

EVANGEL HOME

Ministering to homeless women & children since 1955

Spring 2018

Gerre Brenneman

Leaving a Legacy of Love & Leadership

Christ Leads

People Care

Lives Change

From the DIRECTOR

*“...a time to every purpose
under Heaven...” Ecclesiastes 3:1*

As I approach my 30th anniversary as Evangel Home director in May, it is a bittersweet time. I am planning to retire at the end of this year. I've always thought that the call from God to retire would be as clear as His call to lead the ministry, and it was.



Gerre and some of the Evangel Home staff children.

As I prepare for that time, I first want to highlight a few things about Evangel Home. Last fall, staff member Sarah Dawson asked what she could learn and how she could prepare to someday be the director. God planted the seed then about the importance for me to train someone to take my place. Sarah is that someone. I met her 20 years ago when she served here as a college intern. Even though she has had other jobs, she never lost her interest in Evangel Home and always stayed in touch. She currently is our night house manager. She is just as fearful and excited as I was about becoming director in 1988 -- feeling inadequate and eager at the same time. But we both know that God is leading us, and we trust Him.

Evangel Home is really three things: ministry, small business and family.

As a Christian ministry, we are dedicated to our motto: Christ Leads, People Care, Lives Change. That remains our commitment, and I pray that people will continue to care, perhaps even more, during this year of transition. There are still precious women coming to us who need the hope of Christ and the support and acceptance they receive at Evangel Home.



As a "small business," we run a tight ship. We will continue to be as transparent with finances, and as open and honest with our decisions, as we always have been.

Jesus is the heart of Evangel Home, and it is the job of the director to hold onto the heart strings! Sarah (left) and Gerre helped with the Heart Sisters' Kick Off Brunch.

continued top of page 3

From the Director *continued from page 2*

One characteristic of a strong small business is that it is not dependent on one person. When Sarah began to wonder if she could one day be the director, I was excited to begin teaching her. She will take over in 2019, so I still get to write you a few letters! I believe this is one of the most important communication tools we have, and I am confident Sarah will connect with you in her own style.

Finally, Evangel Home staff is family, and this is not something I can just walk away from. I will have to figure out ways to stay connected and supportive while allowing new leadership to flourish. I am so thankful that God has allowed me to serve Him, alongside other devoted workers, in a place where we really do make a difference. It's going to be a busy and blessed year!

Gerre Brennehan, Executive Director

Dear Gerre:

What a privilege to hire you all those years ago! You have blessed the Fresno community with your phenomenal leadership while guiding Evangel Home into a full menu of ministries! The programs you established have benefitted the many broken ladies who came through the Pink Door hoping for "life answers and wholeness." You and the excellent staff have loved and nourished the children with commitment unseen anywhere else in their lives.

I want to express my appreciation for your years of excellent leadership and Christian example to all of us! I thank you for your sweet friendship.

Congratulations on your well-deserved retirement!

Love,

*Brenda K. English,
Board President 1988*

**Nothing can stop
God's plan for
your life.**

Isaiah 14:27

There's Nothing like a Heart Sister!



One reason Heart Sisters week succeeds is because Evangel Home has heart sisters beyond our walls. Some of those “sisters” are Kira Armbruster and St. Gregory Armenian Church women’s group.



Ready for make-upping with Kira (3rd from left).

Kira put out a call to her Stella and Dot team because she wanted each of our residents and staff to have a great make-up bag full of goodies. Poof! It was done, and the women loved them.



St. Gregory women (above) filled two large laundry baskets with little gifts so that our women could make secret gift drops every day during the week to their special heart sister. It is always such fun to watch them surprise and encourage each other.

