THE HEARTBEAT

NEWSLETTER OF LIFE SAVER MINISTRIES/ SUMMER 2024

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CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

REACHING THE NEXT GENERATION...FOR LIFE

Please pray for these campers as they are anticipated to be attending Christian Summer camps through Life Saver Ministries and thanks to the generosity of many including our friends at Sacandaga Bible Conference!

Susannah Julian Abby Avalon Savannah Avery James Kylee Laken Bjorn Soiriyah Tressa Jamar Leah Stormie Bella Remington Maeja David Lucus Sky Veronica Hunter Corey Hayden Alannah Olivia Brooke Sophia Lawrence

Pray that these precious young people-and others- will make it to camp and have an amazing experience that brings them closer to an abiding faith.



ABBEY BALLARD, MINISTRY DIRECTOR

There have been moments here at the ministry over the past months that have caused me to pause and wish longingly that I could freeze the moments and share it with each of you in just the same perspective I am seeing it from. There have been moments so powerful that I have found myself fighting back tears...sometimes from sadness, sometimes from joy, sometimes from frustration. Sometimes that veil between life and death shows itself as being as thin as it truly is, that barrier between this life and eternity, all just a whisper apart. Chronologically, earlier this year there was the heartbreaking death of a boy who attended our program with his mom from the time he was still being toted in a carseat, around 6 months old, and on through his childhood until the family moved a significant distance away. We kept in touch but the week to week opportunities to see him and his mom and check in to see how they were diminished. We were heartbroken to learn that he was found dead in his bed one morning and even plunged to even deeper depths of heartbreak to know that the time leading up to his passing was supposedly filled with a great deal of purported abuse and neglect. Attending this precious boy's wake and seeing his lifeless body was something I selfishly wish I could erase from memory and yet I know it has it's place at the forefront of my memory bank because this is the life and death nature of this work. Could something have been done to change this outcome? To change the alleged circumstances that led to his demise? I believe so and yet God in His providence holds this precious boy close and I trust he is truly in the best place possible where we will see him again. That moment etched in my mind has to serve it's purpose in my life personally as well as in my role here at the ministry because (*Continued)...

Baby Love



Please pray for a little one added to our ministry family by way of foster care; his journey has not been an easy one as he was placed in care at five weeks due to significant malnourishment but he continues to grow and thrive thanks to the love and care he is receiving from his amazing foster mom and family. Please pray that the concerns surrounding the long term plan for this precious little one will be directed by God.

Continued To allow myself the shallow comfort of forgetting or ignoring this harsh reality would be, in my opinion, an ultimate betrayal of who I, of who we, as the redeemed are called to be, of Who Christ, the Resurrected King is and Who the Holy Spirit empowers us to be. We are called to live somewhere between life and death, dying to ourselves daily so that the pursuits of our hearts can be those things that have eternal value. Life from death is what God always brings and these alternate realities are what we are called to live in through Christ and this work keeps us in that space between the two on the daily. I couldn't bring myself to touch the hand of that precious boy in that open casket as I knew the coldness would be another layer of memory and I would rather remember the warmth of holding him close on my lap to read him a book over the years, to pull him out of his walker and over to the story blanket as he was learning to sit up on his own. I wanted to remember his quick mischievous smile whenever I saw him instead of what I saw before me. I want to remember him alive because I truly believe he is more alive now than he ever was here and I want to believe that out of his untimely passing will be birthed something beautiful. I hope I always remember the great responsibility we have as believers to pour our lives into others and God has placed in an area with abundant opportunities to do so. May life come from the death and decay that surrounds us and may lives be both saved and changed as a result of this work. May God receive all honor and glory for every single life saved, redeemed, renewed and restored both now and forever.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF FRED MYERS 2011-2014

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19:14



Please know that we welcome giving toward our scholarship fund as it is truly changing lives; if you wish to give toward the cost of furthered education for Lilly (at right) or any future students, kindly earmark your gift accordingly and we will be certain these resources are put toward these life changing and eternity shaping pursuits.

A LIFE CHANGED.....A FUTURE BRIGHTENED

Eight years ago, a family close to the ministry welcomed two young girls into their home with the support and encouragement of the board of Life Saver Ministries. These girls had been sent to live with an aunt in Gloversville who attended our program and it was here that we learned of these girls troubling backstory and the need for permanent living arrangements after it was decided that the aunt could no longer care for them. The girls were given scholarships to attend Sacandaga Bible Conference, where they accepted Christ, as well as Word of Life and Camp Pattersonville and over the years-by God's grace- we can share that the older of the two, a now 18 year old young lady, graduates High School from Mekeel Christian Academy this week and is planning to attend Word of Life Bible Institute here in New York in the fall. We are so thankful for God's faithfulness in a challenging situation that has all the fingerprints of an almighty God and loving Heavenly Father whose heart is full of redemptive grace and the promise of turning ashes to beauty. Please join us in praying for this precious young lady, Lilly, as she embarks on the next chapter of God's story in her life. To all who have given over the years to help meet needs, we thank you as the power of one life is incalculable and we can't wait to see what God has in store for her future. Please pray for her heart and life to be protected by the Holy Spirit and for her life to be

used in powerful ways to reach souls for Christ, to Whom be the glory forever.



Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and keep oneself from being polluted by the world. James 1:27 (NIV)

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