



SINCE 1907

**HOMELINE**

Spring/Summer 2023

Texarkana Baptist  
*Children's Home*  
...changing legacies

# Sons and Daughters of The King



“The Gospel message isn’t just about getting you to Heaven. It’s about getting you to a Heavenly Father. God isn’t just the reflection of a father. He’s the perfection of a father.”  
Louie Giglio

We hear so often that we see God through the lens of our earthly dads, but that quote grabs us by the shoulders. God is not an impersonator of a sinful and failing human trying to do his best. That is like looking through the wrong end of the telescope. The Lord is the perfection and the standard of fatherhood. And because our Heavenly Father has so much love for us, He had His only Son Jesus taste death for everyone so He could bring many sons and daughters to glory.

There are many reasons a child comes to live in our Home. For whatever the reason, shortcoming, or failing their parent has had, the Lord has used these circumstances to bring them to salvation and into a relationship with Him as their Heavenly Father.



## Adoption is the Visible Gospel

Jesus wants to get you to a better destination than you could ever get to on your own. The Lord’s providence is mysterious, yet certain. He moves in a limitless array of circumstances to accomplish His pre-determined plans.



We know how important family is to God. He even created the institution of the family long before the institution of the church.

In Ps. 68:6 it says, “The Lord places the solitary in families.” And in Eph. 1:3-5, Paul uses the illustration of adoption as what God has done for us. “God decided in advance to adopt us into His own family by bringing us to Himself through Jesus Christ. This is what He wanted to do, and it gave Him great pleasure.”

It pleases the Lord greatly when Christians reflect His glorious act of spiritual adoption through their obedient act of adopting children. We are grateful and thankful to share two of our awesome kiddos’ adoption earlier this year. Thank you to this amazing family for reflecting and demonstrating God’s love and spirit of adoption.



# ADMINISTRATIVE MEMOS

*My Update Notes*  
*Heather A. Thompson*

A greatly compelling statement has been said, "On your way to Rome, don't miss the miracle in Malta."

Paul knew he was sailing to Rome to stand before Caesar. Yet on his way, he endured a violent storm for days, survived a shipwreck, and landed on a seemingly insignificant island. Malta is only 17 miles long and 9 miles wide...a blip on the radar, and certainly not Paul's intended destination.

But while Paul was in Malta, the Chief of the island was saved, the Chief's father was healed, and **all** the other sick people on the island were healed. Salvation and spiritual awakening happened in a place Paul had never planned.

Paul could have been annoyed by the circumstances of being a prisoner, trapped in a storm, and suddenly shipwrecked. When the snake bit him, Paul could have succumbed to the venom of frustration, doubt, disbelief, bitterness, or anger.

Yet Paul served where he was stranded, and an island of people was eternally changed.

I think of Texarkana Baptist Children's Home as a type of "Malta." Our Home is certainly not a destination on a child's radar. A small piece of property, in a small random town, yet a shipwreck in their lives has brought them here.

Our kiddos can often be injected with the venom of frustration, doubt, disbelief, bitterness, and anger. Yet on this seemingly insignificant island known as TBCH, the Lord wants to bring healing to their hearts and salvation to their souls.

We're not the final destination of their figurative "Rome", but we pray to be the "Miracle in Malta" in their spiritual awakening.

The Lord has predetermined plans for every life. When it looks like God's plans are shipwrecked, it's because the Lord is working in failing and flawed environments. God worked in the failing and flawed plans of men who chose to sail at the wrong time of

year in order to fulfill His predetermined plan for Paul to take the Gospel and salvation to an entire island.

While we often live in the realm of emotion (ie...Peter chopping off Malchus' ear in the garden; sailors wanting to jump ship), Jesus is working in the realm of accomplishing the impossible (ie...crushing the head of Satan at Gethsemane; taking the Gospel where it's never been).

Living in a Children's Home or Foster Care may feel like a "shipwreck." The unfortunate circumstances of failing and flawed environments brought them to a place they never intended to be. But the Lord is faithfully at work accomplishing the impossible.

Please join us in praying for the healing of our kiddos' hearts and the salvation of their souls. Texarkana Baptist Children's Home is not their "Rome", but we pray it will be their "Miracle in Malta."

