



# The Messenger

LIFE CHALLENGE OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA  
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER  
OCTOBER 2020

## LIVING IN UNCERTAINTY

*“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.” (Proverbs 3:5-6)*

There are a couple of historical Christian people, who I enjoy reading about. Both of which happen to be authors and pretty well known. The First is C.S. Lewis and the other is Oswald Chambers.

Currently, our world and our lives are full of uncertainty. We are uncertain of what our future will look like. Will we be wearing masks forever? Will my children go back to school? How am I going to pay my bills? Is my job still going to be around? What if a loved one or I get sick? And the list goes on.

However, the words of both of these influential men bring me solace. Oswald Chambers in “My Utmost for His Highest” states, “Certainty is the mark of the commonsense life- gracious uncertainty is the mark of the spiritual life. To be certain of God means that we are uncertain in all our ways, not knowing what tomorrow will bring. This is generally expressed with a sigh of sadness, but it should be an expression of breathless expectation. We are uncertain of the next step, but we are certain of God.”

While addressing Oxford University during World War II, Lewis explained, “I think it is important to see the present calamity in a true perspective. The war creates no absolutely new

situation: it simply aggravates the permanent human situation so that we can no longer ignore it. Human life has always been lived on the edge of a precipice... We are mistaken when we compare war with ‘normal life’. Life has never been normal. Even those which we think most tranquil..., turn out, on closer inspection, to be full of crises, alarms, difficulties, emergencies.”

What both men were trying to establish is that every one of us live each day in a world of uncertainty. Our circumstances, such as a pandemic, do not create a new reality; they simply bring the actual reality home more forcefully. The truth remains that no matter our circumstances we are still mortals living in a fallen world subject to numerous things outside of our control. During these difficult days as we struggle to adjust to the disruption caused by Covid-19, we can choose to view uncertainty as a blessing if it causes us to depend on God more fully.

### 2020 Updates

- 5 graduates
- 4 residents
- 97 inquiries
- 38 referrals
- 2 ladies in the transition home



# Giving Opportunities

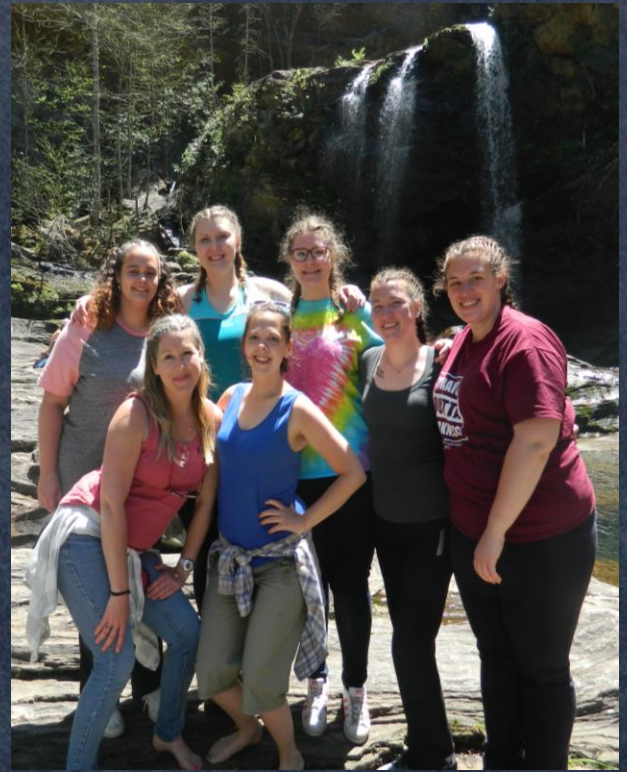
Like many ministries, businesses, and individuals, Life Challenge has suffered financially from the Covid-19 pandemic. We are experiencing a shortage in donations, both monetary and household. If you have any extra of the following items or would like to donate, please contact us at your convenience.

## Opportunities

- Monetary Donations
- Basketball Goal
- Cleaning Supplies (esp. Lysol spray, antibacterial soap, and antibacterial wipes)
- Stamps
- Workout DVDs
- Laundry Detergent & Dryer Sheets

## Huge Need

We need to replace our current washing machine. We have a company who is willing to sell us a commercial washer for \$500. We are asking for donations to help us pay for the much-needed washer.



# Noelle's Story

Hi, my name is Noelle. I am 33 years old and from Raleigh, North Carolina. I have been at Life Challenge for 9 months. I started down the dark road of addiction at 23 years old, mainly to numb the pain from my childhood traumas and from the stress and sadness of watching my mom battle with mental illness. Things took a turn for the worst when I lost my fiancé to an overdose. Then a few years later my beloved dog Buddy of 12 years passed away to a tragic accident. After years of trying medication assisted methods and attempting to fill the void in my heart with worldly things, I came to realize that nothing would fill that emptiness. Not until I started to build a relationship with Jesus did I realize *He* was what I was looking for. In 2019 I was accepted into a safe house for women waiting on acceptance into rehab.

I was accepted into Life Challenge in October 2019. In the time that I have spent here, I have learned to sit still and trust God, and that he truly has a plan for my life. I hope that during my final months here as an intern, I will be able to apply the things I have learned to my life and become a stronger spiritual leader. A verse that has impacted my journey here is Isaiah 41:10 – “Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you; I will help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”

