



serve

AS A MENTOR FOR LIFE

Each young woman at Saving Grace is paired with 3 mentors who commit to a lifelong relationship with her. These mentors play a vital role in reshaping the idea of family for "Grace." Mentoring for life is a big commitment and looks a little different for everyone.

Here are some basic expectations for Saving Grace mentors:

- "Do life" with "Grace", spending time with her regularly (2-4 hours per month on average)
- Establish trust and maintain confidentiality
- Provide guidance and encouragement
- Expose her to positive new ways of thinking and living
- Share personal experiences and perspective

We're passionate about supporting our mentors. Here's how:

- We provide in-depth training to ensure you feel confident in this special volunteer role
- You will get regular updates about "Grace's" progress in the program
- We host monthly mentor support gatherings
- You will be invited to attend our annual Grace Camp retreat for all Saving Grace mentors, residents, and alumni



CONTACT US IF YOU FEEL CALLED TO MENTOR FOR LIFE



🌐 savinggracenwa.org/mentor

✉ mentor@savinggracenwa.org

☎ 479.636.1133

📍 @sginwa 📷 @savinggracenwa



serve

AT SAVING GRACE

At Saving Grace, we're all in this together! Our work is powered by an incredible community of volunteers who serve, mentor, and stand in the gap for "Grace".

We need YOU, with your skills and experience, whether your spare time is a lot or a little, there is an opportunity to serve that is just right for you.

We'd love to talk to you about how God has uniquely gifted you to serve with us!

Volunteer opportunities include:

- Office Team
- Transportation Team
- Dinner with Friends Team
- Life Skills Teachers
- Work Groups
- Special Events & Hospitality Team
- Lawn Care Team
- Caring for Horses & Stables
- Landscaping & Gardening
- Property Maintenance & Upkeep
- Pink Shirt Volunteer
- Mentoring



Saving Grace provides in-depth training to ensure you feel confident and equipped for these special volunteer roles.

CONTACT US IF YOU FEEL CALLED TO VOLUNTEER



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grace

SPRING / SUMMER 2024

REPURPOSED



Topanga

SAVING GRACE ALUMNI

SAVING *grace*

IN THIS
issue



Letter from Founder

PG. 03

*You Were Jesus:
Autumn's Story*

PG. 05

A Note from "Grace"

PG. 07



*From 8,000 Square
Feet to 50 Acres*

PG. 09



OUR MISSION

Saving Grace offers hope and transformation to young women through relationships, coaching, and opportunities that empower generational change—trusting God with the outcome.

OUR VISION

Saving Grace will lead far-reaching transformation that compels communities, redefining the poverty narrative, creating lasting generational change.

Susie | SENIOR |

Since coming back to Saving Grace, I have grown more independently and learned to budget. My mentors are helping me keep my dreams alive and giving me hope. Thank you for always supporting me.





Hey Friend,

As I write this note to you, the weather is absolutely gorgeous here at the farm this week.

One of the most beautiful things about life at the farm with “Grace” is how caring for animals invites us to a slower and more intentional headspace. Horses can’t be hurried... unless you have a bucket of grain! However, their slow pace in life creates an opportunity for each of us to be intentional about movement and to be aware of our breathing and heart rate when we are interacting with them. Horses have a very stable heart rhythm, so naturally, “Grace” feels calmer when she’s around the herd. As you get farther into this issue of “Grace Repurposed,” you’ll read how Equine Assisted Therapy and our Stable Time is changing the very heartbeat of the girls we serve.

This week, the girls in the Pink Shirt phase of our program had “stable time.” This two-hour period each week is all about trying something new, bravely facing their fears, managing emotions, and deep healing. The last few weeks,



“Grace” was only willing to do ground work with her horse, but this week was different. She decided to take a brave step and sit in the saddle after she’d worked so hard to get Winchester saddled up. She’d planned on climbing on, then right back down, but instead stayed mounted and rode him around the arena.

