

ANSWERED PRAYERS

See what God is doing with your prayers and support through Garments of Praise!

DECEMBER 2016

Perryville, MO (Dec. 2015)



Leavenworth, KS (Feb. 2016)



FOUR YEARS IN MINISTRY! November 2016 marked 4 years in ministry for Garments of Praise. Every year we send out a prayer calendar, and many faithfully pray for this ministry and the people involved in it. Isn't it fun to be a part of where God is working?



New Warehouse

226-B Oak Street
Bonner Springs, KS 66012

After being in 4 different places in as many years, we are glad to currently have a place to sort and process our clothes.

With many of our volunteers being from all over the KC Metro area, Bonner Springs is a great place to call “home”.

We moved into our new space at the end of October. Since moving in, we have been sorting and processing clothes in order to have enough clothes ready for an event we are having in December in Bonner Springs.

The Lord has been good to us through the past 4 years, as this is the first place we have had to pay rent. There were so many clothes waiting for us, that we knew we needed something that would accommodate these clothes.

Though we have not had a full month’s worth of electricity, we anticipate our building expenses at the building being the following:

Rent:	\$500
Electricity:	\$110
Insurance:	\$100
Trash:	\$ 80



**Rodney & Emily
Caldwell
Quincy & Hudson**



United States

I was called to the ministry in 1996 and several years later met my wife, Emily, who has been serving alongside me for 15 years. We have two children, Quincy (9) and Hudson (6). The last few years God has been calling me from serving within the church into a more missional role outside the local church.

This last year, the Lord has really stretched us through this leap of faith and trying to raise support but has proven Himself faithful. I have always had a heart for missions and have been going on mission trips to Mexico for 16 years. In this new role, I will be able to be more flexible and mission-focused.

I will help Garments of Praise in their ministry efforts from presenting the gospel to serving at the events to behind the scenes work. I will also be able to lead more mission trips to Mexico where we facilitate eyeglass clinics, share the gospel one-on-one, and provide support to local pastors enabling them to better minister to their flock.

My goal would be to be able to eventually organize and lead 6-8 mission trips a year and help Garments of Praise host more events locally and possibly into Mexico.

We are excited to be the sending agency of these two missionary families. We hope to add more in the future. We are expanding our reach to the ends of the earth.

Meet our Missionaries

**Robb & Erlinda
Hand**



Philippines & Asia

We began our work in North East China in the Fall of 2014. Most of our service here is working in an elementary school that is staffed by like-minded people. Through modeling, sowing, and communicating timeless truth, we invest in students and families in hopes that they will be transformed. Outside of our "day jobs" we help with workshops to assist local fellowships and provide care to our fellow foreigners. Robb also serves on leadership for our Sunday fellowship and shares in the weekly teaching responsibility.

Lord willing, in July of 2017 we will leave China and begin transitioning our ministry in Asia. Our goal is to spend a few months in the U.S. to connect with partners and supporting churches before launching our ministry in the Philippines. Our ministry in the Philippines will be a long-term continuation of what we have done on the short term trips we have made. We will assist local churches, provide equipping and training to leaders, and minister to impoverished kids through feeding programs and English tutoring. Part of our ministry will also be to coordinate short term trips for those who want to experience what the Father is doing in the Philippines.

“The number of people at an event does not measure its success. Success is measured by the faithfulness of the workers who introduce the people to Jesus and how they disciple them.”

By the numbers

Since our initial event in December of 2012, we have done **11 events** and given out over **46,000 items of clothes**. We were able to minister to **3,800 unique individuals**. Of those 3,800 people, we had the opportunity to **pray for over 3,200** of them. More importantly, we **shared the life-changing message of Jesus Christ with over 1000 of those people**. All of those are really great numbers, but here is the best number of all... **110 people made the decision through our conversations with them to begin a relationship with Jesus Christ!** That is why we do what we do.



NOT MY PINEAPPLES...

I (Mark) was recently listening to a CD series called “The Pineapple Story” about a missionary named Otto Koning. Through many humorous stories about his missionary days, Otto explains the concept of relinquishing ALL things to God because they are NOT ours anyway.

This is my prayer for His ministry. It’s not my ministry. I can ONLY be faithful in the things that God has called me to do. The REST is up to Him!

Event attendance, finances, clothes, warehouse space, volunteers coming to help... ALL HIS.

Obedience to His calling and His direction... ALL MINE.



GLOBAL IMPACT As a ministry, we want to always be looking at our efficiency, relevancy, and obedience to the "Great Commission". We want to make sure we are sharing the "Good News" to many, not just the few who have heard it numerous times and have chosen to reject it. We want to be good stewards with what God has entrusted us! We want to make famous the name of Jesus Christ... across the Globe.



MEXICO Rodney Caldwell is passionate about the people of Mexico and in the short time he has been working with us, he is introducing us to some people who may be able to assist us in getting clothes to the people of Mexico. Our hope is to not only help those in border towns, but to be able to take these clothes deep into the country and provide a message of Hope along with the provision of clothing.



