



OCTOBER  
2024

*Putting God's love into action...  
where the action is at!*

THE MINISTRIES OF HARVEST EVANGELISM INCLUDE:

- \* His Place
- \* Hosanna Home
- \* Harvest Thrift Store
- \* Missions & Outreach
- \* Hagans' Pulpit & Teaching

## Harvest Evangelism Banquet 2024 Was AWESOME!

Our 43RD Annual Harvest Evangelism Banquet was special in so many ways. And if you missed it, don't worry. It's still up online at [harvestevangelism.org](http://harvestevangelism.org). This year's banquet was special because of all our friends who took the time out of their busy lives to join us; LIVE and online. We had 300+ friends show up and boy, did God "show out".

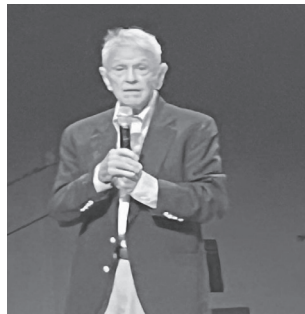
When 70 His Place men and Hosanna Home ladies all shared their testimonies in 4 minutes (to Big Daddy Weave's song, "Redeemed") the crowd stood and cheered, and wept.

Our local Sheriff, Jay Jones said, "I've watched a miracle!" See for yourself. You can watch the cardboard testimonies online on our website, [harvestevangelism.org](http://harvestevangelism.org).



This year's banquet was also special because we had one of our Hosanna Home ladies (a graduate and now a staff member), Christine Sullenger, and one of our His Place men, Jessie Brown, share how Jesus has changed their lives at Hosanna Home and at His Place. In 43 years of banquets, these were probably the best testimonies ever shared. In 3-4 minutes each, Christine and Jessie told their life stories. And they told it well. You could hear God's pleasure and anointing as they each told how Jesus had saved them. . . and still is.

Listen to Christine and Jessie's words online and you'll hear the echo of every man and woman who's ever been saved by "Amazing Grace". How sweet the sound indeed.



For 43 years the Harvest Evangelism Banquet has been special, thanks to special friends who have spoken for us; Don Wilkerson, Bobby Chance, Denny Nissley, Gerald Derstein, Gary Wilkerson, Curt Williams, Nicky Cruz, Carter Conlon, Tullian Tchividjian, Jim Cymbala, Andy McClellan, and many more powerful men of God have stood and shared the love of God and their support of Harvest Evangelism at past banquets. This year was made even better by having two sweet, spiritual friends share. This year's speaker(s) were Dr. John Ed Mathison and his "little brother" George. The Mathison brothers are legends of ministry throughout Alabama and across the South. Their examples of faithful and fruitful service are examples we can all learn from.

Harvest Evangelism is honored to have the love, support and prayers of these friends. If there are any ministers who encourage us more . . . we haven't met them yet.

Having TWO pastors preach was special, but God made the evening even more special by having our host pastor, Dr. Jeff Meyers share the closing remarks.

The His Place men attend Dr. Myers' church, First Baptist Church of Opelika, so he knows them. Dr. Myers actually asked us if he could give the closing remarks, which are always a financial appeal to support the ministries of Harvest Evangelism.



### Harvest Contact Info:

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**His Place (Kenny-Director): 256-868-0281    Hosanna Home (Kim-Director): 334-740-1645**  
**Follow us on Facebook:** Pastor Rick Hagans; Rick Hagans; Hosanna Home Christian Recovery, His Place; Harvest Evangelism; Harvest Thrift Super Center



(Harvest Evangelism Banquet continued...)

***I've never known a pastor ask to make the plea for support. And I've never known a minister to do it better. I hope every pastor who reads this letter will listen to Dr. Myers' heartfelt words.***

***I CHALLENGE every pastor who reads this newsletter article to listen to Dr. Myers' passionate plea. Go to HARVESTEVANGELISM.ORG, and respond as the Lord leads.***

***The final and foremost reason this banquet was so special was Miss Kim got to come. Because of her broken back, it's the first time she's been anywhere (other than to doctor appointments) in almost 4 months. If anything will move you, it'd be seeing Miss Kim, in a wheelchair, but carrying on in her love for Jesus, and her Hosanna Home ladies. You can watch her share online (HARVESTEVANGELISM.ORG) . Get you some Kleenex , and listen to her heart...***

***This year's banquet was special because dozens upon dozens upon dozens of our friends there made a commitment to support the ministries of Harvest Evangelism with their time, talents and financial support. We'd like to ask if you would consider doing the same.***

***We've enclosed a PLEDGE CARD with this newsletter. It's the same exact card we gave our friends who came to the banquet. We pray that you would consider making a ONE TIME GIFT and/or A MONTHLY PLEDGE and/or A GIFT IN KIND (stock, land, Annuity, ANYTHING that can be turned into ministry for the Lord and Glory for His Name). Thank you all for being our friends.***

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### Ms Kim Shares Regarding Her "Back" Journey of These Past 4 Months

Many of you are aware that since the first of July I have been basically bed-ridden. It has been a long and painful journey involving my back. It started July 3. One day I was fine and two days later I was flat on my back. Moving from recliners to couch to the upstairs guestroom bed and finally to a hospital bed in our front living room.

