

YOUR GIFTS to the Mother's Day Offering bring hope to patients who suffer from great need at Atrium Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center. God changes their lives through your compassion.

HOW IS MY GIFT USED?

EVERY DOLLAR you give helps patients like those in this magazine pay their medical bills in the name of Jesus Christ and His love.

They are hard-working people who face overwhelming financial crises because of serious illness. They have too much to qualify for government assistance or charity care — but not nearly enough to pay their hospital bills. They are carefully screened by financial counselors.

WHO DECIDES THE AMOUNT TO GIVE?

A group of N.C. Baptist ministers and laypersons prayerfully determine how much assistance to provide, from a few hundred to a few thousand dollars per patient.



Thank you for your generous gifts to the **Mother's Day Offering** as they are an expression of God's love at work through you. Your gifts to this Offering make a life-changing difference for hurting patients and their families at Atrium Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center.

Every dollar of your gift is used as a source of hope, to help patients in great need pay their medical bills in the name of Jesus Christ and His love. Recovering from devastating illness and facing a frightening financial burden, God touches patients and families through you and your gift, restoring hope, producing heartfelt thankfulness and leading them closer to Christ in genuine gratitude.

Your gifts made so much difference for many people like Neal Hilliard and Selah Watson. Many others suffer alone with the same fears and needs. Together we can help them.

Thank you for reaching out through your gifts and making a difference in the name of Jesus Christ and His love.

Please join me in praying for God to bless this mission of hope in 2022.

Please give generously to the **Mother's Day Offering**.

In Christ's love,

Brian K. Davis, DMin.

Director, Community and Congregation Engagement
FaithHealth Division
Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist

You can also scan
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to the website



Giving Thanks

THE MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING—HOPE, IN ACTION



Neal

Selah

"That they may see and know, and consider and understand together, that the hand of the Lord has done this, and the Holy One of Israel has created it."

ISAIAH 41:20

Additional Mother's Day Offering Stories and materials are available at www.mothersdayoffering.org

Mother's Day Offering Representative

THANK YOU for working with your pastor and church leaders to promote the Mother's Day Offering!

PLEASE PRAY for this ministry of Christ's love!

Please Visit our Website at mothersdayoffering.org

- Share creative ways to promote the Offering with others in your church and community
- Watch our new video and see how your gifts are changing lives
- Share the promotional resources with church members

Mother's Day Offering Video

See God's love bringing hope to the Church family and others. Many churches share one of the stories as people gather for worship, during the worship service, or during missions education programs.

Order FREE DVDs by contacting
Brian K. Davis, DMin. at
(336) 716-3027 or
briadavi@wakehealth.edu

Jesus replied, "This is the first and greatest commandment: Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. And the second is like it, love your neighbor as yourself."

MATTHEW 22: 36-39



**WEEK of
PRAYER**
MAY 2-6, 2022



**2022 MOTHER'S
DAY OFFERING**

mothersdayoffering.org



“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

JEREMIAH 29:11

NEAL'S STORY

Neal Hilliard likes to “brag on God”—and with good reason. God has come through for Neal and his family time and again—especially lately. It all began in 2012 with a bad twenty-five-foot fall from scaffolding during his construction job. However, broken bones, a concussion, punctured lung and liver didn't stop Neal. Back to work but never fully recovered, six years later he experienced a new symptom. Everyday life felt like a marathon—from walking up stairs to bending over. Doctors found one lung collapsed and the other functioning at just sixty percent. Two surgeries and

one ascending aortic aneurysm later, Neal was feeling better, but had lost a satisfying thirty-five year career. He was also facing astronomical medical bills and enormous stress. But he knew what to do—pray. “God always fills the void with people and love,” he said. “Just give it time.”

He'll never forget that peaceful August day, mowing the yard and praying, “Lord, show us the way. You blessed us with our house, help us keep it.” Neal hadn't seen his wife, who also has serious health issues, run in years. But she was running to him now, smiling and waving her arms. “God has worked a miracle through the **Mother's Day Offering** to pay our medical bill,” she shouted. It was a joyous moment. Neal's miracle happened thanks to mission-minded congregations. “We really needed a blessing during a hard time when everything was so negative with COVID, my health, and my wife's health,” he said. “It was such an upbeat thing.”

Neal firmly believes in letting God be God in his life. “When I pray and lay all my problems at the foot of the cross, I walk away and leave them there. That tells God I have faith that He will take care of it. And He does. He uses people and churches I don't even know to help folks like me. It's amazing there are people out there showing the love in their hearts for me and for God by giving to the Mother's Day Offering. Thank you for this blessing from heaven.”



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SELAH'S STORY

Selah Watson stopped breathing at three in the morning. He was two days old. Resuscitated by his parents, the newborn found the treatment he needed for neonatal seizures, an inherited disorder, at Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center. Giving birth at the start of COVID was rough for the family. It's devastating when the baby faces life-and-death health challenges. It can be disastrous when those challenges are compounded by the heavy burden of escalating medical bills. “I can't tell you the amount of stress we were under,” Jessica, Selah's mom, said. “It was like the whole world was pressing down on us.”

It's been a hard two years for the family. Along with Selah's healing journey, Jessica's beloved grandfather who helped raise her died, a toddler nephew died, and her mother-in-law began treatment for Stage IV cancer. Jessica quit her job as an attorney to help out and to care for her sons. The family had to sell their house because of the financial stress. Then they received a life-changing call—their bill was paid

by the **Mother's Day Offering**. “Whenever God meets you in the darkness, it's always impactful,” Jessica said. “Something good was happening in a really dark season for us. We needed that good thing.”

Seizure-free since October 2021, Selah is an unusual two-year-old. The child with an almost otherworldly calm and sweet demeanor loves drumming so much that the family had to set

a morning curfew so he wouldn't wake up their apartment neighbors. It's no surprise. “Selah” is a musical notation in the book of Psalms for musicians to pause and reflect on the wonders of God. “That's what Selah does,” Jessica said. “He waits on the Lord. He's on God's timing and God's on his timing. They make perfect music together.” God's timing is what the **Mother's Day Offering** is all about. “Words can't describe our gratitude,” Jessica concluded. “When God puts it on your heart to help families who are struggling, He is working through you to show His grace and His wonder. And it really does change a life. We couldn't have done it without you.”



I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.

PSALM 27:13-14