

BAPTIST VILLAGE

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Equipped for Service: Timothy Baptist Church Ministers Right Next Door

PAGE 4



Contents

WINTER 2016

President's Comments

3

SERVING GOD, SERVING YOU, SERVING TOGETHER...



ON THE COVER

4

Equipped for Service

TIMOTHY BAPTIST CHURCH MINISTERS
RIGHT NEXT DOOR



God Goes before Us

8

FORMER MISSIONARY AND CURRENT RESIDENT
THRIVED THROUGH ADVERSITY IN THAILAND



7

Henderson Called to
Serve @ Elk City

GOD PROVIDES LEADER FOR WESTERN OKLAHOMA



Skilled Chef Offers Unique
Recipes to Residents

10

OWASSO BENEFITS FROM AWARD-WINNING CHEF



12

Serving Where God
Places You

DON AND DEBBIE WILLIAMS EMBRACE SERVICE
IN THE REHAB NEIGHBORHOODS



Together We Progress

13

TOGETHER WE SERVE CAMPAIGN IS GAINING STEAM

Residents Volunteer Statewide

14

COUNTLESS RESIDENTS KNOW WHAT IT MEANS
TO "SERVE TOGETHER"

Serving God, Serving You, Serving Together...

DR. BILL PIERCE, PRESIDENT

...is a way of life at Baptist Village Communities (BVC). It is the culture; it is the way we live as we follow Christ.


Serving God... "Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts." 1 Peter 3:15a.

Serving you... "through love, serve one another." Galatians 5:13b.

Serving together... "He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love." Ephesians 4:16.



The Rehab Neighborhoods resident volunteer team. The team was trained to 1) understand BVC's mission, vision and values, 2) understand the Rehab Neighborhoods concept and the terminology, 3) how to give quality guest services, 4) how to give more than just a "hello", 5) the aspects of HIPAA, and 6) how to build a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Thank you very much for your prayer support, your volunteer support and your financial support. It means a lot to all of us! Again, THANK YOU! 

When a person comes to LIVE at Baptist Village, there are opportunities to serve.

When a person comes to WORK at Baptist Village, there are opportunities to serve.

We serve...TOGETHER.

The people who work at Baptist Village are known as the "Friends Team". No higher compliment has ever been given to BVC by a Friends Team member than by the team member who said, "Baptist Village is a place that fits my heart."

A picture is worth a thousand words. The picture you see on the left is a perfect example of what Serving God, Serving You, Serving Together "looks like", and "feels like" and "is", for the people of BVC every day.



Equipped for Service

JASON DAVIS, DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC RELATIONS SPECIALIST

“God dropped a ministry right at our doorstep, and we could not ignore this opportunity,” says Kelly Payne, pastor of Timothy Baptist Church in Muskogee.

Kelly speaks of the thriving partnership between his church family and the senior living community about 500 feet from their church building. Timothy Baptist Church ministers to residents there through Baptist Village Communities’ (BVC) LINC® ministry.

The Springs was constructed very recently right next door to the church, and Kelly knew it was no coincidence. “We knew God didn’t bring this senior living community next for us to simply sit back and enjoy its beauty. I prayed to God that he would give me direction about starting a ministry at The Springs, and when He gave me the go ahead, I presented the idea to the church. The response was overwhelming approval, so I started enlisted volunteers.”

Kelly reached out to Dr. Bill Pierce, BVC president. Dr. Pierce shared the benefits of the LINC® ministry through BVC.

It was the answer to Kelly’s prayer. The LINC® ministry builds and empowers ministry teams to provide Christ-centered ministry to residents living in senior living communities, partnering the church and community together.

A LINC® training was soon scheduled at the church, and again, the response was remarkable. More than 40 people attended the training, and Timothy’s LINC® ministry was underway.

“God dropped a ministry right at our doorstep, and we could not ignore this opportunity.”

