

ADULLAM HOUSE IS A SAFE HAVEN FOR THE CHILDREN OF INCARCERATED PARENTS.

When you
put faith,
hope and love
together,
you can raise
positive kids
in a negative
world.

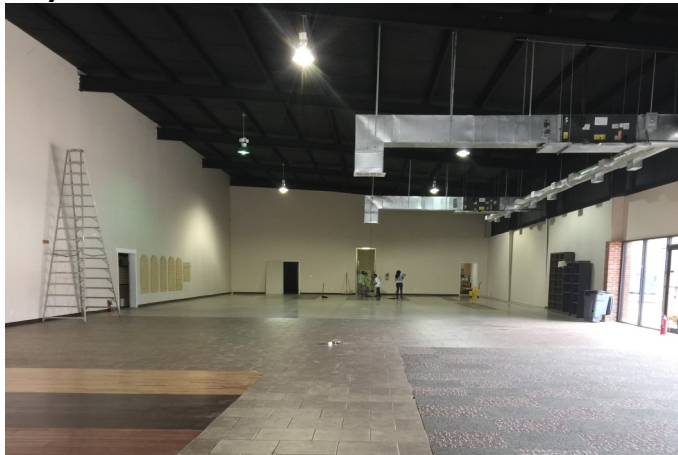
- Rev. Peter Spackman (President)
- Mr. Brian Paterson (Vice President)
- Angela Spackman (COO)
- Rev. Johnny Jones
- Mr. Dave Bryant
- Mrs. Gladys R. Watson
- Mr. Bob Messick
- Mrs. Naomi Hellums
- Mrs. Rachel Harborth

"2.7 million children in the USA have a parent behind bars — **1 in every 28 children** (3.6%) has a parent incarcerated."

When Adullam House opened its doors **only 25 years ago**, this figure was **1 in 125**. Two-thirds of these children's parents are reportedly incarcerated for non-violent offenses."

We still believe Jesus is the answer!

The day before Valentines day we received a very unexpected letter. While the founders of the ministry were out of the country, our thrift store staff were informed that they had only 4 weeks to vacate the building! The lease had been awarded to a business who could afford a higher rent. You have to understand—the thrift store has become a critical source of funding for Adullam House. It provides sometimes as much as half of the finances needed to care for our children. In the fall of each year it becomes our life raft—or at least the means that God provides to keep us afloat! In addition, so many local people come to the store who have great needs themselves. They receive prayer, encouragement, practical help, and very often furniture or clothing. It has become a ministry center in its own right. So to arrive back in the USA, with just 3 weeks to find another location for this big operation—Wow! We were in need of yet another miracle!



As we prepared to open I prayed constantly, "Lord Jesus, please draw people to this location. You know how much Adullam House needs this store to be a success."

You can imagine my joy as I drove slowly to the site on that first opening day. Philip called me, "Miss Angie, are you coming here?" I assured him I was on my way. "Well, you won't be able to park," he replied, laughing. "Why?," I asked tentatively. "Because there's no room!" he gushed. "It is crazy here! People are parked everywhere!" Sure enough, as I pulled around the corner I stopped my car to take in the scene. At the front of the store, on both sides and even on the road, there were cars everywhere! "Oh Lord, You are so good," I whispered, as I walked into the store, laughing at the number of shoppers filling the aisles.

Man's disappointments are often Gods appointments!



We quickly looked for another suitable building and found one which, though the location wasn't as desirable, the premises were twice as big! Then we began the overwhelming job of clearing out the mess left behind by the last occupant.

Now, if you have ever seen an episode of "Hoarders" or "Buried Alive", you might have just an inkling of the task that confronted us. Piles of clothing, trash, and mice droppings that literally towered above our heads, covered the whole 10,000 sq ft of the main showroom. It was spectacular! Armed with latex gloves and sometimes even masks, our indefatigable team worked from dawn till late at night, stopping only for some fast food that sure earned its name. The result, just a day or two before the opening day, was a beautiful sparkling shop that smelled distinctly of disinfectant and new paint. Thank God for people who not only catch the vision but are also willing to give of their time and energies to make it happen!



