

The Oaks Arrow

In Exodus 17, Moses told Joshua to pick men to go out and fight Amalek. While the men fought, Moses, Aaron, and Hur went to the top of the hill. When Moses held his hands up, Israel prevailed and when his hands were lowered the enemy prevailed. As could be expected, Moses grew weary and his hands grew heavy. Because of this, Moses sat on a stone while Aaron and Hur held up his hands, one on each side of him. His hands became steady until the going down of the sun and Joshua was able to see victory.

At Oaks Indian Mission being together means we hold others' hands up so we can see victory in the lives of those around us. There are times we need someone to come along and hold us up so we can keep going.

Much like the dynamic duo (Damian & Santiago) whom are two young boys in our care that have deeply inspired us. As these boys navigate through the challenges of their perspective backgrounds and bridge the gap between their cultures; their friendship has blossomed as they discover common grounds through their shared experiences. Damian, with his deep faith and devotion, shared the teachings of God to Santiago, who embraced the values of love and compassion. Their bond has inspired others to look beyond language and cultural differences and appreciate their beautiful friendship.

This story highlights how kids in our care have experienced togetherness and how it has lifted them up during difficult times. We want our ministry partners to know the power of togetherness. Your support is like that of Aaron and Hur when Moses could not deliver the Israelites on his own.

We work and stand together so that children and families placed in our care can see what it means to live in a family. We want kids to see a better story. That is what working together does. It shows those around us the context for a better story for their life — A life full of the love, grace, and truth found only in God!



A Word from the Board President

Big Happenings in our Little Corner of the World!

Who would have thought that after 200 plus years the Mission started by the Moravians and continued by the Lutherans would still be doing God's work in a small town in Oklahoma of a population of just over 250 people! The Spirit of the Lord has never left this place and it moves and shifts with the needs of the souls sent our way. Our mission has always been to provide a place for families, and especially children, to feel safe and loved.

How wonderful it would be if all peoples had the comforts and necessities of life that they needed. That all people had the freedoms you and I have. That there was no need for a place like Oaks Mission. There is that hope and dream, but for now we live in a challenging and constantly changing world full of people that need food, clothing, housing, and hope to keep on living. That is what God has asked of us time and time again--to touch people's lives at their most basic.

Will we be here for another 200 years? God willing. We don't know what the future holds, but at this point in time, we are doing wonderful things in His Name! We will never stop being advocates for the underprivileged and the lost by giving them hope and a place for healing. That is the spirit of Oaks Indian Mission.

I love using quotes as others seem to say things so much better than I. So I share this quote by Angela Davis: **"I am no longer accepting the things I cannot change. I am changing the things I cannot accept."**

Gayle White, President
Board of Directors

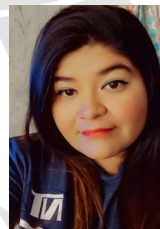
Welcome to team ministry



I am grateful to be a part of our shared mission. Having immigrated to the US as a child, my life has been a testament to the transformative power of faith in God. Marriage has been a cornerstone of my adult life, providing a stable foundation that compliments my dedication to service.

Over the past six years, my career in Human Resources has allowed me to cultivate skills in fostering a positive workplace environment and supporting the growth of individuals. I am enthusiastic about the opportunity to contribute to Oaks Indian Mission. Drawing on my unique background to bring compassion, cultural understanding, and a steadfast commitment to my faith in God.

Yours in Christ,
Roxana Madrid



Hi Friends of the Oaks Indian Mission! My name is Maria Perez and I am the new Interpreter here at the Mission. I grew up near Oaks in Little Kansas. My family immigrated to the United States when I was a child. I've been married for 6 years and have 3 wonderful children that keep me on my toes.

I have had a great time getting to know the children and families, and working with all the wonderful people who keep the Mission going—always for the glory of God.

I hope to get to meet or visit with all of you, the reason for keeping this ministry alive.

Many Blessings,
Maria Perez

We are blessed to welcome Roxana & Maria into our Mission family.

*Honors, Memorials & In-kind
July-December 2023*

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Oaks Indian Mission and Lutheran Church of the Master, Omaha, NE Quilters: Serving in Love* By Diane Madsen, OIM Board Member



Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. -1 Corinthians 12:27



In a church, pastors, teachers, and music leaders are the “up-front” people. Those with other gifts -the people behind the scenes - are also vital to the church body. Love, kindness, hospitality, wisdom, and a serving spirit— what would the church do without these and other godly talents to help the Body of Christ run smoothly?

