Godspeed Class of 2019, Welcome New Family

Again, I find myself at my desk at 3:15am. It is Thursday, May 2. Why am I here at 3:15am? I am here every night, seven days a week from about 9pm till the clock nears 6am. Aside from working day shift from 6am till 2pm, I have elected to work the midnight shift also.

If I had to choose between the two shifts, I would, without hesitation, take the midnight shift. I can get more done without interruption and constant phone ringing. It is quiet, peaceful and gives me time to reflect on various areas of the ministry. I have kept this weird routine ever since Sandy died nearly 12 years ago and over that span it has grown on me – I love it!

OK, enough of this rambling. Time to get serious and down to business. First, the weather has been great, to say the least, with mid 80s during the day and cool 60s at night. Finally, not much rain!

School is winding down with only six more days to go. This year we have our largest graduating class with 13 students getting a handshake and a diploma from me, and maybe some hugs. We will have one that is my granddaughter (no grandsons this year), several local kids and one from the Bahamas. A few of the girls graduating have known each other since diapers.

Plans this summer in the line of construction are to finish up the inside work on the addition to the Butchie House while converting the two classrooms in our annex into four classrooms to accommodate Pre K through second grade. We will also be working on covering the walkway between that building and our main school facility – that will be a tremendous help with security and, of course, when it rains. We are doing a complete overhaul of our playground area behind the school as well and are already in the process of finding grant opportunities to fund this. It looks like we are also going to be building a small office addition to accommodate some of the staff changes we are making.

As most of y’all know, Scott Jones has been our basketball and volleyball coach for 20 seasons and has been our principal for almost as long. We are also looking to add baseball again after a trial run a couple years ago. His son graduated about 10 years ago now and his twin 18-year-old daughters are graduating this year. The girls were originally Born Free babies. When their mother put them up for adoption, Scott and his wife, Priscilla, jumped at the chance to add them to their family. It has now been about two years since Priscilla lost her battle with cancer. Graduation day is going to be extra emotional for Scott and the girls. Rest assured Priscilla will be present in spirit with Sandy watching as we hand out the diplomas.

This seems like a perfect time to transition Scott into a different role as handling multiple positions for many years has taken its toll. Scott will now teach PE and Health while continuing his role as Athletic Director and coach. God is good!

We didn’t know it at the time, but a family began working in our Academy at the beginning of this school year with just the right person to take on the challenge of being our principal. The Lord directed the whole process and now, Bro. David Lamb has accepted the position. He and his wife, April, with their five kids (and one on the way), have commuted from Richmond where David pastored a church that he founded. They have now moved locally and feel led to be a big part of our ministry. His daughters routinely lead worship in our chapel. We are blessed to have them.

Speaking of blessings, this year has been a year of diverse growth. We had a Mexican family join us as well as family that is originally from Russia. Add those to our young men from the Caribbean Islands and we have a lot of fun culture to blend with
Look at the latest addition to our Born Free family! Little Immanuel is so precious. Here he is enjoying a little nap in the big playroom of the Angel House. The phrase “sleep like a baby” is really true here as he sleeps during the chaos of the toddlers playing on the other side of the room.

the local children at the Galilean Christian Academy in our 32nd year. Not bad for starting with just our family in the basement of the main house in 1987. The percentage of graduates pursuing college has gone up tremendously over recent years. While we don’t base our “success” on college attendance, we are proud to say we have 14 at colleges and universities from the last four years and are adding several more out of this class. Many are on scholarships for academics and athletics.

While I am talking about the school, I need to mention that we had nine members of our senior class, along with four chaperones, go to Jamaica for a one-week mission trip during Spring Break. They built a house for a local family along with other outreach while they were there. This group raised over $20,000 to go and didn’t cost the school a dime.

I went on a mission trip to Jamaica back in 1987. Jeremy (the first and the worst that you read about last month) went with me and was about 18 at the time. He will be 50 in a few days. That trip opened my eyes to out-of-the-country missions which led me to my love for Honduras (62 trips there). Jeremy accompanied me on several trips there and also to Paraguay once in 1988. I pray their trip impacts them as much as my first one impacted me.

OK folks, I saved the best for last! Yesterday, we received baby Immanuel whose mother is incarcerated in Louisville, KY. Giving us three Born Free babies at the moment with another one coming soon I hear. We have had over 700 babies and young children come through Born Free since Mom accepted our first one in the summer of 1991. We arrange weekly visits with the mothers and reunite mom and baby when their terms are served.

On any given day, the Angel House, built in 1995, is full of fun and laughter (and other sounds) as there are around 12 to 15 from infant to age four whose moms or dads (sometimes both) work for us on campus and wouldn’t be able afford child care otherwise.

It isn’t only babies brightening our lives daily as we have our special needs family down on the “main” part of campus. We have over 30, full-time residents ranging in need. We recently welcomed Chris to our family! He is from just 2 miles down the road and nearly 100% blind along with other mental challenges. He is non-verbal, but that all goes out the window when it comes to music. He hums and sings all day. Chris LOVES music and lives in his own world. He is already a major blessing to us. It is fitting that his new home is the Blessing House joining some of our family that have been with us for many years (some for more than 35 years).