She did it afraid, and that 20 minutes built up her courage and confidence, unlike anything she had ever experienced.

We believe, because we’ve seen it proven to be true, that good experiences heal bad experiences. This moment reminded me of Proverbs 4:26 (ESV), it says, “Ponder the path of your feet; then all your ways will be sure”.

Friend, this is only one story about what God is doing out here on these sacred acres through your support. I’m so thankful for you. I’m so thankful that you are taking the time to read through this edition. Grace Farms belongs to the Lord but also to you. I hope you’ll find time to visit us soon if it’s been a while. I’d love that so much!

God’s grateful girl,

Becky Shaffer

Becky Shaffer
Founder & Executive Director



GIVE “GRACE” A PLACE TO CALL HOME

Saving Grace is 100% community-funded through generous people like YOU! A gift of just \$37 provides one day of support for “Grace” as she works hard to change her life!

Give now at
savinggracenwa.org/give



 @MEMORYHOARDERPHOTOGRAPHY

YOU WERE JESUS: Autumn's Story



PRESENTED BY:



WHEN AUTUMN JOINED
THE PROGRAM AT SAVING
GRACE, SHE FELT AS
THOUGH SHE WERE
DROWNING IN TRAUMA,
HESITANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE
HER BROKENNESS.

Autumn experienced abuse and neglect in her young life. She lost her mother in elementary school, which led to years in foster care and an unhealthy adoption before her arrival at Saving Grace. Living in survival mode, Autumn paved her road through confusing pathways. Autumn discovered a safe haven at Saving Grace, where she was welcomed with tough and tender love. This provided Autumn with an opportunity she hadn't realized she needed.

Upon reflection, Autumn knows that God orchestrated everything

It's no secret that God has worked miracle after miracle in my life. As I grow older, the truth settles deeper into my soul—I would be nothing without the many people He sovereignly placed in my path when I felt too lost to be found. The ones who picked me up, fed me, clothed me, held me, cried with me, and applied truth over me when I so desperately needed it. Those who loved me when I was both innocent and guilty. Those who chose to come AND stay no matter what it looked like.

In this season of gratitude, I've been thinking: If He calls us to "enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise," what would a look like if I took a moment to give thanks, myself? To tell the story of one of God's greatest miracles in my life—the people from my testimony who loved me like Jesus. The people who led me here.

"Thank you" doesn't seem like enough. But I am who I am and where I am today because you were the hands and the feet of Jesus.

I pray to one day be half of everything you've been to me—you were Jesus, and I am grateful.

Psalms 100:4
Isaiah 52:7

YOU
WERE
JESUS

I AM GRATEFUL



You tough & tender I
choose that I didn't know
drowning in trauma and I
me, & I found my own set of
I was afraid to admit that
my pride bled all over the pl
I might have become if I had
have things & saving grace dar
time. It wasn't flawless, but God
He gave you here, to begin healing
God for every moment. You are a gift
You so when you get a minute, scan
code to hear the story I wrote with you
to tell the story. Love, my friend, So A

for her ultimate good during a crucial period in her life. When asked about the lessons God had taught her about the significance of showing up for others, especially in life's messiness, she said this. "Nothing can replace showing up. The pivotal chapters of my story bear the names of the people who were simply there written all over them. Lori picked me up for school. Margaret helped me pass my classes. Stephanie taught me how to grocery shop, and Brad and Leila covered many meals. Natalie cared for my heart and mind, while LaRay attended to my physical needs."

"The THINGS were important at the time, but the people who kept showing up when I needed them most made the difference. I don't remember every detail of every day, but I remember the people who walked with me."

The individuals placed in her path were the hands and feet of Jesus and significantly impacted her life. Overflowing with gratitude, Autumn composed a beautiful song expressing thanks to those who had personally invested in her life.

