

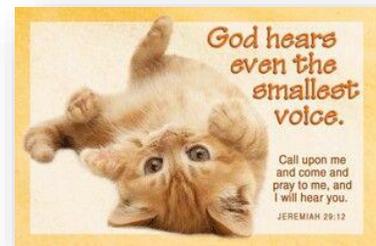
## GiGi's Closet

As of now, we have just 25 children in our program. We expect to have more when the school social worker returns at the end of September. She will evaluate and qualify the students and their needs. We continue to be blessed in this ministry and greatly appreciate all the love, prayers and support we receive from our church family. We especially appreciate our newest ministry team member, Alice Sumrall.



## GOD HEARS EVEN THE SMALLEST VOICE

I titled my article for backpack ministry this month that for no other reason than in a world of prayers for so many things, big or small God continues to hear our Ministries prayers when we are faithful and just to receive his blessings. Jeremiah 29:12 states that, "Call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you." Our ministry started up again about a month or so ago, and with the new school year starting after the summer we needed a start fresh with certain items from our pantry. As a reminder we give bags every week to children from Lyman Elementary and the number of bags we need to supply is given to us by the school. Each bag delivered to the children of Lyman Elementary has enough food to last them for the weekend. Fruit cups, breakfast items like cereal bars and oatmeal packs, lunch items like Mac and cheese, dinner items like chicken noodle soup, drink packets, crackers, and snack items. We supply these bags from funds that we receive thru donations only.



The very first day our Director, Mrs. Bonnie Thrash, gathered us together in a circle and joining hands she prayed to God that it was his ministry and as we begin another year that whatever funds we get, whatever supplies we find it was his will, and that everything we do was to glorify him. To start the new year we needed certain items, like breakfast items, fruit cups and the drink packets to name a few. We don't have quite what we had in our account this year, so when the ladies and I go shopping we HAVE to look for the best bargains possible as well as not only the point of this story but the point of Gods amazing answer to prayers. We also get a large amount of our supplies from 12 baskets - an Organization that we receive food from for a discount.

The very first week, we found the exact amount of items that we needed, the Organization even said 'hey before you guys leave we have breakfast items for your kids at the top of our

warehouse'. I will pull them down with a forklift for you before you leave as well. For the next 3 weeks, every time we went, there was a specific need that we had, and God met that need for us. If we needed fruit cups there was a box of fruit cups sitting in front of me, if we needed enough drink packets to fill 25 bags, low and behold there was 2 boxes in this crate - oh look another box, just what we needed. What a great, Loving, Powerful God we serve!

Now this wasn't just the first week, we do this every week (and last year as well) - we gather in a circle and we pray, and we eat lunch together we hold hands and pray. I am so blessed and grateful that God put these ladies in my path: Bonnie, Nell, Betty, Jean, Joyce, and joining us this year, Ms. Alice Sumrall. There is so much love in their hearts and so much knowledge and Words of Wisdom to draw from. Being in the Navy you learn a lot of quotes from different people. Kennedy once said that it was with great pride that he once served in the Navy, and I agree but it is with great honor and humility that I serve a Great God and Savior who looks after me and my church family with love and grace. Matthew 18:20, "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

If anyone would like to help, you can always donate funds financially through the offering by designating for backpack ministry, or we are always specifically looking for any canned items with meat in it, like chicken noodle soup, chili, Chef Boyardee with meat - like spaghetti and meatballs, fruit cups, and drink packet mixes that you add to water bottles that are presweetened, and individual cereal bowls, and Vienna sausages.

Love, Neil Parker