I have dealt with back pain since high school and this summer it finally became crucial to find answers. The disc issues compounded with a bigger issue, severe osteoporosis. I had been on a regimen of Prolia (medicine for osteoporosis) for the last two years, but my bones obviously haven't been responding properly.

After several doctors, physical therapy, chiropractor, epidurals, steroid dosage packs, ice packs and "rest", i was no better, and even worse.

The last doctor I've been to is a spinal specialist and he found that in addition to collapsed disc, bulging discs, stenosis, arthritis, and osteoporosis, sometime since my previous x-rays in July, my back was broken in 3 places. He said, "I don't know how you've been walking around." I had been trying to "do" what I could, I mean, how many of us have disc issues and go on and deal with the pain and live life? But this news, well, Rick and I were both shocked, i was literally shocked to my core.

I left his office in tears after he told me that I needed to become very aggressive in my osteoporosis therapy and that my bones were fragile. It made sense as to why my pain had become so intense. I thought I was just being a wimp. He told me I couldn't bend, lift or twist. I asked him what "could" I do, and he said, "nothing".

This news made me realize that I needed to stop everything and take this time to heal!

So, I have been on a "sick leave of absence" and last week I had 6 spine injections called Kyphoplasty (a cement type injection to fill the fractured spaces). I am still recovering from the procedure, but finally, I AM RECOVERING!

I have been absolutely overwhelmed and humbled by how many of you have been lifting me up in prayer. I have received so many messages and Rick has heard from so many of you asking how we are doing and to say you're thinking of and praying for us. The cards and flowers I have gotten have made those days better-being able to see your love in action is so special. We have also been receiving meals from some of you, both homemade and delivery- we have enjoyed and appreciated every one. Being so well cared for, well it means more than I can express in words. THANK YOU so very much!

Please continue to pray. We have seen and felt miracles but God hasn't yet chosen to take the pain completely away. But I am learning to be patient. I have felt His presence. I have heard His voice. I am trusting His timing. I am doing my part, a bit more each day to get strong again.



## His Place Testimony- Jessie Brown



My Name is Jessie Brown.

I'm 28 years old and I'm from Section, a small town in North Alabama.

I come from a two-parent household, but unfortunately both of my parents were in addiction. My parents neglected their responsibilities to take care of me and my brother because of the bondage they were in. At the age of 6, my grandmother stepped in to raise me to keep me from DHR custody. She was a wonderful woman of God, a true prayer warrior. I was blessed to have spent the next 4 years in her care.

Growing up I knew about God through going to church with my family. I knew there was something more but I was never really ready to surrender to His will. I thought the prayers of my family were enough to save me.

At the age of 14 I started hanging around an older crowd, drinking and smoking to fit in and feel a part of something. By the time I was 18 years old, I was in full fledge addiction.

My life was spiraling out of control due to my use of methamphetamines. I was in and out of jail continuously. At the age of 19, God blessed me with a beautiful daughter, Shyann. Even though she is the love of my life, she was not enough to get me to stop using.

By the time I was 21 I found myself going to prison for a year and a half. During that time, I had time to reflect on my mistakes and make a plan to succeed. It killed me knowing I could not have contact with my daughter due to my actions. I really thought I had it figured out, but within two weeks I fell back into my addiction. I was relying on my own strength.

When I was released from prison my life really took a turn for the worse because my addiction was stronger than ever. For the next two years, I was in a complete state of brokenness but I understand now that was right where God needed me to be... completely broken.

Despite what was taking place in my life, my dad started getting help with the things he struggled with. My father came to His Place in 2023. His life started to change from within him and I wanted what he had. While I was on the run, my father reached out to me in and put me in contact with Kenny Young. Kenny had saved me a bed at His Place and I decided to come. My life has not been the same since.

In the Bible it says, "So if the Son sets you free, you are free indeed."

Since I have been at His Place I have completely surrendered to the things of God and the goodness of HIM. God has fully restored my relationship with my daughter and my family. I have given my life to Christ and since then my whole family has come to know God. My big brother is in recovery today, and my family sits before me.

