Thoughts from our Executive Director,



Greetings to you with the love of Jesus Christ! It is my hope and prayer that normal has come back into your life in the places that it should. Sunday morning worship services with your church family. Sunday afternoon dinners with your extended family. Friday evenings with a grill and your neighbors. And Saturday mornings with your grandchildren at the soccer field. How I hope and pray that this normal comes back!

Normal has come back for us here at Henderson Settlement in many ways. We feel so blessed and excited to serve Jesus Christ in this community and we so much appreciate our shared ministry! The greenhouse has been busy and productive in ministry. The farm has received 28 new calves. Summer recreation has had over 60 children and teens participating in breakfast, worship, play, lunch, games and incredible field trips. It has been amazing seeing Kaytee and our staff loving on our children. Volunteers in Mission has over a thousand projects on our wish list for the community and the campus. The food pantry served over 76 customers in 1 hour just the other day. Our entire work staff has been called back from a prolonged and exhausting season that covid created for all of us. We are back and we are excited for ministry!

However, we do need to recognize what part of normal is not back. Our work camp numbers are only at 30% of normal. We understand that some of our work teams either were unable to raise funds or do not feel ready to come back after covid. Many of you are still wondering about your Sunday School or your extended family, and these are legitimate concerns. We are all asking ourselves: when does everything we love about normal come back?

I love Hebrews 13. God's Word says in verse 5: "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you". It goes on to say in verse 6: "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me"? God has shown up over and over again to provide avenues of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Jesus and His amazing grace have never left us and we are believing that His grace is sufficient!

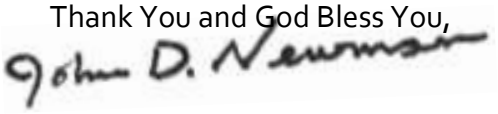
We **Believe** wholeheartedly that Volunteers in Mission is one of the things that sets Henderson Settlement apart. We rely on our work campers to get so much done for our community needs and our budget is based on this fact. As you can imagine with only around 25 projects being done off campus last year, there is an incredible need for the hands and feet of Christ in our community. So far this year, we have had 221 work campers. At this time in 2019, we had been blessed with over 1100 volunteers.

We need to find a way that ministry still takes place here. I would ask that you would pray and consider these possibilities:

- No matter the size of your work team, or if even individually, could you come this fall and help be the hands and feet of Christ?
- If you are unable to come at this time, would you consider a contribution to help support us so that expenses are met? We have brought all of our staff back to cover the campus and to support the volunteers we have and we need your help in the downturn of Volunteers In Mission.

God has always done everything necessary through our partners in ministry to help Henderson Settlement "love as we have been loved". He has always done it and He always will as long as Christ is in the center of everything we do. Proverbs 3:5-6 says: "Trust in the Lord with all of your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make your paths straight." We pray for the continuance of God's blessing and anointing to love everyone we share this life with!

Thank You and God Bless You,



John D. Newman

Executive Director