**\*\*\*To give credit for the original ideas from others, this article was written after gleaning thoughts from Louie Giglio and Christine Caine.**



**Super Student Award Winner!**

When you are a young fella (or gal) with the squirmy wormies and the wiggles and giggles, sitting in a classroom can be a real challenge. And sometimes all that energy spills over and can test the patience of even the best of teachers. We were so very proud when our very own King of Energy won the Super Student Award. He was so excited and rightfully proud to have earned this accomplishment.

The Homeline is produced by the staff of the Texarkana Baptist Children's Home, Dr. W. A. Dillard, Editor. Heather Thompson is Administrator and point of contact at the Home. Deby Turrentine is Office Manager. Trustees are Allen Hagood, Chairman; Dr. W. A. Dillard, Fred A. Penny Sec.-treas., Doney Blackerby, and Nathan Rogers. Address all correspondence to Texarkana Baptist Children's Home, P.O. Box 611, Texarkana, AR\TX 75504. The physical address of the Home is 5401 E. 9th Street, Texarkana, AR 71854. Telephone (870)774-8214. TKBCH is supported by the churches of the American Baptist Association. Email is received at: [office@baptistkids.org](mailto:office@baptistkids.org) Visit us online at [www.baptistkids.org](http://www.baptistkids.org) and on Facebook at BaptistKids



**TRUSTEES  
NOTES**  
*Allen Hagood  
Chairman*

It is with joy that I bring this report to you concerning our Children’s Home. God always amazes me with his continued blessings. Please know that everyone who supports the Home by offering or prayer is part of what God is doing in the children’s lives.

We have recently had several children saved and baptized! Just to know

that wherever life takes these children, their salvation will never change.

We had hail damage to some of the roofs at the counseling center, and we are replacing the roofs with metal. This will upgrade almost all our buildings on the campus with metal.

Trustee Doney Blackerby and Byron Myers are doing very well taking care of the cattle and farm. We have sold a good number of calves and have a bunch more that will be ready to sell later on.

Hay season will be in full swing soon and we are praying that we will be able to put enough in the barn for our cows and maybe some extra to SELL.

We used up all of our hay this winter so hopefully we can fill the barns back up this Summer.

There is one apartment available for a pastor or missionary or wife of either who needs it at the counseling center. Get in contact if you are interested.

**Kings and Queens**  
**By: Bro. Ryan Smith**

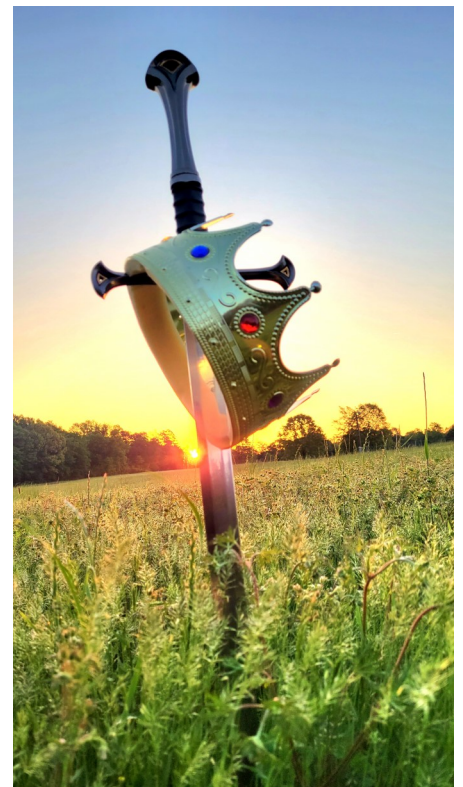
If you were to walk into our offices between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m., you would most likely see one of the kiddos wearing a plastic golden crown while wielding a soft edge replica sword. While the kids are in school, the sword and crown normally lean against the wall in the corner of my office until the first kiddo arrives.

It always starts the same way. A student will come into my office, sit down, and start a small conversation, all the while taking numerous glances at the sword and crown in the corner. After about 30-45 seconds, the main reason for their visit comes in the form of a question: “Bro. Ryan, may I hold the sword?” Naturally, the crown goes on their head when they pick up the sword. At that moment, they feel like royalty. They are no longer just students at a children's home, they are kings and queens.

Romans 8:15-18 states, “For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may also be glorified together. For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy of being compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.”

The kiddos that come through the doors of the Children’s Home already carry a weight that perhaps some of us never have had to bear. The Lord promises that He will take care of His children. Though they are safe and well cared for, it seems that these kiddos carry the weight of the world on their shoulders. Our Lord promises that they will one day be heirs to the Kingdom.

