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My First Year in Branson

Hi, y'all! As of August 14th, I have been in my faith house for one year. A lot has happened. I have been honored to do seven speaking and demonstration events. I have met a lot of different students from C of O who have reached out to me. The college also helped me redo my brochure, and it looks very professional and is available on request. They have been a great help in many areas. I was honored to be in the Flag Day Parade through the Chamber of Commerce. I also recently presented a state flag wall hanging to Governor Kehoe. What an honor! I have been blessed to go to The Duttons and Clay Cooper shows. I even got to go to Silver Dollar City at Christmas time and went blueberry and blackberry picking in the summer. I have been blessed to be in the Globe newspaper twice in the last six months. I will be featured in the October issue of Quiltfolk about Missouri. I want to thank all those who have helped with unpacking, setting up furniture, hanging pictures, and getting settled in. I also want to thank the contractors through the grant for putting in my deck, mini split, and new refrigerator. I have been incredibly blessed by all those who have stepped forward to help.

Yes, I have had a few challenges along the way. As most of you know, I quilt to support myself. This has come from a talent and prophecy that God gave me. Many of the quilters here are already involved in making quilts to be given to charity, but I have not yet found someone who is able to volunteer time regularly to help me with cutting fabric in my home. I love to design my own patterns, so I need someone who is experienced in cutting and quilting. I have two helpers, but they live over an hour away and can only come every now and then. I want to thank my neighbor, Penny, who has helped as well. I am still in need of a quilter close by who is able to commit to volunteering a few hours per week in my home to help with quilting needs.

Having regular helpers is important to me because I believe this is how God provides for my needs. This is also why I sell my quilts, rather than giving the majority of them away. They are prayed over. When people purchase them, they feel the presence of God. Thank you to those who have purchased a quilt since I have been here. Jesus is my source, and He provides for me. I also believe it is important to ask for what you need, so that you do not rob someone of the opportunity to be a blessing.

Rose of Sharon Ministries has been on hiatus for the past year, but now it is time to get up and going again! I am looking for opportunities to speak and preach in various churches, ministries, and other venues. The ministry is sustained by financial supporters. Please don't feel obligated, but if you would like to be a monthly financial supporter, I do have Venmo (@Diane-Rose-148), Zelle (254-366-5858) , and Paypal (www.theamazingquilter.com). Every little bit helps. It goes towards mailing, travel expenses, and other needs. The ministry is a tax exempt 501(c)3. Donations of fabric and batting are always greatly appreciated and will be used.

Branson has been more expensive than I was expecting this first year, with utilities and personal needs. I want to thank those who have taken care of my meals when we have gone out. I am hoping more finances will come in soon so that I can take care of those things myself and bless others financially. Even through those hiccups along the way, I am keeping my eyes on the Lord like Joseph.

Some of you have been asking me what my next goals are. Right now, my faith goals include meeting Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders. I am also still believing to present the Pledge of Allegiance quilt to President Trump. I have never been to Washington, D.C. I would also love to be a part of a tour package in Branson, where I could be compensated for speaking and demonstrating to groups who come to town. That would be the ultimate goal! I would like to teach a class with Elevate Branson, and of course, get back on the road to speak at various places around the country. I think it would be wonderful to get involved with the Boys and Girls Club here and to be able to invite the college students over to my home for different events. I am still looking for some furniture including a couch and a small table and chairs for my deck.

In the midst of all of that, I have so much to be thankful for. One of the many blessings I have had is some wonderful traveling companions. I have an incredible neighborhood and have made some great friends here. I am looking forward to getting more involved in the Chamber of Commerce as well. I love that I am able to get out of the house more, and I am excited to get more involved in the community in the next year. I am respected, happy, and at peace. People here are willing to let me be myself. Thank you, Branson, for receiving me! It's been a struggle, but I am amazed when I look at how far I have come. I give God the glory for this year that has been a challenge and a blessing. You can have it too, if you stand and believe. Jeremiah 29:11 I just want people to see the love of Jesus in me and let His light shine. I am finally here, and I've lasted a year!

Blessings,

Diane Rose

Hebrews 11:1