



KDOR-TV 17

BARTLESVILLE/TULSA



March 17, 2017
Station Newsletter

KDOR serves Northeastern Oklahoma for the Glory of God to further the reach of the Gospel of Jesus Christ

Joy in Our Town

The month of March was lively at KDOR-TV 17 during our tapings of TBN's signature local station program *Joy in Our Town* with long-time host Lisa Harris. We had some fantastic people in our Broken Arrow, Oklahoma studio sharing about several awesome biblical-based organizations that are very active in the Tulsa area, offering a wide variety of practical and spiritual services in response to needs and issues in our local community. We are happy to serve our community through this public affairs program and help our neighbors learn about issues, solutions, how they can plug in to help as volunteers or where to turn to obtain help for their own family or friends.

For nearly two decades the Good Samaritan Health Services (GSHS) organization has provided healthcare to the uninsured and underinsured in Northeastern Oklahoma. Through partnerships with several permanent clinic locations and with churches who provide hosting for mobile clinic locations, Dr. John Crouch and a dynamic team of medical staff and volunteers are being the hands and feet of Jesus to so many in need.

GSHS most recently opened a mobile clinic site in Sapulpa, Oklahoma. All locations are listed on their website at www.goodsamaritanhealth.org. This one is a beautiful cooperation of several local churches in this Tulsa suburb. The statistics revealed a great need for a clinic in this area. Rev. Smokey Hurst and Pastor Dany Daniel, who are on leadership staff at the First Baptist Church in Sapulpa (FBCS) talked and prayed upon hearing about the need. Sensing they had a role to play in meeting the need, and having determined the Good Samaritan mobile clinic was a good fit with FBCS's ongoing local outreaches for their community, a visit from the GSHS semi on a Sunday was arranged.



Dr. John Crouch and "Mini Sam" mobile clinic van.

As FBCS members toured the mobile clinic, the questions and responses helped the leadership staff to discover the congregation supported the idea, with many members quite excited to provide the needed volunteer staff. But these pastors knew there was one more next step before they formally signed up to host, and this was to meet with other Sapulpa ministers to present the opportunity for them to invite and involve their congregations in this community service. The Good Samaritan clinic would serve any Sapulpa resident, so this presented a perfect opportunity for Believers from any denomination to work together and serve their neighbors.



Now, every two weeks, First Baptist Church is the clinic site, and the clinic is staffed by volunteers from at least 3-4 Sapulpa congregations and even a few Sapulpa residents who attend church services in Tulsa. Pastor Hurst and Dr. Crouch cut the ribbon on the new clinic site a few weeks prior to

KDOR's visit to the clinic in operation. Though it was only their third time seeing patients, the mobile clinic operated seamlessly. Unity, kindness, compassion and the love of Christ was evident in Good Samaritan staff/volunteers and all those from the Sapulpa community who join together to serve the people who visit the clinic to receive healthcare.

Ben Dodwell, pictured below with Dr. Crouch after the studio taping of *Joy in Our Town*, is a key of the current growth and successful operation of the organization. These men are dedicated to the service of others using their many varied skills and hearts for ministry. When we taped on location,



Mr. Dodwell was our host and he facilitated great connections for volunteer testimonies. We were excited to include footage of Mrs. Billie Kelsey, who was thrilled that friends who attend church outside of Sapulpa have responded to volunteer at the clinic as well as local church members. She was so humble, and Pastor Daniel raved how dedicated Mrs. Kelsey has been, inspiring

others to rise to the challenge, each learning how to be a part and be a blessing. Pastor Daniel is excited to offer Jesus and practical healthcare in one spot.



Mrs. Billie Kelsey, Volunteer.

Pastor Dany Daniel, Executive Pastor, First Baptist Church.



Joy in Our Town (continued)

Early on a bright March Tuesday morning KDOR Assistant Engineer Randy Patterson and KDOR Public Affairs Director Barbara Bella set out from the station. Destination? Green Country Adult and Teen Challenge facilities in Sapulpa, Oklahoma. Also know by the abbreviation GCTC. Goal? To arrive in time to capture footage of the GCTC residents attending their daily 7 AM chapel as well as the rest of a typical day in the program. All who reach this destination are greeted by this beautiful sign on the campus fence: WELCOME — WHERE LIFE TRANSFORMATION HAPPENS.



