

Many Thanks

Thank you to the following people for supporting Our Home this past month:

- Dereck and Barbara Cazel from Apopka, FL donated 80 pounds of chicken breasts to the cottages
- David Watson and Tom Wallace and Men on a Mission (Crisfield Church of God, Crisfield, MD) helped with repairs in cottages and vehicles around campus, donated clothes, shoes, tools, and \$412.01.
- Trish Valentiano donated bath and body products
- Betsy Long and UNCC students hosted a field day/carnival and provided snacks for our residents
- David Cooper, Wells Fargo, and Mt. Pleasant Community Church held a game night with devotions
- Jamie Allison and “Lots of Love for the Little Ones” hosted a yoga birthday party for February, March, and April birthdays
- Jacqueline Gordon donated new toys for our campus
- Matt Tucker pressure washed the decks for three of our cottages
- Cindy Snyder and Remax-Leading Edge provided tickets for a pancake breakfast at Fatz’s restaurant
- Pastor Coleman and Leland Church of God donated \$500 and items from our needs list
- An anonymous couple donated money towards purchasing season passes to Carowinds for our residents
- Jack and Donetta Yoder donated WalMart gift cards



Our boys enjoyed a treat from Sweet Frog thanks to some gift certificates from Wells Fargo.

YOU KNOW THAT'S RIGHT!

Resident: Spring Break should be TWO weeks!

Home Needs List!

Laundry Products

Clorox 2 (bleach for colors)

Household Cleaning Items

Glass Top Stove Cleaner

Dishwasher Detergent

Glass Cleaner

Bathroom Cleaner

Trash Bags

33 & 39-gal. trash bags

Toiletries & Personal Items

Feminine Napkins

Men’s Body Wash

Women’s Body Wash

Shampoo & Conditioner

Special Needs

Light bulbs

Shower liners

School Supplies

Composition Notebooks

Black Pens

Alert! Alert! Alert!

Canned food (**not commercial size**), dressings, condiments, spices, etc. This offsets the food expense in the cottages.

Gift cards are always a great blessing! We can use them for a variety of things, such as clothes, toiletries, personal items, school supplies, etc.

Contact Us

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NEWS FROM

Children Churches Community



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Mama’s Old Red Coat

The childhood scene is vivid in my mind--Mama and me, walking up the hill from the church to our house. The winter air was so cold that my chest hurt from breathing it.

Mama was wearing her old red coat, slightly tattered after several winters of wear. A new one was out of the question with six children to clothe and feed. I moved closer to her, putting my arm in hers. As I did, she opened up that old coat and drew me inside. What warmth and security I felt at that moment!

I thought then that it was mama’s warm coat which made me feel secure. Now I know that it wasn’t the coat at all. Anyone could have put their coat around me and I would have been warmed physically, but this was different--something special between a mother and her child. The woman who drew me close to her that night had given me her consistent love since the day I was born. She had always been there for me. She was my mother.

Years have passed since that precious moment in my childhood. I have faced many other “cold” nights when the demands and pressures of an adult world seemed to close in. During those times I have been “warmed” by the love and security which my mother instilled in me and the memory of a little girl and her mama, facing the cold night.

Mother’s Day is very difficult for the children at Our Home. Many of them do not have memories as I do of time spent with a loving, caring mother. Yet, the mother-child bond is so strong that most of them would rather be with their mother, regardless of the circumstances. Our goal at Our Home is to help them make special memories by providing loving house mothers who model what a Christian mother should be. Our house mothers do everything that a mother does such as teaching housekeeping, cooking, helping with homework, shopping for clothes, caring for residents when they are sick, interacting with school teachers and administrators and numerous other things. However, their most important role is to demonstrate the spirit of Christ as they show unconditional love regardless of the child’s behavior. As our residents mature and leave Our Home, we pray that the love and security received here will help them make good choices and be successful adults.

Thank you for your continued support of hurting children. Have a blessed Mother’s Day!



Gwen Walker

Church of God Children’s Home of North Carolina

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Move Over Karate Kid!

There are some new martial arts stars on the rise at Hickory Cottage, and houseparent, Mr. Julio, is leading the way. A few weeks ago he took part in a Martial Arts

competition and came home with three medals! (top left) Last week our guys took a turn as they learned some basics of Tae Kwon Do with Mr. Tola Rose from Salisbury, NC. The guys had a great time learning new moves!

Pictures: Jeremiah (middle left), Ethan (bottom left), Kozie (top right), and Mansohn (bottom right)



Brightest Teeth on Campus

I hate going to the dentist, don't you? But a few of our residents ruled the dentist's office this past month with a great report and no cavities! Bintu, Jason, and Mansohn, show off your smiles!

