



Life Saver Ministries  
83 Middlesex Street  
N. Chelmsford, MA 01863  
(978) 251-8191

March/April 2018

Dear Life Savers,

I had another letter written, but I was reminded of a message that I shared with you 3 years ago, and God laid it on my heart to share it again. This is from my April 2015 letter.

We received an Awesome blessing in the form of a message on the My Father's House Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/mfhouse](http://www.facebook.com/mfhouse)). It was a letter and a follow-up message from a family that adopted the baby of one of our young moms. We have never met this family. We had nothing to do with their being chosen to be the family to receive this beautiful little girl. We are very happy to see that she is now part of a family who love and cherish her. Here is what they wrote.

*Dear Staff at My Father's House,*

*She is now four and a half years old. She has gorgeous long black hair and beautiful almond-shaped brown eyes. She is tiny in stature and has just the right amount of pudg to provide the perfect "squish" when hugged. She almost always wears her sweet smile, and emotes such joy through her expressions, it is nearly impossible to look at her without smiling yourself.*

*She is healthy and she is strong. She loves to run, jump, dance and sing. She is ferociously independent and ingests the world around her without missing the smallest of details. She makes our heads spin and our hearts swell. She spends her days being smothered in love and affection and generously returns the love she receives. Her belly laugh is intoxicating, her wit continually surprising, her presence a never-ending gift. She is all these things and so much more. She is our daughter and we want to say, "thank you" to all of you who were a part of supporting her life.*

*You never had the chance to meet our daughter, but you knew her birth mom. You received her birth mother into your hearts and your home and you provided her with shelter, acceptance, support and security during a time in her life when she was in need of all these things. You didn't judge her, discourage her, condemn her or question her. Rather, you welcomed her, you protected her, you affirmed her, you educated her. Thank you.*

*When the world around her said her problems weren't deserving of attention, you showed her she was important and her problems were in fact opportunities. When she arrived seeking your shelter, she had already survived the storm of voices that suggested abortion may be her best choice, especially when she was told her daughter would carry an extra chromosome. She courageously chose life and cherished the child she carried. While in your care, you helped to replace her moments of fear with peace, her questions with answers and honored her brave and selfless decision to give her child life. Thank you.*

*While she sheltered our daughter in her womb, you provided shelter for the woman to whom we will be eternally indebted for trusting us with the precious life of our sweet girl. You valued the life and circumstance of the birth mother, so she could in turn value the life within her. Thank you.*

*We prayed for our daughter before she was even conceived. We prayed for her health and for strength, guidance and wisdom for her birth parents. We didn't know at the time that "My Father's House" would be a part of answering our prayers. We thank you for allowing God to work through the staff there and touch the hearts of so many mothers and children.*

*When your days become long, when there doesn't seem to be answers to the challenges you face, when you feel as though you aren't getting through to the women you serve, please remember the joy you see in the face of our daughter and accept our deepest gratitude for working the long hours, facing each challenge head on and staying the course. In a world that increasingly dismisses the miracle of life, we commend your work in upholding the dignity and beauty of each mother and child she carries. We will continue to support you in prayer as you welcome each of your clients home.*

*Sincerely, The Johnson Family*

*A few weeks ago, my family watched what was a very eye-opening and awe-inspiring movie. Titled, "Gimme Shelter," The movie is based on the true story of a young woman who finds herself pregnant, alone and homeless. The world has told her again and again, through unimaginable circumstances, that she is unlovable and unworthy. The only one who showed her the attention and affection she deserved was a complete stranger; a woman who ran a shelter for young and unwed*

pregnant women. Living in the company of other women who shared the same hopes and fears, she begins to slowly let down her defenses and allow herself to be loved and connect with others.

As we watched the story of this young woman unfold, we began to realize just how indebted we are to the staff at the shelter who opened their doors to the birth mother of our daughter. Before watching the movie, we hadn't given it much thought, but, if it wasn't for the shelter of "My Father's House", the journey for our daughter's birth mother may have been very different.

*I don't know the meaning behind the namesake of the shelter, but I can't help but draw several*



*connections between the kind of care the young women receive at the shelter and the kind of care God, our Father, shows each one of us. It strikes me that, when the women in need of shelter show up at the door of "My Father's House," they are most likely at one of the toughest points of their lives. Perhaps their journey to the front door of the shelter was wrought with poor decisions. Perhaps they had walked the straight and narrow all their life and were dumbfounded at their current circumstance. Undoubtedly, they were afraid and out of options. Regardless of the road they traveled to get there, the door was opened to them and they were accepted with unconditional love.*

*This is the very kind of love we will celebrate come Easter morning. This is the kind of selfless love we are each gifted with from the one who died for us. Every one of us occupies our own space in the heart of our Father. His love is ours for the taking, and nothing we say or do on this earth will ever alter that. We can deny it, take it for granted, abuse it and dishonor it. But His love remains.*

*When we walk into our Father's house, we are all broken in our humanness. We each arrive having traveled different paths; some may arrive seeking shelter in the midst of a storm, some arrive confident in their independence from any divine intervention in their lives. Others may arrive full of questions, or full of pain. At the heart of the matter is the simple fact that, in Jesus' suffering, we are wrapped in love. In the weight of His cross, we are told we are cherished. Worthy we are not, but accepted and loved we are.*

*The shelter where our daughter's birth mother stayed has eight rooms available. However, it would remain open for just one. Those that run the shelter know their work, and their love for those in need, is that important. The same is true for each of us. Jesus' sacrifice on the cross all those years ago is big enough for every one of us; but He still would have died if we were the only one.*

*Wishing you all a joy-filled Easter celebration!*

I Hope this letter and message are as much a blessing to you as they are to us. You are very much a part of this story and so many others. Without you, My Father's House would not be here to welcome these precious young women and their children.

Maybe you don't know why our home is called My Father's House. Let me give you the 3 reasons we chose that name. The first reason is this is God's house. He asked us to establish it. He provided the people and money to renovate it. He has and continues to sustain it. He brings the young mothers to our door. The second reason, and one of the reasons we didn't name it Our Father's House, is that we want the young women and children that God brings to our door to know that God is their father, personally, and not just a generic our father. The third reason is a little more down to earth. Sometimes, the young women who come to My Father's House are embarrassed to be living in a "shelter." With this name, if anyone asks them where they live, they can simply say, "I live at my father's house."

People often ask, "How many girls do you have at My Father's House right now?" Sometimes the answer is 8. Sometimes the number is fewer. As the Johnson family said, it doesn't matter. We would remain open for just one.

May you have a blessed Easter season. Thank you for being a vital part of the My Father's House story.

***Save the Date***

Walk the Walk for Homeless Children  
Saturday, June 9th

In His service,

*Kevin*  
Kevin Coffey