

“Just a South African Girl Living in an Alabama World”

“He makes me as surefooted as a deer, enabling me to stand on mountain heights.” - Psalm 18:33

How do I begin to express everything that has taken place over the last month?

Thank you to all who prayed for the swift approval of the petition to extend my visa. Grace Klein Community submitted the petition on 9/28 and immigration approved the request on 10/27. Approved in 4 weeks? Without a request for evidence as the usual protocol. Can only be God! I think I am still in shock. Immigration approved my visa until 2020. It is so comforting to know I am secure to remain on US soil for another 2 and a half years. I am so hopeful knowing the Lord is in control and cannot wait to see what the future holds for Kwathu Children’s home as I continue to advocate for those beautiful children while in the United States of AMERICA.



During a hard moment this month, God showed me how truly full and blessed my life is in a pretty unique way. In one week I spoke with my mom in **South Africa**, two children at Kwathu Children’s Home in **Zambia**, one of my sweet South African friends who is teaching in **Korea**, and a potential new partner organization in **Singapore** who happened to call while in **Canada**. My life is full of many wonderful people. AND, that potential partnership is a business management university in Singapore praying about partnering with Kwathu Children’s Home. Their dream would be to establish life skills programs for Kwathu and grow the current computer literacy and tailoring programs in order to educate more children in these areas at one given time. Wow! God is such an amazing Father. Jehovah Jireh, Our Provider!

Every year I have the honor of coordinating individual child sponsorships for children right here in Birmingham. To date, 53 children have been referred to Grace Klein Community by partner churches, ministries and schools, all with the desperate need for warm clothing for the colder months, and a little extra TLC. As of this very moment, every child has a sponsor! I can guarantee that this number will grow before my letter reaches your mailbox, but it is so encouraging to see how the Lord continues to provide through many amazing individuals, grandmamas, families, bunko groups, moms groups, businesses etc.! If you would like to sponsor a child, send an email to natalie@gracekleincommunity.com, as I would love to send you more information.



Hearing from the hearts of sponsors has been such a joy. One sponsor said: “oh, I have been stocking up on potential gifts all year!” Another reached out for the ethnicity of her child as their family wanted to give her a baby doll that looked just like her. A sweet grandmama sent me a picture of the items she purchased for a five year old little girl and said: “I hope this child loves pink!” She found such joy in loving her sponsor child through warm clothing items and other fun gifts. To the left is a picture she sent me in her excitement. Another family said: “We are honored to gift this young man.”

Being on the coordinating side of things can often be stressful, yet I feel so honored that God would use my life in this way to love on children whom I may never even meet. Speaking with new friends and families through sponsorship coordination has been such a treat as well!

Be praying for the week of December 4th. We expect to have all individual child sponsorship gifts that Monday, and then the crazy fun part starts! Volunteers are already asking to be a part of distributing items to these children. One sweet lady told me she doesn't have anything tangible to give, but has so much love to offer a child. Together, her and I will be visiting the home of 4 year old twins and their single mama, providing them with much needed warm clothing and other necessities, while sharing truth to encourage their hearts and pray over their precious lives. Our efforts are about so much more than gifts! These gifts give us a door way into homes, into difficult situations, into the lives of families who are hungry, to share about the ultimate bread of life, Jesus Christ.

On December 16th, gifts and warm clothing received from various partner businesses will be distributed through volunteers to all children and families of the Grace Klein Community food delivery program. I wish I could capture each one of their faces when they receive their surprise treasures!



Shelby Crossings Christian School and the Mighty Oaks Homeschool co-op group hosted non-perishable food drives this month to love on our food delivery families in a special way over Thanksgiving. "Word on the street is..." Mighty Oaks collected 100 gift bags of canned goods and other non-perishables! I can't wait to hear how God provides through the Shelby Crossings Christian School food drive.

My heart is always encouraged to see the community actively working together to love on the *least of these*. Be praying with us for the hearts of children, single mamas and families who will receive these treasures over the next months, and that their hearts would be open to hearing of the One from whom all blessings flow.

Lastly, see my cute Alabama grandma in the picture below?! We celebrated her 87th birthday this month and we give all Glory to the Father for her precious life. Mrs. Birdie has such drive and enthusiasm in her bones. I think she still thinks she is 25 most days. Nothing gets her down. Her smile is contagious, her spunky personality so fun to be around, and her continued faith and strength in the Lord is inspiring.

As November draws to a close join me in thanking God for His abundant blessings, the breath in our lungs that enables us to love others for His Glory, and for His continued love and faithfulness. He is a good, good Father.

Will you get on your knees for me?

Pray that our hearts would be open to noticing needs beyond the surface within our community and that we would be bold to love extravagantly as God leads.

Pray for continued strength. The Christmas season keeps us on our toes.

Thank you for your love and support!