Today, they place plastic crowns upon their heads, wrap their hands around the hilts of fake swords, and begin to pretend that they are kings and queens of a kingdom. It is our prayer that they will come to know the truth. This truth is if they accept Christ as their Savior, they truly are heirs to the Kingdom, and one day, they will raise up a sword of victory, and the crown upon their heads will be laid at the feet of the King of kings and Lord of lords.



# BENEFACTOR BLESSINGS

## *In-kind Goods and Services*

All of us who have to do with Texarkana Baptist Children's Home are so blessed and thankful for individuals, corporate, and civic partners who aid us in the care of needful children. Because of the love and compassion of so many kind folks, the ministry of the churches to children at large who need a helping hand in a safe environment is doing well. Many thanks to you, dear friends, and to our Heavenly Father for the many in-kind goods and services we continue to receive. Each gift helps us to carry on this ministry in a manner commensurate with high community standards.

**Gift:** Clothing, Shoes, Accessories, Handbags, Jewelry, Scarves, Pajamas, Hats  
Given by: **Cato, Texarkana, TX**

**Gift:** Clothing, Sandals, Jewelry, Bags, Scarves, Shoes, PJs  
Given by: **Cato, Texarkana, AR**

**Gift:** Hygiene items, Health & beauty aids, Cleaning & laundry supplies, Batteries & light bulbs, Bed linens, Throws, Household items, Storage & trash bags, School & office supplies, Toys, Charcoal, Canning jars, Clothing, Candles/room freshener, Beds In Bags, Drinking glasses, Meal supplement drinks, Jewelry, Cups, Perfumes, TV Trays, Eyeglass Wipes, Sunglasses, Notebooks, Christmas Lights and Décor, Wrapping Paper, Summer Clothing  
Given by: **Walmart, Texarkana, AR**

**Gift:** Assortment of Candy, Jerky, and Snacks  
Given by: **Misty Lester, LouAnn, AR**

**Gift:** Assortment of Different Food Items  
Given by: **Glenda Hinto, De Queen, AR**

**Gift:** Socks, Candy, Chips, Crayons, Toys, Games, Playdough, Puzzles, Legos, Body Wash, Feminine Products, Shampoos and Conditioners, Razors, Brushes, Press on Nails, Lotions  
Given by: **Heritage Baptist Church, Bald Knob, AR**

**Gift:** Pop-tarts, Cereals, Batteries, Trash bags, Soaps, Paper towels, Toilet Paper  
Given by: **Oakview Elementary, New Boston, TX**

**Gift:** Hula Hoops, Backpacks, Hats, Shampoo, Conditioner, Sandwich Boxes, Pens, Chalk, Shoes, Easter Baskets, Egg Dyes, Games, Plastic Easter Eggs, Books, Toothpaste, Sanitizers, Toys  
Given by: **Faith MBC, Des Arc, AR**

**Gift:** Bath Towels  
Given by: **Linda McFarland, Fort Smith, AR**

**Gift:** Bath Towels and Bedding  
Given by: **Logan Mt. Pleasant Ladies Aux, Carthage, TX**

**Gift:** Assorted Can Foods, Candy, Toothpaste, Soups, Christmas Gifts  
Given by: **Piney Grove, Linden, TX**

**Gift:** Assorted Stuffed Animals  
Given by: **ReLynn Robinson, Ft Worth, TX**

**Gift:** Different sizes of Luggage, and Briefcase  
Given by: **Ginger Williams, Texarkana, AR**

**Gift:** Fuzzy Socks, Slim Jim's, Sour Candy, Takis, Orange Sodas, and Assortment of Snack Items  
Given by: **Simon and Carice Hershovich, Wake Village, TX**

**Gift:** Body Wash, Paper towels, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Soap, Assortment of Can Goods, and Food Items  
Given by: **Texas High, Texarkana, TX**

**Gift:** Frozen Hams  
Given by: **United Steel Workers, Texarkana, AR**

**Gift:** 155 Rolls of Paper Towels  
Given by: **Geneva MBC, De Queen, AR**

**Gift:** Assortment of Snacks and Candy Items  
Given by: **Lakeside MBC, Des Arc, AR**

**Gift:** Assortment of Snack items and Crackers  
Given by: **Lakeside MBC Junior Youth, Des Arc, AR**

**Gift:** Easter Baskets  
Given by: **Antioch MBC, Humphrey, AR**

**Gift:** Pots and Pans, Towels, Scrubbing Bubbles, Plastic Tubs, Laundry Detergent, Chips, Snacks, Pickles, Candy, Forks and Spoons, Batteries, Trash bags, Cleaning Supplies, Gatorades  
Given by: **Sam's Club (Chris), Texarkana, TX**

