

*She/He is clothed in  
Strength and Dignity...  
Proverbs 31:25*

Thank you so much for your support of Laundry with Love. We are so grateful for your partnership that allows us to provide the gift of clean clothes to those living on the streets or struggling to get by. Thank you for the wonderful volunteers and pizza. It was a wonderful night! In Christ, Harriet & COTS

Good News,

Thank you for your  
dedicated support of Safe Families.

We are honored to partner with you  
to equip your church in building  
transforming relationships with vulnerable  
families in Sioux Falls!

Merry Christmas

Tracy & Tiffaney

# WE ARE THANKFUL FOR YOU



Dear Brothers & Sisters,

Thank you for joining with us this to help serve the struggling here is Sioux Falls. We appreciate your partnership in ministry, whether via prayer support, interest in what we do, donations of bikes, clothing or finances, helping by volunteering it all makes a difference.

As you celebrate and remember the good things that have come your way this year and through your lifetime. Know that you are one of the best to come our way. Thank you!!!!

Have a blessed Thanksgiving

*Calvin Ver Mulm*

Rev. Calvin Ver Mulm  
on behalf of all the staff at Center of Hope



Wonderful

COUNSELOR

MIGHTY GOD

EVERLASTING

FATHER

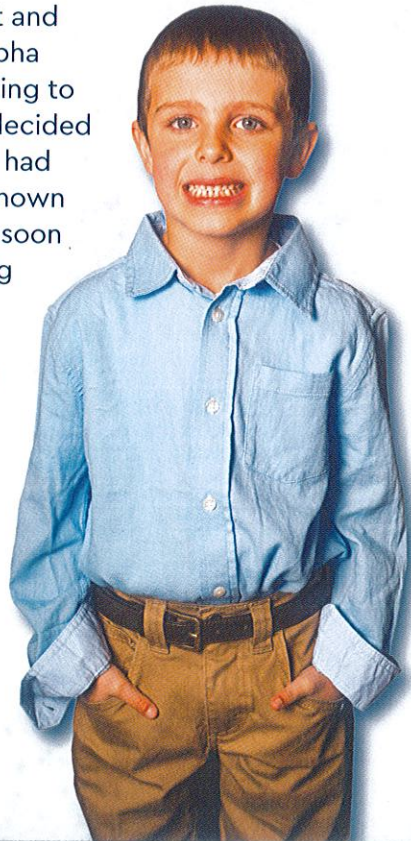
PRINCE OF

PEACE

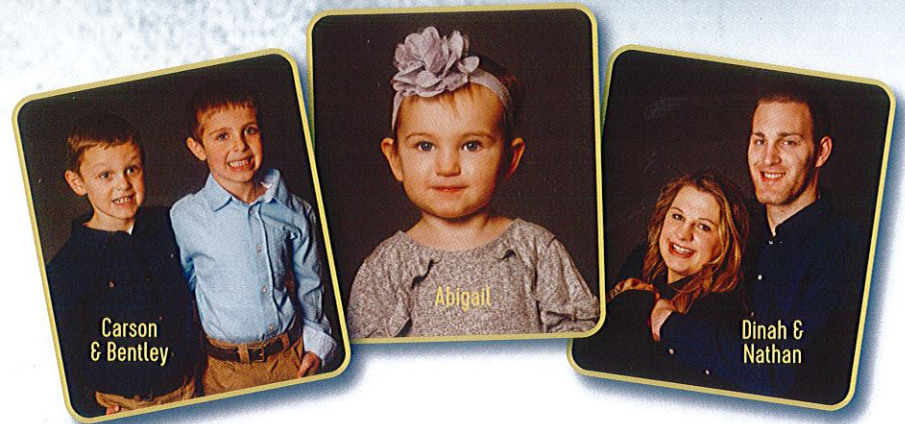
At sixteen, I was your stereotypical rebellious child. Drinking, drugs, sex, smoking, etc. I became pregnant and was scared to death. How would my parents react? What would my future look like now? Then I thought, what if nothing had to change? What if I just got rid of it and moved on with my life? I secretly planned to get an abortion because I didn't want my life to change.

**What if I just  
got rid of it  
and moved on  
with my life?**

My aunt knew I was pregnant and encouraged me to turn to Alpha Center for support. Not wanting to disappoint her, I reluctantly decided to visit Alpha Center, but still had the plan to get rid of this unknown thing inside me. However, as soon as I walked in, I felt something warming my heart. Smiling women welcomed me and talked with such compassion and love. In that moment, I felt like God was right there too, nudging me.



Alpha Baby  
BENTLEY



I began watching pregnancy videos at Alpha Center during my weekly *Earn While You Learn* appointments after school. During this time, I started to question my thoughts of abortion. Then I saw the one video I needed to see the most: how conception happens. I saw how this tiny egg transformed into a baby. That's when I knew that this thing inside me wasn't unknown; it was a child with a beating heart, and I couldn't be the one to stop it. I went home and cried with guilt for having even thought of hurting this innocent life.

**It was a child with  
a beating heart,  
and I couldn't be  
the one to stop it.**

With this new perspective of my situation, I also began weekly *Life Skills Classes*, which were life-changing because I learned so many practical tips about caring for my newborn. It was through those classes that I found Alpha Center's greatest blessing to me - my mentor mom. She helped me come back to Jesus. She prayed for me after every session and I always felt lifted up. I began praying on my own because I didn't want that feeling to go away and I needed God in my life.



# A Wonderful Unknown

*Written By A Friend of Alpha Center*

When the test confirmed that your life had begun  
I felt scared, overwhelmed and alone.  
So many unknowns I couldn't see my way through,  
Like how would I ever give you a home?

I'd been told that I was the one who could choose  
To end what had barely begun.  
But the quietest whisper nudged me to have faith  
To face the unknowns, one by one.

I'm sorry my initial reaction wasn't pure joy;  
I didn't know how I'd provide all you'd need.  
My life to this point had been all about me,  
Would I be able to help you thrive and succeed?

But what I know now and I didn't know then,  
Is how wonderful unknowns can be.  
Like, how unexpectedly special those moments are  
As I study your face and you study me.

The way your smile took my breath away surprised me, too,  
And how much I could love you through all of my fear.  
Now the mountains we faced that seemed impossible at first  
Have become milestones we celebrate and hold dear.

You're precious, my child, you light up my life  
And I'm thankful for choosing you over me.  
For you are so much more than I ever expected  
An unplanned, yet perfect blessing to receive.

For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given,  
and the government will be on His shoulders.  
And He will be called Wonderful Counselor,  
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

*-Isaiah 9:6 NIV*

This Christmas season, please consider a gift of \$500, \$250, \$100 or any amount to help us continue planting seeds of change in lives of individuals like Dinah. Your dedication is an integral part of our ministry and your gift is a beautiful reflection of God's gift of a Wonderful Counselor.



For HIS Unborn,

A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read 'Leslee Unruh', written in a cursive style.

Leslee Unruh



The logo for Alpha Center, consisting of a stylized white lowercase 'a' followed by the words 'alpha center' in a lowercase sans-serif font.





**Celebrate the birth of Jesus by helping vulnerable children  
in Eastern South Dakota**

November 21, 2019

Dear Friend,

Christmas is just weeks away. And I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your gifts this year. Your generosity is such a beautiful reflection of God's most precious gift to us, His only Son, Jesus.

