



# NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH AND MISSION

EMPOWERING THE LESS FORTUNATE IN HIGHLANDS COUNTY FOR OVER 45 YEARS WITH THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST



This is a very special month for an important person here at the mission. I know that she would never want all the attention placed on her but, I can't let this month go by without allowing each one of you to know that it is her 84th birthday. My grandmother, Patricia Ann Karl the co-founder, matriarch of our family and ministry is turning 84 this year. Not a day goes by that I do not thank the Lord for this amazing special woman.

Can you imagine you are 39 leaving your home, business, friends, family with a car packed with all your most prized possessions with two kids and your spouse? Moving to Florida with no plan in place but following the Lord. I am not sure if I would have been so brave. My grandparents had a great call upon their lives to open a rescue mission to do that very thing. RESCUE PEOPLE! When I was in the 5th grade, they had a special essay they wanted each one of us to write, "Who is your favorite older person?" I remember without hesitation, my grandmother! I wrote how she overcame polio as a child because she was active in playing baseball, how she was the queen of malls but, mostly how I desired to be as selfless, kindhearted, giving, and compassionate as she is. I won the essay in my class, Mrs. Todd's 5th grade class to be exact and went on to win 2nd place in the entire school. I was so proud that my grandmothers' story not only impacted my life but, others as well. That essay is framed and, in our office, today.

She not only overcame the polio but, all that she endured in her life prepared her to reach out to the broken and the loss. Her parents became hard core drinkers' young in life and my grandmother built a heart for the drunker I believe because of that. When I give our tours around the mission, I always love to point out the story of how our church services used to be at 1:00 pm in the afternoon. Not many could understand why church wasn't normal times like 11am like most services? My grandparents wanted to give people enough time to sober up after a Saturday night to stumble into church that maybe that day, that service, that moment they would sober up and surrender their addiction. Selfless! My grandmother cleaned houses for many high society families in Sebring, to catering events at Santa Rosa hotel to cooking at the Kenilworth Lodge all to make ends meet and help not only feed her family but, all those who came hungry daily to the mission.

They say behind every great man is an even greater woman! Well, that statement is true when spoken about Pat Karl. She may have been stern, stubborn, or even scary at times with her loud audible voice. She is a woman who doesn't like change and loves order but, underneath all of that is an incredible, loving, thoughtful, generous woman whom I am so thankful God chose to be my grandmother. At times we would have individuals that would be hard to let us in. I remember one day my grandfather spent over an hour trying to help a guy. He became so frustrated that he wanted to give up. My grandmother said, "You're approaching him in the wrong way!" She made a way into his heart and was able to break down the walls. My grandfather was stunned to say the least. My grandmother spent a lot of her time behind the desk, behind the scenes but, very much one of the most important roles in this ministry. Every note of thanks was personally handwritten like it is today. She always wanted you to know personally how much you mean to us. She also knew everyone's birthday or anniversary and would send cards. She had such a gift to minister and teach bible studies for years.

Not only did she impact those who came to the mission but, she impacted the world with her missionary trips to the Philippines, Africa, Honduras, China, and a few others. She was thrown into prison in Africa along with a group of our friends because they thought they were spies. She was able to escape and make her way to the US EMBASSY where she was able to get the BMI to release them and wow that's a whole story in itself. She smuggled bibles into China, laid hands on the infertile woman of the Philippines and they all became pregnant. She lost all her luggage going to Honduras and it didn't stop her from ministering. I could continue to go on and on about this amazing woman but, I only have so much room.

What this comes down to is this ministry 45 years ago wouldn't be what it is today if it wasn't for her faithfulness, dedication, inspiration, labor, sweat and tears. Today we can reach out and help so many because of the years of experience before us. This month we have helped so many. She has taken a little quiet time back from the busy work as her age and health haven't kept up but, she is still very active in making sure we keep it all together. Her wisdom, strength and heart are still at full speed.

We had a young lady who was coming off fentanyl addiction going into a rehab program. She finally made the choice to get clean and live a productive life. We were that transition place for her. We have a family of five arriving this week. Single mom, one job, four kids and no where to go. She's trying to make ends meet. We have had other men staying with us this month as well. Each one with their own story both good and bad. Some just need a place of safety to get a plan in place. It's hard to survive out there in the world today. Once again, we are so thankful for each one of you who believe in what we are doing. The New Testament Mission is a non-profit, we do not receive government funding in any form, no grants whatsoever. We operate solely on each donation we receive, and we are thankful for your thoughtfulness, generosity and we pray God blesses each one of you greatly today. Thank you for allowing me to share about my amazing grandmother and her turning 84! FROM THE DESK OF KATHLEEN BEATTY



- SANDWICH ZIPLOCKS
- TOILET PAPER
- CHICKEN STOCK
- CANNED SOUPS
- TUNA
- GROCERY BAGS
- ANY OLD TUPPERWARE CONTAINERS

**NEEDS**

## OUTREACH

Total Meals : 3,912

Total Housing : 56

Food baskets: 40

Out reach projects: light bills, water bills, medical, gas: 9 families helped

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ONLINE DONATIONS CAN BE MADE ONLINE:

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