

Love-Lift Ministries Newsletter



Celebrating Twenty-Five Years of Ministry

Spring 2003

Dear Love-Lifters,

In January 2003, Love-Lift Ministries became fully incorporated with the State of California. Our new five member board has been working hard to develop our organizational structure. It has taken a giant leap of faith and trust in God to step out on our own. Operating expenses have doubled. Rent for our new warehouse and office facilities alone is \$1,825.00 a month. Purchasing items for our warehouse volunteers to package for delivery all year long is another major monthly expense. Each month is critical and brings new challenges of faith. *These challenges can only strengthen our resolve to depend on the nothing less than hope in God and His provision through people who have caught the vision which God gave us twenty-five years ago.*

Until now it has not been necessary to make a direct appeal for people to step forward to plan regular monthly support. At this time when faith based ministries across America are experiencing decreased contributions, we will not be discouraged from pressing ahead. We believe our work is unique and offers an opportunity for you to reach out to encourage missionaries and local pastors in



Volunteers: Rickie, Vanessa, Melinda, and Angelo fill a suitcase with gifts bound for Ghana, Africa. We need you to volunteer!

isolated and impoverished areas who need to feel that they are not alone in their work for God. No individual, including myself as president/director, receives a salary. Everyone who works with this ministry is an unpaid volunteer. You too can become a volunteer, a giver, by contributing what the Lord speaks to your heart. We need financial supporters, and we also need volunteer workers to help us. Ask us what volunteer work you can do either at our workshop, or through your own local group project, or even at home.

We are very grateful to Newport Mesa Christian Center in Costa Mesa, California for providing an "umbrella" for the ministry for twenty-five years. We are thankful for all the help NMCC gave to Love-Lift Ministries. We could not have grown to where we are now if it had not been for NMCC. During this time of transition NMCC has graciously offered to forward your financial gifts (checks payable to: Love-Lift Ministries) to our new facility headquarters in Santa Ana.

Note: Our new facility (warehouse, workshop and office) address is different: 3417 W. MacArthur Blvd., Santa Ana. If you have questions please call me, Marilyn Kunde, at 714-894-8531 home, or call the facility phone at 714-751-2683.

We are pleased to have government authority to operate as a corporation. *This ministry is one of God's ways to express His love and saving work here on earth until He comes again and there is no more poverty, harsh living conditions and discouragement among His people.* Until then we are convinced that this twenty-five year heritage of blessing will be passed on, transforming lives today for God's glory, and continuing to serve the next generation. God's work in the lives of people today is making an eternal difference in our troubled world. Working together each special person, and each participating group, has helped to build our "heritage," and our future vision. *Through your faithful participation and giving in so many ways, God has blessed us beyond all of our expectations!*



Camille & Esther Ntoto escorted the Vanguard students' mission. Marilyn Kunde (center) presents them with some of the crafted dolls, which were sent to Ghana.

Indeed, our 2002 Christmas Love-Lift exceeded all expectations. In spite of the many changes God has supported His work in amazing ways! We were able to distribute 6,100 filled gift-bags and children's Christmas stockings to special needy areas in the world. In addition to the annual Christmas Love-Lift in 2002-03, we were able to minister to 178 church groups with 365 "church bags" -two large bags per congregation filled with larger items such as hand-sewn quilts, good condition used clothing, household items, larger sized toys, etc. We were also able to give out 245 well supplied baby layettes to mothers and newborn babies in need of help on American Indian reservations, and in several areas across Mexico. These parts of the ministry continue all year long, not just during "the holidays".

