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Quintuplets | **Page 11**

# theVine

A PUBLICATION OF THRIVE WOMEN'S CLINIC

WINTER 2021 ISSUE

You gave  
her  
faith  
over  
fear



**TIFFANY:** Why I considered abortion | **PG.8**

Vine  
keepers  
Supporting Thrive  
Women's Clinics



## Letter from the **Executive Director**

# A warm welcome to your new leadership

Dear Vinekeepers Family,

As I depart Thrive, I do so with an overflowing heart. I'm deeply grateful for God's work in the ministry through you, his people, and I truly feel so honored to have served with you the past 17 years. Thank you for your time, prayers, generosity and hearts. It

*Mary Jayne Fogerty (right) with Lisa Freeman, Thrive's new Executive Director, at a recent event.*



has been a privilege to be a small part of such an excellent God-honoring organization that faithfully works toward excellence every day.

I leave with a smile on my face knowing Thrive will flourish and evolve to greater heights under the leadership of **Lisa Freeman, our new Executive Director. She has extensive experience in nonprofit ministry, including 12 years in leadership at another pregnancy center.** Her giftedness and style will bring a fresh vision in the decade ahead. Expect it to be a "good different!" Lisa will enhance our ministry and make Thrive a better and more robust organization. Please join us in welcoming Lisa to the family!

I would love to stay in touch with you, my Thrive family. Please reach out to me as you wish:

teamfogerty@gmail.com  
214-682-4507  
6856 Gaston Ave., Dallas, TX 75214

**Mary Jayne Fogerty**  
Retiring Executive Director,  
Thrive Women's Clinic

*PS - We didn't plan to wear matching gold polka-dots to our recent Celebration Dinner, but wow! We consider this a beautiful sign from the Lord of unity in transition! 🌱*

**Jan-Oct  
2021  
Statistics**

New client  
visits:  
**1,378**

Babies  
saved:  
**239**

New  
believers:  
**120**



## Calendar of Events

- JAN. 23, 2022:** Sanctity of Human Life Sunday  
At your church
- FEB. 19, 2022:** Volunteer training – 9am-3pm  
[Vinekeepers.org/get-involved](https://vinekeepers.org/get-involved)
- APRIL 7, 2022:** Festa della Donna  
featuring Jamie Ivey • Dallas Arboretum
- MAY 2, 2022:** Golf Fore Life  
Las Colinas Country Club
- SEPT. 29, 2022:** Celebration and Fundraising  
Dinner – Featuring Dallas Jenkins  
(Creator and Director of *The Chosen*)

See more at [vinekeepers.org/events](https://vinekeepers.org/events)

## Meet Our New Board Members



**1. ELIZABETH VINEY**  
Attorney, Community  
volunteer for justice issues

**2. PETER C. HAJEK**  
Certified Professional  
Accountant, Owner  
at Breezewood  
Development

## Get Equipped for LIFE

**Did you know:** Studies show that you could identify your mom's voice right after birth. There is also evidence that if you hear the same music after you're born, you are more easily soothed. Life in the womb MATTERS!

## Shanti brings home her baby boy



Shanti **chose LIFE** at Thrive last year, has been working with her mentor regularly, and is finishing up her high school diploma this year! Welcome, baby Kingston!



### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Cindy Pardue, Chair**  
**Clare Smitham, Vice Chair**  
**Peyton Harris, Treasurer**  
**Kim Meiser, Secretary**  
**Peter C. Hajek**  
**Lexie Graben**  
**Robin Hogan**  
**Elizabeth Viney**

### THRIVE LEADERSHIP

**Dr. Steven Harris**  
Medical Director

**Lisa Freeman**  
Executive Director

**Mary Craft**  
Director of Clinic Services

**Vicki Keifer**  
Director of Stewardship

**Kontessa Kiel**  
Director of Client Services

**Arri Evans**  
Men's Ministry Coordinator

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Vinekeepers are the supporters of Thrive Women's Clinic, which has four locations in Dallas County that provide services at no cost for women and their partners experiencing unplanned pregnancy. Our non-profit outreach ministry extends Christ-like compassion that values the family and empowers them to choose life.

