



TELEGRAM

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Newsletter of Shults-Lewis Child and Family Services



THANK YOU
for praying & giving

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A Time for Gratitude

Jim Powell, Executive Director

In the past few TELEGRAM articles, I have utilized the theme of being stuck in the mud in a vehicle, namely a large one such as a bus, to illustrate how each of us has at some time in our lives experienced the frustration and helplessness of being "stuck". But with help from others, many times complete strangers, we receive the nudge we need to begin building momentum, and moving forward.

I don't know about you, but one of the next emotions I have experienced in those situations is overwhelming gratitude! Almost to the point that I feel like I don't have the words to say "Thank You", or if I do, the words just don't seem like enough!

Not long after Carren and I came to Shults-Lewis, we experienced a substantial snowstorm. Classes at the school were cancelled early, and everyone was sent home before conditions became too much worse. Just a short distance from campus we came upon a school bus which was stuck in a snow bank. I joined in to help a couple of other men, as we spent nearly forty-five minutes digging snow out from underneath the bus, until finally a four wheel drive truck hooked to the front of the bus and was able to pull it from the snow bank.

The bus driver was so thankful!!! She cried as her emotions flooded. She was happy. She was frightened. She was worried for the kids on the bus. She was nearly speechless. But to this day, if I see her at a school event, or in the grocery store, she always says "thank you", again.

The kids at Shults-Lewis are much the same in this regard. They know what it means to be "stuck", feeling hopeless and frustrated, not having words to express what they are feeling deep down inside. But because of people like you, who care enough to be sure that they have the opportunity to experience God's love, all of us connected to this ministry on a daily basis, can continue to meet the spiritual, physical, educational and emotional needs of these young people.

As we head into the season of thanksgiving, I am grateful for an amazing God, who continually provides for our needs here. We are elated that Don and Cathy Jones from Clare, MI are joining our family as houseparents. They are a wonderful Christian couple, and will fit in very well with this ministry. They will help fill the void as Matthew and Janine French leave after serving fourteen years as houseparents. Our donors, volunteers and local community members are so dedicated and supportive. We have a staff that is committed to the kids we serve, and the effort to help them become what God intends for them to be. And on, and on I could go.

I suppose that because I don't have the words to convey all of my emotions, I should just simply show my gratitude to all of you by saying, "THANK YOU", again!

For Christ and the kids,

Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." (Revelation 7:12)



September marked 25 years of Sherry's service at Shults-Lewis. We appreciate all she has done, is doing, and will continue to do. "Here's to 25 more"!

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

Beth Frump, Director of Development
bethfrump@shultslewis.org



Remember the "WHY?" stage with your kids? I was with a friend and her little two-year-old who constantly asked "Why?" about everything. I remember those days with my nieces and nephew, and I can remember the levels of frustration varying from "They are trying to learn about the world around them" to "Come On, we just need to get moving here" and all the steps between.

Recently I have found myself back in those "Why?" days. Some days it's a genuine desire for growth, "Why do we do this? Is there ways to improve what/how we are doing?" Some days it is a frustrated "Why aren't we getting the answer to our prayers?"

I put a picture on my computer today, a beach scene, of course, with the words "Relax. Nothing is Under Control" written across it. It is my reminder that it isn't under control, **my** control, that is. A reminder that I serve an awesome God who allows me to ask the "why" when I need to let out the frustrations and when I need to find areas of growth and change. Oh, I am so thankful for the book of Job, that God can also respond back to me. I serve an awesome God who does have it all under **His** control and that's all that matters.

And while I don't always get the "why" of everything, I do know that you serve an awesome God, and through your love for Him, you do amazing things for the children and families of Shults-Lewis.

Have you seen our new Ford Transit passenger van? We had it out on

Annual Day! It is amazing. Through the **Day of Prayer and Giving**, you gave enough that we purchased that van with cash. We will be using the overflow of those donations to purchase another vehicle soon. Thank you!

Speaking of **Annual Day**, it was incredible. It is always one of my favorite days as we gather together, laugh together, eat together, and just enjoy the fellowship of Christians who all work together to make this ministry awesome.

The Waterford **AWSL** held their annual auction for us and raised over \$8,000. On top of that, they challenged the Metro congregation to a Croquet tournament and raised over \$2,000 for the kids. That is over \$10,000 from one congregation. Why? Why did one young mother decide that she was going to push her congregation to do more every year for the kids at Shults-Lewis? **AWESOME!** Here's my why question for you—why not your congregation? What talents do you have within your family that you can use to bless the children?

