



Dear Friends,

Some harvests come right when you expect them. When you are working with children, the harvest time may take longer than you would expect or like. We are seeing the “harvest” in several of our children.



Avante is one of our high school students.

For several years our staff constantly planted, watered, and cultivated in our children’s lives without evidence that fruit would ever be produced. They continued to model Christ’s love faithfully.

Today, those same houseparents continue to sow into the same young people and are now experiencing the pleasure and excitement brought by a fruitful harvest! **Many of our children have placed their trust in Jesus for salvation and are walking in daily steps of faith. Several have been baptized. Our young people are teachable learners!**

One of those young people is Udter (Utah), who came to the Baptist Children’s Home as a boy who was behind educationally and displayed disrespect toward others. For almost five years we have watched his houseparents patiently work the soil and plant the seeds of God’s Word in his life. We are beginning to see the fruit in his life.

God has worked in Udter’s heart to transform him into a sensitive young man with a teachable spirit. He gets up early each school day to spend time in the Word with his housefather. He wants to read through the Bible in a year. Read on page 4 the fun story about Udter’s new business venture—raising chickens! Udter, with some help, built a chicken coop with nesting boxes and a pen. He saved allowance and lawn mowing money to pay for bedding, food, and to purchase 4 chickens. He has yet to see the first egg from all his labor, but he continues to persevere and make needed additions to provide for the chickens. Most recently he has added electricity to the coop for a heat lamp during the winter months. We are so grateful for God’s work that is producing fruit in Udter’s life.

Rejoice with us as we now have ten young people who have transitioned from middle school to high school and who desire to live a life of faith. Such an increase is due to the grace of God pouring into their lives. We are God’s plows, watering cans, and seed-spreaders. Thank you for partnering with us, so we can reap this harvest together.

Jeff Oswald, Michigan Director



Even though it’s been a unique year, our children are going back to school.

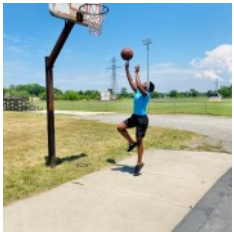
Miles of Compassion Update!

THANK YOU to all who supported our children and staff as they completed their Miles of Compassion (MOC) goals. MOC was our virtual event we held in place of our Annual Bike-a-thon. Our young people stepped up to the challenge with initiative and creativity. Here are some of their results:



- **Benji** is 13 and has been at BCH for less than a year. Benji biked a three-mile route near his home in St. Louis, MI. He completed his goal of biking 48 miles on "The Triangle". Way to go, Benji!

- **Moses'** goal was to run 60 miles to raise support for BCH and to get in shape for soccer. He ran the distance of more than 2 marathons in one month.



- **Alivia** is in 7th grade. She set a goal of making 800 free throws and 800 lay-ups in a month, totaling 1600 shots. Alivia reached her goal. Nice shooting, Alivia!

- **Kelley**, a 6th grader, made a big MOC goal! Kelley peddled 100 miles. You go, Kelley!



Our Ohio bikers had a great ride on 7/25. We had 29 riders. The Lord provided \$2,210 in donations, plus the church put in another \$1,500 for a total of \$3,710.



thank you!

Ready for Rainy Season!

Our GEM Home in Myanmar received new school supplies, uniforms, and umbrellas. Housefather Pau Gin told us, "The children only have one school uniform. It is very hard for them during the rainy season. Their uniforms get wet, and they do not have dry clothes to change into, so they had to spend the school day in wet clothes."



New uniforms solved that problem! We were also able to provide each child with a new outfit. For the first time in their lives the children were able to select brand new outfits. This was such a happy experience for the children.



Project Sewing Machine—A Stitch in Time

Join us and our Myanmar partners as we prepare our children for the future. Tailoring is a reliable occupation, primarily for our young women.

Individuals, families, sewing/quilting circles, small groups, and churches can sponsor machines to make this possible. **Our partners need a total of 15 sewing machines.** The average cost is \$200 per machine, a \$3000 total investment securing a lifetime benefit!



