



IN HIS STEPS MINISTRIES

TRACING HIS STEPS

Newsletter September 2020

Personal Note



"The New Normal"

Brothers and Sisters,

Change is inevitable, whether it be bereavement, sickness, or other life changes. In all changes, God wants us to maintain the right perspective. First, to remember that He never changes (Mal. 3:6; Jam. 1:17). Secondly, we are not to focus on the problem but the opportunities ahead (Rom. 8:28). We have attempted this with the many changes precipitated from the recent pandemic.

The changes that came after Covid-19 caused us to evaluate our communication and ministry methods. We have had to reflect back on the slogan,

Working Together



(Left) Mission Pastor Mark Evans and other Broadmoor Baptist Church members serving in IHS Clean-up Day



Members from Broadmoor Baptist Church in Madison, MS, served with In His Steps on September 5th and 19th to assist with fall clean-up and campus improvement at the main IHS campus and new Christian campsite. Our ministry partners helped with numerous outdoor and indoor projects, including garden work, landscaping, fence clean-up, bush hogging, general camp clean-up, and more.

The service render was indeed a beautiful picture of the body of Christ working together. Thank you to Broadmoor for demonstrating God's love in such a tangible way. "My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth." (1 John 3:18)

"Not unto us, O Lord,
not unto us, But to Your
name give glory..."
Psalm 115:1

"the method can be changed, but the message must remain the same." In our adaptation to serving the spiritual and other felt needs in the community and especially among our youth, we are being forced to use current media and technology to more effectively communicate the gospel and carry out the ministry of In His Steps. Pray for us as we learn and lean into the future, embrace "the new normal," and better enhance our communication and ministry outreach through technology. Our desire is that Christ is honored in all we do. Stay in touch.

Jasper

God is not caught guard by Covid-19, nor the digital age revolution. He is not struggling to catch up. But He is waiting on the church to do just that.

—Jasper Bacon

*Working together in
the body of Christ
really works.*

—Jasper Bacon

*The Christian
focus should be on
reconciliation
and not retaliation.*

—Unknown

I went on short-term mission with Good News Chapel to IHS a few times. Your ministry has changed my life as a Korean-American. Thank you so much for helping me see how I can serve those in my community who look different from me and to see others as the image of God.

—Jean Lee

You are one of the few people in my life who have shown me over the many years how critical it is for there to be racial reconciliation in the body of Christ. There are so many voices out there not representing Jesus on this issue which makes me appreciate my friendship with you even more.

—Tom Wiles

Virtual Ministry



Christin Howard, IHS Sports Director, conducting virtual bible study with local athletes

In His Steps is still limited on its in-person ministries, but have been able to reconvene bible studies at several youth detention centers and mentoring for community youth and local athletes using Zoom.

The youth in the detention centers and in the community have quickly adapted to this new approach to ministry. As much as we would prefer face to face bible study and outreach ministry, we have to accept the fact that the "new normal" is here to stay. As the "new normal" has opened more opportunities, we look forward to when IHS can provide a greater degree of in-person ministries for the local athletes, community youth, and those incarcerated. Please pray for the IHS staff as they adjust to this new way of doing ministry.



Rev. Jasper Bacon conducting virtual bible study with area detention center

We are the body of Christ; there is one body, not multiple bodies (Eph. :1-3; Gal. 3:20-28). Christ is not a polygamist; He is coming back for His one body.

—Jasper Bacon

I believe In His Steps is planting seeds of the gospel in the lives of children, youth, and their families in Canton, MS. God led me to support IHS and I do it with a grateful heart. We all need to be a part of what they are doing in some way.

—Guy Berry

PEOPLE NOT PROJECTS!



(Left to Right) In His Steps presenting laptop computers to Sullivan, Summers, Thompson, Clayton and Whitehead families

The Canton Public School District made a decision to proceed with all virtual classes this school year. Yet, laptops were not available for several students in the district. In His Steps was able to provide six (6) laptop computers to well deserving students through financial gifts from IHS partners. This supply of computers will assure a greater likely hood of success for these children.