It's kind, compassionate people like you that make it possible for Bethany to help vulnerable children like Elijah.

Elijah was born six weeks premature, and was exposed to heavy drug use during pregnancy. He spent his first weeks of life in the NICU (neonatal intensive care unit). Elijah needed a family to provide him with a loving, permanent home.

With your support and prayers, Bethany was able to help bring Elijah into Dan and Lindsay's loving family.

The couple worked with Julie, a Bethany adoption specialist, for several months. Then one Saturday morning in February, Julie called. "A baby boy had been born two nights before," says Lindsay.

Dan was at a work conference, so Lindsay called and left several messages. Dan called back and said, "Yes, let's do this."

And thanks to generous friends like you, Dan and Lindsay had the help they needed to provide the special care that Elijah required.

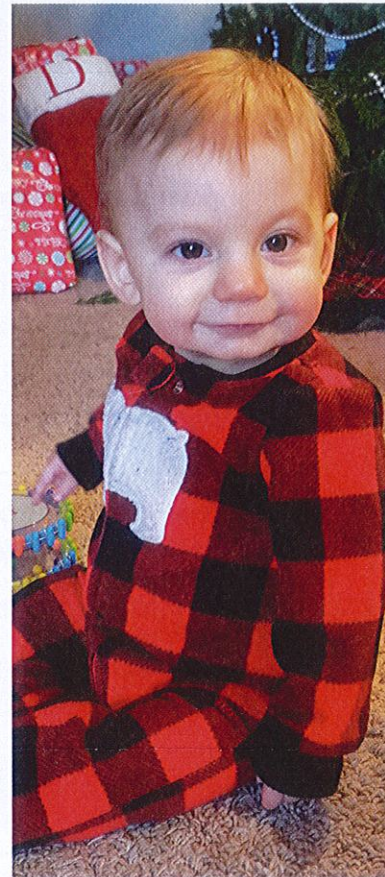
"Dan and I feel grateful to be in the hands of Bethany Christian Services," says Lindsay. "They believe every child deserves to be loved, connected, and safe. We think so, too—the journey God brought us through was worthwhile. It brought us to Elijah."

**You can be part of the effort to change the lives of vulnerable children like Elijah. Your gift, during this season of giving, will help bring children and families together. Your gift of:**

\$500 helps find families and advocate for children with special needs

\$1,000 provides families with support during and after the adoption

\$2,500 helps families offset the costs of adopting a child with special needs



*continued...*



# CENTER OF HOPE

*Sowing seeds of God's love...physically & spiritually*

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Good News Reformed Church  
1800 S Valley View Rd  
Sioux Falls, SD 57106-0521

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

With a little, God does a lot! She only had a little oil left in the house, her husband was dead and the debt collector was on his way to take her sons as payment, when she met Elisha. Elisha tells her to go collect jars from her neighbors, and not just a few. Then shut yourself into your house and start filling jars. She does just that, and fills ALL the jars from her one small jar.

It struck me that when the woman asks for help, Elisha responds with, "Tell me what you have in your house." Elisha could have given her money to pay the debt or made the debt collector go away in miraculous way, but he didn't. He asked what she had, and then God multiplied her small amount of oil for her to use to pay the debt owed. Why deal with the problem that way? Could it be to show us that even with our meager resources, when offered to God in faith, He can accomplish great things?

I see that happening often at the Center of Hope. God uses the limited resources we have to provide warmth to those who live outside. He uses us as a catalyst to heal family relationships or guide guests to a church home. He uses us to pray and encourage those who are trying to find work and to help them get to work. The list can go on, and I'm sure as you reflect on your own life you will see how God multiplies what you have to offer.

I am excited to share that God has put it on the heart of one of our supporters to offer to help you multiply what you give with his own gift. We had not anticipated this possibility as he had never done this before. But, he has offered to match any gift over your usual yearly giving up to \$10,000. **Would you consider a larger year-end gift this year to which we can apply this match?** Your gift will then go twice as far in helping to meet the needs of those who are struggling.

Thank you in advance for being a blessing to our guests. You make a difference in their lives.

Together in Jesus,

Brett Rockvam  
Executive Director  
501c3

Rev. Calvin Ver Mulm  
Pastor/Development Officer

## Serving Him together in East Asia

### Good News Reformed Church,

While slurping my ramen noodles in a crowded cafeteria, I listened to Daniel share, "Jesus is the son of God. He died for our sins and rose again three days later." Trying not to choke on my mouth full of noodles, I nodded in agreement, shocked by his response.

We recently spent two weeks asking college students, "Who is Jesus Christ?" We received all types of answers. Some said Jesus was a teacher and Christians follow his teachings but more commonly, students told us they simply had no idea at all who Jesus is.

It's the "I don't know" and "I have no idea" responses that break our hearts yet fill us with compassion for the people in this country. My new friend Daniel gives us hope. It is clear that students are searching for something more, and Jesus is calling out to many of them. We are blessed and excited to work in such a place and at such a time.



Your partnership enables us to tell students who Jesus really is and invite them into relationship with him. It also enables us to show students like Daniel how he can tell his friends about Jesus. You are a continual source of joy and encouragement as you pray and give faithfully to our ministry. We can't express our gratitude for you enough!

As 2019 comes to a close, would you consider giving a special gift towards our ministry? In February we need to travel to a nearby country to participate in a conference. Because of this we will incur extra travel expenses. We can freely worship Jesus there and hope to be refreshed through corporate teaching and fellowship with other overseas missionaries from East Asia, Southeast Asia and boarding countries. We have also acquired additional expenses due to unexpected travel home in August, Lily's birth in February and Jen's foot surgery in May.

We are trusting the Lord to raise \$6,500 before the end of the year. Good News Reformed Church, would you prayerfully consider giving a gift of \$100, \$250, \$500 or some other amount?

If you would like to give, please give online at: [give.cru.org/o825530](https://give.cru.org/o825530) (due to being in a secure location our names will not show up but the account number is designated to us.) If you prefer, you can mail a check made out to "CRU" using the enclosed envelope and insert.

Whatever you decide, know we are truly grateful to the Lord for you. Thank you for your commitment to seeing the lost hear the gospel message. Your investment in God's kingdom work is changing the world!

Until the whole world hears,

*Luke + Jen Olsen*



## Holiday Greetings

The Christmas season is fast approaching and we ask that you remember Family Connection in your holiday plans. While preparing for joyous holiday celebrations with family, friends and loved ones, it's important to stop and reflect on the joy and blessings in your own life while also being aware that not everyone is so fortunate. What about those who do not have a warm home, a safe environment, the company of family and trusted friends and food to celebrate?

Many families at Family Connection are estranged from their families because of incarceration. The loss of a spouse, the stigma of having a loved one in prison, mental health challenges and the spiral of poverty have all taken their toll on them. The worst tragedy of all is that the "Children" are just victims of circumstance! We have been blessed to come to know the families and their children. We hear their stories and learn the true meaning of giving "Hope to families that must be apart!"

Our work has a powerful impact not only on the people that we work with directly, but also on the larger community as a whole. We are completely reliant on charitable donations in order to continue to provide hundreds of families with these much needed services.

