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Memorial & Honor Gifts - 3rd Quarter 2019

In Memory of...

T. Morris and Gloria Barrett
Kayla Barrett
Betty Chan
Mr. and Mrs. Spencer Smith
Billie Dixon
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald W Ledgerwood
Richard Dunlap
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Gluszek
Diana Nelsen
Mr. and Mrs. Luke Nelsen
Kathryn Parvin
Derby Church of Christ
Jereta Sykes
Mr. and Mrs. John Baker
Eva Cannon
Mr. and Mrs. Allen Dimick
Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Gill
Mr. and Mrs. Frank R Hipsher
Patti Johnson
Mr. and Mrs. DeWayne O'Neal
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Pryor
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Whitt
Forrest Wolfe
Mr. and Mrs. Chester James
Tim Zickafoose
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Blythe

In Honor of...

Jim Andrews
Lee Anderson

In Celebration of...

Minnie Lewis' 90th Birthday
Mr. and Mrs. Chester James
Alvin and Carolyn Leach's 50th Anniversary
Mr. and Mrs. Chester James

Gifts in memory or honor are a wonderful way to restore hope to the girls at Carpenter Place. Thank you to all who chose to honor those you love in this incredibly kind way.



Fall Newsletter:

Thankfall Festival
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This must-attend fundraiser, supporting the deeply hurting girls of Carpenter Place, is THE MOST fun your family will have this fall!

The carnival games at the Thankfall Festival are being created by our girls as part of their Business & Entrepreneurship Class, sponsored through a generous donation by Bank of the West. They are paired up at random and must work together to build a business plan, create/design/build their games, develop a marketing strategy and rules for their games, etc. Then they run their game the day of the event and we keep track of income for each business and do a profit analysis at the end. What a unique way to learn budgeting, financial, and business skills at a young age! After the event, the second half of the semester is taught by various community partners who come in to teach additional business and life skills such as:

- Life and Financial Literacy skills
- Post-secondary preparation
- Job skills (interview/resume skills, soft skills, customer service, philanthropy)

Plan to play all the carnival games to meet each of our young ladies and see exactly who it is you are supporting by being in attendance. You'll win tickets at each game which can be redeemed for fabulous prizes!

Some of the other fun things you and your family will enjoy at the Thankfall Festival include: hayrack rides, a petting zoo, an old-fashioned cake walk and bake sale, giant inflatable bounce houses and obstacle course, oversize lawn games, a small train ride for the little kids, live music, delicious concessions (hot dogs, caramel apples, cotton candy, popcorn, lemonade, etc), and of course the carnival games run by our girls where you can win lots of tickets to redeem for fabulous prizes. After the festival winds down for the day, join us for concessions and a movie inside the Campus Center.

Gate admission is just \$5, and our ticket-to-pay/ticket-to-play structure allows you to play and eat as much as your heart desires. Or, buy a Family Fun Pass for just \$40 to get up to 4 people in the gate along with 30 tickets. Affordable family fun supporting a good cause - it doesn't get any better! We look forward to seeing you on October 12th!

Thank-fall Festival

Saturday, October 12 | 2:00pm – 5:00pm
(followed by a free movie in the campus center)



Transformation & Time

Jennifer Campbell
Director of Campus Life

A friend of mine on Facebook recently captured some caterpillars from the leaves of her garden plants and put them in a container for her children to study. They promptly built cocoons and began the process of transformation. The question everyone wanted to know was ‘What would they become?’ and ‘How long will they be in there?’ Both good questions but with no good answer. We can’t know until the process is complete and the outcome is revealed at the end.

This pattern is one we see repeated in the lives of the girls we serve at Carpenter Place. They have been removed from their primary environment and placed in our care in an attempt to promote change. They are often scared, uncertain and resistant to the transition. Our goal is to wrap them in the relative safety of our cocoon for the duration of their time here and support them through their transformation. Much of the time, we too are uncertain of the outcome in the beginning. We must give space and time for God to work in the lives of these girls.

It is our pleasure to walk this journey with the girls by faith, with hope and love. Our faith tells us that God can transform our lives if we will but let him. Romans 12:2 says, “Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.” (NLT). We attempt to affect change by transforming the way they think. About the world, themselves, and God. Additionally, we strive to give them hope. Hope for a restored relationship with God, family and community. Oftentimes, however, what they really need is time. Transformation is not an easy or quick process. It requires endurance and perseverance along with a healthy dose of patience. We must wait and see.

In the end, my friends’ caterpillars emerged from their cocoons and had transformed into beautiful butterflies. They needed only to be released back into the world to finish their complete transformation. The children took them out and placed them gently back onto the plant that they had come from. The butterflies instinctively knew what to do. They flapped their wings and flew. It is my prayer for each of our girls to fly. To transform into what God has intended for them to become. “Put on your new nature, created to be like God – truly righteous and holy.” Ephesians 4:24 (NLT).

