

# EVANGEL HOME

Ministering to homeless women & children since 1955

Fall/Winter 2020

*Jesus...*  
*the greatest story,*  
*the most amazing gift,*  
*the blessed hope*  
*of all who believe.*



Christ Leads

People Care

Lives Change

# *From the* DIRECTOR

*Sarah Dawson*



## *Finding God's Rest*

I have wondered often over this last year if we are experiencing something like the year of Jubilee. According to Leviticus, every fifty years God's provisions would be enough for the people and land of Israel to take a year to be restored. Slaves were to be released, land returned to its former owner, debts forgiven, etc. While this seems pretty amazing, it seems like it came at a cost. What about those who have been working the land in the meantime? Where do they go now? Can you imagine the upheaval it must have caused to get that restoration? We as humans can get so attached to people, traditions, and the way we think things should go. We can think that all of these patterns, these possessions, and associated burdens belong to us when they don't. I imagine that having to return things every fifty years would help keep things in perspective, reminding the Israelites that their land and possessions belonged to God. Still, it must have been painful when the control over their lives was stripped away.

With the world and our nation in upheaval, it can be difficult to see any good. Things are uncertain and it is hard to live with uncertainty. What if this year is an opportunity for things to be restored, and this is part of that painful process? Will it be worth it? I absolutely believe that even though these circumstances are painful now, we will see great things on the other side, as we trust our great and wonderful God. We have the privilege of knowing and believing that God is good. We know that no matter the turmoil we can still praise Him. We can still trust Him. We know that even in the midst of this there is one thing that is certain: those who confess Jesus Christ as Lord, believe that He died, was raised again and now sits with the Father in heaven, have the promise of being with Him forever. This is not our home. We are just here for the moment. Our home is with Him forever. ***2 Corinthians 4:17 "For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all."***

Many of us are tired, if not plain exhausted. And yet, even in this exhaustion, I find hope because it reminds me of the reason that Evangel Home exists. Our founding verse in Matthew says, "Come to me all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest." We are here so that those women who have been worn down by life can come and find rest. I am grateful for and praying for each of you that read this, that you will find rest in God as you trust Him today.

*With Joy, Sarah Dawson*

# COVID UPDATE



In the last newsletter, we were in the very beginning stage of the pandemic and we were just starting to adjust to all the new rules. We asked staff to stay home if they were potentially at higher risk. We consolidated the GARDEN and Crisis residents and were not accepting new intakes, as we figured out how to proceed safely.

As time went on, we learned more about COVID and were able to move those in Crisis and GARDEN to their own apartments next door or to their next phase beyond Evangel Home. After each resident was able to find a place, we closed our doors for a few days while we prepared to let new residents come in. This was a daunting task as we searched how to balance bringing new people in and continuing to make it safe for incoming residents and staff. One of the adjustments was to decrease our max capacity to about half of what it was before, in accordance with government recommendations. This allowed for more space and less possibility of contamination. We have been taking temperatures twice a day, wearing masks in common areas, washing our hands frequently, and wiping down surfaces. Many of you went out of your way to make sure we had all the PPE we needed to reduce the risk of people getting sick.



*Sarah and Lorrie staying safe in their Evangel Home masks*

We were really blessed that for several months we did not encounter the virus. However, near the end of August, we saw our first case of COVID on campus. Although we had a plan in place for this, we were still a little shaken. Shortly after this, we had our second positive case. We are so grateful that these were two isolated cases and there was no outbreak on campus. The situation caused us to pause again and reevaluate. Some residents got understandably scared and chose to leave. Others we allowed to stay quarantined in one of the apartments next door. We cleared out and cleaned up the Crisis Home. A generous donor came in and used a chemical fog to decontaminate the Home. We left our doors closed for a few days while we used the newly cleaned Home to stage our “Banquet-in-a-Bag” fundraiser. We then took some time to re-examine our “COVID Rules” to see what we could do differently or better.