### How Can You Give HOPE?

<b>The Need</b>	<b>Our Offer of HOPE</b>
It's Christmas Eve and Amy and her two children drive 250 miles to Sioux Falls...just to sleep in their car in the prison parking lot. They don't have the money for a motel room and the kids really want to see their Daddy for Christmas. They live too far away to visit very often and gas is so expensive. They drive to a gas station in the morning to use the restroom before going back to the prison before their two hour visit begins.	Amy and the kids arrive at our Hospitality House and are greeted by our Hospitality Director, Jennifer, who has made our guest feel welcome for almost 20 years. Mom makes supper before tucking the kids into bed for the night. She is thankful for a safe and dignified place for her and her children to stay. They wake up and have a warm breakfast. The kids are so excited to be able to see Daddy for Christmas. Amy has HOPE!
Tyler, a 9 year old boy, is sitting on the couch eating a cheese sandwich. It is 9 o'clock at night and Mom is working her third job trying to make enough money to pay the rent. Dad is in prison again. Tyler watches a family on TV having a nice meal and talking about their fun day. He's MAD! Why can't I have a family like that? Why does Dad always get into trouble? I guess I will probably end up in prison too...so what's the use?	Tyler joins our Children's Connection therapy group. He meets with kids his own age that also have a loved one that is in jail or prison. He learns how to express his anger and finds that it is much easier to make friends when he isn't mad all of the time. He learns that he can communicate with his Dad and share how he feels. He got a tied fleece blanket and a board game to celebrate Christmas too! Tyler has HOPE!
Patty is 44 years old and just got out of jail for the third time. She got addicted to pain killers after having back surgery and then went to street drugs. She wasn't showing up for work and lost her job, so she started stealing because of her addiction. Her family and friends had given up on her. She's trying to fall asleep at the homeless shelter and wonders what happened to her life.	Patty moves into Hope House and for the first time in 7 years is celebrating sobriety. She is enrolled in Drug Court, has a great job and is learning how to live clean and sober. She has joined a bible study and has been very proud to be able to host a meeting at "her" house. Our Hope House ladies are able to encourage and support each other in their struggles and celebrate their successes. Patty has HOPE!

This holiday season, we are asking you to be part of this hope by helping to light up our corner of Minnesota Avenue to signify HOPE for families that must be apart! We will light a luminaria for every \$100 in gifts. Every gift matters!

**Thank you for helping those that so many choose to forget!**

Family Connection 303 N Minnesota Ave Sioux Falls, SD 57104  
605-357-0777 [www.sdfamilyconnection.org](http://www.sdfamilyconnection.org)



November 27, 2019

Kevin Schneider  
 Good News Church  
 1800 S Valley View Rd  
 Sioux Falls, SD 57106-0521



Dear Kevin,

As eleven-year-old Kate climbed in the Family Visitation Center van for her weekly visit, she exclaimed, *"Oh good! We're going home!"* When the driver reminded her, they were going to the Family Visitation Center, Kate replied, *"No. We're going home. We learned in school that home is where your family is together; and the Family Visitation Center is where my family is together. So, we're going home!"*

You provide that **home** for Kate and more than 250 children like her each month with your financial investment in the Family Visitation Center. Since 2000, more than 4800 children have benefited from having a safe **home** where they can create positive memories with parent(s) – and the need continues to grow.

Consequently, the Family Visitation Center struggles financially to keep up with community needs. The gap between fees collected and actual expenses is \$50 per hour. Every \$100 donation to the Family Visitation Center provides two hours **"home"** for children who, otherwise, are at risk of going weeks without contact with their family. Will you include the Family Visitation Center children on your holiday gift list? Thank you!

Blessed to be serving with you,

Luke Comeau  
 Executive Director

Carol Woltjer  
 Director of Development

## Thanking Mother Earth for Food

Catherine never imagined she would have to make the hard choice between buying food or paying bills. But when she stopped working, money worries became a way of life.

She says, *“I never thought that I was going to experience this. I always worked all my life, and after I retired it’s been really difficult for me. I’m 72 years old and living on Social Security — no other income or benefits. Every day, I wake up and try to figure out how I’m going to make it through the day.”*

The extra help is especially needed since Catherine’s daughter and grandson are currently living with her, stretching her meager food budget even further.

*“I’ve been coming to Feeding South Dakota a few years, and this has been my lifesaver. I look forward to coming here because I know I’m going to get something good and nutritious, like fresh vegetables and fruits. There are many people out there that don’t have food. I’m so appreciative that this is available for all of us.”*

**“I never thought that I was going to experience this. I wake up and try to figure out how I’m going to make it through the day.”**

Catherine doesn’t know what she would do if it weren’t for the support of the food bank each month. But she recognizes that though things are tough, she is still more fortunate than many other people in the community.

*“I know it’s worse for a lot of others, and I’m really grateful that I can come here. I say my prayers every day and thank Mother Earth for all the wonderful food she provides for us. All the beauty and everything comes from her, so I thank her. And I pray for all those other people that don’t have anything to eat, especially little children. My heart goes out to them.”*

Her hope is that people will continue to support Feeding South Dakota so that help can reach everyone that needs



**Catherine is grateful for friends like you who keep her and her family from going hungry.**

it. She says, *“I appreciate all the people that donate food and money. The Food Bank is very important because there are many, many families out there — especially among the Native American people — that can benefit from this.”*

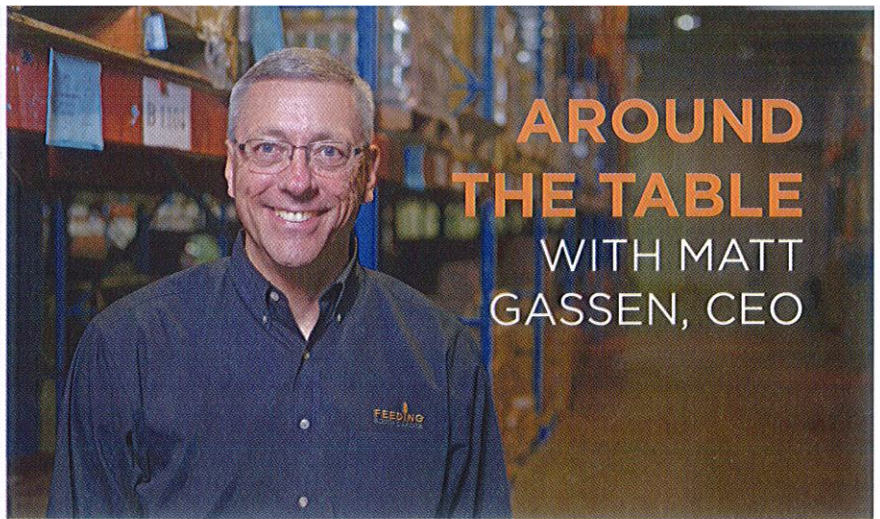
**Catherine is just one of the growing number of seniors who are struggling to keep food on the table. As our population continues to age, it’s more important than ever to ensure that these vulnerable men and women are not overlooked. Thank you for caring about our neighbors in need, and giving generously to ensure no one in South Dakota goes hungry!**

## Have You Thought About Your Legacy?

There's a simple way you can leave a lasting impact in the fight against hunger. Through planned giving, you can make a legacy gift that will live on and continue to support the life-changing work of Feeding South Dakota.

