



Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is
Thy faithfulness! Morning by
morning new mercies I see; All I
have needed Thy hand hath
provided-

Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto
me!

HELPING HANDS PREGNANCY & PARENTING CENTER, INC.

Spring 2019

Recently I was reading in the book of Joshua 24:31, “Israel served the Lord all the days of Joshua and all the days of the elders who survived Joshua and had known all the [works] of the Lord which He had done for Israel” (NASB). I was impressed with the importance of “Remembering.” Israel continued to serve God as long as His works and miraculous ways were spoken of to the next generation. When the people of God failed to recall the great and mighty things God had done, they faltered in faith and fell away from God.

We each have a personal history and story with God, experiencing His miraculous and mighty provision. Churches and Christian organizations also have a story to tell and pass down to each generation. At Helping Hands, we have a personal history with God that gives us the courage and confidence that He will continue to provide for every need we have. Helping Hands is fast approaching 21 years of serving our mountain communities. God has done amazing things over these years! He has chosen leaders, board, staff, and client advocates that have championed Helping Hands and moved it forward to be what it is today.

A new chapter in our God story is before us in 2019. It looks challenging and appears to loom large around us. The challenge is another opportunity to see God work mightily on our behalf. It is time to remember together, “all the works of the Lord which He had done.” This will be another triumphant victory to add to the Helping Hands story that we can pass down to those who follow us and the vision of championing life!

The challenge before Helping Hands today is financial. At the end of 2018, we found ourselves \$37,000 short in donations. The Board of Directors

is working diligently to address the shortfall. We are striving to keep our services to the community uninterrupted as best we can. As a 501(c)(3) non-profit Christian ministry, we do not receive state or federal funding. We are dependent on the generous gifts of individual donors and churches.

Amid this lack, I am compelled by the need to remember God’s faithfulness and mighty deeds. Remembering stirs hope and faith. God is good. He is able to keep His word. He supplies all we need. He is the same yesterday today and forever. If He did it for us in the past, He will do it again! We can look back and see God’s great provision, and we believe that with your help we will see our finances turn around. We do need your help. In order to meet our expenses over the next few months, we need new monthly donors, one-time gifts, and monthly church support. Will you help us? If you are already a monthly supporter would you consider increasing your support? Perhaps you have never financially supported Helping Hands. Becoming a new monthly supporter or making a one-time financial gift would be a great encouragement to us.

Today I am choosing to remember to celebrate the faithfulness of God. You see, you and I have circumstances that would want to deny that God is faithful and that God is good, but when we remember all that God has done for us it changes everything. The mountains in front of us fade because nothing is impossible with God!

Thank you for the faithful interest and support you have offered in the past. You are part of God’s story then, and now. Thank you for partnering with us.

Warmly,
Nancy Rhodes

Oakhurst Center Update

I have had the privilege of serving as the client care professional for the Oakhurst center for six months now, and it has been an amazing experience bonding and creating connections with our clients, client advocates, church liaisons, and those that come through our doors. The last three months have been pretty busy at the center. We kicked off our Baby Bottle Campaign on January 20th, and the response has been amazing! What great churches we have in our mountain community that care for the unborn and the unsaved! In February, not only were we able to offer pregnancy tests, parenting classes, and baby items but one of our awesome client advocates (who happens to be a certified doula), Cassie Telian, began providing birthing classes to some of our expecting couples. We are very blessed to have caring and unselfish volunteers like Cassie here at Helping Hands. We are always in need of client advocates and volunteers willing to sacrifice some of their time to make a difference in the lives of our unique clients. If you have a calling to do more for our community and the Kingdom of God, I encourage you to give me a call at (559) 642-2229, and I will gladly go over the many ways in which you can serve and partner with us.

Thank you for your continued investment, prayers, and support for Helping Hands Pregnancy & Parenting Center. I look forward to getting to know as many of you as possible. Please stop by the Oakhurst center during our open hours to say hi or to get a center tour.

