

# The Heartbeat

Newsletter of Life Saver Ministries

SPRING/SUMMER 2025

UPHOLDING LIFE.



CHANGING LIVES.

I am often overwhelmed with gratitude in these seasons of new life here at the ministry as I am aware of how fortunate we are to be able to serve in an area of such great need and immense heartache. I am so grateful for those who God used in the most profound of ways to start this ministry, to support and sustain it and to propel it into the future as we embark on our 40<sup>th</sup> year. One of the people whose heart truly beat for the work of Life Savers is our beloved Beth Allen who served in many capacities within the ministry including as Director and whose life was changed in an immediate and sweeping way with a cancer diagnosis of Chordoma in 2013, a brain cancer that the medical community assured Beth would likely lead to her demise swiftly. But God.

I don't think I can fully appreciate the level of battle that was waged daily as Beth not only survived but thrived for 12 years after this "terminal" diagnosis. We watched her endure treatments that were nothing short of barbaric, headaches that I imagine were crushing, loss of physical capacities such as sight in one eye, speech impediments due to tongue palsy that would NOT keep her from speaking, and a litany of sufferings that she endured and used the weight of to sink deeper into the loving, eternal Hands of her Lord, Savior and King. When asked how she was, her response was consistently, "I'm covered in God's grace." She lived amazingly well even when faced with the shadow of death daily with reminders that impacted every part of her life. I am so thankful that Beth is safely home in Heaven and couldn't help but smile as I learned she passed into eternity from the comfort of her earthly home with her beloved husband and children at her side and singing over her. I will miss this woman who was so much to me in so many ways as our bond began when I was a child and continued to deepen as the seasons of life unfolded. I am eternally grateful for the countless opportunities to become better acquainted with Jesus through Beth's life- a life that was beautifully broken so it could be poured out over so many people, many of whom attended her memorial and represented only a fraction of those whom I know we will see in Heaven for that beautiful, eternal reunion. May we all embrace the faith, love and hope that Beth's life exemplified with the greatest of those traits truly being love. One of Beth's granddaughters who spoke at her memorial said that when you were with Beth, you truly felt like you were the most important person in the room, and that was so incredibly accurate. May we all plead with God to not stop working on us until we have that same effect on people, as that is a supernatural love that is truly sourced at the heart of our Creator and Abba Father. Beth was continually ministering to people whether while on her front porch sitting with her beloved husband Garth and being available to anyone and everyone who would stop by, or when she was out on a shopping trip asking people how she could pray for them, or remaining a present and active member of Perth Bible Church right up until a few days before her passing into eternity as she attended the women's conference where she met Sandi Patty and had opportunity to say some final well wishes to her church family as she knew her time until she went home to Heaven was quickening. Beth's life was truly a vessel for the love of Christ and it is impossible to walk through any part of our ministry building, to talk to people far and wide who know and love this ministry, to see the lives impacted by this work and not see God's love through Beth's life evident everywhere. May we all choose to devote our lives to the most eternal of pursuits, the pursuit of people and the pursuit of showering God's love on them so that the kind of impact that God made through the life of beloved Beth can be magnified to His glory through each and every one of us.

**ABBEY BALLARD, MINISTRY DIRECTOR**

You are welcome to view Beth Allen's memorial service online:

<https://perthbible.church/media/f5b3mz4/beth-allen-memorial-service>

Why should I feel discouraged?  
Why should the shadows come?  
Why should my heart be lonely  
And long for heav'n and home,  
When Jesus is my portion?  
My constant Friend is He:  
His eye is on the sparrow,  
And I know He watches me;  
His eye is on the sparrow,  
And I know He watches me.  
I sing because I'm happy—  
I sing because I'm free—  
For His eye is on the sparrow,  
And I know He watches me.  
"Let not your heart be troubled."  
His tender word I hear,  
And resting on His goodness,  
I lose my doubt and fear.  
Though by the path He leadeth,  
But one step I may see:  
His eye is on the sparrow,  
And I know He watches me;  
His eye is on the sparrow,  
And I know He watches me.  
I sing because I'm happy—  
I sing because I'm free—  
For His eye is on the sparrow,  
And I know He watches me.  
Whenever I am tempted,  
Whenever clouds arise,  
When songs give place to sighing,  
When hope within me dies,  
I draw the closer to Him;  
From care He sets me free:  
His eye is on the sparrow,  
And I know He watches me;  
His eye is on the sparrow,  
And I know He watches me.  
I sing because I'm happy—  
I sing because I'm free—  
For His eye is on the sparrow,  
And I know He watches me.

**His Eye is on the Sparrow**  
by Civilla D. Martin &  
Charles H. Gabriel  
This hymn brought great  
strength and comfort to  
Beth.



At right is a picture from Beth's memorial with quilts she made for loved ones in the background.



