

# The Pulse

of The Neighborhood Christian Clinic

RESTORING HEALTH & RESTORING LIVES • MAY 2019

## God is Good

by Dr. Paul Lorentsen

**768** That number is six home runs more than the career home run total for major league baseball's record holder, Barry Bonds. Financially, it is nearly the amount of dollars that a couple living in Arizona can receive as a tax credit for giving to an organization like the Clinic. But the number staring at me from my patient's screening form indicated something different. It was her monthly income.

\$768. I was taken off guard. My patient is a longtime Arizona resident, who lives in our community. I know that her husband died a couple of years ago. She always has been extremely resourceful, bringing in medication assistance forms for me to complete before we switched her over to our pharmacy's free medications. She doesn't own a car and walks the half mile to our clinic for her appointments. She and her husband were able to buy their home, and, although it is 100 years old and the front door doesn't work well, there's no mortgage to pay or rent owed.

I felt like I had to know more. So I asked, "Uh, how do you get by on that amount of income?" I did not want to offend her, but I really wanted to know. \$768 barely pays the monthly auto insurance bill for my family of five drivers. Granted, she's single and has no car, but really, how does she manage?

She responded very matter of factly. "Oh, it's enough." She's able to buy her food, she comes here for her medicine. What else does she need? Why, just yesterday she paid

a man across the street to mow her lawn. Her lawn did not really concern her, but she was concerned about the man, who has four kids and really needed the money.

I dutifully checked on her medical conditions, and refilled her medications. She looked up from her bag of medicine with a grateful smile.

**And before I had a chance to ask her if she would like me to pray with her, I noticed that she moved her purse and medication bag off the desk so that she could place her hands on the desk to pray with me.**

I asked her what I could pray for. Money? No. Her request reflected her heart. She asked me to pray that God would restore her relationship with her kids. Her son hasn't called in three years.

On her way out, through tears, she expressed her gratitude, "Everyone here is so kind! The clinic means so much to me." I thought about her monthly income in comparison to my own income, and I reflected on the state of her heart and the contentment she exhibited. I realized, again, that God is good. \$768 is enough for her. She trusts the Lord, and has placed her life and her heart in his hands. *"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."* Matthew 6:21.



## 20th Anniversary

by Gary Flooster, Executive Director

May 6, 2019 marks the 20th Anniversary of the Clinic providing healthcare for the uninsured, underserved. Praise God for his abundant and continuous blessings. God has richly provided for and continues to bless the Clinic's ministry.

God willing, we plan to celebrate this anniversary milestone in late September or October and hope each reader will join us in giving glory to God for all he has done with and through TNCC. Watch for coming details.

Many times God told the prophet Ezekiel "then they will know that I am the Lord God." Though we are not living in the time of Ezekiel, we certainly have had ample opportunity to know who the Lord God is by how he has worked in and through the Clinic by providing for needs – some we were not even aware of.

*I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember your wonders of old.*

Psalms 77:11

Throughout the Old Testament, God instructed His people to "remember" what He had done. Many times he directed them to erect memorials to ensure that future generations would not forget, but remember. We don't build memorials at the Clinic but often find ourselves saying "remember when this happened or when that happened." Many times these events are described as "miracles" and are possible only through Divine involvement. There are countless, memorable highlights. It's worth looking back to some which demonstrate what God has done for the Clinic and His people in Central Phoenix.

**Since the first night of patient care through March of this year, the Clinic has facilitated 127,733 patient visits,** has had over 140,000 volunteer hours donated and had nearly \$2.0M dollars granted by local foundations. Unfortunately, we have turned away over 14,000 patients since we began tracking this number in 2008.