**Gift:** Assortment of Different Food Items  
Given by: **Curtis Meloy, Nash, TX**

**Gift:** Assortment of Luggage, / overnight bags  
Given by: **Macedonia BC, Texarkana, TX**

**Gift:** Assortment of Different Types of Toys  
Given by: **JR, Texarkana, AR**

**Gift:** 17 Basketballs  
Given by: **Christian Warriors Church, Texarkana, AR**

**Gift:** Bath Towels, Coffee pods, Food Items, Snacks, Candies, Paper Products, Sugar, Water, Can Cokes, Wax Paper, Assortment of Food and Snack Items, Pam, Juice Boxes, Diapers, Oil, Dish Towels, Cleaning Supplies, Smores Kits, Pillows  
Given by: **Sam's Club, Texarkana, TX**

**Gift:** Easter Clothing Love Offering  
Given by: **Phyllis Smith, Texarkana, AR**

**Gift:** Easter Baskets, Walmart Gift Card, and Domino's Gift Cards  
Given by: **TSB Logistics, Texarkana, TX**

**Gift:** Easter Baskets  
Given by: **Summerhill NHM, Texarkana, TX**

**Gift:** Flats of Farm Fresh Eggs  
Given by: **Kevin and Iris Varnadoe**

**Gift:** Flats of Farm Fresh Eggs  
Given by: **Hunter Gillispie**

**Gift:** Towels and Sheets  
Given by: **Donaldson, MBC Ladies Aux, Donaldson, AR**

## THE OBJECT OF WILLS AND TESTAMENTS

Texarkana Baptist Children's Home and its children have benefited by the kindness and love of others who remembered this Home when making their Last Will and Testament. Some have left the bulk of their estate to the Home. Others have elected to leave a part of their estate, while sharing the remainder with others.

Certainly Texarkana Baptist Children's Home is a worthy recipient of Wills and Bequests. Should our readers desire to share their earthly goods after death with this ministry, it would be good to contact the Home. at 870-774-8214.

**EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE, HONOR AND APPRECIATION FOR  
THOSE DEAR TO OUR HEART**

*God Bless you for  
Remembering*

*Memorial and Honor Gifts Helping our Home*

*Thank You  
So Much!*

In memory of:  
**James Wigley**  
Pat Rice  
Francis Walker  
Given by:  
Central Baptist Church  
Fort Smith, AR  
Robyn and Grayson Moore  
Van Buren, AR

In memory of:  
**Nonna Wiggs**  
Given by:  
Pleasant Valley MBC  
Nashville, AR

In memory of:  
**Dr. Harris & Eunice  
McBryde**  
Given by:  
Harold and Laverne Bostick  
Pasadena, TX

In memory of:  
**Vernell Jeffreys**  
Given by:  
Sharon Johnson  
Horatio, AR

In memory of:  
**Rose Bissell**  
Given by:  
Pleasant Valley MBC  
Nashville, AR

In memory of:  
**Stan Sharp**  
Given by:  
Amy R Waychoff  
Benton, AR

In memory of:  
**Peggy Thompson  
Nina Corder  
Patty Glover**  
Given by:  
Peggy Morse  
Sarepta. LA

In memory of:  
**Kathleen Fallis**  
Given by:  
Bresches Family  
Troy, IL  
Leonard Reeves  
Granite City, IL

In memory of:  
**Anna Sue Dowd**  
Given by:  
Allen and Raylene Adams  
Mulberry, AR

In memory of:  
**Wilma Week**  
Given by:  
Bobby Stiles  
Jean Mathis  
Emma or Darriell Mathis  
Ozark, AR

In memory of:  
**Dr. Morris L Cloud**  
Given by:  
Michael Reynolds  
Marlow, OK

In memory of:  
**James Wigley**  
Given By:  
Bill and Pat Fant  
Greenwood, AR

In memory of:  
**Jean Haley Wells**  
Given by:  
Shirley G Morris  
Harrison, AR

In memory of:  
**Donnie Green**  
Given by:  
Layman Harris  
Pine Bluff, AR

In memory of:  
**David Smith**  
Given by:  
Shirley Morris  
Vickie Taylor and Family  
Rita Smith and Family  
Sarah Powell and Family

**TBCH MEMORIALS**  
The Children, Staff, and  
Trustees, with gratitude and  
recognition, present the  
following names of those  
who have labored  
for and in our Home.