- Kelly Payne

“When I think of our ministry, an old hymn comes to mind,” says Payne. “I look around in the place where I live and see people with so much to give, yet there are those who are dying to know just that somebody cares.’ We equip our people at church to go out and take Jesus to a lost and dying world. And what I have found is, sometimes especially for people who aren’t used to doing that, we need to provide them a place to do that where they can do it safely. The LINC® program has equipped out people to go into this senior living community and literally represent Jesus to people. And then if they go there and do it, what you’ll see is they find themselves doing the same thing at work and the world they live in – not a controlled environment. It’s infectious.”



Residents and the LINC® ministry come together to worship, singing “The Old Rugged Cross”. The team also organizes and leads special events with the residents and staff at The Springs.

Curtis and Cletus Wilson share a personal testimony of ministering at The Springs. “My wife and I get to visit once a month, and each visit is unique and different. Some residents are only there for a few days or weeks, and we may only get to see them once or twice. Some residents also have little to no family living nearby or that can come visit them. So they appreciate when we can come see them and pray for them.”

The Wilsons continue, “We befriended one lady in particular, a long-term resident, who remembers us and looks forward to our visits with her. On some visits, residents repeatedly tell us how much they appreciate the Sunday morning services. One lady indicated how impressed she was when Timothy Baptist Church members devoted to come every Sunday, share songs and conduct Bible study. Several members also provide monthly craft parties. Our church works in teams. I find that to be a great tool for getting to serve in a different environment.”

Opportunities for service present themselves on a regular basis. Kelly says, “Today, one of the residents told me that within the last month or so, her eyesight has regressed to the point where she no longer can see to read her Bible. She asked if I knew someone I could send to read the Bible to her.”

Continued on next page

Many LINC® team members from Timothy Baptist Church are quick to echo Kelly’s sentiments. Ronald Downs and his wife, Carolyn, are regular participants on the ministry team.

“We think we’re going over there to be a blessing to people, and we are. But the blessing that I receive in return is indescribable. My heart is just uplifted. I love these people - it’s just a blessing to me.”

Carolyn Downs gets choked up when she says, “When they (the residents) hug you and tell you that they’re grateful you came...that’s a big deal to me. It’s really personal then.”



“The blessing that I receive in return is indescribable. My heart is just uplifted.”

- Ronald Downs

I immediately answered that yes, I already knew who I'd send, and I gave the resident the team member's name."

He continues, "You also meet with those who are a little reluctant and don't know Christ. Through that, you're able to develop a relationship with them and able to go as far as to share the Gospel with them. That's what I think has been good for our church - we're able to take what God's doing in our life here out of these walls into another place and see it impact people."

Angela Martindale, LINC® team leader, shares her story of service.




"I'm just so blessed by this. Here I am thinking that I'm doing something for them, when in fact they're the ones touching my heart."

- Angela Martindale

our teams are very faithful in their Christian service."

It's amazing how the partnership between Timothy Baptist Church and The Springs has blossomed in such a short time. This potential can be true of any Southern Baptist Church throughout Oklahoma.

"It is a ministry 'ripe unto harvest,'" says Dr. Pierce. "The ministry in senior living communities is wide open with opportunities to serve. Not only are there dozens of residents living in the health center, but there also is a real opportunity for ministry to their families and community employees, as well. In essence, there could be hundreds of ministry opportunities under one roof."

Your church can get involved in the LINC® ministry. Chris Finley, BVC director of chaplain services, leads the LINC® program and would love to talk to you about your church's involvement. To learn more, contact him at (405) 470-8915, or email him at cfinley@okc.baptistvillage.org. You can also go to our website - baptistvillage.org. 

"A couple of weeks ago, there was a new resident sitting at a table near where we were preparing for service. I was passing out music and saying we're getting ready to have service. She said 'I want to be there, I want to be there!' When I gave her the music, she said she was blind and couldn't see it. I said that it was fine and I would read it to her. When I sat down next her to start reading, she was already singing the songs. She knew them."

"My heart literally just started weeping and I thought I'm just so blessed by this. Here I am thinking that I'm doing something for them, when in fact they're the ones touching my heart."

Kelly Payne is proud of his congregation's heart for ministry.

