



*A planting of the Lord for the display of His splendor.*

*Isaiah 61:3*

**April/May 2018**

### ***Spiritual Retreat Day***

On March 5, our residents of the Oaks were taken on a Spiritual Day Retreat at the Cramer Retreat Center. It was a special event for our ladies to have a full day away from the house to encounter, embrace, and enjoy God's love. It was filled with surprises that they had no idea would happen and that's what made it so special. The day began with an early breakfast on the way to the retreat center and once we arrived at the campus we started with devotion and prayer. Afterwards, the ladies were sent off with their new journals to go spend quiet time outside with the Lord. The weather was perfect for them to find a sacred spot on the campus and enjoy God's nature. As the day continued, Jackie, our counselor intern, helped me with the biggest surprise for the ladies - lunch was brought in by their mentors! Cynthia, Jayla, and Dana had no clue that this was going to happen. They thought they would not get to visit with them at all that week. Their mentors also blessed them with agape gifts as well.



*Spring Retreat with counselors and mentors.*



*Cynthia enjoying Spring Retreat with her mentor, Ms. Sally.*

Bonita, our Christian Counselor, joined us for lunch. We had a beautiful time of fellowship in the cottage. After lunch we gathered in the chapel to partake of Holy Communion. Then it was time for each mentor and mentee to spend some quality time together. Late afternoon, the mentors departed and the ladies had more reflection time. We ended our time at the retreat center with my presentation of Spiritual Gifts and the ladies took their first Spiritual Gifts survey. The ladies enjoyed a beautiful day at Cramer Retreat Center. That evening we left the center to grab a bite to eat and went to the movie theatre. The Lord gave me the vision to bless our ladies with this event and He gets all the glory! I hope that this special day will be a lasting memory in the minds and hearts of Cynthia, Jayla, and Dana, as well as their mentors, Sally, Mary, and Kaye!

*Janet Stevenson, House Manager*

### ***I Will Rise***

On April 22 at 3:00 p.m., Sola Gratia, the women's choir of Kingwood United Methodist Church, will present *I Will Rise*, a concert fundraiser for the Oaks of Righteousness. Accompaniment for the concert will be provided by Scott Cheairs, percussionist; Mike Astwood, string bass; and Dr. Sergey Kuznetsov, piano; along with the KUMC Orchestra and Foundation Brass ensembles. The program includes settings of traditional hymns and spirituals as well as more contemporary songs. A suggested \$20 donation will be collected at the door in lieu of tickets, and an offering for Oaks of Righteousness will be collected during a brief intermission (tax receipts provided). Following the concert in the church sanctuary, guests are invited to a dessert reception in the church commons, provided by board members of the Oaks. Kingwood United Methodist Church is located at 1799 Woodland Hills Drive. For more information call the church at 281-358-2137.

## ***The Spirit of Santa***

On a beautiful December night, the Houston Show Choir gifted the Oaks with a beneficiary concert at the Bender Center, followed by a lively raffle which included such items as a TV, an autographed football, and a basket chock-full of eye-catching Legos. When his mother's lovingly purchased raffle tickets failed to win the coveted Lego prize, a young boy broke into heart-wrenching tears. The older gentleman who'd won the basket heard of the young boy's disappointment and offered two of the prized Lego kits to the young man. Soon, of course, other children in the audience lined up and picked out kits, too. The man thoroughly enjoyed giving away all the Lego kits to the kids, and his blessings in giving them away were probably a greater prize than the basket itself. He may choose to be anonymous, but for these young lovers of Legos who benefitted from his generosity, it was perhaps their first experience with a real, live Santa Claus!



### ***Thank you, corporate and church donors!***

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### ***Save these dates and support the Oaks!***

April 22  
*I Will Rise - Sola Gratia Concert*  
3:00 p.m., in the KUMC Sanctuary  
*Shop for a cause!* May 10 *Shop for a cause!*  
*Cyrese & Company 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Mother's Day Event*  
4570 Kingwood Drive  
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Oaks receives 20% of total daily sales.  
*KUMC June altar rail offering supports the Oaks!*

### ***Featured Ministry Need***

The Oaks House, built in 1970, needs a new roof.

***Thank You to all our Volunteers and Personal Donors!***



Oaks of Righteousness  
Post Office Box 1731  
Humble, Texas 77347