



Sharing Christ, Offering Hope, Ministering to the Needy in Crisis.

Dear friend of the flock,

May 1, 2011

Thank you for your interest in and support of Shepherds of Love. Some of you visited our Utility Blessing Tree event a few weeks ago. It was our pleasure to meet many of you for the first time and to see our regular monthly donors. Your excitement and eagerness to help keep utilities on for our needy families encouraged us. We loved your questions and concerns about the 300 families represented on our trees. This showed us you cared about their crisis situations and wanted to help. Over 116 families received help. \$18,000.00 was raised and paid to the utility companies.

Four special children received our plush lambs from the drawing. Congratulations kids!

One lady said she stepped back to view our seven beautiful trees and was amazed so many people needed utility assistance. It had never crossed her mind that people might not be able to pay for utility services.. Her heart was changed that day. She has become a regular monthly donor.

Several signed up to host our trees next fall. If you would consider hosting a tree at your business please contact us. We provide these trees to meet your event theme.

When we notified our clients about their Jesus blessing we shared how they were adopted and the amount paid to the appropriate company. I would like to share with you two of our clients responses.

**Rina** called us. She recently went back to work after being released from Worker's comp insurance, having sustained an injury at work at a well paid job. She can only work 3 hours a day, and can no longer perform the job she had previously. Her husband is employed as a cook in a local hotel while working his way to becoming an Executive Chef. They have two children in college, and had never before had to ask for help.

One day from being evicted Rina asked for help with her rent. Tom explained that we seldom help with rent for a couple of reasons. It is typically a large amount of money, and a recurring need. Tom wanted to help her with part of her rent, and asked me to speak to her. I was also moved to help her. We prayed and were led to pay her rent, OG&E and ONG bills.

When I called to tell her Shepherds of Love would meet all these expenses, and would bring the rent check to her house, she told me she had just arisen from her knees after praying about the bills. She cried tears of joy and could not believe how quickly God answered her cry for help. She was overflowing with praise to God.

Recently, Tom and I met 74 year old **Esther**. We meet few of our lambs, but God put Esther on my heart. We had not planned on a visit to Esther, so I had to call Lisa, my assistant, to get Esther's address.

I rang the doorbell to make sure she was receptive, since we hadn't called. Esther was overwhelmed to see us. She kept asking, "is this real?"

Esther had recently been in the hospital following another stroke. While she was hospitalized, her grandson had committed suicide. She helped with the funeral expenses, so she was short on rent that month, and didn't have the money to pay her OG&E bill. We dropped off a check at the apartment office, and took her electric bill with us. We also mailed a check later for the following month's rent.

Esther had prayed that morning for someone to visit her because she was lonely. We visited and prayed with her. She was very grateful for our visit, and for financial help.

Esther is one of a handful of lambs who need help a few times each year. Typically, they are elderly or disabled, who get by most of the time on their Social Security. But, when something extraordinary comes up, they just can't make ends meet.

You, our donors, make it possible for us to help God's lambs in need. We thank you for your support, and we thank God for you every day. Without you, we would be unable to help His lambs.

We still have 184 families who did not receive help. Our families are hurting due to lost jobs, illness, abandonment, divorce, death of a spouse, unexpected car repairs, increase in cost of utilities. Many elderly must decide between buying food or medications.

**How can you help?** Please make your donation to Shepherds of Love. On the memo line write for a special Utility family or Where Needed. We do have monthly operating expenses. We will issue you a personal thank you and share with you about the family you helped. You, the donor, remains anonymous. We pay directly to the utility company.

To donate on line visit: [www.ShepherdsofLove.org](http://www.ShepherdsofLove.org) select tab marked donations.

On behalf of our needy families, we Thank You for keeping the lights, gas and water on for our flock.

A special thank you to our Host, Board Members, staff and volunteers for making our Utility Tree Event a blessed experience. Thank you Tom for assisting me with the writing of this newsletter.

Tending His sheep,

*Teresa Rountree*

President/Director



***Choose To Go  
Paperless!***

In an effort to reduce monthly overhead expense we will be forming a paperless E-mailing list. If you would prefer to receive our newsletter via email, please E-mail us with your name and address(es) to [Teresa@ShepherdsofLove.org](mailto:Teresa@ShepherdsofLove.org).

**Help Line—405-348-5195 . Donors 405-919-1650 . Donate on line at [www.ShepherdsofLove.org](http://www.ShepherdsofLove.org)**

**Matthew 21:21-22 (New International Version, ©2011)**

*21 Jesus replied, "Truly I tell you, if you have faith and do not doubt,  
not only can you do what was done to the fig tree,  
but also you can say to this mountain,  
'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and it will be done.  
22 If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer."*

P.O. BOX 5043 EDMOND, OKLAHOMA 73083-5043 BUSINESS: (405) 348-1167 HELP: (405) 348-5195

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