



# PACM

PRISON AFTERCARE CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

## PACM News

### Visiting the Billy Graham Exhibit with Christ Baptist Church Women

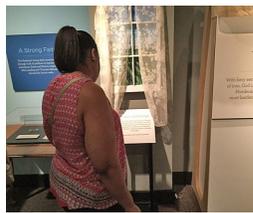
*Contributed by Lynn Lawton of Christ Baptist Church*



It was a beautiful summer morning, the 9th of July, when the ladies from the HIS ministry at Christ Baptist Church arrived to give the three residents, along with three volunteers from Grace Home, a special day of sharing God's love and encouragement. We had been planning this visit for quite some time and were so excited that the day had finally arrived! The HIS ministry which is part of our church's Women's Ministry has a precious group of ladies with servant hearts who seek to be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ by not only supporting local church-sponsored min-

istries but also missions abroad. After we met with sweet hugs and introductions, we began our day together.

Our first stop was the Museum of History to see the Billy Graham exhibit. It was an inspirational tribute to a man used by God to bring the gospel message to the world. Many of his personal items were there such as one of his preaching Bibles and as you walked through each display, you became immersed in his life as an evangelist and could see firsthand how God's plan of salvation and hope was brought to many



*(Continued on page 2)*

*"Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, so that you too will not be tempted."*

Galatians 6:1

*Please note that our privacy policy does not permit us to identify Grace Home residents in our publications.*

### Grace Home Bible Study Update

The summer Bible study is being led by Robin Thorne of Crossroads Fellowship Church. Having just completed the Disciples' study on the book of James, the group is now doing the Disciples' study on the book of Galatians.

The homework for each study has a section of notes about the previous week's Bible passage studied, then a section of questions for the current week's Bible passage, divided into 6 days—homework for each day between meetings. At the end of each lesson is a page for each group member to select a favorite verse from the Bible passage studied and break it down in order to apply it personally using the 3-point method.

This study on Galatians and the passages from the Bible focus on God's grace... where would we be without it!



### Bible Study

The Grace Home Bible study group meets on Monday nights from 6:30-7:30 p.m. and all are welcome. The lessons are free and can be sent to those interested in participating via email to print out or to complete on the computer. If interested in joining this study or leading one in the future, please contact Dawn Cummings at 919-706-5281 or email [Dawn@pacm-nc.org](mailto:Dawn@pacm-nc.org).

*Galatians 2:20- "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, Who loved me and gave Himself for me.*

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# What's Happening



Grace Home has established a relationship with StepUp for ongoing life skills training.

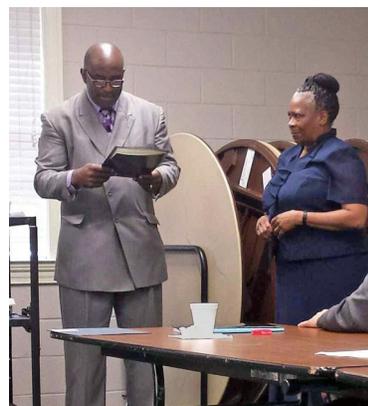
## Grace Home Update

Since our last newsletter, we have had one Grace Home resident depart, and two new residents arrive. There are presently three residents living in the home. Another resident has been accepted and is scheduled to arrive after her release in early September. This would bring Grace Home to full capacity.

While this is good, it comes with the reality that we received nineteen applications since the beginning of 2016, for which four women were selected. This means we had to turn away many applicants. Please pray for those that we are unable to help.

All of our residents have found churches and all join the weekly Bible study at Grace Home. One of our new residents secured employment immediately after release. Our other newcomer completed the Jobs Week program at StepUp Ministries and was looking for a job. Just prior to publication deadline for the newsletter, she was offered a position beginning the following week.

After securing a job, our residents are required to enroll in the nine-month Life Skills program at StepUp. Both of our new residents are scheduled to begin Life Skills starting in September.



**Jobs Week Graduation Ceremony**  
*(Photo used with permission of Grace Home Resident)*



Grace Home residents and volunteers get an inside view of a Billy Graham crusade

## Visiting the Billy Graham Exhibit

*(Continued from page 1)*

parts of the world through Mr. Graham's powerful messages, especially during some very volatile times in history.

and a place to stay. She praised God for His goodness! In sharing their testimonies, they expressed thanks to God for bringing them through difficult times.

We then headed to lunch at the Irregardless Café, just a short distance from the museum where we were able to talk and get to know each other better. The residents were very open and willing to share. They were so appreciative of Grace Home and how it had given them a second chance at life. One resident understood the importance of submitting to God's will, and how He was helping her to mend a relationship with her mother. Another resident, who was healing from a recent fall, had experienced homelessness and was so grateful to have a job



We were sad to see the day come to an end but had one last opportunity to be an encouragement. Each was given a handmade sewn gift bag filled with a devotional book and other items. I also had the privilege to say a final prayer and as we all held hands, I asked God to continue to bring them to a closer relationship with the Lord and to seek His plan and purpose, remembering His wonderful promises. It had been such a wonderful day of not only seeing the sun shine but also seeing the *SON* glorified through our time together.

