

Growing Branches



Acts of Kindness by Brianne Hansen, Executive Director

Have you shown kindness to others recently? A few weeks ago, I went through the Starbucks drive-thru for my daily dose of caffeine. When I reached the window to pay, I was told that the woman ahead of me already covered the cost of my coffee! I was so astonished by her kindness that I passed that joy along to the next person in line. I was hoping that the acts of kindness continued in the same way all day.

Did you know that research suggests showing kindness to others increases a person's level of happiness? These findings certainly can be one reason to be kind to others, but one's own happiness ignores the reason why we are compelled to show kindness to others – even undeserved kindness. We love because Christ first loved us (1 John 4:19), and Christ's love produces fruit which ultimately compels others to love and be kind; hence the saying, "Spread the love." After all, love and kindness are two of the fruitful attributes mentioned in God's Word as followers of Christ, *"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control"* (Galatians 5:22-23).

At *New Beginnings*, the mothers and staff are overwhelmed with kindness and acts of love. I know that often the acts of kindness are the result of God's

love and grace that compel others to share that gift. In this issue, we want to share with you just a few of the acts of kindness and love that individuals have shown the mothers and babies at *New Beginnings* these last few months. I hope that, like me, you are compelled to show love to others through your actions in your home, your community, and in your church as expressions of love for Christ and his redemptive work.

"Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth" (1 John 3:18). ♦

The mothers,
babies, and staff
at *New Beginnings*
would like to
thank our faithful
volunteer,
Julie P., for all
of her hard work
decorating at
New Beginnings
for the holidays,
filling staff hours,
and managing the
boutique!
THANK YOU!





Letters from Home

Hi, my name is Letisha, and I am so excited to share my news, and upcoming events and accomplishments with you. Recently, my son Jamis was baptized at St. Marcus Lutheran Church, which is a WELS church in Milwaukee. I was so looking forward to that, and now I can rest easy because Jamis has been washed by the waters of holy baptism. I consider that to be a huge accomplishment.

Also, I am looking forward to getting married at St. Marcus in the upcoming months. I am now in the planning process of that. I am also, along with my fiancé, attending marriage counseling with Pastor Paul Steinberg after the holidays.

Last and finally, I am also planning to join the WELS Church so that I can be more actively involved and give back to New Beginnings, as it such a wonderful organization that absolutely changed my life. I believe in this program and am very extremely proud to be a part of it. ♦

Letisha + Jamis



New Beginnings - A Home for Mothers is a Christ-centered ministry for single mothers and their children operated by Christian Life Resources. The home has been serving residents since 1993. It is supported entirely by the generous support and prayers of those who are committed to sharing Christ and reflecting his sacrificial love.

Box 56, Richfield, WI 53076 • 1-800-720-MOMS (6667) • info@homeformothers.com • homeformothers.com
facebook.com/homeformothers • @HomeforMothers • [instagram: newbeginnings_homeformothers](https://instagram.com/newbeginnings_homeformothers)





Our mothers and their babies felt so blessed to receive gifts from the students in the Personality class at Concordia University in Mequon, Wisconsin. The moms were so thankful for the students' gracious acts of kindness. Thank you!

Needs List:

- Cleaning Products (Clorox Wipes, Windex)
- Area Rugs for Mothers' Rooms (www.target.com/p/udson-shag-rug-gray-ivory-5-1-x7-6-safavieh/-/A-51307767)
- Baby Monitors
- Gift Cards (Amazon, Target, Walmart, Pick N Save)

Complete list: homeformothers.com

Mail large packages to the home address:

9215 W. Wisconsin Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53226

Additional ways to give material donations:

Target Baby Registry • Amazon Wish List



The Kindness of Volunteers

by Quinna Koch, *New Beginnings'* Volunteer

In Matthew 5:16 we are told, *"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."* Volunteering at *New Beginnings* means much more to me than doing a good deed. Yes, I get to glorify my Father in heaven, but I feel like there is even more to that. Volunteering at *New Beginnings* means that I get the opportunity to serve others while making a difference in someone's life. When I serve at *New Beginnings*, I am letting my light shine by proclaiming the Word of God to mothers to help them grow in their faith – what a wonderful blessing! Jesus was the ultimate servant when it comes to helping others and, in an effort to mirror him, I do what I can as a humble servant to do the same.

My goal is to give people a listening ear and make them feel comfortable. When you get to know someone, you figure out you have more in common than you think. One connection I have already made is that one mother and I grew up in the same town for 17 years. And out of all of the places we could have ended up, we met each other here at *New Beginnings*! An amazing benefit about volunteering is that someday those close connections can lead to lifelong friendships.

When I graduate from Wisconsin Lutheran College, my goal is to become a neonatal/OB nurse. I feel like *New Beginnings* gives me the opportunity to use my passion of caring for mothers and their babies, and I could not be more thankful. Besides, who wouldn't want to play and cuddle with the biggest blessings life has to offer?

Galatians 5:13 tells us, *"You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love."* ♦

New Beginnings appreciates your prayers to our gracious God on our behalf. We also appreciate your gifts.

☐ Yes, I (we) would like to help *New Beginnings*: ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ other \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone (____) _____ Email _____

☐ Please charge a one-time gift to my credit card. Name on Card _____

Card # _____ Signature _____

Type of Card ☐ MC ☐ Visa ☐ Discover ☐ AMEX Expiration Date* _____ Card ID (CVV2/CID) #* _____

WE PROTECT YOUR PRIVACY: *New Beginnings* respects your privacy and will not give away or sell your contact information. *New Beginnings* is a registered 501(c)3 agency under the U.S. tax code. All donations to the ministry of *New Beginnings* are fully tax deductible.

Where to find the Card ID #? MC/Visa/Discover: 3-digit code on back; AMEX: 4-digit code on front.

☐ I want to support this ministry on a regular basis. Send me information on becoming a monthly donor. *Required
(Or you can visit **homeformothers.com** to donate online today!)

☐ Please contact me about remembering *New Beginnings* in my will or estate plan.

☐ I want to receive email updates on the ministry. **Email:** _____

☐ I do not require an acknowledgment of this gift.

☐ I want an **email** acknowledgment of this gift: _____ ☐ I want a letter acknowledgment.

Our Gift of Love!

Our "Change for Life" program now has themes for each giving season!

The upcoming season is called, "Our Gift of Love." Please contact us to participate at 414-376-0595 or christinap@homeformothers.com



New Beginnings

A Ministry Sponsored by Christian Life Resources

A Home for Mothers

Box 56 • Richfield, WI 53076

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ELGIN, IL
PERMIT NO. 126



Thank You to St. John's on the Hillside

Holiday dinners are one of our family traditions at *New Beginnings*, and lately our family has grown so big that we have a difficult time hosting everyone in our Group Commons. At Thanksgiving, we were so packed that once everyone was seated, no one was able to get out of their seats without asking someone else to also move! By the grace of God, historic St. John's Lutheran Church in downtown Milwaukee, Wisconsin, happened to contact us regarding a large space they have available at their church and asked if the space could be of service to us. What amazing timing – truly a blessing from God! At our Christmas dinner this year, we no longer had to worry about space. We were so happy to spend time celebrating the birth of Jesus together over a wonderful meal. **Thank you, St. John's on the Hillside!**