As we enter into the holiday season, I hope you are surrounded by love, joy, and gratitude. I am so thankful for each and every one of you. You are the reason I am blessed to serve God and His children in this ministry and I am so grateful for this opportunity. And if you are blessed to enjoy the company of a young "why" asker, enjoy those moments as they grow up so quickly, and thank God for His awesome blessings and His answers to all of our "whys".



CONGRATULATIONS

Lynette Root

for winning the #SLChangeCan contest.

Your **CHANGE CAN** change lives!



FROM OUR HOMES TO YOURS



Janine French, *Houseparent Supervisor*

I know that in some of my previous articles I have mentioned to you just how much I love the fall. The changing leaves with their beautiful colors, falling, or perhaps I should say, dancing through the air as they depart from the tree. The tree has been their

safe haven and now they leave for places unknown (of course you and I know it is the ground). Just as the leaves have been sent on their new journey, for a destination unknown, so also at times do we as individuals set out for places unknown. This is one such time for Matthew and me. We will be leaving Shults-Lewis after almost 14 amazing years. Since the day we arrived, Matthew has called this his dream job. Working with our young men and playing baseball in the spring summer and fall - what could be better?

We have loved our time here at Shults-Lewis working with so many incredible people over the years, some that are still here and others that have moved on (but not out of our hearts). God has blessed us in ways we cannot even begin to tell you.

Over the course of the last few months as we have been cleaning out and packing up we have come across many cards and letters from young men that have been in our home over the years. Letters that

express many different emotions, not the least of those which is a sense of gratitude and love, many asking for forgiveness after incidents that had taken place in our home. It was humbling to look back over these letters and realize that they had touched our lives perhaps even more than we had touched theirs - we truly have been blessed!!

We know that we would never have been able to do this work if it was not for the unwavering support of our families as well as all of you. One of my favorite times happens when our boys would receive gifts and cards for their birthdays and presents at Christmas from our donors. The APRON BRIGADE sends goodies and candy many other times of the year as well. Almost on every occasion, without fail, at least one of them would be totally amazed that people, who don't even know them, would do so much for someone they had never met. I truly believe that we have introduced them to the love of our Heavenly Father, we have taught them what they need to know to be a part of God's family and more importantly, with your help, we have shown them.

As Matthew and I depart we want to say thank you from the bottom of our hearts, we have loved our time here, and we have loved and been loved by you. We will especially miss those of you that we have had the privilege of meeting face to face and spending time with you. Thank you.

Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:13-14

Farewell Frenches,

(by Beth Frump)

A little sign sits in my office that says "The Lord, your God, will be with you wherever you go" Joshua 1:9. It was given to me by Matthew & Janine French before my first Phone Campaign trip, and now I echo those words back to them as they leave Shults-Lewis. Matthew and Janine have been houseparents for Home 7 since February 2003. Not only have they had an amazing impact on the lives of children and families, but they have been a blessing to the staff and to you. I have often shared my appreciation of Matthew's prayer of "Wear us out in



SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

Vickie Terhune, *School Principal*
vickieterhune@shultslewis.org



Well folks, the time has come for me to write my last article for the Telegram. I will be retiring on December 31st and I'm sad and happy. I will be sad to leave a job that I have loved for 25 years but I will be happy to be able to do some things that I have not had time to do. I plan to spend time at Shults-Lewis helping out in other areas - I couldn't think about not spending time at the place that I have called home for 25 years. The staff is like family to me and everyone needs to keep in touch with family! Thanks for all of your support throughout the years. Whenever I would voice a need for the school, you would come through for us. Thanks for everything!

It was great seeing so many of you on Annual Day! Thanks for your donations of school supplies and Box Tops. Remember to watch the expiration dates on the Box Tops because the company won't accept outdated ones. Also, the Labels for Education program is no longer in effect so we cannot use those any more. Please keep our agency in your prayers and God bless all of you!

The new school year is off to a great start. We are using our **FISH** theme this year:

- F** - Focus on the Positives!
- I** - Invest in the Present!
- S** - Smile - be happy!
- H** - Help others to have a good day!