"Our church takes our calling to minister to residents at The Springs very seriously, and

Henderson Called to Serve @ Elk City

JASON DAVIS

The Neighborhoods at Baptist Village of Elk City is drawing very close to completion. This is an exciting time for Baptist Village Communities (BVC), as this will fulfill a God-sized dream years in the making.

BVC is proud to announce that our newest Village has its leader. Cathy Henderson has officially begun service as the campus director for Baptist Village of Elk City.

“Cathy is a great fit for the BVC ministry,” says Dr. Bill Pierce, BVC president. “She loves the Lord and loves the field of aging services. She has years of experience in assistance in living and will do a great job serving residents and their families.”

She has already hit the ground running with this new opportunity. “I wanted to serve with BVC



because serving senior adults is my calling,” confirms Henderson. “Serving in a faith-based community allows me to serve alongside like-minded individuals who also feel they have been called to this ministry.”

Cathy brings a wealth of experience to her new calling. “Prior to coming to BVC, I worked as a licensed practical nurse (LPN) in several different positions, including hospice. From there, I served as the administrator at Good Life Senior Living and Memory Care in Amarillo, TX,


eventually serving as chief operations officer for that community.”

BVC is convinced that God brought Cathy to us at the exact time He intended all along.

“Without a doubt, God has prepared Cathy to serve Elk City and surrounding areas in an excellent way,” says Steve Thomas, BVC vice president – operations.

She first learned about Baptist Village of Elk City after she was engaged to be married and planning to move to Elk City from Amarillo. Her soon-to-be husband, Keenan, thought that BVC would be a perfect fit for her.

Cathy is ready to make Baptist Village her other family. “What excites me about working for BVC is the honor of serving with other believers who love the Lord and have the calling to serve our older adults. Giving older adults assistance when needed, and most importantly, preserving their dignity and giving them a great place to call home is my passion. My excitement and the extent of the calling I feel is difficult to put into words!”

Baptist Village Communities is equally excited to serve with Cathy. Baptist Village of Elk City will open in December 2016. To learn more about the Village, call (580) 225-5555, or visit baptistvillage.org. 

God Goes before Us

JASON DAVIS

It's no secret that God has a tendency to work in our lives in unique and unexpected ways. Sue Medcalf can attest to this.

A longtime native of Ada and Baptist Village resident since 2012, Medcalf, 84, experienced God's almighty hand while she and her late husband served overseas nearly 50 years ago.

Sue married her husband, Fred, while they were students at Oklahoma A&M College (now Oklahoma State University). Fred was an engineering major, but it wasn't long before the young couple felt God's call to a ministry-minded vocation.

Fred changed gears, graduating pre-Med from OU Medical School and completing his residency work in Oklahoma City. All of this was in preparation to serve as the first medical missionary appointed by Southern Baptists to Thailand.

The Medcalfs lived in Bangkok to establish credibility with the government and determine the location as a mission for the hospital and medical ministry, thanks to assistance from Lottie Moon funds. They served as missionaries east of Bangkok for the next decade.

After the hospital was built, Fred, Sue and their three children lived in a home right on the hospital campus. On one fateful evening, their ministry took an unexpected turn.

Sue recalls the incident vividly. "There were in Thailand at that time large groups of bandits – basically fugitives of the law. Opportunistic nomads who took whatever they wanted. It was a Sunday night, and our children were in bed. I was returning from the market, and Fred was on call with the hospital that evening, so he was at home with the children. When I came home that night, bandits were waiting in the rice paddies in front of our house. We learned later that night that they had been there before."

The bandits made their way into the home and had the group on the floor on their knees, Their six-year-old son slept through the entire ordeal, even as the fugitives searched the mattress he was sleeping on, looking for money. The group opted to kidnap Sue, running down the street with her with a pistol to the ribs. But it became more and more clear that God was watching over Sue and her family that night.




Sue Medcalf in her apartment home, posing with some of the many Thai decorations she has.

