THE NEW GATE



Events 2020

New Day Camp One June 5—8 Cross Point Camp, Kingston, OK

New Day Camp Two June 8—12 Cross Point Camp, Kingston, OK

CJAMM Tulsa Benefit Dinner Postponed from April 14—new date yet to be set

CJAMM OKC Benefit Dinner & Silent Auction — To Be Announced

New Day Camp One & Two October 16-18 Cross Point Camp, Kingston, OK (Only if June dates are canceled.)



Inside this issue:

Director's column	1
OKC Exodus House	2
CJAMM Welcomes New Staff	2
Tulsa Ex House & Parsoange	3
Lawton & OKC Redemption	3
NEW Contact Information	4
Tulsa Redemption Mission	4

From the Director:

Hello CJAMM Family,

Welcome to beautiful Oklahoma Spring Weather, the warm sunshine and the smell of the fresh breeze. At CJAMM, we are taking the time to be thankful in the midst of the craziness. This past week we all paused and took the time to write an article about the hope and great things we have witnessed over the past month.

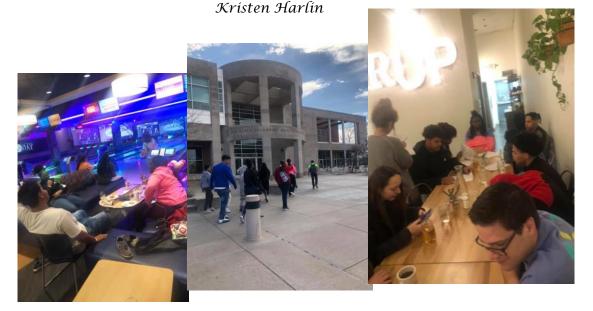
New Day Camp is looking just a tad (ok, a lot different this year). We have trainings online for volunteers at www.cjamm.org under the New Day Camp tab. Each volunteer can sign up online at www.okcamps.org. There is an instructional video this year to help on our website. We are scheduled for New Day Camp One June 5-8 and New Day Camp Two June 8-12.

The inspiration I am seeing is in our volunteers. They are pulling together to make videos and to ensure New Day Camp is stronger than ever before. They pulled together to make New Day Camp Three happen the beginning of last month.

New Day Three took place March 7-8, 2020. Had it been any later we would have had to postpone the event. We had the best group of New Day Three campers. We went on a tour of the University of Oklahoma (hang on OSU fans we are coming your way soon), visited the Wesley, played at Dave and Busters, visited the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History, watched a movie at the Warren Theater and enjoyed our time together. The biggest blessing was when we ate at Syrup in Norman. We had a large group and the restaurant staff was so sweet and gracious to us. We had been up all night and were a little tired, but to hear true conversations was astonishing. We discussed the years they spent at New Day Camp at Cross Point, future plans and as an added bonus the food was outstanding.

As you read through the articles in this newsletter we want to say THANK YOU for helping us to keep hope and for helping us to break the generational cycles of incarceration. Together we are making an impact.

Blessings,



OKC EXODUS HOUSE

Grace and Peace to all of you:

I pray that you are well and staying safe, staying at home as best as you can. In the middle of this crisis I am encouraged by how our leaders, churches and communities are pulling together to be the Hands of Christ to all people, all nations and to all of are frontline workers who are going to work to be sure people have the best medical services, food and other necessities at great risk to themselves.

At Exodus House OKC we have been doing online worship, AA Meetings, Zoom, calling our Sponsors and our Apartment Sponsors. We also have been writing letters to those still incarcerated of encouragement and hope. We are doing well and although some residents have been laid off and hours have been cut, we have been so blessed by our Apartment Sponsors during this time and always. Several have reached out to bring groceries for all of us here, brought diapers and clothing for a new child in the community and also are donating monies to pay residents' utilities bills that are in need.



We have welcomed 2 new residents Ashley R. and Lori L. and her son Braxton who is 5 years old. Her Sponsor Becky Efpenshade from Choctaw UMC went out and bought him clothes because they wanted him to stay home and be safe. He was so excited to get new shoes and new clothes and his mother Lori was so blessed to have the help. In her letter about being blessed in the chaos she wrote: I am so blessed to have God in my life and thankful to the wonderful people and place for me and my son to live, for the wonderful people he has placed in our lives through this hard time. So many are losing so much and it's very easy for us to overlook the wonderful things that are still happening in the world. I am Thankful!!

Thank you to each of our Sponsors: Yukon UMC/UMM, Blanchard UMC, First UMC of Edmond, New Covenant UMC, Wesley UMC, Church of the Servant UMC, Choctaw UMC, New Hope UMC, St. Andrews's UMC, and Gene Calloway, Jackie Keyser, Donna Powell, Becky Efpenshade, Russ Kline, Krisann Johnson Rosso, Martha Steger, Brad and Stan and anyone I might have missed.

