



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

FALL 2024

Maintaining Focus

During his illustrious ministry proclaiming the Gospel throughout Asia Minor (and beyond) Paul was presented many different opportunities for ministry. In I Corinthians 2 he shares that he came to them, not with fancy speeches or sophisticated philosophy, but with one simple message – Jesus Christ and His crucifixion. His background and authority resulted in opportunities to be distracted from the main purpose of his ministry – which was to proclaim the Gospel. He regularly had to guard against getting away from his primary mission.

Here at Siloam Missionary Homes our primary mission since 1992 has been to provide housing for missionaries with a secondary focus on providing a community setting that promotes spiritual, physical, and emotional healing. Our mission is accomplished through a faithful group of staff, our board, volunteers, and financial supporters. Since our founding, many different programs have been put in place, all with good intentions, though at times decisions had to be made to shift or end some of those programs. We have come to one of those times.

Nearly fourteen years ago the Lord opened the door to purchase the seven-acre property west of our main community. At that time a process began that ultimately led to using that property as a campground and housing for our volunteers, but also a small farm with the intent of teaching farming and gardening methods to the missionary families. We have seen fruit from that investment as several young people have been interns or learned hard work and farming techniques. We even

had one staff member transition from an intern to a staff member. But as time has passed, the original plan of using the farm as a learning experience for the missionaries has not developed as we had hoped, and the farm has begun to distract our focus from our primary mission – which is housing for the missionaries. So, the board of directors has made the difficult decision to end the farm operations and sell the animals. We will continue to use Camp Glory for events and short-term camping for missionaries and volunteers, and we do hope that someday we can add some more permanent short-term (one to two week) accommodations to meet a growing need among missionaries.

So, what does that mean for you, our prayer partners and supporters? It means we are committed to doing the thing that Siloam was founded to do – minister to the missionaries through housing and the community environment on our main campus. We will see to the myriad of maintenance needs that are coming up over the next few years, as well as seek to enhance the missionary experience for all future residents at Siloam. Please pray that God will help us during this reset period and prepare us for future opportunities that align with our primary work and mission.

We are thankful for your prayers and support. If you haven't been to Siloam recently, please consider stopping by (and even volunteering) as we have much to do as we head into the fall.

— Michael Gay, *President*

The Ministry of Listening

We have the privilege of being able to talk to our heavenly Father anytime, but sometimes we need a fellow human being with whom we can discuss our personal situation. Having someone who will listen and who can keep a confidence are very important and, unfortunately, are two characteristics that are not abundantly available. You probably have had a conversation when the other person was not really listening to what you were saying, but only waiting for the next opportunity (or interrupting) to speak.

It has been evident many times how important listening is in ministry. It takes time; it takes effort and can be

draining emotionally and physically. A willingness to listen is one way of caring for a person's needs, allowing someone to express openly the thoughts and sometimes

burdens of the heart. Many times, talking enables us to understand a problem more clearly, which can relieve inward pressures and focus on the process of finding God's solution. "Thank you for listening. I feel so much better



(continued on next page)

The Ministry of Listening

(continued from page 1)

now,” or even, “I know what I’m going to do,” or similar comments I have heard after a conversation. Of course, not every “listening session” is simple. Sometimes continuing to wait on God’s answer is the outcome, but it’s amazing how often listening actively to a person can produce a therapeutic result—and is part of the ministry available to the missionaries and staff at Siloam.

There’s not enough space to *talk* more about *listening*, but Ecclesiastes 3:7 reminds us that there is “A time to be silent and a time to speak.” James tells us, “everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak *and* slow to anger” (3:7). It is essential for all of us to be good listeners to the One who spoke all things into existence “and upholds all things by the word of His power” (Hebrews 1:3). We can “hear” His words speak to our hearts in the Book He gave us that has an undetermined number of words, more than 783,000. “God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these last days has spoken to us in His Son...” (Hebrews 1:1-2). Are we good listeners?

H. Milton Wilder

Comfort Quilters Bless Siloam

In June, I (Joyce) had the amazing privilege of flying out to Boise, Idaho for a special event. One of our missionary residents put us in touch with a precious group of ladies whose ministry is “Comfort Quilters.” This group of women make quilts for “individuals facing challenging medical circumstances, personal crises, bereavement and joyous events like the arrival of a new child.” Our missionary friend challenged them (or gave them the opportunity... whichever way you look at it...lol) to make quilts for all of the beds on Siloam’s campus! That’s a lot of beds!

Well, these ladies accepted the challenge and made 58 quilts for Siloam’s campus! In June, their church, Eagle Christian Church, hosts a car show and this year the ladies showcased the quilts that they had made for Siloam. They asked me to come and represent Siloam during the event.

I had a wonderful time with these generous ladies. I was able to spend time with them, watching them create beautiful masterpieces with so much love and care. And so now, these quilts are covering beds here at Siloam. They have added so much brightness and are also a source of comfort as the missionaries come to stay.