“God goes before us,” says Sue. “As it was Sunday evening in Thailand, it was Sunday morning back in the states, and people there were praying for missionaries abroad while in Sunday school and services. I strongly feel like God honored all those prayers on our behalf. The bandits ended up just letting me and my family go. This is the same band of fugitives that had cut off a previous victim’s finger because she couldn’t get her wedding ring off for them to steal.”

She continues, “One of our evangelists there, Bob Spear, had prayed that morning, ‘Lord, stir the people up. Let them know we’re here.’ The day after the incident, Bob came to chat with us at daylight, and there was in front of our house a steady stream of curious onlookers from the area. Our children, without anyone asking them to, impulsively grabbed religious tracts and gave them out to anyone they could in the crowd. God turned a potentially disastrous situation into good for His glory.”

Sue still adheres to God’s will to this day. While being a resident, she also serves on Baptist Village of Ada’s support team.

“She is a wonderful, supportive and giving member of our support team,” says Tracy Scheer, campus director. “Sue is always speaking about Baptist Village to people she meets in the community. She is our unofficial ‘decorator, purchasing supplies to decorate the halls and Village entry - all at her expense. She makes holidays wreaths for residents. On weekends, she is my resident contact should a potential issue arise.”

“I just try to be available no matter what,” says Sue. “We need to serve. We need to be faithful, particularly people of my age. We may be limited in what we can do at times, but we can always go to God in prayer. We need to pray for one another. God is faithful; he is good.” 

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THE BAPTIST FOUNDATION OF OKLAHOMA

Skilled Chef Offers Unique Recipes to Residents

ART HADDAWAY, NEWS EDITOR - OWASSO REPORTER

Owasson Josh Rice is a one-of-a-kind cook. At least that's what residents of Baptist Village of Owasso would say.

Rice, the executive chef of the Village, has been serving up unique and delectable dishes for local residents for nearly two years and even won a national food contest for one of his original creations.

Known for his unconventional cooking style, Rice, 26, can often be found experimenting with various flavors and ingredients in the Village kitchen, perfecting new meals to serve the hungry crowd.

"We're not just here to collect a paycheck and go home; we're here to enrich the lives of seniors," Rice said. "My philosophy is I want to cook food they want to eat, and I want to show them some things they haven't quite seen before. I want to expose them to some stuff."

Bringing new ideas to the table, Rice recently created his own bacon apple bear claw, which he submitted to the General Mills 2016 Recipe Competition in March, placing first for the month out of hundreds of entries. The skilled chef has enrolled in the six-month contest each time since it began in January, but hasn't won until now.

The competition is extended to all employees of the Compass Group - the parent company of Morrison Community Living, Baptist Village's partner in dining services - and names two winners each month. Rice was one of 12 chefs to receive an all-expenses-paid trip to the General Mills Culinary Center in September, where he will compete for the national title and ultimate bragging rights.

"The reason I was doing the recipe competition was because it's something that I could bring to the residents. It was just something I could get involved with," he said. "It wasn't even really about winning; it was about making sure I was paying attention, about what was going on in the company."

Each month, contestants created a product based on a certain theme, with March centered around scone dough. They were given three different flavor options, one being a cinnamon variety, which Rice chose to make the bear claw. The entries were judged based on creativity and ease of use, among other factors.



Josh Rice, executive chef of Baptist Village of Owasso, has been serving up unique and delectable dishes for local residents for nearly two years.




Bringing new ideas to the table, Rice recently created his own bacon apple bear claw, which he submitted to the General Mills 2016 Recipe Competition in March.

fascination for food and cooking started in middle school after growing up in a household that embraced the culinary arts. He later attended culinary school at OSU Okmulgee to perfect the craft and pursue a career in the kitchen.

“My food culture really comes from my dad,” Rice said. [He] and my brother are firefighters, and so they cook for themselves. My dad was a single parent, and that’s where my love of food came from. We were always at the table, always together ... I really love the atmosphere that made.”