In addition, IHS will be providing virtual training for parents to familiarize them with the online learning environment to assist their child with education.

Words cannot express how much I really appreciate you all and the IHS family for purchasing my son a computer. I had searched everywhere looking for a computer with no luck but you all came through for us. It was an inspiration to my son.
—IHS Parent

PRAYER REQUESTS

"My voice You shall hear in the morning, O LORD; in the morning I will direct it to You, and I will look up." Psalms 5:3

- Pray for revival among Christians and regeneration for the unsaved in Canton, MS.
- Pray that Christ church (African Americans and Whites in Canton, MS) will work together to evangelize and serve the needs in Canton.
- Pray for God's protection on the IHS board, staff and families.
- Pray for greater wisdom and how to best use technology to enhance IHS ministries.
- Pray that Christians will discern and do God's will during these devilish and divisive days.
- Pray for the special needs of Johnston, Tanner, Taylor, Clark, Bacon, Hudson, McGuffey, R. Henderson, Jones, Parker, G. Henderson, Yonan and Johnson and families.

- Pray for Christin Howard full recovery from knee surgery.
- Pray for continued development and payoff of IHS Christian Campsite. \$314,252 yet needed toward the payoff.
- Pray for salvation and other needs of the Canton High School coaches and athletes (FOOTBALL TEAM: J. Taylor, J. Joyner, C. Brown, J. Walker, L. Smith, J. Lewis, D. Clairbush, S. Porter, L. Gardner, R. Poston, D. Lewis, G. Tucker, G. Gee, J. Jackson, I. Clairbush, T. Simmons, B. Robinson, T. McGee, E. Lewis, J. Bates, A. Rose N. Davenport, S. Ware, T. Ross, J. Bridgeman, J. Wilkes, R. Anderson, K. Lindsey, T. Simmons, Q. Blackmon, J. Sanders, T. Henderson, M. Luckett, T. Walker, C. Mormont, M. Carter, G. Valerio, T. Fleming, J. Henderson, J. Nettles, T. Body, J. Carr, E. Hill, D. Brown, J. Sims, J. Roberson, J. Bouldin, C. Jackson, J. Travis, and E. Bouldin).

Another Opportunity for Service: The New IHS Campsite

For over 26 years, In His Steps has provided creative and specialize Christ-centered ministries for community youth, local athletes, juvenile offenders, and their parents. The IHS board and staff have been led to start a Christian campsite and training center, which will provide summer and weekend camping and specialized training for youth leaders, college interns, parents and ministry leaders.

Since acquiring 19 acres of land, a \$100,000 matching gift has been pledged toward the payoff, construction of 3 cabins, repairs on existing structure, and pond management. A total of \$88,748 has been given toward the \$100,000 matching gift, with a total of \$314,252 yet needed to complete the payoff of the first phase of the campsite development.

In addition, IHS welcomes Christian friends and ministry partners to help make this Christian camp one that would be most pleasing to our Lord and Saviour.

Broadmoor Baptist Church loves In His Steps Ministries because we love to see the advancement of the gospel! Pastor Bacon and IHS have demonstrated a commitment to the principles of transformational ministry that impacts generations. This partnership has been such a blessing and an encouragement for the Broadmoor family.

—Mark Evans

Our family, like many others, supports the ministry through prayer and financial donations. We have been blessed to see God's hand use the ministry to bring the love of Christ to troubled youth and families. We have also seen God use the partnership between IHS and our church, Crossway Community Church in Southern California. We encourage others to join IHS as prayer and financial partners so that you also may witness God's hand move through the ministry to positively impact lives and bring families to Christ

—Mike Engelbrecht

We have a passion for evangelism and for helping our youth to succeed. So we were led to get involved both physically and financially. IHS has had and continues to have a profound impact on our youth and parents in the Canton community.

—Wallace and Evon Kincaid