

@Boulevard



*A joint publication from the Boulevard church of Christ
and Eagle Recovery Center*



A Monthly Newsletter

Issue No 34 — January 2016

Jots from Jeff



Everyone likes something new: new shoes, a new dress, a new car, a new house. And I'm okay with that, because we serve a God of all things new: a

new heaven, a new earth, a new relationship with people whom He has made new through Christ. One of my favorite "new things" from God is the new year. It's a time of fresh starts, new goals, new adventures and new opportunities. It is our prayer that God has already been blessing you in this new year of 2016!

We continue to be blessed by so many of you through your gifts of prayer, service and finances. We thank you and we thank God for you. As partners and fellow disciples of Jesus Christ we will continue to touch many precious people together. Thank you for that.

Currently at *Eagle Recovery Center* we have a record enrollment of 17 residents. We have never had that many before at one time, and have had to utilize our overflow facility to accommodate everyone. We have 17 amazing women who don't know the meaning of "quit," who continue to rebuild their lives on the foundation that Jesus built. I am encouraged every time I see them in action, confronting seemingly impossible odds, maintaining a positive spirit, and

participating whole-heartedly in the ministry and mission of the *Boulevard church*.

One of the goals of *Eagle* is for our residents to commit to staying with the program for at least a year, growing into the likeness of Christ, learning to lead other women in their respective recoveries and modeling an exemplary spirit. It is not an easy road and requires some pretty amazing commitment. When one of our residents successfully hits this milestone, we like to recognize her with a Certificate of Accomplishment and have her name engraved on the **Senior Board of Mentors** which hangs in the lobby at *Eagle Recovery Center*. I am happy to announce that this past Sunday, **Kelli Tarver** was inducted as the latest member of the **Senior Board of Mentors**. She has been a wonderful ambassador for *Eagle Recovery Center* through many venues. And she is very "hands on" in our **Hands and Feet of Jesus Christ** ministry. Congratulations, **Kelli**!



In December, two wonderful disciples and partners in our ministry graduated from this earth and were transferred to the Home Office (Heaven, of course!). The first was **Melvin Bell**, **Susie's** dad (my father-in-law). I have known him as a son knows a father for

nearly 18 years. And I can testify without any doubts that he was one of the sweetest-spirited men I have ever known. He has left a big hole in our hearts. Our sympathy is extended to his bride of 65 years, **Elva** (my wonderful mother-in-law). Prayers are appreciated.

The second to head heavenward was the wife of Shepherd **Charles Custer, LaVerne**. Her bright smile and cheerful greetings always made *Boulevard* a little brighter. She and **Charles** were married for 70 years and were inseparable in life, in work and in Christ. Please remember **Charles** and his family in prayer as they grieve.



If you have worshiped with us at *Boulevard* in the past, you may recall that our pews look like they had been on the losing end of Zorro's sword with all the rips in the upholstery. We were so blessed in December by a special generous unexpected donation which allowed us to have those pews recovered. And this has made our somewhat embarrassing auditorium much more presentable. Thank you to our benefactor who said she wants all of the praise to go to God!

Our ladies at *Eagle* were the beneficiaries of an amazing Christmas party last month. Special thanks goes to

(continued on reverse)

About Us

Boulevard church of Christ is a family of believers in Jesus Christ who want to be the hands and feet of Jesus in reaching people with messed up lives. We believe Jesus is the great Healer physically, spiritually, emotionally and socially. And we all need to be healed of something.

Eagle Recovery Center is a Christ-centered, structured, sober-living group home for the purpose of empowering women to successfully re-enter society and live victoriously over drugs and alcohol or any other destructive habit. All residents are valued members of the Boulevard church family.

the **Gilkey Go Group** from *New Hope church of Christ, Eastland Hills Baptist Church Monday night Bible Study Group, Greater Marshall Memorial Baptist Church, Judy Finch and Benita Hamblin*. The women of *Eagle* were truly spoiled.

Our **Hands and Feet** ministry continues to be a blessing and be blessed. So many have pitched in with time, talent and treasure to make an impact on some of the "least of those among us," the same kind of people sought out by Jesus while he walked on Earth. We may never be able to fully measure the total impact on the lives of those we meet. We keep an accounting of names on a whiteboard at the front of our auditorium. So

far there are more than 250 unique names representing unique people who have a story that matters. We want to know their stories and keep their stories alive. Because they are significant. They are hungry. They are cold and wet. They are sick. They are tired. And they are appreciative. One touching scene last week was witnessing a homeless man we had helped, feed and tend to another homeless man who was ill. Paying it forward. It's a beautiful thing.

Your prayers and partnership may seem like a small thing to you. But they are huge to us and mean the world to those we are honored to meet and serve. Thank you.

—Jeff Gardner, evangelist

Memorial Gifts to Ministry

- In memory of **Melvin Bell**
 - Don & Jo Ellen Livesay
 - Jim & Nancy Hale
- In memory of **LaVerne Custer**
 - Darlet Thompson



Donate online at <http://www.gofundme.com/eaglerecovery>

Yes, I would like to partner with the *Boulevard church* and *Eagle Recovery Center* to help bring Christ to and heal those who are struggling to overcome addiction by making a donation of...

\$25 ___ \$50 ___ \$75 ___ \$100 ___ or Other \$ _____ (donation enclosed)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Make checks payable to **Boulevard church of Christ** and send to:

1301 N. Drexel Boulevard • Oklahoma City, OK 73107

Other Ways to Help:

- Female or Husband/Wife teams to help with transportation for a day
- Donate good clothing suitable for work
- Godly women to develop mentoring relationships with an Eagle resident
- Grounds keeping assistance (mowing, limb cutting and removal, painting and repair)

Please contact Lora or Donna at one the numbers listed below to volunteer.

www.eaglerecoverycenter.org

www.boulevardchurch.org



Eagle Contact Information

Director — Lora Williams

Phone — (405) 737-5383

Email — lora@eaglerecoverycenter.org

Address — 3701 East Reno

Oklahoma City, OK 73117



Facility Minister — Donna Myers

Phone — (405) 760-9086

Email — donna@eaglerecoverycenter.org

Boulevard Contact Information

1301 N. Drexel Boulevard • Oklahoma City, OK 73107

(405) 943-3578

Shepherds

Jim McWhirter

Charles Custer

Assembly Times

Sunday — 9:30 am

Wednesday — 7:00 pm

Evangelist:

Jeff Gardner • heal@blvdchurch.com • (405) 550-7658

Associate Minister:

Ivan Gonzalez • ivan@blvdchurch.com • (405) 923-4964

Boulevard church of Christ and Eagle Recovery Center®, a DBA of Eagle Christian Ministries, are both 501(c)(3) charitable organizations.