



Grace Place Ministries, Inc.

Ordinary People Serving an Extraordinary God

March 2026

Sparrows, Doves, and Blackbirds

I have always been a nature lover, tree hugger, and flower child; and God has always spoken many things through His creation to me. This past February, the ice storm in our area was devastating to so many including me. I had no power for 8 days, no internet for 14 days, and no TV. There were dangling limbs everywhere and large limbs on my roof as well as many others. I camped out in the kitchen in front of the stove burners with my precious fur babies. I was so thankful for a little heat, clean drinking water, and food.... our basic necessities.

The Apostle Paul said in Philippians 4:11-13, *“Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things, I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound, and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”*

One thing I did every day was brave the ice and feed all my birds. I have so many birds (especially doves and sparrows), and the Lord started talking to me. For the most part, I had much peace until sundown and the darkness and cold tried to get ahold of me. When I saw the doves every day in the bird feeder it was a reminder of the peace of God - *Philippians 4:7* says, *“and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”* Every day that I watched the sparrows I was reminded in *Luke 12:6-7*, *“Are not five sparrows sold for two copper coins? And not one of them is forgotten before God. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Do not fear; therefore, you are of more value than many sparrows.”*

I wish I could report that I was never anxious, but the truth is I was a little. The Lord reminded me from the Word again *Luke 10:41*, *And Jesus answered and said to her, “Martha, Martha, (Rhonda Rhonda) you are worried and troubled about many things.”* Jesus then said, *“But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her.”* Mary (Martha’s sister) chose to sit at Jesus’ feet and lean into Him which is what we must do when we are anxious. *1 Peter 5:6-7*, *“Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.”*

Among many other birds that come to my feeders are blackbirds. These birds are pushy and greedy, and I watched them scare off the doves and sparrows. I know that they are God’s creatures as well, but they reminded me of the depression and darkness that tried to come over me. I had the choice to not focus on the depression and anxiety and focus on the peace of God and the tender loving care of my Father as He reminded me through the doves and sparrows. By the way.... Everything has been taken care of with the damages and inconveniences. I was tested as to whether I would be grateful for what I had instead of what I didn’t have and whether I trusted the Lord to send me the help I needed. Our God is ever faithful and true!!

Next time you see these birds I pray that you will be reminded of God’s peace and faithful provision! Sending love and prayers and thanksgiving for each of you!

Rhonda

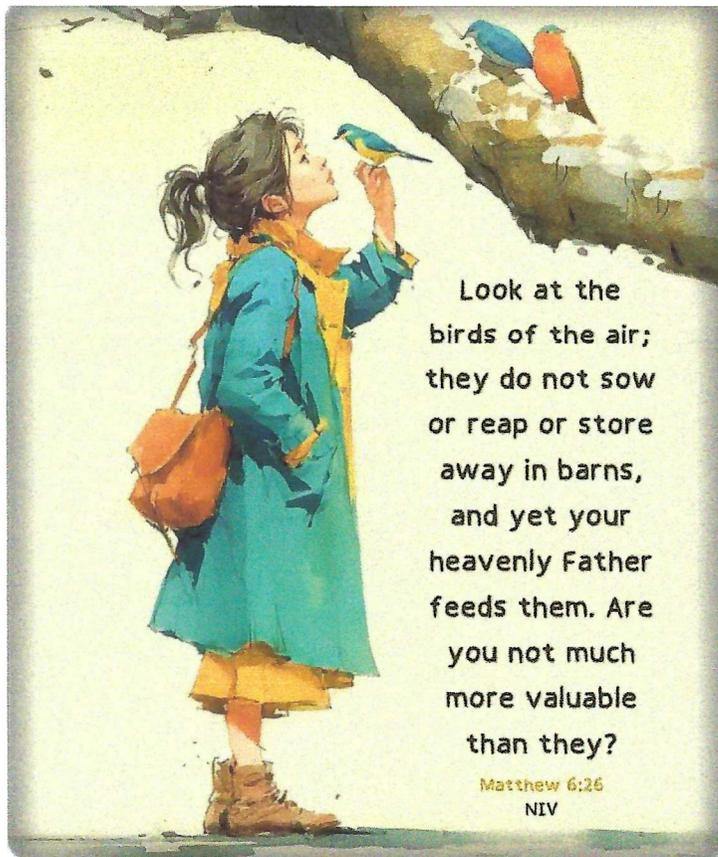
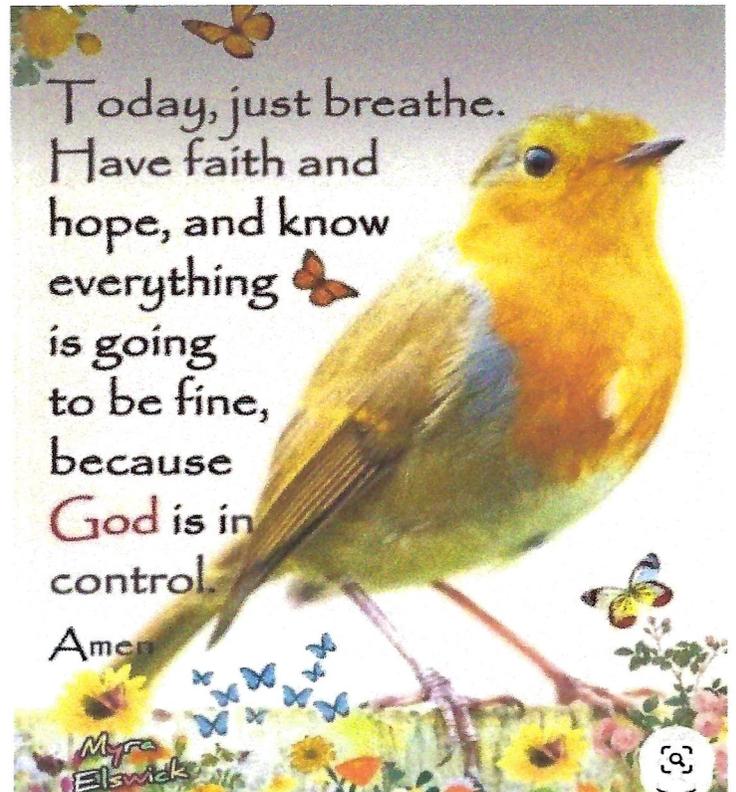


Total Served in February

6,277

Hot Meals & Food Pantry

Our Current Needs:
Spring/Summer Clothing
Children's Books
Bar Soap
Socks
Bibles
Financial Help



Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?

Matthew 6:26
NIV



His eye is on the Sparrow

Matthew 10:29-31



Learn how you can help at www.GracePlaceMinistries.org



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