Often, Clinic patients have had glimpses of the Lord God and "know & remember" who He is when they have received medications



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### Current Clinic Stats

	Patient Visits	Volunteers	Hours	Turn Aways
YTD 2018	9,425	1,552	11,794.6	1,097
Jan 2019	821	137	1,029.8	89
Feb 2019	781	129	1,015.0	129
Mar 2019	766	151	1,187.8	101

## Volunteer Corner: Paula Scoggins

When I was ten years old, I felt called to be a medical missionary. Though God took me on a rather different path than I had imagined, through marriage and motherhood first, He has allowed me to fulfill that dream in the last twenty years. The Neighborhood Christian Clinic is part of that.

I first heard about the clinic from a friend when I was an RN. I loved volunteering at the Clinic from the very beginning. The atmosphere is so positive with very low stress which is very different from my regular workplace. It was such a joy to serve as a volunteer, especially knowing the high priority that spiritual needs received in the practice.

As time went on I was privileged to go on mission trips to Mexico and Central America. When people discovered I was a nurse they wanted me to diagnose and treat medical problems, which I did not feel qualified to do. God led me back to school to become a nurse practitioner and I have been volunteering at the Clinic in that capacity for the last nine years. It continues to be one of my favorite activities. I love having time to truly connect with my patients, to share Scripture with them, and to pray with them about their concerns. I even had the opportunity to be part of leading one of my patients to Christ last year. Praise the Lord!

The clinic fills a great need for patients who are uninsured and I love and appreciate being able to help in this way. It aligns perfectly with my personal philosophy of practice - that of ministering to the whole person, physically, emotionally and spiritually. I see God's love shining through each Clinic staff member and volunteer. God is using the Clinic to make an impact for His Kingdom in the Clinic's community. I count it a privilege to participate in His work.



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not otherwise available, when depression is lifted through a therapy session, when an orthopedic surgeon donates time for joint repairs and replacements, when an expectant mother chooses not to abort, when a hand-capped person is restored to wholeness, when a neurosurgeon removes a brain tumor, when pain is relieved through acupuncture by a volunteer, when walking is made less painful through chiropractic treatment, when anxiety is mitigated through prayer, when relationships are restored with loved ones or when a lost soul accepts God's gift of eternal life – all examples of God's work through the Clinic.

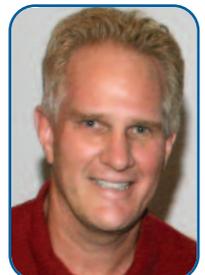
*"Remember the former things long past,  
For I am God, and there is no other;  
I am God, and there is no one like Me."*

Isaiah 46:9

God himself told us to "remember" and to share stories that demonstrate His power and love so that we would know that He is the Lord God. We are not erecting stone memorials to commemorate crossing the Jordan River or Red Sea but we are very mindful of the fact that God blesses the Clinic through a network of donors and volunteers who are obedient to prompts of the Holy Spirit to pray and to give of their time and wealth. Because of your obedience, the Clinic is able to share God's Love, Truth and Gospel. Thank you!

Happy 20th Anniversary TNCC!! Thank you to all who have been used by God along the way!!

*I remember the days  
of old; I meditate on all  
that you have done;  
I ponder the work  
of your hands.  
Psalm 143:5*



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Go to [Smile.Amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com), click "Choose your favorite charity," and select TNCC to support our work when you shop. There's no cost to you. Register today at [Smile.Amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com)

### Thinking About Your Legacy?

Join others who have already decided to help secure the Clinic's future of *Restoring Health & Restoring Lives* for the uninsured and underserved through their estate plan. Interested? Please contact the Clinic or the Arizona Community Foundation at 602 381-1400 or 800 222-8221.

### Keep Current with Social Media!

Become a fan and a friend of the clinic today to receive quick updates on the Clinic!

 The Neighborhood Christian Clinic

 Twitter/ChristianClinic

### Have a Used Car?

Want to donate it to the Clinic? Give us a call at 602 254-0445 or e-mail [gplooster@tnccclinic.org](mailto:gplooster@tnccclinic.org). We will arrange for pick up and handle all the paper work. It's a great way to support the Clinic and receive a tax deduction.



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