



H O P E

A T H R I L L O F



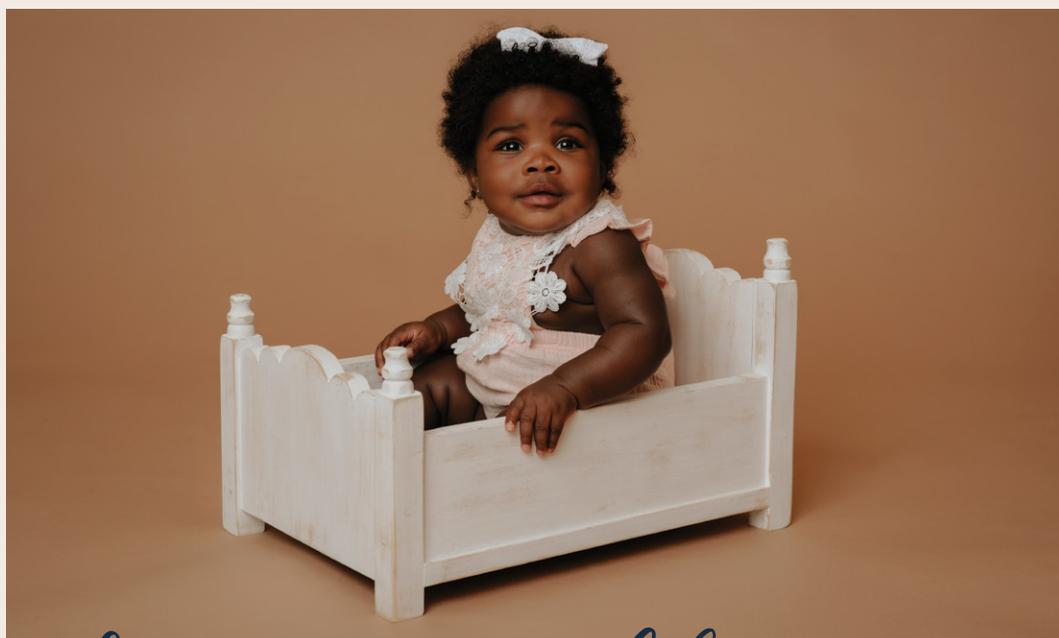
alpha center

*O HOLY NIGHT, THE STARS ARE BRIGHTLY SHINING,
IT IS THE NIGHT OF THE DEAR SAVIOR'S BIRTH;
LONG LAY THE WORLD IN SIN AND ERROR PINING,
'TILL HE APPEARED AND THE SOUL FELT ITS WORTH.
A THRILL OF HOPE THE WEARY WORLD REJOICES,
FOR YONDER BREAKS A NEW AND GLORIOUS MORN.*



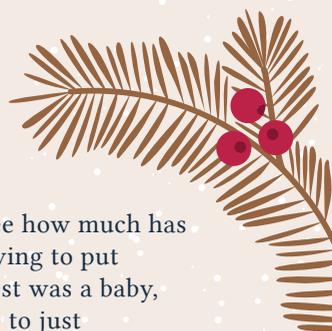
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The weary world rejoices

sweet hymns of joy



It's humbling to think back just a few years ago to where I was in life and see how much has changed. When I found out I was pregnant, I was stressed, emotional and trying to put together a plan for my life. You see, it had been eight years since my youngest was a baby, and I felt like I was having to start all over again. Several friends advised me to just terminate the pregnancy because I wasn't with the baby's father and finances were tight. Even my pastor assured me that any decision I made would be okay. It was while I was sitting in my car outside the abortion clinic in Omaha that God intervened in a miraculous way. I have to believe that someone, somewhere, was praying that I would choose life for my baby. It was in that moment that I realized I couldn't end my pregnancy, and I turned the car around and went home.

The road ahead was going to be difficult, and I needed help. I found Alpha Center by searching online and I drove by the center several times before finally scheduling an appointment for an ultrasound. I remember it being calm and welcoming – something I needed in my life at that moment. I left the center that bright summer day feeling affirmed in my decision to continue my pregnancy and hopeful that everything would be okay.



On November 30, 2020, my sweet little Annie Rush was born. It was hard at first. Her dad took the car with the car seat and left us. I have seen little of him since. My two older kids were living with family in Missouri at the time and with the pandemic going on and working from home, it was just Annie and I, weary and alone. I waited until after Annie was born to start participating in Alpha Center's *Earn While You Learn* program virtually from home and it made life easier. The classes are helpful and provide useful information for caring for Annie. The phone conversations with the staff have been a source of great encouragement. I have learned that there is help available, you just have to ask for it and then be willing to receive it.

This Christmas season we will celebrate with my two older children who have now joined us in South Dakota. I am currently working part-time from home and just started full-time continuing education classes online. I am hoping and praying that I will be accepted into a nursing program next spring. It isn't easy being a single parent, but I have learned that if you are determined and stick to it, it can work. Annie Rush doesn't hold me back at all, and I thank God every day for her life.

– RANDY



a thrill of hope



I once heard the phrase a thrill of hope described as “a piercing, penetrating desire and expectation of an obtainable good.” When I met Randy and heard her story, I saw the phrase come to life in the eyes of her daughter, Annie. In the same way, we experience “a thrill of hope” when we gather to celebrate our dear Savior’s birth. This Christmas season, we invite you to reach women with a message of hope and encouragement to choose life for their unborn babies. Your gift of \$500, \$250, \$100 or any amount is a beautiful reflection of God’s gift of a newborn King.

For HIS Unborn,

Leslee Unruh

