



# heartbeats

THE GIFT OF LIFE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

July 2021

## Welcome Zeilynn Vasquez



**WE ARE NOW ALLOWED IN THE FEDEX FAMILY HOUSE AGAIN, JUST WEAR A MASK PLEASE!**

Our next child, Zeilynn Vasquez 3 years of age, arrived from Belize on Thursday, July 29. Mom will have the Gift of Life phone # 901-305-0092 and she does speak English.

Zeilynn, has been a very sick little girl in her short lifetime. This little Mestizo cutie has Downs Syndrome and was diagnosed with a very large PDA in August 2019 at a Gift of Life Belize Clinic. Arrangements were made for her to be closed by CATH Procedure during the February 2020 Belize Clinics/CATH mission. Unfortunately, the largest device available to safely perform that procedure

was not large enough to close her defect. Dr. Jeffery Delaney of Omaha Children's Hospital determined that she requires surgical closure as soon as possible. Over a year later thanks to the delays caused by Covid-19 she still awaits her life saving surgery.

Zeilynn lives with her parents and grandparents in Corozal, the most northern town of Belize. Their home is a small wooden building with zinc roofing. Mom is a domestic and Dad works with the Ministry of Health as a Health Inspector. The parents are anxious and desperate for their little darling to get the surgery that she needs in time to save her life.

As always, you can help by visiting and taking a meal to the family. Make sure all meals are individually packaged in a firm container that closes completely and/or with tape or plastic wrap. Each container should be clearly labeled with the family's name, contents, and date packaged.

As you have before, communicate with the family re: what days and times meals will be delivered. THEY will let you in through the entrance gate at the back of FedEx Family House. Penny Schlaffer will give you a reminder call of the time you have signed up for. If you have a conflict, please call her at (901) 262-9601. Once they are in the hospital, we will update this site for new information for delivering meals. Thank you again for your generosity and support!

[Take Them A Meal | Easy online meal sign ups to support your loved ones.](#)

## We Couldn't Do It Without Le Bonheur



On June 16, Gift of Life Mid-South presented a check to our outstanding partner, LeBonheur Children's Hospital. Representing LeBonheur are Michael Wiggins, CEO, and Michelle Rogers, LeBonheur Foundation. We are so appreciative of their partnership and care of the children we represent. We couldn't do it without them.



Join us for a special night to help us raise the needed funds to provide life-saving surgeries for children and to honor our selfless volunteers that make our mission a success.

We will have a cocktail hour by the lake, followed by a catered meal. Our speaker this year will be Ron Roll, Chief Financial Officer of Helping Hands for Honduras. The evening will conclude with a live band, the SOUL SHOCKERS! A Memphis Favorite!! Dinner and Dancing all to benefit LeBonheur Children's Hospital. A silent/ live auction will also be available.

Purchase your tickets today:

[GIFT OF LIFE MID SOUTH INC - 2021 Gift of Life Gala Black Tie Event \(networkforgood.com\)](https://www.networkforgood.com)

Sponsorships, tables, and Individual tickets are available for purchase

## Thank you to Our Donors!

Your support allows us to continue the work of *Saving a Heart* and providing *Service Above Self*.

(Listed donors as of June and July 2021)

Gray Carter  
Johnican Coleman  
Jim Drummond  
Germantown United Methodist Church  
(Celebration Sunday School Class)  
Noah and Gail Kimball  
Sid C.S. McMillan  
Michael Peeler  
Marty and Gail Petrussek  
Thomas Wilson  
Cary Vaughn

## We Will Miss You Jim Drummonds



Thank you, Jim Drummond, for your outstanding service to Gift of Life families these many years.

We wish you all the best as you head to Washington. You will be missed!

## Ways You Can Help

### Financial Support

Your donations go directly to help the children we bring to Le Bonheur Children's Hospital. All GOLI-affiliated hospitals charge a nominal fee to cover basic hospital costs. Funds are also used for incidental expenses while the family is staying in Memphis at the FedEx Family House.

[Donate.](#)



AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. When you shop on AmazonSmile, 0.5% is donated to the charitable organization of your choice. Please login and select **Gift of Life Mid-South** as your organization of choice.

### Volunteer

Rotary Club and Latino Memphis volunteers are a critical part of the Gift of Life mission. Volunteers and their families have the opportunity to get to know our guest families on a personal level. The host club provides meals and transportation during the family's stay in Memphis. Volunteers also accompany families to clinic visits and provide support during the hospital stay.

[Contact us.](#)

### Connect

