BCWOCE

SUMMER 2023



(3)

601.952.2422



P.O. Box 27 Clinton, MS 39060-0027



baptistchildrensvillage.com



Yes! To Vacation Bible School!

It wouldn't seem like summer at the BCV without VBS. Not only have our children on all our campuses participated in VBS at local host churches but staff were invited to share in mission studies, commencement services and kick-off events in 25 Mississippi Baptist churches this summer. Children learned how BCV children have the same needs they have and that they can be a part of providing those needs and sharing God's love, even at their young ages. Each year we are overwhelmed by the sweet pictures of children sacrificially giving to our children through VBS. This year

was no different. All over Mississippi children and their VBS leaders from 64 churches collected needed supplies for our campuses and gave money to help provide for daily needs of children. Thousands of children across the state and the nation come to know the Lord as their Savior during VBS. They also learn about serving others and have their minds opened to worldwide opportunities for missions. As we close out summer 2023 we are again reminded of the powerful impact of VBS on our children and on the ministry as a whole, so we say, "'Yes' to VBS".









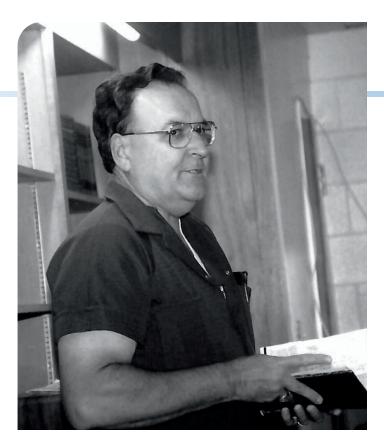
Generational Ministry

Houseparent Missionary Brittany Barrow was four years old when her parents served in that same capacity. "It's crazy but I wouldn't change a thing. God called me to do this and I love it!" Brittany's mom, Andrea, reflects on the moment she mentioned to Brittany that the BCV was looking for houseparents, "I didn't think she would take it seriously." Brittany did, however, seriously consider the idea. In fact, soon after that initial conversation Brittany shared with her parents that she was confident that she would be accepting the position. Months later when Chris and Andrea visited the Farrow Manor Campus where they once served and where their daughter was now Housemother to several girls, they were struck by her command of the situation as she dealt with teen girls and even helped pitch in to help with some young boys. "It's an interesting thing to see your adult child in her element, in that position of authority, and little boys calling her, 'mama,'" explains Andrea.

Chris and Andrea have fond memories of their days houseparenting. One memory in particular stands out when they took children to see the beach for the first time and the awe and wonder that filled the children as they gazed at the vast ocean. Their days were filled with similar opportunities to share Christ, all as young Brittany observed. Returning to the pastorate was a difficult decision. They recall over lunch how young Brittany told them they better do what God was telling them or they would get swallowed by a whale like Jonah did. That was all the confirmation they needed to be obedient to what God was calling them to do.

Brittany and her parents agree, there are rewarding days and some hard days. She recalls one in particular that occurred soon after she came on board. After becoming attached to a young girl, she moved to another campus which left a void in Brittany's heart but God was gracious and allowed her some special time with this child before she left. They painted nails together then took a picture of their hands. The girl asked, "Are you going to keep this forever? Are you going to love me forever?" Brittany explains, "Children leaving is tough but we (fellow houseparents) just pray and hope that we planted seeds that someone else can water." This would not be the last time Brittany would grieve over a child who left her care but she explains, "Watching my parents in ministry, I questioned why God would allow me to see some hard things but I see that it was to prepare me for ministry."

Houseparent Missionary Brad Crochet's experience was very different from Brittany's. He was an adult in the Coast Guard when his parents served as houseparents. Norman and Mayme Crochet left a pastorate and began their houseparent service in 1990 and served on three campuses and in two different programs before retiring in 1999. Brad was seldom able to visit his parents during those years but since coming on board in 2016 he and his wife Melissa have had the great fortune to work with staff who had also worked with his parents. They have enjoyed reminiscing with them about the elder Crochets and hearing stories about the daily work His parents were involved in. While the ministry has changed some over the years Brad laughs, the one thing I do remember was seeing my parents come home on leave and being exhausted. I didn't really understand that until our first shift when we felt







that same fatigue." As Brad reflects on he and Melissa's own ministry he recalls that his father often told him, "Ministry is as ministry does." He explains that he came to realize that his father was instilling in him that one can do ministry in the daily journey of life; that you don't have to be a church staff member to do ministry. Even today Brad and Melissa are grateful to be a part of such a ministry where they can fulfill their calling just as his parents once did.

