

Give
thanks



A Newsletter from On Wings Like A Dove Ministry

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www.OnWingsLikeADove.com

Office Hours:

Tuesday-Thursday
10 am-2 pm

or by appointment 336-829-5060
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Ladies Bible Study

Each Tuesday
At On Wings Office
From 12:30-2:00

We are studying
Tools for Living Courageously
by Lori Hauswirth

Lori, a Christian Life Coach,
will lead the 9 week study.
She teaches real hands-on
Biblical tools for developing
strength, courage,
peace and hope.

Come Join Us!



Happy Thanksgiving

LET OUR LIVES BE FULL
OF BOTH
Thanks & Giving

Report On Our On Wings of Hope

"There is a right time for everything."
Ecclesiastes 3:1

Three years ago, On Wings Like A Dove sensed God calling us to provide housing for returning citizens. We received a sizable family grant and opened our first home in February of 2022. Nine men and women graduated from the year long program between 2022-2025. Many seeds were sown in the lives of all who came through our program and many of those seeds took root and grew. Each resident was paired with a mentor who faithfully walked beside them. The mentors shared truths in God's Word, prayed with and for them, encouraged them in their restoration with their family when appropriate, took them to dinner, kept in contact by phone, attended Bible Studies with them, and often transported them to appointments. Many strong bonds were made, and both the residents and the mentors have remained friends. While in the program, residents were given guidelines, and those who chose to follow those were successful in completing the program. Those who chose to continue to do things their way oftentimes repeated the cycle they were in previously. Many have stayed in contact with us in one way or another, whether to obtain encouragement on their journey or to express their gratitude for their time spent with us.

We are now at the completion of this ministry and have brought this program to a close. It grieves my heart to come to this decision, but I know without a doubt that we completed our task and that God has new beginnings for us in the future.

Our leadership was faithful to give of their time and efforts, no matter the choice of the resident. In the beginning, as we prepared to offer the housing it was said, "I guess we are in it for the long haul." I can truly say that Bryan Milleon, as the men's Administrator, Lavonda Rosenburg, as the women's Administrator, and Johnnetta Brown, as the women's Home Manager were faithful to the end in their calling. We want to say thank you to David and Amy Walters as the Hope House Directors for their commitment and dedication as we started the program.

All of those involved in the Hope House ministry gave of their time, effort, and finances to benefit the residents, and we are grateful. Each mentor was invaluable for their season of time with the residents. All of them had an impact on the lives they touched, even if it was cut short for whatever reason. Seeds were sown, which may have landed on hard ground at the beginning, but which we know will not lie dormant as God continues to draw them to Himself as only He can do.

We have learned many lessons over the course of these three years and thankfully, we will continue to learn. We continue to love and pray for each resident who passed through our houses.

Please pray for us as we move forward to do God's bidding in the coming months. We ask Him daily for His wisdom and direction, and we are confident that He will give it to us. We will continue to minister to families of prodigals and prisoners and to the prisoners themselves as we reach out through our Inmate Newsletters, Bible Studies, Prayer, and Bibles.

We will continue to follow the Lord with all our hearts, and that will never change.

~Sandra



THANKFULNESS

Our family has a new tradition of binge watching The Chosen every year during Holy Week. We've had to start earlier and end later as more seasons have been added, but we try to watch the whole series annually. After a few years of watching, I began to be aware of the frequency of prayers offered for a wide array of circumstances.

Almost all the prayers begin with the same words, "Blessed are You, O Lord, our God, King of the Universe".

These prayers are used to sanctify daily activities and moments from waking up in the morning to falling asleep at night. Blessed are You, O Lord, our God, King of the Universe on awakening me this morning; Who brings forth bread from the earth; Who has sustained me; Who is good and causes good, and Who brings sleep to my eyes; these are a few of the prayers that could be offered. Blessed are You, O Lord who allows me to walk, who provides warm showers and comfortable beds. Blessed are You, O Lord who brings families together and provides abundance of food for feast and fellowship together. Blessed are You, O Lord who causes seasons to change and brings forth changes in the land for Your people to enjoy and marvel at. Even trying and hard moments can be presented in prayer, Blessed are You, O Lord, our God who allows sadness and tears and receives them as an offering and draws us close into fellowship with our Redeemer. Blessed are You, O Lord who knows our pain and uses it in ways we don't comprehend. Blessed are You who know our children and those we love and are drawing them back unto Yourself. Blessed are You, O Lord who has promised to never leave me or forsake me. Every moment, every situation is a reason to offer thanks to God and pray.

A beautiful sunset? Blessed are You, O Lord. The stoplight staying green- Blessed are You. The opportunities for thanks are limitless, but recognizing them and remembering to give thanks takes being intentional.

A writer I like to follow suggests that each night we stop and name three things that we are grateful for. To make thankfulness be the way to close our day. How good it would be to start each day with a prayer of gratitude; then seize moments during the day to praise God for His goodness.