**For clients:**  
[ThriveWomensClinic.com](https://ThriveWomensClinic.com)

**For supporters:**  
[Vinekeepers.org](https://Vinekeepers.org)



**Facebook:**  
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[FB.com/thrivewomensclinic](https://fb.com/thrivewomensclinic)



**Instagram:**  
[/vinekeepers](https://vinekeepers)  
[/thrivewomensclinic](https://thrivewomensclinic)



## THRIVE NAMES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

# Lisa Freeman brings rich experience

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**L**isa Freeman was a young professional moving up the ranks in a corporate job for a telecom company when something dawned on her.

“Who cares?” she realized. “None of that made a difference. I needed to be doing something more meaningful.”

After all, that’s how her parents raised her. Her dad worked for the City of Dallas and always knew of someone who needed help.

“We weren’t a family of wealth, but I have memories of helping many people in need throughout my childhood,” she recalls. “Most I never personally met, but a few were people my parents helped for years. I remember one instance particularly well when we bought a family their Christmas gifts including a bike for their little boy.”

Those experiences gave her a passion to serve others, and she needed a job that embraced that part of her upbringing. She pursued a master’s degree in counseling, which led her to volunteer at Prestonwood Pregnancy Center in Dallas. She ultimately left her corporate job to become the development director and later, the executive director. After 12 fulfilling years, she left to help care for her mother who had

been diagnosed with a terminal illness. God led her to serve in other realms of nonprofit work. Her most recent work has been leading development efforts for a Cuban church outreach ministry as well as serving in various roles with animal rescue groups.

Now, she said God brought her back in the pro-life movement, leading Thrive’s four clinics into a new



*Retiring Executive Director Mary Jayne Fogerty (left) passes the crown and bells to her successor, Lisa Freeman. The bells are rung in our clinics to let staff know every time a client chooses life.*

era of ministry. While abortion laws are changing the game, she believes the goal of the ministry remains the same: inspire decisions for LIFE.

"Women will always have choices no matter the law. Even now, she could drive to an abortion clinic in Oklahoma or order an abortion pill online," she said. "We just need new strategies and ways to meet the needs of these clients and develop that deeper relationship so Thrive is her top choice over Planned Parenthood. We

can do so much more for her here. We can empower her and her partner. We need to communicate our availability and desire to get to know them and help them in their personal development."

She loves the relational approach that gives clients the space they need to make the best decision for life.

"There's a balance to this ministry," she said. "We share the Truth in a way that respects a person's autonomy, and then we trust God to do the work we can't do: reach her at a soul level."

Her faith in God's sovereignty is reflected in her favorite verse from the Book of Ecclesiastes: "There is nothing new under the sun."

"I find that comforting when facing difficulties," Freeman said. "Not just difficulties in my own life, but in a world of hard things like political divisions, pandemics, human trafficking, etc. God is still in charge and we just need to trust him and stay adaptable to what he brings us."

She is glad he brought her to Thrive, a ministry she has long-recognized as a leader in pro-life work in the Dallas area.

"It's a privilege to work with such an awesome group of staff, volunteers, and board members to do such meaningful work," she said, noting she loves to foster a spirit of collaboration among all those parties. "I believe people closest to the work have the best insight and solutions. I recognize the expertise of those around me and try to foster an environment where everyone can do their jobs to the best of their ability."

While she will be leading Thrive at an executive level, she has fond memories of the previous pregnancy center counseling rooms where she connected with clients. She keeps in touch with a few of them including one former client, an abuse victim, who is now a successful leader in her chosen career. Another client who was once considering abortion placed her first baby for adoption with Freeman's help, and now she has married and built a family of her own.

