

**2020 ANNUAL REPORT**

*“Oh, that I  
had the  
wings of a  
dove! I  
would fly  
away and be  
at rest.”*

*Psalms 55:6*



**DEAR MINISTRY PARTNERS,**

**T**he year 2020 has been most unusual for us all! At the beginning of the year, the Lord gave me a visual of what it would look like for On Wings from Isaiah 59:19-20: *"From the west, men will fear the name of the Lord; and from the rising of the sun, they will revere His glory. For He will come like a pent-up flood that the breath of the Lord drives along. The Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob will repent of their sins."*



The painting to the left by our friend Patti Sheets, provides a picture of what I sensed God was saying to us in Isaiah 59. God's Spirit was going to come in like a huge wave of love over our city and the dry bones of our prodigals, represented by the graves, would come alive! For years, On Wings has prayed the dry bones prayer for our prodigals based on Ezekiel 37.

Our ministry efforts were certainly impacted in 2020 by the Covid-19 pandemic. Treasure Boxes for Forgiven Ministries were stopped, our spring and fall retreats for mothers were cancelled, and for a short time our Bible studies and prayer groups were also cancelled. However, our other ministry efforts continued with the support of our volunteers' efforts and God was faithful to us with our donors continuing to support our mission efforts.

During 2020, 1,720 inmates requested a Study Bible and over 300 inmates started our Bible Correspondence Course. Since 2014, with just the answer to one request for a Study Bible, On Wings has now sent in almost 12,000 Study Bibles with your help. Each month, approximately 2,200 newsletters were sent into prisons to proclaim the Gospel and to provide encouragement as inmates seek to serve the Lord while incarcerated.

On Wings ministered to over 300+ families who are connected in some way to a prodigal. A tea party, Bible studies, prayer groups, Christmas presents, gift cards and words of encouragement are just a sampling of ways we ministered to our families.

Another tool of ministry is our Treasure Box Ministry. Over 350+ Treasure Boxes were given to children to remind them that they are loved and precious to God. Thank you to those who donated items and/or packed a Treasure Box in 2020.

We have discovered when God comes among His people in power, there is never a shortage of volunteers or resources for His work. On Wings has been blessed with volunteers who have all types of spiritual gifts and talents. Many of our current volunteers have been with us from the beginning, almost 15 years. My heart is so thankful for those who stand



along beside me in ministry! To God be the glory!

Thank you for your key role in everything accomplished at On Wings. At a time when you might be struggling personally, you have continued to faithfully support On Wings. Your financial support is a major factor in all that we do, and we appreciate your faithfulness in giving.

Our Board has been amazed and grateful for God's provision through each of you in 2020. Years ago God thankfully taught me that when He calls us He provides our needs. He has never failed during our 14 years. The ministry of On Wings is done entirely by volunteers with 65%+ of financial support going towards direct ministry.

*"For the poor will never cease out of the land, therefore I command you, you shall open your hand to your brother, to your poor and to your needy in your land."*

*Deuteronomy 15:11*

As we close this year and prepare for 2021, we look forward to many of these same outreaches to continue on a larger scale. We hope to have a least one retreat for our mothers this year and to continue with Bible studies and prayer groups.

We are very excited to announce that David Walters will be joining our team as Director of Prison Outreach this year. Read David's testimony on the Inmate Testimony page. David will be contributing to our monthly inmate newsletter and responding to inmates as they write with questions.

Five years ago, God connected On Wings with a family in need whose provider was incarcerated. We are now ministering to this community by providing food, clothes, household items, school supplies, Easter baskets and Treasure Boxes. Many of our communities are saturated with drugs and parents who are incarcerated. It is our goal to share God's love with those who need love and acceptance as we provide some of their physical needs. Thank you for your assistance with ministering to those who struggle with physical needs on a daily basis.

Throughout 2021, we will be updating you via email on how your gift is impacting the future of On Wings. *"Your people shall be volunteers in the day of your power." Psalm 110:3* *"For the Son of Man is going to come in His Father's glory with his angels, and then He will reward each person according to what he has done." Matthew 16:27*

Aren't you encouraged when you read these passages? Our reward will come in heaven not only for the money we give but for our time, prayers and other resources.

We look forward to what the Lord will do through On Wings in 2021!

With a thankful heart!



Sandra S. Kearns  
Founder and President  
On Wings Like a Dove  
455 South Church Street  
Winston-Salem, NC 27101  
336-829-5060



# On Wings Like a Dove:

We seek to provide biblical and emotional support to the families of prodigals and prisoners. We are called to love and pray for those who have chosen to wander from God's purpose and plan for their lives and for them to find salvation, reconciliation, and restoration through His Son Jesus.



