



Changing the World, one life at a time with Mercy, Love & Grace Through Christ Jesus, Our Lord

Christmas Deadline November 15th
2,892 CHILDREN SERVED *4,025 individuals*
God is our Jehovah Jireh, my Provider

Together, we are making a Difference in the kingdom of God!

Putting Prayers to Action

From the Heart, I have always been fascinated with chameleons and their camouflage abilities. Blending in to their territory and background is their way of protecting themselves from larger predators. Chameleons are defenseless. They don't have a dangerous bite, not poisonous, and move slow. So, camouflage and evading their predator is their only tactic. I feel sorry for them never fully showing their true beautiful colors. God has called us as Christians to live in this world, but not be conformed to it. As a Christian today, so many things have conformed to what the world wants, and Christians are beginning to be Chameleons blending into their background and crowds, instead of being set apart. I remember when Values, Faith, Morals, Honesty, Kindness and Love were just some of the Fruits that a person could tell the difference whether you were a God-Fearing Christian. One thing the smart chameleon knows, they can be the most beautiful color the forest has ever seen and if the right prospect for courtship came along they would fancy the forest with their true colors. My question to you: Who is seeing your true colors? Your friends at work, Your family behind close doors or Your Kids down the Hallway? Well, Jesus can transform that chameleon life and give you a New Color change!

And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what [is] that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. **Romans 12:2**

Back to School Distribution

Through the generosity of each of you, our donors **2,671 outfits** were received, and hand delivered to the children. The following is a breakdown of the distribution details.

- 1,081 boy's complete outfits
- 1,359 girl's complete outfits
- 202 infant and toddler outfits
- 2,892 care kits
- 2,642 pair of shoes to children
- 5 pair of shoes provide to parents walking to work everyday
- 2,892 Back to School Packs
- 832 Back Packs
- 27 tons of food
- 18 tons of paper products & diapers
- 2,892 Dolls, stuffed Animals & toys

We were so Blessed with the turn out! We can never thank you enough, for the love you show us and our children!



Vessels of God Service

Many of you have graced us not only with your presence but have assisted us in the work that had to be done before the mission trip. If not for each of you, we couldn't accomplish what we do. Many think we have a warehouse full of workers. Those who have traveled to assist us will agree, we have no army of workers. Many times, its Vonnie and I doing inventory, receipts, sorting, and packing. While Bryan, Jeff and Jen handle the food department. God always sends the helpers to assist, as He has sent each of you throughout the Summer. Vonnie and I gained another helper, Millie who will be assisting us more. So, you may see her name on some of the receipts in the future.

Glory Arises in the Midst

Prior to the trip, we have been fighting the Spiritual battle as usual, but on this occasion, something stirred deeper within me. I knew God was going before us doing something! Preparing

the way, for His Gospel to be Shared. At our very first event, after we had helped the families write their Love Letters and explained how much Christ Loves each of us and died for us, the altar call was given. Each event people were seeking His Presences, His Love, and a closer walk. It was if you could see the Glory of God as it filled the room and God was in the Midst.

From a Boy to A Man

Unfortunately, many times we can't visit as many families as we wish too, because of the size of our truck. The mountain roads and hollows are very narrow. So, I had to call upon one of my families to assist me to help serve the families. I met Robert when he was thirteen and now he is twenty-two. I guess you could say, it did my heart proud to have him assist us as he drove through the mountain roads. I would keep reminding him, that we weren't from around there, we were old and not to sling us around to much. He would grin his little mischievous grin, I could

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see the thirteen-year-old boy holding up the opossum asking if we wanted to stay for supper and keep driving. Then after we were finished, he hugged me. He said, I never really knew what being a missionary was all about until today! I just knew you made a difference in my life when I was little. I hugged him and kissed him on the cheek and said thanks for helping us today Robert, you made a Big Difference in the Lives of these Kids!

F.R.O.G (Fully Rely on God)

As each of your beautiful outfits come to us, on occasions, I'll feel that nudge in my spirit to hold back an outfit, because God has something special for it. Well, we got in this beautiful little handmade short set with frogs. The craftsmanship and details on this cute little outfit was so good. I laid it aside and as I continued to work, God laid that little outfit back on my mind. I knew what it meant. He had a home already picked out for it. So, I went right then and placed it in the backseat of our truck. At our first stop, this beautiful little blonde girl came up and started talking to me and she wanted to help. This was our first time in this area. During the conversation, she mentions she had noticed we had a room full of dolls and I smiled. She continued to be my helper for the day. By the end of the day, I said did you get a doll? She said yeah, but I was kind of wanting a frog! I said really! You like frogs?? Yep, sure do! What's your favorite color? Yellow is my favorite. I went to the truck got the outfit which was her size, yellow and with green frogs all over it. Her eyes lite up like Big Diamonds. I must always **(F.R.O.G) Fully Rely on God!**