*Staff member Grace was able to celebrate her birthday in cupcake-style!*

*continued on page 4*

# COVID Update continued from page 3

In September we reopened again with adjusted rules. Since then, our population has been very low but increasing day by day. We continue to pray and seek what God would have us do to get this house in order to prepare for whatever comes next. Acts 27 and 28 have been particularly encouraging during this time. Paul and his shipmates faced the possibility of shipwreck and loss of everything including their lives in the midst of a terrible storm. They lost the ship and everything on it except for the people's lives. God saved them and they landed on an island where they were treated with kindness and given a chance to regroup for a few months before they finally made it to their destination. It feels like we have made it through the storm and are in the regrouping time right now. We have had a lot of loss this year, having had to say goodbye to programs and staff members as they move on to other places. Please pray with us, as we trust God to guide us to the next chapter He has for Evangel Home! (You can see further details about these goodbyes on pages 8 and 9.)

## 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

# Our Graduates: Beautiful Examples of *Perseverance!*

**Lisa** This has been a crazy year but Lisa has been so patient through it all. This was reflected by the many comments made during our shared memories. She is calm, patient, a good teacher, motherly, wise, and she reflects the fruit of the Spirit. Lisa has a steadfast spirit. During her time in the GARDEN, she experienced a lot of different transitions that most residents have never faced, along with all the normal challenges: strained family relationships, recovery, shelter-in-place, moved to the Crisis home and all the chaos that comes with that — class schedule disrupted, learning new rules, not going home, staff changes, and more. Even when things got this tough, she didn't run, she didn't quit, she just kept trusting that God would get her through. We are so blessed to have her here, are so proud of all her accomplishments, and love how she leads by example!



Lisa with her aunt



**Monica** Monica was our final graduate of the GARDEN program. We are so excited that this determined and strong young woman stuck it out through all the changes she went through to get to the end. Monica was blessed to have several family members join her for this special day. One of the best parts of graduation is to hearing "shared memories." This is a chance for all the people there to tell how they have seen the graduate grow and/or share fun things that have happened during their time at Evangel Home. So

many people said how welcoming, funny, tough, and humble she is. She is certainly a very perseverant woman and she is our technology queen!



Please pray for her next steps. The transition after graduation and getting back into society can sometimes be the hardest part of recovery. Monica will be pursuing steps to finish her high school diploma next, and then desires to become a firefighter. She just got a full time job as well. Go Monica!

# Ooh! Ah! 4th of July at Evangel Home!



Evangel Home celebrated our nation's Independence Day in style! You're never too old for sparklers; and an array of fireworks made for a fun and festive evening.



*May God Bless  
America!*

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## Are we ready for Volunteers?

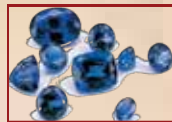
Our staff has been asked the question, "Are you taking Volunteers?" Right now we are holding to strict limitations. We are welcoming super small groups (less than six people) to do projects that are either in their own space away from others or outside. Please email Jessica, our volunteer coordinator, at [volunteers@evangelhome.org](mailto:volunteers@evangelhome.org), if you would like more information.



# 2020 BANQUET REVIEW

Our theme this year was *Sapphires: Precious in the Sight of God*.

Sapphires are the gem for the 65th anniversary, which we are celebrating this year. Sixty-five years old is a time when people transition from one phase of life to the next. This is what we are doing at Evangel Home. We are needing to change and prepare for our next phase. Sapphires, in their natural state, are jagged and rough but once refined they are valuable, beautiful, and durable. This is like our women who come to us for shelter! And so we celebrate all the changed lives for the past 65 years!



Since we couldn't meet in person, we decided to bring the banquet from our Home to yours with a special meal delivery!

We had so many wonderful volunteers who assembled, directed, delivered, and used their technical expertise to make this night happen!

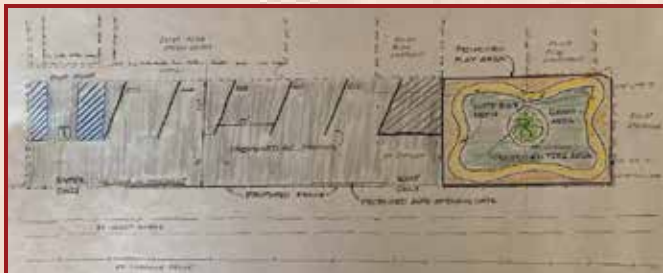


*Thank You!*

## 2020 BANQUET SPECIAL PROJECT

### *Security Improvement Registry*

We have seen an increase in trespassers and vandalism on our campus. The women and children of Evangel Home come to us seeking peace and refuge and we want to do our best to provide a secure environment! This year's project is designed to increase the security of the women on our campus by adding better lighting, security cameras, and fencing. When they feel safe, they have an opportunity to relax and grow stronger.



