



Sharing Hope Ministry

Sharing Hope N • E • W • S

NOVEMBER 2005

ISSUE NO. 34

—PHONE NUMBER—

Sharing Hope Ministry
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—STAFF—

April Riggs, Executive Director
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Leigh Link, Secretary
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—STATISTICS—

Total *Life Recovery Bibles* Distributed:
31,121

Total Bible Study Workbooks Distributed:
14,248

—VOLUNTEERS—

Pen Pal Volunteers: **100**

Office Volunteers: **36**

Prayer Group Volunteers: **4**

Stepping Stones Volunteers: **8**

Visitation Team Volunteers: **7**

Teaching Team Volunteers: **14**

—BOARD OF DIRECTORS —

Brenda Blakley, President

Sammye Stark, Vice President

Connie Hodges, Secretary

Chris Brady Jim Burgess

Dan Hetrick Rod Jones

Becky Logsdon George Snell

Newsletter Design Courtesy of

Graphic Designs by Kim - 622-8399



The last few months Sharing Hope Ministry has experienced an explosion of blessings due to the work of our Sharing Hope friends. Our friends are wonderfully diverse in their talents and in how they serve God through this ministry. There are some who serve by sending out materials, and some who visit the jails. Their commitment is felt by thousands of women who receive God's word and encouragement through our office. Other talents are seen through leadership, fundraising, providing resources, and labor to keep the office running smoothly. This newsletter highlights some of the exciting events that have happened within the last few months because of their effort.

Sharing Hope Board Raises over \$14,000 dollars

Sharing Hope Ministry's volunteer Board of Directors serves as leadership for the ministry. These last few months the Board undertook a challenge to raise money without involving staff or volunteers. The Board of Directors had a two-fold purpose in this endeavor: to raise financial support and to bring new people into the Sharing Hope family. The Board of Directors ended their drive on September 30th and have raised over \$14,700.00.

Volunteers Make the 2005 Christmas in October a Huge Success

The Christmas in October Gift and Craft Show that was held October 1st and 2nd at the Civic Center was able to raise over \$21,000. The proceeds of this event will allow this ministry to provide Bibles, study material and services to about 1500 women who are incarcerated in the State of Texas.

The success of this event was accomplished through the nearly 300 volunteers representing many different area churches who had a part in organizing and running this fundraiser. Those involved headed up committees, helped with set up, took tickets, sold items, provided baked goods, holiday plates and baskets, decorated bake sale items, cleaned up after the event, and prayed for its success. We applaud all who were involved for the great job.

An **EXPLOSION** of Blessings!

The Great Weekend of Encouragement

Christmas In October Huge Success

(continued from page 1)

Bake Sale raises \$4,400. Thanks to all the women who donated and decorated the food items.



*Bake Sale Chairman,
Earline Stiles*

And the Winner Is...
Lyla McCarty from Amarillo



The women in Knotty Knitters are Misty Ingle, Louise Brown, Ruthie Chandler, Pearl Powers, Event Co-Chair Wanda DeVoll

Over 77 different vendors participated in the Christmas in October Gift and Craft Show.

Two Sunday school classes participated in Paramount Terrace Christian Church's "Great Weekend of Encouragement" by reaching out to Sharing Hope Ministry. Their purpose was to reach out to the community through practical acts of service. Each group found a specific need that Sharing Hope had and came through with flying colors. Sharing Hope Ministry is grateful for the time, energy and finances given to further the ministry.

The **Ambassador's Class** raised money so that Sharing Hope could purchase a banner to use at fundraising events, trainings, and speaking engagements. They also purchased enough round tablecloths to be used at the annual Hope Fest Dinner and Silent Auction.



The **Singles Too Sunday School Class** spent several hours one Saturday working to clean up the office inside and out, and also helped with preparations for the Christmas In October fundraising event held October 1st and 2nd.

New Technology Helps Sharing Hope Ministry Keep Up With Inmate Requests

In August, Sharing Hope Ministry implemented a new Access database system that has lightened work for our volunteers. This system allows us to process inmate requests faster and more efficiently while still allowing our volunteers to spend the time giving a personal touch to each request. As a result, it is not uncommon for our requests to have a 24 hour turnaround time from receipt of the request to the Bibles being sent out. The ministry is also seeing a cost savings on office supplies that are no longer needed.

Reports can now be generated to help us track where our Bibles are being sent, how long it takes to respond to the request, and to target facilities that have a higher return rate.



Carolyn Holmes working at the new computer donated by Tiffany and Ferrin Homes, Inc.