"It's no secret that God has worked miracle after miracle in my life. As I grow older, this truth settles deeper into my soul. I would be nothing without the many people He sovereignly placed in my path when I felt too lost to be found. The ones who picked me up, fed me, clothed me, held me, cried with me, and spoke truth over me when I so desperately needed it. Those who loved me when I was both innocent and guilty. Those who chose to come AND stay no matter what it looked like. In this season of gratitude, I've been thinking: If He calls us to 'enter His gates

with thanksgiving and His courts with praise,' what would it look like if I took a moment to give thanks, myself? To tell the story of one of God's greatest mercies in my life — the people from my testimony who loved me like Jesus. The people who led me here. 'Thank you' doesn't seem like enough. But I am who I am and where I am today because you were the hands and the feet of Jesus. I pray to one day be half of everything you've been to me — you were Jesus, and I am grateful."

Autumn's journey celebrates each person who filled a gap in her life and loved her as Jesus does. Each hard and brave step of her story led her to freedom in Christ and a passion to be the hands and feet of Jesus like others were for her.

"God doesn't need much, just hands and feet and willing hearts—He can work with that."

The lasting effects of generational change extend far beyond the acres of Grace Farms. God often plants seeds that are then watered and nurtured by "Grace's" mentors, friends and others He intentionally places in her life.

Sometimes we cannot grasp the fullness of God's plans until years later, when He gives us a beautiful glimpse into what He was up to all along.

Autumn reached out last winter with a heartfelt note and beautiful card directing us to a song she composed expressing gratitude for those God placed in her life. Friend, YOU were a part of the community that God provided for her. You were Jesus.



A Note From "Grace"

PRESENTED BY:



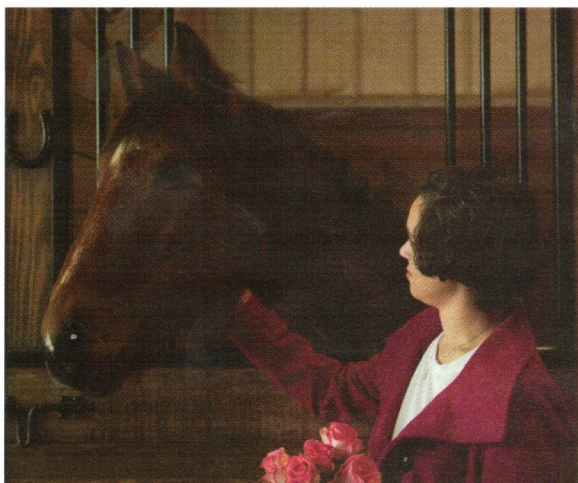
Noami | SOPHOMORE |

Since coming to live at Saving Grace, equine therapy has helped me to have a healthier mindset and a new perspective on life. My mentors and coach have impacted me by caring and giving me wise words. For all my supporters, I would like to say THANK YOU! Thank you for making everything possible for me and taking time for each one of us because without your help we wouldn't be here. God bless you!



Kaitlyn | PINK SHIRT |

Since I've been at Saving Grace, I've learned a lot more about how to take care of myself. My therapist has helped me through a lot of my hard days and all of the staff are so helpful. Thank you so much for giving me this opportunity to live here and be in this program. I've never had a chance like this before and I will make the most of it.



Faith | PINK SHIRT |

Since living at Saving Grace, I have changed by feeling my feelings in a safe place. I have learned to recognize my trauma responses and the things that trigger them. Coaching and mentoring have helped me grow and have given me adult friends to talk to. Life skills classes have also helped me grow by showing me ways to better my future. Thank you for making it possible for me to stay here in this safe place to heal from my childhood trauma. I love how much Saving Grace relies on the community and its supporters. I love the community surrounding me. Thank you so much!



Winter | FRESHMAN |

Equine has helped me grow and is changing my perspective on everything. I am growing independently and obtaining my life goals. Thank you for giving me a safe place to live and a chance to grow.



Nyah | JUNIOR |

While living at Saving Grace, I have become more independent and have learned so much about big purchases, careers, and relationships. I have a job that I love and I get to do things that I love. Equine therapy has helped me grow and I love getting to interact with the horses during that time. Thank you for giving me this chance to change my life and my future. I have accomplished so much being here and I wouldn't have been able to do it in a different setting.



