

# HOME NEWS

A Publication of Your Louisiana Baptist Children's Home & Family Ministries

## YOU give HER HOPE

Children's Home Sunday  
Annual Offering — June 19, 2022



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HomePlace

May/June 2022

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# Words from Home...

Perry Hancock, PhD  
President & CEO



I wish that you could have been with us at the annual Children’s Celebration Banquet last week. The event is attended each year by our children, staff, teachers, church members, trustees, and other special friends who have played an important role in the success of our children. The banquet is sponsored every year by the Judy Lynn Bailey Endowment Fund.

The theme of our banquet was “The Goodness of God.” The Scripture verse was Psalm 34:8. “Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!”

Our speaker for the night was to have been George Dennehy. He was unable to attend because of flight delays. We were, however, able to show a video of George giving his testimony. He was born in Romania and placed in an orphanage because he has no arms. George was adopted by a Christian couple in the United States who introduced him to the Savior. George now travels the world telling everyone about the Goodness of God in his life.

At the banquet we also enjoyed musical performances by the children and the year-end slide show. A final highlight of the night was the recognition of each child. Cottage parents, family workers, administrative staff, and others identified traits in each child that can be found in a follower of Christ. Those qualities were placed on a certificate and presented to each child. I wish you could have seen their faces as they received such positive recognition.

Thank you so much for your support which makes this work possible. Because of

your special love and care, our children are growing into all that God has for them. You are truly changing lives every day at LBCH.

When you have the opportunity, plan a visit to our campus in Monroe. We would love to give you a tour and thank you personally for making the Children’s Home a place Where God’s Love Takes You In.



## PRAYER CALENDAR...

Khloe .....	June 1
LaDona .....	June 2
Kahlani .....	June 3
Josie .....	June 4
Amelia .....	June 5
Kayla .....	June 6
Shelbie .....	June 7
Michelle .....	June 8
Gracie .....	June 9
Zoey .....	June 10
Kyler .....	June 11
Clayton .....	June 12
Hailey .....	June 13
Zachary .....	June 14
Angela .....	June 15
Sophia .....	June 16
Ashley .....	June 17
Ashton .....	June 18
Oliver .....	June 19
Ashley .....	June 20
Kolton .....	June 21
Kenely .....	June 22
Kenzie .....	June 23
Kailen .....	June 24
.....	June 25
.....	June 26
Linda .....	June 27
Isaac .....	June 28
Nicole .....	June 29
Jett .....	June 30
Toni .....	July 1
Winston .....	July 2
Reagan .....	July 3
Fisher .....	July 4
Finley .....	July 5

Katie .....	July 6
Emma .....	July 10
Sincere .....	July 11
Elijah .....	July 12
Adriana .....	July 13
Zay .....	July 14
Ma’Rissa .....	July 15

## Birthdays...

Braxton .....	June 25
Kailen .....	June 29
Reagan .....	June 29
Kolton .....	July 13
Oliver .....	July 14
Isaac .....	July 15
Khloe .....	July 20
Morganna .....	July 22
Ashton .....	July 24
Ma’Rissa .....	July 25



## • OUR MISSION •

The mission of the Louisiana Baptist Children’s Home and Family Ministries is to provide love, care, and hope in Christ for children and families in need.

## • OUR VALUES •

- We value the Bible as the foundation and guide for our ministry  
(2 Timothy 3:16).
- We value the worth of the Children and Families to whom we minister  
(Genesis 1:27).
- We value Servant Leadership as our model for ministry  
(Mark 9:35).
- We value Excellence as our standard for ministry performance  
(Colossians 3:17).
- We value Personal Integrity as our ministry standard for living

## • TRUSTEES •

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Julie Cupples, LBCH Director of Communications





# Campus Spotlight...

## The Bauman Family

*“We have more to do!”*

Cody and Leslie Bauman have been an active part of LBCH & Family Ministries for years. They initially became involved by serving as resource parents. Following the birth of their son Henry, the couple decided to add to their family through adoption. Through their home study, the Baumans met Melody Karamanis, LCSW, BACS, who at that time was serving as a Family Services Worker at LBCH.

After Nelle became part of their family, Cody and Leslie continued to serve as resource parents, but they prayerfully agreed, “We have more to do.” They felt God was leading them to serve as foster parents, so the Baumans called on Melody for more information and to help them through the home study and approval process which are part of every placement.

“Once again, Melody walked us through all the details.” Leslie recalls that their first foster placement was challenging, but Melody was there as a sounding board and to provide support and encouragement. “There is always hope that families can be restored, and there are often family visits to help facilitate that. Sometimes these are unsupervised, sometimes the foster parents supervise the visits. There were occasions we called Melody to be with us for the supervised visits with this family, and she was always available to help,” says Leslie.

