



# FaithWorks Update

Putting Our Faith To Work  
So All May Know That Faith Works

Inaugural Issue  
Summer 2021

## The Wright Way

Written by Dr. Rev. Wright Culpepper  
Executive Director

### *Strengthening & Growing Our Ministry*

Are you worried about the future? I'm not! At the end of the day, God is still God!

The one who created the heavens and the earth and has been with us through the ages will continue to be with us in the days ahead.

Nevertheless, these are difficult days. We've all been impacted by the coronavirus, and we know how difficult it has been to navigate the waters of life.

Other pressures sometimes engulf us. The anxiousness and worry we may feel today are not unlike the daily concerns of those we serve through FaithWorks. The poor, homeless, isolated, chronically ill, and others are often carrying heavy burdens.

Your support of FaithWorks with time and resources helps to alleviate those burdens. By having the opportunity to serve, we find a people of great faith and resiliency who in turn encourage us in our own journey.

**I am excited about what God is doing with FaithWorks.**

Elsewhere in this newsletter, you will read about outstanding people who are joining our team. We are strengthening ministries in Glynn County, and we are expanding our ministries to Camden County. And, in McIntosh, we are excited to announce the launch of a food pantry.

God is doing mighty work through you! The old adage "I don't know what the future holds, but I know who holds the future" is appropriate today.

God is indeed with us in the present day. Let us keep our eyes on the One who loves us and loves all.

May you experience the fullness of God's blessings.



## Ministry Highlights



Unique Families Fed: 762



Provided Shelter: 51



Volunteer Hours: 3,050

January 1 through June 30, 2021

## What's Inside

- Welcome To The Family
- Sparrow's Nest Spotlight
- Mary's Story
- Jenna Kennedy Profile
- How To Get Involved

### Welcome To The FaithWorks Family

#### *Tab Miller Joins FaithWorks as Director of Volunteer Ministries/Operations*



Tab Miller recently joined FaithWorks as the new Director of Volunteer Ministries/Operations.

Tab has served locally in many capacities, most recently as an Associate Pastor for College Place UMC for three and a half years. Tab and his spouse, Natalie, moved to Glynn County in 2011 after Tab graduated from Asbury Theological Seminary, days after the birth of their first daughter, Audrey (11). They have two more daughters, Tabitha (6) and Lia (3).

Since 2008, Tab has served as Director of Ministries and Missions for Tab Smith Ministries, which works with a network of nonprofits that serve the Navajo people of the desert Southwest. Tab usually travels three to six times per year to train indigenous pastors from fourteen Navajo churches across the Navajo Reservation, an area about the size of West Virginia, covering parts of New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah. He and his family are very excited about starting a new chapter of ministry with Faithworks as we strengthen our volunteer ministries.

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#### *Changes At The Well - FaithWorks Welcomes Nancy Heiden Peed*

Beginning September 1, FaithWorks welcomes Nancy Heiden Peed as the new Manager at The Well, FaithWorks' hospitality center for people who are homeless.

Born in Brunswick, Nancy has devoted much of her professional career in the hospital arena, where she practiced as a Registered Respiratory Therapist for 13 years. She also served for 19 years as the President/CEO of Peach County Hospital.

Peed most recently completed a four-year term where she served as a CCW (cross cultural worker) in Uganda. While there, she fell in love with the people who were homeless and from those relationships founded the first homeless ministry in that area. She was also active in founding a revolving loan program for vulnerable women. She has one daughter and is again a resident of Glynn County.



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#### *FaithWorks Welcomes Pam Unger to Our New Camden Ministry*



Pam Unger joined the Faithworks family in March 2021 as Director of Camden Ministries, running the Helping Hands Food Pantry and building relationships with churches, businesses, and organizations in the county.

She has been very involved within the community as President of the Camden County Band Boosters, President of the Camden County Drama Boosters, and on the Board of directors for St. Marys Children's Theatre.

Prior to joining FaithWorks, Pam worked much of her career in the medical and dental industry. She enjoys spending time with her family and their three dogs.

# Your Support Lifts 300 Families Each Month Through Sparrow's Nest

Written by Sabra Slade  
Manager, Sparrow's Nest



As we settle into the middle of 2021, we are thankful to have a slight semblance of normalcy to our lives.