Meet Carlos Wilhite



Carlos has been making sure that the Sharing Hope Office is functional for several years. He and friends originally put in the ramp at the back door that allows volunteers to access the office, and he has provided the pen pal mailbox on the back porch.

Carlos came through again with a new coat of paint for our mailbox and made repairs to our ramp.

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT

Sharing Hope Ministry, Inc. has several different ministry opportunities available.

This month we will highlight those opportunities as a Stepping Stones Mentor.



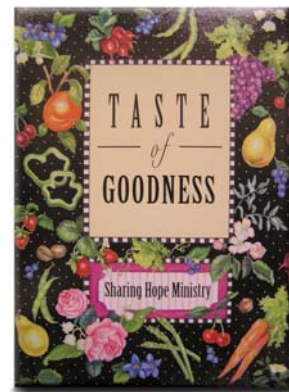
The need for aftercare is as important as ministering to a woman while she is behind bars. The reality of life after prison is overwhelming and emotionally daunting. The transition is a difficult one to make; therefore, each of these women need someone grounded in Christian living who leads by example.

The Stepping Stones Partners program is a growing aspect of Sharing Hope Ministry. Trained female mentors partner with a Sharing Hope client who has been recently released from jail or prison, in order to provide one-on-one care giving. The partners help the clients in a variety of ways, from seemingly simple things to more complex matters. For example, a recent client struggled with self-esteem in facing a job interview. Seeing this struggle, her Stepping Stones partner took time to role play job interviews with her. The woman went into the interview with confidence and got the job that will help her progress on her journey to a new way of living. In another case, a client in the program fell back, momentarily relapsing into her drug of choice. The program was not cut off to her. Instead, her Stepping Stones partner continued to love and encourage her – showing by example the grace of God. In doing this, the Stepping Stones partner was able to help the woman get back on the right path, and taught her to turn to God in all circumstances.

The program is meeting the call to encourage and build one another up by walking with these women as they meet one of life's greatest challenges: changing destructive behavior patterns by constructive, Christ-centered living.

Do Your Christmas Shopping at Sharing Hope

The "Taste of Goodness" cookbook makes a great gift for any occasion and can be purchased through the Sharing Hope office. The cookbook is a hard-back 3-ring binder with 500 tested recipes and is available at a cost of \$12.50.



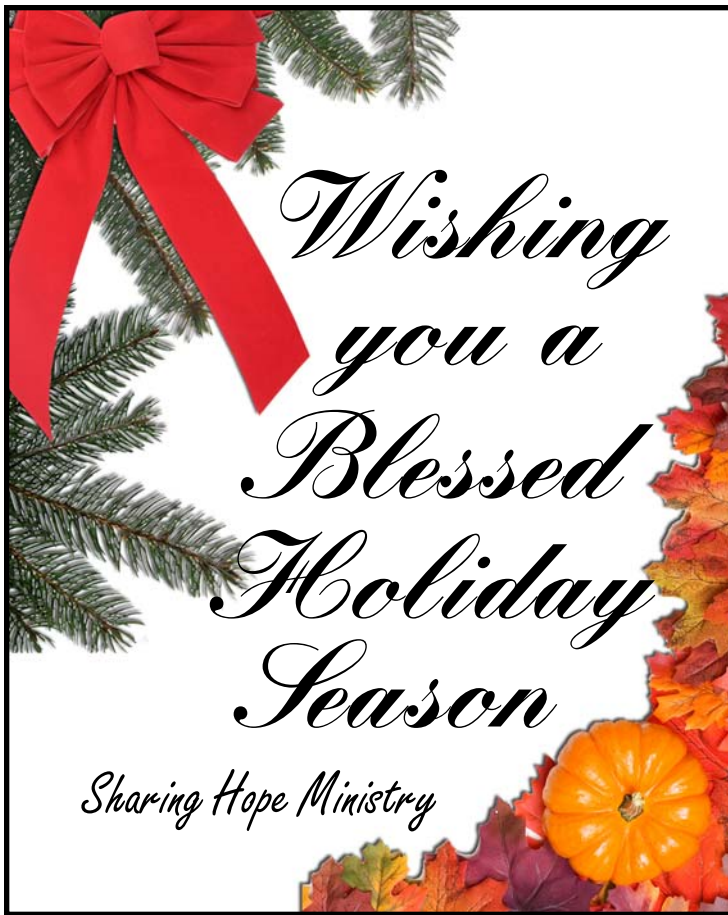
Please feel free to stop in or email your request to:

leigh@sharinghopeministry.org

A stylized illustration of a woman with long brown hair, wearing a green and yellow striped shirt, holding a large book. The background is light pink with several white starburst graphics.