3,000 +

HOURS  
were donated by  
more than 45  
volunteers



26,400

INMATE  
NEWSLETTERS  
mailed to prisons  
in 21 states



2,700

FAMILY  
NEWSLETTERS  
mailed to 300+  
in 23 states



1,720

BIBLES  
mailed to inmates  
in 21 states



685

BIBLE CORRESPOND-  
ENCE COURSES  
mailed  
40 mentors



350+

TREASURE BOXES  
distributed



1,985

LETTERS

from inmates

37 Pen Pals writing to

55 inmates



2,500

INMATES

ministered to

in 21 states

2020

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Sandra Kearns

*Founder and President*

Melinda Lawson

*Chairman of the Board*

Roger Smith

*Treasurer*

Debbie Hampton

*Secretary*

Barbara Bonney

Velma McCloud

Bryan Milleson

Sheila Smith

*Members-At-Large*

## OUR TEAM LEADERS

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Barbara Bonney

*Bible Correspondence  
Coordinator*

Karen Dyson

*Administrative Assistant*

Debbie Hampton

*Bible Coordinator*

Pat Julian

*Family Care Coordinator*

Jimmy Kearns

*Financial Coordinator*

David Nickerson

*Pen Pal Coordinator*

James Scales

*Ministry Pastor*

Sheila Smith

*Treasure Box Coordinator*

David Walters

*Director of Prison Outreach*

# INMATE TESTIMONIES

**M**y name is David Walters, I was introduced to On Wings Like a Dove while I was incarcerated. I sat down at a table in the block beside a friend of mine and I was admiring his new study bible. I asked him where he got it because he was an indigent inmate and I knew he could not afford one. He told me that a ministry called On Wings Like a Dove sent him one for free!

I asked him if he thought they would send me one and he said that they would if I wrote and asked for one. Simple enough, so I wrote and asked for one with the address he provided. I got a letter from Sandra a few days later telling me my Bible had been ordered and the amazing thing was that she even thanked me for asking! I thought man! What kindness.

So I waited a few days and was called to the mailroom for a package and sure enough it was my Bible. Now in my heart I already had an image of the kind of Bible that I wanted and to my surprise it was the exact one I received!

Praise the Lord for His grace. I would not have been able to afford one at this time, but God made a way. I was ecstatic; it was a Nelson Study Bible and I intended to use it to the max, and use it I have. It was already a heavy Bible, but I believe it weighs a couple extra pounds from all the ink I've put in it.

I have since been privileged to become a part of this great ministry of which I share the same vision. Inmates are in tremendous need of spiritual support and supplies that encourage and educate them in the ways of God, and Sandra and OWLAD have made it their mission to do their part in making this happen. One of these days, if the Lord is willing, I will sit this Bible on a pulpit and share with the Lord's people what He has taught me out of it.

I served 14 years in prison and was released in October of 2018. I have been a long time friend of Sandra and the staff of OWLAD. They ministered to me not only while in prison but also re-entry and after care when possible.

Now it's time for me to give back. I want to help in anyway I can. I know first hand what its like to be a servant of Jesus Christ in prison and the challenges that come along with it. God has been so gracious to me since I've gotten out, and has provided a good life for me. I want to encourage everybody that God hears and answers the prayers of his faithful children. He desires intimacy with us and we can experience this through obedience to His word and faithful committed prayer.

**David Walters**

***OWLAD is happy to announce that David is now serving as our Director of Prison Outreach!***

**W**ow! The love God has for us! He has given me a new life free from shooting drugs and being on the street without anywhere to lay my head. I lost my wife and 7 year old son that I haven't seen in five years.

Because of an awesome God, I have been able to rebuild a relationship with my son and I am delivered from drugs after 15 years of using. God has given me a life I did not know nothing about. I am very happy with the person he has made me. People ask, "how do you smile all the time being in prison?" I simply say, because of the awesome God I serve and they say "I want that." I say it was a gift and it's free.

When I talk to my family, they say they don't understand what has happened to me. They never thought they would see me change. My mom cries every time she sees the change God has made in me. He has made it possible for me to go home to my family 16 months sooner. Man, He is amazing! I thank him all the time. I'm always talking with Him in prayer like I would anybody and I'm just trusting in Him and giving Him all my problems and everything I can't do myself and He does it for me.

There is no other life than the life God will give you when you let Him in. Thanks for letting me share a little.

**Dylan**

**I**would like to acknowledge the ministry of On Wings Like A Dove. I'm sure you have heard this many times but here we go again. I have been a witness of your ministry, I call it a two-fold ministry. Not only are you supplying men with the opportunity to hear God's word, but you're doing it THE GOD WAY, as I call it, by the giving of yourselves and your resources.