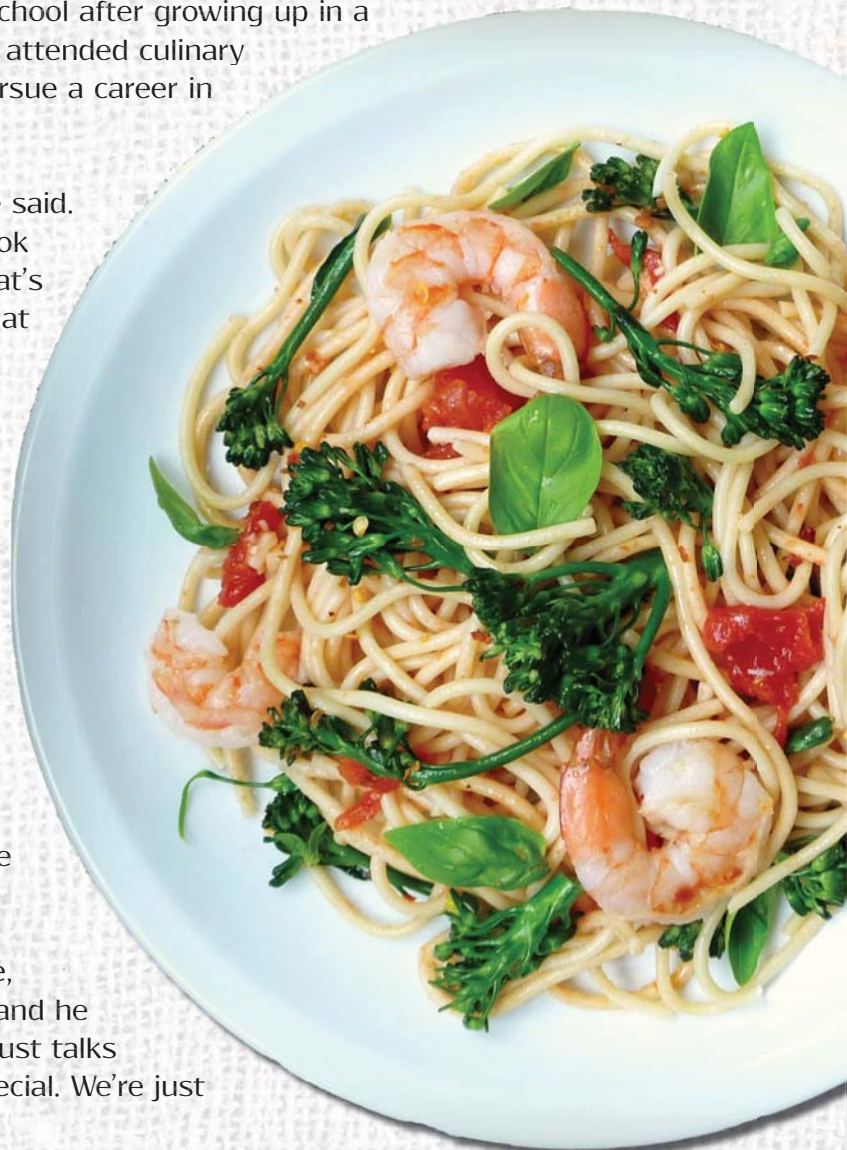
Over the last couple years at Baptist Village, Rice said he’s been privileged to work in an environment where he feels at home and is free to not only try new recipes and introduce them to the residents, but to visit and engage with them as well.

“I can’t walk throughout the dining room without getting two or three hugs,” he said. “You have to have a real servant’s heart to be involved with this. I love working here, it’s a great place to be and it’s my family.”

Nathan Purifoy, campus director of Baptist Village, added, “When [Josh] goes out into the dining room and he interacts with the residents, they just love him, he just talks to them ... and makes them feel really loved and special. We’re just proud of him.” 

In making the scone, Rice said he rolled out the dough until it was thinned and then lathered it with honey butter. Next, he precooked a few pieces of bacon and cut up some fresh red apples before combining everything and baking it on its side. As it cooked, he said the sugar and apples caramelized and the pastry puffed up around it. He topped it off with a few pinches of powdered sugar.