Melody is thankful for the Baumans’ ministry to families in need. “When Cody and Leslie have a foster child, they jump into it with both feet. They are great advocates for the child. They work hard to do whatever needs to be done to take care of the child, including services the child might need (i.e., occupational or physical therapy, speech therapy, counseling, etc.). They love the child fiercely, and they are protective of the child. I have seen them work to develop a relationship with the biological parents and to encourage and offer help so the parents can do what they need to do to get their children back. However, if the parents are not doing well, Cody and Leslie will draw the line, first to protect the child, then to let the parents know, ‘When you’re ready to get help, contact us.’”

Cody and Leslie normally foster the younger children. Leslie smiles as she shares that when they get the phone call about a potential placement, the entire family is excited. Sometimes the placement comes through, sometimes the child is placed elsewhere. Whatever the outcome, the family is at peace knowing that “each child is where God wants them to be.” That’s the reassurance she offers when Henry and Nelle sometimes talk about missing a child who has spent time in their home or when a placement goes elsewhere. She reminds Henry and Nelle that each of them is also exactly where God wants them to be.”

“Fostering requires a lot of faith, and some situations are more challenging than others. Sometimes you know that a child has a parent who just needs a break or an opportunity to get back on their feet. Sometimes the child cannot be returned to a parent, but there’s a grandparent or other relative, someone who can offer a home for the child. Sometimes there is no one. There are times we know what the next placement is; other times we don’t. You may have watched this little one go from a bottle to eating, first steps, or some may be recovering from a parent’s addictions. Whatever their situation, you know you are here to be the intermediary for that child for whatever length of time. You take care of them, you trust God for their placement, and you say goodbye,” says Leslie.

When asked what advice the Baumans might have for families considering fostering, Leslie quickly responds, “Faith! Fostering is not easy! You have to trust God through all parts of the process. You’ve got to have family, friends, a church family, and a LIFE Group praying for you and supporting you. You must have that support because there will be hard days.”

“Faith is huge as your family loves each child you foster, but you know it’s short term. You pray for the child and the parents. You pray for their family to be restored, but you also pray for the right placement when bringing the family together is not an option.”

Leslie continues, “You also need wisdom to know when God might be leading in a different direction, or sometimes it’s a matter of timing. There was a situation where we talked about the possibility of adopting. We really didn’t feel that was the answer, but we also felt there was something more to this situation and we didn’t want to miss it. After a time, we decided to share the situation with our LIFE Group and ask them to pray with us. In asking for their support, we learned there was a family in the group that felt they were being called to adopt. It is amazing as you look back and you can see how God has worked out every detail through relationships, situations, and with His perfect timing.”



Timing was an issue again last fall when Joanie came into their home. In ministering to Joanie and her family, there was a point when the Baumans knew that adoption was their next step. Joanie, who will soon be 4, is now officially part of their family.

The Baumans are looking forward to the summer and their time together as a family of five. Their days are busy with Henry, 10, playing football and baseball. Nelle, who is almost 7, enjoys competitive gymnastics, softball, and dance. Joanie takes dance and according to Leslie, “she thinks it’s the bee’s knees!” Cody and Leslie enjoy traveling with their family with the goal of letting the kids visit as many of the 50 states as possible along with stops at some of the National Parks. And whatever else they might be involved in, this family is always ready for that phone call regarding their next placement.

Little did they know when they met in 2014 that not only would Leslie, Cody and Melody continue to work together to minister to families in need, but they would also become great friends. Leslie is thankful for Melody and the help LBCH and Family Ministries offer to resource and foster parents. “Melody (who is now Assistant Director of Child & Family Services) is amazing. She has been with us and helped us through every one of our placements. When there is a situation where we have questions, need resources or whatever, there is always an immediate response. She’s always there. It also makes a huge difference when you’re working with a Christian-based organization like LBCH and the Family Ministries team. You feel safe. They are always here for you and, as Christians, you approach challenges in a different way.”

“The Baumans are awesome foster parents,” says Melody. “They are not your typical foster parents. They not only have a heart to serve children, but they have a heart to improve the foster care system and community. Cody has worked with the local representative and testified in the Louisiana Capitol to advocate for foster parents to increase the foster parent stipend, get tax credit, etc. He is a board member with several community, non-profit organizations. Cody and Leslie truly live out, ‘We want to leave this world a better place.’ They are great assets to LBCH’s Foster Care Ministry. We are blessed to have them.”

***If you would like information on becoming a foster parent, please visit [connect1child.org](https://connect1child.org) or call 318.343.2244 to be connected to our foster care specialist in your area.***





# Homebuilders...



## Children’s Home Sunday Offering — Father’s Day, June 19!

### Why Do We Care for the Fatherless?

It is important to reflect on why we care for orphans – to consider the biblical foundations for foster care, adoption, and orphan care ministries. God gives ample reasons through His Word for His people to be motivated and mobilized to care for the fatherless.