God bless you,

Nancy Hamilton

Mariposa Center Update

2019 has already proven to be a busy year for the Mariposa center. We currently have nine pregnant women coming in for pregnancy classes and three women that have recently given birth. The newest two babies were just born this February 1st and 2nd, a boy and a girl, respectively. This New Year brings new stories, happy and sad, challenging and simple. We are helping a mom with the tough decision of parenting her child or placing him or her up for adoption. Exploring options often can bring up feelings of guilt, shame, selfishness, or other negative emotions. However, it is also a time of discovering that the gift of life is a selfless act, especially when this new life is given to those unable to have a baby of their own to parent. This choice is both noble and beautiful.

We are excited about some changes coming in our near future; we are changing things around here a bit. We will be switching the classroom and the boutique around to make the Mariposa center dad-and-teen-friendly. We will have a coffee station and counter stools for the comfort of our teens because we are also planning an after school hour for high schoolers. We know they have been in a school setting all day and we will make their time here feel like they are not in the classroom anymore. This hour will be planned by our youngest client advocates, Hope and Toney Gorham.

The Mariposa center has also started having evening classes on Thursdays. We currently have a Boundaries class and would like to offer a parenting class after work at 5:15 PM. Interested parents can call for a reserved spot at 209-742-5500. The parenting class is called *Loving Our Kids on Purpose*, and a workbook is available, but not required, for the cost of \$20.00. Sign-ups will determine April class dates. We are honored to work with working parents, stay-at-home-moms, and teens. We try to accommodate the schedules of our clients to meet the needs of our community.



We are excited to announce that you can now create fundraisers for Helping Hands Pregnancy & Parenting Center via Facebook in honor of your birthday or for any cause. You can also send donations directly to us through Facebook by just clicking the "Donate" button located at the top right of our page. Please continue checking our Facebook and Instagram sites for updates.

Introducing Our 2019 Banquet Guest Speaker



Allan Parker, President of The Justice Foundation, is a former Professor of Law at St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas, where he taught Education Law and Civil Procedure. He was a Visiting Professor at the University of Texas, and studied International Human Rights at the International Human Rights Institute in Strasbourg, France. He taught International Human Rights at the St. Mary's Institute on World Legal Problems in Innsbruck, Austria in 1992.

The Justice Foundation represents the women and men of Operation Outcry, a ministry of The Justice Foundation that seeks to end the pain of abortion in America and around the world by mobilizing women and men hurt by abortion to become witnesses who share their true stories of the devastating effects of abortion through courts and legislatures. Operation Outcry holds the largest collection in the world of legally admissible, written testimonies from women hurt by abortion.

The Justice Foundation's Center Against Forced Abortion (CAFA) provides free legal resources and training for lawyers, police, school counselors, and pregnancy resource centers and direct legal help to mothers who are being unduly pressured, forced or coerced into an unwanted abortion. We estimate the Center's training, assistance and legal tools save between 1000-2000 mothers and babies annually.

The Moral Outcry is a ministry of The Justice Foundation providing free legal representation to Melinda Thybault and assistance to those who sign her nationwide petition asking the Supreme Court to reverse its abortion cases. This petition serves as a symbol of America's Moral Outcry against abortion. It will wake up the nation and galvanize the national conscience to end the scourge of abortion in America. Sign the petition at www.themoraloutcry.com

Allan Parker, President, was lead counsel for Norma McCorvey, formerly "Roe" of *Roe v. Wade*, from 2000 to 2012, and Sandra Cano, the "Doe" of *Doe v. Bolton*, until 2014 in their efforts to overturn the two landmark cases that brought legalized abortion on demand to America.

Mr. Parker received his J.D. degree with high honors from the University of Texas School of Law in 1979. He was an Associate Editor of the Texas Law Review, a Chancellor, Order of the Coif, and Order of Barristers for his outstanding advocacy skills. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Oklahoma with a B.A. in Economics in 1974.

Save the Date!

Our Annual Banquet for 2019 will be:

Date: Friday October 11th
Location: Mountain Christian Center, Oakhurst

Details to follow!

Classes

A variety of classes are available for parents who are pregnant through those raising teenagers.
Call to schedule a class.

Oakhurst - Call Nancy Hamilton (559) 642-2229
Mariposa- Call Lindee Blew (209) 742-5500

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