Layout of proposed security improvements, which includes the children's play area.

The registry of all equipment and miscellaneous items needed to complete this important project remains open on our website: [evangelhome.org](http://evangelhome.org). Simply click on the "registry banner" for a complete list.

# Saying “GOODBYE”



Nearly everyone that is reading this has probably had to say goodbye to certain things this year: maybe it is a certain way you used to do things, you moved to a new place, lost a loved one, or changed the way you work. It was sometimes without warning and we did not get a chance to say a proper goodbye. Or we may have had warning but didn't get the opportunity to celebrate this person due to many restrictions. We are no different. We have also had to say goodbye to many things and people we have loved.



*GARDEN house before renovations*

This year, Evangel Home had to say goodbye to our beloved GARDEN program. There were a couple of reasons for this program closure. A few years ago there were new laws implemented that no longer utilized alternative sentencing for inpatient programs. Since that time, we have averaged around two people in the program when it was formerly at capacity with six women. During this same time period, overall income at

Evangel Home had not kept up with our expenses. It was no longer a wise use of our resources to continue this program. When shelter-in-place first started, we combined Crisis and, GARDEN to reduce staffing challenges.

What are we doing with the GARDEN home now? Currently it is set up as a classroom but we do not yet know what God will do with this home in the long run. Will you pray with us as we discover what will be needed next?

*We also had to say goodbye to many staff* this year for a variety of reasons: new jobs, wanting to be with family, health concerns, not enough work, moving away, and others.

## **CYNTHIA (21 years)**

Cynthia had different positions while here but finished with her time as our cook and kitchen manager. What stands out most is her love for prayer. She prayed all the time even over the vegetables and those who came behind her are continuing this legacy!







### ***ROSALINA (30 years)***

Rosalina had a soft heart but is one of the strongest women you would ever meet. No matter the challenge, she would always rise up to meet it. She was gifted with a keen sense of observation and could always tell when something was amiss. She was basically our human lie detector!

### ***JO JANELLE (15 years)***

The joy of Evangel Home. That was Jo Janelle. She always came in with a positive attitude and did her work with enthusiasm. Jo Janelle was our mama bear who looked out for everyone, making sure they were well fed and well loved.



### ***KANDY (9 years)***

Kandy was a great balance between firm and kind. She was always willing to teach God's word and pray with residents. Her lively energy made her fun to be around.

### ***RYAN (5 years)***

Ryan was our faithful maintenance man who helped out in many crisis situations and kept the place running and organized. When he left, he introduced us to our new maintenance man, Rudy.



### ***LISA (4 years)***

Lisa brought the fun! Her contagious energy was always welcome. It was nice to have a bright light around when the ladies were going through dark times.

### ***CECILY (2 years)***

Cecily was a calm influence in the home and was a great listener. It was a joy to see her become a mother!



# FINANCIAL UPDATE

This has been a super interesting year! We have tried to cut expenses in many areas while also increasing our income. You have truly blessed us! We are on track to have reduced expenses by about \$80,000 this year and are planning to continue this reduction into the next year. Through the end of October we were down about \$37,000. We would love your participation in helping us end this year in the black! We have a few extra year-end expenses so we will need about \$90,000/month in November and December to end this year positively.

## *January thru October 2020*

<b>Income</b> .....	<b>\$626,700</b>
<b>Expense</b> .....	<b>\$663,996</b>
<b>Shortage</b> .....	<b>\$ 37,296</b>

Thank you so much for taking the time to pray and consider other ways you can be a part of this ministry.

## 2020 EH Volunteer of the Year



Our 2020 Volunteer of the Year is Nelda Baker. Nelda has been a part of Evangel Home for years in many different capacities: board member, teacher, Christmas party host and anything else that was ever needed! She and her family love this Home and it is so appreciated.

*Nelda in her backyard with her Angel Award*

***Congratulations, Nelda, and thank you for your Love!***

# Moving into an Apartment

With the closure of the GARDEN program, and as the staff of Evangel Home learned more regarding CDC regulations concerning the COVID virus and how to best protect the residents, it became possible to move many into vacant apartments. As you can guess, they were thrilled!