Our Pandemic Life



Danielle just started 6th grade. She loves to bake and enjoys arts and crafts. Because of the lockdown, Danielle really misses her friends. She enjoys school and really misses her academics. However, the stay at home orders created a unique opportunity for the Beals Family. Danielle has enjoyed spending more time together which helped them to really get to know one another. Danielle says that the Beals Home “feels like family”. Praise the Lord!



Danielle and Iggy having fun

Ignatius is a gregarious young man who has a big smile that appears easily and often — some of you will relate well to him. He loves being around people. Though Ignatius missed track and will miss football this fall, he has a bigger problem with “social distancing”. Ignatius really misses friends at school. But he saw that fewer time commitments provided new opportunities. He began a more deliberate weightlifting routine and increased his reading. Ignatius maintains a regular devotional time but shared that the lockdown has given him more time to read the Bible and think about what he has read. He too believes his BCH family has grown closer during the pandemic.

Attah is a quiet young man in the Bosquez family. Attah was part of the wilderness camping trip this summer. He and Uncle Jeff (Michigan Director) were canoe partners for part of the trip. Uncle Jeff shared how they paddled across one small lake through a narrow channel that opened to another lake. As they moved ahead, Attah exclaimed “Wow!” He was overwhelmed by God’s creativity and power as he took in the beautiful sunset scene that was before him.

Attah believes that the quarantine has helped him grow. Attah said, “My relationship with the houseparents is getting closer; I got to know them more.” He added that the pandemic didn’t affect him as much because he was able to keep working at the pizza restaurant in town. Attah believes, “this year is going to be weird at school, with all the masks and stuff.”



Attah has been learning to drive! (right)

(left) Nuam Pi, our GEM Housemother teaches tailoring to girls in the home.





Our Pandemic Life



The Bosquez family is masked and ready!



Maude enjoyed the longer break from school. She is a good student, but she liked being able to sleep in more in the mornings. Maude was disappointed that her track season was cancelled and does not like wearing masks everywhere. But she also sees that her home has really come together as a family. Maude has an amazing testimony of faith in Christ and continued faith that God has a plan for her. She embraced the fact that part of that plan is the difficult times she faced as a child.

Kasor (“Carson”)— like several others — misses his friends and says “sometimes it gets a little boring at home”. That isn’t too surprising coming from a fun-loving 12 year old. However, he did like that virtual school from home made the schedule much freer. Kasor also enjoyed sleeping a little later since he didn’t have to catch the bus. His time at home allowed him to earn extra allowance for mowing the lawn.



Kasor and Uncle Billy



Udter experienced some significant disappointments because of the pandemic. He missed a good friend’s birthday party, and he was unable to spend time with relatives over the summer break. Instead of sulking about missed opportunities, Udter created an opportunity of his own.

He decided to start a small enterprise raising chickens to sell eggs. Uncle Jon (our handy Houseparent Supervisor) took Udter (**Jon and Udter with the coop left**) under his wing and they hatched a plan to build a chicken coop. They scrambled around for materials. The project wasn’t over easy, but Udter and Uncle Jon completed a handsome home for the chickens—pictured here! We applaud this plucky young man for his initiative and an egg-cellent job!



Volunteer Spotlight

Meet Jessica Douglass. She is married to Jon, Michigan Houseparent Supervisor. The Douglass family lives on the property with our Michigan group homes. She and Jon have served as relief houseparents and full-time houseparents. This gives Jessica a unique, encouraging role to our houseparents and children. She recently shared some of her favorite ways to minister to the group homes. We thought you would enjoy hearing how she impacts our team.



Jessica enjoys:

- Providing rides for children to their extra-curricular activities.
- Picking up weekly food donations for the group homes.
- Teaching the young people about gardening or feeding birds.
- Having the group home teens over for movie nights and popcorn.
- Celebrating the end of the school year with the kids by serving “top-your-own” funnel cakes.



