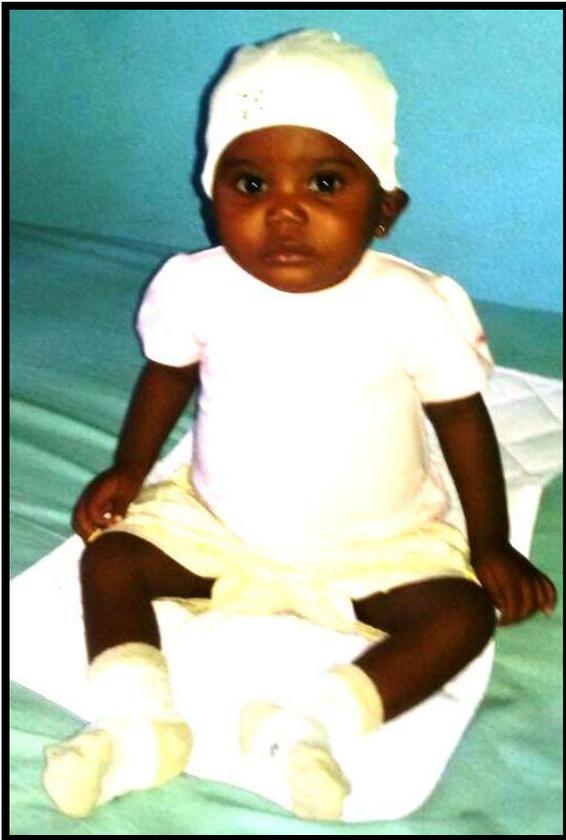


## Celebrating Birthdays

In just a few days I will turn 61. While not the milestone birthday that 60 was, it still causes me to pause and consider my life. I feel inwardly that I am “to young to be that old!”. But my body oftentimes says otherwise! This birthday is creating a feeling of urgency to “finish the work, keep the faith and run the race!” Time is marching on and there are more children needing to be rescued! Children who need to be here on this Earth not only to celebrate another birthday, but to fulfill the destiny God has called them to.

*Children like one year old Elielle. This little beauty in the photo below was rescued just one month ago.*



Her parents worked on a farm in a bush village in the Ivory Coast. Her mother became ill and after a few agonizing weeks, died. Her father, a poor farmer's helper, didn't know what to do. He had to work in the fields but there was no one to watch baby Elielle. She was sick and suffering from malnutrition. There was no one to wash her clothing, change her diapers, and give her something to drink or lay a wet rag on her fevered brow. He loved her and wanted something better for her. ***He wanted her to live!***

***One day someone in the village told him about Canaan Center Orphanage,*** surely they would have room for one small little girl. After a grueling bus ride to Abidjan, the sick little girl and her father arrived at Canaan Center Orphanage. The director, Jeanne Zonde, immediately agreed to take the little girl. With a heavy heart, her father returned to the bush village leaving Elielle in faithful, gentle hands.

***After receiving medical help, good food and plenty of hugs and kisses,*** little Elielle is doing well, She is now sitting up and starting to gain some weight. You can still

see some of the sorrow and uncertainty in her eyes. Her world has changed drastically in such a short time. But we are confident that by her next birthday, she will be a happy, healthy little toddler. ***Rescued to live the life God ordained for her!*** She is already a joy to the other children in the home. They all love their little sister.

There are other Elielle's out there. Babies that need someone to rescue them from the poverty and disease that claims thousands of lives each year. Babies dying of malnutrition and illness. Conditions that only a few dollars would change. Babies who ...well a paragraph from the last newsletter says it best. So here it is...

"There are thousands of children in Africa who have no one. No one to feed them or to love them. No one to hold them when they are afraid. Kiss them when they are hurt. Wash their clothes or give them a meal.

The task is far too great for a few people alone. Yet many working together can help save a generation of children from a life of poverty and despair. One dormitory, one clinic, one school, one child at a time. It can be done. But it takes money and lots of it.

Help me "finish the work" that God planted in my heart 13 years ago. That noble mission call,  
**Rescue Children!**

On behalf of the children of Africa and the Philippines who are counting on you, thank you for sharing in this ministry.

Connie Alessi  
President

How do you spell  
"success"?

**SMILING FACES!**

Happy healthy  
children who love  
Jesus!  
It doesn't get any  
better than that!



Life Link is a Christian non-profit international human service corporation committed to improving the quality of life for children everywhere. All donations are tax deductible.

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