*Lisa just happened to move into the apartment that has some of her grandfather's old furniture that he donated to Evangel Home years ago. Congratulations on your new place, Lisa!*



*Let's congratulate Kourtney on her first apartment ever!*

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## Learning comes in many forms!



*Workbooks, crafts, & playtime with snacks*



# How to Gift the Women & Children Living at Evangel Home



## *Christmas Sponsors*

Would you like to sponsor a woman or family in our long term-programs for Christmas this year? Each year, our program managers match sponsors with residents. Each sponsor is given a list of items for their matched resident. Then it is up to the sponsor to decide what special gift they will give. Sponsors may drop off gifts or deliver them in person.\*\* This is a special time for residents who may have never received gifts at Christmas or received that extra care.

If you are interested, please contact Ruby or Gina by email [crossroads@evangelhome.org](mailto:crossroads@evangelhome.org) or call (559) 264-4714.

*\*\*There will be extra health precautions in place if you choose to meet in person.*

## **GIFTS for our WOMEN**

### *Personal items*

Curling irons, hair dryers, hair products, hair ties, perfume, jewelry, disposable razors, cosmetics, cosmetic bags, deodorant, towels, lotion, mirrors, manicure items

### *Clothing*

Warm pajamas, sweat outfits (both M or L size), purses, M/L/XL t-shirts, socks, tennis shoes, slippers, sweaters, gloves, underwear (all sizes), jackets, scarves

### *This 'n That*

Gift cards, umbrellas, stationary, devotionals, Bibles, postage stamps, journals, nice pens and pencils, radios, calculators, watches, alarm clocks, wallets, sewing kits, crossword puzzle books, adult coloring books, markers and crayons

## **GIFTS for our KIDS**

### *Infants*

Sleepers, onesies, booties, infant toys, blankets, diapers, infant coats, bibs

### *Toddlers*

Sweat outfits, socks, shoes, coats, sweaters, caps/hats, books, toys, age-appropriate art supplies  
ethnically diverse dolls

### *Older children*

Sweat outfits, socks, gloves, coats, backpacks, pajamas, school and art supplies, books, games



# Gifts for our Holiday Pantry & Everyday Extras

## **SPECIAL FOOD FOR THE HOLIDAYS**

*Turkeys and hams*  
*Fresh yams and cranberries*  
*White potatoes*  
*Dinner rolls*  
*Pies (pre-cooked)*  
*Cool Whip*  
*Sour cream and dip mix*  
*Butter and margarine*  
*Instant pistachio pudding*

*Yellow onions*  
*Fresh vegetables for trays*  
*Corn meal*  
*Black and green olives*  
*Punch mix and apple cider*  
*Crushed pineapple*  
*Sweetened Condensed milk*  
*Evaporated milk*  
*Soda*

## **EVERYDAY EXTRAS**

*Canned food (lots, please!)*  
*Hamburger meat and chicken*  
*Macaroni and cheese*  
*Spaghetti and other pastas*  
*Tomato and pasta sauce*  
*Canned fruit*  
*Kidney beans*  
*Coffee and tea bags*

*Hot chocolate mix*  
*Splenda and creamer*  
*Cooking oil and sugar*  
*Mustard and ketchup*  
*Peanut butter, jam, jelly*  
*Salad dressing*  
*Paper towels, plates, bowls,  
napkins and plastic utensils*