The Holman Christian Standard Bibles you supply these men are helping make this prison yard a safer and somewhat more peaceful place to do our time—again thank you. The two-fold wow I have seen are men sharing your monthly devotions with each other and being fed by your words of encouragement. Again, thank you!

**Fred**

**T**hank you for sending me the *NIV Celebrate Recovery Study Bible*. I sent for it on August 2, 2020. On August 12th, I was informed I had COVID-19 and went into a quarantine block here at Albermarle Correctional Institute.

On August 17th, I was shipped to Central Prison Hospital Raleigh and it was determined that I was symptomatic for COVID and also had pneumonia. I was put into an urgent care unit where I became increasingly sicker and weak.

During one of my bad days without television, radio, books or magazines. I managed that night to get on my knees and pray. I don't know if I thought I was going to die, but I wanted to. I wanted God to give my life to someone more deserving than me. I wasn't worth saving. I told God I would ask the nurses for a Bible the next day.

I was awakened at approximately 9am the next morning by a correction officer knocking on my window asking if I had a pen. I thought, I'm an inmate, why ask me for a pen? I was summoned to the door with one. He unlocked the trap and had me sign a paper. After that, I was handed the *Celebrate Recovery Study Bible*. I had forgotten that I had asked OWLAD for it.

That God of ours is an awesome God and your organization is awesome also! Thank you so much for allowing me to share this testimony. Keep up your good work!

**Eric**



## FAMILY TESTIMONIES

**I** just wanted to tell you how much the ministry of On Wings has helped both me and my son, Chuck, who is a recovering addict, to trust God and have faith that when my son comes to the end of himself and cries out to God for help he will be healed of his addiction.

In 2019 when Chuck was in prison at Forsyth Correctional, he received a newsletter from On Wings. After reading the newsletter, he ran to the telephone and called me saying that he had received a blessing from a ministry called On Wings. He said, "Momma, please call them and tell them I got the newsletter and it blessed me." I called and talked to Sandra and she invited me to come to the Ladies Bible Study that meets on Tuesday. I came and it changed by life and my son's life.

Oh what a blessing to be in the presence of Godly women who understood what me and my son were going through! They encouraged me and prayed for me and my son. On Wings really cares for the prodigals and their families. What a blessing they have been to me.

My son was released from prison, but fell back into his addiction and living on the streets. After sharing this news with Sandra and the prayer group, we prayed and then the call came. He called one night and said "I am done. I am getting help for my addiction." He checked himself into ARCA Rehab and then transitioned to another rehab (BATS) and Insight. He graduated from both programs and today he is clean, sober and working. He is praising God for His love and forgiveness and all the blessings God has sent his way.

Without the support of On Wings, I do not know where we would be today. Thank you Jesus for your love and mercy and for sending your servants to minister to me and my son.

What a mighty God we serve! Amen and Amen!

**Dianne Wilson (better known as Chuck's mom)**

*But as for me, I will wait continually, and will praise You yet more and more.*

*Psalm 71:14*

**W**hat? Who are these women telling me not to "enable" my son? I am not enabling; I'm helping him along. I'm helping him get on with his life. They must be bad mothers.

And so, my journey took a turn when I discovered On Wings Like a Dove. I found bad mothers making good decisions. No let me correct that, *great mothers* making great decisions for their children – who weren't children anymore but adults. I was still stuck in the "I-can-fix-this" children phase with my adult. These bad mothers were great mothers, and they were each a hero in my mind. I wanted to be like them.

At On Wings, I found acceptance, understanding, non-judging attitudes, and a reflection of the Lord's love through everything they did. I found an outlet for my intense struggle with my adult, drug addicted "child." I found devoted friends to the ministry of On Wings and I found fellow mothers struggling every bit as much as me, some more. Horrific situations that most parents would never admit to a living soul but could freely admit at On Wings.

And I found laughter among the grief and tears. Laughter that was an outlet for all the turmoil within my heart. Laughter that caused tears to turn to joy.

I discovered more and more about the Abba Father my soul desired to know more about. Weekly Bible studies led by women who love the Lord. For years I have been involved at On Wings and during those years my faith has grown and my heart has healed. I've discovered that the Lord God Almighty is my fortress, my hope, my strength, my provider, and extremely gracious especially in guiding me to On Wings.

Every dime given to On Wings is used for ministering to prisoners and prodigals and their families since everyone who serves is a volunteer. How do I know this? I am a mother of a prisoner. He received a *Celebrate Recovery Study Bible* through On Wings. It changed his life. He reads it every day. Without On Wings, my addicted child, would not have this Bible. He probably would still be on the streets because before On Wings I thought I was just helping him get on with his life.

I pray you can understand the blessing of helping this ministry. The blessing of knowing you are helping people who have little hope.