Through a planned gift — whether large or small — you can provide for loved ones and friends, as well as the charities you support. With several options to choose from, you can make a gift of assets such as retirement accounts, securities/stocks, real estate and more. This can be accomplished with the assistance of your professional advisors such as your attorney, accountant or financial planner.

**If you would like more information about which planned giving options could be right for you, please contact us at 605-335-0364 or [info@feedingsouthdakota.org](mailto:info@feedingsouthdakota.org). Thank you for caring about your hungry neighbors, and doing something to help them both now and for years to come.**



## So Many Reasons to be Grateful

Fall is the busiest time of year at Feeding South Dakota, as we shift into the holiday season.

Many local families are already struggling to make ends meet, then the holidays strain budgets that are already stretched way too thin. Another challenge is the extreme cold, as the cost of utilities continue to go up and people worry about how to keep their families safe and warm.

So to help kick off the holiday season, we held our turkey giveaways on November 23rd. **We distributed a turkey and all the fixings to nearly 2,100 families — helping more people than ever before!** Partly because there was a greater need, but we also had a great response from our communities and supporters like you who helped out.

Much of this work is only possible thanks to volunteers like Spider Lady (back page). **Volunteers are the silent heroes in all that we do.**

The 40,000+ hours of donated time each and every year enables us to accomplish so much to serve our hungry neighbors. Without them, we would be a shell of the organization we are today. If you're interested in volunteering, I hope you'll reach out to us!

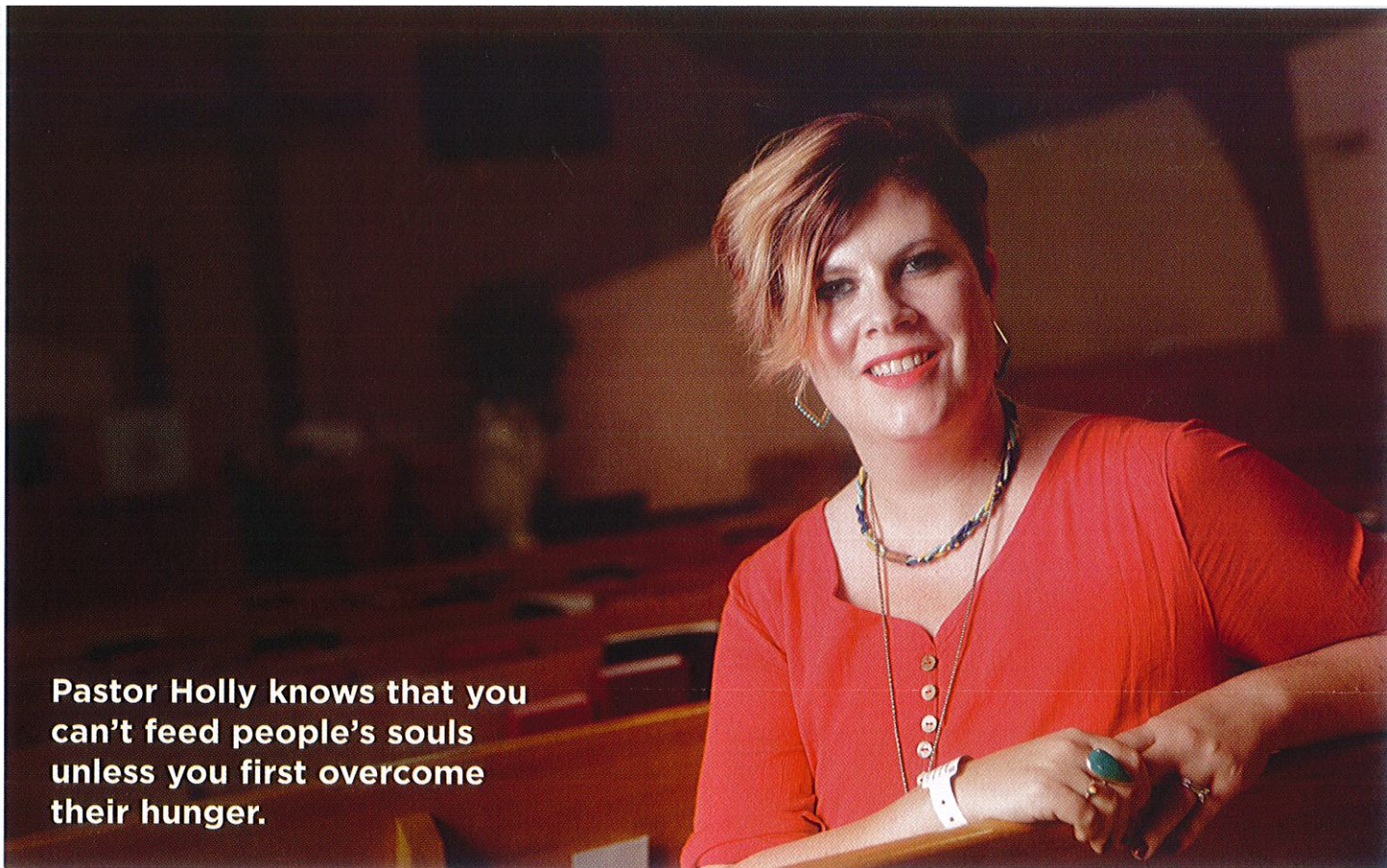
As we celebrate Thanksgiving, I want to thank everyone who supports us through their gifts of time and treasure. Without your kindness, we would not be able to provide food to individuals and families in need.

Feeding South Dakota belongs to the people in this state. Friends like *you* who invest in *your* organization to care for those who struggle in your own communities and neighborhoods. **Thank you for trusting us to be good stewards of those dollars to help fight hunger, and for giving people a reason to be grateful this Thanksgiving.**

Matt Gassen

**“Without your kindness, we would not be able to provide food to individuals and families in need.”**





**Pastor Holly knows that you can't feed people's souls unless you first overcome their hunger.**

## Shining a Light in the Darkness

The work of Feeding South Dakota wouldn't be possible without the support of friends like you and our agency partners who work the frontlines. One of our local partners in Rapid City is Holly Sortland, the pastor at Open Heart United Methodist Church.