Covid-19 has impacted everyone in different ways and the Sparrow's Nest is no different. We continue to serve almost 300 families each month providing much needed food assistance and help with utilities and medications.

Our incredible volunteers, new or veteran, have been the backbone that has allowed us to provide food assistance throughout the pandemic without interruption.



*Volunteers Ellen Murphy, Erika Ward, and Thornton Willingham*

We have been fortunate to have the continued support of volunteers, donors, churches and civic groups hosting food drives and providing monetary help to allow us to continue to serve those in need.

### ***Sparrow's Nest Highlights:***

- United Way and Coastal Georgia Foundation granted Covid-19 Emergency Relief funds totaling \$50,000 for those directly impacted by Covid-19 needing utility assistance.

- Rich's Products and the Davis Love Foundation awarded a \$10,000 grant to provide fresh meat to guests, a new freezer, and other needs.
- Partnered with Second Harvest and Sparrow's Nest volunteers to provide food deliveries every few months to almost 200 seniors and other homebound individuals without transportation.
- Continued support from the SSI Community Garden, Adam Wainwright and 5 Oaks Farm providing fresh vegetables and much more each week.

### ***Giving Hope For Families***

#### **Mary's Story**

Mary has worked for the hospital for 16 years. Due to Covid-19 and precautions taking place at the hospital, her hours were reduced from 40 hours per week to 30 hours.

She has three children to care for and was already living paycheck-to-paycheck. During this time period, she also had a plumbing leak at her house but was unaware of it until her bill came. It was triple the amount from the previous month.

Her landlord repaired the leak but the bill was still very high even after the water department completed a leak adjustment. We were able to get her bill current so she did not lose service.

## Get Involved

To host your own food drive or find out more how to get involved with the Sparrow's Nest or any of the other FaithWorks ministries, call Tab Miller (912) 261-8512, extension 114. You can also visit us online to find out more about volunteering in our community.

To volunteer, visit [www.FaithWorksMinistry.org](http://www.FaithWorksMinistry.org)



### FaithWorks Profile - Rev. Jenna Kennedy

Written by Rev. Jenna Kennedy  
Director of Ministry Operations

My journey to FaithWorks began when I first accepted a call to ministry. I felt a calling to work with those experiencing homelessness in Atlanta.

I knew I wanted to work with compassion and justice issues that would connect the local church to the world outside the doors, so I attended Candler School of Theology, earned my Masters of Divinity and became ordained as a Deacon in the United Methodist Church.

After 17 years of ministry work as an Associate Pastor in neighborhoods outside of Atlanta, I decided in 2019 to get back to my original calling of working with the homeless and I began a job at Action Ministries in North Georgia, now known as HOPE Atlanta.

My role there was to connect local faith communities to our ministries and educate others about the services Action Ministries offered and how they could help. It was wonderful work, but I was still missed not being able to interact with people and hear their stories and form relationships.

In February, a friend connected me to Wright Culpepper. I visited Brunswick where I saw FaithWorks programs in action. I was blown away not only by the programs that were offered, but most of all by the importance of forming relationships with every person that came to FaithWorks for assistance.

The importance was not on simply getting that individual what they needed, but also on making sure they knew they were cared for by at least one person in this world and by God. In a world that judges success by volume, it was so refreshing to be in a place that took the time to care for the individual and to carve out space for relationships to happen, and not just by those that work for FaithWorks.

Dr. Culpepper explained that these ministries existed for those that would help as much as those that would receive help. Offering people in the community a safe and rewarding place to help others live out their faith is paramount to helping communities transform and to help others along their faith journeys.

When I felt the call to help those in need over 20 years ago, I had no idea my journey would bring me to Brunswick, but now I truly feel like I am living out the call placed on my heart so many years ago. I am able to form relationships with those in need and those that answer the call to volunteer all in the name of spreading God's love and grace to the world.



Rev. Jenna Kennedy

*“Offering people in the community a safe and rewarding place to help others live out their faith is paramount to helping communities transform and to help others along their faith journeys.”*

### Get involved in your community

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Coming This Fall: Community Rallies To Support Cancer Victims, now serving McIntosh County and Ministry Spotlight on FaithWorks Cancer Network manager, Sara Green