The Old Testament clearly reveals a pattern of God’s care for the orphan and His command for His followers to demonstrate compassion for them in tangible and practical ways. God demands that the orphan be treated with justice and shown mercy. God equates mistreating the fatherless with sin and He equates caring for the fatherless with righteousness and blessing (see Exodus 22:22; Deuteronomy 10:18; 14:28-29; 24:17-21; 27:19; Job 24:3; 29:11-12; Psalm 10:14, 18; 68:5-6; 82:3; 94:3-7; 146:7-9; Proverbs 23:10-11; Isaiah 1:16-17, 23; 10:12; Jeremiah 5:28; 7:1-7; 22:3; 49:11; Hosea 14:3; Zechariah 7:8-10; and Malachi 3:5).

The New Testament doctrine of adoption can be found in five passages in the apostle Paul’s epistles: Romans 8:14-17, 23; 9:4; Galatians 4:3-7; and Ephesians 1:3-6. New Testament adoption describes the act of God whereby He makes us members of His family, by grace through faith in His Son, Jesus Christ, thus granting us all the rights, privileges, and responsibilities therein. No community of people in this world should be more attuned to the cries of the orphan than the dearly loved, adopted children of God. Courage, confidence, and endurance in our care for orphans, especially when life is tough, should flow from our knowledge that God deals with us in terms of our adoption in and union with Christ.

James 1:27 states, “Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of our God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.” The phrase “orphans and widows” is used over forty times by Old Testament writers, but only once in the New Testament. The first century Jewish Christian readers immediately knew what James was calling for based upon their knowledge of the Old Testament. Followers of Yahweh, true disciples of Christ, will “visit” (*episkeptomai*) – which means “actually extend real care toward orphans.” This pivotal verse is the New Testament foundation for the call to minister to the orphan. It must be read and understood in relation to the many Old Testament texts that call for justice and provision for the fatherless.

These three areas of Scripture bear strong witness to God’s care for the fatherless and His clear desire that His people do likewise. It is only through the generosity of God’s people that we can meet the tremendous needs of the fatherless that we encounter every day. Thank you!

I pray that you and your church will join with others across our state and give generously to this year’s Children’s Home Sunday Offering scheduled for Father’s Day, June 19. You can discover the many ways you can be a “helper of the orphan” (Psalm 10:14) through our “Connect1Child” ministry at [connect1child.org](http://connect1child.org) or [lbch.org](http://lbch.org).

Thank you for aligning your hearts with our Lord to accomplish His will in caring for children in need!



## Hope Cottage Now Offering Residential Care for Ministers in Transition...

On April 14, the Children’s Home marked the renovation of Hope Cottage that will house the Minister Care Residential Program. This ministry will provide housing for Louisiana Baptist Convention ministers in transition and for Southern Baptist Convention missionaries on stateside assignment, transitioning to a new ministry, or retiring from missionary service. Housing is provided at no cost for up to twelve months on the Monroe campus. Professional Christian counseling will be available through Granberry Counseling Centers. Vocational ministry assessments will also be available as needed. For more info and an online application visit [LBCH.org](http://LBCH.org) under “What We Do” or contact Dr. Dennis Phelps at [dennis@lbch.org](mailto:dennis@lbch.org) or 318.343.2244.

*Pictured: Nancy Epperson, LBCH Administrative Assistant, Dr. Dennis Phelps, Director of Church, Minister, and Alumni Relations, Dr. Perry Hancock, President and CEO, and Marc Eichelberger, Vice-President of Development and Public Relations*

## Tangipahoa Baptist Church Makes a Special Donation



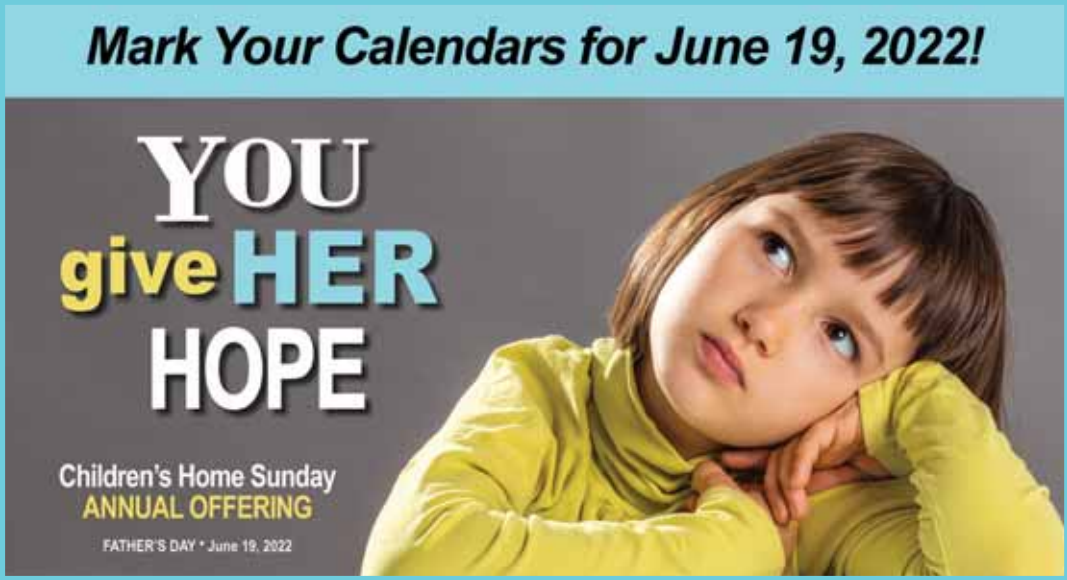
It was great having friends all the way from Tangipahoa Baptist Church in Kentood visit for a Saturday tour. The group brought along a load of beautiful linens they collected for our residents. Thank you friends!

