

Victory Village Christian Academy

Fifty-Two Years of Showing God's Unconditional, Healing Love to Teen Age Girls

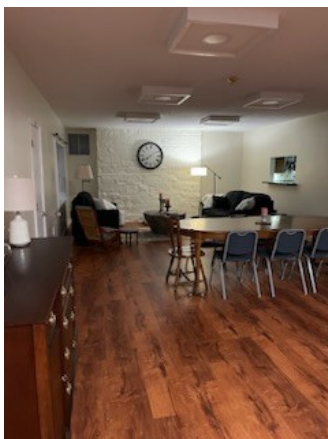
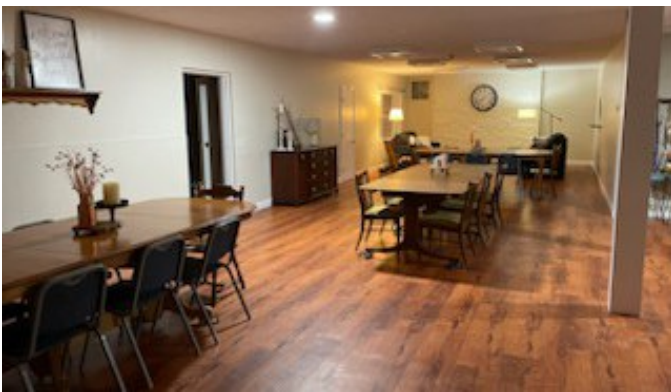
Heart Ministries, Inc., 201 S. Victory Road, Burrton, KS 67020; Phone 620.463.6112; www.victoryvillagechristianacademy.org

Kelli Schwarz-Rump, Director; Bill and Carole Cowell, Editors & Administrators

Newsletter Volume 54, Issue 8, - August, 2023 – Cell Phone 620.694.7938

From our Director, Kelli Schwarz-Rump

It is August, which means our new school year is about to start! The girls will all move in mid-August. The dorm renovation is complete. It looks amazing! Come and visit and see in person all of the changes that were made this summer. I am excited for the girls to see it and get settled in for a fun school year.



(continued on page two)

Visit The Village....with Bill and Carole

It has been a great summer! Weather has been pleasant, compared to the floods and fires in many parts of the world. The Dorm has undergone a major remodeling project. God has continued to supply our needs through friends like you. Carole celebrated her 80th birthday, and we celebrated our 60th wedding anniversary, with over 40 family members coming from all over the US, and even Germany. There are pictures of these events on page three.

Now it is time to go back to school, starting with ten new students and five returning students, coming from nine states. We love to hear good news from former students, and this month we want to tell you about **Masha Borchert**, who came to VVCA from Omaha, Nebraska in 2019.



Masha was originally from the Ukraine, and is the daughter of **Tim and Mary Borchert**. Her parents wrote, **So proud of Masha! Not only did she get her driver's license last week; she is now off on her first flight by herself to Albuquerque to meet her grandfather for a vacation.** When Masha was a student at VVCA, she was always looking after the welfare of the animals—dogs, cats, and horses. Along with her parents, we are also proud of her, and know she will continue to do well as she goes on in life.



It is Apple cider time at Victory Village! **Scott Hilburn** added an attachment to the press we were given many years ago by a family friend, **Delbert Jamison** of Lindsborg, and it really speeded up the process—20 gallons in an hour and a half!

FROM OUR DIRECTOR (continued from page one)



We will have a large number of new students and a few returning students. Please join me in praying for all of our students, our teachers, our staff and the entire VVCA ministry. I do not doubt that God has big plans for this year and I cannot wait to watch them unfold. Thank you all for your continued love, prayers, and support of this ministry.



Here are Victory Village Staff, meeting together, preparing and praying for the girls, each other, and the ministry.

Needs List

- Foil - Parchment paper
- Ziplock bags--sandwich, quart, gallon sizes
- Dish Soap - Laundry soap
- Trash bags--13 gallon
- Play dough
- Javelin - Discus
- Grid poster board
- Paint canvases

We also have a wish list on Amazon:
<https://www.amazon.com/regustries/gl/guest-view/4FS1DEDJBKXH>

VISIT THE VILLAGE (continued from page one)

Sixty Years of God's Blessings! By Carole

On July 27-31, our five children planned a grand celebration of our 60th wedding anniversary, and my 80th birthday. They came from the East coast and the West coast and points in between! We met at our family home here at Victory Village, where they all grew up! There were over 40 of us all together.

On Friday, we celebrated my 80th birthday. The day started with Bill's famous pancakes, and then we traveled to Mary Beth and Jim's home near Milford Lake for my special birthday celebration.



Here I am holding the newest member of our family, little **Mollie Mae Goering**, a great-grand-daughter and daughter of **Andrew and Laura Goering**.



Bill took a group another 20 miles to visit the Cowell homestead, and related sites near Wakefield. This picture was taken at the site of Bill's first Church, **Uniondale Baptist**. It was founded by **Rev. Jasper Cowell** from England, who was a brother to Bill's great-grandfather **Ebenezer Cowell**.



On Saturday, we had a grand celebration of our 60th wedding anniversary with dinner at Becky and Rod's home, just up the road from Victory Village.

On Sunday, we had a Family Worship Service in the Chapel, with **Mary Beth** and **Becky** playing the Pipe Organ and Piano, and others sharing in readings, special music, and communion. Bill and I shared a message, as we do in our regular Sunday Worship services during school.



