FRIENDSHIP CENTER FOR NEW BEGINNINGS



162 Main Street, Flemington, NJ 08822 • PH (908) 806-4444 • Fax (908) 806-4277 www.friendship-center.org email: info@friendship-center.org Toll Free: 1 (877) 88 4 MOMS

July 17, 2023

Heartbeat

Dear Pastor Ken and all our dear friends at Calvary Bible Church,

On behalf of the women we serve, I want to thank you for your very generous donation to our organization. Your support means a great deal to us, and we are so grateful for your kindness. Our organization provides support and resources to women who are facing an unplanned pregnancy. We offer counseling, financial assistance and other services to help women make a life-honoring decision for themselves and their families.

We know that an unplanned pregnancy can be a difficult and stressful time. That's why we're here to offer support and guidance. We recently had a child dedication service, and we talked about how important children are to God, and how important the family is to raise children. Wouldn't it be great to see these women dedicating their children to God? We are told in Samuel 1 that Hannah presented her son Samuel to the Lord. The principle is the same for these women: to dedicate their children to raising them to know Jesus and to grow up in a godly family. We encourage them in this desire AND to have people come alongside them to assist them.

As the Friendship Center staff has been strengthened with Pastor Will, we also are increasing our efforts to reach out to the men of these families, to help them understand what their role is, and how vital it is in raising children. The principles of God are recorded in His Word. Deuteronomy 6:4-7 tells us: "Hear O Israel: The Lord our God is One. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on you children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up." Therefore, these men also need to know Jesus Christ and have that relationship with Him.

The best thing a family can teach their child is the "fear of the Lord," as Proverb 1:7 tells us this is "the beginning of knowledge." This is reverence for God, in other words, the successful application of all that our children learn in life depends on them first learning to fear, to be in awe of, and to follow God with reverence. So, the Bible urges parents to love God, to live in a way that brings glory to Him, and to teach their children to do the same. As we love God, one another, and our family, we model before them a wonderful love for God that hopefully they will follow in the future, asking God for forgiveness and turning in faith to follow Jesus.

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Some of the responsibilities as parents include teaching and training the child in God's Word, demonstrating an example of godliness, disciplining according to God's ways, and praying for the child. This has been what Pastor Will and his wife have been doing with the marriage seminars for the people who want to raise their children in a godly way and have healthy marriages. Our peer counselors share Biblical parenting principles with the mothers who attend here.

Do we dare take it a step further? Grandparents are so important in coming alongside their children to support and encourage. Proverbs 17:6 says that "Grandchildren are the crown of the aged." Their joy is reinforced when grandchildren are raised in the love and understanding of God. We are there to help, encourage, and support parents and grandparents as they raise the children to follow Jesus Christ. A vital part of our ministry is to equip them, pray for and with them, and support them by example and involvement in their lives, as they work toward this end.

Would you pray for the Friendship Center and those who are teaching and counseling, as well as those who are working behind the scenes, for mothers and fathers to have healthy marriages, and for their to be children to be raised in godly home.

Together in His service,

Ken Staples

Board Chair for youth

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Dear Friends,

Each month's prayer calendar has many people who are the *same* – our Board members, staff and volunteers – and several *new* items for prayer this particular month – outreaches, conferences, etc. We have listed below some special ways that we would request prayer for single moms, and everyone whose name is mentioned on the prayer calendar, and also as the Lord would individually guide your prayers for us:

Single Mom Families – "God is a Father to the fatherless." *Psalm 68:5*

"The Lord gathers the lambs in His arms and carries them close to His heart; He gently leads those that have young." *Isaiah 40:11*

- That Jesus will fill their hearts with His love
- That those single through divorce or separation will find healing and new hope
- That God will center the relationship of those who choose marriage, in Christ
- ❖ That God will meet the spiritual and physical needs of the children, and that their mothers be strengthened with grace, wisdom and love through the Holy Spirit

For Staff and Volunteers:

Spiritual Life – "When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart's delight, for I bear your name, O Lord God Almighty." *Jeremiah 15:16*

- ❖ Consistent times of prayer and learning from Scripture
- ❖ Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness, self control

Ministry – "If a man remain in Me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing." *John 15:5*

- ❖ Truth and grace in sharing the Gospel
- ❖ Wisdom in the use of time and energy, and a continued spirit of cooperation amongst us, expressed in an eagerness to learn from each other

Family – "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders, and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked for us." *Hebrews 12:1*

- Strong marital and parent/child relationships
- That our family lives would reflect what we teach

Physical needs – "And my God will meet all your needs, according to His glorious riches in Jesus Christ." *Philippians 4:19*

- That we and our families are kept healthy and safe
- That the financial support, needed to accomplish all that God plans through us, would be provided



Thank you so much for praying with us – God bless you!

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Prayer Calendar

JULY 2023

Dodia Melliber	Counselor			during the summer break	31 Mimi Koontz Co-Director	30 Old Rock Church Pastor Dave Errickson
29 Jeannie Avery	28 Carol Willey Hispanic Peer	27 For many to meet Christ as Lord and Savior this year	26 Ken Staples Board Youth Chair	25 Pray for times of refreshment for our staff and volunteers	24 Yari Gonzalez Hispanic Peer Counselor	23 Kirkpatrick Mem. Presbyterian
22 Pray for Hispanic children's Bible clubs at Hunter Hills Apartments	Pray for successful tutoring of several clients' children through FCNB scholarship	20 Miriam Maldonado Board Secretary	Sam Maldonado Treasurer	18 Rosana Lizana Hispanic Peer Counselor	17 Lucy Bush Board Chair/ Prayer Committee Chair	16 Flemington Assembly of God Rev. K. M. Szierer Pastor Esteban
Pray for the VBS's at local churches to have fruitful ministry amongst the children this summer	14 Pray for the marriage outreach for our clients and their husbands	13 George Moyer Board Member	12 Linda Schneider Senior Peer Counselor	11 Will Gonzalez Co-Director	10 Pray for God's favor as we send out grant funding applications	9 South Ridge Comm. Church Pastors Nathan Tuckey Jeremy Moore Jon Ciotta (Y)
Pray for volunteers to help with yard work this summer	7 That God will continue to transform our community as we pray for revival	6 Jummy Adejuyigbe Board Media Chair	5 Ilda Morales Hispanic Peer Counselor	Happy Independence	Pray for God to bring revival to our country	2 Cornerstone Christian Church Pastor Keith Harris
Saturday 1 Pray for work groups to assist in the maintenance of Gods Center	Friday	Thursday	Wednesday	Tuesday	Monday	Sunday