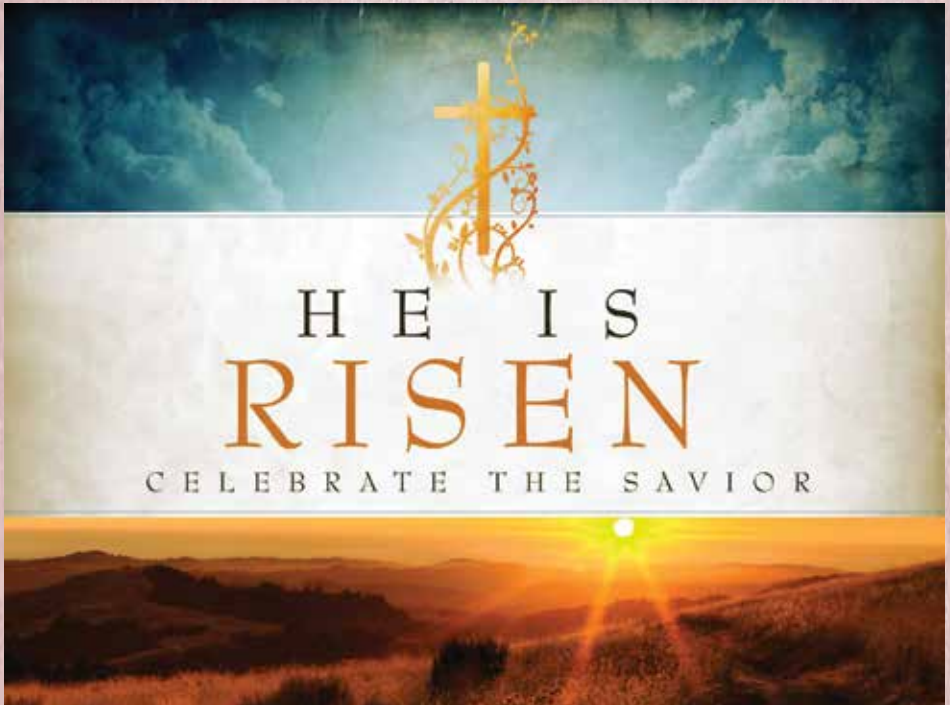
Heart sisters is a time for us to show the women, in a tangible way, that God loves them and that nothing is more important than a relationship with Him. A second thing we want to show them is that Valentine’s Day can also be a time to celebrate friends. Most of them have never had really good friends and friendship can be difficult for them to build. Evangel Home has held this special activity for 32 years, and during this time hundreds of women have been showered with unexpected love.



Darrell & Diane Miller: Our Praying Donors

We are so very thankful for Darrell and Diane Miller who come with household necessities every month and pray with the women who help unload these items. Such prayers and gifts bless us all year round, every hour of the day.

Thank you!



Let the Rain Come Down!!



The need for a new roof at the Learning Center was presented to you at last year's banquet. We now have that roof, and are praying the rain will come down.

Thank you!

Memorial & Honoraria Donations

If you would like to remember a loved one with a memorial donation or honor a special person or milestone through a gift to Evangel Home, please complete the following form.

Honoraria

Memorial

Name of deceased or honoree

Honoraria occasion (optional)

Send acknowledgement card to:

Address

City

State

Zip

Remembered by (your name):

Address

City

State

Zip

Amount Enclosed
\$ _____
Checks may be made payable to:
EVANGEL HOME

Mail completed form to:
EVANGEL HOME
137 N. Yosemite
Fresno, CA 93701

Congratulations, Michelle!

MICHELLE GONZALES - our first beautiful graduate of 2018. Can you say proud and thank you Lord!

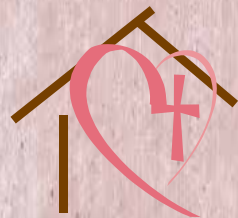


Michelle is now in our Community Connection program. As part of the application process she had to do some deep thinking and write a paper about herself.

A few of those lines tell her story: "Here at Evangel Home I have done some personal growth. I never thought I was ever going to make in my life. . . . In the beginning I felt the urge to walk out the door over the smallest things. But it hit me that it's about the choices we have in life. That night I prayed to God that I can look past the small things and look toward the bigger picture of completing the program and taking advantage of everything it offers. I've come to realize I was created for a purpose, and to fulfill that purpose I need to seek God with all my heart and soul."