A special thank you to our missionary friend, Anna Millstead, who put us in touch with the ladies, and to each of the ladies who spent so much of their time and resources to bless our missionary families.



Work Teams Make a HUGE Difference

When you look around Siloam’s campus, there are few places (probably none, actually) that have not been built, fixed, replaced, or touched by “work teams.” Ever since Siloam began ministry in 1992 we have relied on volunteers to help us build and just keep the grounds and homes maintained. Over the past couple of months, we have hosted several teams.

Maple Grove Church from Topeka, Indiana, has been coming to do projects here at Siloam for 25 years! Every July we can count on them

to come and help us with whatever needs to be done. This year, their group helped us do a major upgrade on the Isley House by taking down popcorn ceiling that was flaking, and then repainting the ceilings. Then they painted three bedrooms and two bathrooms, replaced fixtures in bathrooms and just made the home fresh! In addition to this, bicycle repairs were made and some other miscellaneous jobs were done. And, the fellowship with these friends is always a blessing to our staff. The week ended with inviting the missionary families to join us for

dinner, praise and worship. Thank you, Maple Grove Church!

South Fork Friends, Holly Springs Friends and Poplar Ridge Friends youth groups spent two days helping us refinish our trolley. We use the trolley to provide a tour to groups that come for “lunch and a tour” and other special events. They had to disassemble all of the seats and scrape and sand the entire trolley. Then, a fresh coat of paint has been applied and some repairs made. We are so thankful for their involvement and hard work so that those who come to visit us at Siloam can have

a comfortable ride. Thank you, everyone!

With so many homes, parking lots and other buildings, there are always lots of flower and shrub beds to keep up. Volunteers from Hines Chapel

Church came to help following the pastor's challenge to the families to take on a missions project. The two families helped us spread a load of mulch that had been donated. They worked hard in the August heat, but

got most of the spaces around the homes and buildings mulched. Now everything looks so clean and well kept.

Thank you, Hines Chapel Church!



BETTY'S RECIPE



MEXICAN RICE CASSEROLE

Ingredients:

- 1 Pound Ground Beef
- 1 Small Onion, Diced
- Salt & Pepper, To Taste
- 1 package Taco Seasoning
- 1 Teaspoon Garlic Powder
- 1 Cup Long Grain White Rice
- 1 ½ Cups Beef Broth
- 1 15 Ounce Can Corn, Drained
- 8 Ounces Tomato Sauce
- 1 10 ounce can Ro Tel diced tomatoes & green chilies
- 1 Cup Shredded Cheese

Directions:

Cook the ground beef and onion together with salt and pepper to taste in a large skillet over medium high heat until beef is no longer pink. Drain grease if necessary. Return the pan to the stove and sprinkle the beef with the garlic powder and taco seasoning.

Stir in the rice, broth, corn, tomato sauce, and Ro Tel. Bring mixture to a boil. Cover, reduce heat and simmer for 18-20 minutes until rice is tender.

Top with cheese and return the lid to the pan for 2-3 minutes until cheese is melted. May be served with chips or salad and you can add Salsa if you like.

HONORARIUMS & MEMORIALS

In Memory of...

Mary Ruth Souther
by Faye Covert

Zane Miller
by Riverside Baptist Church

Jeffrey W Mann
by Linda Mann

In Honor of...

Ernest & Betty Davis
by Elaine Welch

Gary White
by Elaine Welch

Dear Coffee Club Members,



Change....that is what I am hearing so much these days. Change... most of us don't really like it, we typically like things to just stay the way they are because we are comfortable. But, all of us go through seasons of life when change happens and how we handle it makes a big difference.

Michael's article regarding "maintaining the focus" here at Siloam is all about change. When God laid it on our hearts 32 years ago to follow His plan for our lives, He gave us a passion to provide homes for missionaries. I'm sure that I have mentioned in past newsletters that I was raised on the mission field of Brazil and knew what it was like to return to the US and not have a *place to call home*. For me, this ministry of providing homes for missionaries comes from a place deep in my heart.

Over the years, we added things to the ministry that we had hoped would be an additional blessing to the families who come here to rest and renew. One of those things was Camp Glory Farm. Although there have been some good things (those baby goats are so cute!) and some benefits that have come out of it over the years, we have come to the realization that the farming aspect of it has created work that is actually taking away from the daily needs of keeping the homes and grounds in good condition. And so, change must take place in order to bring our focus back to our original mission of providing homes for missionaries.

Camp Glory will remain a place for short term stays, campsites and RV sites for traveling families and volunteers.

Pray for all of us as we adjust to this "change," that God will continue to be glorified and that missionaries will continue to be refreshed. Thank you for your partnership.

Your "Coffeemate," Joyce George

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

☐ John Williams

☐ 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!

Newsletter layout and printing provided by KATART GRAPHICS | www.katart.com