Cottage life is not the only place you find generational service at the BCV. Director of Finance Sharon Rosamond has vivid memories of doing homework and "hanging out" in the administrative office while her mother took and transcribed dictation for then Executive Director Paul Nunnery. The summer always included time at the campus swimming pool with BCV children. In fact, this is where she learned to swim. ("Thanks, Raymond Day") JoAnn Ginn served as Executive Assistant to the Executive Director for 50 years beginning in 1967 with a brief interruption when her husband took a job in Tylertown. Her mother's 50 years of service impacted Sharon and her decision to accept an employment offer in 1992. She saw that BCV colleagues cared about each other like family and this environment was appealing to her. When she first joined the BCV team she recalls thinking, "This sense of togetherness and Christian environment is what my soul needs." Now 32 years later she still feels that comradery that her mother enjoyed but just as important, she feels there is purpose in her work. "Everyday I come to work it is fulfilling-not just going to work and putting in hours."

The ministry, and BCV children in particular, captures the hearts of those who give themself to this mission to take the good news of Jesus Christ to at-risk children and their families. Some of them pass on that passion to the next generation who take up the baton and thus the legacy continues.









BCV TRIBUTE GIFTS

April 16, 2023 through July 15, 2023

Throughout the year, families memorialize and honor family members and special friends with a gift to The Baptist Children's Village. Small groups honor teachers and the special people in their lives. For each tribute gift received, the donor receives an acknowledgement letter and receipt. A personal letter is sent to the honoree informing them of the gift given in their honor. Family members are informed of a gift given in memory of their loved one. The BCV is herein publishing the list of honorees and donors recently received. We are grateful to the many thoughtful donors who pay tribute to the special people in their lives.

You can visit baptistchildrensvillage.com/give or use the enclosed envelope to give a gift of honor or memory for your loved one(s) to The Baptist Children's Village.

In Honor of

The Baptist Children's Village Shirley Family Reunion

Anne Abel Gail Boyd

Mrs. Emily Elaine Aulds Mrs. Marilyn Carroll

Mrs. Elizabeth Batson Suellen Morrison

Mrs. Meghan Blood Mrs. Marilyn Carroll

Mrs. Wanda Lee Bourn Mrs. Marilyn Carroll Sydni Boyd Anne Abel

Rev. Matt Buckles Mr. John W. Prewitt, Jr.

Rev. Kent and Gail Campbell Linda B. Vance

Mrs. Celeste Carroll
Mrs. Marilyn Carroll

Bro. James Clardy Mrs. Ann Smothers

Mrs. Patricia Duckworth Mr. Phil Duckworth Mrs. Diane Long

Dr. Randy Hankins
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Davis

Mrs. DeAnne Harris Mrs. Marilyn Carroll

Mr. Lester Herrington Mrs. Helen Herrington

Martha Holloway Mr. Daniel Holloway

Mr. Melvin Jones Adult III SSC, North Columbia BC

Ladies SSC, FBC Summit Mrs. Tanya Moore

Syble B. Lee Doris K. Lee

Deidra Lofton Anne Abel Mrs. Jeanette Mapp Mrs. Mary Randazzo

Mrs. Alissa McClure Mrs. Marilyn Carroll

Nita J. Morrison Judd and Gloria Morrison

Mrs. Peggy Palmer
Mark and Sherry Gunn

Jamie Beth Rials Anne Abel

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Robbie Stewart and East McComb Body Shop Anne and Ed Abel Stephen Stringer
Jim and Dee Lindley

The Prentiss Family Miss Mattie Rials

Elvis Thomas Linda and Eddie Grisham

Hope Thompson Miss Mattie Rials

Gary Thorne Mr. Jimmy Slay

Johnny and Delores Walker The David Putman Family

Ms. Bobbie Walker Mr. and Mrs. Rob Riley

Summer 2023 E3



There is something special about time spent with our BCV family. The quarterly ministry-wide E3 (Equipping Enriching Event) was hosted this summer by Colonial Heights Baptist Church. Their

volunteers helped set-up, clean-up and much more in between. We are so blessed to have such strong and engaged ministry partners like Colonial Heights.

The "equipping" topic for this gathering was "Avoiding Burnout." Fellowship time in the morning followed by this informative training led by Dr. Ron Mumbower, Ph.D., LMFT resonated with our BCV staff, particularly those on the front lines of the ministry. Perhaps as encouraging was hearing a brief testimony from alumnus Clay Sutton who shared the impact Houseparent Missionaries and other BCV staff

had on his life and how grateful he is for the ways God used these people in his life. Teenagers also enjoyed hearing from one who once walked in their shoes.

Support staff helped host campus children and adults from all campuses throughout the

state and served them a hearty barbecue lunch. Campus staff prepared desserts for a Dessert Contest. Floating Housemother Debbie Hawes took first place, Deanash Campus Housemother Wendy Stockman took second and Reedy Acres Campus Ministry Assistant Barbara Griffin took third (accepted by Campus Director Tim Lampley).