## Congratulations to Former Resident!



We would like to congratulate former LBCH resident, Anita Gordin, on her recent graduation from Delta Community College in Monroe. Anita graduated Cum Laude with an Associate of Science degree. She plans to enroll at the University of Louisiana Monroe in the fall to further her studies.





Dear Friend of Children,

Amy\* and Ethan\* came to us about a year ago after their father was arrested and their drug-addicted mother abandoned them. These two precious siblings were desperately in need of help. Thanks to supportive friends like you, they are in a safe, loving home here on our campus. Their cottage parents are showing them what it's like to live in a caring, Christian family.

Every day I see how your kindness and generosity impact our children. You give children who are neglected, abused, and abandoned a safe, stable home. You make every meal, every bedtime prayer, and every peaceful night's rest possible. You provide them with the opportunity to learn about God's great love for them in Christ. Thank you!

This Father's Day, June 19, you and your church have the opportunity to continue making an immediate and eternal difference in the lives of many more children like Amy and Ethan. Your support through our Children's Home Sunday Annual Offering demonstrates God's heart of compassion for "the least of these."

We could not meet the ever-increasing needs we encounter daily without the partnership of our Louisiana Baptist Churches and friends of children across the state. I cannot thank you enough for providing the Christ-centered ministries that our Lord uses every day to meet needs and change lives.

I hope you will consider visiting our beautiful Monroe campus. We would love to give you a tour and let you see all that you're doing to provide love, care, and hope in Christ for children and families in need. You're always welcome!

Thanks again for remembering the fatherless this Father's Day and giving generously to our Children's Home Sunday Annual offering. We are grateful!

For the Children,

Perry Hancock, Ph.D.  
President & CEO

*\*Name changed to protect confidentiality.*

Louisiana Baptist Children's Home & Family Ministries - P.O. Box 4196, Monroe, LA 71211 - 318.343.2244 - [www.lbch.org](http://www.lbch.org)

YES, I want to help children in need with my gift!

\_\_\_\$100 \_\_\_\$50 \_\_\_\$25 Other \$\_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

\*Credit Card Info: Account No: \_\_\_\_\_ Visa\_\_\_ MC\_\_\_ AmX\_\_\_ Discover\_\_\_

\*Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Code: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

(Optional): I would like to present my gift in \_\_\_ memory of or \_\_\_ honor of

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Please notify (honoree/relative) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_Send me your FREE Personal Estate Planner \_\_\_Send me info on how to become a monthly sponsor \*Required for credit card processing

GIVE ONLINE AT  
LBCH.ORG  
or  
Text the word "GIVE "  
to 318-269-7440



# Become a HOPEBuilder!

## HopeBuilders: A Special Group of Heroes to Children in Need

Heroes protect the vulnerable, restore the broken, and bring hope in desperate situations. Every child who has been neglected, abused, or abandoned needs a hero. Our HopeBuilder Monthly Sponsor Ministry gives YOU the opportunity to be a hero to children in need.

When you become a "HopeBuilder," you join a special group of people making monthly investments in the lives of precious children, providing them with love, care, and hope in Christ.

Here's how it works: Go to our website at LBCH.ORG and click on the GIVE NOW button. Set up recurring monthly gifts (\$10 minimum) using Visa, MasterCard, Discover Card, American Express, Debit Card, or E-Check. Simply put HopeBuilder in the notes section. You may cancel your monthly donations at any time. It's that easy! You may also give by check. Simply put HopeBuilder on the memo line and mail to LBCH, PO Box 4196, Monroe, LA 71211.



# Women’s Learning Center Celebrates Annual Graduation...

On the evening of May 5, the Women’s Learning Center (formerly Christian Women’s Job Corps of Monroe) celebrated our annual graduation. We were blessed with an excellent group of ladies who love the Lord, love their families, and worked hard to reach their goals. The goals they reached will open doors for a much better life for them and their children.

We had three graduates who completed their HiSET. Two of these ladies will be attending Delta Community College and one will be attending Houston Community College in the fall. All of them will be pursuing nursing degrees.

We had six ladies who successfully completed one or more of the HiSET exams and will be continuing their studies with us. One of our graduates successfully completed her HiSET and the career track certification. She was also inducted into the National Adult Education Honor Society.

We had five ladies enrolled in our career track who successfully completed the certification in NorthStar Digital Literacy, a nationally recognized certification. Many of our students are residents in our HomePlace program and others come to us from our community.

