



Personal Note



“Purpose, Promises, and Provisions”

Brothers and Sisters,

While the events of 2020 have certainly been dramatic to say the least, the pandemic has changed how we work, learn, approach our health and interaction. In some cases these changes may have become long-term.

Yet, the staff and I have witnessed God’s unparalleled faithfulness; we have found comfort in the fact that though the world is changing so drastically, our God never changes, **“He is the same yesterday and forever more.” (Heb. 13:8).** God has shown us new and innovative ways to fulfill His calling and reach at risk children, their parents and others we serve in Canton. While the way ministry is done may have changed by going virtually, this is indeed new opportunities for service.

Thank you for helping make 2020 a successful year. Your partnership means a lot. My thoughts of gratitude are summed up in Philippians 1:3, **“I thank my God upon every remembrance of you.”**

Please continue to pray for greater success of IHS ministries and that God will be honored and glorified in all that we do. God’s richest blessings on you and your families this Christmas Season. Don’t forget wise people still seek Him.

Jasper

“My family and our church has served with IHS for over a decade. We can clearly see God’s hand working through the ministry to reach the community in Canton.”

California Supporter

“We have enjoyed being apart of the ministry. We have enjoyed watching some of kids who started as middle school kids and go to high school and on to college and into adulthood.”

Illinois Supporter

“Mr. and Mrs. Bacon started with generations bringing them from the ground up, and it is so rewarding.”

Local Supporter

Year-End Review

The year 2020 has been one of the most challenging years for everyone around the globe. In March of this year, the world drastically changed as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. The global pandemic changed everyone’s lives overnight once it spread across the Nation. With schools closing and jobs lost, the community in Canton was affected. However, in times of crisis and uncertainty the Lord is still faithful. The Word of God tells us, **“Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful” (Heb. 10:23).**

Life has changed for the staff here at IHS and the way things are run have adapted with the times. **The pandemic has changed the way IHS does ministry.** Through facing new challenges brought on by the pandemic, IHS has adapted and found new ways to reach the community and share the love of Christ.

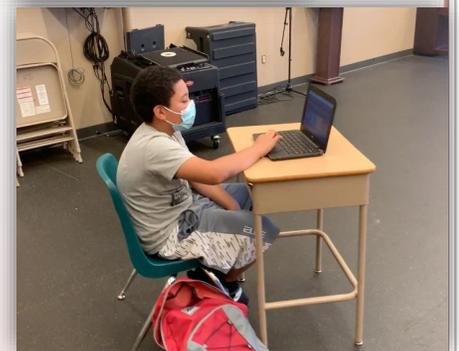
Prior to the lockdown, In His Steps had been continuing their ministries as usual. After March, In His Steps had to quickly adapt to the changes to continue to minister and serve. **It was important for In His Steps to keep a positive perspective on the changing times. This meant finding new opportunities to creatively continue the IHS ministries.** During the summer months, In His Steps initiated the “Stay Home” Summer Enrichment program and at a distance by giving students materials to work on at home.

The sports ministry was also able to continue virtually. Our sports ministry director, Christian Howard continued to connect with the athletes through electronic gaming platforms. He was also able to conduct virtual Bible studies over zoom.

The ministry also had to change the way the youth in the jails were reached. Rev. Bacon quickly adapted to the situation by holding regularly scheduled Bible studies on zoom. The gospel was still shared with the youth in the jails as the ministry adapted to a difficult situation.



Carolyn Bacon delivering lunch bags during “Stay Home” Summer Enrichment



Elijah participating in IHS’ afterschool tutoring



Brittany in the IHS “Stay Home” Summer Enrichment, quoting memory scripture verse



Christin Howard, Sports Ministry Director, using virtual gaming to minister to local youth and athletes

Training for IHS Parents

As the fall semester began, the local schools all went to virtual online learning. This was a challenge for students and parents alike. In His Steps ministries assisted families through this process by holding virtual training sessions for both parents and students. **These training sessions helped parents learn how to navigate the new educational software required for students to continue online learning.** Midway through the semester, there were some changes to the software so IHS helped the students and parents learn how to adapt to the new system.

