



ANGEL WINGS MINISTRIES

Newsletter

"A SEASON OF HOPE"



FALL/WINTER 2022

ANGEL WINGS MINISTRIES

VOLUME 2022 ISSUE 2

HOPE ETERNAL

Rev. Deborah Shepperson Smith

In the book of Psalms there are two passages that give me hope in times of despair. Psalm 23:1 says, *"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside the still water."* When I feel all is lost, nothing is going right, it's midnight and I don't see a way out, I stop and remember that GOD IS. God is the guiding light in my life and He is my provider; so I shall not want – even when I cannot see my way. As I lie in silence with my overrunning thoughts of lack and fear, I am reminded that I am in the green pasture. The green is symbolic of money/prosperity that surrounds me. I must tap into the energy that is God and the resources that God provides. God will send angels to provide and protect.



The second psalm that gives me hope is Psalm 46. It opens with the statement: *"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in times of trouble."* As I meditate on this portion of scripture I know beyond a shadow of doubt when I am weak or fearful God is strong, and I can hide in Him knowing that He will protect. *"Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be removed, and the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea."* [Psalm 46:2] I know that God is in the midst of everything. God is in charge.

The Hope of the Season is our love. It is with perseverance that we live in the hope, love and generosity of our Angel Wings family of supporters, who so willingly give from their overflow. God works through Angel Wings, by providing material things – giving eternal hope to those who are temporarily having a midnight hour experience. The Angel Wings family reminds others who have forgotten that God is our Shepherd and refuge in the midnight of our journey. We encourage by declaring and demonstrating that a brighter day is coming. We share our hope when others might not have any of their own. Spreading joy and hope is our mission; hope is in our DNA. We have eternal hope as promised in the Scriptures!

Mission Statement

Angel Wings Ministries, Inc. is an interfaith spiritually-based outreach program dedicated to support children, individuals and families from crisis to wholeness.

Educate..... Serve..... Inspire

Vision Statement

We envision an interfaith community where families and stakeholders work together to empower *all* to wholeness



Thank You!

We are grateful for everyone's participation
in our 2022 Annual Fundraiser and
Raffle Drawing.

Your prayers, financial support and
volunteer efforts are so very appreciated.
As agents for change, you have helped
Angel Wings grow and expand its services
to children and their families as they
journey from crisis to wholeness.



2022 RAFFLE WINNERS

~ 1ST PRIZE ~

Mr. & Mrs. I. Johnson

~ 2ND PRIZE ~

Y. Colkley

~ 3RD PRIZE ~

L. Whye





PRAYER POWER

The Season of Hope

Rev. J. L. McLellan

*Summer and winter, springtime and harvest;
Thine own dear Presence to cheer and to guide.
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow.
Blessings are mine and ten thousand beside.*

*("Great is Thy Faithfulness;" United Methodist Hymnal,
1989 ed.; P140)*

Ever since our ministry originated, our founder Deborah Smith would say, "We are bringing hope to the families and children by distributing gifts at Christmastime." I only thought of the unspoken expectations of little ones who believed in Santa Claus; little did I realize there's more to bringing hope than dropping off brightly colored packages on the doorstep.

Hope, according to scripture, is the not-yet manifested object of desire. Faith, on the other hand, is the evidence of things not seen. When we don't know what's coming next, we have faith that the situation will get better. We depend on God's promises and Divine providence that things will work out somehow. But Hope is an assurance that a *definite outcome* has been forecast and *will be fulfilled*. Maybe you have heard that old expression "He (God) may not come when you want Him, but He's always right on time." God delivers what He promises!

My hope is built on the life, death, resurrection, and return of Jesus Christ. One affirmation of the Christian church is "Christ has died, Christ is risen; Christ will come again." We Christians hold onto that hope.

So, while circumstances during the holiday

season might prove dire and stressful, there is room for hope. The nativity tells of the hope of the Coming Messiah being fulfilled after 42 generations of ancestors. (Matt. 1:1-17) In due season the baby Jesus was born—the advent/arrival of the HOPE of nations! Glory to God in the highest!

Meanwhile we hope for the Second coming of Christ—another Advent, if you will. Our hope keeps us in ever-ready mode of preparing for His return. Our faith keeps us strong while we wait. So, during this Christmas season, it is our responsibility to pass along not only the nativity, but also the gospel: "Christ has died, Christ is risen; Christ will come again." Christ in us, the hope of glory! (Col. 1: 27-28)

For over 20 years we at Angel Wings have been charged with bringing hope to at-risk children and families in need. Now I see that the PROMISE of deliverance should also be in the package.