The LCM Quilters, under the leadership of Shae Hughes, showed their serving spirits when in November they sent numerous

quilts down to Oaks Indian Mission in Oaks, OK. The children and families that OIM serves were thrilled to receive the gift of a handmade quilt that they could choose for their very own. One little girl selected a pink and purple quilt, another little boy was overjoyed when he found a quilt with tractors on it. Every child and every family that OIM currently serves was able to select the gift of a quilt from Lutheran Church of the Master's Quilters! A cozy reminder that there are people who they have never met who care about them and these photos express their thanks.

In a church, concern for others along with spiritual gifts are blessings that make our service happy and productive. What a witness when church members share their unique gifts and work harmoniously for their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!



*Some of the content of this article was taken from a devotional in the January 2013 Portals of Prayer.

Christmas here at the Oaks Indian Mission

The outpouring of kindness takes on a whole new meaning. With this in mind, we would like to thank the people of the congregations and organizations listed below who gave generously to the children for Christmas. Our children were so blessed by your gifts, but more than that, they were moved by your kind hearts and generosity. Our prayer is that God would bless each and every one of you in the coming year.

Salem LC, Stillwater, OK ~ Fellowship LC Tulsa, OK ~ Al & Carolyn Smith ~ Kansas, OK Town Hall ~ Great Gift exchange ~ Our Savior LC, Bartlesville, OK ~ ~ Dora Smith Patzkowski ~ Judy Jones ~ HART Ministries ~ Country Baptist Locust Grove, OK



Oaks Indian Mission is Family

Children come to Oaks from seemingly impossible situations. Most have never known what it means to truly belong to a family.



I have lived at Oaks for 2 years. I like the guys that I live with, we hang out and talk and play basketball. I get to go to school and play sports and lift weights. I like my houseparents

because they help me with my school work and are teaching me to cook. We get to help make dinner and I like to make desserts for all of us.

(Quote from Aiden - Resident)

Hope Changes Everything

Our families have known tragedy and pain. They have faced unimaginable hardships. But that's not the end of their story.



Oaks Indian Mission has helped give us a place to stay in our time of need. They have helped us with food and have given our children a safe place when we weren't able.

They gave my husband work. When my oldest daughter was in the hospital in Tulsa they gave us a ride. They've treated us with respect. We are grateful for everything that they have done for us.

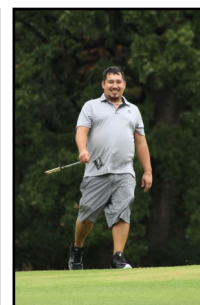
Quote from a mother - (Humanitarian Aid Program)

Another Successful Year

We wish to thank all of our generous sponsors, who have been so faithful over the years, as well as the golfers, of course, without whom there would be no benefit tournament.

Again, as in years past, we had a very competitive day on a challenging course. We welcome such a spirit, giving thanks for a well-played sportsman like attitude on the part of our teams.

Finally, our gratitude goes out to the Cherokee Hill Club house and its great support of this Mission over the years, providing the means necessary for the Oaks to truly benefit from this tournament, funds that impact the lives of whom we serve.





This past fall on a beautiful Saturday for football, Salem Lutheran Church, Stillwater, OK hosted our staff and kids at an Oklahoma State game. We were Cowboys for the day!

What fun it was! Not to mention the experience of a major university that

will stay with the kids a long while, hopefully becoming a seed well planted.

This annual event has become quite the tradition. Thank you to the Salem folks!



SCENES FROM CAMPUS



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

You are invited to Open House



We invite you to come and spend the morning in our Marshall House and meet the children and families whose lives you are changing!

Join us in person on Saturday, July 20th 2024 at 10 am for a dedication ceremony and a picnic lunch to honor Rev. Don Marshall.

RSVP today at mail@oaksindianmission.org or call 918-868-2196.

Hope to see you soon!



SAVE THE DATE

16th Annual Golf Scramble

Friday, October 18, 2024

Cherokee Hills Golf Course

Catoosa, OK

Start time at 8:00 am

\$500/Foursome

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

Flag Sponsor - \$150

Hole Sponsor - \$300

Putting Contest Sponsor - \$1,000

Executive Sponsor - \$2,000

Presenting Sponsor - \$5,000

**For more information call
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Bleach
Dish Soap
Hand Soap
Scrub Sponges

~Outdoor Items~

Gas Power Weed eaters
Chainsaws
Plastic Gas Cans

Please check out our Amazon
Wish List Online for our full
Needs List

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Gravy Packets
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Thank you

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