She is looking forward to building more redemption stories just like those. 🌱





# Your churches coming to LIFE: Cornerstone Christian Church

- ✓ Gives 50% of EVERYTHING to missions like Thrive
- ✓ Sunday attendance – about 100
- ✓ Location: Dallas Christian College Gymnasium

When Cornerstone Christian Church launched in a high school cafeteria in 2005, the founding members made a remarkable financial commitment. “They wanted to make missions a priority in the DNA of the church from the get-go,” said Pastor Ron Key, who has led the church since its first year. “They started giving 50% of all the church money to missions and they haven’t stopped.”



Thrive was one of the first ministries the church chose to support.

“When we began, not a lot of churches were supporting Thrive,” Key said. “That was disappointing to me. The church has a moral responsibility not to just preach against abortion, but to save the lives of the unborn, to help people choose life, help disciple mothers, and help families to raise their kids in a spiritual environment.”

His church has used Thrive as a resource for its own members who are experiencing unplanned pregnancy, and Key said his missions committee is confident in Thrive’s financial stewardship.

“I can’t tell you in words how proud we are of all that’s been accomplished at Thrive and what it does. We are just all in.”

The church sends some of its own members to serve as volunteers. Priscilla Baitup, a founding member of



CCC member Priscilla Baitup (right) volunteers as a client advocate at Thrive, where she has counseled more than 200 women like this one. She has led 12 to become new believers in Christ.

Cornerstone, has met with clients at Thrive for 7 years.

When she was a resident advisor in her dorm at the University of North Texas, she remembers struggling to talk the girls in her hall who had abortions. Since then, she has learned how to share the Gospel boldly. After struggling with infertility, she adopted her infant son from a mother who was seeking to avoid her fifth abortion.

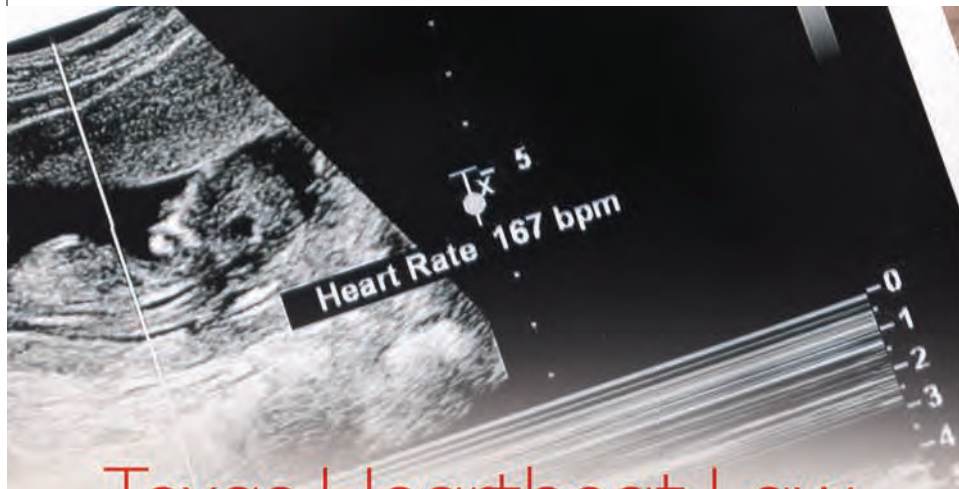
“That’s part of my story, and I get to share that every Tuesday with clients at Thrive,” Baitup said. “I can’t imagine a church that wouldn’t embrace this ministry.”

#### How Cornerstone Partners with Thrive:

- Donates monthly
- Sends volunteers
- Hosts Baby Bottle fundraising
- Purchases a table at annual Thrive events and sends different church members to attend and learn more about the ministry

## SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE SUNDAY IS JAN. 23, 2022

Are you interested in helping your church commemorate LIFE? Now is the time to start planning. We can help! Visit us at [vinekeepers.org/life-in-your-church/](https://vinekeepers.org/life-in-your-church/)



## Texas Heartbeat Law – AN UPDATE

**T**he Texas Heartbeat Law remains in effect! Since September, this law has banned abortion after a baby's heartbeat is detected, around 6 weeks along.

