



**SILOAM**  
Missionary Homes  
SENT · REFRESHED · RENEWED

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SUMMER 2022

## A Spirit of Gratitude

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace [gratitude] in your hearts to the Lord.” – Colossians 3:16

**E**ach of you plays an important role in the ministry of this place. Your support through prayers and sacrificial giving allows the staff to share God’s grace with missionaries from all over the world. Since many of you cannot physically visit Siloam, we thought we would share just one of the expressions of gratitude we hear from the missionaries on a regular basis. May you be blessed as you hear what this precious couple has to say.

— Michael Gay, President

### To friends and supporters of Siloam Missionary Homes,

*We’ve been living at Siloam for five months now. Some days I’m so full of gratitude, I ask the Lord, “How and to whom can I express even a bit of thanks for all the goodness & kindness poured out on us here?”*

*We arrived tired. Very tired. Long-term very tired. A house stood ready, clean, furnished, thoroughly-supplied, inviting us to rest, for a long time. Just us. Mentally I could letdown, unpack, not plan the next stop, the next move. And that was just the beginning.*

*Attentive, caring staff explained what we needed to know and have stayed accessible for any and every question. We can come to them, but they give us space and freedom to be (rather than do...), be tired, tired even of people, of interacting, of hearing stories and caring, of crises and finding solutions, of being available. They ask very little of us, and then only if we want and can lend a hand. We feel deeply understood and cared for in our fatigue, a gift that keeps on giving.*

*The Family Center offers books, games and DVDs to refresh with, a copier/printer (free of charge to us) and staff who’ve proven 100% interruptible, despite heavy workloads. Best of all, people gather there for prayer, five days a week. “The family that prays together stays together.” The Center is well-named.*

*Caring for the body and budget, Dad’s Country Store deserves a thank-you all its own! To you who share and*

*stock it, you amaze us. It’s not just the quantity, but the variety, quality, and sense that it’s done from a joyful, generous heart. Staples on the shelves provide for needs/wants/splurges and meal-prep time-savers.\* This luxury is given us at the cost of just carrying it home. When fresh veggies started coming in from your gardens, I wanted to write each of you a personal thank-you. My garden overseas is far away — what a joy to receive fresh herbs & greens, bananas that lasted for over 3 weeks and tomatoes, squash & zucchini for a good 10 days. Plus meat, eggs, breads, cakes, cookies... we can’t thank you enough. And that’s just telling about the edibles...*

*Years take a toll on every body, and third world countries seem to take a heavier toll. My spine rarely got consistent enough exercise to keep the pain at bay. Voilá, a fitness room! With the slower pace, work-outs fit into our priorities. With pain gone and what’s left of muscle strengthened, overall we feel better. Maybe our years in active ministry extended? We wonder who donated all that great equipment. What foresight, what a provision.*

*I could go on and on about the blessings of clean well-water, fruit-bearing trees & bushes, and the ducks, guinea fowl, and animals of Camp Glory Farm that make us laugh and rejoice our hearts. The little Chapel is a refuge within a refuge - empty every time I’ve gone in there for solitude. The country life and front gate offer security, and we watch out for each other’s houses when we or they leave on trips.\*\**

*Over the months we’re recharging like we seldom have in decades of ministry. We still work remotely (virtually) and travel to visit family/supporting partners/churches, so we have plenty to do each day. But the conveyor of responsibilities runs slower. It takes time to slow down. Here we have freedom to breathe, enjoy, recharge. As we revive, so does our capacity for people and desire to share the work God has entrusted us with. When teams of volunteers come from near and far to help keep this big campus*

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## A Spirit of Gratitude

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running, we're invited to share. What a privilege!

You may wonder, Is there anything not to like at Siloam? Let a few snapshots explain. After preparing for and hosting their 60th anniversary party, I figured Milton & Betty would be home resting. No, Betty & her daughter came door-to-door delivering buckets of donated strawberries so they wouldn't spoil in the heat. During lambing season Rachel or Kendric drove in to check the ewes in the wee hours of each night/morning. Shearing season came right after the lambs all came. Following heavy downpours, I saw Daniel expertly grading our roads to get the gravel back where it belonged. It was a Saturday afternoon, not unusual for Daniel or any of the staff or volunteers. Larry mowing lawns, Joyce painting houses, Valerie keeping Accounts, and Michael doing everything and more behind the scenes... this is just a drop in the bucket of all they do. Siloam takes a lot of work! There are many faithful volunteers. The hardest thing is to see them understaffed & overworked in order that we may enjoy refreshment from that very thing. Our default mode is to pitch in, meet the evident need. It's what we've always done, so we have to learn not to. Instead we ask God to provide fresh reinforcements so Siloam can continue refreshing workers like us. Thank you to each of you for what you've shared/done.

— Sonya & Daut

\*In remote settings, food-prep is very time-intensive, even for just the family. Guests arrive, often unannounced, and hospitality requires food & drink, often a full meal or at least something cooked. The dish-crew afterward is you-know-who. I know a woman who was so overworked in her kitchen, the very sight of it brought on nausea.

\*\*Serving long-term where violent crime is always a threat (and actuality) creates an inner sense of high-alert. Siloam allows that alert level to fall and disengage.

