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The CCM  
HERALD

Change a  
Heart...

Change a  
Life...

Change  
a City.



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## Changing Lives *Impacting the region... one life at a time.*

### The Kingdom of God at Work

If you visit Hilltop Worship Center on a Sunday morning, one of the first faces you will see will be that of Kenny Oltmanns, who serves as an usher and greeter. Kenny gave his life to the Lord while in prison on a drug related charge and ultimately came to CareCenter Ministries through Pastor Melvin Gipson's prison outreach. What you would never guess from his smiling face and cheerful personality is that five years ago he suffered a great personal tragedy when his son, Daniel, was killed. A few weeks ago, Kenny made an appearance at the trial of his son's murderer and read him the following statement:

*"I don't think you realize even now, how much of an impact you've had on*

*the lives of everyone around you. You still seem to be lost in life, just going through the motions. You keep getting more charges and your family keeps trying to get you out of trouble. I understand what they're going through. You're their son and they'd do anything for you.*

*I lost my son on that day in September so I understand. I would give anything to have him back.*

*You should know just how fragile life is. You've seen it slip away right before your eyes, yet you seem to have such little regard for it. Wake up before it's too late. Through all of this, I've drawn closer to God. He has been my anchor in the storm, you might say. I want to be sure that when my life is over*

*that I'll be with Daniel again. I miss him so.*

*In order for me to move on in life, I have to tell*

*you that I forgive you and I pray that you change, so that your family doesn't lose you forever. Where you're now headed, you have the opportunity to either make the necessary changes or not. I hope that you reach out and take advantage of the programs available to you."*

Those who have received forgiveness are able to give it. That is the Kingdom of God at work.



## Christmas Party for Bruton Oaks

The Christmas Party for the Bruton Oaks residents was a huge success and loads of fun



for everyone who came. Over 120 children and adults showed up from Bruton Oaks and the

prepare it. Then, just at the time we needed it, all the missing items came in through the North Texas Food Bank. God is so faithful! The CCM RACE men's choir sang Christmas songs and Jeremy Crane delivered an inspiring message. Many were blessed with the gifts, which all came through donations, (nice gifts, such as FM radios, digital cameras, child's first laptops, robots, Barbie dolls and much more). All those who came left with gifts.

One of our guests, Winnetka Thibodeaux and her three children, were victims of a fire in the Bruton Oaks Apartments only one week before Christmas. Though they lost everything, CCM has been able to assist them during this emotional time, both physically and spiritually, with some of the things that were lost. Volunteers helped with cleaning up after the fire and getting them set up in a new apartment. Winnetka came to the party with her children to thank everyone for all their help.

CCM would like to express a heartfelt thank you to all our volunteers and donors throughout this year and during this Christmas season. Because of you, we were able to bless others with a wonderful Christmas they would not have had otherwise. You have given so much to so many in His name.



surrounding neighborhood. The guests were greeted with smiles, hugs, Christmas decorations, food, gifts and songs.



The red and white tables were decorated with candy for centerpieces. We served an Italian dinner of homemade ravioli, spaghetti with meatballs, chicken spaghetti, pizza, vegetables and garlic toast, with lots of cake and cookies for dessert. The dinner menu had been planned beforehand, but we did not have all the necessary ingredients to



# Cornerstone Kitchen Team Ministers in Foot Washing Service

The Lord moved in a special way during the Sunday morning service on Dec. 29. Brother Heath Hill and his Cornerstone Kitchen team out of LakePointe Church in Rockwall came to visit at Hilltop Worship Center. Pastor Sawyer ministered the Word from Ephesians 2:14— *For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation.*



Pastor spoke about growing up poor and the resentment that those who live in poverty sometimes have toward those who are more affluent. He also spoke about the distrust that those who are affluent sometimes have

toward the poor.

toward the poor.

Then in a great ministry of the Holy Spirit, Brother Heath and his team washed the feet of the men in the RACE program and the women from Tree of Life. There



was truly a wall of separation broken down in the spirit, as men and women alike wept and embraced our special guests. We praise God for blessing us here at CareCenter with such partners as the brothers and sisters from Cornerstone Kitchen.

## Inside The Herald this month...

Changed Lives: Kenny Oltmans

Bruton Oaks Christmas Party

Cornerstone Kitchen Team Ministers at Hilltop Worship Center

**Make a difference—  
Become a volunteer!**  
Go to the Calendar Page for info on outreach ministry opportunities:  
[www.carecenterministries.org](http://www.carecenterministries.org)



## Prayer Warriors and Intercessors...

God has opened many doors and blessed us with many divinely directed relationships with other ministries in this past year. Now, as we enter into a new year, we begin a 21-day period of fasting and prayer to seek the Lord's direction for 2009.

Aside from the general direction of our ministry operations for the coming year, we are still seeking His will and direction concerning permanent headquarters. We want the property that God has prepared for us, not just what looks right to us in the natural. We ask all our partners, prayer warriors and intercessors to continue to believe God with us for the right property and His provision to acquire it. Please be in agreement with us from January 2 through January 22 for His will to be made known and His provision to be shown.



Come see what  
God is doing!  
Sundays  
at 10 a.m.

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