

ABOUT TOWN  
Mary Bogest  
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High Point Enterprise

I want to thank Ray Bretzmann for inviting me to the "Chili on a Chilly Day" dinner held in the new Family Life Center at First Presbyterian Church. This dinner had a dual function, First it honored parishioners Eileen and Winfred Douglas and Gerald Payne, who have been recipients of the "Good Samaritan Award" presented by Open Door Ministries. Secondly, this dinner served as a fundraiser for Open Door Ministries and was one of several being held this year.

I usually don't throw statistics at you but here are a few from Open Door Ministries: 12,000 meals served monthly at the Father's Table, 70 families assisted with utility bills each month to avoid eviction, 1800 beds filled each month at the homeless shelter, 60 families assisted with food each month, families struggling financially helped through the Housing Stabilization Program begun in 2009, 10 individuals enrolled in the Alcohol & Drug Services treatment program at the shelter each month and the list goes on and on.

Part of a prayer for that evening dinner encompasses the mission of Open Door Ministries, "Hear our prayers that the hungry will be filled with good things and the shivering given shelter."