KP | SENIOR |

You have helped equip me for my future. Thank you for supporting me through everything.



PRESENTED BY:

CHAD &
ASHLEY
GOSS

DWV
DIVERSITY
VICTORY

LOST BRIDGE
COMMUNITY
CHURCH

The Methodist
Foundation
for Arkansas

PEGGY
MALATESTA

RYAN
HANSEN

FROM 8,000 SQUARE FEET *to 50 acres*

By: Wendi Seidel, SG Program Director

There is something sacred about a seed. How miraculous that something so tiny can grow to produce a fruitful plant for years to come. This is precisely how we see Grace Farms, a place for growth that will produce fruit for generations.

The vision of Saving Grace started out as a tiny seed of a dream that God placed in the heart of our founder and Executive Director, Becky Shaffer. Soon, that dream grew into “The Little House on Poplar” —the special place we first called home!

That seed then sprouted into a healthy plant that we watered, pruned, and cared for until God said that it was time to grow out of that 8,000-square-foot home. Last Summer, we moved Saving Grace to our beautiful 50-acre farm, Grace Farms, and the fruit continues to grow!

 FRINGE PHOTO & DESIGN



ARE WE IN THE BUSINESS OF GROWING APPLES AND ORANGES? NO! THE FRUIT I AM TALKING ABOUT IS MUCH SWEETER; LIVES CHANGING FOR GENERATIONS! TODAY, AT GRACE FARMS, YOU HELP PROVIDE A SPACE FOR “GRACE” TO GROW WITH NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR NOURISHMENT AND HEALING.

Just as various types of plants grow at different rates and require different types of care, Grace Farms offers “Grace” the space to heal at her own pace and provides a variety of opportunities that tend to her needs.

Grace Farms is home to nine amazing horses that support “Grace” in therapy—helping her grow in confidence and heal from past trauma. On any given day, you can find “Grace” in the stable grooming horses, sharing treats, or working with them in the arena! The Hen Den is another wonderful part of our farm. With our small flock, “Grace” is able to learn what it looks like to care for other living things. Our hens rely on her to show up and reap the reward: eggs that can be used in our nutrition and cooking classes!

The gardens provide both healthy vegetables and beautiful flowers for “Grace” to enjoy and tend to.

Most importantly, “Grace” gains the experience of starting small and watching growth occur around her. In the process, growth and healing happens within her, too.

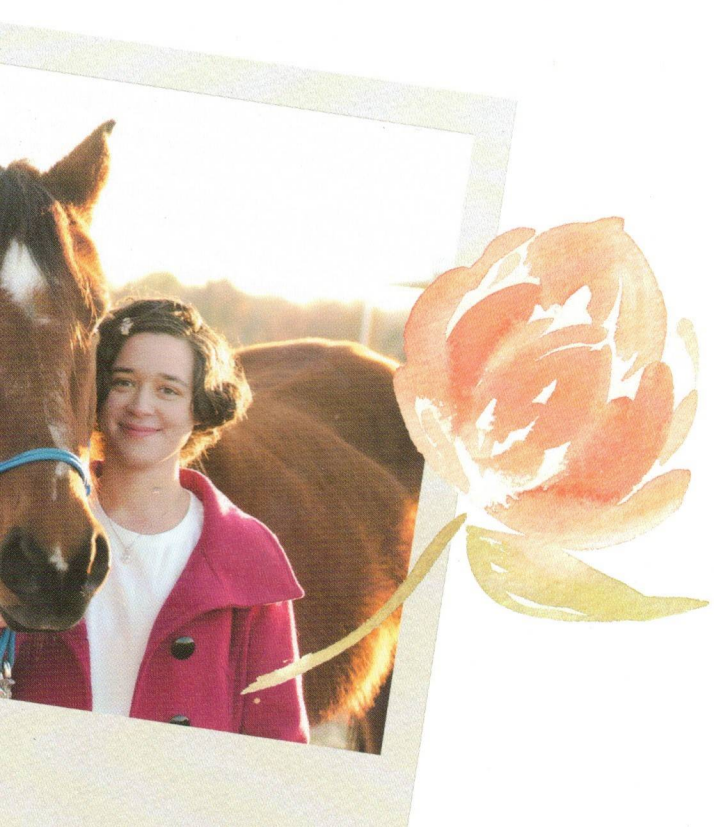
Remember that seed? The bounty that comes from that garden is much like the bounty that we are already seeing, and that is to come from Grace Farms in the future.