Michelle's parents, Julio and Linda, are so very proud of their daughter and so grateful to God and Evangel Home for "restoring our daughter."



EVANGEL HOME BOA

There is a fun animated video on our website (evangelhome.org or search Youtube for Evangel Home Fresno) called "One Heart, Many Parts." It compares the essentials of our ministry to a healthy body, and one of the most important but unseen parts is the muscle system. For us that is the board. It provides strength, motion, movement, tone, and flexibility.

Hundreds of dedicated men and women have taken positions on the board and served Evangel Home since 1955. They have devoted hours, days and years; resources, prayers and guidance; all so that our women and children can have a safe place, a new start, and an understanding of what it means to have Jesus in their lives.



The first official board picture available dates to 1971, and even though the attire was more formal than today, the language was more “King James” and the issues were different, board members have always led by serving. The board is one of the primary reasons that the Evangel Home is healthy and strong.

PAST PRESIDENTS include Nelda Baker (left) and Rita Evans. These incredible women share about 60 years of service and support to Evangel Home. There is no way we can ever thank them enough.



RD THRU THE YEARS



Rick Pharr, 2017 president, passes the gavel to this year's president, **Deb Avedisian**. Serving as an Evangel Home board president requires vision, courage, and determination all bathed in humility.



New to the board this year are Kaylan Roberts (left) and Manuel Lopez (lower left).

Kaylan, a member of First Presbyterian Church Fresno, is employed at Burchell Nursery. What has the Lord been teaching her lately? "I'm a redeemed person walking around in a world that is clamoring for redemption."



Manuel, "Manny," calls New Covenant his home church. He had his own business for many years in boat manufacturing and repairs. Manny's desire to serve on the board started at one of our banquets: "I was touched by the transformation of lives. Saving the lost is my desire."

Meet Tenisha Farve, Our New Day Care Manager

Tenisha joined us earlier this year and is doing a wonderful job with the children and their moms. What does she like most about being in charge of this important area? "I love that I can share my faith and have my career at the same time."



Tenisha also loves helping the toddlers learn to communicate and says it is fun to see the mothers get excited over what the kids are learning.

Gerre makes Tenisha official by giving her the Evangel Home mascot—a Margaret Hudson hedgehog.

There is one more thing Tenisha really likes about her new position: "It's great to have the opportunity to decorate and the freedom to create the way I want day care to be."



GRADUATE MISSIONARY

When God delivered Char Nelson **FROM** a destructive drug lifestyle, He delivered her **TO** places where Char could help others. Now this 2002 GARDEN graduate is on her way to Ecuador to serve as a missionary with orphans.

Before this distant trip, there was one much closer to home. Several years ago Char learned that Maxine Miller, a long-time Evangel Home staff member, had Alzheimer's and was nearing the end of her life. Char pledged to do something and said, "Max took care of me in the GARDEN, and now it's my turn to care for her."

And care she did. During the last several years of Maxine's life, Char never missed visiting at least once a week. She took her to dinner and on long Sunday drives, read Scripture, and walked every step of the journey with her.

God has given Char a tremendous heart - one that is on fire for Christ and for helping others in His name. We could not be more honored to have a graduate such as this amazing woman.



Char Nelson



This picture of Char and Maxine, taken in the Spring of 2011, shows only one example of Char's deep commitment to love and help others in the Name of Christ.

CURRENT NEEDS



As you can see, our pantry needs include canned soup, chili beans, refried beans, tomato sauce and canned corn. In addition, you can imagine how many rolls of toilet paper are needed on a daily basis, for a campus housing over 24 women and children! Please think of us when you plan your grocery lists.