The Women’s Learning Center, established in 2010, provides students with training for their career path, encouragement from fellow students and our ministry team, in a caring and accepting environment as they prepare for a better life and a brighter future.



## Campers on Mission Tackle Campus Projects...



*Pictured: Jenny Jones and Vera Blunt (LBCH food service), Cliff and Charlotte Anglin, Lynn and Kay Casiday, Nolan and Donna Deselle, Randy and Lynne Franks, Wayne and Ivona Green, Roy and Debbie Miley, J. T. and Michelle Pyles, Bill and Joyce Temple, Brian Vignes, James Dale White, Barry Collins, and Donald Bryan.*

Our Louisiana Baptist Campers on Mission recently spent a week on our Children’s Home campus. And what a week with these hard-working Baptists can accomplish! Members of this volunteer group not only demonstrated a strong work ethic, but also exhibited a warm, cooperative, Christlike spirit as they tackled many campus projects.

They repaired and repainted building signs, power washed, cleaned windows, lined commissary shelves, repaired cottage awnings, repaired the bayou pier, landscaped, and set up a new putt-putt golf course (just to name a few projects)!

This wonderful, servant-hearted crew enjoyed great food (prepared by own Jenny Jones and Vera Blunt), great times of fellowship and Spirit-inspired worship.

Thanks to Roy Miley, Campers on Mission president, and his entire team of volunteers for providing an incredible week of accomplishments!

## Stress Tops Mental Health Challenges Pastors Face...

According to the latest release in Lifeway Research’s 2022 “Greatest Needs of Pastors” study, stress stands out above the rest when it comes to the mental health challenges pastors face.

Lifeway Research interviewed 1,200 Protestant pastors across the U.S. and determined nearly four dozen needs they are facing today. Those needs were divided into seven categories: ministry difficulties, spiritual needs, mental challenges, personal life, self-care, people dynamics, and areas of skill development. The study identified six specific mental challenges in ministry: depression, discouragement, distraction, loneliness or lack of friendship, and lack of contentment and stress.

Sixty-three percent of the pastors interviewed pointed to stress as the number one mental health challenge they are currently facing in ministry. The youngest pastors (ages 18-44) are the most likely to say they deal with stress in ministry (78 percent).

“Americans have become much more aware of mental wellbeing, and young pastors have grown up in a culture with much greater transparency around these challenges than previous generations,” said Scott McConnell, executive director of Lifeway Research. “The high number of young pastors wanting to address these mental challenges means although awareness is higher among them, many have not yet successfully embraced the boundaries, habits, and preventative measures they need.”

Pastoral burnout has worsened during the pandemic. A Barna Group survey released in November 2021 found that 38 percent of pastors are seriously considering leaving full-time ministry, up from 29 percent in January of the same year.

The greater number of pastors rethinking their profession correlates with rising stress and worse mental health in general. Back in 2016, 85 percent of pastors rated

their mental wellbeing as good or excellent, according to a previous Barna poll. In an October 2021 poll, it was down to 60 percent.

“The change that has been accelerating in the last 18 months has left a lot of pastors with their heads spinning and their hearts spinning as well,” said Joe Jensen, Barna’s vice president of church engagement. “All the chaos, all the pressure, the magnifying glass of social media, the pandemic, the politics, the hyper-digital context, it makes sense that you have a lot of pastors saying, ‘Is this really what I signed up for? Is this what I was called into?’”

Having served as a pastor’s wife for 25 years, I know that just being in pastoral ministry can be stressful enough. Add to that stress, all these other major stress factors, and it’s not surprising to see the results of the research.

Help is available! Professional Christian counseling is available for Southern Baptist ministers, their spouse, and/or dependent children through a partnership with Granberry Counseling Centers and the LBC Pastoral Leadership Team. The standard fee is \$90.00 per 50-minute session. However, financial assistance is available through the Pastoral Leadership Team. No one is refused help due to financial reasons. Counseling services are provided at no cost to Southern Baptist ministers who are in transition.

**Contact Granberry at 318-345-8200 or 877-345-7411 or [granberrycounseling.org](https://granberrycounseling.org).  
Contact the LBC Pastoral Leadership Team at 318-448-3402 or 800-622-6549.**

*All contacts are strictly confidential, including phone calls.*

Sources: “Stress Tops Mental Challenges Pastors Face,” by Marissa Postell, April 26, 2022, Baptist Press. “Barna Leaders and Pastors,” November 16, 2021, <https://www.barna.com/research/pastors-well-being/>



**Kathy Eichelberger**  
Director  
Granberry Counseling  
Centers



**Jonann Byargeon**  
Director of HomePlace



## Highlights from HomePlace...

We're enjoying the summer break and a more relaxed schedule in Homeplace. Even so, we're already looking ahead to the fall. As I was writing this article, I remembered learning to drive as a teenager from my dad. He would allow me to practice driving while on our way to the garden. He knew how to motivate me. One especially important lesson he taught me, "keep your eyes on the road ahead, but always remember to check the rear-view mirror." I asked him why. His words were simple but wise: "You need to watch where you are headed, but always glancing back to see where you have been."