Lost and Found

By Mike Walker



We are blessed to receive lost items from the Concord Mills Mall. In late February we received a Madison High School Dodgers 1978 state football championship ring. In early March I searched the internet and located the school in Madison, New Jersey, and sent the principal, Greg Robertson, an email seeking his help to locate the owner. After swapping several emails and sending him a picture of the ring, he was able to identify the owner, the team's doctor, and gave me his contact information. The owner, Doctor Alexander Horowitz, lives about three miles from the mall. He had lost the ring in November of last year. You can imagine the excitement he felt when I delivered the ring to him on March 4.

The rest of the story is just as exciting. After spending some time visiting with Doctor Horowitz and his wife, he shared with me that he was the medical director for Turning Point Family Services. Since our meeting in March, we have been able to build a relationship with them to provide much needed counseling services. It amazes me how God orchestrates events to bring about His plan to care for our residents.

Moving On

We are excited to announce that one of our teen mothers, Heavenly, and her son, Xavier, are moving forward this month. Heavenly is our first mother to venture into a new program we are launching as an extension of the Teen Mother/Baby Program. This program places a mother and her child into her own home through a partnership with Concord Christian Ministries (CCM) and their Teaching Homes program. Through this program mothers will pay an affordable rent, lower than would be available elsewhere. The homes have recently been renovated and come with some furnishings and appliances. We will continue to offer case management services and assistance for six to eight months before the mothers transfer completely into CCM's Teaching Homes program. Heavenly has worked hard to get to this state of independence. She is a hard worker, excellent employee, and a determined student. We could not be more proud of Heavenly and are expectantly waiting to see the wonderful places her life takes her.



You have **BRAINS** in your **HEAD**.
You have **FEET** in your **SHOES**.
You can **STEER** yourself in any **DIRECTION** you **CHOOSE**.
-Dr. Seuss

Lost Sea Spelunkers

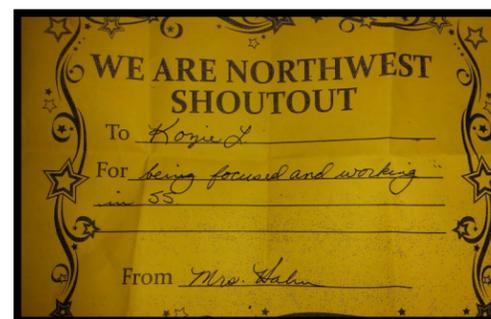
By Dale Cannon

On April 2 our Royal Rangers from Outpost 221 went on a cave diving adventure at The Lost Sea in Sweetwater, Tennessee. Mr. Ken and Mr. Dale took Jason on a special trip with his Ranger friends in which they were able to spend the night in a cave. After taking the historic tour, our guide led us to the largest underground lake in the country. We then entered one of the 12 person boats and witnessed 125 rainbow trout swimming underneath and around the vessel. Our group then went to a large cave room and set down the tarps and backpacks just before exploring the most difficult areas of the cave (the wild cave tour). The guide, Mr. Matthew, took us through fat man's squeeze, eye of the needle, the cruncher, and shake rattle and roll just to name a few of the passage ways. All of the boys were muddy and filthy dirty when we finished, which became a badge of honor for them. They overcame a lot of fears of tight spaces and showed a lot of courage during their time spelunking. The next morning we woke up at 6am, crawled out of the cave, and had a nice breakfast at the frontier village. Mr. Wes Kilcrease and Mrs. Tomassi led a great devotional just before breakfast, which challenged all of the children to live a life pleasing to God. Several kids commented that they had a great time and wanted to know when they could return.

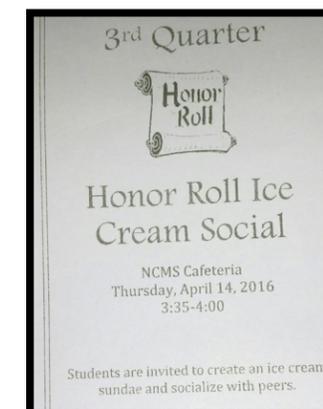
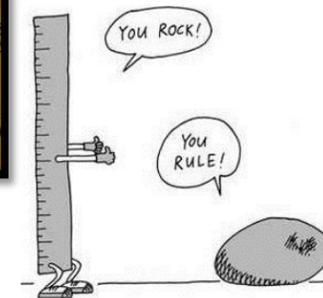


Royals For a Day

Recently our girls traveled to Kenly, NC to participate in Girls' Night Out/Girls' Day Out sponsored by the Girls Ministries department of Eastern North Carolina. The girls had a blast as they participated in karaoke, paintball, and many other fun activities.



Great job Kozie for a special "Shoutout" from his teacher!



Congratulations Jeremiah for making the A/B Honor Roll!