



# THURSDAY'S CHILD Newsletter

Founded in 1984

Volume XXIV

December 2021

## Dear Friends,

Looking back at the very abbreviated newsletter we sent in November 2020, I can see we were hoping for more activity in 2021. While that did not happen, we are now comfortable with resuming wish trips for our families.

A family of five from Madison will be going to Disney World in February, a family of six from Sun Prairie will be headed that way in March. Give Kids the World is now welcoming families back and once again providing enchanting Disney World adventures and memories to treasure. Our cost is \$1000 for the family's six nights at Kids Village and GKTW provides the tickets for three days at Disney World. We provide the transportation and spending money. Take a look at their website ([www.gktw.org](http://www.gktw.org)) and take a tour. You will see why our families enjoy Kids Village almost as much as Disney World itself!

Siesta Key in Florida is the destination of our third family whose small daughter was treated at American Family Children's Hospital. The former Madison residents recently moved to Texas. Their trip had to be cancelled during the pandemic but we are hoping they will be able to enjoy their almost two-year delayed wish sometime this Spring. The Ringling Beach House awaits!

A fourth family of eight from Cambria, WI is planning on traveling to Glacier National Park this summer, with a friend and neighbor providing the motor home transportation.

In these uncertain times, we are thankful that Thursday's Child is still able to reach out to the families who need us. We are grateful for the support that has sustained us over the years and will continue to sustain us in 2022.

## Gifts In Their Memory



From loving family & friends...

**Shirley Woolf Cowles**  
Potosi, WI & Mesa, AZ

**Dorothy Mueller Ferguson**  
Mount Hope, WI

**Lloyd Mueller**  
Crystal Lake, IL

**Eugene Neuheisel**  
Spring Green, WI

**Nicolas Seta Ratsimihah**  
Madison, WI

**Mike Swann**  
Bradenton, FL

**Morgan Turnquist**  
Madison, WI

On behalf of our Board of Directors, I wish you all a meaningful and safe holiday season.

**Noël Ferguson, Executive Director**



*I want to express how deeply grateful we are for the gift cards. We may not have had a Christmas this year without the help. Due to COVID, it affected my ability to return to my work and my husband's wages were not on the same deposit schedule in which we could receive one of his payments a week before Christmas. This has put a big financial strain on our family as we continue to wait for these payments. The gift cards helped us significantly.*

*Thursday's Child will forever be within our story that we pass down to our children as the magic of Santa seems to fade. Your generosity will be forever lifted up and serve as a reminder that Santa is within each and every one of us. We believe the magic and love will be felt even deeper every holiday season.*

*(letter received in December, 2020)*



Since 2003, Thursday's Child has funded six evening meals per year for parents of seriously ill children who are patients at American Family Children's Hospital in Madison. Each meal serves 50-60 people. A meal at the end of a stressful and exhausting day is appreciated by parents who want and need to stay close to their child's bedside. Thursday's Child's annual contribution is \$3,000.

On our **Santa List** this year were 90 families--a list provided by their social workers at American Family Children's Hospital. A \$50 Target gift card is provided for each child in the family, with a maximum of four cards per family. We've received many thank you notes already this year. Here are some samples:

*"Thank you again. This year has been pretty hard for me again. Thank you so much."*

*"Thank you so much for the letter. My daughter, age 12, is receiving treatment for a rare bone cancer at UW Children's Hospital. How wonderful that you provide gift cards to Target."*

*"Thank you so much for all that you do for the families affected by cancer. I only hope that one day we can return the favor to another family in need."*

*"Thank you so much for your kind letter and offer to bless our little boy this Christmas."*

*"Thank you for doing this and helping brighten up a child's Christmas."*

*"This will be our first Christmas in the United States. Excuse me for my translation, I'm learning the English language. God Bless You!"*

*And my favorite:*

*"Thank you for all you do and Happy Birthday early!"*



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