During this busy time at Love-Lift Ministries we pause to acknowledge with thanksgiving to the Lord for all that He has helped us accomplish. We are grateful to the faithful and

loyal volunteers whom we honor for their many hours of work, their patience, and their endurance following God's visionary call. Over the years thousands of voluntary Love-Lifters have generously filled Christmas gift-bags and stockings to overflowing with specially purchased items of necessity for those in need. Through the passage of years there have been uncounted prayers offered-up for the thousands of needy recipients in places all around the world. **Your prayer support of these people is a significant part of the ministry.**

We are grateful to God for the faithfulness of those who have sacrificed financially and have given with a compassionate heart so that we might continue to proclaim the love of God in the Name of the Lord through spiritual acts of mercy and kindness. *What else does the Lord require of us! "He that goes forth weeping, and bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing sheaves with him." -Palms 126:6.* We rejoice with each of you who have made this harvest of blessing possible. *Only God knows, and only eternity will show the whole picture and the lasting value of what has been accomplished through your encouragement of people, especially Christian ministry leaders who are your representatives reaching the world for Christ in far away, and often forgotten places.*



Chelsea & Esther "Love-Lifters" from Vanguard University deliver gifts of encouragement to Pauline Kumado (picture in center) in Ghana, Africa.

Ghana



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Although the primary doors of opportunity to serve are focused on those living throughout all of Mexico, and on the American Indian Reservations, God, from time-to-time opens the world-wide doors to reach and to bless those in other countries who need His loving provision. Recently several boxes and suitcases of our Love-Lift bags were prepared for delivery to a Christian workers seminar in the Volta Region of Ghana, Africa. These Love-Lift bags were sent with a Christian student group from Vanguard University in Costa Mesa and were used for building up the body of Christ in Africa. This letter is a praise report from one of the recipient pastors in Ghana. It will be a blessing as you read how our ministry of sharing and giving reaches out to give encouragement to others in the family of God, many of whom are Christian leaders in far away places who serve the Lord with little recognition or early reward:

"Dear Friends of Love-Lift Ministries: We wish to express our sincere gratitude to you for the precious gifts we received. May the sovereign Lord bless you in abundance. The day we received the parcel containing cosmetics, writing pads, handkerchief, toothbrush and paste, socks, necktie, and different kinds of sweets, etc. our faith in the Lord increased. The fact is that during the years since we have been on the field evangelizing and planting churches (in Ghana, Africa) we had never before received a gift of this nature. We are so grateful to the Lord for blessing us through you. We hope to see each of you face-to-face one day. Until then, may the Lord bless all of you. -Pastor Prosper & Paulina Kumado." -Ghana, Africa

An area of the world that God has allowed our lives to touch recently is the beautiful country of Peru in South America. We were able to see first hand some of the people we hope to reach out to in the future. We traveled by boat seven-hundred, fifty miles for several days along the Amazon River and saw how these primitive Indian village people live and survive with so few resources in this vast jungle region. What an awesome experience it was to visit the unique village Indian people whose way and culture is so different from our own! What an unforgettable experience and challenge it was to bring the love of Jesus to some of the remote villages we visited

along these muddy Amazon waters. The only way we knew to reach into these precious people's lives was to share a suitcase full of tangible gifts, made by Love-Lift volunteers, as we spoke the Name of Jesus and prayed that God would use what was in our hearts to glorify Him. This challenging scripture came to my mind as we met these delightful people whom God loves as dearly as He does you and I: **"I am sending you to open their eyes and turn them away from darkness into light."** Acts 26:17-18. We are exploring an opportunity to work with a proven and responsible missionary group to get Love-Lift deliveries to several of these Amazon villages.

There is such a need to be a testimony and light for Jesus no matter where we go. I like these words which I read somewhere recently: **"It is not our task to bring all people to God. But it is our task to bring God's love to all people."** Bringing the love of God to as many people as God gives us the opportunity to reach is the mission of Love-Lift Ministries. **This ministry is all of us working together to extend the love of God as far as we can reach. Love-Lift Ministries can help you to bless others by giving you new opportunities to touch the lives of people you could not otherwise reach. Get in touch with us. We need your help, and we can help you reach out and touch further than you could ever quite imagine!**

Sincerely,
Marilyn Kunde, Director, Love-Lift Ministries



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1. Marilyn is handing out gifts, crafted by Love-Lift volunteers, to Amazon village people.
2. Exploring villages along the Amazon River-
3. This village family needs to know God loves them.