**Karen**



## VOLUNTEERS

In addition to our board of directors and team, we have numerous volunteers who assist with the preparation and mailing of newsletters, reading and classification of inmate newsletters, cleaning the office, donations, Bible Correspondence tracking and mailing, Pen Pals, inmate mentoring and Treasure Box packing and distribution.

We are grateful to the volunteers listed below who regularly donate their time to assist OWLAD with ministering to inmates and their families.

Florine Annas  
Harrison Beene  
Kathryn Brown  
Jamie Castlebury  
Cindy Doub  
Kaye Eyler  
Helen Griffith  
Tim Henderson  
Carolyn Hendrix  
Penny Humphrey  
Karen Hutchins  
Bob Killmeier  
Barbara McDaniel  
Nancy McGlothlin  
Mike Mizell

Carol Anne Mizell  
Gaye Morris  
Glenda Mott  
Kim Nickerson  
Sheila Rothrock  
Connie Sharpe  
Steve Sharpe\*  
Jan Sharp  
Janelle Siebsen  
Sharon Simmons  
Mildred Smith  
Lisa Totten  
Earnie Tyra  
Sharon Tyra  
Denise Webster  
Janice Welch

\*Volunteer of the year!

## DONORS

### Churches and Ministries

Calvary Baptist  
Center Grove  
Home Moravian Seniors  
It's Fashion  
Jack Bales BSF  
Jerry Morrison BSF  
Karen Caffey BSF  
Lucky Family Mission  
Messengers Ministries  
Piney Grove Baptist  
Rescue Chicks Resale

### DONATIONS GIVEN IN MEMORY OF

Anne Scales by Jim Scales  
Don Rogers by Marcia Rogers  
Joshua Smith by Roger and Sheila Smith

### DONATIONS GIVEN IN HONOR OF

Barbara Bonney by Melinda and Bill Kearns  
Tim Henderson by Marilyn Humphrey  
Sandra Kearns's Birthday by Jo Ann Gough,  
Mark and Sandra Hoots

### INDIVIDUAL MINISTRY DONORS

Thank you for your faithfulness with giving!  
We look forward to partnering with you in 2021.



# CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENSES

On Wings Like a Dove relies totally on the Lord for resources. We have found Him to be faithful time and time again!

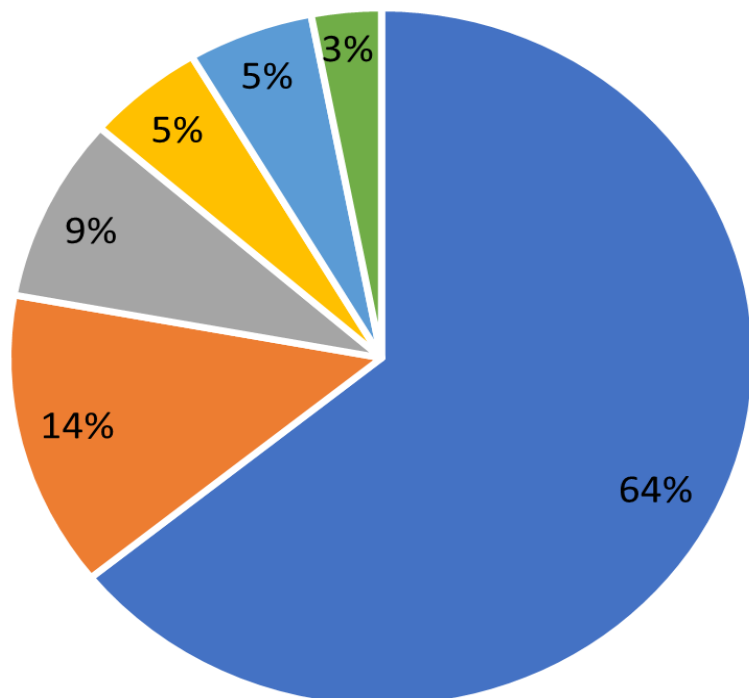
## CONTRIBUTIONS

**TOTAL 2020 CONTRIBUTIONS: \$82,844**

## EXPENSES

**TOTAL 2020 EXPENSES: \$84,498**

- **Direct Ministries:**  
Bibles, Newsletters, Printing, Postage, Retreats, Treasure Boxes, Easter Baskets, Compassion Fund
- **Office Rent & Utilities**
- **Office Supplies & Equipment**
- **Phone & Internet**
- **Insurance & Vehicle**
- **Volunteer Appreciation**







On Wings Office in Old Salem

**[Onwingslikeadove.com](http://Onwingslikeadove.com)**

**336.829.5060**

**455 South Church Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101**

**Hours: Tuesday-Thursday, 10 a.m.—2 p.m.**

**Treasure Box Annex—Vorsteher's House  
501 South Main Street**