“On Easter Day the veil  
between time and eternity  
thins to gossamer.” –  
Douglas Horton



## Bringing Hope Into the Darkest of Places

“How can these beautiful beings be trapped in such a hellhole?”: that is the unedited narrative in my mind a couple of months ago when I first met this precious little family. She is a young mother of two—a three year old boy and a baby girl just over a week old who came into our lives looking for diapers and help with some basics as the boy’s father was incarcerated and the baby’s father had abandoned her a couple months before her due date for another woman. The road leading to this tragic life is paved with horrible decisions and even more horrible consequences begetting more despair but this mother remembered hearing of us and reached out for a quite literal life saver. It always starts the same with the physical needs of diapers, clothing, blankets for a little one and often goes into the deeper waters of need as time goes by. She was very receptive to our program and classes and seemed hungry for friendship and support. I picked her up at her apartment and upon bringing her home, climbed the winding stairs through a smog of stench and filth as apartments below her wreaked of animals, smoke, and outright despair. Reaching the top floor was no small feat with baby carrier, toddler, and bags in tow. This exhausted mama exhaled with relief as we made it and the door to her apartment opened. As we conversed in the days to come, it was evident that this mom really has no significant support system. Born into a broken relationship, raised by a mother with addiction issues that ravaged her, moved hundreds of miles to Gloversville as a teen to live with her biological dad only to leave his home far too young for far too wrong of reasons, this life of hers has not been one that would lead to life and beauty without significant interventions. I truly hope and pray that this is where we as God’s people become written into her eternal story and where the reality of God’s love becomes so evident and irresistible to her that anything short of unconditional love in the future will be loathsome because she will remember the destruction that such pursuits led to. In the weeks since our first meeting, we have been able to help this young woman with getting her apartment in better order, doing laundry that she would otherwise have no way of doing, bringing her to some special activities including ladies brunches, helping her apply for better housing and offering the hope and support that we all so desperately need when times get overwhelming. She continues to be involved in every class she possibly can be and is becoming more confident in her skills as a mother with every week that goes by. Please join us in praying for this precious young lady and her beautiful children that her life will become all God created it to be and may He receive all the honor and glory for every victory along the way. May we serve this precious little family well at every opportunity and may their future be infinitely bright with God’s love leading the way. May they grow to see the beauty of the life to come beyond the struggle and pain of this life so the hope and power of the Resurrection is something they lay hold of fully and may God receive all honor and glory for every victory along the way and every glimmer of light that pierces where darkness once was.

**Abbey Ballard, Ministry Director**



One of the many benefits of our programs here at the Solutions Center of Life Saver Ministries is the seasonal stores that we offer so that women who attend our classes can use the points they earn to obtain items for their household and families. Our recent Spring store was full of beautiful Easter items, cleaning supplies, clothing, furnishings and so much more thanks to your generosity. This is a wonderful way to empower the women we serve to be able to provide for their needs and take ownership of their lives by attending classes that provide them with the tools and insights to better their lives.



Because of your generosity, we are able to continue to meet needs for a growing client base of women and families who are struggling to obtain some of the most basic of necessities. These are some of the items that we need on an ongoing basis and would appreciate any assistance you can offer in providing these items so we can continue to meet needs in a timely manner.

- Diapers in larger sizes 5-7
- Baby wipes
- Diaper rash cream
- Childrens Body Wash
- Toddler and children’s socks
- Toothpaste and Toothbrushes.



We continue to be a valuable, responsive, and practical resource to our community thanks to the financial support of people like you and churches who see fit to direct missions funds to this domestic mission field. Please consider a one time donation or recurring monthly giving at [lifesaverheartbeat.com](http://lifesaverheartbeat.com)





## A life that keeps on giving

Those of us who know and love Beth Allen are not surprised that her life continues to have immense impact here in this earthly realm even after her eternal home has been reached. One of her wishes was to direct giving toward Life Saver Ministries from anyone wishing to honor God's work through her life and legacy in a tangible way. She poured so much of herself into this ministry and into countless lives and one can only imagine what awaited her as she heard those words of immeasurable value, "Well done, good and faithful servant." Giving in honor of beloved Beth and the God Who loaned her to us for a season may be done at [lifesaverheartbeat.com](http://lifesaverheartbeat.com) or by check payable to Life Saver Ministries, PO Box 407, Gloversville, NY 12078.



Please continue to pray for a precious baby boy who recently turned one and remains in the care of a Christian foster home where he has been for nearly his whole life. He was quite literally near death at 5 weeks old due to neglect and has been making so many amazing gains and milestones over the past months, months that have NOT been easy or filled with much sleep for his Foster Mother, but his health continues to improve and he is absolutely thriving. Please pray that a home of God's choosing where this boy will grow in the love of the Lord will become his permanent home as they situation with his birth parents continues to deteriorate. May God redeem this family and protect this baby from anything short of a wonderful, loving home.



