



# WISEMAN MINISTRIES, INC. NEWSLETTER

JAN 2015 ISSUE

## “If for only one”

### How You Can Help:

- Pray for us
- Donate supplies
- Volunteer at the Gifts of Grace Resale Store
- Become a Mentor
- Become a Grace Partner

### Grace Partners:

Wiseman Ministries, Inc. is a non-profit, 501c(3) organization. Our ministry operates solely on donations from individuals, churches, businesses and organizations. Please prayerfully consider becoming a Grace Partner. As a Grace Partner, you join with us to fulfill Matthew 25 & Isaiah 58 by providing food to the hungry, clothing to the needy, shelter to the homeless, to minister to those in prison and to help liberate those controlled by addictions.

### Mission Statement:

To make disciples who know Christ, share Christ, and multiply Christ in the lives of others.



Congratulations to Jerry C. for receiving a certificate for being a Servant Leader during the month of December.



## “My Story” by Jack Eudy, HOD Program Resident



I grew up in the small oil patch town of White Oak, Texas during the 1960s and -70s. I graduated White Oak High School and then earned an Associate's degree at Kilgore College. I was active in sports in high school and started drinking a little beer on weekends. I never took to the taste of beer and during my junior and senior year turned to mixed drinks. I never got drunk, because I was expected home. That changed when I moved to Waco to attend Texas State Technical College. The parties were larger and more often with many coeds, and booze was the common denominator. My grades took a nosedive. I found myself back home in East Texas living in Longview, working part-time and going to Kilgore College, which was also called “Harvard on the Hill.” I held onto the ‘Animal House’ college state of mind until I married my high school sweetheart and settled down. I had earned a degree and gotten married during the summer of '83. I felt I had the world by the tail. I worked while my new wife earned her degree at UT-Tyler, and on the weekends we'd gather with friends at various clubs, pubs, concerts and lake outings. After five years of marriage, we decided to start a family as she graduated college. At this time, we both quit drinking. I lasted until she got pregnant. She lasted until she finished breast feeding. I had a bird's nest on the ground but never really took stock of my blessing: a beautiful wife, a good job, a new house, and a new baby. We were a family. So why did I find the need to drink? I was a “functioning alcoholic.” Five years later plus one DWI, we wanted another child, and we were blessed. Here I was, a wonderful wife, a beautiful five-year-old daughter, and a healthy newborn son. And still I drank.

## “From the Heart” by Tim Wiseman, Executive Director

I Peter 5:3-4 “...Do not lord over those entrusted to you, but be examples to the flock; and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.” (NKJV)  
Let me share a story with you that I recently shared with my staff concerning this New Year. This story is intended to draw a parallel between the verse above and how it relates to the happenings of House of Disciples recently. Maybe you can make application as to how it may relate to your life. A commercial farmer who owns every parcel of land within the region you live has decided to lend you 100 acres of his land. Along with the

acreage, the farmer equipped you with all the tractors and implements you will need to develop the land. His only request is that you develop the land and make it fruitful. So you are called to a task and have been equipped to fulfill the call. What's next? You get to work! You use the equipment to plough, plant and cultivate the field in expectation of a great harvest. After repeated years of seeing the 100 acres producing and reaching its maximum potential, the farmer returns and takes notice of the wonderful job you are doing. He responds to your hard work by saying, “Well done, you have been faithful over the 100 acreage I gave you.

Here is an additional 10 acres.” Now you have 110 to develop. Why would the farmer give you more? You have proven yourself to be a trustworthy, faithful steward. The farmer is confident he can trust you to manage more of his affairs. This is an elementary example of how the kingdom of God operates, but this is a life principle that we can apply to our lives. For House of Disciples, 2014 was grand! We have felt like the worker that was given the 100 acres and recently given an extra 10. In addition to the daily lives that God allows us to touch, we expanded our ministry to Denison, Texas and started our own faith-based prison pod. (continued on back)