“It’s really simple,” Rice said. “I really, really liked it just because it was fun and it was inventive for me and I was allowed to be creative with it.” Rice said his



Serving Where God Places You

JASON DAVIS

God has a way about getting us to step out of our comfort zone. This often occurs in places and situations where we'd least expect it. Debbie Williams is a prime example of this truth.

Debbie came to The Rehab Neighborhoods at Baptist Village of Oklahoma City in July 2015 after having a knee replacement. She immediately learned of the quality of service from the Friends Team and therapies available in The Neighborhoods. As a result, Debbie found that God opened her heart for serving together.

"I saw a different level of ministry in Debbie since coming here," says her husband, Don. "She stepped up and ministered in ways I have never seen in her before. She ministered to and loved on the other guests and Friends Team members to the point that I heard one guest refer to her as 'Chaplain Debbie.'"

Don found himself getting heavily involved in serving, as well. An Oklahoma Baptist Disaster Relief chaplain, he already had considerable training in ministering to people. The couple visited with guests during meal times and conducted the weekly devotionals, where they shared words of encouragement, sang hymns and prayed for Friends Team and other guests. Don even had a one-on-one Bible study with a guest during lunch.

"Some of these guests are not only far away from their regular homes but their church homes, as well. They need the love, comfort and support of others in their time of need. For many, we became extended family to them."

"We've also been able to minister to Friends Team, as well. One of the weekend aides heard we were having services on Sunday evenings. She asked me if she could sing a solo for the service. She worked weekends, making it difficult to attend regular church services. She and another team member sang 'Amazing Grace' for us during the service, and it was beautiful. The guests have responded very well to the team members joining them. I believe that has drawn them closer together in their recovery process."

Don and Debbie enjoyed the results of their ministry, but they are quick to give glory where it's due. "This is not about Debbie and I. Matthew 5:16 says, 'Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.' We are just servants of the Lord wanting to glorify our Father in heaven with everything we do."

Don's hope is that others throughout Oklahoma would demonstrate this act of service. "Volunteer to visit guests regularly, pray with them and get to know them. Share a meal. Invite them to devotional services where you worship. You can be a blessing to them, but they are a blessing right back." 🧡



Debbie and her husband, Don, on her birthday while she was a guest in the Rehab Neighborhoods at Baptist Village of Oklahoma City

Together We Progress


JASON DAVIS

Baptist Village Communities (BVC) is moving right along in eastern Oklahoma. “Together We Serve” is providing considerable capital improvements to five Baptist Villages in eastern Oklahoma.

Two projects have been completed. Thanks to several friends of Baptist Village of Broken Arrow, the outdoor life enrichment venue on that campus opened this spring. It is now being utilized on a regular basis, much to the delight of residents, Friends Team and guests.

BVC happily dedicated the newly-rebranded and revitalized Unity Square neighborhood at Baptist Village of Owasso in August.

Thanks to others’ generosity and servant-minded spirit, BVC has received gifts and pledges toward the campaign for approximately \$2.4 million. BVC is exceedingly grateful to the individuals who have seen our vision to shape the future of aging services. These gifts will directly enhance the lives of residents on the Broken Arrow, Cleveland, Hugo, Okmulgee and Owasso campuses.

There are several ways to support Together We Serve. You can send a check to the development office - 3800 N. May Avenue, Oklahoma City, OK 73112. You also can donate online at baptistvillage.org. Prayerfully consider how you can have a role in shaping the future of aging services. 



 Baptist Village Communities

+

 **MUSTARDSEED**

SMALL CHANGE > BIG IMPACT

Baptist Village Communities is partnering with MustardSeed to provide for senior adults. MustardSeed rounds up your credit and debit purchases to the nearest dollar and sends the change to Baptist Village. Multiplied with other MustardSeed donors, that spare change can make a big impact. So whether you’re getting coffee or buying groceries, you’re also enhancing the lives for more than 2,200 senior adults throughout Oklahoma.

