



**MANNA HOUSE**  
MINISTRIES

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Tulsa, OK 74115  
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NEWSLETTER XXXII

June 30 2019 (April, May, June)

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**Buddy Davis**  
DIRECTOR



## The Mother-Daughter Dynamic Duo

I would like to take the opportunity to highlight some *incredible, selfless, and dedicated volunteers* here at Manna House. They are superheroes. It is my pleasure to let you in on their secret identities. The Food Distributor Avenger, *Dana Williams*, and the Sage of Sweets, her daughter, *Angel Williams*. They get orders out to the people faster than a speeding bullet. They are more precise than an electron microscope and more compassionate than a missionary in Haiti!

In all seriousness, these two really are real world heroes. They have selflessly served Manna House in the prep area for many, many years. Dana and Angel work tirelessly and without the need for any fanfare or credit in our prep area. This mother and daughter team are never flustered and never complain. They have a true heart, sweet spirit, and inspiring commitment to serve the least, last, and lost of our community.

Dana leads in assembling the food orders that go out to our friends in need at Manna House. She coordinates the other volunteers into a loving, and hard working team. I am inspired and in awe of her dedication. Angel is always serving by her side with a smile and focused expertise. She brings true joy to all of the other volunteers.

It has been two years now that I have been leading at Manna House. God has blessed this ministry with dedicated people with a heart to serve. This includes the mother-daughter dynamic duo of Dana and Angel Williams. Although they do not seek credit because of their humility, they truly are superheroes. God Bless you two and thank you for your service.

Buddy Davis

### **URGENT NEED:**

**Manna House has an immediate need for all kinds of jelly. If you can make a donation, please contact Buddy Davis, Director, at (918)949-6292 or deliver to Manna House at 4921 E. Admiral Pl. on Mondays 10:00 – 12:00 or Tuesdays 10:00 – 2:00.**

## THE TIE THAT BINDS

by Rev. Debbie Simpson



This lady walked in very burdened. It didn't take long for her story to unfold. Sometimes the strength of people is amazing; she was wearing a smile despite the pain of her situation. I will call her Kathryn.

One of her first statements was "I am right in the midst of hell but refuse to let the devil steal my joy." What a declaration of determination! If we could all possess this key to successful living what a better world it would be. Our reaction to stressful situations means everything.

Kathryn was having a dilemma about her mother. Her elderly mother had recently undergone cataract surgery but was still not doing well. She is frequently confused about which room she is in. Kathryn has to continuously remind her where she is and also about the awareness of her belongings. The most difficult part is the personality changes her mother is undergoing. Kathryn's mother now gets agitated, calling her daughter rude names.

Kathryn was uncertain about what was happening to her mother. She said it is overwhelming deciding the next step to take.

I told her she may be experiencing dementia or Alzheimer's. My experience was shared with her of caring for my grandmother with dementia, both before and after residing at the nursing home. Memories came flooding back about how disoriented and helpless the elderly can become. My grandmother somehow escaped the locked doors of her facility during the middle of the night. She was found in a neighbor's flower garden. When asked why she was there, she innocently replied "Well, their flowers really needed attention!"

We are not an island. We truly need each other. Sharing about caregiving lends support to both parties.

Kathryn said it is difficult to comprehend the person who loved and cared for you as a child now needs round-the-clock attention.

We took this heartbreak and frustration directly to our Father. He comforts, He guides, He is the candle that shines in the darkness. We can't make it a day without Him!

Looking back I'm not sorry for the many meals taken to my grandmother, buying her Christmas tree, or reading or praying with her when she was afraid. It happened just the way God wanted it to!

It was a joyful reward to see Kathryn encouraged and smiling. She said "I can't leave without asking for a hug."



**“HELLO”  
FROM  
PASTOR RON**

Most of the people I have prayed with lives are in a mess and have come to the end of themselves, then come asking for prayer.

So often we, as Christians, will put the Lord on a shelf and say Lord, you just stay right there until I need you, and I will call on you again which is one of the most dangerous things we can do as Christians. If we keep doing this, it can become sin to us because we are letting other things become more important to us than God. In other words, we disconnect from our power source and have fallen short of the glory of God. Most of the people I pray with fall into this category of falling short, but there also are those who have never been hooked to the power source.

In *Romans 11:11-24*, the *Scripture* talks about the Root, which is God and the branches, which are the Israelites and how some of the branches had been broken off because of unbelief. Two kinds of olive trees are talked about, the first, the cultivated tree and, the second, the wild olive tree. When the branches were broken off the cultivated tree, then the branches from the wild olive could be grafted in their place. The wild olive branches represent the Gentile people. We can all be grafted into the tree of life if we repent and ask the Lord to come into our lives. But if we disconnect from the root, then we began to die. We do not support the root but the root supports us. We must be connected to the root for power and nourishment. The cultivated branches can also be grafted back into the tree if they repent.

I tell those with whom I pray to always stay connected to the power source and keep their eyes on the Lord. There are many ruined and broken lives, so we must be about the Father’s business.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Ron

**QUARTERLY STATISTICS**

**April, May, June- 2019**

- Families Served - 930
- Representing - 2,638 Individuals
- Food Distributed - 25,955 lbs. (From Food Bank Only)
- Other Sources of Food Distribution - 29,307 lbs.
- Volunteer Hours - 1,931.5
- No. Of Volunteers - 32
- Number Pieces Of Clothing - 5,419

***A Volunteer’s  
Perspective***

***By Alicia***

For years I sat in the NEO District Assembly hearing Howard Essary share the report of the district’s food and clothing pantry, *Manna House*. When my husband Buddy was asked to be the District’s Compassionate Ministry Leader, I again heard of the Manna House; he was asked to help encourage the leaders of that ministry, and we were told it was now under our umbrella. Buddy was asked to speak at the annual Christmas party, and I attended with him, that was my first introduction to the leaders and faithful volunteers of Manna House.

When Howard stepped down, Buddy was asked to find somebody to step in, we visited the Manna House and volunteered. Immediately, I knew we had found the piece of our ministry we had been looking for.

For years I have been trying to find an area where we could be more impactful to the city in whole. Each attempt at a ministry seemed futile, lacking in the vision I had in my head. We have always sought to let the Lord lead us to opportunities which he has been faithful to do. Our Celebrate Recovery program, prison ministry and the Abba Homes Ministry were birthed out of what the Lord brought to us. While these ministries brought great victories to the individuals, it lacked the impact to the community as a whole that I strived for.

Manna House fit this vision, the ability to serve the district in such a way, loving the community and seeing to their needs is the perfect fit for Abba Ministries. Not only that, but it gave us a place to help others serve the community. Many of the individuals that are housed at Abba Homes have found a place to serve as they adjust to their new home and seek employment. All of them express their great desire to give back to the community and how much they enjoy working along side the faithful volunteers.

For me, personally, I have worked my way through the different areas of Manna House, from the pantry, to the clothing department, the dock, & the three desks. I love all the different areas, but it seems I usually land on a computer. My favorite area...