On Sunday afternoon, we had the joy of continuing to celebrate with the wedding of grandson **Josh Stilwell** and his bride **Sarah**. Their home and employment is in the State of New Hampshire. Josh graduated from Victory Village Christian Academy in 2003, when we still had some boys who lived at home and attended our school.



Bill and Carole and our five children; Grace, Sarah, Danny, Mary Beth & Becky



Our twenty-nine Grandchildren



Forty Two of our Family Together

Photos taken by Sara McMillian of Sara McMillian Photography

We love it when former students send us pictures of their families. **Payton Lingwall** came to VVCA from Salt Lake City, Utah, and graduated in 2018.



We were so glad to get these pictures of Payton, with her husband **Garrett Simpson**, and their little daughter **Remmi**.



Congratulations to Cyson and Elise Epp Gaeddert on the birth of little **Rosemary Carolee!** Elise worked in our Dorm, and with our Athletic program in the school.

A SPECIAL WORD FROM BILL

We want to thank and encourage those who support the ministry of Victory Village Christian Academy. Without your prayers and gifts, we would not be able to continue.

Some invest their money in what they hope will result in a good return for themselves. Not always, but sometimes those dreams of prosperity end in failure and disappointment. Jesus warned about this. ***Do not store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy and thieves do not break in and steal. Wherever your treasure is, there the desire of your heart will also be. (Matthew 6:19)***

Thank you for investing your money in helping teen age girls. There are many ways the hearts and minds of these precious young people are being drawn in the wrong direction, often ending in disaster. Though we cannot help everyone, we are thankful for those who come here, and we pray that God might redirect their lives and make them lights in a dark world. The decline of respect for God, and for Biblical moral values is having a devastating affect on many, especially youth. Our Staff work day and night to help offset this tragic trend, showing God's love, teaching God's Word, and providing education from a Godly and Biblical perspective. You are partners with us in this ministry, now in its 53rd year. Thank you so much, and may God bless and encourage you,

Victory Village Christian Academy

August, 2023



Our 53rd Year of Changing Lives for Jesus Christ and His Kingdom; Jesus said "I have come that they may have life and have it more abundantly." (John 10:10)

Our Mission is to serve as the hands and feet of Jesus. Inspired by His Gospel, we seek to make God's amazing love and compassion real to teenage girls, serving them without charge to their families by providing a clean and safe home, a good Christian and State certified education, nutritious meals, training in life skills, outdoor and indoor activities and sports, opportunities to be involved in the ministry of helping others, and an introduction to Jesus, who will love them forever. We affirm the worth of all, without prejudice, partiality or intimidation. **Victory Village Christian Academy** is located at 201 S Victory Road, Burrton, KS 67020, and is licensed by the State of Kansas, with State certified teachers and curriculum. Credits are transferable, high school diplomas are earned and recognized for entrance to colleges. **Rev. Bill and Carole Cowell, Founders and Administrators; Kelli Schwarz-Rump, Director and Principal; Katy Nininger, Athletic Director, Assistant Principal, Marla Johnson, Jerry Nininger, Larissa Hawkinson, Teachers: Barbara Hedges, Office Manager, Secretary-Treasurer, Wilma Engle, Accountant; Jessica Kerzner, Therapist; Kristi Colvin, Case Manager; Heather Smith, Dormitory Director; Jenna Weimer, Robin Traffas, Shannon Fitzgerald, Emily Moore, Amanda Herd, Janice Janzen, Karen Chaterton, Trinity Sampson, Cayleena Pilgreen, Elise Gaeddert, Grace Skiles, Lauren Holmes, Bri Neal, Becky Valdois, Ahneka Valdois, Kayla Felix, Dormitory Staff; Emma Foster, Cook; Scott Hilburn, Maintenance, Board of Directors: Bob Friesen, Chairman, Rev. Bill and Carole Cowell, Becky Goering, Larry Chapman, Gordon Goering, Lyndal Penner, Rev. John Williams, Kelli Schwarz-Rump, Dr. Jessica Kerzner.**

The Newsletter is printed by Taylor Printing, Pratt, Kansas



On a recent trip to Manhattan, we visited our granddaughter, **Susie Murawski**, her son **Alex**, friends **Jim** and **Ginny Beck** and former VVCA student **Carrie Schlesinger**, who now uses her Guatemalan name, **Areli Amador**.

HEART MINISTRIES, INC.
Victory Village Christian Academy
Post Office Box 2068
Hutchinson, KS 67504-2068

Nonprofit Organization
US Postage Paid
Permit No. 3
Burrton, KS 67020

(Address Service Requested)



The wooded and grassy trails at Victory Village provide a beautiful and inspiring location for a 5k run/walk. **Jesse Nininger** is planning such an event for Saturday, November 4, at 4 pm. It is free, and you may sign up on the following web site: runsignup.com/pressingontrailrace.

Look us up at the Kansas State Fair for our 51st year! We will be located in the Meadowlark Building--south corridor.



During the Summer Break, we have tried to visit several of our supporting Churches. The last one was **First Baptist Church** of Clay Center, where Bill was baptized on August 10, 1947. It was good to connect with Church friends, Bill's cousin **Larry Yarrow**, who was also baptized with him, and meet and hear their new pastor, **Rev. Jon Henderson**.