The Supreme Court is currently considering arguments over this law, and another Mississippi law banning abortion after 15 weeks along. The court's ruling is expected in Summer 2022.

**What are we seeing at Thrive?** Our clients are experiencing more urgency to get an abortion. Many do not understand that a heartbeat can be detected as soon as 3-4 weeks after their last menstrual period. We are also seeing local organizations helping women fund their travel and procedures out of state.

**What are we doing at Thrive?** Our client services team has revamped our telephone talking points to help clients understand this new law. When possible, we offer same-day appointments for free sonograms so they can learn more about their timeline and understand their options—including parenting and adoption. We are also working on our Google advertising to reach these clients FIRST.

**What can YOU do?** Help us equip families. If abortion is no longer an option for most pregnancies, we must plan to encounter more families in DFW who will be welcoming babies they did not plan to have. Those families will need the support of our parenting classes, mentors, and partners who can provide practical resources such as jobs, housing, and childcare. **THIS IS WHAT THRIVE DOES!** With your help, we are **READY** to meet this need!

Become a client advocate at Thrive. It's a beautiful opportunity to step in and influence someone's life that you would never come across otherwise. Just think of it: The power of Jesus in you can influence a family for generations!

**Can you commit 2 hours a week or 4 hours a month?**  
**We will train you! Fill out the simple form at**  
**[Vinekeepers.org/get-involved](https://vinekeepers.org/get-involved)** 🌱

## Introducing:

### OUR NEW MEN'S MINISTRY COORDINATOR



**Full name:** Arri Evans

**Hometown:** Wichita, Kansas

**Wife:** Mia

**School:** Dallas Baptist University Graduate School of Ministry (Current major: Education Ministry Leadership)

**Church:** UPPERROOM Dallas

**Job experience:** United States Air Force

**Favorites:** Chick-fil-A, Asian food, Kansas City Chiefs

**Hobbies:** Videography with my wife, going to the prayer room at church (This is filling every time!)

#### **Salvation story:**

During high school, my older brother and I were invited to Young Life camp in Colorado. I heard the Gospel for the first time on a personal level. They gave us time to sit with Jesus. I was walking under the stars and the mighty wind was blowing me around, which felt like my life at that time. I told Jesus I surrendered my life to him. The wind stopped, and the Lord met me in the stillness.

#### **Why Thrive?**

Thrive is a ministry after God's heart. I feel his love for life here, and I'm thankful I get to partner with those who need to feel His comfort, compassion and love for him. Every day I thank Him that I get to serve him in this way.

#### **Why men?**

It is vital that men feel the love of God and God's leadership in their lives. As leaders of their homes and families, they need to know that their voice really does impact the world around them and they are never alone. Psalm 128 mentions a fruitful vine and a family grown from a life with the Lord. I imagine these men following Christ, the true vine, and experiencing the legacy of a happy home that scripture promises.

#### **Top ministry moments:**

I love the initial introduction when I meet a guy in the lobby as he waits for his partner to have her pregnancy test and sonogram. I get to meet him right where he is and invite him to come talk so we can walk alongside him. In seeing that man's reaction, sometimes just a smile, I can glimpse the restored hope developing inside him. 🌱



# faith over fear

## Tiffany: In her words

**“I was looking for a sign from God that I wasn’t supposed to abort this baby.”**

When I discovered I was pregnant with my first daughter, I had a great job and was doing well for myself. However, I was long addicted to hydrocodone. I was taking enough for an overdose every single day. I had to quit my job to go to rehab and prepare for the baby. I was clean and sober when Isabel was born.

She arrived early. The doctors said she was exhibiting signs of dependency. I tested negative for everything but opinions were being formed about me and CPS got involved. Every parenting class, every hoop they wanted me to jump through—God helped me do it. So, when she came home after 3 months in the NICU, she came home to her mother.

Two years later, I was moody and that led me to start drinking to cope. I had never really been a drinker before. I hadn’t had sex in six months, but I started to wonder if I was pregnant. I had no belly so nobody believed it was possible, but I took the pregnancy test and it came back positive—that’s why I had been so moody. I immediately stopped drinking.

