



CHRISTIAN SHELTER UPDATE

OCTOBER 2019



A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE CHRISTIAN SHELTER IN SALISBURY, MARYLAND

NO PLACE TO LAY HIS AGING HEAD

“Even the sparrow has found a home.” (Psalm 84: 3)

At age 70 Mr. D. is back in Christian Shelter again, for the fifth time since 1999. Before his first shelter stay Mr. D. was a hard worker in low skill, limited income jobs, including 10 years in the poultry industry. He pretty much lived from pay check to pay check, so when he became seriously sick, he lost work time and couldn't keep up with the rent. After two weeks at Christian Shelter, he was back to work with his own housing.

Mr. D. experienced the same sequence of events - sickness leading to lost work hours leading to homelessness - three more times in 2000, 2010 and 2012. This same sad sequence is experienced by many working men with low job skills and incomes,

Finally, with old age creeping on, Mr. D. suffered a serious stroke resulting in memory and mobility loss and permanent unemployment. He was able to retire at that point and receive a hardly livable income from Social Security, depending on family to help him with housing. When these family resources were no longer available due to frequent periods of hospitalization, Mr. D. found himself once more at Christian Shelter's door.

Mr. D. has no history of drug or alcohol abuse or involvement with the criminal justice system. He says he believes his failure to go to church and to work on his faith in God has been part of the reason for his continuing struggle with homelessness. "This time I really need to get closer to God," Mr. D. explained to Shelter Staff. Please pray for Mr. D. - that as he draws closer to God, God will draw closer to Him.

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REBUILDING THE WALLS



“Rebuilding the walls” continues; final sealing coat going on.

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NEW LEADERSHIP AT CHRISTIAN SHELTER

“But I have called you out of the world.” (John 15: 19)



With great rejoicing, the Christian Shelter Board of Directors announces the hiring of our first ever **Executive Director**. The Board has worked tirelessly over the past eighteen months seeking, searching, praying, reviewing applications and interviewing candidates for this position. At their monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 26 the Board unanimously voted to hire Pastor J. Anthony Dickerson, who has been serving as Readiness and Placement Coordinator at Goodwill Industries of the Chesapeake, Inc. Pastor Dickerson also shepherds the Greater Mount Olive Baptist Church in Cambridge, MD.

Pastor Dickerson resides in Salisbury with his wife of 28 years, Annette. He comes to Christian Shelter with the conviction that the greatest tragedy in life is to live without purpose. It is his desire to work with our homeless population, build relationships with and provide leadership for the Shelter Staff as they give the Shelter guests meaning, direction and purpose for their lives. Please pray that the Lord will be glorified through Pastor Dickerson’s leadership ministry at Christian Shelter.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO “MEET AND GREET” PASTOR DICKERSON IN THE CHRISTIAN SHELTER DINNING ROOM ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2019 BETWEEN 11:30 AM and 1:00 PM. A LITE LUNCHEON WILL BE SERVED. ALL ARE WELCOME.



SISTER KAY WATSON RELUCTANTLY RETIRES AFTER 30 PLUS YEARS OF FAITHFUL MINISTRY AT CHRISTIAN SHELTER

“Each one should use whatever gifts he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms.” (1 Peter 4: 10)



For more than thirty years, on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, Sister Kay Watson let the light of Jesus Christ shine through her ministry of Bible teaching and prayer to the struggling, homeless guests of Christian Shelter. Sister Kay would often bring brothers and sisters from Walker Memorial Church with her. They too gladly shared their gifts, leading worship and sometimes sharing from God’s Word. At the urging of her family, Sister Kay has agreed to “slow down” her physical activity a bit. Her ministry at Christian Shelter will be sorely missed Thank you, Lord, for Sister Kay. May your light continue to shine brightly through her.

LABOR DAY IN THE LORD'S VINEYARD

“Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.” (1Corinthians 15: 58)

In His wisdom God has located Christian Shelter in a neighborhood where poverty and human problems abound. He has also blessed His Shelter with the life-changing power of His love in Jesus, which was shining forth as a light in a dark place this Labor Day weekend. Shelter Staff and guests participated in a neighborhood outreach ministry held in the Shelter parking lot. It was organized by one of our Shelter Night Staff assisted by the Congregation he pastors, Spiritual Warfare Ministries. The 2-day event included special children's ministry, a clothing give-away, grilled burgers and dogs and all the fixings both evenings followed by Christian music and Bible preaching. Many of our neighbors came out and joined in. Many received prayer. Many hearts were opened to the love of Jesus.



Crowd begins to gather on the Shelter lot



Clothing Ministry is set up



Music Ministry tuning up



Children's Ministry

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Think about saving yourself and the postman shoe leather each time you receive your Christian Shelter newsletter. Don't walk to your mailbox, just turn on your computer and there it is. Just send us your email address in the enclosed envelope or call at 410-749-5673 and we will do the rest.

RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED-SEND TO:
CHRISTIAN SHELTER, INC.
334 BARCLAY STREET
SALISBURY MD 21804

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A LITTLE (AMAZON) SMILE CAN GO A LONG WAY

“For God loves a cheerful giver”
(2 Corinthians 9: 7)

Christian Shelter is on the list of agencies you can benefit whenever you purchase anything through Amazon on the smile.amazon.com website. Any internet shopping you do from routine purchases to holiday gifts can now provide a financial donation to the Shelter’s ministry to homeless people in crisis, including families with children. When you reach for that “mouse” remember God’s house at Christian Shelter.

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ARE YOU LOOKING FOR WORK THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE?

Consider making a difference to homeless people as a Night Staff Worker at Christian Shelter. The pay isn’t great, but the blessings are out of this world. Call 410-749-5673 or come by the Shelter at 334 Barclay St., Salisbury, MD.

CHANGE IS COMING

It’s not just the walls we are rebuilding. Our population is changing. Christian Shelter is seeing a growing number of families with children. In response new leadership has come in. Organization and staff are being revitalized. Shelter communications will soon have a new look. Come join our new Executive Director for a bite of lunch on 11/11/19 from 11:30 to 1:00 PM.

Also coming soon is a “Ribbon Cutting” for a new Children’s Respite Facility at Christian Shelter. Get ready to come and see what God is doing!