I’ll Miss My Dad

Ben Zickafoose
Chief Executive Officer

This brief article is a bit difficult for me to write, but I wanted to share with you some of my recent thoughts and life happenings.

Friday, June 28, 2019, started just as any typical “Friday in the summer” goes around Carpenter Place. I woke up around 4:30 am, went for my morning run, ate breakfast, and headed to the office. The day was filled with meetings, fundraising projects, and some maintenance tasks. I closed up shop around 5:00 pm and headed to the cottage to begin packing for our planned Lake House getaway to Branson with the girls. Around 5:30 pm, I got a call during dinner from my mom, and I could immediately tell this phone call wasn’t going to be like any other phone call or conversation I have ever had before. It was the phone call that you never want to get - it was Mom telling me that they are trying to do everything they could to save my dad, but there wasn’t much more that could be done. He passed away a short time later.

As my mom was giving me this news, I remember standing outside next to the house staring at a beautiful, late afternoon sun through the trees on our campus. This moment will be forever etched in my mind; and every evening with a similar low sun setting in the sky takes me back to the tragedy of the call, but also to the beauty I was seeing. I remember feeling helpless, too far away, and trying to remember every moment with my dad. At the same time, I was so deeply amazed at God’s beautiful handy work. My dad had struggled with his health for many years, and had several serious health scares and setbacks, but he always seemed to bounce back. Unfortunately, this one was too tough to recover.

Since all of this has happened, my thoughts have been jumbled (which I am sure is evident in this article). I have distracted myself from grieving by setting up the next task or project, and sleep has been infrequent. I have never had to walk quite this path before, and I am honestly not sure how to do it. I had experienced deep hurt on some levels, but this hurt is definitely different.

There is one other moment that stands out to me about the evening of June 28, 2019. Shortly after I got the news of my dad’s passing, one of the young ladies in our program who is living in my cottage came to let me know she was sorry for my loss, and gave me a huge hug. This young lady has, at a very young age, had to walk through the loss of a caregiver/parent not once or twice, but three times. Her words of encouragement to me meant so much, because she truly understands what it feels like to experience loss.

I was privileged to have lived 42 years before this moment, and I can’t imagine having to have done this at any younger of an age. It makes me admire even more what our girls are trying to overcome. Now I know even more what these girls are going through.

I’ll miss you Dad; I’ll miss you very much. Thanks for teaching me one last lesson in this world.

Handle with Hope Update

The seeds have been planted, and a beautiful harvest is waiting on the horizon!

We are beyond excited to share the following update regarding the status of our Capital Improvements phase of the Handle with Hope campaign. We told you in the Summer 2019 Newsletter that we had until the first of October to meet our Capital Improvements goal in order to receive \$190,000 in matching funds from the Mabee Foundation.

Thanks to all our amazing donors, we can announce that we are going to receive the Mabee Grant Funds!

Stay tuned as we will update you soon on our progress toward the overall \$1.25 Million Handle with Hope Campaign goals, as well as provide exciting news about the first project we plan to complete - the new Handle with Hope Cottage!

Company Matching Gifts

Does your company offer matching gifts for charitable contributions?

One way that can help restore hope to our girls is by making your contribution through a matching gifts program with your employer. Have you checked to see if your company offers this benefit? We have received several gifts over the past couple of months that have been DOUBLED because the gift was made through a matching gifts program. Check today to see if your company can match your gifts to care for the girls at Carpenter Place.

Carpenter Corner

- Thank you to Riverwalk Church of Christ, Southside Church of Christ, and Maize UMC for having Carpenter Place come and share an update of our ministry with your congregations. If you would like to schedule a visit for us to update your church, give us a call at 316.942.3221.
- Continue to pray for our girls as school is back in full swing. We are always mindful of the transitions that our girls have, and one big one is the transition from the summer schedule to our school schedule. Our goal is to be able to provide a Christian learning environment that promotes success in the classroom for our girls - often times this is the first time a girl gets to experience this type of success. Thank you so much for making this opportunity available to the girls we serve. Thank you to the groups who donated needed supplies to get the school year started off right! If you would like to volunteer with our school, please get in contact with us anytime.
- The girls have started a business & entrepreneurship class that focuses on developing a business plan, budget skills, life and job skills, interview techniques, and customer service. We are excited to have several local business entrepreneurs devote their time to helping our girls learn these valuable skills!
- Thank you to the annual Reflection Ridge First Responders Golf Outing for choosing Carpenter Place as the beneficiary of this year’s tournament. We were gifted \$6,700 at this wonderful event on September 11th.