Oklahoma Adult and Teen Challenge has been a life changing catalyst for years. The six different Oklahoma locations operate with simple Biblical principles in a 5-phase program. Teen Challenge founder, the late Rev. David Wilkerson, defined and proved the basics of operation. Since the first center was established in 1960, the mission of the program has not changed, it remains a Christ-centered recovery program for people with life controlling addictions. TC teaches that the key to freedom and the means of true transformation is a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Pastor Jose Martinez, who has been affiliated with Teen Challenge since 2001, when he first entered a program as an addict himself, along with his wife of thirteen years, Nelly, live out their own personal walk in relationship with Jesus Christ as an example for the men they lead. Pastor Jose and Nelly are the GCTC Executive Director and Program Director respectively. Prior to joining the staff at the Men's 18+ location in Sapulpa last June, they served Global Teen Challenge in the Dominican Republic for over 10 years. They continue to oversee and train the Latin American and Caribbean Region of Global Teen Challenge along with the oversight of the GCTC program.



Pastors Jose & Nelly Martinez pose with some of the GCTC residents and staff after a recent service they participated in at nearby Sand Springs First Assembly Of God.



Oversight is a misleading word for all that Pastor Jose and Nelly do at the GCTC facility. They are an integral part of all that is happening daily and coordinate with approximately five full-time staff members to serve nearly two dozen men who are currently enrolled. Pastor Jose and Nelly recently taped *Joy in Our Town*, with surprise host Barbara Bella. They shared knowledgeably and passionately about the local, state, national and global Teen Challenge programs. Addiction is a very real and difficult challenge for so many. The statistics about drugs, drug deaths, trafficking and the many related issues just rolled off their tongues due to the familiarity, but the zeal of their mission brought out their heart-break over the lives being destroyed.

Oklahoma currently has three locations serving men 18+, one for women 18+, a boys ranch for teens and another facility for teen girls. Oklahoma's administration office is at (405) 600-1920 and the USA office at (417) 581-2181 or 855-END-ADDICTION.



Joy in Our Town (continued)

March really was a busy month as we continued to seek out Christ-centered organizations that give so freely in our community. The Tulsa area has an abundance of grateful people who have been inspired to create organizations as result of facing their own needs and realizing so many other have similar needs in the community.

JOY IN THE CAUSE (JITC) is a Tulsa charity focused on providing care, compassion and joy, one personal act of kindness at a time. Founder, Lisa Bain and Executive Director Nancy Phelps are shown here on the KDOR set with *Joy in Our Town* host Lisa Harris, surrounded by stuffed dogs and puppies inspired by real-life therapy bulldog “Mavis Pearl” who stayed home to nap the day of taping. JITC is constantly giving back and rising to meet new needs in our community. JITC birthed out of personal adversity, when Mrs. Bain and her mother received chronic diagnosis on the same day in 2007. JITC, with an army of over 500 volunteers, now is reaching the ill and those battling in local cancer clinics, the forgotten in dozens of elder care facilities, the neglected youth through “Joy To The Rescue” programs for children in crisis, the many hurting “unknown” who are daily struggling to carry on in life, and just about anyone in need of the gift of “presence” to help encourage them as they are walking through a personal trial. Joy makes the journey a bit easier, and a toy Mavis Pearl bulldog or puppy is a continual reminder those JITC visit that they are not alone! www.joyinthecause.org



LITTLE LIGHTHOUSE (LLH) is a tuition-free educational and therapeutic school for special needs children ages birth to six. It began with one teacher and five students in October 1972 as one mother of a special needs child encountered the gap in public educational programs for special needs children. The mission of LLH is to glorify God by improving the quality of life for children with special needs, their families and their communities. During a recent *Joy in Our Town* taping LLH Director of Operations, Jessica Mardis and Community Involvement Coordinator, Maddie Owens shared the nationally acclaimed development center now serves 64 students, operates with over 40 staff members and relies on nearly 100 volunteers weekly. Mrs. Owens heads up the department that facilitates college and career interns who gain both clinical and practical experience alongside the staff and volunteers as they work with the children at the center. The beauty of this humble organization is that all LLH does is accomplished without government funds, enabling it to freely fulfill its God-inspired mission and shine Jesus’ light which blazes daily! Bible stories are foundational in the amazing curriculum developed by the founder and teachers. Following a LLH board decision in 2016, the curriculum is now available free! The Bible-based “Head to Toe, Heart and Soul” curriculum was designed for any preschool child age 6 and under. Included are adaptations for special needs classrooms. LLH is a gift from God, reaching near and far! www.littlelighthouse.org