Fourteen from Heaven

Our shoe sizes are limited to a size Baby - 10 in adults, due to the room in our trailer. Thanks to all the shoe sales at Walmart, we were able to purchase many more shoes this year. During our third event, one of our mothers came up with her thirteen-year-old son. She said there's no use of me registering him, you won't have anything for him you never do. I smiled at her, and said have Faith, I feel like God has sent something especially for him this trip. She registered him, I glanced at the card. He wore 38x30 jeans and size 14 shoes. Oh, I started praying, Lord Please, Bless Him! I was sitting registering when suddenly, I got arms wrapped around me hugging me. It was the mother and she was crying. How did you remember him, out of all your kids? I answered her, I didn't God did! Standing so proudly with his new size wide 14 high tops was the young boy. Bryan even found him an outfit to go with the shoes that we had laid in the trailer. Our Jehovah Jireh!

God Hears Prayers Changes Plan

After our second trip to the Appalachian Mountains, --Hawkins County we were scheduled to come home., but God had other plans. Bryan woke up before me and went walking through the beautiful little town. I went straight for coffee and the patio. I knew God had another stop for us but wasn't sure where it was and hadn't spoke to Bryan about it. Soon, Bryan sent a text to ask if I was up and I told him on the patio drinking coffee. Soon he joined me. He looked at me and said we're not done yet! WOW, yeah, I know! Usually, I have to try to encourage him as to why, but this time, God had woken him up too. He asks me if I had thought about it or had any families in

mind. I told him, I had prayed and felt visits were on my heart. He said well Lawana and Stanley came to my mind. So, I gave them a call. When Lawana answered, she immediately started saying, girl you need to pray for us today. I said why, she said we are having and outreach for the community and we don't have enough stuff. We've prayed, and I know God's going to provide, but I just don't know when and where. She said, I'm sorry, what were you calling about. I said, oh nothing just checking on you guys to see how you were doing. She had no clue what God was getting ready to do, because of their Prayers. We both agreed that we needed to go assist them, but first we needed to tell the team the plans had changed. On mission trips, our schedule is in His Hands, so things do change, and the team must be as flexible as possible. Upon telling the team, all were in Unity and we moved forward. I called Lawana back and told her we were on our way. She couldn't believe how God had moved to allow us to have left over exactly what they needed to bless their families. It is usually not in our timing, but God is always **RIGHT ON TIME!**



*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor;
he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted. Luke 4:18a*

We Love You All!



♥ Thank You for Sharing Your Love, Talents, Faith, Fellowship, Time and Prayers with us and our children

**And whatsoever ye do,
do it heartily,
as to the Lord, and not unto men
Colossians 3:23**

**Donors, You are making a Difference
in our Children's Lives!**

Donors Love & Stories

During the Summer months, we were blessed to receive help from many of our donors. Many which stay in our camper to assist us for an entire week at a time.

Some were able to go visit our families with me. One had more excitement than she could hardly bare when I told her gently get back in the car. Then the pit bull rushes passed us, with the dad fast behind trying to hold his shorts up and two young girls and their mother screaming. I looked in at the donor her eyes taking in everything, as big as a deer eyes in headlights. I hugged the girls and then went to assure the donor.

There is always excitement on the mission field especially for this family of donors who came to visit. I had just told them to stay at the car, because of the Pitbull. So off I go to knock on the door, looked for the dog, no dog, see the chain, but no dog. Stepped up on the porch, knocked on the door, and there the dog came out behind me. I have no idea how my little short legs got down, jumped over the dog and down the sidewalk to the donor family waiting in shock at my car. I laughed and said, I told you there was a dog!

While on another visit, I had to leave the donors to visit one of our teens, next door, that was assumed to be self-mutilating herself. After arriving back at my vehicle, I found the donors and our children playing a game of keep

away with the ball they had just gave them. This is a memory that he will carry in his heart forever and I will too!

Special memories last a lifetime and I am so proud our donors have shared some with our children. You all are making such a Big Difference in the lives of these Children! It doesn't matter whether it was for one hour or a week, we thank each of you for the time you gave us.

So, if you ever decide to come in for a visit, bring a Heart full of Love, Sack full of Laughs, Soul ready for adventures and a good pair of running shoes for the dogs.

Thanksgiving Deadline is October 15, 2017

Due to my surgery, things may change, please Pray for me!

Don't forget to mark the size on each garment you make.

Christmas Deadline is November 15, 2017

CLOTHING PACKS

Please add the ABC's Tract (found on Website to print for your convenience)

Items for Boys - Outfits consisting of:

- 1 Pair of pants and shirt
- 1 Pair of briefs and socks

Requested Sizes 3T - 18 Youth

Place items in gallon Ziploc with size written outside with permanent marker.

