

December 10, 2021

Dear Friends of Whole Heart,

Greetings in Christ from Oxford, England! We pray all is well in your world this Advent and we appreciate your sharing a few minutes of your day with us. Since time is brief until Christmas, we will also be brief. We simply want to let you know how we are doing and what is on our hearts as Whole Heart Ministries turns the corner into 2022.

Thanks to the digital ubiquity of the internet, we can minister virtually to Christian parents all around the world, but we can minister locally only in one place at a time. In 2021, that has been times both in the US and in the UK. Wherever we are, though, we thank God for opportunities to give parents help and hope to raise wholehearted children for Christ. And no matter where those parents may be physically, our hearts are all in the same place spiritually. But our hearts can also be in many places at one time "visionally." Before we envision the places we see ahead in 2022, let us first take a very focused glance back at 2021.

Looking Back at 2021 with 2020 Vision

At the end of 2020, we envisioned ministering in Oxford, but we had no visa, and no way to stay longer than six months as tourists. God provided a remarkably wonderful home, which we rented by faith beginning that September. Despite the lockdown, we trusted that God would also provide a solution for staying longer. And in January, He did! We learned then that St Aldates Anglican Church could offer Sally a one-year visa as an "intern" working with moms. We returned to the US for two months of "visa work," returned to the UK mid-April to activate our visas, and gathered for COVID-restricted Bible studies under an outdoor portable gazebo until . . . the hip crisis. After a bad fall in May, and some hip treatment misfires in the summer, Sally returned to the US August 1 and, by God's grace, scheduled hip replacement surgery for September 21. She had to cancel some speaking engagements, but was able to launch her newest book, *Help, I'm Drowning*, while Clay wrote a book and provided post-operative care for her and Darcy (our Golden, who had surgery the week before). We returned to the UK on November 11, Sally is recovering, ministry is being planned again, and life goes on. Phew!

Here's What We Wholeheartedly Envision for 2022

Despite all the disruptions of the past two years, the uncertainties of what's ahead, Clay turning 70 in May, Sally adjusting to new limitations, and the changes that new seasons of life bring, we still sense God's hand of blessing and direction on our lives and on this ministry. Even with so many unanticipated changes and challenges, Sally continues to encourage Christian women and moms vitally and virtually around the world—her podcast has been downloaded over 17 million times since 2015; Awaking Wonder (1,000+ reviews) and Help, I'm Drowning, both 5-star ratings on Amazon, have encouraged countless women during a difficult season; and LifewithSally.com continues to provide a content-rich online community of support for Christian women and mothers. Here are some visional in-sights for our year ahead.

- Sally Clarkson Ministry Sally is still the heart of Whole Heart Ministries. For twenty-seven years she has influenced countless Christian women and parents through her events, books, blogs, community, videos, and podcasts. This past spring, she launched her new "Lifegiving with Sally Clarkson" mobile app, and SallyClarkson.com will have more news in 2022.
- LifewithSally.com Sally's lifegiving membership community continues to grow as an online destination for Christian moms. In the spring, after nearly four years of tweaking and stretching, we launched the new <u>LifewithSally.com 2.0!</u> It is a renewed online experience for all our LWS members, and we're still refreshing and expanding the LWS experience.
- Whole Heart UK We are so chuffed (Brit-speak) to have the opportunity to minister to
 families locally in Oxford through the city-center historic ministry of <u>St Aldates church</u>. Mum
 Heart UK and Whole Heart UK are strategic ministry initiatives, not organizations, so we can
 direct our heart for British parents into church-centered Bible studies and ministries.
- Whole Heart Press From the beginning of Whole Heart Ministries in 1994, we envisioned writing and publishing new books as a "ministry in print" for families. As we return to that publishing priority, look for new editions of Seasons of a Mother's Heart and Your Mom Walk with God, new Storyformed children's books, resources, and public domain reprints.
- Whole Heart Online WholeHeart.org is our ministry website, focused on our six strategic
 ministry initiatives and other priorities. The site received a major makeover in 2020, and we
 continue to add new features to offer wholehearted help and hope to families. It's where
 you can find Amazon links for all our books and resources, and downloads of PDF resources.

And We Hope You Envision Yourself in Our Ministry for 2022

Whole Heart Ministries is a faith ministry. That simply means that we believe God will faithfully work with us as we walk by faith with him. Envisioning what's ahead, though, it also means we believe that God will provide for our needs as we faithfully minister in Christ's name. That's where we hope that you can envision yourself—as faithful friends who will share our hearts for "keeping faith in the family" and who want to help prayerfully and financially.

When God provides friends who can help provide for the needs of this ministry, we consider it a partnership. It's all about all of us working together as partners to leave behind a godly legacy for future generations—changed lives and life-changing books and resources that will continue to give help and hope to Christian families long beyond our lifetimes. If God puts it on your heart to be a Whole Heart Partner, we want to make that easy and uncomplicated.

Your gift of any kind by December 31 will help us bring into focus, and pursue, our vision for ministry to families in the U.S. and around the world in 2022. If you can partner with us financially, simply donate safely and securely on our online donation page, or send a check to the address below. Your envelope must be postmarked by December 31 to receive a donation receipt for the 2021 tax year. Your financial contribution to Whole Heart Ministries, a 501(c)(3) federally tax-exempt organization, is tax-deductible and will be acknowledged with a receipt.

Thank you for partnering with Whole Heart! As we continue to envision ministry to families, your generous gift will help to enable some strategic aspects of this ministry—staff to help expand and enrich core ministry initiatives; editorial and design assistance for writing and publishing new books and resources; funding for key employees and contract workers; international ministry development in the UK and other countries. Thank you for investing in Whole Heart! Grace and peace to you and your family.

Wholehearted blessings in Christ,

Clay and Sally Clarkson



Whole Heart Ministries

Keeping Faith in the Family since 1994

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