



Building Connections

NEWSLETTER

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Repairing
homes
and hearts
as churches
serve
together
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Home repairs give the gift of friendship, hope



She struggles with health issues. She's gone without electricity and water. And she's on a first-name basis with the code enforcement officer.

But Miss Glenda still finds a reason to smile.

"Every time we wake up and see another day, we're blessed," said this Duluth senior. "It's up to us to choose whether we're going to be happy that day or sad or grumpy, you know?"

Glenda, who has faced her fair share of home repairs, first bumped into Home Repairs Ministries through her church.

"Water had went through my ceiling, and I needed a large piece of sheetrock put up," she explained.

That's when one of her friends at Perimeter Church mentioned Home Repairs.

"They told me [at the time] that Miss Jan and Harvey Anderson do a ministry to help people with home repairs," she said.

She called the Andersons. And when she did, she discovered more than home repairs. Glenda found a whole

new crew of friends — just when she needed them most.

"My favorite men are Mark [Home Repairs' Executive Director] and Mr. Anderson and all of them," she said. "Mark is the new sheriff in town. He's a good guy. He has some good sidekicks. I call them my blessings. Some are from our church and some are from other churches. But they're all men of God. And they're all here for one reason — to spread the word of God and His love."

"They're not just Home Repairs Ministries to me," she added. "They're my extended family."

Over the years, volunteers have helped Glenda with a variety of projects. One project Glenda is especially grateful for? Her porch and porch steps.

"Mark told me: 'I don't want you going down those steps.' We went and looked and my steps were hanging by one nail. It was just a matter of time. I would have went down 20 feet or so," she said. "Mark said: 'We're going to take care of that.' They went to nailing and fixing. And I can go on my back porch now."

Glenda said other organizations have offered help at different times.

"Of all the times people promised to help, it was Home

Home repairs give the gift of friendship, hope

continued from cover



Repairs who kept their word," she said.

Making a difference is what Home Repairs aims to do for homeowners like Glenda.

"Volunteers from several churches have worked on projects at Glenda's. Her projects exemplify our vision of repairing homes and hearts as churches serve together," explained Home Repairs Executive Director Mark Wolfe. "Many more like Glenda need our help. This keeps us focused on growing Home Repairs to meet that need."

And Glenda is quick to express her appreciation.

"You don't know how much I appreciate it all. I thank them from the bottom of my heart. They've not only helped me, but they've also helped so many others."

She also encourages others to support Home Repairs any way they can.

"I know it's a hard time right now, but I'm praying God opens people's hearts. It doesn't matter what you give — even if it's your time. If that's what God wants you to do, do it," advised Glenda. "If you ever want to give to something, give to Home Repairs Ministries. They're making a difference in a lot of lives, especially us elderly."

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**Want to make a difference?
visit homerepairs.org**

Volunteers support recovery in Gwinnett

Late last year, Home Repairs jumped at the chance to help with a one-of-a-kind project in Gwinnett — Lightway Recovery Wellness Center for Women. This project involved converting what was a bed and breakfast into a rehabilitation center for 33 women.

Our job? Help with the finish work needed for occupancy permits.

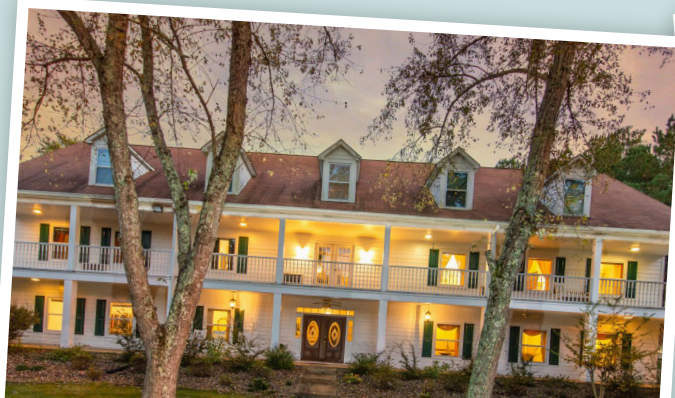
We started by covering about 500 feet of sprinkler pipes. From there, we installed fire-rated doors, bathroom doors, stairs, hardware, attic doors, finished trims, flooring, made adjustments, and more. Even though the Coronavirus had restricted our

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“ We are **SO GRATEFUL** for your amazing team that has been faithful to their mission and excellent with everything they have done—they have a huge part in everything God is going to do here! And now we have some new friends that are like family! ”

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- SUSAN BARGE, LIGHTWAY RECOVERY CEO
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project list, we were able to keep working at Lightway since the building isn't currently in use.