**“As a pastor, I try to feed people's souls. But people's souls can't be fed if they're hungry.”**

*schools, meaning that at least forty percent of those kids are at or below the poverty line.”*

Holly and her church do more than just hand out food, they practice what she calls radical hospitality. *“The congregation will come in and cook, and we serve a meal here. We have activities for children. We also have a free clothing store, so they can shop while they're waiting.”*

In addition to helping people who live nearby, part of the church's mission is to reach our homeless neighbors. She

Recognizing the need in their neighborhood, Holly's church started a monthly food pantry and meal. She says, *“We're located within a one-mile radius of three Title I*

*says, “We serve a meal at the Cornerstone Mission once a month, and we always receive our food from Feeding South Dakota. That's been another great partnership.”*

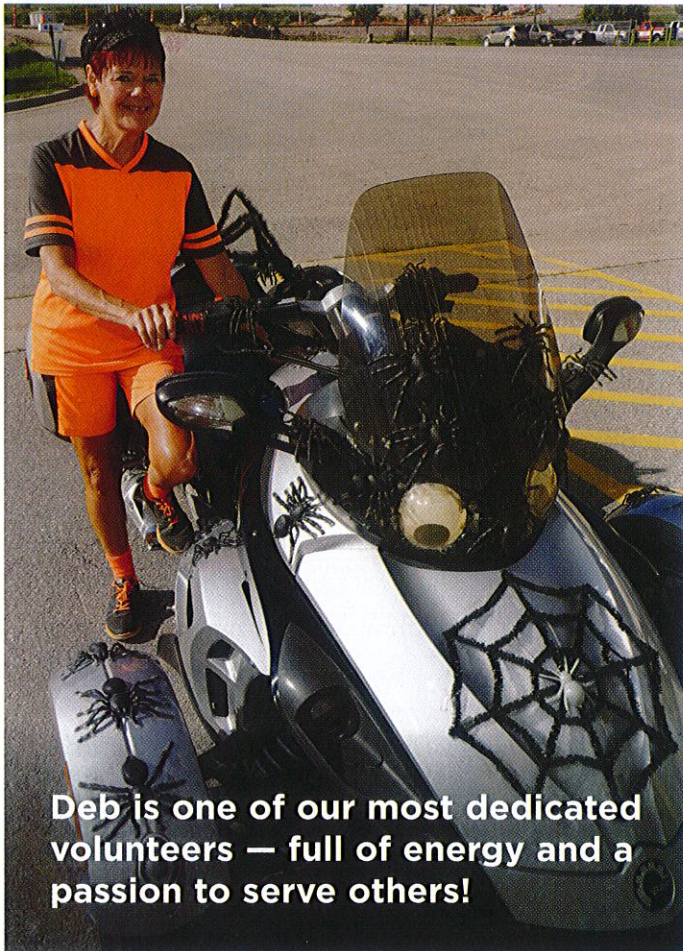
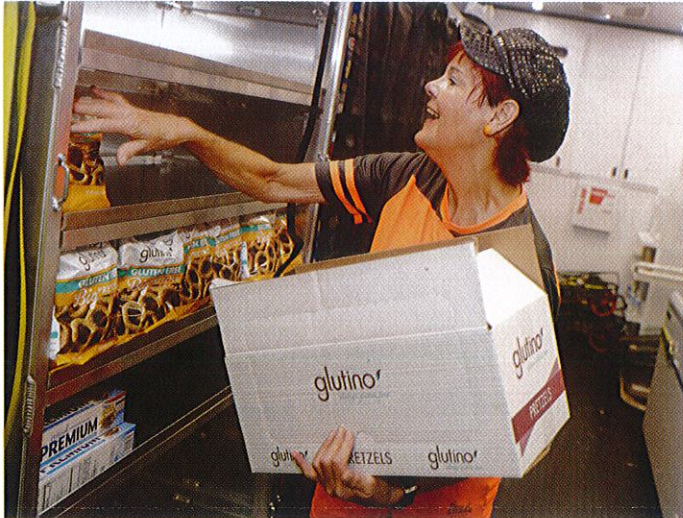
One of the biggest challenges she sees is people who are too embarrassed to seek assistance. *“There's no shame in asking for help or showing vulnerability. Anybody can be just one event — one accident — away from poverty. Any of us might need help one day.”* That's why Holly encourages her congregation and community to give generously in the fight against hunger.

*“As a pastor, I try to feed people's souls. But people's souls can't be fed if they're hungry. Food is one of our most basic needs. If you want to reduce poverty, start at ground zero — making sure people are fed. I encourage people who give to attend a feeding event, so they can see people's eyes light up once they get that food.”*

**Your selfless generosity is the reason Holly and our other 275 agency partners can get food into the hands of those who need it most. Thank you for your kindness and compassion to help our hungry neighbors.**



# The Incredible Spider Lady



Deb is one of our most dedicated volunteers — full of energy and a passion to serve others!

Have you met Deb, aka the Spider Lady? Simply stop by a mobile pantry in Rapid City, and you're sure to see her smiling face. Deb earned her nickname from her Can-Am Spider she rides around town, which she covered with fake spiders. The only thing greater than her enthusiasm is her energy!

After retiring from the Air Force after 20 years, Deb first helped at one of our local food pantries. Before long, she became our go-to volunteer — doing everything from filling backpacks for kids to handing out food at mobile pantry events.

*She says, "Before volunteering, I didn't realize there was this much need in South Dakota. This is the best nonpaying job I've had because of the handshakes and hugs ... people get so elated over just a can of soup. Everyone that comes through becomes extended family to me."*

One of Deb's biggest passions is encouraging others to volunteer with her. *"I'm always telling people, just take an hour out of your day and come help. Physically see what's going on — what your dollars are doing — and look at the people you fed today."*

Eager to get back to her work at the food bank, Spider Lady shares one last thought before bouncing back into action. *"I'm passionate about volunteering. They rely on me, and I won't let them down."*

## VOLUNTEER

If you are interested in joining with Deb and our other dedicated volunteers, please visit [feedingsouthdakota.org/volunteer](http://feedingsouthdakota.org/volunteer). Thank you!

## CONTACT US

To protect the identity of those that Feeding South Dakota serves, some photos in this newsletter are for representation only.

Feeding South Dakota  
4701 N Westport Ave  
Sioux Falls, SD 57107-0123  
605.335.0364  
[FeedingSouthDakota.org](http://FeedingSouthDakota.org)



## A Note from the Director...

Hello Furniture Mission Friends and Family!

The holidays are some of the best times to make memories and enjoy the little moments with our families and friends. However, for others, it can be a quick and cold walk down memory lane of heartache and yearning for loved ones lost. It had me thinking: what is in a memory?

Is it a smell, a glimpse or a flash back of the moment, or a specific place that brings you back to better days? So many of my memories are triggered by all three of these things. At the Furniture Mission I have found that we are the collectors of memories. Except as the memories or donations are captured, we hold them tightly for only a moment until they are on to their next adventure.

I recently helped a furniture donor who had to part with a living room chair, but this was not just your typical chair. She had recently lost her father, and this was his "spot". We all have those, right? That place in our home that we claim, and it's an unspoken rule that no one else will sit there because it belongs to you. Well, this encounter gave me this incredible vision of who this man was, and the thought of his routine as a father, grandfather and friend. It was a vivid image of morning coffee and the newspaper, afternoon naps, and an evening of news shows and peanuts. What I was really envisioning was his legacy and the reality of how grateful I was to be a part of it.

You see, as you walk through the Furniture Mission, a chair is no longer a chair. It had a life before it came to us, and we are honored to give it new life when it leaves. A few days later I watched that chair make its exit with its new family. I felt the donor's hug and was overcome with joy to see that it was going to a mother with young children. I stood watching her showing patience with each of her children, and I thought about the bedtime stories that were going to be read in that chair, the tears that would be rocked away, and all the little moments that were gifted from one man's legacy.

When I became a part of the Furniture Mission family, I didn't see it the way that I see it now, and it's important for me to share this with all of you. The definition of a legacy is to be remembered for what YOU want to be remembered for. Whether you do that with the donation of your household furniture or financially, we are truly grateful.