Maddie Owens



Jessica Mardis

CAMP BANDAGE is a unique non-profit organization focused on minimizing and preventing childhood injuries or deaths. Informally created in the late 70s and formally in operation since 1983, the organization seeks to educate and train children and their parents about the many threats to child safety. The primary means of accomplishing this cause is now an annual one-day, free-to-the-public and family-friendly “Camp” event. Their motto is “What you learn can save a life!” The Camp Bandage logo originally was two band aids in the form of an “X” but was later changed to a “+” cross. The logo has dual meaning as does their motto. Every camp includes a prayer tent, manned by local believers, as well as practical safety booths, free food, and fun. Dozens of area organizations participate to create the fun-filled day packed with hands-on events, information, education and even a large mock automobile accident that shows how the branches of local law enforcement and first responders spring into action and cooperate every day in our community. The founders of Camp Bandage are the late Dr. & Mrs. Gerner who educated their five birth children, five adopted children, two foster children and their kids’ friends to safely play on the family’s river-front, wooded acreage. Each child was taught skills to confidently use proper first aid care in case of injury. The founder’s son, Paul Gerner, continues the work of Camp Bandage along with executive director Kurt Klein and a plethora of volunteers. Mr. Gerner is pictured here with host Lisa Harris after a recent *Joy In Our Town* taping. www.campbandage.org





Community Outreach: Joy in Giving

Oklahoma state is well known for weather that can change from one extreme to the other quite rapidly. Besides the extremes in temperatures the effects of mother nature can be rather varied as well. In March, Northeastern Oklahoma experienced almost anything you can think of, including a few hard freezes after the impatient daffodils bloomed in late February! Tulsa has a high homeless rate, who face the elements often without shelter or with only short-term shelter.

In March, the Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association (CP3A or CPAAA) responded to the sudden return of winter with a work evening to assemble more packs at the Broken Arrow Safety Complex. Broken Arrow law enforcement and many first responders in the region are happy to carry the donated backpacks in their vehicles to give to those in need



as opportunity arises. First responder organizations have limited funds for such items in tight municipal budgets, so other organizations will join together along with concerned citizens to provide the items needed for the cause.

KDOR-TV 17 staff chose to partner with a few organizations to put together “Backpacks for the Homeless” in March. We purchased hand warmers, pocket-sized hand sanitizer, toothbrush/paste kits, blankets, lip balm, backpacks, warm



socks, granola bars, cheese cracker sandwiches and fruit snacks to contribute to the project. Tulsa Tech donated dozens of backpacks for CP3A to fill. Area seniors at the Broken Arrow Senior Center are making great use of plastic grocery sacks by hand-weaving these into cushion-like mats which the homeless can use to sleep on. Many talented citizens use their yarn skills to knit or crochet scarves, hats, blankets and even mittens to help protect in the cold weather. A variety of personal care and hygiene products are donated from citizens who purchase them or even collect from hotels when traveling.



Broken + Free: A Night of Stories was hosted by Evergreen Baptist Church in Bixby, Oklahoma. KDOR employee Barbara Bella attended the event and was able to connect with several women from Tulsa-area churches and a few who traveled from Norman, Oklahoma and even

Overland Park, Kansas. The night was geared towards bringing women into a new level of healing from past mistakes, shame, fear and focused on freedom in Christ through brokenness. Author, Ann Voscamp, spoke and read from her book “The Broken Way” as did Rebekah Lyons, author of “You Are Free” and the recording artist Christy Nockels joined these two women for on-set discussion interspersed by her leading corporate worship. It was a great night and an honor to meet these ladies.

