



# My Joyful Heart

Sharing the love of Christ with  
Chicagoland's children in need

hello february

"And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love." - *1 Corinthians 13:13*

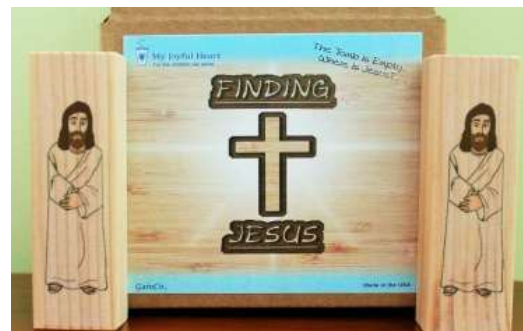


## What's happening at My Joyful Heart

### Easter is just around the corner

Soon we will be gathering with family and friends for a joyous Christian celebration...our risen LORD. Ever wonder what eggs and bunnies have to do with it and why we hunt for eggs?? I know there is a story behind that, but why not share the real story of our risen Savior? I did!

It all started one Easter nine years ago when



my grandchildren were little. I decided that eggs didn't have anything to do with Resurrection Sunday and I needed to change that. Of course I wanted them to have a fun and meaningful memory, but instead of hiding eggs, I hid pictures of Jesus throughout my home. I told them that they had to find Jesus just like the disciples did after they saw the empty tomb. I asked, "Where do you think Jesus is?" and the search to find Him began! As the years passed and my grandchildren have gotten older, yet they still ask "are we going to find Jesus?" on Resurrection Sunday. It is a cherished family tradition.

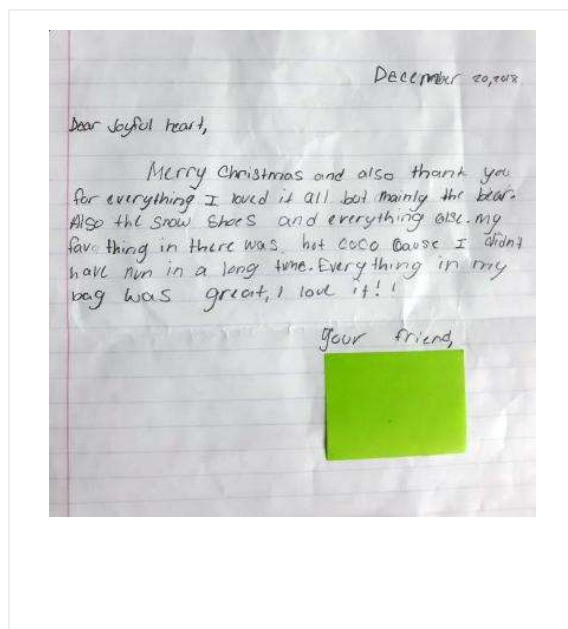
Now you can start your own tradition with this beautiful set of 7 wooden figures for only \$20. The proceeds from the sale will benefit the children of My Joyful Heart. You might even consider gifting a set to family, friends, ministry leaders or teachers. It is a wonderful way to help children learn and grow spiritually.

All orders, including payment, must be placed on or before April 1, 2019.

[Purchase yours here](#)



## Notes from kids in our program



## Stories from My Joyful Heart

Are you a FUNdraiser at heart?



Do you have a knack for fundraising? We're in the beginning stages of planning for our Spring Bunco and Fall Dinner Dance. Can you help us?

We're looking for self-motivated, persuasive, enthusiastic people who can go door-to-door (business doors that is) for prize donations. We provide the letters and you do the ask! If you are interested, please call us at 815-806-1700 or send an email to [information@myjoyfulheart.org](mailto:information@myjoyfulheart.org). We are very grateful for your help!

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## We need new shoes

Welcome the "**Left Foot, Right Foot Challenge**"

Start 2019 out on the "right foot" but we'll need the left too! One of our volunteers, Jodi K., has made it her personal mission to help put new shoes on the feet of My Joyful Heart kids. Every time Jodi volunteers, she brings us new shoes!



We thought, why don't we open this to our entire following and see if we can provide every child in our program a new pair of shoes! We are asking for \*new\* gym shoes, winter boots, or dress shoes in both youth and adult sizes. Our biggest need is for boys and girls shoe sizes Youth 13, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6. We will gladly accept all sizes, but seem to never have enough of these.

We will collect shoes from now through October and they will be given to the kids at our Fall and Christmas gift events, so please no sandals.

The 1,063 kids in our program are hoping you can take this idea and get creative with it. Start a shoe-drive; collect at your office, church or neighborhood; get your Scouts involved; or just bring one pair in. Each and every little bit counts! Shop sales, clearance, no name shoes--our only ask is that the shoes be NEW. Or just click the button below and we will do the shopping for you. Now let's shoe some feet!

[Donate Shoes with a Click](#)

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Thank you!



Thanks to our friends at Calvary Church Orland Park and Fisher School Joliet for making the assortment of beautiful and creative cards which we included in our Valentine's Day gift event. They are sure to show the children of My Joyful Heart how much we love them.

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## Savers returns!

Marie Kondo approves of your spring cleaning

Did you know that Savers pays My Joyful Heart (and other non-profits) for donations we make to them? The items they buy from us are sold, repurposed or recycled



locally. Savers creates jobs and reinvests in the local economy. Won't you help? Bring us the new or gently used clothes you never wear, that china you never use, and the great stuff stored in your basement.

**We will be accepting donations starting now to June 1st. Please no furniture or electronics!**

*We love surprises...except for some items we have found left on our dock. We cannot accept furniture, beds, large appliances, electronics, TVs, cribs, car seats, or strollers -- yet people have left these for us to dispose of (which costs us money). Please drop-off during our business hours or call ahead 815-806-1700 to ask about what we can and cannot accept. Thank you!*

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## A note to our sponsors

First, I want to express my unending gratitude for investing in the life of a child in need. You truly are making a difference! Many of you have asked about writing to your child. **If you would like to include a note or add a special gift with the Summer gift event, please drop it off at our office before April 1st.**



*Please do not include any personal information in your correspondence.*

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**Friday, May 3, 2019**

My Joyful Heart's Bunco Night

**Saturday, November 16, 2019**

A special evening is planned. Watch for more details in our upcoming newsletters, on our website and on Facebook.



**If you are stopping by our Ministry Center, please phone first! With the crazy weather lately, our hours have been impacted. We want to make sure someone is here when you arrive. 815-806-1700**



## Can you help us? Our current wish list



- Raffle prizes (think about re-gifting)
- Brown paper grocery bags
- Hygiene items (soap, deodorant, toothpaste, body wash, shampoo)
- Wash cloths and towels
- Amazon gift cards (to purchase office supplies)