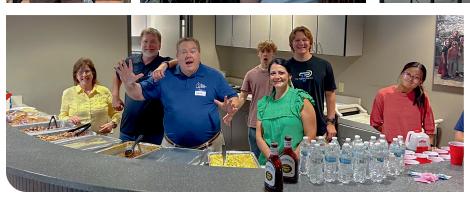
Kudos to BCV Ministry Pastor Darron Byrd for putting together a Saturday that our staff and our residents from across the state could enjoy together. For some, the only time they get to see each other is at these quarterly gatherings and they are grateful for those opportunities. Now off to the work at hand but all are looking forward to the next E3 in October. Enjoy this gallery,















BCV Tribute Gifts (continued)

Mr. Dan D. Wright, Sr. Mr. Dan D. Wright

In Memory of

Ruby Jean Anderson Kolola Springs BC

Mrs. Janet Armstrong Mrs. Frances Roberts

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Mattie Mae Bailey Greg and Linda Wall

Mr. Tom Bailey June Starnes

Elinor Baker Nancy and Rufus Warren

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Mrs. Odelle T. Barlow Heaven Bound Adult 5 Class, Crossway Church Chuck and Rita Mendrop

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Sallie H. Batson Mrs. Elizabeth B. Batson

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Jim, Cindy and Ryan McCurdy

Lucille Bevill Glenda Scarbrough

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Joe Brim Carol C. Smith Mrs. Betty Brock
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Ms. Nancy M. Hewitt
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Howell
Buddy and Linda Meyer

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Willie Mae Cole Bullock Ray and Judy Bush

Ricky Burchfield Stanton BC

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Arthur and Bettie Bishop

Brandon Butler Kathy Collier

Joe Burt Cade Patricia Triplett

Lela Calhoun
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Mcl emore

Jessie Campbell Barbara Easterling

Tammy Gibson Case Jerry C. and Judy P. Hardy

Calvin Causey
Joe and Trish Maggio

Beverly Chustz

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Hunter Cobb

Carol C. Smith

James Earl Coleman Louise Coleman

Mrs. Willie Cole Mr. Tony Rogers

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Sylvia Price Hinton Mr. Harold Hinton

Jane HogbinDale and Elaine Haag

Horace C. Holmes Mr. Larry Holmes

LeFay M. Holmes
Mr. Larry Holmes
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Jan Little

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Mrs. Susy Sanders
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Newman Sr. and Marye Helen
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Glynda Woodruff Tony and Rhonda Fulton

Mary Lee Wright

The Scarbrough Family Patsy Wright

Mr. and Mrs. James T. Farrar

J. T. Yates Branch BC

Carley Yawn
Philip and Kathy Patrick

Personal Reflection

BCV family and investment in the next generation have occupied much of my musings this quarter. One alumnus called recently to say they wanted to purchase back to school shoes for all the children on the campus where they once lived. One gave up a Saturday to encourage staff and residents at a statewide event. Another responded immediately to my plea for help on a project. I can always count on several alumni to chime in on our social media posts offering encouragement to new staff and volunteers.

I was reminded in a recent conversation that the sweet gifts of family and supportive colleagues are not a gift everyone enjoys. How kind our Heavenly Father is to grant The Baptist Children's Village such a legacy where alumni from decades ago care about the children who walk today where they once walked and staff who care so deeply for children who aren't theirs that when they leave or make a mistake they grieve deeply and pray that God would continue his watchcare beyond their personal watchful eye.

Today I pause to acknowledge that this ministry and its people benefit greatly from the extraordinary kindness of God and His good gifts of family and renewed strength on those hardest of days.

Bless the Lord 0 my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your

diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. Psalm 103:2-5

Chrystelle Thames

Director of Communications



Mississippi Individuals & Businesses Eligible for Tax Credit

Your Tax Liability . . . Give it to the Government . . . or Give it to Change Children's Lives.



Your clients can help children without affecting their budgets.

There exists an opportunity for Mississippi business owners and individuals to help provide homes, food, education, and medical care for at-risk children in Mississippi. They are able to do this without changing or increasing their budgeted charitable donations or expenses.



Here is how:

Passed in 2019 by the MS Legislature, the **Children's Promise Act** (MS code §27-7-22.39 & §27-7-22.41) allows business owners to receive a dollar-for-dollar tax credit of up to half their MS tax liability by gifting that portion to an Eligible Charitable Organization (ECO) like The Baptist Children's Village. Individuals may receive a tax credit of up to \$3,000 if filing jointly (\$1,500 filing single).

CHILDREN'S PROMISE ACT TAX CREDIT

For more information about application deadlines contact Tim McWilliams at tmcwilliams@bcvms.com or 601.952.2422