Grave fear took over me. I was thinking this is my fault. I already robbed this child of a healthy pregnancy. They are going to find alcohol in my system and, not only take this baby, but my other child. This was the lie the devil fed me: You’re going to have to abort this baby to keep the child you already have.

The Bible says the devil stands before the Father

and accuses us day and night. Now I know what that scripture means.

I called a lot of abortion clinics. Thrive came up in a Google search. I called thinking it was another abortion clinic. They gave me an appointment right away.

I knew I didn’t want to do this. I was raised a Christian and believed murdering babies was wrong, until I faced that decision myself. I was gripped by fear. We make a lot of choices out of fear we wouldn’t make otherwise.

I told God, “I know you don’t want me to do this. Make a way out.”

I met the nurse, and she was filled with the Holy Spirit. There was beauty and love and this glow around her. She was an angel. I didn’t know you could make appointments with an angel.

I told her I was looking for a sign from God that I wasn’t supposed to abort this baby. She just calmed me so much and prayed and made me feel at peace. She gave me a sonogram and it just drove it all home. She was real. This is my baby.

That’s the sign I had asked God for. Even though I thought I was driving to an abortion clinic, He was driving me somewhere else. I changed my mind.

The nurse let me know she was going to be there throughout the process, and she was. She gave me prenatal vitamins and resources to find the right doctors. She called and checked up on me.

The baby—Abigail—came quickly after that. I can’t even begin to explain how God ordained it, and all my fears about them finding alcohol went away. I went home with both of my children. I’m clean and sober, and life is good.

Isabel is thriving in kindergarten and Abigail is in PK-3. I am the vice president of the school’s parent association. I have such high hopes for them. I really try to teach them about God. I believe if you train up a child in the way she should go, she will not depart from it. My mom gave me that faith when I was a child, and it is the only thing that has helped me transcend the hard things of this world.

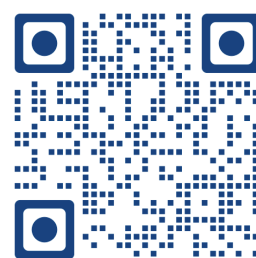
I really made the right choice. I couldn’t imagine if I had the abortion. It probably would have eaten me alive. I thank God he spared me from that. God is mighty to save.

I want you all to know there are a lot of women out there like me, who don’t really want to get an abortion. They’ve just been deceived, but the Lord has hope for them. Thrive is giving them the courage they need. You are saving lives. Thank you for saving Abigail’s life, and for all you’ve done for us. 🌱





Watch Tiffany's  
Story





# Meet Our Volunteers of the Year

**T**hrive Women's Clinic could not operate without the help of about 75 volunteers on the frontlines of LIFE. These dedicated servants consistently fight for the unborn by wielding the invaluable weapons of their precious time and unique talents.

Are you interested in volunteering?

Read about our ongoing volunteer needs:

[Vinekeepers.org/get-involved](https://vinekeepers.org/get-involved)



*Danette Corder brings her creative flair to our Spring event through graphic design and floral decor.*



*Rick Summey provides technical support for OhKnow Education presentations with his wife, Thrive Nurse Vivian Summey.*



*Mie Mie Sohn-McGowan, ObGyn, sees clients with specific medical concerns. She recently moved after serving Thrive for years.*



*Advocate Mary Grimes (left) mentors first-time moms like this one.*

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## Celebration and Fundraising Dinner 2021 – YOU helped us **RISE UP!**

We are so thankful for your **AMAZING** generosity and the time you spent with us at our annual celebration event Oct. 5 at the Hilton Anatole in Dallas.

Thanks to your generosity, we exceeded our fundraising goal!

We truly appreciate how you poured into our mission to save babies, equip families, and transform our community. You are rising up when Thrive's services are more important than ever!