Well, I will close this newsletter as it is time for me to get working on my next shift for the day. I love it! I wouldn’t change it for anything in this world other than having Sandy back at my side.

As I have said after every newsletter I write, we might be the hands and feet of the Galilean Home, but all of you all (30,000+!) that receive this newsletter are the backbone of this marvelous work. You have sustained us for 50 years as I mentioned last month. We are not a licensed facility and never will be. We have proven that we are worth our salt over the years and many decades. If The Lord tarries, we will be here for many more decades to come. We are not, nor have we ever been, just a temporary haven for the “least among us.” We are here for the long haul — till The Lord returns.

Feel free to stop in (no reservations required) day or night. Remember, I work ALL night and would love to have a cup of coffee with you at two or three in the morning. We can talk about whatever people talk about at that time of night. Certainly not politics or sports, but about how good our God is and how He supplies our needs (not our wants) every day and not just on occasion.

Gotta go! I’m running out of paper and I need to get a cup of coffee. Y’All stop in and we can reminisce.

Serving out His Calling,

—Jerry, Dad, Papaw or Papa’ Oso

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We have an email list! If you would like to sign up, go to our website at www.galileanhome.org or our Facebook page at facebook.com/GalileanChildrensHome.
GET INVOLVED

Our volunteer program is a good way to dive in and be the hands and feet of Jesus in our ministry. Ladies 18 & older, if you feel you have the love and patience along with a good amount of flexibility to care for our family, we encourage you to apply. Volunteers are very important part of what we do. You get to care for our severely handicapped residents in the Blessing House, and other members of our family, as well as caring for our babies at the Angel House. We also need teacher's aides for our academy, so there are plenty of areas in which to serve. We provide housing and basic needs, but do require at least a three-month commitment.

Please prayerfully consider this and give our Volunteer Coordinator, Dawn Shultz, a call at 606.706.9457 or email her at dshultz@galileanhome.org for more information.

UPCOMING PROGRAM SCHEDULE

May 19 10:30am • Owensburg Baptist Church (Owensburg, IN)
June 2 11:00am • Ruddles Mills Christian Church (Paris, KY)
June 9 9:00, 10:15 & 11:30am • Grace Heartload Church (Elizabethtown, KY)
July 7 11:00am • Torrent First Church of God (Campion, KY)
June 30 11:00am • Jerusalem Temple Apostolic Faith Assembly (Indianapolis, IN)
Aug 4 11:00am • Flat Creek Baptist Church (Rockholds, KY)

Email quincy@galileanhome.org to book our program.

All times are Eastern time.

MOM'S BOOKS

You can get both of Sandy's books for just $20.
Faith, Hope and Room for One More and Precious in His Sight

KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS

Thank you for blessing us while you shop!
To ensure Kroger can appropriately donate to Galilean Home Ministries, Inc. on your behalf, please register your Kroger Plus card and be sure to use our organization number "u1791"

30TH ANNUAL GALILEAN QUILT & CRAFT AUCTION

October 11 & 12, 2019

Hey folks! It's time to plan out your quilt or craft to donate for our 30th annual auction. We can't help but remember how much Mom loved this event. So, let's get working on those big, beautiful quilts and crafts and have our best auction ever.
Remember, it helps us if you measure your quilt and let us know what the pattern is.
- Quilt & Craft Auction Committee (606.787.5120)

more info at galileanhome.org
CURRENT NEEDS LIST
✓ Desitin ✓ A&D Ointment ✓ Ibuprofen
✓ Pine Sol ✓ Size 5 Baby Diapers
✓ Adult Diapers – Size M (not the pull up type)
  (Orders over $50 on diapers.com get free shipping)
✓ Cold and Sinus Medicine ✓ Hand Sanitizer
✓ Toddler Snacks ✓ Apple Juice
✓ Toilet Paper ✓ Baby Food Veggies
✓ 13-Gallon & 33-Gallon Trash Bags
✓ Paper Towels ✓ Disinfectant Wipes

THANK YOU!
More on our needs list at www.galileanhome.org/get-involved

GALILEAN CHILDREN’S HOME
PO BOX 880
LIBERTY, KY 42539-0880

JUST A REMINDER:
You can designate your United Way contribution to us. (Our agency # is 7003). You would need to fill out an application with your employer.

WOULD YOU CONSIDER DONATING MEAT?
A large portion of our grocery budget is meat. We can get 175 lbs of chicken for $200 and 150 lbs of beef for $300. You can designate your tax-deductible donation to purchasing meat for the Galilean Home by calling Joey at 606.706.1735.

DON’T FORGET YOUR
GHM SHIRT!
Just $10 each, or 3 for $25
(throw in a little extra for shipping too)
We have black, pink, blue, and gray

HOURS:
Mon.-Thurs. 10:30AM - 8PM
Friday 10:30AM - 9PM
Saturday 7AM - 9PM

CLOSED SUNDAY
All Times are Eastern

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