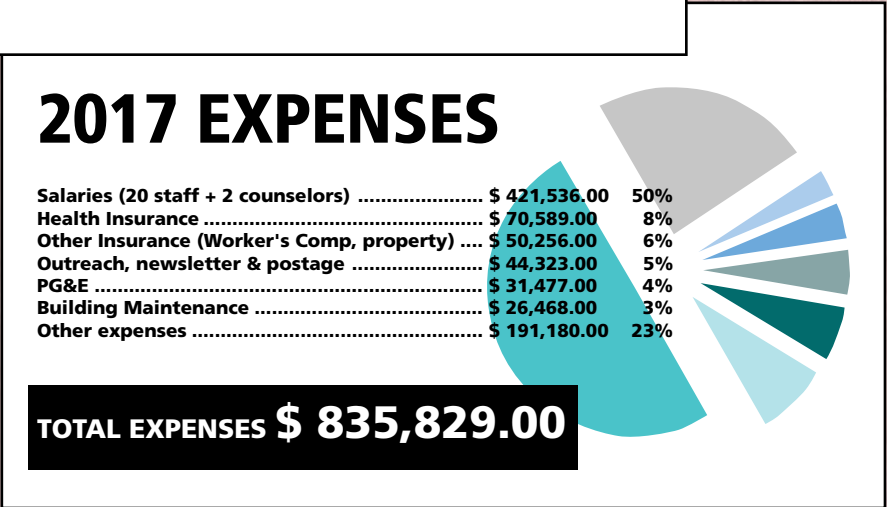
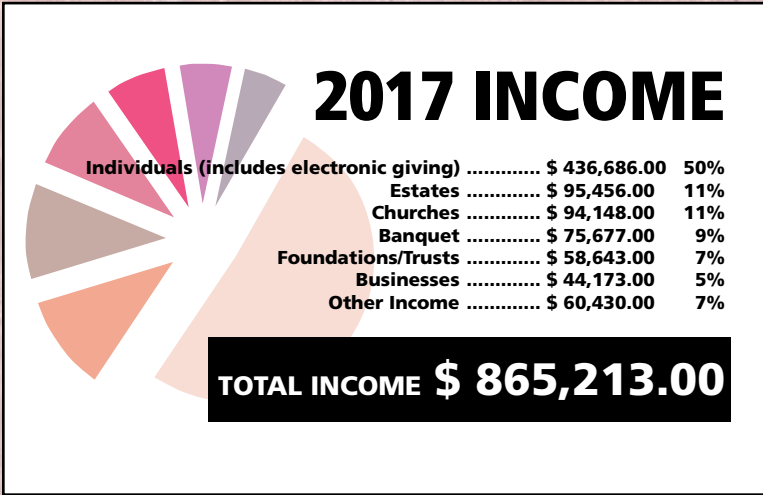
Our ever-resourceful office manager, Emily Dull, climbed into this Amazon shipping box to remind everyone that Evangel Home has a “wish list” on Amazon.com. For a list of the items, please contact Emily at 264-4714.

Emily is skilled at thinking both inside and outside the box!



FINANCIAL UPDATE

Thank you for letting us end the year with a little extra money. We received a total of \$865,000 and spent \$836,000. Taking the top seven categories in income and expense, a general summary looks like this:



Financial Report through February

Income:	\$114,000
Expense	\$154,000

Expenses included a new roof for the Learning Center (donations came in last year) and five new heaters for apartments. We are very grateful for the surplus of giving as we closed 2017.

Judith Aced

Wilda Frasher

Deb Avedisian

Eugene & Barbara Kline

Nelda Baker

Bill & Shirley

Armbruster

Gerre Brenneman

Nelda & Jerry Baker

Bill & Shirley

Armbruster

Debbie & Mel Kazarian

Gerre Brenneman

Bill & Shirley

Armbruster

Rita Evans

Marilyn Zuercher

Mr. & Mrs. Jeremy

Corea

Winifred Bretz

Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan

Corea

Winifred Bretz

Mr. & Mrs. Tom Corea

Winifred Bretz

Rosemary Cotton

Jannay Erbe

Lau Fleming

Frank Shannon

Cheyen Towne

Evangel Home

Anonymous

Wilda Frasher

Judith Aced

Doris Ghan

Family Focus Missions

John Hogendorf

Courtney Hogendorf

Curtis Holmes

Ruth Crisp

Ben & Amber Holscher

Kim Anderson

Carolyn Lopez

Family Focus Missions

Bruce Margosian

Russell & Nina Adams

D.L. & Mary McCoy

Doug & Toby Harrison

Jay & Debbie Mills

Doug & Toby Harrison

John Salmonson

Carol Salmonson

June Stevens

Melissa Reppert

The Pink Door

Anonymous

Francis & Nancy

Weaver

Sharon Weaver

Patty White

Family Focus Missions

Mr. & Mrs. John

Yakligian

Janet DaSilva

You are invited to schedule a Bite of Lunch & Tour!