**"The residents were very open and willing to share. They were so appreciative of Grace Home and how it had given them a second chance at life."**

## The ReEntry Jobs For Life Project

*Contributed by Gail Carrington*

The ReEntry Project - a faith-based prison ministry - has just completed its fourth term at the NC Correctional Institution for Women - Minimum Custody Unit (NCCIW-MCU).

Ten students participated in this session along with ten champions/mentors—one for each student. The ReEntry team includes six volunteer instructors who take the students through the *Jobs For Life* program.

The *Jobs For Life* curriculum is a unique job readiness training and support strategy that empowers students to be successful at work and at life. An important focus of the *Jobs*

*For Life* program is to help students understand the ways timeless Biblical principles can help them achieve a productive life and offer them an opportunity to consider walking their life journey with God as their guide.

Our graduation event, for our current group of ten students is planned for July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The ReEntry team is also working with NCCIW staff on plans for a second term this calendar year. As the Lord opens doors, we will continue to move the program forward!

*Gail Carrington is the Coordinator of the ReEntry Jobs For Life Program at NCCIW*



**The ReEntry team takes the *Jobs For Life* Curriculum inside of NCCIW-MCU**

## Independence Day Has Special Meaning to Grace Home Residents

*Contributed by Dawn Cummings*



*"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery"*

*Galatians 5:1*

A good time was celebrated by Grace Home residents, friends and families at Grace Home on the Fourth of July. The wonderful fellowship and exchange of Christian love emphasized in so many ways the great blessing of freedoms we enjoy in this country.

Perhaps the greatest of these, is our freedom to openly worship without fear of persecution. And although we live in a country where sometimes there are obstacles that might block the pursuit of our dreams, it is important to keep in per-

spective the privilege we have to worship without fear when there are people around the world whose very lives are threatened for simple acts of profession of their Christian faith.

But for people who have lived in incarceration, the word "independence" has connotations that go beyond our traditional observance of the event in which the United States declared that they would no longer live under the yoke of tyranny and oppression. For them, independence is freedom from the chains of the past, an opportunity to reflect on and learn from past destructive choices or circumstances, and a chance to start over forgiven!

***PRAISE THE LORD and GOD BLESS AMERICA !!!***



**Fourth of July Cookout at Grace Home**

**"Freedom prospers when religion is vibrant and the rule of law under God is acknowledged"**

*- Ronald Reagan*

**Grace Home is a PACM ministry.** Located in Raleigh, North Carolina, Grace Home is a residence for women who are being released from incarceration and who wish to pursue a new direction in life based on their Christian faith. Grace Home provides an alternative that allows them to avoid returning to the unhealthy environments of their past. Christian values, confidentiality, and a commitment to a new life are the foundations of the program. The services provided here are for women who desire a Christian structured home environment and who demonstrate their sincerity by cooperating with guidelines established for the purpose of enriching their life experiences.

Please contact one of the following individuals to arrange a tour of Grace Home and/or to discuss with them the goals and objectives of the residence program.

Dawn Cummings Email: [Dawn@pacm-nc.org](mailto:Dawn@pacm-nc.org)  
Robin Thorne Email: [Robin@pacm-nc.org](mailto:Robin@pacm-nc.org)

**ReEntry Life Skills is a PACM ministry.** Operating inside of the NCCIW Minimum Custody Unit in Raleigh, NC, ReEntry Life Skills is a faith-based transition Initiative that is designed to help students face the challenges of life they will encounter when they are released from prison to rejoin their families and communities.

The teaching modules are furnished by Jobs for Life and Women of Worth Fellowship. Class size is ten students, with a champion/mentor assigned to each student. Classes are facilitated by a team of four instructors and a class coordinator.

Classes focus on topics such as accepting responsibilities, overcoming obstacles to success, taking pride in work, money management, interactive relationship development, goal setting, writing resumes, how to budget, etc. These topics are in our curriculum along with the comprehensive Jobs for Life curriculum.

The ReEntry team is committed to serving our students with excellence in instruction and providing Biblical principles by which to live.

## Prison Aftercare Christian Ministries

*"For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone and has not another to lift him up!"*

Ecclesiastes 4:10



Prison Aftercare Christian Ministries  
PO Box 18332  
Raleigh, NC 27619

E-mail: [info@pacm-nc.org](mailto:info@pacm-nc.org)

We're on the web at:  
[www.pacm-nc.org](http://www.pacm-nc.org)

## Grace Home Residents Giving Back To The Community

*Contributed by Dawn Cummings*



The residents of Grace Home continue to serve their community by participation in a variety of volunteer activities.

The residents are regular volunteers for the weekly and monthly Food Pantry and Community Outreach Programs of North Haven Church.

They have also served by helping each week to sort, package, and deliver food for Urban Ministries of Wake County.

As a result of the Grace Home Coordinator's volunteer connection with Christian Library In-

ternational, the residents will also soon begin volunteering on a regular basis with this ministry.

The residents of Grace Home are serving others while maintaining employment, participating actively in Bible Study, regularly attending the church of their choice, and progressing through the different phases of the year-long StepUp Life Skills programs. These ladies maintain full and structured schedules as they prepare for the future while seeking God's purpose and will for their lives.

*Dawn Cummings is the Coordinator of Grace Home*

*" We make a living  
by what we get..."*

*We make a life  
by what we give ."*

*- Winston Churchill*