Jessica has a different relationship with the kids than the Baptist Children’s Home staff. She wants the kids to know they can talk to her without thinking that she knows everything about them. As an adult in their lives who does not have a role of authority, she views herself as a mentor to the children and loves watching the positive growth.



Please pray for Jon, Jessica, and their children Andrew, Bethany, Stephen, and Hannah as they live among and minister to the young people God brings into care at BCH.

One of Jessica’s favorite stories about her interactions with the kids came on a cold fall day. The children were waiting in her home for the morning bus. One of the boys tipped his travel mug over, spilling hot tea everywhere. Jessica tells us, “I could see by the look on his face that he was anticipating that tea and was disappointed.” She said a silent prayer and was grateful God delayed the bus until she was able to heat water, make some tea, and allow the young man to add sugar. Jessica is grateful for those special moments which allow her to speak love and comfort into the lives of our young people. We are grateful to have you, Jessica!

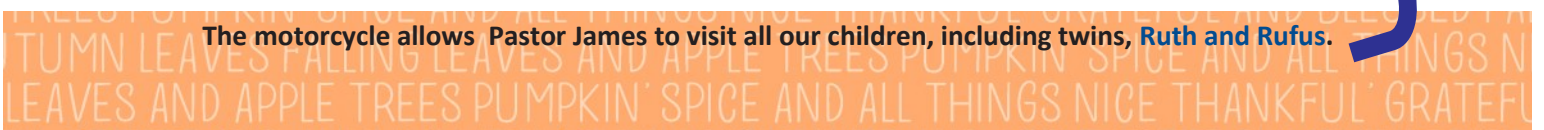
On the Road in Liberia



Pastor James Togba directs our ministry partnership in Liberia. He regularly checks on our Foster Care families caring for over 300 children in several villages and our group home in Zorzor. Pastor James owns an aging truck that just couldn’t make the rounds anymore, especially during the rainy season. BCH friends helped us provide Pastor James with a new motorcycle, perfect to maneuver on Liberia’s challenging roads.



The motorcycle allows Pastor James to visit all our children, including twins, Ruth and Rufus.



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Thank you to many friends for providing a special gift "in memory" or "in honor" of a loved one or friend.
Gifts from January 1, 2020 - July 31, 2020

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All God's Children

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Our Parents

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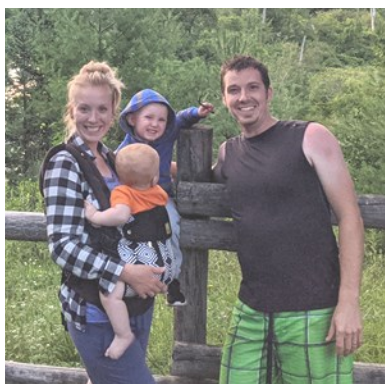
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Join the Beals family in caring for children!

Houseparenting Opportunity

Would you like to be a vital part of teaching children about God's love? Do you desire to serve God together as a couple or family? We have openings for a permanent houseparent couple in our beautiful Mt. Pleasant Home and for a relief couple. Please contact us (219-462-4111) if you are interested in learning more about this life-changing opportunity. If you have a heart for at-risk children and are looking for a meaningful ministry, please call us.

The mission field is closer than you think!

It's that time of year again! Time for our annual Food Shower! Your faithful gifts of food and cleaning supplies provide the resources that our houseparents need to care for our children every day. Your ministry to our families makes an impact each day, and we are so grateful for your help.

- Find out how you and your church can be involved with our annual Food Shower by calling (219)462-4111 or visiting baptistchildrenshome.org/foodshower
- If you are unable to provide food, would you consider collecting a special offering or giving **grocery store gift cards**? This helps us provide fresh ingredients to the homes all year round. We can use Walmart, Aldi, Strack and Van Til, and Meijer gift cards.

