



WELCOME TO THE
**COMPASSION
BEAT**
we're so glad you're here!

Looking Toward 2026: Hopes for Growth, Community, and Prayer

As we head into a new year, I have several hopes for 2026. First, we have been blessed with three individuals who have given of their time and talents as members of our board of directors (a fourth faithfully served until she was called home by God). Their service has shaped and developed The Compassionate Way. As we move into our next phase of development—creating sustainable models for ministry and financial support, we are eager to welcome others to our board. We hope to add individuals who have direct experience with the populations we serve, or who bring skills in fundraising, and who are passionate about the ministry and mission of The Compassionate Way. Additional board members mean more perspectives, life experience, and prayerful discernment. This is important when serving diverse populations and making strategic decisions. It also spreads responsibility, so the ministry doesn't rest on one or two people. This creates stability, accountability, and continuity for the long term.

Next, I long to develop a more communal ministry model. There are already glimpses of this. For example, gathering with residents at Good Samaritan Society – Woodland for prayer and *Compassion Is Love in Action* opportunities foster a shared community experience. These opportunities cultivate connection and allow us to share in a common mission together.

Finally, I yearn to establish a weekly prayer gathering, either on Zoom or in person. This would be a dedicated time to pray intentionally for this ministry, in addition to the three faithful individuals who already pray regularly for specific pray requests. Creating this space would help ensure that this ministry continues to glorify God. Would you consider committing one hour a week to participate in a prayer gathering? Please let me know if this is something God may be inviting you to be part of.



Connection and Compassion Are for Everyone

Make an intention commitment to connect with others this year. If you have been experiencing isolation, consider taking a small step by joining us for our next *Connection and Compassion Are for Everyone* gathering. We meet for one hour to share a meal and engage in meaningful conversation centered on compassion.

Compassion has the power to transform lives. It communicates to another person that they matter and reminds us that we were created to connect with one another.

There will be two opportunities to gather in January. You are welcome to attend one or both. We would love to have you join us! We will meet on Saturday, January 10, at noon and Thursday, January 29, at 5:00 p.m. at Good Samaritan Society – Woodland, Apartment #27. This is also a wonderful opportunity to invite a friend.

Please register at least two days prior to the event by contacting Candace Adams at 320-905-5453.



Every day, a brave woman or man steps forward to receive treatment for addiction. Please pray that each individual feels God's presence as they begin the courageous journey of sobriety. May God grant them the strength and grace to face each step, one day at a time.

Compassion is Love in Action

Did you know that there are countless ways to extend compassion? Throughout 2026, I will share simple ideas for how you might share compassion. As always, it is important to seek God's guidance as you discern what a compassionate act might look like in each situation.

Here are five simple things you can do:

1. **Write someone a personal note.** I cherish handwritten notes. They communicate that someone thought of me and took the time to put those thoughts on paper. Email is convenient, but it isn't the same.
2. **Pick up the phone and call someone.** Be sure you have the time and space to be fully present to the person you are calling.
3. **Invite someone to share a cup of coffee, hot chocolate, or tea.** Gathering with someone doesn't require an elaborate meal—just a warm beverage and meaningful conversation.
4. **Smile at everyone you meet and say, "Hello!"** A simple greeting can brighten someone's day more than you realize.
5. **Tell someone you appreciate them.** Offer a word of encouragement—whether to a close friend, a store clerk, or even a stranger. Recently, a young man at a store complimented me on my necklace, a wooden cross. His kindness warmed my heart.

Let's spread compassion everywhere in 2026!

Thank You

We are deeply grateful for the generosity shown to our ministry in 2025. Without this support, we would be unable to carry out this important work. We give thanks that God placed it on the hearts of individuals, churches, and organizations to financially support our mission. Thank you for coming alongside us in this meaningful endeavor.

Rev. Dr. Candace Adams @ revadams@hotmail.com or 320-905-5453

[HTTPS://THE-COMPASSIONATE-WAY.ORG/](https://the-compassionate-way.org/)