



Love, Hope & a Future for Life

P O Box 980, Madison, MS 39130

www.TheChristmasVillage.org

The Christmas Village to Open Residence

Volunteers have donated over 1,000 hours of labor and collected several thousand dollars for materials and fixtures in preparation for a February opening of The Christmas Village.

In May of last year we began negotiations with our landlord. The 1905-built Victorian has not been occupied for three years and was in need of upgrades to the plumbing and electrical systems in order to make it safe for our guests. Renovations have included a complete redesign of both bathrooms, kitchen, and closet space.

In the next two weeks we expect to finish painting throughout the house, faux finishing the kitchen cabinets, laying tile in the kitchen and bathroom, and sanding and refinishing of the wood floors.

If you have expertise in any of these skills feel free to join us any day except Sundays from 9 a.m. to approximately 3 p.m. If you would like to work in the evenings, we will organize a work



Temporary home in Canton of The Christmas Village at 3250 S. Liberty St.

period. Please call Michael at 601-209-2445.

We continue to receive calls from women in need and believe that we will be full within weeks of opening. There is a young woman in need of our services waiting

on us to open.

In this newsletter we will give details of our needs, both short-term and long-term, that will include time, knowledge, as well as fundraising. We hope you will join us if you feel led to be a part of The Christmas Village.

God has also been providing us with the employees that will allow us to provide the loving environment necessary to save babies and change the hearts and lives of the birthmothers.

Watch for dates and news on our website www.TheChristmasVillage.org.

We look forward to seeing you and hearing from you.

Calling All Volunteers!

So many people have told us over the last two years that they would like to be a part of The Christmas Village by giving of their time and talents. With the opening of our temporary location we need to start putting a calendar together of who is willing

to give an hour here or there. Nikole Genous, our Site Coordinator for the Christian Women's Job Corp, will soon be conducting orientation classes for all volunteers.

We need all of you who are willing to be a part of the

lives of our guests to please contact us so we can start planning dates for the classes.

We thank you all for your continued prayers and support. Feel free to come by the house in the next few weeks for a tour.

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Christmas Village Dates:

<i>Board of Directors</i>	<i>1/25</i>
<i>Garden Party Steering Committee</i>	<i>1/25</i>
<i>Mission Trip to Canton (work on house)</i>	<i>1/27</i>
<i>Volunteers' Meeting</i>	<i>1/30</i>
<i>Mission Trip to Canton (work on house)</i>	<i>2/3</i>
<i>Volunteer Orientation Class</i>	<i>TBA</i>
<i>Mentor Orientation Class</i>	<i>TBA</i>

Prayer Requests:

- *Birthmothers*
- *Our Staff*
 - ⇒ *Nikole*
 - ⇒ *Hannah*
 - ⇒ *Brenda & Michael*
- *Provision*
- *Protection*



Join us for a Garden Party the evening of May 19th. Celebrity Waitstaff, white tablecloths, six course dinner, live auction...it will be the gala event of the season.

Garden Party Highlights Fundraising

Barbie Bassett and Edie Lea will co-chair the gala event of the season on the evening of Saturday, May 19.

The Garden Party is a white tablecloth event in the backyard of our Canton location. We have almost a 1/2 acre that will be lit with strings of white lights. Cool jazz, fragrant gardens, and good food.

If that's not enough then how about having the Mississippi Lt. Gov as your waitress? Local celebrities and public

figures will host tables and compete for who can raise the most donations.

Still not enough? How about diamonds and other jewelry for auction? We have a live auctioneer who will be auctioning fine art, jewelry, travel and more.

Canton Flea Market

The second Thursday of May is the Canton Flea Market. This year it is May 10th. We are planning to

have a booth as well as provide parking and shuttle service.

If you have handmade crafts that you would be willing to make for the booth please contact us at (601) 853-7687.

For more ways to support The Christmas Village see the article about the Christmas Village Bakery below.

God introduced us to our next-door neighbors: Mary, Joseph, and little JC.

God Winks

Neither Brenda nor I believe in coincidence. We believe that when you seek the will of God and wait on His direction He reveals to us divine plans and purpose. We call these confirmations and revelations God Winks.

I have never heard God's voice, but I do believe He speaks very clearly to those who seek Him.

The journey to opening The Christmas Village has occurred because of God's confirmations. When we were uncertain about signing a lease without six months' operating expenses God introduced us to our next-door neighbors: Mary, Joseph, and little JC.

We look back at influences that have suggested we

change our direction only to have a correction within weeks that put us back to the original vision.

We share this not because of pride, but to let you know that all we do at The Christmas Village is the result of prayer and the intentional seeking of God's direction.

Please pray with us that we will continue to seek God.



The Christmas Village Bakery will provide the most beautiful and delicious baked goods for all your events from petit fours to wedding cakes.

Sweets Save Lives

Imagine watching your guests enjoy delicious chocolate, almond, or strawberry petit fours decorated with delicate rosebuds and telling them they just saved a life. That is just what they will be doing if you had your event catered by the Christmas Village Bakery. One of the best-known cake icing artists in

Mississippi is leaving her legacy with The Christmas Village.

Lou Van Velkinburgh, known as 'The Cake Lady' or just 'Miss Lou', is teaching our live-in chaperone the secrets of her unrivaled baked delicacies.

We will soon have a

'Suggested Donation Schedule' for petit fours, cakes, cookies, candies, panorama eggs, and gingerbread houses. Profits from the bakery allow us to be less dependant on donations.

To place an order please call (601) 853-7687. Orders should be placed at least 72 hours in advance.