## this issue

My Story / From the Heart P.1

Lions Club at Albertson P.2

Homeless Man's Gift / Volunteer Highlight P.2

Christmas Day Dinner / Guitar Donated P.2

HOD High Island / Men's Breakfast at NCG P.2

Sport Clips Serving / GOG Food Drive P.2

December Birthdays / Christmas Blessing P.2

## “From the Heart” Part B

We saw our largest graduating class. We expanded our feeding program and are now serving 55,000 meals annually. We relocated our Gifts of Grace store in Longview and tripled the size of it. We opened a new Gifts of Grace in Denison. We opened a transitional home for our graduates and much more! It's obvious that God has entrusted us with more opportunities to reach people. It's our job for 2015 to develop the additional land that God has given to us. We plan to spend 2015 making the current outreaches we have as fruitful as they can possibly be. We want to be the best stewards over what God has given us. Our motivation is not based on performance. We don't have to perform before God to receive His approval. Our motivation is that we want to be that willing and trusted vessel that God knows He can count on! May the Lord bless you in this new year!

## Lions Club at Albertsons



For the second year in a row, the Longview Lions Club has awarded a shopping spree at Albertsons in Longview, TX to the House of Disciples. Thank You, Lions Club members and Albertsons for this much needed and much appreciated support. For information on how you can help provide meals to feed the hungry please call our office at 903-553-0952.



## Volunteer Highlight

The Volunteer Highlight for the month of January is the Men's Bible Study group from the First United Methodist Church in Longview. Throughout the month of December, the bible study leaders, Jeff Synder, Kurt Henderson, Bob Childress and Jarod Allen, moved their weekly Wednesday bible study luncheon to the House of Disciples, so that our residents could participate.



## December Birthdays:



December's birthday boys are Michael H., Brandon C., and Tim G. The monthly celebration also included a Christmas Party for the whole house. Mrs. Meyer and her friends brought gifts for all the residents and sang Christmas Carols. The men really appreciated the kindness.



## Christmas Day Dinner

On Christmas day a life group from New Beginnings Baptist Church provided a traditional Christmas dinner for the men at House of Disciples and over 50 more people who came to our front door hungry and in need of a meal. The Christmas cake was generously provided by The Butcher Shop in Longview TX.



## Guitar Donated



Elsie "Mimi" Spurlock and her friend Melissa donated a guitar to the men of the House of Disciples this Christmas for them to learn and play on. One of our residents, Josh P., is a very talented musician and has been giving lessons. This guitar will really help. If you would like to find out how you can meet a need at HOD, please call our office at 903-553-0952.

## HOD High Island

The residents at HOD - High Island had the privilege to attend a pre-Christmas fishing trip with Phill Briggs and James Madewell. The Madewells also cooked the men a mouth-watering steak and potato dinner and the next morning Phill cooked them an amazing breakfast.



## Christmas Blessing:

We would like to thank Pathway Church and their congregation for adopting the children of our residents this Christmas. Due to their generosity, every man in our program with school age children, was able to wrap donated Christmas gifts to give to their children. Praise God!

## Men's Breakfast at NCG

The Nazarene Church of Glade-water TX hosted the men from HOD for a Men's Breakfast where they gave every resident a Christmas present. There was singing and fellowship and a wonderful breakfast prepared by the ladies in the church.



## Sport Clips Serving

Sport Clips has started in the month of December preparing and serving one meal a month. They also provide haircuts to the men in HOD. We want to say THANK YOU to Sport Clips!



## GOG Food Drive

Gifts of Grace Resale Store in Longview held a food drive for HOD. We want to thank all of our customers who contributed. Pictured are Ryan and Andrew carrying the donation items.



## Contact us:

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 Longview: 903-234-2341  
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[Facebook.com/denisongog](https://www.facebook.com/denisongog)

Ministries  
 Include:

**House of Disciples**  
 Life Recovery Center

**HOUSE OF DISCIPLES**  
 KNOW · SHARE · MULTIPLY  
 MINISTRY TEAM

**Gifts of Grace Resale Store**