*"And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward." Matthew 10:42*

Happy Holidays & Many Blessings,

Janean Michalov

Executive Director

You can reach us at 977.6800 or visit our website at [www.furnituremission.org](http://www.furnituremission.org)



## WITH THE HOLIDAYS AROUND THE CORNER,

We wanted to take a moment and say THANK YOU to all who have supported the Furniture Mission this year. Whether you contributed by volunteering your time, donating generous gifts or by spreading the word, we want to let you know that you are making a difference. THANK YOU for helping put toddlers in beds, making the elderly more comfortable at home and helping families eat meals together at a dinner table. From all of us at the Furniture Mission, and those that you have helped us serve,  
THANK YOU.

"WHOEVER IS GENEROUS TO THE POOR LENDS TO THE LORD, AND HE WILL REPAY HIM FOR HIS DEED." PROVERBS 19:17



209 N. Nesmith, Sioux Falls, SD 57103 // (605) 977-6800 // [furnituremission.org](http://furnituremission.org)



Fall 2019

## Building Hope with Hammers and Nails



**In this Issue**  
**BUILDING HOPE WITH**  
**HAMMERS AND NAILS**

**A NOTE FROM**  
**OUR CAMPAIGN**  
**COORDINATOR**

**'TIS THE SEASON**  
**YOU ARE NEVER**  
**ALONE WHEN YOU'RE**  
**HALF WAY HOME**

**ADDICTION TAKES A**  
**TOLL**

**100+ MEN WHO CARE**

**RACING FOR**  
**GLORY HOUSE**

**GLORY HOUSE**  
**NEEDS LIST**

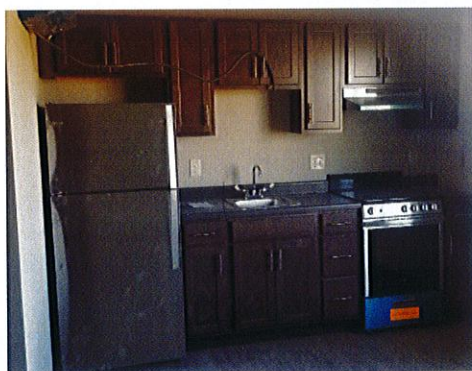
**GRANT AWARD**

## Ribbon-Cutting and Open House

**Glory House Apartments—Phase I**  
**1654 W. 51st Street**

**Wednesday, December 11th at 11:30 am**  
**The Public is Invited!**

*These 25 clean, safe efficiency apartments will keep 25 tenants who are working to maintain sobriety warm for the winter while living within walking distance of the services they need.*



**Check us out on Facebook to**  
**read reviews just like these!**

**Danielle D. recommends Glory**  
**House: I am so thankful for the Glory**  
**House staff! My brother has changed**  
**his entire life around! I thank GOD for**  
**you guys!!!**

**Frank H. gave Glory House a 4 star**  
**recommendation: It helped me out a**  
**lot. They taught me so much. Thank**  
**you to all the staff people for all your**  
**help.**

 [facebook.com/gloryhouse](https://www.facebook.com/gloryhouse)

### A NOTE FROM CHUCK HIATT, CAMPAIGN COORDINATOR

“Gifts to Phase II of Glory House Apartments make a powerful impact on the lives of clients who need an opportunity to re-establish themselves as an active and vital part of the Sioux Falls area workforce. The task of securing clean, safe and sober housing makes a significant difference in the families that are starting to win a victory over the consequences of previous addiction. For over 51 years, Glory House has been about offering a second chance those who need it. We ask you to make the greatest donation possible to impact our community. In addition to monetary donations we would appreciate a gift of your time. To volunteer, please contact Ryan Kolbeck, President of the Board of Directors, [ryan@kolbecklaw.com](mailto:ryan@kolbecklaw.com) or Chuck Hiatt, [jchiatt2@sio.midco.net](mailto:jchiatt2@sio.midco.net).”

*Helping people claim their lives with Christian compassion, resources, and support.*

**The Glory House**  
4000 S. West Ave.  
Sioux Falls, SD 57105  
(605) 332-3273  
[www.glory-house.org](http://www.glory-house.org)

**Board of Directors**

Ryan Kolbeck, President  
 Jim Schmidt, Past President  
 Cynthia Howard, Secretary  
 Dave Johnson, Glory House  
 President  
 Nicole Dvorak, Compliance &  
 Human Resource Director

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 Kent Albert  
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**Advisory Committee:**

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 Deb Voigt  
 Glenn Stanley  
 Greg Sands

**“Tis the Season....”**

We all know this song. Most of us hum it in our heads this time of year as we go along our day. For me, it helps set the mood for both Thanksgiving and Christmas. It reminds me that this is the time of year that we might want to reflect, rejuvenate, and give thanks for the many blessings that God has bestowed on us. Here at Glory House, we give thanks for YOU.

This year, it has particular meaning. As the 2019 year comes to a close, many opportunities for our clients, and others, unfold. Our Sioux Falls Chamber of Commerce Community Appeals Capital Campaign officially kicked off on November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019. This campaign, approved for \$1.35 million of the needed \$7.5 million, will eventually provide up to 72 individuals the opportunity to live in clean, sober, and affordable housing. Built on the site of the former City Ice Skating Rink, it is in an ideal location. Being next door to the Glory House, an accredited substance abuse treatment facility, tenants will have easy access to substance abuse and mental health counseling, case management and employment assistance. It is housing, but it is MUCH more than that. It is expanding the continuum of care to permanent housing coupled with support services.

The first 25 efficiency apartments, Phase One, are now complete. Already we are working to qualify potential tenants. With rents being less than \$600/month, (utilities included!) it offers an affordable safe space for those who need and want it. But the ripple effect goes far beyond the individual tenant. A stable person provides healthier family support. Employers have an employee who comes to work. Our courts and jails see fewer individuals return over and over. The community gains a citizen that wants an opportunity to succeed.

It certainly “tis the season...” I know that our mission, “Helping people claim their lives with Christian compassion, resources and support” comes to life in each of us that work here on a daily basis. This season, we all have the opportunity to expand our mission to those that need permanent housing and support services. Together, staff, clients and community, we can make a difference. It is our time.

Please consider Glory House for a gift, using the enclosed envelope as we move into our Capital Campaign. A “hand up” goes a long ways to positively change both individuals and community. We can all be part of this miracle. After all “tis the season....”!

*Encouragement from longtime counselor TR Maves*

**YOU ARE NEVER ALONE WHEN YOU’RE HALF WAY HOME**

Clients are never alone when they are half-way home at the Glory House  
 Of course, of course if you can make it here  
 Glory House, Glory House you can make it anywhere  
 Because the staff encourages with Christian principles

So start spreading the news that you can make a brand new start  
 Because we care from the heart as we fill your cart  
 With jobs, clothes, and shoes but you have to do your part  
 Clients are never alone when they are half-way home

**ADDICTION TAKES A TOLL  
 ON BOTH MIND AND BODY**



**TREATMENT  
 HEALS BOTH**

## RACING FOR GLORY HOUSE

Angela Mattson is in her 20<sup>th</sup> year of employment at Glory House. She wanted to celebrate this milestone in big way, and she did.

