



*A planting of the Lord for the display of His splendor. Isaiah 61:3*



## Family Reunification *after incarceration*

Incarceration takes a toll on families. During their time in prison, women may not have seen their children or other family members. Prison is a physical and emotional barrier to the offender and her family.

Upon release, women face challenges to mend relationships with their family, across multi generations, especially their children. Emotional and legal obstacles can hinder family reunification. Relationships must be redefined, and the ex-offender must prove she is walking in the truths she professes. Family members may not believe promises made by the ex-offender, and that is hard to overcome. Custody issues must be resolved. Patience is key in the mending process, as is the willingness to surrender the healing to God.

With the help of Christian counselors, the Oaks' women receive guidance on appropriate ways to manage distrust, anger, resentment, and other emotions that dominate broken families. A few have begun to rebuild family bonds with tools learned in counseling, anger management, and other classes.

God continues to work on these broken relationships, paving the way for healing in the future. We give God the glory for restoration and reunification.



## ***The Oaks is Thankful for Your Generosity***

### **The Stoller Foundation**

generously awarded a grant to support the Christian Counseling program for Oaks' clients.

### **United City Church**

made a financial donation to the ministry. Their Women's Bible Study is partnering with the ministry through a collection effort.



**TO DONATE:** [www.oaksoftexas.org/donate-now.html](http://www.oaksoftexas.org/donate-now.html)



# Oaks' Residents Prepare the Way

The residents of the Oaks have undertaken a letter writing campaign to incarcerated women who have applied and been accepted to the Oak's ministry. While these women wait for parole, they receive handwritten letters of encouragement.

The pen pal concept was proposed by Bethany, a current graduate living in the Pearce house. God's perfect timing is evident as the letter campaign is helping to fill a gap caused by reduction of faith-based activities in TX prisons due to COVID.

The letters provide a glimpse of what to expect upon arrival to the Oaks. Their words also convey the support the residents of the Oaks have for one another in their journey of faith and recovery. The campaign has been successful in helping to ease the anxiety of transition to a new program and residence upon release from prison.

With God's calling the ladies of Oaks are helping to prepare the way for their new Sisters in Christ in this initial step of discipleship.

## Kitchen update is COMPLETED !



## GRADUATES GIVE BACK

Currently the three graduates, at the Pearce house, serve the ministry via part-time jobs at the Oaks' house. These positions are in addition to their employment outside of the house.

Bethany and Heather alternate in the weekend relief role requiring them to stay at the house over the weekend. They oversee house upkeep and drive the residents to church and recovery meetings. Stephanie is assuming the role of night relief manager, requiring her to live in the house, supervising the women after 5 pm. Stephanie and Heather also work one day a week serving in administrative roles. Heather also manages transportation for the ministry.

To be effective in their new roles of service the graduates are receiving leadership training.



**SOLA GRATIA women's choir**  
**25TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT**

*Then Sings My Soul*

**Sunday, May 1, 2022**  
**4pm • KUMC Sanctuary**

**BENEFITTING OAKS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS**  
Dessert reception to follow • Suggested donation \$20

Meredith Koerner, director with the KUMC Orchestra  
Dr. Sergey Kuznetsov, piano and Foundation Brass

## Both houses are at a max capacity



with arrival of new residents