A SAMPLE PRAYER

O Lord, this season is not what I had hoped for. It's messy and painful and uncertain. I'm losing my faith that things will get better. Help me hold onto the hope that You can and will deliver me. My hope is in you alone. Help me to depend on you for deliverance. Then, you get the glory on earth as it is in heaven. In the name of Jesus I pray. Amen.



The Life Cycle of Learning

Paulette Privott

We are back here again, on the cusp of another season of autumn, fall harvest and hope. Life has a way of always bringing us back. The cycle is real; the circle is continuous. We observe the changes in this season and find it refreshing to see the leaves on the trees burst into color then fall away. We feel the temperatures drop a little more each day. Change is good. We find ourselves covering our bodies to ward off the cold—adding scarves and hats, coats and boots to say the least. We spend more time inside than out. We change with the seasons too.

Often, we look at springtime as our season of hope but I want to suggest a different thought. Autumn is the beginning of changes that bring us to a new renewal of life. As we bring our social lives to a slow-down—minimizing travel and hunkering down to work through the winter—we silently prepare to celebrate future success and mental revival.

As a case in point, houseplants which I keep outside for the summer, I'm now bringing them inside because the cold is their enemy. I cast my sandals aside and reach for my boots. I am preparing for this seasonal change with great anticipation. I'm hopeful for what tomorrow will bring. I know that my winter focus will allow me to deliver a quality product and not a rushed item that might be rejected when analyzed by a keen eye.

When called in from the cold, where will *your* focus lie? We have a duty to be all that we can be! Have you reached that goal? Do you have a goal? What do you want to accomplish this coming year? We are moving away from Covid-19, but are you still feeling stagnant and unfulfilled?

I have a friend who tries something new every year. She has taken a cooking class with a cultural influence. She went on a trip that required detailed planning for its full benefits. She learned a new craft that produced new skills. At the end of each year, she surprises herself with how much she didn't know, as well as how much she had learned. If you haven't done this in the past, try it now. Stretch your knowledge with curiosity. The world is open and available to you. Whether you participate on YouTube, online, app, or in-person, take your hope of discovery with you.

I pray for your belief in a future that offers you hope for tomorrow, while you push the limits of learning today.



HOPE

Paul D. Smith

This issue is devoted to the theme “The Season of Hope.” Let’s look at the components of H-O-P-E. Humility, Optimism, Persistence and Engagement these words can represent the letters in the word HOPE.

Humility

Our forefathers faced many unknowns when going through life on these American shores. Most of all, they were uncertain about where they could live because of not being able to own land. Eventually, they often had to share crops for landowners in exchange for settling on what they did not legally own. In their humility they endured hardship for a better future for their children.

Optimism

Our forefathers and mothers were Optimistic and Hopeful in using their skills to till the soil producing crops to feed their families and pro-

duce enough to sell at a market price to bring a return to the landowners. This made the landowners realize the sharecropper’s value and continue the cooperative process with them.

Persistence

Persistence is one of the keys to success. When meeting life’s journey and challenges, we have to persevere through all setbacks and what seems to be impossible odds.

Engagement

ENGAGEMENT, pay attention and stay focused on the goal or desire. Embody what you are hoping for. “Be the change!” Hope is an out of body experience.

Finally, you are asking the universe (GOD) to bring into your world whatever change you want in your life. Remember, Hope is not just a simple thought process; it takes seeking and effort.



Look For It!

Rev. Beverly Gaither

Many of us have experienced tragedy and loss—whether by a life-threatening disease, loss of speech, limbs, mental skills, or some form of our senses. And COVID 19 caused the entire world to grieve as we mourned the loss of family members and friends. We have been overtaken by its merciless constrictions causing financial, emotional, physical, social and yes—even, spiritual decline. Now, some people are thinking they are in a hopeless, helpless situation. For those with this mindset, I encourage you to look for everyday miracles—like having food on your table, clothes to wear, shelter during inclement weather, bills paid, etc. Keep in mind THE SKY IS BLUE AND CLEARER more often than cloudy days.

We are in a season of hope, which means that in trusting God we wait for a solution; we look for it with expectation that God WILL MAKE A WAY somehow. He doesn’t say what or when or how. Just LOOK FOR IT!

A Season of Hope

William Craig

Buckle up folks...winter is coming! Huh? I know. I can't believe I'm actually saying that myself. Just a couple of months ago I was floating down a lazy river in 90 degree Florida heat during my 2nd vacation this year, while thinking about where I'm going for my 3rd. Truly the benefits of owning a timeshare are awesome. I know many might not agree with me, but it's been great! Our three vacations this year have been amazing, and it's always wonderful to spend quality time with family. But the fun of summer can't last forever and it has to come to an end. For most of us, the days of swimming under the blazing sun are long gone; the vacations and road trips are over. Kids back in school are dealing with the grim reality that their season of fun has come to an abrupt end.