On September 7, Angela ran and completed the Sioux Falls Marathon. Some of her current and former co-workers met her at the 20-mile mark to



celebrate 20 years and 20 miles, and cheer her on to the finish line. (Did these co-workers also join her for the last six miles?)

Angela's secondary goal was to finish the race in less than 5 hours. As you can see, she successfully met that goal too!

*CONGRATULATIONS, ANGELA, and thank you for 20 years of hard work helping our clients succeed.*



## 100+ MEN WHO CARE IN SIOUX FALLS

100+ Men Who Care is a national organization whose purpose is to support local communities by supporting local non-profit organizations. With the help of Glory House Board Member, Mike Johnson, Glory House was one of three groups chosen to present their case for funding to the quarterly meeting of the Sioux Empire chapter of Men Who Care. Former clients Dante Gaskin and Sophie Griffith joined Board Members Terryl Cadwell, Ryan Kolbeck and staff member Nicki Dvorak to give a five minute sales pitch for Glory House. They chose to model their presentation on the television show "The Shark Tank". The members of 100+ Men Who Care each came to the meeting with a check for \$100.00.

At the end of the presentations, the Men Who Care members deliberated in order to choose which two groups would receive 10% each of the donations and which group would take home 80%.



Besides Glory House, the contenders were Teach for America, and a halfway house for juvenile offenders. Glory House was one of the 10% recipients and received a check for \$1045.20.

Glory House will use this money to develop a mentoring program to assist 12 new Glory House residents who need help transitioning from prison to a less restrictive environment.

The money will be used to train mentors, purchase restaurant gift cards to reward participants, provide lunch to coaches at their meetings, and for emergency expenses. Coaches and mentors will be paired based on similar backgrounds and life experiences. This mentoring will provide one more avenue for support, advice, and pro-social contact to help our clients in succeed in society.

## Here is a list of items that Glory House needs...

- Cans of soda for client Christmas Party on Dec. 12
- Christmas gifts (new) for children
- Christmas gifts (new) for clients
- Bicycles and bike locks
- Gloves/hats
- Work boots & Steel-toed boots
- 2020 Calendar Planners
- Bus passes
- Postage stamps

- AA/NA books
  - Winter coats
  - Carpentry Tools
  - Underwear
  - Socks
  - Art Supplies
- For the rewards closet...**
- Candy
  - Notebooks

- Towels
- Home essentials
- Movie tickets
- Plastic hangers
- Stationery
- Hygiene products (Men's & Women's)
- Shampoo & body wash
- \$5 Gift cards
- \$10 Gift cards

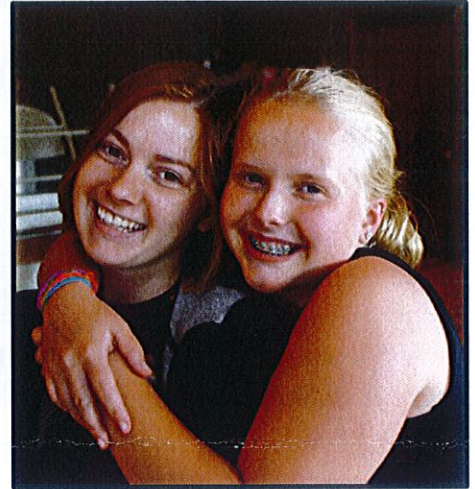


# Inspiration Hills

Camp and  
Retreat Center

Dear Partners in Ministry,

November is a wonderful time to pause and give thanks to God for all His blessings. The staff and board of Inspiration Hills are thankful for YOU! Your partnership has helped to share the love of Jesus with many individuals. We are thankful for the opportunity to have hosted 34 summer camp groups and over 310 retreats and family gatherings. We are also thankful for our summer staff team and the influence they had on the 1,169 summer campers. A number of them made a commitment to Jesus while at camp. **Your gifts and prayers make a difference!**



**One of the campers wrote:**

*I was challenged to share the love and light of Jesus to those that I meet. I really felt God's presence while attending this camp. The counselors we had shared with us about their faith walks, and it was neat to hear how God has worked and is working in their lives.*

**One of the single moms wrote:**

*I attended the Single Mom's Retreat for the first time this year. I cannot thank you enough for the wonderful, inspiring weekend. All of the love, prayers and pampering and pouring into us was the most special gift. You all are truly the hands and feet of Jesus.*



**Your partnership in ministry is critical!** Your financial support helps to keep our registration fees down so that more children are able to attend camp and more guests are able to attend retreats. In 2019 we need to raise approximately \$200,000 above the camp registration fees. Included in that amount is the assistance we offer to the families of the 53 children who attended our Journey Camp. Quite honestly, we could not do the ministry we are doing without you!

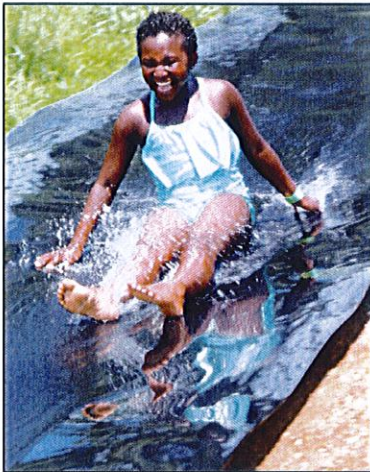
God continues to expand the ministry of Inspiration Hills. As we reach out to more people our financial needs grow, and the past couple of years have been financially challenging. During this Thanksgiving season, we are asking for your support so that we can cover our yearly expenses. If you are able to send an additional gift or increase your gift from last year, that would be a tremendous help. **Any gift you send will make a significant difference.**

Thank you for prayerfully considering this request,



Dave Heilman  
Advancement Director

**P.S. Please send a generous gift for the Annual Fund. People need a quality Christian camp and retreat experience where they "...come to know and grow in Christ and be challenged for life in God's kingdom."**



2020 Summer Camp Theme: ABIDE

*Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. John 15:4pP*

### UPCOMING EVENTS!

December 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> – Celebrate Christmas Fundraiser

**Order your favorite goodies from our Camp Kitchen!**

January 12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> – Pastor & Spouse Retreat

January 31<sup>st</sup>-February 2<sup>nd</sup> – Single Mom's Retreat

February 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> – 4th-6th Grade Winter Retreat

February 20<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> – Wild at Heart Men's Retreat

February 25<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Education Event

March 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> – Art of Marriage Retreat



# New Roots Review

November 2019 Edition

"Pastor, tell her Truth!" by Fred Wilgenburg



**NEW ROOTS  
MINISTRY**

As the chaplain at Smithfield Foods in Sioux Falls, I was recently in "5th floor, pork cut" (*There are eight floors in this particular section of the massive, 100+ year old packing plant.*), talking to a young woman who is originally of Nepal. I asked her about her nursing classes, which she takes during her off-hours. As we chatted, there came another woman, a Christian originally from Ethiopia. She pointed at the other woman, as she spoke above the production noise, "Pastor, she doesn't think Heaven is real, and she doesn't believe in God!



Tell her truth!" I encouraged her to go back to her neighboring station, as I would soon visit with her. Naturally, the first woman, a Hindu, was annoyed by the other, so I apologized on behalf of my fellow Christian and we continued our brief chat.