## Desperate Times call for Dedicated Believers

A cultural crisis is the way I refer to it anytime I have opportunity to speak in front of a group or even individually in a one on one, heart to heart conversation--it's that harsh and cruel reality we are facing of seeing far too many children, in far too heartbreaking of conditions for far too cruel of a time. This reality, from my perspective, is fueled by an addiction epidemic, a mental health crisis, a general sense of despair and decay that has permeated our society and particularly the current pool of young parents. It's a desperate need for God and I truly believe we as the Church have an enormous opportunity to be ambassadors for His Kingdom by getting involved in one of the most desperate, obvious, tangible and visible ways that will meet real needs, in real time, with real sacrificial and unconditional love. Please, I implore you to consider becoming a certified Foster Parent. I cannot stress enough how desperate our counties are for quality Foster Homes as, working closely with area agencies, we know that more often than not, there are simply NO OPEN HOMES. This means that children who should be placed in care due to neglect and abuse often are not, so they languish and suffer. We as the Body of Christ are called to meet these needs and I pray that across our region, across our state, we will rise to the occasion, throw off all that may encumber and pursue this modern day mission field, this very real orphan crisis, and speak louder than words with a radical kind of love that leaves people craving to know where and Who it comes from.

Please email us at [lifesaverheartbeat@gmail.com](mailto:lifesaverheartbeat@gmail.com) if you would be interested in learning more and being connected with an area Foster Care agency to begin the conversation about becoming certified and availing yourself as a valuable resource for children for whom life was chosen and for whom life has been nothing short of horrific. We are positioned here t the ministry in a way that allows us to see a great deal, often too much, and these are truly desperate times in every sense of the word.

## Help Wanted !

- Someone willing to host a supply drive at a church, workplace or civic group to benefit Life Saver Ministries. We are happy to provide you with a list of needed items and any promotional materials necessary to make the drive successful!
- Someone willing to provide a brief ministry update monthly at their church service highlighting some of the items in our newsletter and other correspondence vital to keeping our supporter and partners informed and broadening the base of both.
- Someone willing to share their gift of hospitality and culinary skills by providing brunch foods for our monthly ladies brunch of approximately 20 guests held at 11:00 on the last Thursday of the month.
- If you are interested in helping in any of these ways, please feel free to contact us at [lifesaverheartbeat@gmail.com](mailto:lifesaverheartbeat@gmail.com)



## The Power of the Nurturers

Anyone who would observe our sweet childcare area and the ministry that occurs there would see some of the most amazing, dedicated and loving volunteers God has granted us. These women show up faithfully through thick and thin and have carved out time and space for the precious children who come through our doors and toddle right into our hearts. We do not take lightly the level of commitment they show nor do we underestimate the eternal significance of what they are doing. I KNOW that prayers are being said over these precious little ones and that prayer is a legacy that has no time limit, no expiration as these requests are made to an omnipotent God Who was and is and is to come. The request to cover these precious little ones under the shelter of His Wing is heard; the request to guide and direct these little lives is acknowledged. One could easily miss the incredible significance of these children being here at The Soulutions Center of Life Saver Ministries but it occurred to me one day as I took a moment just peak in on childcare through the giggles and the pitter patter and the occasional cry that in the mix that day alone was a toddler rescued from imminent death by foster care and placed in the loving arms of a Christian foster mother, a baby girl whose mother faced a period of overwhelmed anxiety during pregnancy and spoke openly about considering abortion but thanks to the truth, support and pattern of faithfulness to her and her older child that the ministry provided, chose life; a child who was trapped in a home with domestic violence occurring and who we at the ministry were able to advocate for and see that the abuser was removed from the home as well as a little girl who knows the place and people of our ministry to be her safe place and refuge as she remains, sadly in a neglectful and abusive home life that nothing has triggered a change in...yet. I ask that you join us in seeing the significance of this work as these little lives represent the highest commodity, the most readily targeted and the most inestimable value in the spiritual realm and in the Kingdom of God. Many have been born into generational curses of abuse, dysfunction and neglect and we pray that God will use this ministry to break chains and to set these little feet on the Rock of Salvation. There is no act of service in this work that is too small or insignificant to support and propel this goal of saving and changing lives so thank you ALL for your investment whether it be time, talent, treasure and above all, prayer.

As we close out the fifth year of our tutoring ministry and head into a Summer break, we are so thankful for the families that have been grafted into this growing network of moms and children who gather once a week at Soulutions for tutoring and enriching activities that have truly fostered both faith and friendship. This group has grown into an ongoing support for each other and we are eager to see how these bonds will continue into the future. Below are some of our recent happenings and the precious kids that we are so thankful to have as part of our Soulutions family!

