



*When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea . . .
Behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying,
"Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star
at its rising and have come to do him homage."*

Matthew 2:1-2

When Mary and Joseph set out for Bethlehem, did they perhaps wonder about their journey, where they would lodge, whom they would meet, when they would return or possible challenges they might face? With complete faith and trust in God, and obedience to His will, they willingly accepted our Heavenly Father's plan for them. We do know they were turned away at the inn because there was no room, that Jesus was born, that they were visited by the shepherds and the magi and then fled to Egypt for protection.

During the Christmas season we are especially mindful of our work in Birthright. When a woman walks through our door or calls on the phone, we don't know what challenges will be presented to us, but trusting in God's love and help to guide us, we will love, help and guide those He brings to us. They deserve nothing less.

We are reminded of . . .

The high school guidance counselor who asked if we would see one of her students who was pregnant and having difficulties. Could we help? Sometimes it's easier to talk to a stranger than to someone you know. We agreed to see her. She opened up about her worries, was receptive to our volunteer's possible solutions, and things did work out in the end.

The social worker who called and asked if we could help supply some needed baby clothing for one of her clients. She came by our office and she and our volunteer chose suitable items for the child. The social worker was very thankful and we were happy that we could help.

The doctor who called and asked if we would see a patient of his who was married and considering abortion. She visited with us and talked at length about her and her husband's concerns. She decided to follow through with her pregnancy and gave birth a boy several months later.

The grandmother who had received word on short notice that she would be given custody of her grandchild. Low on money, she needed formula. Could we help? We had none but a Birthright friend generously bought formula and delivered it to our office before the grandmother arrived an hour later. She was extremely thankful and grateful.

Reflecting on the blessings of the season we cannot forget our wonderful volunteers and our Board of Directors who readily give their hearts and time so generously to Birthright. Without them there would simply be no Birthright. We are thankful for our generous friends who support us both financially and tangibly, to enable us to serve and help families in all sorts of ways so that they can choose life. And finally, we thank the deGoesbriand Fund for Human Advancement committee for the grant that has allowed us to expand our advertising over the past 20 months.



*A Joyful and Merry Christmas to All of You
And a Very Happy and Healthy New Year!*