We have an exciting field trip planned for November. We are taking the students to South Bend, Indiana, to a live performance of five short stories by Poe, Irving, Jacobs, Maupassant and Twain. The stories will be performed by the Chamber Theatre which is a traveling theater group. We will treat the students to lunch before heading back to campus.



Welcome Jones

your service". He and Janine will continue to allow God to wear them out in His service as they move forward. While we will miss them, they are forever part of our family. While we are always tearful as staff members move forward, we are excited to share with you the news that Don and Cathy Jones from Michigan will be joining the house-parenting staff. Don and Cathy have two adult children, a son and a daughter. As their children have grown up and left them as empty nesters, they are eager to transition into our ministry.



Thank you,
Sojourners,
for all the hugs,
encouragement,
and hard work.
God speed as
you sojourn on.

HONORS & REMEMBERS...

HONORS

Our Savior

Jessi Still

Emily Bass

Happy Birthday!

James & Patrice Bass, Jr.

Sarah Bass

Happy Birthday!

James & Patrice Bass, Jr.

Betty Bradford

Happy 91st Birthday!

Tom Vaughn Family

John DuBois

For helping others!

Brenda DuBois

Baxter & Margaret Feltner

Douglas & Barb Williams

Harriet Flanagan

Happy 88th Birthday!

Tom Vaughn Family

Jerseyville Church of Christ

William Williams

Leo & Betty Killebrew

For being loyal, loving friends!

Don & Mary Jane Baugh

Thelma Poole

Gail Partridge Harvanek

Rhonda Powell

For your Christian service!

Dad & Mom

Jack & Tish Fisher Stone

Congratulations on your marriage!

Dr & Mrs Alan Powell

Tom & Francis Vaughn

Mike & Jacqui Marks

Becky Weaver

For taking such good care of my sister!

Don & Mary Jane Baugh

Ryan Weaver

Happy Birthday!

Florence Marlow

Jesse Alexander Yoakum

Sarah Yoakum

MEMORIALS

Claradell Abbott

Jim & Ruth Maxwell

Philip Anderson

Bonnie Clipp Anderson

Marc Anderson

Ralph & Birdie Anderson

Tom Vaughn Family

Brent Barbour

John DuBois

Maryanne Beeler

Libertyville Church of Christ in

New Goshen, IN

Lucy Benham

R.L. & Jackie Benham

Anderson & Johnie Berry

Greg & Pat Pugh

Don Birk

Betty Birk

Guy Blakeman

Jim & Ruth Maxwell

Jim Blahnik

Rich & Kay Klima

John Boag

Jim & Lori Calkin

Jim & Beth Truex

Nancy Truex

Sherry "Cookie" Bohler

Larry & Nell Norville

Bill Bowman

Jim & Bonnie Gatewood

Arlin Brown

R.L. & Jackie Benham

Ginny Brown

Cal & Pat Seccombe

Alvin Burnley

Ted & Joyce Terhune

Wanda Burroughs

Francis & Deborah Harper

Rosetta Calvert

Craig & Phyllis Slocum

Thomas Gene Calvert

Craig & Phyllis Slocum

Hodge Chambers

Cal & Pat Seccombe

Vaughn & Faye Clipp

Bonnie Clipp Anderson

Marc Anderson

Dean & Ruth Clutter

William & Norma Garrison

Margot Horyn

Don & Nita Ogburn

Bob Cole

Greg & Jeana Garrison

Larry Cole

Greg & Jeana Garrison

Don & Marge DeLong

Betty Birk

Patricia Ann Denny

Lois Denny

Juanita Duncan

Tom Vaughn Family

Betty Ellis

Don & Mary Jane Baugh

Shirley Faneuf

Leonard & Marsha Powell

Robyn Felton

Mike & Kim Lawrence

Larry Fenton

Don & Mary Jane Baugh

Jewel Gardner Ferrara

Rich & Kay Klima

John Vermillion

Millie Forsee

The Parkview Church of Christ

in Warren, MI

Dallas Foster

James & Christine Cottingham

Craig & Nancella Dobbins

Bill & Melinda Hassett and family

Bob & Mary Lou Jones

Tony & Becky Park

Joretta Roloff

Kevin & Susan Smith and family

Anthony & Doris Steinmetz

Lyle & Blanche Fowler

Carl & Peggy Price

Pauline Franklin

Michigan City Church of Christ

Bess Gilbert

Doris Dunn

Ted & Shirley Goodwin

Don & Nita Ogburn

Brenda Grima

Cal & Pat Seccombe

Gilbert Guymer

Barbara Guymer

Hi Hamilton

Joan Schmidt

Mark & Joyce Harmon

The Nolan Family

Bob Harris

Parkview Church of Christ

in Warren, MI

Hiram & Leah Hayes

Tom Vaughn Family

Annie Hesselbein

Georgia Alexander

Jan Hirst

Liberty Church of Christ

in Solsberry, IN

Ray & Mabel Holland

Robert & Betty Salley

Nat Horton

Ben & Eleanor White

Mary Darlene Hudson

George & Joyce Girdley

HONORS & REMEMBERS...