With that end comes a new season for us all. Fall has already ushered in cooler temperatures; we now have great football games on Sundays; falling leaves covering the front lawn; and shelves of holiday decorations spilling off the store shelves. For the parents, there is a new season of freedom now that the kids are finally back in school. Projects we put off during the summer will now have our full attention. Our focus will soon shift towards preparations for the coming holidays, along with the joy and stress they bring. The joy of families everywhere coming together on Thanksgiving is something I always look forward to.

For these past couple of years, the pandemic has messed up things for a lot of families but this year many will reunite and enjoy the season of thanks. We may feel that we are done with COVID, but COVID ain't fully done with us yet! On the bright side, things are looking better.

Buckle up folks! Winter is coming! Soon the air will be crisp and daylight hours will grow shorter; winter will finally be upon us. Neighborhoods will be adorned with flashing colorful lights, mechanical reindeer and 25-foot inflatable snowmen in the front yards. Yes, please remember...WINTER IS COMING!

According to the *Farmer's Almanac* this winter will be "colder than normal; precipitation and snowfall will be above average in the east." Couple the cold weather with the current economic situation today, and we could be in for a harsh reality. The cost of living is extremely high and food prices are constantly rising every week. So let's all continue to stay safe and keep your family safe. The season of winter will eventually pass and we will all be gazing into a new year which I pray will be filled with more love and prosperity as well as hope for everyone. A year that will bring families even closer together than before--one where we will see fractured relationships restored and new ones forged. I hope we will see more affordable housing made available for those who are desperately in need, along with a living wage that actually amounts to a liveable wage. We live in the wealthiest country in the world; people shouldn't have to work 40-60 hours a week just to keep the lights on and feed their family.

So as we press forward through these times of uncertainty, let's keep our eyes focused on the new season on the horizon: Year 2023--A Season of HOPE!



In Memoriam



In honor of our faithful donor and supporter, NETTIE CAREY of Washington, DC, we are establishing the Nettie Carey Book Scholarship Fund, in memory of her dedication to Angel Wings Ministries for over 20 years. Nettie donated her time, money, her dental hygiene experience and resources to the children/families we served.

We are so grateful and fortunate for her dedication and service to our mission. We will miss her dearly, but her memory will endure through the lives that are impacted through this scholarship fund. This scholarship fund was made possible thanks to her family and friends who selflessly gave monetary donations in lieu of flowers to Angel Wings Ministries, as requested by Nettie. Many thanks for all other acts of kindness in her memory.

Our 1st scholarship recipient is Sabine Semper of Ellicott City, Maryland who has donated her time and service to Angel Wings from 2019 - 2022. She raised the consciousness of her school and dance company to provide household goods, toys and money for the families we served over this time period.

Sabrine Semper

Graduate of *Marriotts Ridge High School - June 2022*

Attending: *Temple University - Class of 2026*

Major: *Genomic Medicine, B.S., Pre-Med Track*

Minor: *Information Science & Technology*

Extra Curricula Passion: *Dance*



*"Just like moons and like suns,
With the certainty of tides
Just like hopes springing high,
Still, I'll rise"*

"These are a few lines from my favorite poem, "Still I Rise", by Maya Angelou. Like this poem, I gain strength through adversity by letting my faith guide me to finer womanhood." - *Sabine Semper*

Scholarship Donors

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Shirley Shelton
Deborah Shepperson Smith
Jamal K. D. Smith
Paul D. Smith
Patricia Welch

Volunteer



ELF DAY



Gift Wrapping & Delivery

Weds., Dec. 14, 2022 & Thurs., Dec. 15, 2022

11 AM - 5 PM

Donate



One God One Thought Center

3605 Coronado Ave.

Baltimore, MD 21244

*You Can Sign Up
to Help!*

TEXT OR CALL: 410-982-7647 OR EMAIL: ANGELWINGSMIN@AOL.COM

It's That Time of Year for

The Secret Santa Project

Your support helps the families with children that we serve.

There are many ways to give your support!

For information on how you can sign up with us to
SPONSOR A CHILD or a FAMILY OF CHILDREN:

CALL OR TEXT: 410-982-7647

EMAIL: angelwingsmin@aol.com

TO MAKE A DONATION:

RETURN YOUR DONATION CARD TO:

Secret Santa Project

3005 Romaric Ct., Unit B

Baltimore, MD 21209

WE ALSO ACCEPT CASH APP:

\$ANGELWINGSMIN

**** Please place your name &
email in the memo section ****

Thank You!

*To our
"Angels in the Field"*



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