## Fall and Summer Events & Work Teams

I am so grateful to the Lord for His provision to Siloam Missionary Homes and Camp Glory Farm, which includes Watson's Place. It was so good having some of our work teams from past years come once again. We also were given opportunities to welcome new work teams, volunteers, children and youth groups, small groups, and individuals this year to help us continue the ministry here. Thank you to everyone who has played a part whether by prayer, giving, and/or being physically involved! You really do make a difference!



Maple Grove Church from Topeka, Indiana helped start the remodel of the barn at Watson's Place. This part of the barn will be used for storing feed and medicine and will also be used to shear sheep and do general check-ups.



Emmanuel Church of Winston-Salem and South Friends Church of Snow Camp, NC each came for a work day. They cleared out some areas behind the Family Center that had overgrown and built several picnic tables, which were taken to some of the missionary families living on campus. Other than the discovery of a guinea hen nest of eggs, which was being enjoyed by a couple of snakes, the days went well and a lot was accomplished.



Calvert Grace Small Group came in April to help with various projects. They created a wonderful play area in the Family Center for the missionary children. They also helped us with finishing touches on the Anniversary House and then helped with Farm Day.



“Oh give thanks to the Lord for He is good; His steadfast love endures forever.” – Psalm 107:1



Wake Chapel Christian Church, Fuquay-Varina, NC continued remodel of the barn at Watson's Place by putting in a new ceiling and counters with storage.



Mt. Zion Baptist Church from Snow Camp brought a group of 1st through 6th graders from their church. Their morning was filled by a challenge between the boys and girls to see who could clean up the most sticks and branches from the yards. After a trip to see the animals at Camp Glory Farm, a great presentation by the Edwards family about their ministry in Tanzania finished out their day.



Farm Day 2022 was a great success. We had a great turnout from the community, which provided awareness to area churches and neighbors about Siloam Missionary Homes and Camp Glory Farm.  
Rachel George, V.P.



# 30th Anniversary House Update



Thank you to everyone who prayed, gave, and labored to complete the newest house. The house was dedicated on April 30 and the first family moved into the house in July. They are currently enjoying the fruits of your gifts and labor and feel at home in this new house. It is wonderful to look across the property and see the new house with a car out front, bicycles in the yard, and kids playing out front. God is so good and we are grateful for the part you all played in getting the house ready for missionaries to use.

## HONORARIUMS & MEMORIALS

### *In Memory of...*

**Nancy Gay** by Sandy Ball  
Delbert & Lori Johnson, Wylie & Mary  
Summerlin, Gemma Rickner  
**Melvin & Darlene Bergen, Don & Linda  
Fairchild, Ric & Susan Ratzlaff  
Ralph & Sharon Merriman  
Loris & Cynthia Wilson**

**Doyle Davis and Elise Davis**  
by Harold Davis

**Gerald Stanton**  
by Orlynn & Bethel Halladay

**Pearl Melvin, Ruth Boone,  
Ann Brown and Virginia Gurganious**  
by Elaine Welch

### *In Honor of...*

**Sheila Bodsford, Jean Reese  
& Ann Tuck** by Elaine Welch

**Milton & Betty Wilder's  
60th anniversary** by Philip & Brenda  
Cotton, Sammy & Dorothy Sloan and  
Joseph & Mary Schmitz

**Randy Rabon**  
by Emmaus Road Partners

## Dear Coffee Club Members,



They say "time flies when you're having fun!" Well, I can certainly say that this year has flown by! We have hosted 18 families so far this year, with at least one more new family arriving in October. Our reservation calendar is full all the way through mid 2023, with some reservations taking us all the way through 2023! We are so grateful that we can offer this place to give missionary families a safe community to call "home" while they are here.

Larry continues to do well with his Parkinson's medication infusion pump. He has been having some trouble with numbness in his legs and feet, but the doctor has done blood work and believes that some extra B6 will help with this. He is staying busy working on a part time basis for a local church, helping with outreach and discipleship.

Thank you to each of you who so faithfully support our ministry, whether through the Coffee Club (a monthly pledge), through the general operating fund or by supporting one of our staff. Each gift is counted as a miracle from the Lord. We also are so grateful for your prayers for us as we continue to do our best to be obedient to the Lord and a blessing to the families that come to stay on the campus.

God bless each of you.

Your "Coffeemate," Joyce George

## A Word of Gratitude

During the past months, many of you have prayed for Betty and me as we have dealt with some health issues. God is answering with His healing. We are grateful to Him and we are grateful to you who have interceded before the Lord on our behalf. God is good all the time; all the time, God is good.

Again, thank you. Milton Wilder (for us both)

**MY LOVE GIFT:** I would like to join the Coffee Club with a monthly pledge of

☐ \$15   ☐ \$25   ☐ \$50   ☐ Other \$\_\_\_\_\_ (Please send my Coffee Club cup.)

One Time Gift \$\_\_\_\_\_

Please designate my one time gift for:

**DONATION FOR (check appropriate box):**

☐ General Fund

☐ Michael and Valerie Gay

☐ Rachel George

☐ Larry & Joyce George

☐ Milton & Betty Wilder

☐ Daniel Sieg

☐ Kendric Tyre

**Please make checks payable to Siloam Missionary Homes**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

*All gifts are tax deductible and receipts will be mailed monthly and at year's end.*

Siloam Missionary Homes is now able to receive your donation through an "Electronic Funds Transfer." This makes your monthly giving easier. Ask us how!

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