The Living Vine, Inc.

November 2011 Newsletter

The Living Vine
Christian Maternity Home

Impacting two generations by allowing the love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ to shine hope into the lives of women experiencing crisis pregnancies.

A place to grow,
A place to change,
A place to prepare to
Love, live & succeed.

A Letter from Kaylie

My name is Kaylie. When I was young, my dad was on and off drugs and alcohol; we could never count on him. My mother, however, never lost faith that God was our Provider; she made sure my three siblings and I lacked nothing and she has always presented herself as a woman of God.

Everything changed when I was 13. I started hanging with the wrong crowd. I was a class clown, bully, and flat out rebellious. That summer, I went to my aunt's house on vacation. While I was there, my mom called and said my father was moving out for real this time. I became depressed and spun out of control. My older cousin then began to molest me; I was so mad with life, I didn't fight him, but I was drowning in shame.

I started blaming my mother for "pushing my father away." To alleviate all my pain, I tried to commit suicide and was put into counseling. I did not help. I started drinking and decided the only way to get over what had happened with my cousin was to find someone else to be with. That is not what a 13 year old should be thinking about, but it is how my hunt for love, acceptance, and attention began. It is what put me on the path that I should have never been on.

I am now 25 and have 4 children with one on the way. I placed my last child up for adoption because I didn't want to raise a child with a man who beat me and in front of my kids. I knew it was what God wanted me to do; it was best for the baby. Every time I have gotten pregnant, I have run back to God to save me but as soon as I gave birth I was back on the same wrong path.

In 2009, I was engaged to a man who I thought was my "answer to prayers." Only, he was addicted to marijuana and had just spent 4 years in prison. I tried to overlook his past believing I could help him change. He eventually started doing cocaine and became violent to me and my kids. I started asking God to help me walk away because I didn't have the strength to do it on my own. My fiancé started robbing gas stations at gunpoint and running to my house to hide. I became so paranoid that I was practically begging God to help me get out of this situation.

The next day, the swat team came to my job with a search warrant to search my house! My fiancé had been arrested after fleeing from the scene of a robbery. He is now serving a 35 year sentence. While I knew God had stepped in, I still became depressed and pulled away from Him yet again. My mom took my kids because she could see I was still headed down the wrong path. I became a functional alcoholic, drinking every day.

April 2011, I officially gave my life to the Lord. I was tired of my downward spiral. I stopped smoking and drinking and started going to church. I was so excited about being back with my children. Very soon after, I found out I was pregnant and could feel myself falling apart again. I called an adoption agency and that's where I learned of The Living Vine. My mom could see I was shrinking back into my old mindset and wanted me to go get help. Once I called the Vine and learned about what their program had to offer I knew this was what I needed.

Since I've been at the Vine, I've learned how to seek and know God for myself. I used to depend on my mom's relationship with God, but now I know that I can have my own relationship with Him. I am saved and forgiven and I am walking in His word and continuing to build a relationship with the Him. I feel so very different because there is such a peace and joy that is over me like never before. I use to be angry, depressed, numb, nonchalant, and disrespectful. Now that I've learned to trust God through faith and love, my life will never be the same! God has changed me so much that the Vine staff can't believe that I was ever that old person.

After I have this baby, I would like to pursue a career in Hospitality. Even more, I would like to be able to help other girls who are headed down the path I was on for so long. I want to be the mother God desires for me to be to my children and the daughter my mother deserves. Thank you for giving to the Vine and giving me and my kids a second chance.

Vine's Needs

Holiday Wish List:
Because we are a residential home, we do not close even during the holiday season. Our residents are with us for Thanksgiving and Christmas. We would love to give groups ideas regarding fun projects for our residents as well as potential gifts.

If you or your organization would like to take care of one of our projects for the home or underwrite the cost of a resident, we would be thrilled to speak with you.

Please call The Living Vine at 352.9998 and speak to Debbie for more information.

Groceries:
Fresh produce, nuts
Healthy cereals, crackers
Fruit juices, Decaf tea
Baking supplies: sugar, flour, etc
Coffee: regular & decaf
Spaghetti Sauce, Condiments
Snacks, Tortilla Chips, Salsa
Brown Rice, Whole Wheat Noodles
Canned Tuna (white Albacore)
Fresh meats, deli meats, bacon
Breakfast supplies: eggs, oatmeal, syrup, pancake mix, grits, bagels
Broths, Soups, Olive Oil

House hold items:
(2) Kitchen trash cans: white
4-8 yellow gold throw pillows
Indoor/outdoor entrance rugs
Nonskid bathroom rugs
Large rug for dining room
(2) Vacuums, Steam Cleaner
HE laundry detergent, dryer sheets
Liquid dish & dishwasher detergent
Stamps, No. 10 envelopes
Permanent markers
Stainless steel spatulas
All paper products
Bleach, Trash Bags, masking tape
Dental floss, deodorant
Wood Chips for garden

Large Vine Projects:
New carpeting
New flooring: Kitchen/dining room
Large dining room table & chairs
Front door & threshold
(2) Sofas for our living room
Motion Sensors Lights replaced
Reglazing/replacing tubs & tiles
Laptop computers

Gift Certificates:
Wal-mart/Sam's, Home Depot, Office Max, Kroger, Lifeway
Barnetts School Supply Store

Baby Boutique:
Baby lotion, powder, oil, wipes
Bath wash, baby shampoo
Hats, socks, booties, baby mitts
Towels, wash clothes, burp clothes
Brushes, nail clippers, bibs
Diaper cream, new born diapers
Baby carriers, thermometers
Avent bottles, pacifiers, baby bag

School Supplies:
New desks & chairs
Notebook paper --college ruled
Spiral Notebooks--college ruled
Index cards, reams of paper
Mechanical pencils, pens
Calculators, highlighters
Used computers able to do word processing
Gift Certificate for sewing supplies

Blessingdales:
We are in need of a truck for furniture donations. If you have one you could donate, please call the Vine at 352.9998.

