Greetings from the Lower Farmstead



My wife and I are happy to be a part of this community. Our names are Pastor Chris and Erica Rife I am the new Youth Development Director at Henderson Settlement. We are enjoying the peace and quiet along with the beautiful scenery and wild life at the lower farm. We felt the call to move here from Indiana last year after coming to work camp for the last 7 years.

Almost two years ago, we learned that Henderson had a youth program and a youth center. Erica and I came back down in September of 2018 to learn more about the ministries here at the settlement. After that trip **we began to pray for Gods direction in our lives** and to use the gifts He provided us to use for His glory no matter where it might lead. A little over a year later we received the call to move here and started meeting the folks in the community.

What a blessing it has been to get to know some of the children in the community and the surrounding area. Some of the stories they have told us about how this program has changed their lives for the better has been extremely heart felt. **I am blessed to be a part of this ministry.**

For the last 22 years standing behind the pulpit leading all kinds of churches, I have learned that most adults are set in their ways and do not like change. I have felt like the prophet Jeremiah when God told him that the people would not listen to him (Jeremiah 7:23-29). However, I praise God for the ones that have listened to His word and have changed their lives for His glory. I have always known my true calling which comes from Isaiah which says;

Isaiah 61:1-3 (NIV)

[1] The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from

darkness for the prisoners,
[2] to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn,
[3] and provide for those who grieve in Zion-- to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor.

There are many stories I could tell you about how God has moved his people to a deeper relationship with Him through our years of pulpit, chaplain and youth ministries. **All I can say is, that God is good!**

I know that God is always working through the ones that serve Him to reach out to the ones that need Him the most. I am honored to be leading this youth program and am expecting God to do great things in the near future. Our hearts have always been with the children of the world. Let's face it, we cannot afford to lose another generation.

Ministry matters, and we can't do it alone. We need your help to partner with us in this endeavor for the kingdom of God. Please pray about where God is leading you to help Him to reach souls for the kingdom. I will be praying for all who read this newsletter and be thankful for whatever you can do for the ministries at Henderson Settlement. **God bless you all** and please come and see what God is doing here. I welcome your thoughts and suggestions to make this program better for the glory of God.



Sincerely,

Pastor Chris D. Rife