"Even in these challenging times, we are still finding ways that we can still have an impact. Working at Lightway Recovery during Covid-19 has provided an acceptable, safe environment to serve our community," explained Home Repairs Executive Director Mark Wolfe. "Lightway Recovery will touch the hearts of many lives, which furthers our mission of repairing homes and hearts together."



Long-time volunteer marks more than a decade of service



For all he knew, it was going to be a typical Sunday at Perimeter Church. But as John Manderscheid heard about the various ministries and ways Perimeter was involved in the community, one ministry caught his attention:

Home Repairs Ministries. Not too long after, while on a men's retreat, John signed up for a service project - a Home Repairs Ministries' service project.

"[During that retreat] I also roomed with Harvey Anderson, who was Home Repairs' executive director at the time. [As a result of the project and Harvey], I started helping with some of Home Repairs' bookkeeping needs as well as some projects."

That was in 2007. Since then, John has become a vital part of Home Repairs as a volunteer project manager and donor.

"When I first started, I did not have the skills I now have," he said. "Over the years I've helped put on new roofs, built additions for those with disabilities or families who are fostering or adopting, fixed leaking windows, repaired and built decks/handicap ramps, done bathroom remodels, yard cleanups, tree trimming, drywall, etc."

Being able to serve those in need is what motivates John.

"It's always good to finish a home modification project that helps someone who is adopting or fostering children," he said. "I enjoy helping seniors and single moms who need small repairs

but have no resource for materials or skill to fix it on their own."

John is also a financial supporter of Home Repairs Ministries.

"I decided to become a donor after seeing the need [in the community] and [realizing] my resources from God [that allowed me] to be able to help this ministry as well as others. It is in response to what Christ has done for me that I want to serve Him by serving others," he said.

Not only does John serve with Home Repairs, but he is also involved in Fully Furnished Ministries as well as in community outreach at Perimeter Church.

After 30 years as a UPS Industrial Engineer, John is now retired. He and his wife, Alice, have three married children and six grandkids who all live in Gwinnett and Forsyth county. While he loves having his family nearby, John also enjoys traveling, when he's not volunteering.

Speaking of volunteering, John hopes others get involved with Home Repairs.

"What do I want others to know about Home Repairs?" he said. "That we love to serve. Come learn and serve with us!"

Thank you, John, for your years of partnership with us. We appreciate you!

Both volunteers and donors are what make Home Repairs Ministries able to fulfill its mission of repairing homes and hearts. Visit homerepairs.org today to learn more about becoming a volunteer or financial supporter.



Home is more important than ever

We're surrounded by so many unknowns right now. But one thing we do know - home is more important now than ever before. We recently shared on social media what home means to our homeowners, our volunteers and our board members. Here's what some of them had to say.

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Home is the place where I feel the greatest Community. That Community is my family and friends. It's a place where we can celebrate, love, pray and sometimes even mourn together. It's where I get to be me in every sense of the word.

PHIL ORAZI
(BOARD MEMBER)

“

Our home is where we meet as family. There is nothing more important than when your children want to come home to see their parents and the times we spend together. Particularly at this time, it provides a safe and peaceful environment from the current chaos. It is a sanctuary and a place that you can retreat to at any time.

BILL ISAAK
(BOARD MEMBER)

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Home means family: Spending time with your family and doing whatever you enjoy doing together.

BEVERLY BERGMAN
(HOMEOWNER)

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Home is a place where family & friends can joyfully celebrate our blessings.

NATHAN ANDERSON
(DONOR)

“

Home doesn't have to be fancy but it does need to provide adequate shelter from the rain and the wind and the snow. Today, home is also our first line of defense against a deadly virus. We at Home Repairs Ministries help those who are not able to help themselves take care of the homes they love.

JOHN THOMAS
(BOARD MEMBER)

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Having been a transient and moving away from a community I loved dearly, I know now that home is a place where memories are made and where families spend time together. Home is where you are and what you make of it.

ANNA
(HOMEOWNER)

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Home is a gift from God. It's a place to dwell until I go home to God — to my heavenly home.

GLENDA
(HOMEOWNER)

“

Home is a feeling of comfort and security – and the enjoyment of working in my garden!

JEANNIE DAVIS
(BOARD MEMBER)



If we all give and work together, it can mean a safe place for everyone in our community. Together, we are repairing homes and hearts. Will you help us ensure seniors have safe homes in the months to come? **Give today at homerepairs.org.**