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# DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

News from Hannah's House

Dear Friends,

It is the beginning of Advent, the season when Christians prepare for Christ's coming. During this time, we prepare our hearts for His appearing, first as a vulnerable infant in a manger and someday, when we will see Him in his glory as King of the Universe. Even now, we are invited to make room for His coming into our hearts. May we each generously give back to Him the love that we have received from Him. As Advent means "coming," it is an apt time for us to welcome others who have come and are coming to us at Hannah's House.

Who Has Come?

We are delighted to report that we are welcoming four new women who are coming to join us as House Managers at Hannah's House. It has been a journey these past several months as we have prayed and invited and interviewed women for the unfilled positions at the house. We are so grateful to have this group of women who have said "Yes!"

## MIKAYLA SPYKER

Mikayla is a recent graduate of Moody Bible Institute in Chicago. She is a member of City Life Church in Lansing. As one of her friends said, "The Lord has plucked her out and has something in mind for her!" We agree!

# LETHIA MENSAH

Lethia is newly married and has a rich background as a Registered Behavioral Therapist, professional chef, and sidewalk counselor for Pro-Life groups. "Give her a venue and she will blossom!" said one of her colleagues. Her quiet spirit is unexpectedly powerful.

#### **TERESA MALOTT**

Teresa is a mom of two young adults, who attends New Hope Church in East Lansing and says for her, "it feels like a breath of fresh air to minister to others." She has been influenced by the Stephen Ministry at her church.

## TINA SLACK

Tina is married with a teenage daughter. A member of Mt. Hope Church, she has a background that runs deep in caregiving in various contexts, including helping care for and raise young children for a family member in need. She is looking forward to having a full house here at Hannah's House.

Who Is Coming?

We hope that with our new house managers in place, by God's grace we will be able to begin accepting applications for new residents this month. That means that a few (or several) months down the road, our house will also be full of little ones!

Before that, though, there will be staff training, reviewing the applications of expectant moms, interviewing, and performing background checks. We hope that in time for Christmas we will be welcoming those who, like Christ, have no place to lay their head.

Volunteer Highlight

On Saturday, November 16th, we had the privilege of welcoming eight students from MSU who were part of the Minority Association for Pre-Medical Students. They joined us for an afternoon of work. And did they work hard! There was clothing to sort and put away in the attic, some additional painting in one of our bedrooms, staining our porch and raking leaves – just in time for winter! We appreciate their hard work, their willing attitudes and the wonderful conversation we shared together. 

On Saturday, December 21st we look forward to our First Ever Moms' Alumni Gathering to be held in the Church Hall at Trinity Lutheran Church, just a block away from Hannah's House. It will be wonderful to connect with past residents and assuring them once again of our love and prayers for them, but even more, to assure them that they are loved beyond measure by Jesus, Our Lord.

Keep an eye out for news about our upcoming Bowling for Babies event! We will be hosting this event in March, and all are welcome. More details to follow in a later update.

End-of-Year Giving

As many of you know, your contributions to Hannah's House provide food, shelter, education, mentorship, and spiritual guidance to residents during their stay. This is only possible because of your financial support and continued prayers. Thank you! As we come to the end of the year, we ask that you prayerfully consider what you may be able to give this season. Your gift goes directly to providing for our moms and their babies, ensuring that they have healthy and consistent meals, a roof over their heads, and access to parenting courses and support. Thank you for partnering with us in this ministry! We are grateful to you.

To donate, checks can be sent to **Hannah's House at P.O. Box 14013**, **Lansing, MI 48901**. As a reminder, your year-end giving is taxdeductible.

We also support web-based donations through PayPal at <u>https://hannahshouselansing.org/donate/</u>.

This year, as we hope to celebrate Christmas with a full house, we will be very aware that Christ is among us. We hope it will be the same for you, wherever and with whomever you celebrate His Coming!

Blessings,

Susan Ayers Executive Director

Jenn Elwood Development Coordinator