(pictured left) Rébecca and Xuying hard at work on day 1 of the reopening of the Adullam House Thrift Store in our new location.

There were 6 nations (France, China, Netherlands, India, Canada & the United States) represented in the group of 8 students from Summit International School of Ministry! The team was led by Summit Staff member, Leah Howard.

What did you do this Spring Break?

There is a really beautiful song being sung in churches across America right now called "I Give Myself Away", by recording artist William McDowell. The words to the bridge are: **"My life is not my own, to You I belong, I give myself to you."** This song is a favorite in our church right now, and every time we sing it, you can hear the kids belt out those bridge lyrics with all their hearts. Last week we had the honor of hosting a team of students from Summit International School of Ministry in Pennsylvania. Although the teams arrival dates had been on our calendar since last year, God knew we would need them on *these exact dates* and it *"just so happened"* to be the same week that we re-opened the Adullam House Thrift Store at our new location. Talk about God's perfect timing! (We didn't even know our thrift store would be moving until mid February!) These guys were a clothing-sorting, shirt-hanging, floor- mopping, wall-painting army, and **I don't know what we would have done without them!**

In addition to the effort in our thrift store, we were able to rotate the team to help in our nursery with the babies and toddlers, and the guys helped take our little boys camping since it was also spring break!

Needless to say we took the "break" out of Spring Break, but what a fantastic example they were of **giving yourself away** for kingdom work! They spent their last day in Alabama kayaking down the Coosa River (see pic right) and enjoying every minute of the sunshine. So we sent them home exhausted and sunburned, but **full of the joy that comes from a life given away!** Thank you Summit, and thank you Lord, for Your hands and feet!



- Hannah (Spackman) Powell, Volunteer Coordinator



Then....and Now

You have no idea how wonderful it was to see this pretty face again. After leaving Adullam House over 7 yrs ago she came back to see us, and take another picture with Miss Rachel, who had loved her when she was just a little girl.
We love you Reanna!



Needs List for April/May 2017

- ◆ A vacation place for about 30 children to stay near the beach in the summer!
- ◆ thrift store volunteers
- ◆ Landscaping help!
- ◆ Help with painting!
- ◆ Resinol
- ◆ Diapers/Wipes
- ◆ Paper Products (plates, cups, paper towels, napkins and toilet tissue)
- ◆ Cleaning supplies
- ◆ Acne face wash for teens
- ◆ White bath towels
- ◆ **Lots of prayer for protection and provision**

Fences

*by Rachel (Spackman) Harborth,
Principal at Adullam House Christian Academy*

White picket fences, tea on the porch,
Sunshine and dew drops, who could want more?
Baking cookies with mommy, Spring's in the air;
New Easter dresses, curls in your hair.

Specialty coffees, restaurants and shops;
Crafting and memories—I wish time could stop.
This is all lovely, the way it should be;
There's only one problem—it all points to me.

Having stuff is okay, if it doesn't have you!
But what if it does, and you don't have a clue?
Beyond the small world I've created for me,
There's impoverished lives, here and over the sea.

I'll get out of the mirror and broaden my view
It's ugly and scary and dark and uncouth.
But creation is groaning—there's got to be more,
Than a sweet Christian life for me and my four.

They say, "If I give my money to him,
He may use it for drugs! And that's just a sin!
If I open my home to the foster child,
She'll shatter my heart and turn my kids wild."

Then He whispered to me, "But that's where I am!
In the middle of chaos, I bring peace, like a lamb."
So don't be afraid to give 'til it hurts,
In the filth, with the broken that pull at His skirt.

Take off the clean apron and look at the crowd!
The Lord will go with you, just pick up the plow;
Where the teardrops are falling, where pain is intense
That's where you'll find Him—not inside your fence.