

# @Boulevard



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



A Monthly Newsletter

Issue No 28 — May 2015

## Jots from Jeff



May has been marvelous so far and we have a lot to share. Let's get the sad news delivered first.

**Logan Glover** accepted a full-time youth minister position with the Jenks

church of Christ, so we had to let him go. Sad for us, but good for him! On the bright side, **Steven Moore** (a student from OC) has stepped up and will be leading our singing now. God always provides! Then the school year ended for Oklahoma Christian which means we have lost most of our college students for the summer. But the good news is they have pledged to come back in the Fall and bring friends! God always provides.



The last sad news I have to share is that our brother

**Mickey Foree** passed away after a courageous battle against brain cancer. Our sympathies are extended to his wife, **Laura**, his parents,

**Larry** and **Vickie**, his daughter, **Lindsey**, and his brothers, **Mark**, **Mike**, and **Monte**, as well as his entire family. The good news is that **Laura** and **Mickey** both became disciples of Jesus through faith, repentance and baptism last July. So we know **Mickey** is resting with Jesus. God always provides. Please be prayerful for his family.

Twenty-five of our members (which is more than 50%!) went to the Oklahoma Food Bank on a recent Wednesday evening and boxed up about 6,000 meals to be delivered to economically disadvantaged children in Oklahoma. This was the first of many monthly Wednesdays of service we will be involved in during the coming months. It's all for Jesus!

During a work day at the church building just before Easter, several of us erected a donated basketball pole and goal in the north parking lot in hopes of getting acquainted with some of the neighborhood youth. I am happy to report that young people from the neighborhood use that basketball goal nearly every day. We have gotten to know several and we hope to use this as a catalyst to create a youth group and eventually share Jesus with their families.

Speaking of Jesus, two more men have recently become disciples of Jesus through faith, repentance and baptism.

**Marco Antonio Rubio**

**Sandoval, Jr.** came to his decision to follow Jesus after several weeks of serious Bible study. A group of us continue to study weekly with the goal of becoming more and more like Jesus Christ. Please pray for **Marco**. Then there is **Larry**. **Larry** has lived a rough life. At the age of 46, he has seen more of the



dark side of humanity than most of us ever will. His heart and body are both scarred with remnants of drug and alcohol addiction, violence and all that goes with that. His many tattoos are intimidating to some. Last June he quit alcohol and drugs on his own and was trying to set his life straight. But he continued to meet overwhelming obstacles. He felt aimless and hopeless and couldn't see that life was ever going to get better. So he had decided to end it.

Meanwhile, I published this newsletter last month and paid Facebook to promote it to a demographic of people who were interested in drug and alcohol recovery and support groups. While **Larry** was considering the end, our newsletter post showed up on his phone. He read it and posted a plea for help: "I need Jesus in my life and I call to him with no answer. I have a bad past and wonder if I did something so wrong he will not accept me. My life is nothing but turmoil and pain; can't take much more. I need Jesus in my life. I'm begging you in Jesus' name, amen." I immediately sent him my phone number and asked him to call me. Which he did later that evening. We talked and I could tell he was desperate. He didn't have a Bible, lived in Calumet, OK, and was going to Muskogee the next day for a job interview. I suggested he stop for a visit on his way through, which he did. When we met, his eyes were dark and I could tell he had a heavy burden.

*Larry's story is continued on the back*

# 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.*

*Larry's story is continued here*

## Memorial Gifts

- **In Honor of Mickey Foree**
  - Judy Finch
  - Larry & Vicki Foree
- **In Honor of Emma Parker**
  - Betty Lemon
- **In Honor of Tom Poteet, Jr.**
  - Betty McCoy
  - Harold and Eva Phillips

We gave **Larry** a Bible, and visited for the next hour. I explained how Jesus is all about fresh starts and that there was nothing he has ever done that Jesus couldn't forgive him for. Just like the Ethiopian in Acts 8, **Larry** asked to be baptized into Jesus Christ immediately. We went to the church building, baptized him, and when he came up out of that water his eyes were bright and his shoulders unburdened. The transformation before my eyes was nothing short of miraculous! And he went on his way rejoicing. And so

did I, because as **Larry** put it: "God is on Facebook!"

Since then, **Larry** has gotten a job in Oklahoma City and tomorrow will be moving into a house in the same neighborhood as our church building "so he can be close to his new family." We anticipate that Christ will continue doing a great work in and through **Larry**. This was the best \$30 I have ever spent. **Larry** testifies that it literally saved his life. Please keep **Larry** and us in your prayers.

— Jeff Gardner, evangelist

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**

[www.eaglerecoverycenter.org](http://www.eaglerecoverycenter.org)

### 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.*



**Facility Minister — Donna Stevens-Leonard**

**Phone — (405) 760-9086**

**Email — donna@eaglerecoverycenter.org**

### Eagle Contact Information

**Director — Lora Williams**

**Phone — (405) 737-5383**

**Email — lora@eaglerecoverycenter.org**

**Address — 3701 East Reno**

**Oklahoma City, OK 73117**



### 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.

**Lora Williams** is a quadriplegic who has decided her disability gives her a unique availability to serve others. She is the volunteer director for Eagle Recovery Center, a sober-living home for women (<http://www.eaglerecoverycenter.org>). She tirelessly transports, advocates for, aids in job searches, connects residents with social services, arranges for medical and dental needs, and mentors women who need someone to believe they are worth the effort.

For the past 5 1/2 years, Lora has worked a minimum of 6 days per week, often 12 hour days and has never received any monetary compensation. She has a 2008 Dodge Caravan which now has about 140,000 miles on it. Ninety percent of those miles have been driven in serving the needs of women who have been cast-aways from the mainstream of society. Her phone constantly rings with calls or text messages from those relying on her assistance, which she usually has to answer via Bluetooth or some other handsfree method. It's a hectic lifestyle that would probably kill an ordinary person.

But Lora is no ordinary person, though confined to a power wheel chair and having to drive a specially equipped van to accommodate her chair and very limited hand mobility. She never takes a day off, never calls in sick, never complains and always smiles. And that makes her extraordinary.

In spite of being disadvantaged by a catastrophe, she has determined that God allowed her to live for a reason. She believes that reason is to spread the love of Christ and allow the Spirit of God to transform her catastrophe into a testimony about the power of God. She doesn't want a physical miracle because a spiritual miracle has already taken place in her heart and life. She looks forward to a new body with no limitations in Heaven. In the meantime, she serves others passionately out of gratitude for the blessings she believes she has received. She is an inspiration to those who know her. She motivates me to keep trying when I feel like giving up.

We would love to see her blessings grow even more with a new ride which she will continue to devote to helping women who need a fresh start in life. You can vote for Lora by going to <http://www.mobilityawarenessmonth.com/entrant/lora-lori-williams-choctaw-ok/>, register then vote daily through May 31, 2015. Thank you for your help and please share this message with others.