, Jesus did exactly that---He became the door for us (v.9). He sacrificed His life for the great flock of humanity so that anyone who chooses to believe in Him may enter God's fold (3:16). And once inside, we are provided for, sought when we wander, and protected from enemies.

from enemies. Jesus sees Himself as mankind's Shepherd. Thankfully, we are more than just a herd to Him. He knows everything about

each one of us--our name, character, and flaws--and loves us despite all of our imperfections. What better way to show love in return than to know His voice and follow wherever it leads us?

Taken from In Touch Ministry Devotional by Charles Stanley)

## As this year draws to a close receive My Peace



This is still your deepest need, and I, your Prince of Peace long to pour Myself into your neediness. My abundance and your emptiness are a perfect match. I designed you to have no sufficiency of your own. I created you as a jar of clay, set apart for sacred use. I want you to be filled with My very Being, permeated through and through with Peace. Thank Me for My peaceful Presence, regardless of your feelings. Whisper My Name in loving tenderness. My Peace, which lives continually in your spirit, will gradually work its way through your entire being. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. –ISAIAH 9:6 But we have



this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. 2 CORINTHIANS 4:7 "But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." –JOHN 14:26–27

Taken From Jesus Calling, December 31st