I received a book as a gift awhile ago, "Every Moment Holy". It is full of liturgical prayers for everyday moments: drinking coffee, experiencing cheerful laughter, upon hearing birdsong, before beginning a book, for arriving at the ocean... There are even prayers for fleeting irritations, waiting in line and dealing with frustrations! Every moment can be holy!

As Thanksgiving draws close it's an opportunity to remember and see God in all places and all moments. During the busy, noisy and hectic moments and during the quiet, restful moments. Blessed are You, O Lord, our God, King of the Universe who sets apart a time of the year for us to be thankful to You for all You have done and all You have given us.



*And give thanks for everything
to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Ephesians 5:20*



Prayer Thoughts

THE GOOD SOWER

Imagine you're a farmer who hired two people to sow your fields. You give them each a bag of seed of equal size. At the end of fifteen minutes, one has sown all his seed, but the other has just barely started. What are you going to do? You're going to give the one who has sown abundantly more seed. You're going to resupply them quickly, give them extra, and get ready to provide them with still more. You're going to give to the person who has sown the seed. It only makes sense. In the same way, God calls us to do His will, to sow His Word, His will, and His blessings into this world. But if you're not sowing, how can He give you more? Thus if you are sowing, He will give you more and more and more. So be a wise sower, and start giving this world His word, His gospel, your time, your service, your ministry, your money, your treasures, yourself. For as you give, so you shall receive - from the God who never fails to give "seed to the sower."

Taken from
Sapphires@hopeoftheworld.org
September 24, 2025



THANKSGIVING WITH MEANING

DEVOTION BY BILLY GRAHAM

The Lord is close to those
whose hearts are breaking;
he rescues those who are humbly
sorry for their sins.

—PSALM 34:18 (TLB)

It is the custom of many Christians to bow their heads in public places and give thanks for the food that has been placed before them. I have had scores of waiters and waitresses tell me that when we bowed our heads, it was the first time they had ever seen that happen in their restaurant.

Millions never pause to give a word of thanks to God for the food provided. Few homes have a moment of thanksgiving at the beginning of the meal or at any other time of the day. Even at Thanksgiving time only a minority will pause and give thanks to God.

Thanksgiving is recognition of a debt that cannot be paid. We express thanks, whether or not we are able otherwise to reimburse the giver.

When thanksgiving is filled with true meaning and is not just the formality of a polite "thank you," it is the recognition of dependence.

From Day by Day with Billy Graham

**"O GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD,
FOR HE IS GOOD;
FOR HIS LOVINGKINDNESS
IS EVERLASTING"**

1 CHRONICLES 16:34

DEALING WITH OUR PAIN

“Search me, O God, and know my heart: test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me and lead me in the way everlasting”
Psalm 139:23-24

It thrills my soul to see our family segment of the ministry expanding. It has been my prayer that we would have new wives and mothers becoming involved as we study God's Word and fellowship together. As one shares their story, it frees another one to open up with their struggles as they begin to realize they aren't alone.

One of the dangers I have recognized with hurting family members is the temptation to isolate oneself because of their pain and shame. As we come together to share in a safe group of people going through the same type of journey, we find ourselves allowing the walls we have built to come down as we stop believing the lies of the enemy to hold it inside.

As we have recently closed our Hope House program, it has been my prayer that we would see an increase in participants in our family outreach through Bible Studies, Prayer/Support, and Annual Retreats. God is answering that prayer as several new women came to our Fall Retreat and are now engaged in our weekly Bible Study.

Lori Hauswirth, a Christian Coach, came highly recommended by a friend, and I am seeing how her coming is timely for such a time as this. We know there are many hurting loved ones in the world, and we know working through your pain is hard work, but so worth the effort.

I remember a little rose bush growing in my garden years ago. It would grow out branches with thorns and grab me each time I passed by. Once I started realizing that the bush didn't even produce roses for me to enjoy, I decided to pull it up. Little did I know what a chore it would be. As I began attempting to pull it out of the ground, I wasn't making any progress, so I called my son over, and even he struggled with it. We finally had to get the ax and sever the roots. The rose bush is no longer a problem.

As we work through those things that have impacted us over the years, the roots of bitterness, judgment, defensiveness, and wounds can be pulled up out of our hearts so that we won't tend to be snagged by those thoughts anymore. We will walk towards health, restoration, and hopefully reconciliation with others in our lives in time as we heal.

I, for one, am looking forward to being set free from my thoughts and feelings as my behavior becomes more pleasing to the Lord, which is my goal.

~ Sandra



We are currently studying

TOOLS FOR LIVING COURAGEOUSLY
by Lori Hauswirth

Board Certified Coach and Christian Life Coach

Visit her website at
www.coachingwithtlc.org

We are so excited to have the opportunity for Lori to lead us in this study. This study was developed to meet our overwhelming need to understand our emotions



**WHEN THE PAIN OF REMAINING THE SAME
IS GREATER THAN THE PAIN OF CHANGE
WE WILL REMAIN THE SAME**