

those that have been reached through the years. We recently had the privilege of facilitating a meeting between one of our former residents and the child that she lovingly placed for adoption. The family is gracious enough to travel here from California so that birth mom, Bobbie, can visit with her daughter. It is reassuring to know that the decision she made to turn her child over to capable, loving and stable parents will make a difference in her life.



Bobbie & Annebell

### Not just a car wash...

I recently heard from one of our former residents. She was calling to tell me that her son was holding a fundraiser car wash right around the corner from us. I rushed down there for an opportunity to have a quick connection with one of my foster "grandsons". As he hovered around the car, vigorously washing wheels and windows, my mind was flooded with thoughts of when his Mom first came to Jesus Cares Ministries over 15 years ago. She had come to America from a small country in Western Africa to obtain a degree. She was hoping to earn money to help support her family at home. Finding herself pregnant, she was overcome with grief and shame and thoughts of suicide flooded her mind. In one of her most burdensome moments, she heard a knock at her door and she answered to find an individual who wanted to share with her the life saving message of Jesus Christ. That was the first of many miracles in her life. I couldn't help but wonder what would have happened to this young woman if the messenger never arrived that day. Would this young man even be here today? My car wash experience amounted to more



Desmond

than just a much needed car cleaning venture. It was a moment to remember God's divine appointment with a hurting woman and how that brief encounter changed her and her son's destiny for eternity.

### Exhorting Others to Shine Their Light...

Joy is a delightful woman who was once "undercover" for Jesus. That is, no one in her family, including her husband, step-daughters, and son knew that she had once made a commitment to the Lord Jesus Christ. To her shame, she mentioned over lunch one day that her friends would certainly never "accuse" her of being a Christian. She was deeply convicted. After connecting with the ministry, attending a retreat, and then borrowing some materials from our JCM library, she gained the courage to step out and become a witness to her family. She began reading devotions to her son and inviting the family to church events. The following picture paints a thousand words. This paper was an assignment given to her son in his classroom. We are thankful for the impact she now has on others. She is serving in a local fellowship and volunteering in the children's ministry. Her family has a long way to go, but the steps she has taken to come out of hiding is having a profound influence on their lives. We hope Joy's story inspires you to courageously follow Christ and make a difference in the lives of those around you.

Thank you for your support. You make it possible for us to impact others.



"To relax my mom likes to think about God"

*Jesus Cares*



# JESUS CARES MINISTRIES

MINISTERING TO THOSE IN CRISIS

4th Quarter 2013

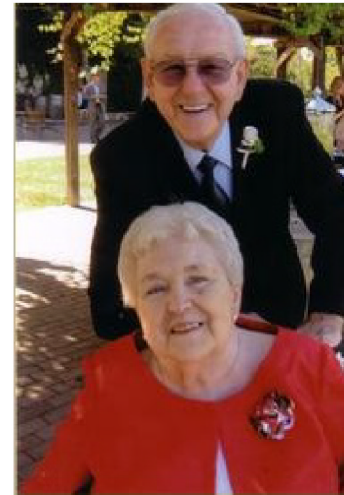
### LEAVING BEHIND A LEGACY

Mary Ellen Augustine 1937-2013

Few people come into our lives and make a lasting mark. When they do, we are forever mindful of their impact and continually grateful for the imprint they leave upon our hearts.

Two such special ladies in our lives have gone on to be with the Lord.

We arrived in Arizona over 35 years ago in hopes to encourage my mother who was in great distress trying to raise my two younger siblings with very little support! We were in for an unexpected surprise! We arrived in sunny Arizona on a Wednesday afternoon. My mother introduced us to some friends she had recently acquired. We had no idea that these friends would be the catalyst in bringing my family to Christ. Joe and Mary Ellen opened their Bibles in my Mom's family room and shared the message of Christ. They invited us to mid week service. That was the beginning of a new and exciting life and the start of our journey with Christ. What began as a visit to encourage my mother ended in our salvation experience! Mary Ellen went to be with the Lord after a long battle with disease and pain. She touched our lives many years ago and the fruit of that divine appointment still lives on in the ministry of Jesus Cares as well as our personal and family life.



Mary Ellen and Joe

Marjorie Beth Setser 1924 - 2013

We arrived back in New York after our visit to Arizona and realized very quickly that our lives would no longer be the same. The businesses we operated kept us busy for more hours in the day than we desired. Prior to that, our whole life revolved around our Deli and Restaurant. We soon realized that our pursuit of God would come to a crashing halt if we didn't make an adjustment to our lifestyle. The most difficult decision lay before us: success in business or pursuit of God. At the time, and in our particular situation, there was no other choice. We chose to leave behind a successful business and move to Arizona. We felt God calling us away from everything that was familiar to establish a home in the desert of Arizona. Tom finished his degree in accounting and Doreen pursued a career in banking. It wasn't long before we felt a call to the ministry and once again, our lives were turned upside down. This time, the Lord placed Lum and Marge Setser in our path. He was the owner of Jesus Chapel Bookstore and we soon chose to leave the Catholic Church and join Pastor Lum and his small congregation. The ministry of Jesus Cares was birthed under their pastoral care and Marge led our first maternity resident to the Lord. What a joyful day that was and one that we will never forget.