Artie & Lola Hutchens
The Nolan Family

Robert Jones
Gordon & Peggy Bennett

Shirley King
The Parkview Church of Christ
in Warren, MI

Lory Ledford
Gary & Pam Collens
Joanne Collens

William Lee
Midland Church of Christ

Thelma Lollar
Charles Lollar

Ella Love
Jim & Ruth Maxwell

Norman Marlow
Florence Marlow

Elizabeth Matthews
Jacksonville Church of Christ

Cindy McClain
Joe & Pat McClain

Gary McCowan
Jim & Bonnie Gatewood

Dennis Munger
The Parkview Church of Christ
in Warren, MI

Kennard Neal
Francis Hargis

Dorothy Nelson
Richard Nelson

Marjorie Nelson
David Ford

Robert Nolan
Richard, Melinda, Thomas, Nevaeh
& Riley Nolan

Thomas & Vivian Nolan
The Nolan Family

Rosland Orman
Larry & Linda Lowe

Evelyn Perry
Trish Young

Erdie & Anne Pugh
Greg & Pat Pugh

Shirley Ann Reddy
Plymouth Church of Christ
Bobby & Marilyn Reddy

Gena Richardson
John & Donna Hau

Don Riggs
Gordon & Peggy Bennett

Norma Sanders
Gerald & Barbara Perrett

Betty Scott
Parkview Church of Christ
in Warren, MI

Holley Scott
Georgia Alexander

Sierra Shields
Jim & Regenia Gurganus
John & Donna Hau

Roy Spiceland
North Meridian Street
Church of Christ
Dan & Elizabeth Spiceland

Virginia Stafford
The Tom Vaughn Family

Nancy Steele
Parkview Church of Christ
in Warren, MI

Russell Synder
Tom Vaughn Family

Steven Tackett
Kevin & Brandy White

Billy Thompson
Lloyd & Carol Ann Rose

Wyatt & Edith Tittle
Michael & Brenda Tittle

Velma VanHorn-Peters
Bruce & Linda Lamphear
Southside Church of Christ
in Grand Rapids, MI

Don Vaughn
John & Sue Grafe

W.O. & Madie Vaughn
Tom Vaughn Family

Mark Allen Warfel
John & Mary Warfel

John Washeleski
Parkview Church of Christ
in Warren, MI

Jerry Watson
Jim & Kathy Stone

Gary Watterworth
Jim & Bonnie Gatewood

Sylvia Whitsel
Matthew & Janine French

Ronald Winter
Clay City Church of Christ

Hyo Son Wyant
Alex & Joan Jeal

Shirley Zachery
Royce Harbin Family

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CURRENT MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Shults-Lewis Child and Family Services, a residential facility providing therapeutic services located in Valparaiso, Indiana, ministering to children and families in the Midwest, is accepting resumes for the following position:

HOUSE PARENT

If you hear the call of teenagers that are struggling with their lives, and if you are ready to play a role in forever changing those lives, consider the position of House Parent at Shults-Lewis Child and Family Services.

The House Parent applicants should meet the following minimum requirements:

Faithful member of the Church of Christ • Strong passion for the mission of Shults-Lewis
A high school diploma, preferably some experience working with teenagers • Couples should be married at least 3 years
Good organizational skills • Valid driver's license • Be able to provide spiritual leadership to teen residents • Works well with others

SECONDARY MATHEMATICS TEACHER

The applicants should meet the following minimum requirements:

Faithful member of the Church of Christ • Strong passion for the mission of Shults-Lewis
Preferred: State Certified for 7-12th grades



All Positions Offer Health Insurance and Retirement Package

If you have any questions or would like to send a resume, please contact Jim Powell, Executive Director, at 800-462-0513, ext 222 or jimpowell@shultslewis.org.