Volunteer Needs:
Help is needed with some projects at the Vine. Please call Rachel at 352.9998 if you can assist.

Plumbing & Electrical skills
Repairing ceiling water damage
Repainting ceilings
Installing mini-blinds
Help with scanning books at stores to list on half.com using android

Newsletter Request:

In an effort to be the most responsible with the resources God supplies us, we are trying to convert as many as would be willing to receive our newsletter by e-mail. If this is something you would like, please email The Living Vine at *thelivingvine@hotmail.com* and provide your information. We believe God will bless and multiply as we continue to seek ways to minimize our expenses. Thank you for helping us honor God's provision.

Thank God for all of you and your support!

Praise the Lord for His marvelous provision, mercy and direction throughout these 15 years.

Blessingdales
Thrift Stores

Store Hours Have Changed!

2118 Bona Bella
Savannah #912.355.4339
Tues– Sat: 10-5

309 East Main Street
Garden City #912.966.2242
Tues– Sat: 10-5

305 W Collins Street
Pooler #912.330.0220
Tues– Sat: 10-5

134 Houston St
Savannah #912.236.2034
T- F: 10-5 Sat: 10-3

Donations Appreciated

A Note from Staff

I came to the Vine, in 2001, thinking I was here for a two year missionary project. Instead it has been ten years, and I believe the Lord has done more in this ministry and in me personally than I could have ever imagined. I have found He is extravagant with His love, forgiveness and mercy.

In 2004, I have watched the Lord pay off the Vine maternity home in one lump sum. In 2010, He stunned us again with someone else paying off the cottage. We are debt free. For years, He has moved in the hearts of individuals and provided staff housing for our missionaries who serve with us as a personal sacrifice to the Lord. In 2010, we were blessed to have the Vine landscaping radically improved. It has been a tremendous gift from the Lord...and even now the girls are enjoying the gorgeous weather on our beautiful patio. My wish list for the Vine has always included things I only tell God. It is a delight to watch God move and a needful reminder for me that He hears the prayers of His children.

Over and over again, we watch the Lord multiple hands, feet and resources. Even the majority of our vehicles have been donated. We name them to correspond by color with the characters from the game of Clue (Mrs. White, Prof. Plum, etc). Perhaps we simply enjoy our mechanic having to call us and tell us Col. Mustard or Mr. Green is ready for pick up. But even he is amazed at how long our aging vehicles have lasted.

We are a quirky ministry. Many of the staff have come from all over the US (Germany & South Africa as well). Our supporters have different backgrounds, churches and passions. And yet God has knit us together to care for those in need.

Our 24/7 residential home for pregnant women offers a 40 hrs a week program including spiritual growth, education, job training, life skills, counseling and so much more. Most of our residents have experienced severe abuse with sexual abuse being a norm. Their broken hearts and spirits need the nurture and protection of our miraculous God. We desire for each woman to know how loved she is by Christ and how amazing restoration can be.

We have watched over 290 babies come into this world being prayed for and prayed over. We have watched God literally save the lives of babies that we were told could not survive. Countless times medical needs were miraculously handled in His perfect timing.

Often times, I believe, the staff have a front row seat to the miracles that would otherwise go unnoticed. He has turned water into wine in front of us more times than I know how to share with you. It happens almost every time I look at our bank account and know we did not have the money we needed yesterday but it is there today.

This is truly an amazing ministry not because we are perfect but because we are desiring the Lord to use us to bring glory to His name and healing to His children. Thank you for all of you who have joined with us to provide this home. May the Lord richly repay you for your service unto Christ.

*Debbie

Join Gideon's Army

We are seeking supporters to join The Vine's Gideon's Army.

For a commitment of $1000 annually, you can join the ranks of our Gideon's Army. Gideon's Army was 300 strong.

It is our prayer to have 300 supporters enlist at $1000 annually to help underwrite the cost of this vital ministry.

And the Lord said unto Gideon,
by the three hundred men that lapped will I save
you, and deliver the Midianites into thine hand.
Judges 7:7

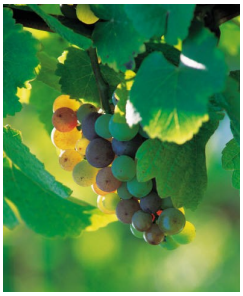
Vine Statistics

Resident Demographics

17 yrs old and under:	45%
18-21 yrs old:	32%
Over 21 yrs old:	23%

70% of our residents choose to parent.

We are actively seeking housing for aftercare for our residents who choose to parent.



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NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 1332
SAVANNAH, GA

Save the Date

February 25, 2012
Day of Blessings

August 20, 2012
Toucan's Fundraiser

Address Service Requested

Volunteer Corner

Missionary Opportunities Right here in Savannah

We have mission teams from other areas come to us all the time wanting to do three or four days of service with our thrift stores. Why not your small group, Sunday School Class, Circle or Bible Study Group?

Most of us who have been on mission trips together would agree that the bonds of fellowship grow stronger as we work side by side, while we give our time and energy to others. Blessingdales Thrift Store can offer you just that opportunity for short term, weekly or monthly mission projects.

Please contact Paula Kinard at The Living Vine at 912-352-9998 or 561-603-8960 to find out more information about how your group can come together to minister to others in Jesus' name.

GoodSearch.com & GoodShop.com:

Doing your holiday shopping on-line?

Simply select The Living Vine as your charity of choice and a donation will be made to The Living Vine!

"Our services are offered free of charge in the name of Jesus Christ to demonstrate His love."