## **FOR SAFETY**

*PPE, gloves, cleaning products like Lysol disinfectant and bleach*

**Juliet Atmajian**

Timothy Atmajian

**Louise Avedisian**

Gerald & Nelda Baker

Gerre Brenneman

Donna Gravano

Betty Higdon

Barbara Kline

Lynn Lindsey

**Lydia Barkman**

Ellen Fuji

**Harriet L. Boghosian**

Horsrof & Dolores Davidian

**Bettie Bramer**

Verna Hagemier

**Diane Camille Brown**

Carolyn Paboojian

**Pam Cafarelli**

Barbara & Leonard Badigian

**Gordon Decker**

Alene Cowdrey

**Virginia Diao**

Verna Hagemier

**Larry Dunn**

Sears Retiree Club

**Diana Boghosian Dorough**

Horsrof & Dolores Davidian

**Walter "George" Flagler**

Robbie & Angel Topoozian

**James Fletcher**

Mark & Ali Ford

**Barbara Glantz**

Robert & Susan Toschi

Marian Griffin

Billie Jane Houston

Joanna K. McKnight

**Robert "Jerry" Warner Guinn**

Richard & Vivian Betcher

Thomas & Carole Butler

Barbara J. Dahlgren

Ann & Donald Diebert

Elaine & Philip Garo

Beverly Giffin

**Robert "Jerry" Warner Guinn - cont.**

Robert & Janet Hodges

Ken & Adele Hopper

Billie Jane Houston

Larry & Phillis Ishelm

Edward & Jeanne Kashian

William & Susan Kuhn

Ella Lamattina

Donna & Randal Lutz

Paul & Vicki Madsen

Richard Pearson

Harriet Perkins

James Pollack

Philip D. Price

Jeanette M. Simmons

Ron & Marcia Stewart

Laura & Leo Wilson

**Rev. Dr. Steven Haggmark**

Daral & Rosemary Kennedy

**Verna Hamburger**

Herb & Rebecca Liles

**Bernice Kandarian**

Nancy Aaron

Jim & Lisa Quist

**Helen & Ward Lasher**

Marilyn A. Zuercher

**Kenneth Lierly**

Heidi Frey Greenwald

Barbara DiFilippo

**Robin Lockie**

Joseph Cole

**Cleotis Matthews**

Judy K. Matthews

**Maxine Miller**

Ted Morgan

**Mary Lynn Munoz**

Daral & Rosemary Kennedy

**Herbert Victor Neve Jr.**

Barbara & Eugene Kline

Margaret Winebrenner

**Larry Psaltis**

Lynn Psaltis

*continued on page 15*

# IN MEMORIAM

continued from page 14

**Christine Segress**

Cheri Segress

**Katherine Sinner**

Barbara & Eugene Kline

**Esther Suderman**

Louise Olinger

**Arthur Vartanian**

John & Christine Datian

**Jackie Wells**

Lawrence Wells

**Lee Willems**

Ken & Janie Willems

**Tillie Willems**

Ken & Janie Willems

**Regina Wilson**

Harold & Dianne Antranikian

**Marie A. Wirt**

Sue Wirt

**Ruth Yavasil**

Sears Retiree Club

# HONORARIA

April 1, 2020 - October 31, 2020

**Lucille Allen**

Darlene Roach

**Joan Acomb**

David H. Forbes

**Brenda Acomb Forbes**

David H. Forbes

**Deb Avedisian**

Barbara Kline

**Jerry & Nelda Baker**

Al & Deb Sanchez

**Nelda Baker**

Jayson & Silva Emerian

**Gerre Brenneman**

Ted Morgan

**Joanie Caglia-Finch**

Frank & Catherine Carpenter

**Jayson & Silva Emerian**

Anonymous

**Grecia Enns**

Jim & Donna Enns

**Debbie, Robbie, Liz Erickson**

Gary & Leslie Catron

**John Forbes**

David H. Forbes

**Ben Forbes**

David H. Forbes

**Jeffrey Forbes**

David H. Forbes

**Cynthia Higuera**

Anonymous

**Evangel Home Staff**

Emily Dull

**Phil & Elaine Garo**

Anonymous

**Jessica Lusk**

Lawrence Wells

**Lynette Nahigian**

Steve & Salpy Adams

**Rob & Karen Smith**

Anonymous

**Cindy Sterling**

Shirley Armbruster

**John Verwey**

Emily Garibay



*Under the CARES Act, beginning in 2020, individuals who do not itemize deductions may deduct up to \$300 in charitable cash contributions. Talk to your accountant about further details.*



[www.evangelhome.org](http://www.evangelhome.org)

RADIO SCHEDULE	
<b>'HEARTLINE'</b> KRDU 1130 AM	
Saturday .....	7:30 a.m.
Saturday.....	5:00 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.
<a href="http://www.evangelhome.org">www.evangelhome.org</a> or visit us on <a href="#">facebook</a>	

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Enhancing Trust

**EVANGEL HOME**

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559-264-4714

[evangelhome.org](http://evangelhome.org)