B

Are you looking for a unique way to celebrate your birthday, anniversary or other important milestone? An event where your guests come and have the opportunity to shower gifts on a ministry? If so, we invite you to call and schedule a BLT!

L

You and your guests will enjoy celebrating over lunch (with our staff and residents) preceded by a private tour of our Campus. We try to schedule most of our BLTs on Thursdays, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., with the tour from 11:00 a.m. until noon.

T

If you are interested in learning more or to schedule a date, please call and talk with Jessica Lusk, our Volunteer Coordinator, at 264-4714.

Becky Adams

Marilyn Zuercher

Rita Alire Winters

Willie Alire

Lucile Allen

Darlene Roach

Karl Avakian

Bruce & Karin Baloian

John Bell

Kathryn Bell

Florence Braun

Richard Griffin

Phil Crantz

Dave & Adrienne Kimball

Virginia Cristando

Frank Cristando

Marven J. Curteman

Joseph & Gail Cole

Marveda DeBoer

Tim & Janet DaSilva

Kenneth S. Fujii

Ellen Fujii

Ernie & Adelaide

Gabrielson

Ted Morgan

Maxine Haggmark

Rosemary Kennedy

Dorothy Hall

Marjorie Freeman

Carl Hopkins

Kitty McManus

Isabelle Kabrielian

Georgia & Pat Sample

Robin Locke

Joseph & Gail Cole

Lori Lum

Galen & Gloria Adam

Anderson Family

Ron & Carolyn Austin

Jon & Debbi Ball

Brian & Julie Buller

Rosemary Cotton

Michael & Karole Culy

DeMera Cameron LLP

Shirley Dunbar

Lyman & Marlene

Ehrlich

Grace & Richard Griffin

Clara Facciani

Steve & Lorna Hagy

Rose Hall

Jack & Linda Hannah

Allan & Bernice

Hedberg

Norman & Gladys Lee

George & Evelyn Rurik

Scott & Julie Rurik

Norm & Betty

Shamshoian

Ted & Joyce Smith

Scott & Andrea West

Don Winton Family

Maxine Miller

Ted Morgan

Tony Munoz, Jr.

Daral & Rosemary

Kennedy

Louise Najarian

Aram & Barbara

Garabedian

Mary Ramos

John & Jesse Hernandez

June Register

Tom & Janet DaSilva &

Family

Jerrold Rines

Kimberly Arvanigian

Marcie Rogers

Mildred Wade

Joyce Rupe

Buddy Rupe

Vahe Simonian

Bruce & Karen Baloian

Don Stanley

Bernice Enns

Zoe Ann Taylor

Monmouth United

Presbyterian Church

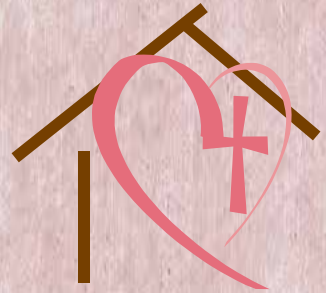
Women

Jefferson Venard

Roy & Shirley Killion

Dr. Bill Wade

Mildred Wade





www.evangelhome.org

RADIO SCHEDULE	
'HEARTLINE'	
KRDU 1130 AM	
Saturday	7:15 a.m., 7:30 p.m.
Sunday	5:45 p.m.
KCIV 99.9 FM	
Saturday	8:30 a.m.
KGED 1680 AM	
Saturday.....	11:00 a.m.
Sunday.....	11:30 a.m.
www.evangelhome.org	
or visit us on facebook	

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EVANGEL HOME

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evangelhome.org