ST. LOUIS Shortly after finding out that we had a new building, we got a call from a lady named Judi who lives in the KC Metro. She and her friend Susan are starting a clothing ministry called "Clothed in Hope." They reach deep into the poverty of St. Louis as well as many other places. We are excited to be able to provide them clothes as they share the message of Jesus Christ with many.

**HELP
WANTED**

**FAITHFUL VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED TO HELP WITH:**

Folding
Sorting
Volunteer Coordination
Social Media
Event Recruiting
Truck Driving
Warehouse Cleanup
Creative ways to deal with
damaged clothes



Until the gospel drives even our scheduling priorities, families will continue to default to the values of the culture around them, and parents will remain too busy to engage in intentional discipleship with their children.
-Timothy Paul Jones

WE ARE PASSIONATE about ministry. We are passionate about our family. We are passionate about the body of Christ, being the body of Christ!

September of 2016 marks two years since we stepped out in faith to walk in obedience to God and His calling on our lives. It has not been an easy road, but is following God something that is always easy? No! In fact, often that “narrow road” the Bible refers to in Matthew 7 is often one that is not well marked. We as a family have discovered that it is on this narrow road that you have to listen to the voice of God to find your way.

JAIME does an amazing job of wrangling the 4 kids and Mark. Those of you that know Mark know this is a full-time job! She homeschools the

kids and teaches at a homeschool community weekly. Her passion for the Lord, His Word, and His promises are evident in her daily life.

ANDY turns 12 in January ‘17 and has a mind that won’t quit. He devours books and can fix almost anything. **SOPHIE** will be 10 in April ‘17. She is a bright, nurturing and loving sister that takes care of the entire family, especially the younger boys. **SAMUEL** turned 5 in September ‘16. Sam can often be found in a red cape throughout town or “reading” the latest catalog that comes in the mail! **TOBY** turns 3 in December ‘16. He loves music and will sing you his favorite songs at the top of his lungs. Currently his favorite song is “Like a Lion”. “No God’s dead...surely live... inside... LION”

I (MARK) am still making great strides in my recovery after my automobile accident in May of 2015. As many of you may remember, I was unable to work for many months. In July of 2016, I was finally released to return to work. Though from the outside many would not notice any issues, I still struggle with some tasks and cognitive abilities that were never hard for me prior to my wreck. I am grateful to the Lord for the healing He has provided me and am still believing that He will restore my body and mind!

Until such a time that Garments of Praise can fully support our family, I am printing t-shirts to provide for my family. If you, your company, your school, your 5K race, etc. need shirts, would you please give us the opportunity to give you a quote? You can find out more at www.greaterthanshirts.com.

We still have a desire to plant a church and are waiting on the Lord for his perfect direction with this!

We are grateful for and to the family of God. Over the past many years we have learned and are learning what it's like to "be the Church". Though we fail often, we try to treat others in the same way a "non-disfunctional family" would treat them. No one is from a "non-disfunctional" family, but when we try to see things from that filter, it often leaves more room for grace!

Just the other day, I was telling Jaime that sometimes I wish that God would quit giving me opportunities to grow my faith. The more I think about that, the more I realize that it is in those times that I am closest to Him.



Everyone has a story...

LEAVENWORTH, KS We believe that everyone has a story and we love to find out about them.

At our event this year in Leavenworth, there was a retired couple who came down from Michigan to see what an event was like because a family member had told them about this. They volunteered to work the Prayer room.

The day of the event, the wife of this couple saw her niece and niece's daughter at the event. Neither of them knew the other would be there. After the niece was finished shopping, the aunt had the opportunity to lead her niece to the Lord!

The family had been praying for the salvation of this niece for years.

Only God can work out a story like that!

and provide for those who grieve in Zion—
to bestow on them a crown of beauty
instead of ashes,
the oil of joy
instead of mourning,
and a garment of praise
instead of a spirit of despair. *Isaiah 61:3*



Weekly Prayer List

Missionary Monday- Pray for the Caldwells, the Hands, and the Scribners.

Tent Tuesday- Pray for our current space and future space as we grow. Pray for the financial provisions of rent, utilities, etc.

Wardrobe Wednesday- Pray for more XL and Plus clothes to come our way. Pray that God would continue to bless the clothing company that provides us clothes and that their business would flourish.

Thankful Thursday- Praise God for the many things He has already done through this ministry.

Finance Friday- Pray for God's provision of finances to cover supplies, rent, utilities, and a full-time administrator. Pray for churches, business, and individuals to be generous in their giving.

Setting Saturday- Pray for more places to do events. This past year, we have had to turn down events because we didn't have the space to process the clothes we had. Hopefully this will not be the case this year!

Servant Sunday- Pray that God will send workers to sort, fold, plan, and pray for this ministry.



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