Looking ahead for Homeplace means we are always seeking ways to improve the care and increase the love extended to our moms and their children. But we also look back because this serves as a reminder of what we have achieved.

This spring we began Parenting 2.0. We had to reformat our parenting classes to accommodate our women's work schedules. Most of our residents work during the day, so our innovative approach is having group classes in the evening with a light meal provided for the moms and their children. The moms feel more at ease and find it easier to learn in the small group setting. Our recreation workers provide childcare while the moms are in class. Terri Davis, Homeplace associate director, and Kelli Crumley, HomePlace caseworker, led our first Parenting 2.0 session.

We had a great 2021-2022 academic year. Our school age children were promoted to the next grade level. One child was inducted into his school's Beta Club. We celebrated our families' accomplishments at the Children's Home Annual Awards Banquet. The HomePlace staff is grateful for all these achievements.

The cottage managers and case workers are diligent in guiding the moms in their time management skills. Many of our residents are learning to balance being a mom, being an employee, and guiding their children with schoolwork. Several moms are working to earn their high school diplomas, while others are participating in job skills training through our Women's Learning Center on campus. We are thankful for this valuable resource for our moms.

The Homeplace staff engaged in "Boundaries Training" led by Dr. Kathy Eichelberger, director of our Granberry Counseling Centers. This will improve our skills as we work together and guide our families to incorporate boundaries into their lives. Our moms share with us their challenges in knowing how to say "no." This is an essential skill in doing life in a healthy way.

As I write this article, one mom is working to save her money, and planning to take driver's education to obtain her driver's license. Her next goal is purchasing a car. I think I'll share my dad's wisdom, "eyes on the road, but always glancing back."

**For information on the HomePlace ministry  
call 318.343.2244**



**Graduation**



**Recognition**



**Fun at the Park**



**Parenting Class**



**Playtime**



**Sprinkler Fun**

**Christy Goodwin,**  
**LMSW**  
Foster & Adoption  
Specialist



## There is an Urgent Need for Foster Parents Across Our State...

Imagine being taken from the only home you've ever known because a complete stranger tells you it's not safe. Now imagine not having another home to go to, so you're sent away to a different town or parish. Imagine losing not just your family and home, but also your community and culture. Imagine growing up in Sterlington or Ferriday or (insert your own local rural town here) and having to be placed in New Orleans or Baton Rouge. Imagine being split up from your siblings because there are no homes with enough room for all of you. These transcultural placements and sibling separations are two of the frightening situations foster children must face because we don't have enough foster homes. In December 2021, there were approximately 1,800 foster homes for 3,200 children. Currently in the Alexandria region we have around 400 foster children and only 160 foster homes. The deficits are growing!

If you know God has been calling you to foster, now is the time! We need homes in every region of our state. You could be the reason a set of siblings get to stay together rather than being placed miles and miles apart. You could be the reason they get to experience comfort together rather than fear apart. You could be the reason a family is able to reunify by removing some of the geographical barriers that happen when

there is a shortage of homes. You could be the reason a child gets to see the love of Jesus in action.

Obviously, we need more foster homes, but we also need people who are willing to support them. Fostering is not easy. There are extra mouths to feed and clothes to wash. More children require more time and attention from parents, including additional trips to make appointments.

There are so many ways that one person can step up to help, even if they aren't called to be foster parents. You can donate to or volunteer with your local foster care ministries. You can offer to babysit or cook a meal. You can offer Foster Parent Nights Out in your church. You can pray for more families to be called to foster and for the families who are already certified and serving!

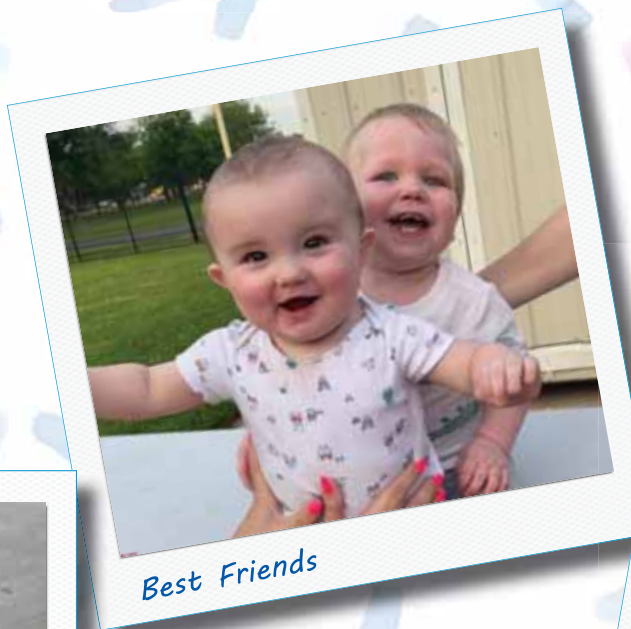
No matter what your spiritual gifts or talents may be, there is something you can do to support our foster children and families. Please consider taking a Next Step to fulfill our calling to serve them. Talk to your local Connect1Child specialist about how you can help! For more info go to [connect1child.org](http://connect1child.org) or [lbch.org](http://lbch.org).