Saturday Workday Schedule

December 3, 2005
January 7, 2006
9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Come help out!



P.O. Box 19985
Amarillo, Texas 79114

Non Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Amarillo, Texas
Permit No. 237

Sharing Hope Supporters - July-Sept 2005

Sharon Albracht
Martha Allison
Amarillo Children's Clinic
Amarillo National Bank
Ambassador's Class
Letha Banks
Jane Barclay
Cheryl Barger
MM Jerald Barry
Brenda Benson
Rhonda Bilbrey
Donna Bishop
Carol Blakley
Virginia Bonifield
Bonnie Boyd
Marie Braboy
Dr. Mrs Chris Brady
MM Bill Brewer
MM Doug Briggs
Joe Brogdon
MM Hoytt Busby
Mrs. Bob Callan
MM Thomas Cambridge
MM Hal Carpenter
Roberta Cantrell
Donna Cobb
Dr. and Mrs. John Colvert
Sheryl Cook
Virginia Cooley
Lezlie Cooper
Shannon Cornell
MM Larry Cross

MM Bruce Culvahouse
Amy Cunningham
Shirley Daniel
Reather Dawkins
Destiny Outreach
Mary Lynn Dodson
MM Ray E. Doherty
Arnie Duncan
Linda Endres
Faith City Mission
MM Steve Ferrin
Fisherman's Class
MM Frank Fox
Dale Fritzwater
Cheryl Gailey
MM Dale Garland
MM Bob Garrett
MM Byron Gossett
Michael Graham
Bonnie Green
MM Paul Gusler
T.D. Hammons
MM Gus Hampton
Glenda Hendrix
Dr. and Mrs Ronald Hodge
Barbara Hoffaman
Billie Hopson
MM Joe Hom
MM Jack Hudgins
Sherry Hutchison
MM Ken Johnson
MM Rich Jones

Rod Jones
MM Carter Karr
MM Robert Kauffman
Sarah Kealii
Tim Koetting
Jerry Kysar
Stewart Labus
Lampighter's Class
MM Bill Lardie
Penny Lawlis
Becky Logsdon
Elizabeth Lott
Elizabeth Maddox
MM Eugene Marshall
Joy Mathews
Mrs. Robert McPherson
Ron McVean
MM Harold Meyers
John Miller
Julie Mitchell
Margaret Moore
Laurie Morris
Barbara Moss
MM A.L. Nail
New Beginings
C.F. Newsom
MM Steven Norris
Ginger Pace
Paramount Terrace Christian
Church
John Petty
MM David Ponder

Mrs. LeRoy Pullum
Michael Pusateri
Blake Reeder
MM Bill Richardson
Debbie Rigdon
MM R.D. Rigdon
MM Dave Riggs
Rev & Mrs John Riggs
June Robinson
Karen Robinson
Lydia Rodriguez
Tanya Rogers
MM Tom Roller
MM Dale Rollins
Belinda Salmon
Jack Sisemore Traveland
MM Fletcher Smith
MM Johnny Smith
MM George Snell
Helen Spencer
Linda Stafford
MM Don Stark
MM Dale Swan
Douglas Toulouse
United Way of
Amarillo/Canyon
E.G. Washer
W.M. Washer Jr
Meggan Weice
Westcliff Bible Church
Carolyn Williams
MM Marvin Willis

Margaret Willis
MM Mickey Wilson
Constance Windows
Women of Grace

IN KIND DONATIONS

Darla Andrew
Brenda Blakley
Anita Blieu
Phyllis Hicks
Dixie Fulton
Kimberly Lester
Vickie Merrill
Paramount Terrace Christian
Church
Louis Plunk
Claudia Sams
Singles Too Class
Soroptimist Club
Juanita Taylor
Tiffany and Ferrin Homes
Linda Webb
Welcome Partner
Westwind Direct
Carlos Wilhite

IN MEMORY OF:
Valarie Azzinarrie
By Ms. Ethel Davey

Darlene Van Lanningham
By:
Jean Childs
Fred & Jan Coburn
J'Melle Fletcher
Bonnie Green
Laura & John Parrott
April Riggs
Mr. Tom Roller
Mary & Maurice Schooler
Laura Sims
Jimmy & Carolyn Williams
Toot N' Totum, MM Mitchell

Valarie Azzinarrie
By Ms. Ethel Davey

Lou Anne Northcutt
By Don and Gladys Mickey

Corinne Payne Wright
By The Samaritan's Class

Brian Mickey
By Don and Gladys Mickey

George Cummings mother
By Jimmy & Carolyn
Williams

In Honor of Bill and Pat
Needham
By Stacy Batenhorst