I actually applaud the Christian woman for her fervor in wanting her co-worker to know Truth, though more sensitivity would be helpful. Eventually, I circled around and we talked. I told her that the non-Christian woman has Christian Nepali friends, including her best friend who also works at the plant, and that nearly all of the 500+ Christian Nepali people in Sioux Falls were Hindu or Buddhist in the past. They came to know Jesus through the warm interactions, prayers and kindness of Christians. A week later, we met during a break so I could show her what I learned at a recent Gospel Conversation training event. As I'm working on it, so I hope she also is prepared to share effectively at the right moments, and by the Holy Spirit's lead.

*(If you are interested in learning about the 15-second testimony or the 3-minute presentation of the Gospel taught at the event mentioned above, and having easy, natural conversations which may lead to those opportunities, please let me know and I'll send you some links and other information.)*

Many people who are originally of other countries are accustomed to spiritual dialogue. My friends Maru, Abidela, and Mohammad "Natnael", all originally of Ethiopia, and all who were former Muslims, each came to receive Jesus as their Savior while in Africa as kind Christian neighbors or friends patiently discussed the Gospel with them over tea. That motivated them to do the same, which is quite obvious if you interact with them; they are open about their faith, and they will want to know where you stand. In fact, though they appreciate much about the U.S., they miss the aspect of Africa where people had more time for good, deep dialogue, and where there was more interest in becoming well-acquainted with others.

An observation I have made, of myself as a city outreach pastor, and of churches, is that we sometimes overly-calculate and -consider when it comes to sharing the Gospel. For example, in Gospel outreach ministry, we often first seek to meet felt-needs, and then hopefully, as a relationship might develop or respect is earned, we might get to pray for the other person, and then, if the opportune time arrives, we might talk clearly about the Gospel. In church, many resources are contributed to developing programs—>



Donations are always appreciated! Gifts can be given through our website—  
[www.sfnewroots.com/donate/](http://www.sfnewroots.com/donate/)

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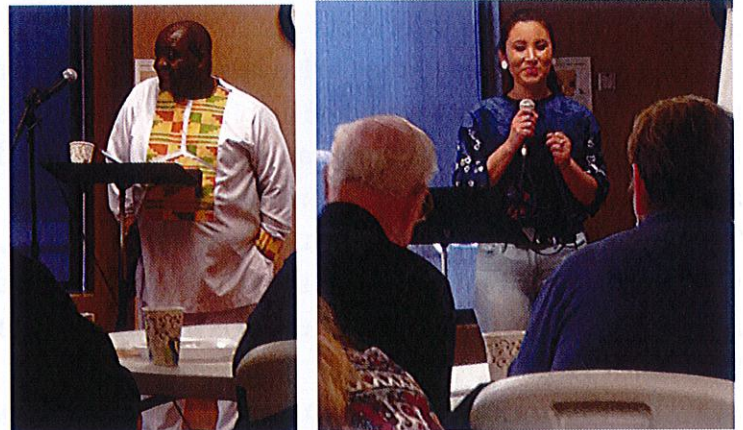
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that teach about the Gospel, or to form committees to do evangelism. But sometimes, though well-intended, the main thing that a person needs—an organic, personal explanation at the right moment that God profoundly cares about and loves them—goes unmet as it is lost in the shuffle of programming. Rather, why don't we consider starting with helping a person meet their deepest need—a personal relationship with God, and then perhaps also help them with other, felt-needs? Is that more direct approach avoided because the conversation may seem weird, unnatural, or disrespectful?

**What is New Roots Ministry?**  
It's "a springboard for immigrants & their churches." This is done through workplace chaplaincy (both as Fred is chaplain for 17 hours/week at Smithfield Foods & as we train & place bi-lingual chaplains on commercial farms), through Timothy Leadership Training, through hosting special educational events, through empowering refugee/immigrant pastors, leaders, and their churches, through offering unique Service Opportunities—serve in, or visit, stores owned by refugees or immigrants, then hear their stories, and through helping people navigate the American system and strategically achieve their goals, like education.

As the Gospel Conversation training event taught me, and which many of my friends originally of other countries know, people first and foremost need Jesus. As well, as people are all made in God's image, they are spiritual and therefore naturally inclined to think about spiritual things. Even if they do not seem interested even in sharing a prayer need, or to answer a follow-up question like, "Well, let me ask you another way, if God could do a miracle for you, what would you want Him to do," they usually won't be offended by your kind approach and respectful presence. I'm learning this by experience as one of the event's teachers reminded us that, like training for an athletic event, it is important to do "reps"—repetition. And, people might not show it in the moment, but receiving Christian kindness and interest will likely be unique-enough from the daily grind that your interaction will be warmly thought-provoking.

*(If you are interested in hanging out, either to observe, join in, or learn about Gospel conversations with others, please let me know. OR, if you are interested in hanging out and meeting people who were refugees, please let me know.)*



Our November 2 event, "Looking Back, Yet Looking Forward: Immigrant Stories," was our best yet! Good attendance was complemented by a variety of ethnic food & beverages, and learning from 6 speakers about migration from their home countries and how we Americans can better receive newcomers.

We appreciate your interest, and we love sending this newsletter to you. However, if you no longer want to receive the newsletter, just let us know ([sfnewroots@gmail.com](mailto:sfnewroots@gmail.com); 605-376-6330) and we will stop sending it to you.

If you want to continue receiving it, but you have a new address, please update us with your new address.

December 3, 2019



SOUTH DAKOTA  
Parent Connection

Resources for families of children with disabilities.

Dear Tammy,

"Through the blur, I wondered if I was alone or if other parents felt the same way I did . . ." Debra Ginsberg

South Dakota Parent Connection (SDPC) works with many parents of children with disabilities and health care challenges who have felt this way on more than one occasion. We are unique in our work with families in that the majority of staff at SD Parent Connection are parents of a child with a disability, have a disability themselves, or care for an individual with a disability. So, when parents call, they not only receive timely, helpful information, but know they are talking to someone who has been there and understands.



Recently a mom of a 6-year-old called. Her child has a complex seizure disorder, uses a feeding tube for nutrition, and language and cognitive delays. SD Parent Connection was able to guide her in working with their school team on a care plan to address the child's health concerns, as well as an Individual Education Plan to address learning challenges. The broad expertise found at SD Parent Connection helped this mom address the multiple complex needs for her child.

In the past year, SD Parent Connection has . . .

- served 3,498 families and professionals via individual assistance or training opportunities. This is an increase of 730 from the previous year.
- provided outreach to 142 (46%) South Dakota communities
- provided 7,354 printed resources on a wide range of topics related to disabilities and special health-care needs
- had 8,817 individuals access information from our website for 36,917 page views
- our Facebook information reached 380,917 users!



Because of donors like you, South Dakota Parent Connection continues to provide vital, individual, and timely support to each parent and professional who calls looking for support with the day to day challenges of raising a child with a disability or special health need.

You can support us in a couple of ways. You can send us a donation in the enclosed special envelope or, give a one time or recurring gift using our secure Donate button at [www.sdparent.org](http://www.sdparent.org).

On behalf of the parents and children we serve, THANK YOU very much for your support!

Sincerely,

Carla Miller  
Executive Director  
SD Parent Connection