# Snapshots...



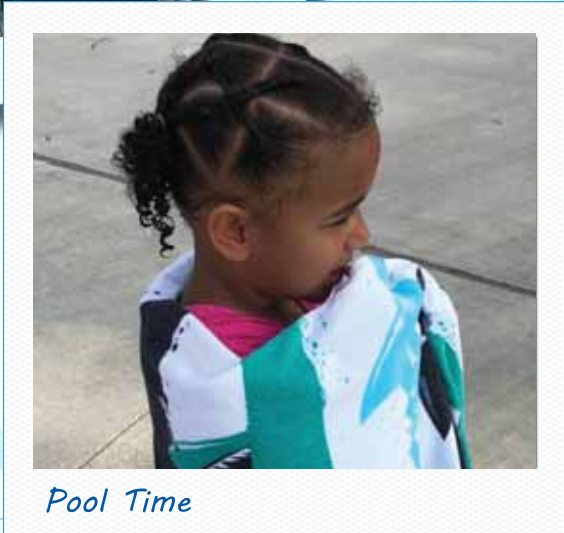
Faith Family



Best Friends



Achievement



Pool Time



Celebrating Children



Taco Tuesday



All Dressed Up



Hunting Eggs



Sliding Fun

## First Baptist Church Robeline Delivers “Millie Buckets” for Easter...

Leigh Lambert sensed the Lord leading her to do something in memory of her mother-in-law, Millie Lambert, for this Easter and the Children's Home came to her mind. This was Mrs. Millie's favorite ministry.

Leigh's husband, David, related that his mother was the secretary of FBC Robeline for over 30 years until she was killed in 2008. David shared, “Her death set in motion events that resulted in me going back to the church I grew up in and ultimately being saved.”

So, David called us and asked about providing Easter baskets for our children. He and Leigh presented the opportunity to their Sunday School class, and they got extremely excited. With the number of children involved, they decided to share the ministry opportunity with the entire congregation.

David shared, “It was a blessing to see people getting involved and making it happen. An Easter bucket was made for each child and after a presentation during a Sunday morning service, each bucket was ‘adopted.’ The church decided to call the buckets ‘Millie Buckets’ in my mother's honor.” David added, “My mother would not be happy about this as she did not like recognition one bit!”

David expressed how the church was truly blessed in being able to share the love of Jesus with our children. The church prayed over the Easter Buckets and for our LBCH children and staff.

Heath and Dustie Litton delivered the “Millie Buckets” on Thursday morning before Easter. Our LBCH staff and cottage parents were delighted in receiving these extraordinary gifts and sharing them with our children.

Thanks FBC Robeline for making this Easter special for all the children in our care!





# Memorials...

Memorial gifts are received in thoughtful tribute to the memory of a relative, friend or loved one. Names of deceased persons are printed in all caps followed by the names of those making the memorial gifts.

