



Summertime Memories, because of **YOU!**

The end of summer is near, yet the calendars are still chock-full of activities, vacations and quick getaways. After spending the summer of 2020 isolated with no place to go, it seems as though we are packing in as much summer fun as possible.

Whether you are spending time at the beach, a mountain lake, or simply enjoying some quiet time at home, it is always fun to reflect back on childhood memories of summer vacations. Many families were able to set aside a week or two, and a few extra dollars, to plan that special summer get-away. Maybe a simple “out in the wilderness” camping trip, the highly anticipated family vacation to Disneyland, or the cross-country road trip to visit the grandparents. Some folks were fortunate to enjoy a beach house, or

a mountain cabin where families and friends can gather each summer. Regardless of where and how you spent this precious time, they all create amazing, lifelong memories. What are some of your favorites?

Oftentimes, it takes something dramatic, like a pandemic, to remind us how thankful we are for everything God has given us. Precious time with family, freedom to worship together, a home, a full pantry, a car, or even that summer vacation.

However, in the lives of our New Life Program students, summer vacations may be the last thing on their minds. They are simply thankful to be in a safe environment, working towards an addiction free life, the opportunity to continue to raise their children, and



The Blessing of Godly Parents

On July 4th my father, Gerald Allen Richardson, passed away to be with our Lord. My mother, brother, myself and other family members were at his bedside in Concord, Georgia at the time of his passing. My father was a Vietnam Veteran, a loving husband & father, and a faithful servant of God.

One of the many things I was reminded of during my recent time with family, was the fact that I was raised by Godly parents who instilled high-quality values and life skills. This month's cover story about our Mission Kids brings to light just how important it is for parents to teach children proper values and skills they will carry with them their entire lives. New Life Program (NLP) Students, both with and without children, learn many invaluable lessons throughout their time at the Mission that they may then pass on to younger generations. So how does the NLP address values and life skills for parents? Here are just a few ways:

- Adverse Childhood Experiences training that identifies the effects on the mind, body and soul as a result of early childhood trauma parents may have gone through. Then individualized counseling follows.
- Classes on anger management, relapse prevention, setting boundaries, and caring for others through biblical teaching.
- Life Skills training such as ServeSafe Food Handler's Certificate and other skills through a comprehensive "Ministry Assignment" program that makes each NLP Student part of our Staff-led, Student-run Rescue Mission.
- Parenting activities such as attending Church where Sunday School is available for children or being a parent chaperon as part of their Kid's Summer Program where there is a fun activity at least once a week off Campus.
- Individualized education focused on math and English improvement.

- A New Life Scholarship Program that links individuals like YOU who can be encouragers and mentors for these parents (and children). As an example, parents can see what a healthy home and marriage looks like through their scholar sponsors.
- And most importantly, the beginning or renewal of a relationship with the Lord where parents can now teach their children biblical principles. To this point, I am reminded of Proverbs 22:6 which states:

Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.

May God bless and train our parents to be good leaders for their children through the New Life Program!

Wayne G. Richardson



In loving memory of Gerry Richardson. Pictured with his wife, Barbara Richardson.



Mission Kids and Moms excited to explore the World of Wonders Science Museum in Lodi.



Gnome better time spent than with friends at Pixie Woods!



Discovering all kinds of new and exciting things at the Children's Museum of Stockton!



Continued from cover

most importantly, learn more about Jesus every day. It is almost as if the majority of their lives have been a 'pandemic' – cutting them off from family and friends because of addiction, homelessness, and abuse. Summers were simply a blur and melted into the next season of addiction. Unfortunately, it is the children of the addicted that are missing out on positive, family memories.

Yet, because of our amazing Mission friends – that would be **You** – the Mission Kids and their Moms have been creating memories all summer long! Because of **You**, they have enjoyed "summer fun stay-cations" throughout San Joaquin County and beyond. They enjoyed riding the train, the colorful carousel and experienced all the fun that Pixie Woods had to offer! The Micke Grove Zoo and Park was such an enjoyable day. Because of **You**, the science projects at the World of Wonders Science Museum were a big hit, and the Children's Museum was out of this world – considering they saw the new Jose Hernandez, our local NASA Astronaut exhibit. Because of **You**, the Ports Baseball game and hanging out with Mascot Splash was a wonderful, warm evening. Swimming became a big part of the summer fun with parties at the Gora Aquatic Center – all because of **You**. A special treat was a pool party at the home of Ron and Bonnie Barber (New Life Program Supporters), as well as a trip to Raging Waters! And because of **You**, what a blast (pun intended) they had at the 4th of July party, complete with waterslides, delicious BBQ and fireworks.



Taking learning to new heights and multiple colors at World of Wonders Science Museum.



Nothing but smiles could be seen as the kids waited to slip down the water slides at Raging Waters.

Yes, memories. Sweet, lifelong summer vacation memories that were created in the hearts of our Mission Kids. Because of **You**, the prayer warriors, volunteers, and generous financial donors, our Mission Kids and their Moms received blessings of love, compassion, generosity and care as children enjoyed 'just being a kid' this summer!

GOSPEL CENTER RESCUE MISSION

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“All your children will be taught by the Lord, and great will be their peace.”

Isaiah 54:13

DONATIONS NEEDED



Kids Socks & Underwear
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For donation drop-off, call (209) 320-2310.

Thank You

Thank you for
hosting Gospel
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public graduation!



SAVE — the — DATE

Graduation Schedule

FRIDAY

SEPTEMBER 17 • 10AM

Dennis Barrett

2021 Distinguished Graduate
GCRM Campus

SUNDAY

NOVEMBER 14 • 2PM

Miguel Villapudua

San Joaquin County Supervisor
Lincoln Presbyterian Church

JULY GRADUATION



From left: Yan Hach, Angel Fernandez, Sytra Fleming, Keynote Speaker: Phyllis Grupe, Yvonne Rodriguez, Nena Palmer and Patricia McGee. Photo by Tim Ulmer.