In times of crisis, we must continue to trust in the Lord and have faith in His provision. Proverbs 3:5-6 tells us to *“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways*

submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.” Annie Allen, IHS administrator and bookkeeper, said that “He [God] tests us in order to grow us. He loves unconditionally and he will never leave or forsake us.” The pandemic has given us an opportunity to trust in the Lord while continuing to share the hope of Jesus Christ through it all. Falana McDaniel, IHS Media Support, said, “I believe this is a way we can reach people where they are. **As Christians, this is a time that we need to be seeking God and innovative ways to reach the lost.** We may be going through this pandemic but God’s glory can shine through our lives. He’s still in control and he’s still working.” **The pandemic may have changed things but IHS has adapted to continue to pursue the great commission and fulfill its God-given call.**

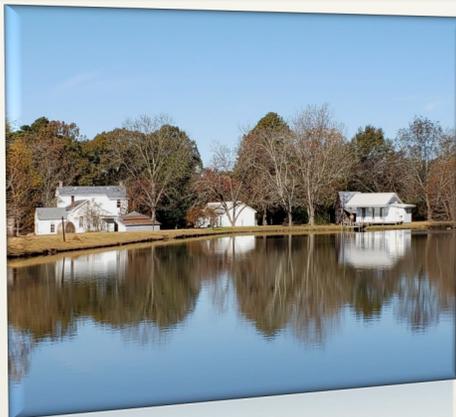
IHS NEEDS

New Campsite/Training Center

Campsite/Training Center	\$335,000
3 - Cabins	\$168,000
(TO BE CONSTRUCTED)	
INITIAL ESTIMATED COST	\$503,000
Matching Gift	\$100,000
Amount Received/Matching Gift	\$90,423
BALANCE NEEDED	\$312,577

ADDITIONAL NEEDS:

2—Part-Time Interns	\$18,720
2—Industrial Freezer	\$4,800
2—Industrial Ice Makers	\$3,800
Floor Repair at Campsite	\$2,700
2— Computers at Campsite	\$1,700
2— Electronic Gates	TBD
(Cost of one freezer already received.)	



*IHS New Campsite/Training Center
3574 N. Liberty St, Canton, MS*

The desire of In His Steps ministries is to reach the youth, their parents, and to train believers to live a victorious life through biblical Truth, discipleship, and family relationships for the glory of Jesus Christ. **For this reason, we intend to launch a Christian campground and training center. In April 2019, we acquired 19.5 acres of land including the beautiful historic Sandidge Home on 3574 North Liberty Street, Canton, MS.** Rev. Bacon had always had a vision for having a Christian campsite one day ever since his days at Wheaton College in 1979-1982. In college, Rev. Bacon was introduced to the idea of a camp and his vision was to one day establish a Christian campsite for youth in Mississippi. He envisioned campgrounds with activities like fishing, rope courses, and horseback riding. The vision of this camp was to serve and minister to the needs of youth, parents, and Christian leaders.

Campsite/Training Center Update

When In His Steps ministries was established, the first phase was to acquire the land for the multipurpose building and the second phase was to build the basketball pavilion and ballfields. Praise God that the first two phases have been paid off. However, the idea for the camp was not abandoned. After the buildings on the current campus were successfully developed, Rev. Bacon returned to the idea of a camp. The initial idea was to build dormitories and cabins on the current campus. To bring this vision in fruition, however, was too costly at \$2 million. The staff and board at IHS committed to a time of prayer to seek God’s will for the future of the camp. One day, God and his sovereignty brought Rev. Bacon to notice a property with a beautiful antebellum home on his way to work with the athletes at the local high school. On his drive, he noticed that the property was for sale with 19.5 acres. Rev. Bacon envisioned this property as the location for the campsite. Believing that God had sovereignly made this property, the board of directors were presented with the idea and were delighted. The property was then purchased for \$335,000, which was a fraction of the initial cost of dormitories.

The goal of the campsite moving forward is create a physical environment in order to further enhanced the ministries of IHS. **Having a campsite would help to create an experience which serves and impacts the lives of youths, their parents, and even married couples. The camp could serve as a**

location for retreats for fathers and their children, mar-

ried couples, and even Christian leadership retreats. One main purpose of the campsite would be to develop community and promote healthy familial and cross cultural relationships. In His Steps invites you to help us make this camp a reality. Your generosity would help us to pay off the property and build three cabins. So far a total of \$190,423 has been given, and we still need \$312,577 to complete the initial phase of the project. Your gift would greatly help us impact the community in Canton, Mississippi and allow In His Steps to continue ministering for the glory of God.

“We know that all monies received by this ministry are used wisely and in ways glorifying to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Please use this donation however it is most needed.”

Local Supporter

Prayer Requests

- ◆ Thank God for His continued faithfulness, especially an open door for virtual ministry.
- ◆ Pray for wisdom and provisions on the development of the IHS campsite.
- ◆ Pray for spiritual growth for those being discipled by the IHS staff.
- ◆ Pray for greater success of IHS ministries and the salvation of many.
- ◆ Pray for the special needs in Johnston, McDaniel, Lewis, Smith, Clark, Hudson, Tanner, Yonan, Starling, Williams, Allen, and Bacon families.