Today, we are so thankful that God brought you to this moment in time. Reading this exact newsletter, planting this seed. Friend, we cannot wait to see the fruit that comes from it. YOU are a part of creating lasting generational change.

THE WORK ISN'T FINISHED AT GRACE FARMS!

Phase I was completed in Summer 2023 and allowed Saving Grace to move our current program entirely to Grace Farms. Phase II, the renovation of Grace House, is 60% funded and will enable us to grow from serving 12 girls at a time to 28.

Will you help us bring “Grace” home? Learn more about our ongoing needs and future plans to serve 50 girls at savinggracewa.org/farm.

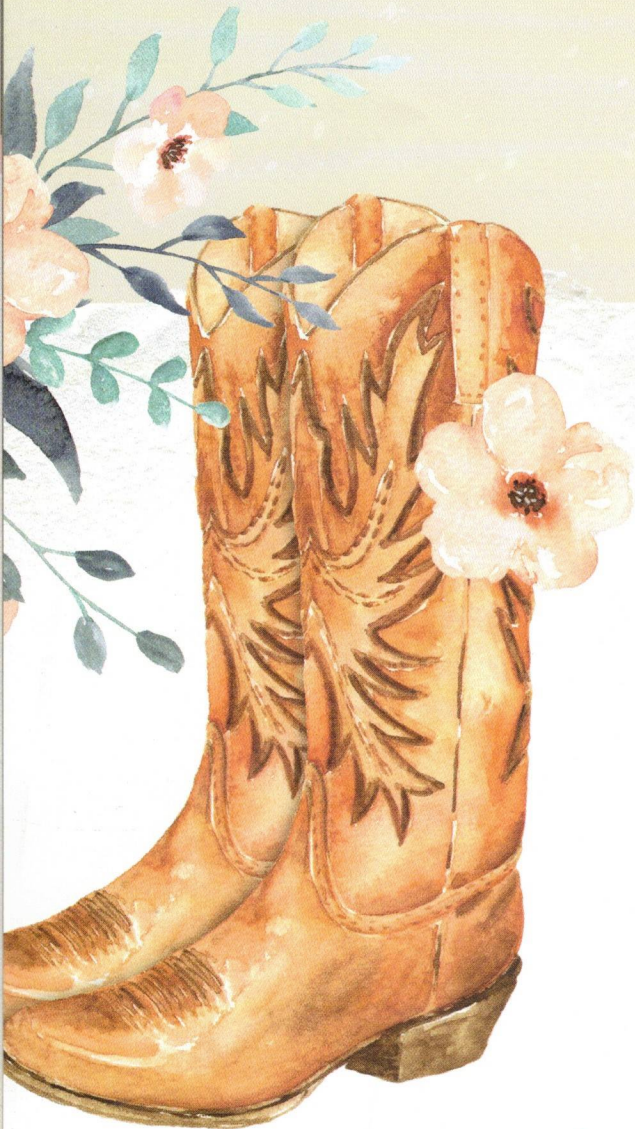




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SCAN FOR MORE DETAILS!

save the date

UPTOWN HOEDOWN

11.07.24 • KINDRED NORTH

We invite you to join us for our third annual, Uptown Hoedown—a night filled with fun and a purpose—to give “Grace” a safe home and provide her with the support she needs to become fully independent!

