



## 7th annual NBBC fund-raiser garage sale

**W**e just wrapped up another successful fund-raiser garage sale, with the final totals at almost \$8,500. Praise Jesus! We opened a day earlier than planned because while we were setting up that Monday, people stopped and wanted to buy things. We did not have as much furniture as previous years, which normally nets more money, but the Lord is faithful, and we still did so well. I want to thank each of you for

your support and help through the week. We had so much fun and are also appreciative to all who provided donations, including all who also provided lunches: Chick fi la, Texas BBQ, and Lucy's Big Burgers. We are



so blessed to have received and continue to receive so much support from the community. God Bless you all for playing a part in changing the lives of our special girls.



# May

## 2017

**NBBC** NEW BEGINNINGS  
Big Country  
Transitional Homes For Women

### Behind the Walls

On March 1, I took Lori Mellinger and Emily Whitten behind the walls at Bridgeport Pre-Release Facility. It was such a special time, because this was both of their first time's in since their incarceration, For Emily, it was even more special, as this was the unit she was housed at when she was in TDCJ.

We were able to move pretty freely around the unit, and Emily showed us the artwork on the walls she painted while incarcerated there.



We went as part of a housing forum, talking to the women about New Beginnings-Big Country and the importance of finding a safe place to parole out to. Roseanne Deprisco Von Schaub, a chaplain at the unit, invited us and treated us to lunch afterwards. She took us dorm by dorm, talking to the women who did not attend the forum. We have since received letters from a few of the women and have sent one acceptance letter to a woman housed there.

Pray for us as we take further steps to have a full-fledged prison ministry team going to other TDCJ units and for all those associated with Bridgeport, too, as TDCJ plans to shut it down this summer.

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**Romans 8:28**

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

# FaithWorks Graduation

**A**urelia Stokes and Tracy Hoover graduated from FaithWorks on April 20. The two women have spent the last 13 weeks in the program learning how to identify, get and keep "THE JOB" meant for them.

Aurelia did an internship at KGNZ radio and Tracy interned at Mercy Clinic. I am so proud of them both for continuing to walk in His will for their lives. While Tracy is no longer a member of NBBC, she stays a part of our lives.

Lori spoke at the graduation as well representing former FaithWorks graduates. The next session begins May 30, and we hope to have another one of our ladies enroll, at least.



**We did our first baptisms of the year on Easter at Mercy House!**



**Elizabeth Fry, far right, teaches the women a healthy cooking class twice a month at Beltway South Campus. She and her husband, Keith have a passion for intercessory prayer, healing and deliverance ministry, discipleship, and feeding the hungry on both spiritual and physical levels. The Lord has given them a passion for and the skills to grow organic food through sustainable farming practices. They have used this knowledge to feed the hungry, including: widows, orphans, and missionaries.**