Though these lives have come to an end, their legacy remains with us forever. We are grateful to Marge and Mary Ellen for helping to shape our early years.

Who have you influenced today? Think about the impact your life can have on others around you and take the time to connect with someone today!



Marge

# MISSIONARY VENTURE: SWAZILAND, AFRICA

Sharing the Message of God's Bountiful Love...

How can we begin to express our gratitude to the Lord for His mighty provisions? After a long season of waiting, we were able to journey across the miles to support our dear friends and ministry partners, John and Kay West. After Tom and I committed the matter of planning our trip to Swaziland in the Lord's capable hands, we quietly waited to see how He would move on our behalf. The answer to our prayers arrived at our doorstep. Two special ladies arrived unexpectedly carrying enough money for 3 tickets to Swaziland! Their parents passed away and they requested that a portion of their estate be donated to Jesus Cares Ministries. What a bountiful provision for our heartfelt cry. More money trickled in and we were able to purchase clothing for the widows of Swazi. Tickets were purchased and Tom, Doreen, and Tiffany began our 4th of July festivities bound for Africa. Four airports later and over 30 hours in travel, we arrived safe and sound at the West retreat. The beautiful land of Swazi with its rich, black soil, endless fields of cane, and magnificent sunsets cannot be compared to anything else I have seen and yet the contrast of poverty, and the ugliness of sin's mark on this country leaves you speechless. There is all too much to take in; a mere 2 weeks in this fascinating land can leave you wondering if the seeds sown could possibly make a difference in the vast ocean of need that lies before John and Kay daily. Our mission trip consisted of:

- ♦ visiting villages and care points
- ♦ teaching Bible studies
- ♦ encouraging the hopeless
- ♦ holding orphans
- ♦ distributing: shoes, Bibles, reading glasses and clothing articles
- ♦ singing songs and listening to them sing
- ♦ and even teaching some simple songs and guitar lessons.

You leave there wondering why they smile so

big and hope so readily. Continue to pray for our dear friends as they reach out to the poorest of the poor. The next time you are tempted to complain about your unfortunate circumstances, please take the time to visit their blog site:  
<http://www.swazilandk.blogspot.com>.



## NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

A.A.C.C. Convention 2013

Sharing the Message of God's Covenant Love...

We had a wonderful opportunity to attend the A.A.C.C. (American Association of Christian Counselors) convention in Nashville. They granted the ministry a scholarship. We were grateful to participate and be able to help our friends, Chris and Carmen, who were presenters at the event. There was a variety of classes offered and much information to glean. There is so much controversy in the church regarding the Biblical way to approach mental illness and addiction. There was a lot to chew on. I believe the Lord is equipping us with a better understanding of how to support those struggling with life dominating challenges. We are also finding tools to help the spouses and family members. The Bible has the remedy but we sometimes fail to apply the principles of God's Word to our current struggles in a meaningful way to produce change. We continually depend on the power and the wisdom of the Holy



Tom, Doreen, Carmen, Chris

Spirit to guide us as we walk alongside of the broken and needy. Though our society is filled with challenges that seem overwhelmingly complex, the simplicity of "...Christ in you

the hope of glory" (Colossians 1:27) is the good news that prevails when the methods and remedies of man fail.

Chris and Carmen labor tirelessly to deliver the message of enduring, covenant love. They are faithful servants who make many sacrifices in order to serve the body of Christ and walk in obedience to the call of God. Come join us for a Coffee Chat with Fortified Marriages Ministries on the 1st Friday of every month at Arizona Community Church at 7 pm. They offer helpful tools to enhance the marital relationship and strengthen the family unit.

## Georgette's Memorial Fund

A quick note from our friends in Swaziland regarding a special donation in memory of Georgette Bolt Wiggs, Kay responded as follows:

We are so grateful to you all for investing the gifts from your precious granny's memorial here in Africa. As I'm sure Doreen has shared with you, the needs here are acute and seemingly endless. The disease and poverty are overwhelming.

Please know that we have begun to put your generosity to work in many ways. You are already touching many lives here! So far we've repaired a widow's roof and provided her with gutters so she can collect rainwater to use. We are in the process of providing two destitute single mothers and their children a pair of goats each at their homesteads so they can raise goats and earn an income that way.



Ncamsile with heavy load still smiling

Some of the money has been allocated some to our emergency fund. We use this fund almost daily as we encounter various needs amongst those we know and serve since we know which ones can be trusted with the money. The needs include funeral expenses (sadly this is a frequent occurrence here with the AIDS

epidemic and other diseases), getting people to and from medical care, repair of mud huts that are damaged by the frequent rains during the rainy season, buying food for families who have literally NONE, etc.

We are also investing some of the funds into education - definitely a big need here as education is not free, and is in fact very expensive and above the means of most Swazis. We have personally know mothers who will starve themselves in order to pay school fees for their children. One of the saddest sights is also one we see frequently. Children on one side of a fence playing happily on a school playground, while others on the outside



of the fence peer wistfully in. These kids know that an education is the only way out of their dire existence, and want it desperately.

May God richly bless you for the huge difference you are making in lives here in Africa. John and Kay

## AFTERCARE..

As many of you know we continue to maintain an Aftercare support system for former residents of Jesus Cares Ministries Maternity Program. It is very exciting to see the Lord moving in the lives of