**David Beasley**  
Former Superintendent

**Graham Patterson**  
Mission Builder of the Home

**ARKANSAS MISSION  
BUILDERS  
ASSOCIATION**

A Facebook page with the  
latest information about  
this ministry can be  
joined.

[https://www.facebook.com/  
groups/182080709091952/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/182080709091952/)

We are grateful for each  
volunteer and pray others  
will join to help missions  
and churches with their  
building needs. Please call  
for scheduled work days.

For churches needing  
electrical work, contact  
Tommy Baker:  
501-413-0404

**DONEY BLACKERBY**  
8880 Hwy 114  
Rison, AR 71665  
870-543-0581

The Trustees, Staff  
and Children of the  
Home, in grateful  
appreciation, and in  
special honor present  
the names of known  
pastors of the Lord's  
Churches who have  
recently gone to  
Heaven's Glory.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Eld. Jesse Burkett**

**Eld. Ricky Hatter**

**Eld. Roger Stewart**

**Eld. Calvin Isenhower**

**Eld. Richard Bunn**

\*\*\*\*\*

**ANNOUNCING**

**UPDATE**

Complying with your  
requests, the Home's  
website  
([www.baptistkids.org](http://www.baptistkids.org))  
now has the capacity to  
receive contributions  
both of "Memorial" and  
"Honor" tributes to  
loved ones. Thank you so  
much for your  
request. We trust this  
will make it easier for  
readers to make  
loving tributes.

# A SLICE OF LIFE ON CAMPUS



First Day of Work

## A License to Drive and Chicken to Fry

This young man put in almost 30 applications all over town for the very coveted “first job.” Winner, winner chicken dinner, he finally got one. What a wonderful learning experience to maintain that high level of determination and diligence to not give up after so many “NO’s.” He has also worked hard to pass his driver’s exam. We know he’s ready to burn up the highway...just don’t burn up the chicken.

## The Art of Entertainment



Cast of Trice Circus Extravaganza



Two of our Fine Art Kiddos



Arkansas Middle School Christmas String Concert



# A SLICE OF LIFE ON CAMPUS

**Learning Skills and The Great Outdoors**  
...because kids don't remember their best day of television...



**Home on the Range!**

Mr. Hunter Gillispie is a wonderful teacher of gun safety. Prior to designated youth hunts, he takes our kiddos to the gun range for a full lesson on gun safety and to practice their shooting skills.



**PULL!!**



**Ready. Aim. Fire!!**



**Perfect Aim!**



**Learning the components of a shotgun shell.**



**Learning to sight in a scope.**

Mr. Gillispie, Bro. Ryan, and Bro. Al have ventured out with our kiddos into duck blinds and deer stands during youth hunt weekends. This was their first time hunting, and they came home with a full freezer of meat. Our kiddos have become excellent chefs! The deer steak, deer jerky, and deer chili competition between our kiddos has been supremely delicious!



**Filling the Freezer with Fresh Meat!**



**Mechanics 101 with Bro. Al Mort.**

We are thankful for teachable moments to pass along useful knowledge and skills to our kiddos. When an alternator went out on one of our vehicles, Bro. Al taught some of our kiddos how to remove and install a new one. It's helpful to be handy in mechanics.

**TEXARKANA BAPTIST  
CHILDREN'S HOME**  
P. O. Box 611  
Texarkana, AR\TX 75504

*"A Christian home for  
orphaned, dependent,  
and neglected  
children"*



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Texarkana, TX

**God puts special ministries on special hearts. If He is calling you to extend love and a helping hand to children, please contact us for details of special ministry at our Home. Please make this a matter of prayer.**

**THE  
WISHING  
WELL**



**OUR CURRENT WISH FROM THE WISHING WELL**

**Updating Computers in our Homework and Computer Lab**

So much of today's school work is done online. Whether watching tutorials, doing research, building Power Points, or going to Google Classroom to check assignments.

The computer lab was updated in 2018-19 just prior to the Covid Shutdown when all kids had to do school from home.

These current computers have many miles and logged many hours.

*"Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." James 1:27*