March 8 - May 18, 2022

CHARLES G. (CHAS) ALCOCK Gloria Jean Bray ROSALIE ALFORD Betty Joe Chance JANIE ALLEN Rusty & Lori Gean WANDA DARK ALLEN Patricia & Paul Miramon Glenn Talbert Dad & Donayle Ashworth Robert & Kathy Davis Jimmy & Mildred Shelton Anna Hall Michael & Melissa Riddick Charla, Greg & Mary Snelling Jerry & Janis Bass Ted & Daphne Terzia Mike & Eileen Adkins Carol, Carson & Cole Doughty Andy & Michelle Osborn Johnny & Pam Cowen Amy & Eric Bicknell Julie Goodman Ladies of the Lake M&M George D. Nelson, Jr. Christopher Harpe Linda Biernacki Michelle C. Williams DOROTHY AMBROSE Diane Walden LOGAN AMMONS Freddie & Susan Huffman LIBBY ANDERS Sue Rainer DAVID ANDERSON Robert & Dinah Davis JAMES MEDFORD “COOTER” ANDERSON Beth N. McDougal BETTY ANDREWS Muchie & Rhonda Toler CHARLIE ANDREWS Lionel & Sue Burke ELNER ANTHONY Mildred Traylor THELMA ANTHONY M&M Joe R. 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BLANEY Ronnie Blaney GEORGE BLANKENSHIP Verl Blankenship NORVEL BLAYLOCK Judy Harper Loftin DIANA BOBRYCKI Farrel & Lorraine McDaniel RANNEL DON BOND, SR. FBC, Pitkin FANNIE BORDELON Rhonda & Jim Palmer MARTIN W. BOSSALLER Kenneth W. Bossaller MORACE BOWLIN The Rubber House of Baton Rouge, Inc. LILLIAN BOWSER FBC, Covington FAYE BRADLEY Baker & Jackie Boyd, Dee, & Johnny HARRY BRANCH Karen Haymon & Peggy Haymon BOB BRANTLEY Ann Massey ERNEST RICKER BREARD, SR. Sam & Sally Rainer, Sue Rainer Ruth & Randy Russell & Employees of RML HELEN BREEN Tiller & Smith Families ROY BUSH BRIDGES Linnye Daily MAUDE BRITZ Ralph Earl Britz & Family AUDIE BROWN Dr. Clarice Fluit CHARLES EBERT “BUDDY” BROWN, JR. John & Genita Ellen Donner Properties DUANE BROWN Brenda Giddens Susan & Darrell Pepper FARLEY G. BROWN Melba Brown FAYE BROWN Levie Dutsch Pat & Debbie Wright Kris & Lindsey Perret GLENDA ANNETTE BROWN Carrol E. Brown HATTIE GLASS BROWN Alice J. Carson CECILE BRUNSON Albertia Roshto Melba B. 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ETHEL ADAMS HAIK Dolly, Carolyn, Rita, Pam,	BOBBY HAISTY Larry & Julie Cooper	DONNA MILLER Gloria Hickey	DONNA MILLER Gloria Hickey	EVA VIRGINIA COX EPPINETTE PIRTLE
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Nathan & Tam Haik Pitre	Tommie Nell Rogers	GLENN MILAM FBC, Covington	GLENN MILAM FBC, Covington	JIMMY POINDEXTER Mangham BC
Coleman & MaryAnn Haik	Daniel Marie Wisdom	ANN MILLER Dan & Kim Stinson	ANN MILLER Dan & Kim Stinson	ESTELLE POOLE Marjorie Miller
Foster	Ernestine Cooper	DONNA MILLER Gloria Hickey	DONNA MILLER Gloria Hickey	MARY CELESTE POST Charles & Cecilia Forbush & Michael & Jennifer & Bailee Forbush
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CARMA NELL REID Lee & Lanell Breithaupt	DEBBY GIBBS SCHICK Patti Williams	DON STEVENSON Margaret Elgin	CURTIS VARNADO Warren & Pam Kemp	Earlene M. McClellan, Dan McClellan & Family & Amy M. & Hugh Knotts & Family
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# Honors...

March 8 - May 18, 2022

Honor gifts are received in thoughtful tribute  
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Names of honorees are printed in all caps  
followed by the names of those  
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Louisiana Baptist Children’s Home  
& Family Ministries  
P.O. Box 4196  
Monroe, LA 71211

## HOMENEWS

A Publication of Your Louisiana Baptist Children’s Home & Family Ministries

Louisiana Baptist Children’s Home & Family Ministries is a faith-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to providing love, care, and hope in Christ for children and families in need. Established in 1899, the Children’s Home is an agency of the Louisiana Baptist Convention and is governed by a 17-member board of trustees elected by the Convention to serve three-year terms on a rotating basis.

The Children’s Home is recognized by the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) as a “Foster Care Community.” Most of the children in LBCH foster homes are placed by DCFS and the other children are privately placed by a legal guardian.

The Children’s Home receives no state or federal funding. Approximately 74% of all funding comes from individuals and churches. 25% of funding goes to administrative costs; 75% goes to direct ministry services. 7% of funding comes from payment of services.

Our major service areas include: Residential Child Care for Children ages 5-17; HomePlace Residential Family Care for Homeless Children and Mothers; Women’s Learning Center providing job and life skills training and certified HiSET preparation and testing; Granberry Counseling Centers with 12 statewide locations; Connect1Child Foster Care & Adoption Ministries; and Orphans Embrace International.

Our dedicated Christian ministry team strives to offer the highest quality of services. Services are provided without regard to race, gender, religion, or ability to pay.

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## Immediate Job Openings

### COTTAGE PARENTS:

Husband and wife teams are needed. Full-time positions include salary, benefits, paid vacation, and training. Basic job description is to provide love, care, and hope in Christ for children in need. Applicants should not have children living at home under the age of 18. Applicants must have a sense of call and commitment to a ministry of service to children and be active members of a local Southern Baptist church. Part-time positions are also available.

Please send resume to: Susan Nolan at [snolan@lbch.org](mailto:snolan@lbch.org) or LBCH, PO Box 4196, Monroe, LA 71211.

### COTTAGE CARE MANAGERS:

Full-Time and Part-Time Positions Available: Christian women needed to serve in HomePlace, a transitional living ministry for homeless children and their mothers. Must have a sense of call and commitment to a ministry of service to children and families.

Please send resume to: Jonann Byargeon at [jonann@lbch.org](mailto:jonann@lbch.org) or LBCH, PO Box 4196, Monroe, LA 71211.



[www.lbch.org](http://www.lbch.org)

