



“And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.” — Luke 2:4-7

As believers, the central theme for the Christmas season is the birth of Christ. The Son of God came to earth, born of a virgin, dwelling among men in a human body, yet in an apparent contradiction to our fragile human minds, was fully God and fully man. His purpose? To die on the cross and pay in full the penalty for OUR sins – to offer a full reconciliation between God and man through faith. He was the perfect revelation of God’s nature and the fullest embodiment of His love. A love that is our privilege, and our duty, to share with a lost and dying world.

But don’t you find it interesting that the Savior of the world was born in a city that was not His home. He then spent time exiled in Egypt before going “home” for the first time as a young boy. His early journey is not unlike the situation many missionaries face as they come to us here at Siloam.

Imagine if you would, that every two years you had to leave home and travel for six months, reporting all over the country what you had done over the last two years. Or dedicating your life to work in one location, only to have to leave unexpectedly, never to return. Or even facing a family trauma that required you to temporarily relocate to another country. And imagine in all of these scenarios not knowing where you would live or how you would be able to continue paying for your primary home while you are away.

These are the situations many of the missionary families face as they seek to serve our Savior in their field of service. They gave up the stability that many of us have to take the gospel all around the world.

God may not have called you to such a ministry, but you are a participant in the work they do through your support of Siloam Missionary Homes. You allow us to minister to the frontline gospel workers in whatever way is needed for them to be renewed for the ministry. Here are just a few ways your support has allowed us to stay prepared for them this year:

- ✔ We have completed extensive updates in two homes (Unit 1029 and Unit E) including paint, bathroom upgrades, updated lighting, and newer furniture. We are in the process of updating Unit A with new paint, new furniture, and updated bathroom fixtures and lighting. These updates allow us to make these homes seem less like a rental and more like a home.
- ✔ We have also made safety updates to Unit F by rebuilding the front and rear porch steps, replacing old decking, and adding new railings, along with replacing the side steps to Unit G. We also refreshed the basement porch for Unit FB with a lighter colored ceiling, new light fixtures, and screened in half of the porch giving that small unit an outdoor space protected from the elements.
- ✔ An exciting addition was to add a greenhouse to the property, made almost entirely of salvaged material, so we could grow and provide fresh produce to the missionary families year-round.

(continued)





So why are these important? Our primary purpose is to provide housing for the families, so the homes are central to our ministry. But here at Siloam we seek to provide so much more than just a home. As we look ahead, we want to place an even greater emphasis on showing them biblical hospitality.

In Romans 12:13 Paul exhorts believers, *"Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality."* The Holy Spirit led Paul to use a specific Greek word that puts a strong emphasis on hospitality, not just as an action, but as a core value – a way of life.

Our staff and our board have a unified focus, not just on maintaining the houses for the families, but on ministering to their needs as Christians serving our Savior. We desire to know the families on a deeper level. To make sure that they not only have a safe, comfortable place to call home, but they have the space, resources, and attentive care to heal and refresh spiritually, mentally, emotionally, and physically before returning to the field. We have made staff role changes to enhance our focus on ministering to the missionaries with an emphasis on biblical hospitality in everything we do. We know that this focus does not come without a cost. Biblical hospitality requires us to set our minds to serve Him in this way every day. We will seek to show God's love to His servants through housing and biblical hospitality so the missionaries will experience His healing and renewal.

So how can you help? Christ was teaching His followers and shared the parable of the mustard seed. While the primary message was focused on faith, there is a good principle in that parable – even the small things can change the world! So for you, our faithful supporters, we would like you to know that every dollar given, every minute volunteered, and every prayer lifted up for our ministry will have an impact on the lives of the missionaries we serve. We cannot continue in this daily ministry without all three aspects – pray, give, serve – being present in our faithful and loving supporters.

Praying you will have a wonderful and blessed Christmas!

Michael Gay, President

SPECIAL NEEDS

- **Increase in General Fund Support** – Supporting the general fund allows us to do the basic upkeep of the property and homes and pay the salaries for our staff
- **Special Project Funds** – We still need to replace siding and roofs on at least two houses as well as an HVAC unit that will not make it through the winter.
- **Volunteers** – There are many ways to get involved, from yardwork to construction, from cleaning to organizing. Whether you can give an hour a week or even each month, consider getting involved directly in the lives of the families here at Siloam.
- **Hospitality** – We desire to put together gift baskets for each new family with special items and gift cards. If you would be interested in assisting our Hospitality Coordinator with soliciting donations and putting these together, please contact the office.



SILOAM
Missionary Homes
SENT . REFRESHED . RENEWED

(336) 376-8200

E-MAIL • joyce@siloamhomes.org

P.O. BOX 705 • SNOW CAMP, NC 27349

www.siloamhomes.org