

LIFE NEWS

Behind the Scenes

By Ron Story
Community Life Pastor

One of the Board Members from the Biblical Counseling Ministry here in Visalia came by the office recently to visit. While he was here, I introduced him to our office staff (Sharon, Donna, and Carol) and bragged about what an amazing ministry they provide and how blessed we are to have them. It dawned on me that there may be many in our Parkside family who are not aware of these ladies and their special gifts. While most of you regularly see and have the chance to get to know our four pastors, these three unsung heroes serve behind the scenes in our church office, Monday through Friday, playing a major part in the nitty-gritty day-to-day ministry of Parkside Chapel. Let me briefly introduce you to them!



Sharon Alexandre was born in Texas and grew up as a P.K. (Pastor's Kid). After graduating from Texas Women's University, she migrated to Visalia to travel and later coordinate international concerts for Celebrant Singers. She came to Parkside in 2005 as our part-time, and at the time, only secretary. Interestingly

enough, soon after Sharon joined our staff, the church began to grow. She now serves as our full-time Office Manager and while she has incredible office and management skills, it is her heart for Jesus and the Gospel that is the driving force of her life. Her infectious personality and crazy sense of humor help bring joy to every day, whether ordinary or difficult.



Donna Romer has a long history of serving in Christian ministries, including 12 years with Celebrant Singers, both traveling and later serving on their Operating and Executive Committees, coordinating Rehearsal Camps, album recording projects, along with management of numerous ministry events. As a long-time best friend of Sharon, Donna accepted the invitation to join the staff at Parkside in 2009 in a part-time position while her children were young, and this soon grew to full-time. Donna handles Parkside's Communications and design for both print and digital media materials, manages our social media, edits sermons for radio, along with managing our website and mobile app, etc. Donna's husband, Chuck, has been a worship pastor for many years in numerous churches so she also brings the unique experience and skills as a pastor's wife to our church office.



Carol Greenfield is the friendly voice you often hear on the phone and the smiling face you most often see as you enter the church office. In 2016, Carol came out of a brief retirement (we talked her out of it), to serve as our part-time receptionist and jack-of-all-trades. Carol served as an Executive Assistant for several companies

“Carol Greenfield” ... continued from page 1

over the years, but found her greatest joy and fulfillment in serving God in Christian organizations. She was Executive Secretary to the Superintendent at Fresno Christian Schools as well as on the office staff of two other churches in Visalia. Carol’s wisdom, well-honed skills, professionalism and sweet spirit are greatly appreciated assets to our office team. Besides, Carol and her husband are die-hard San Francisco Giants fans so, what’s not to love?

The greatest value of all three of these ladies is their genuine faith in God and the daily walk they have with Jesus. As people call or visit the office and pastors may not be available, each of these ladies is well equipped to assist and pray for the needs of the moment. All three of these ladies are prayer warriors that we get to experience first-hand in our weekly staff meetings.

So, there you have it, the secret sauce, the behind-the-scenes keys to helping keep your wild and crazy pastors somewhat organized and presentable on Sundays and throughout the week.

***“Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain,
but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.
Give her of the fruit of her hands,
and let her works praise her in the gates.”***

(Proverbs 31:30-31)

Thanks ladies, for having our backs and helping fill the gaping holes in each of our ministries!



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