Items for Girls - Outfits consisting of:

- 1 Dress or pants outfit

- 1 Panties and socks/tights
- Bracelet and hair bow

Extra's: Slip and Purse

Requested Sizes 3T - 18 Youth

Items for Infants and Toddlers

- 1 Onesies and 1 outfit
- 1 Pair of socks and toy

Requested Sizes Newborn - 2T

Packs of diapers may be sent, we divide the diapers between families.

We also accept individual items of clothing if you can't afford an outfit.

Christmas Blessings Bags/ Gift Deadline November 15, 2017

Mark appropriate age on bag. These are fixed in a 1 or 2-gallon Ziploc.

TOYS: Cars, coloring books, balls, bible cards, dolls, stuffed animals,

BOY GIFT: Instead of a Blessing Bag you may send a new gift or Adopt one Christmas Blessing Bag **or gift costs \$10.00.** You can also order through our Wish list through Dollar Days, the link is found on our website.

Items Needed

Boy's (Jeans or pants) any size

Girl's clothes - 12-18

Boy's and Girl's - Socks & Underwear

Purses, Bracelets and Hair bows

Small Toy's

Personal Hygiene Items

Toothbrushes Toothpaste (ask your dentist)

Monetary Donations Appreciated or

Walmart Gift Cards to Purchase Items

Rolls of Stamps for mailing

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Prayers for my Surgery

By the time you get this Newsletter, I will have undergone a major hernia surgery. I have four hernias that they are repairing. Two of the hernias are incisional hernias and the other two are more dangerous. They will be using mesh and donor tissue because, I have had so many surgeries and my tissue is not strong enough to hold. My surgery will be September 11th at Hardin Memorial in Elizabethtown. My surgeon's name is Dr. Karen Johnson. Please keep me in your prayers as I continue to recover. Thank you for your Prayers, encouragement, support and assistance during this time. I love you all with all my Heart!

Our 2018 Summer Back to School Distribution has not only been remarkable in numbers, but for me it was the awesome power of God's presence at each event that continued to build. By the time the second trip came, I was already energized to go see what He had in store. When His Presence filled the room, it was if a blanket covered our families and whether they knew it, He was drawing them with His Love. By the time the altar call was given, you could see each face shining with this soft glow, a peace filled the air and sweet love that only God can Provide. Many came to ask Jesus into their Life and that is worth more to me than all the numbers in the world. Thanks for being a part of it with us!

**Together, we are making a
Difference!**

Tina & Bryan Decker

Additional Ways to Help

The Coat Fund – The cost of coats is \$25.00. Coats are purchased by the ministry with donated funds. Please note on your check

The Shoe Fund - is ongoing as we like to provide a new pair of shoes with each outfit. Cost of shoes is \$18 per pair. Please note on your check.

Personal Care Kits – shampoo, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, lotion or lip balm, comb, tissues and washcloth.

The Fuel Fund - \$10.00 will help with going to pick up loads of food for our families and transporting all your items. Please note on your check.

SHIPMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE

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1336 Solway Meeting Rd
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Save on Shipping
ONLY FEDEX & UPS
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1248 Solway Meeting Rd
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Investment account

Our TD Ameritrade Non-Profit Business Account has been setup and is now available to those wishing to donate stock certificates. Please contact for account info.

Facebook Groups to Join

- Loving the Appalachia Children (Everyone)
- Dolls for Appalachia (Dolls, Toys, Stuffed Animals, etc.)
- Stitching for Appalachia (Sewing, Knitting, Crocheting, etc.)

Instagram

You can also find us on Instagram now, so look us up and start following us. I am still learning!

New Website

Prior to our last mission trip, we had to undergo some quick last-minute changes of the website. The lady that was taking care of the website had been doing a great job. I received a call from a donor that stated our site was on another page. So, I went to our website and it link me to a site that had four different ministries on it. She wasn't getting paid and she was helping each of the ministries out, so I feel it was just a misunderstanding, but it needed to be handled quickly. So, we got our domain name back into our hands and we are back online on our own site. Grant you, I am no professional as she was, but I do the best I can until God sends the person He wants to assist. Due to funding, we can't pay anyone, but God knows the right person with the right heart and skill that we need. So please have patience as we wait.

Patterns and ABC Tract

I have uploaded many patterns and the ABC Salvation Tract to our Website, and each of the Facebook groups. Please feel free to check them out. I hope these help you.

Please Hold Shipments

I would greatly appreciate it if you could hold all shipments from 9/10-10/9. This will allow me a healing period of four weeks from my surgery.

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor;
he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted. Luke 4:18a*