To sign up, go to www.MustardSeedApp.org, or scan the code at right. If you have any questions, contact the BVC development office at (405) 942-3000 ext. 4205.



Residents Volunteer Statewide

JASON DAVIS

It's no secret that at Baptist Village Communities (BVC), we serve God, serve you and serve together. This means that we are thrilled to have countless residents that volunteer and serve with us in a variety of capacities. Below are just some of the hundreds of residents statewide that embrace this spirit of service. Learn more about how they serve at right.



1. Baptist Village of Broken Arrow resident volunteer Donna King serves by keeping campus bird feeders filled.
2. Pauline Ross, resident at Baptist Village of Ada, has helped serve lunch in residential living for more than 20 years. According to Campus Director Tracy Scheer, "She is there every day, without fail, and never complains!"
3. Resident Glenda Mackey hosts Saturday women's Bible study at Baptist Village of Okmulgee. She also takes the ladies to mystery dinners, tea parties and various other trips. Glenda is always available to help out any resident who needs a ride to the doctor.
4. Broken Arrow resident Jane Forbes enjoys volunteering service in the Neighborhoods learning center, ensuring that it is organized and well-stocked.
5. Don Baxter and Ellen Henshaw enjoy volunteering their services with the Village choir at Baptist Village of Oklahoma City. Don utilizes his musical talents to lead the choir, while Ellen lends her hand as pianist.
6. Delores Drehmel, Broken Arrow resident, serves in the Neighborhood dining room, helping to prepare the family table before each meal.
7. Several residents from Broken Arrow's patio home neighborhood, Eagle Ridge, serve as greets in the front foyer. Pictured here are residents Wanda Karr, Iris Weatherford and Murlene Saffle.
8. Karen Howk is a significant help in the Okmulgee dining room. She performs prep work, setting up the dining room for lunch and cleaning off tables for lunch. Karen also helps other residents in the Village with shopping and getting to the doctor's office. Karen also makes sure everyone in the Village gets a card signed by residents and Friends Team on birthdays or when they are ill.
9. Frank and Betty Coy serve at Baptist Village of Oklahoma City. The Coys lead a ministry to Hispanics on campus and Bible study, with Frank preaching.
10. Thelma Clark is the head of the ladies ministry team at Oklahoma City. She is also a rehab greeter, making visits to the Rehab Neighborhoods each morning and giving guests a scripture note and well wishes. Thelma also passes out song books during singing in the health center and helps residents find the right page. Finally, she is in charge of setting up for all special events.
11. Roger Cash lives in the residential living neighborhoods at Baptist Village of Ada, but he eats breakfast daily in Psalms Place, an assistance in living neighborhood. Here, he works to pour coffee for residents and helps the Friends Team clean up tables after breakfast.
12. Baptist Village of Cleveland resident Kathy Gill volunteers her wonderful piano talents in "sing-along with Kathy" at the Village on Thursday mornings.
13. Carl and Janelle Neal are volunteer chaplains at Okmulgee. They visit everyone who is ill or in the hospital. They also take welcome baskets to those who have just moved to Baptist Village. Carl teaches Bible studies, and Janelle is the campus pianist. Carl also sponsors a Saturday fellowship, where he supplies coffee and donuts for all.
14. Roy Nowell, right, serves on resident council at Oklahoma City. He also leads the annual flower distribution at the campus in the spring.
15. Howard Cox has served faithfully in the Redbud dining room at Baptist Village of Owasso for years. He volunteers about 20 hours a week in this capacity. Howard and his wife, Wilda, also lead Sunday afternoon worship services, with Howard leading music and Wilda playing the piano.
16. Dean and Bert Langdon serve in multiple ways at Oklahoma City. These include writing the resident feature for the newsletter, working in the learning center and writing the Christmas devotions. 



THE MISSION OF BAPTIST VILLAGE COMMUNITIES IS TO HONOR GOD BY CREATING COMMUNITIES AND SERVICES TO ENHANCE LIVES AND ENABLE PEOPLE TO SERVE GOD AND ONE ANOTHER.

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