Special thanks to each of you who have donated to Exodus House, who help us in times of need through your prayers, financial support and all the things you do to help our residents and CJAMM to keep our program going, especially through these tough times.

Please stay safe and know that God is with us!! Be the light of Christ and know you are in our prayers and our thoughts always.

-----Robin Wertz, Site Director ------(405)-525-2300

CJAMM Main Office

CJAMM would like to welcome Kristin Terrell-Wilkes as the new CJAMM Office Assistant. She will be helping with New Day Camp enrollment, transportation and other general office duties. We are very excited to have Kristin on board. She will be a great asset to our staff. Unfortunately her first day was during this pandemic and of course, our physical office is closed; however, thanks to modern technology she is working and learning her job from home. We have weekly staff meetings via phone to keep all staff connected. Kristin can be reached at (405) 530-2018 or by email at office@cjamm.org. Welcome Kristin!!





TULSA EXODUS HOUSE

Friends in Christ.

The Exodus House and Parsonage House residents are doing great. Each one of them have different dynamics that they are dealing with in addition to this pandemic. We want you all to know we are well. Thanks be to God. We are truly blessed beyond belief. We lift up all the people who are working on the front lines and in the midst of this virus. Thank you all doctors, nurses, grocery keepers, truck drivers and all other essential businesses.

We miss everyone dearly but we are loving all the people calling and checking on us. Thank you for your continued support and prayers. Shalom,

Daniel and Estelle



Horatio knew what he wanted and he went for it. He is now a licensed CDL driver with a dump truck company. Congratulations Horatio!!





Kathryn got her own car today. She is also making afghans to help pass the time. Congratulations Kathryn!!

Lawton Aldersgate Redemption Mission

On March 24, Rev. Lory Fahle at Aldersgate Redemption of Lawton received a phone call from Ms. Hearrell at Lawton Community Correctional Center to see if there was any way that Redemption Lawton could provide hygiene bags for all of the men at LCCC. Rev. Fahle asked how many she needed, and she responded 150. They had about 10 already made up. Rev. Lory called Jana Gowan, who runs their clothes and hygiene closet. She was at work but got off at 2, so she made some calls and so did Rev. Fahle. The request was then put into action. Between the two, they rounded up more than enough to make the bags. Other volunteers came to help fill bags for all 150 people in need. They delivered to the front door that afternoon. Thank you Rev. Fahle, Jana and volunteers for being the hands and feet of Christ!



OKC Penn Avenue Redemption Mission

Penn Avenue is staying connected via "Church Online" and YouTube. You can access their videos via their Facebook page—Penn Avenue Redemption Church. There are weekly sermons with Rev. Dr. Stan Basler, a love-filled chat with long-time staff and volunteers, Bud and Marcia Manning and encouraging videos from Pastor Brad Rogers. We are learning how to stay connected even when we are apart. We are all in this together, not just in Oklahoma but across the world. Faith. Hope. Love. Pray.





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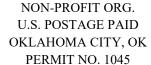
Tulsa Redemption Mission

At the lowest times in my life this phrase always reassured me, comforted me. I even have it on a plaque I keep on my kitchen wall. I thought it was scripture. So, being me, I thought I would look for the scripture that says "This too shall pass". I was surprised when I found it isn't scripture. I should say it isn't scripture verbatim, but it can be seen as "capturing" the intent of several passages from the Bible, but nowhere in our modern translations is the words "This too shall pass" found.

One of the passages that speaks to the intent of these four simple words is from 2 Corinthians 4:17-18; "Our temporary minor problems are producing an eternal stockpile of glory for us that is beyond all comparison. We don't focus on the things that can be seen but on the things that can't be seen. The things that can be seen don't last, but the things that can't be seen are eternal." This time in our world is temporary. The things we can do in our lives for the glory of God are the things that are meaningful and timeless. They are the stockpile of glory. But most importantly, this world, a world with pain and joy, grief and gladness are passing. They are now and never will be permanent. They too, shall pass.

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer - We are at a time of shared stress and anxiety. There is disease, a disease which threatens us. It threatens us wherever we are. But for all the fear that it can produce, the strength of our faith is far greater than any fear we face. In the midst of Your Creation we are united against this disease, this fear. We are Your community of believers and although we may not be able to join as the body of Christ, even in our separate places we **ARE** the body of Christ! No disaster, no disease, no disruption will ever change that. In Your Holy Name, Amen."

The following was sent from James "Buster" Hall to Redemption Mission Tulsa last week along with this picture of the Tulsa calmness. May you find solace in his devotional. If you would like to be added to the Tulsa Redemption Devotional, please let us know and we will send a request on your behalf.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