I'm currently in the process of getting my GED and working full time with a job I love, but most of all I have experienced a peace beyond all understanding. It's only by God's grace that I am able to be up here today to tell my story. I would not be here if it was not the calling of God on my fathers life, my families life and the prayers of my Grandma. I would not be here today, if I did not pick up the phone and come to His Place. Getting sober has been a blessing, I'm free from the bondage of addiction, but being disciplined by strong men of faith during my time at His Place has meant more, it means eternity.

I want to be an encouragement to anyone struggling with addiction to let you know that you no longer have to be bound. There is hope and his name is Jesus!!!

I want to leave you with this scripture that has been a in my heart since coming to His Place... Psalm 51:10 says "create in me a clean heart, o' God and renew a steadfast spirit within me."

Thank you for all who help support and love this ministry. If it was not for your love and support toward me and the ministry of His Place and Harvest Evangelism, I would not be where I'm at today. The key to sobriety is the company you keep so that being said... Thank you to all my brothers, teachers and director Kenny Young, who walked beside me through it all. This has not been an easy road, This is a narrow road. But it is WORTH IT!!

### ***His Place and Hosanna Home Need Your Help***

*These have been tough times for His Place and Hosanna Home. We've served more men than ever. There are 54 men at His Place tonight. Hosanna Home has two beds open and ladies waiting. Utilities, like the temperatures, have been high. Our buildings and vehicles are old. Maintenance has been an every day necessity. On top of that Pastor Rick has had to stay home and care for Ms Kim. Normally, a lot of our income comes from churches and people he meets on the road.*

*God has been faithful. Our needs have been met. But we could use any help you might send our way.*

*You can donate online at [harvestevangelism.org](http://harvestevangelism.org), use the QR code pictured here, or mail your donation in with the enclosed envelope (PO Box 2888, Opelika, AL 36803).*

*It's Thanksgiving and we are thankful for our faithful friends who give and support Harvest Evangelism.*



**ITEMS NEEDED:**

1. **FOODS AND MONIES FOR OUR THANKSGIVING FEED:** We need turkeys, hams, dressing, side dishes, and desserts. Hosanna Home is cooking dressing and gravy (but would really appreciate the help). If you'd be so kind as to make a financial donation designated toward THANKSGIVING we'd sure appreciate it. It costs us approximately \$5 p/meal. We feed A LOT (including all the inmates at the county jails). THANKS FOR GIVING.
2. **TOILETRIES, LAUNDRY SOAP, CLEANING SUPPLIES:** We like to keep our residents and our homes clean and shiny.
3. **VEHICLES:** We're graduating 21 men and ladies December 7. We'd love to help them get a car/truck. Our homes are FULL. We can ALWAYS use a vehicle that runs to get them where they need to go.
4. **WAREHOUSE SPACE:** Sometimes we get things we need, just not right away. Some warehouse space would sure be a blessing.
5. **WARM COATS, SWEATERS, HATS AND SOCKS:** especially socks!

You can always drop your donations off at our office, on the side of our Harvest Thrift Store (1750 Opelika Road, Auburn, AL). If your church would like, we can bring you a big box to gather items.

Any financial donations can be mailed to PO Box 2888, Opelika, AL 36803, given through our website, [harvestevangelism.org](http://harvestevangelism.org), brought to our office and given to Mr Fred in the front office, call our Bookkeeper (Genera Walker) at 334-444-2220, or by scanning the QR code below and following the instructions.

**HARVEST THANKSGIVING IS COMING UP SOON!**

We are cooking and serving 2,911 meals this year. The number comes from Hosanna Home's motto verse, Jeremiah 29:11 and from the fact that we feed a lot of people. Last year we fed 2,500 meals. This year it will be 2,911.

We will have a sit down Thanksgiving Supper under the Big Top at Lakeview Baptist Church in Auburn on Wednesday evening, November 27th, at 6pm. Come share a meal and your thankfulness with us.

THANKSGIVING MORNING, beginning at 8AM we will start plating all those meals (all 2,911 of them). We need volunteers to plate the meals and to deliver them.

It's become a Thanksgiving Tradition to volunteer in our Harvest Evangelism Feast. Please come out and join us! You'll never receive a better Thanksgiving blessing than sharing with your friends and neighbors.

We also desperately need help with the meal! We need **TURKEYS, DRESSING, SIDE DISHES AND DESSERTS**. You can drop off your food donations at our Harvest Thrift Store or our Harvest Evangelism offices on the side of the Thrift Store.

Your **FINANCIAL DONATION** really helps this time of year. It costs us about \$5 per meal.

You do the math. \$100 will feed 20. \$1000 will feed 200. \$5 will feed someone.

We are planning on feeding 2,911 people. Your help will feed them and bless you.

