

Love-Lift Ministries

Summer 2012 Newsletter

Delivering God's Love Since 1977

THE LAZY DAYS OF SUMMER! Autumn is just around the corner, but summer lives on in our memories. What did you do this summer? This June, my husband, Philip, and I celebrated forty years of happy marriage by traveling up the California coast to spend a few days and nights in beautiful Yosemite Valley.



Fourth of July

Some of our fondest summer memories take us back to our childhoods. Remember playing hide-and-go-seek 'til dark, when we finally had to come back into the house? In June we couldn't wait for school let out, so we could kick off our shoes and go barefoot for the summer. Remember those fourth of July picnics in the park, and the spectacular firework shows afterwards!

Vanguard University students, like the children they once, were, also look forward to summertime, when classes are over for the semester. Mission minded VU students get excited about opportunities to go on short term mission trips. And, Love-Lift Ministries has been there to help!

This summer our Ministry was able to provide personal care gift bags for several VU student groups going on trips abroad. Each group planned to focus on ministry to children. Each student took with them an extra suitcase filled with small Love-Lift bags.

Among the places where the students were able to deliver a Love-Lift to bless needy children was Ethiopia, Northern Africa. Here in Ethiopia were two orphanages dedicated to serving children and teens whose parents had died from HIV/AIDS. You can be sure the smiles on the faces of those orphaned kids truly said, "Thank you!" And you can be sure the Lord was pleased with everyone who made it possible to bless and encourage them in His name.

Another of the student groups traveled to Mozambique, Africa, with their suitcases full of gifts. Here, again, was another opportunity to bless orphaned children. Of course, the students had their own agenda to interact lovingly with the children, and to minister the Gospel of God's love in a face-to-face way, but delivering the Love-Lift gifts added an extra special touch which the student missionaries appreciated.

In their traveling to bless the children, the students were themselves surely blessed and changed. Perhaps some of these young people will go on to become fulltime ministers and missionaries as a result of their eye-opening, life changing experiences. Perhaps a seed was planted in the lives of the children which will result in their salvation. We at Love-Lift Ministries rejoice that we had a part this summer to work with these young people during such a critical decision-making time in their lives.

Another student group had an opportunity to minister the Gospel to children in a State operated orphanage in Russia. Again, this group was pleased to enrich their own mission agenda by blessing their project with Love-Lift personal care gifts.

Love-Lift Ministries loves children. Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."

One of the very special Love-Lift Ministries to children, especially babies, which has continued month after month, and year after year, has been made possible by the layette team of Carla and Sherri. These faithful volunteers have given thousands of hours of their own time to create, on average, 250 layettes a year since 1984. **Each layette contains over twenty-five items, including a plastic baby bathtub, to provide the essential things a baby and the mother need at this critical time of life.** A layette includes things like baby blankets, bibs and burp cloths, cloth diapers, sleepers, as well as items like baby shampoo, vaseline, safety-pins, bottles with nipples, etc. Each layette is made differently: especially for boys, or especially for girls. The clothing includes items for newborns, as well as for boys, or for girls, up to two years of age. Babies do grow up fast!

In the places where the layettes were delivered, the mother and baby would have had none of the baby items, were it not for those who care. Over the years these layettes have been sent around the world to bring God's love to places where poverty is profound, and where encouragement in His name is so much appreciated.

Love-Lifters like you have helped make the Layette ministry, and our other ministries, possible by donating the financial help we must have to continue our work for the Lord. Our facility rent is \$2,500 a month, plus utilities and expensive annual insurance; the cost for the thousands of gift products we purchase at wholesale prices averages \$2,000 a month. We have been behind in our minimum monthly budget this summer. We are not dismayed. The Lord will supply!

While Vanguard University student missionaries have been doing their part in ministries to children, my husband and I have had our own summer opportunities to serve the poor. This summer we traveled in our motor home each month to various locations on the Mexican border. We were able each month to help thirteen church pastors minister gifts to four-hundred-fifty needy people.

Suffice it to say, for Ministries, these busy summer months have not been "The lazy days of summer." Yet, in everything we rejoice with thanksgiving. We keep on singing God's praises, remembering this: "A song is no song 'til you sing it. Love in your heart wasn't put there to stay – Love isn't love 'til you give it away."

- Oscar Hammerstein II,



Blessings,

Marilyn Kunde,

President, Love-Lift Ministries

*"Oh come, Let us sing to the Lord...
Let us come into his presence with Thanksgiving."*

PSALM 95



*"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you.
Abide in my love. . . If you keep my commandments,
you will abide in my love,
just as I have kept my Father's commandments
and abide in his love.
These things I have spoken to you,
that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full . . .
You did not choose me,
but I chose you and appointed you
that you should go and bear fruit
and that your fruit should abide..."*

JOHN 15



Since 1984 Carla and Sherri have prepared thousands of layettes for babies and their mothers. Each layette is filled with over twenty-five useful items. These layettes have gone around the world to help needy mothers and their little babies.



This Vanguard University student is helping a young Ethiopian orphan open their Love-Lift personal care gift bag. The smiling student is excited and happy to be able to share God's love. The mission journey will, for sure, be a life changing experience for her.



This girl's home is an orphanage in Mozambique, Africa. She has just opened up her Love-Lift bag. The smile on her face tells you that she appreciates being remembered by people who care.



These smiling Ethiopian children are admiring the candy they found in their gift bags. Children all over the world love candy. Carol, a faithful volunteer at our warehouse, spends hours sorting and packaging the sweets from the larger packages I buy at discount rates.



These Ethiopian boys' were left alone when their parents died of AIDS. They seem fascinated by the gifts they received. God loves them, and so do we! "Love isn't love, 'til it's given away."



This bright eyed young orphan is shown holding her Love-Lift gift bag close to her. It is our hope that she will come to know the fullness of God's love for her.



These orphaned Ethiopian girls are holding Love-Lift bags. The bags were sewn and filled by Love-Lift volunteers in the USA, and were delivered to Africa by Vanguard University students.



These orphaned girls from Mozambique have found a Christian home in an orphanage started by Heidi Baker. Heidi is a graduate of Vanguard University. The girls are wearing colorful beads in their hair. The beads were one of the items in their Love-Lift gift bags.



Hugs all around as the mission trip to Russia draws to a close with lasting memories. Love-Lift Ministries is prepared to deliver God's expressed love wherever we find opportunities to serve the Lord's beloved poor.



Vanguard University students traveled all the way to Russia to share God's love with children living in a State operated orphanage. Like the student groups who went to orphanages in Ethiopia, and to Mozambique, these students also filled their extra suitcases with gifts for the children.



These Vanguard students are shown giving hugs to young Russian orphan children. Perhaps one of these young students will be so impacted by their short term mission that they will be inspired by the Holy Spirit to become fulltime Gospel ministers.

LOVE-LIFT UPDATE - SUMMER 2012

by Marilyn Kunde



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Return Service Requested

NEEDS FOR THE MINISTRY

- God's guidance, protection, and strength to endure
- **Financial help to meet our montly rent and utilities as we expand our warehouse space and expense needs.**
- Financial help to purchase the items we use to fill more than five-hundred gift-bags each month
- Additional volunteers to work at our facility, or in your home or group

THE LOVE-LIFT MISSION

Our mission is to build up each missionary, each pastor, each congregation, each Christian school, each Bible school, each orphanage, and every Christian, and potential Christian that God has given us an opportunity to touch.

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