### EVENT HIGHLIGHTS:

- Guest speaker **Jonathan Evans**, chaplain of the Dallas Cowboys, challenged us all to invest in eternity.



- Our client, **Tiffany**, shared a powerful redemption story of LIFE while her daughters sparkled on stage.
- **Senator Bryan Hughes**, author of the Texas Heartbeat Law, explained why this law is written the way it is.
- Emcees **Leanne and Jeremy Moore**, shared some humor and insight about why they support LIFE. 🌱

**SNEAK PEEK:** We are excited next year's Celebration Dinner will feature **Dallas Jenkins**, Creator and Director of **The Chosen** series.



## Your kids are lifesavers

A homeschool group recently experienced Thrive's ministry on a field trip to our Central Dallas Clinic. The group learned about how babies form in the womb with hands-on lessons and a fun quiz. They toured the clinic, watched 4D sonogram videos that have led our clients to choose life,



and assembled boxes of baby supplies for future parents. The left with a Thrive bag filled with a book about God's heart for life, LIFE SAVERS candy, a fetal baby model, sunglasses, and more goodies.

**Children in the Awana program at MacArthur Blvd Baptist Church** gathered baby



supplies for Thrive parents who have chosen life. The children learned about God's love for every child and Thrive's work to support families. They were taught by Lana Hopkins, former Thrive staffer and member of MacArthur Blvd. Thanks, Awanas!

**Would you like your children or youth to learn about Thrive's work?** In your church or at our clinics, we'd love to help present age-appropriate

lessons. Contact Vkeifer@thrivewomensclinic.com

## Life-changing work

The air-conditioning technician spent the afternoon working on the ducts, listening to Thrive staffer, Yuliana, counsel pregnant clients over the phone. (Before he began, he signed the Thrive confidentiality agreement all contractors must complete before working in our in our office or clinic.) He came down from his ladder intrigued and asked many questions about Thrive's work. He then pulled a roll of money out of his pocket and said he wanted to donate \$400 anonymously. He returned another day to continue his work, spent time visiting with Thrive's staff, and pulled out \$4,000 to donate that day. "He was so moved by watching God's work at Thrive," said Helena Isbell, site supervisor. "He said it was his tithe."



## Dallas Quintuplets Thriving—thanks to you!

Perhaps you saw Brenda Raymundo on the local news this summer after she gave birth to quintuplets—the first set of five delivered at Parkland Memorial Hospital in seven years.

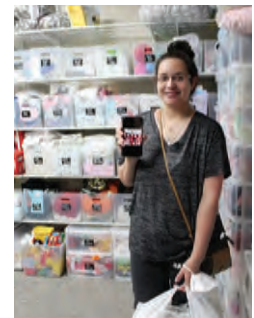


Since the quints arrived, Brenda has been working with a Thrive mentor to equip herself for motherhood. Through her mentoring and online parenting coursework at Thrive, she earns diapers from Thrive's baby store. (The babies use about 50 a day!)

"She's living a crash course in infant care!" said Jan Cassidy, the longtime Thrive staffer who has weekly phone calls with Brenda. "She is a nice girl doing everything she can to support her little ones."

After facing fears and complications in pregnancy, Brenda said she is at peace with motherhood and truly appreciates help from Thrive.

**"What I appreciate most about my time with Jan is that she prays for me," Brenda said.** "In all of the programs I've done, nobody has ever prayed for me like that. When some of my babies were still in the NICU struggling with oxygen levels, she prayed for them. Now she prays for me. I especially appreciate her prayers for patience."





**Dallas Life, Inc.**

6500 Greenville Ave. Suite 600 • Dallas, Texas 75206

**Vinekeepers.org**

Client website: ThriveWomensClinic.com • 214-343-9263

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Pictured: THRIVE client, Nadine, and her children.

# Give the GIFT of LIFE

CHOOSE YOUR  
PERFECT GIFT!

**\$50**  
Parent  
mentor  
session

**\$100**  
One  
month  
of  
diapers

**\$250**  
Online  
ads that  
reach  
her first

**\$500**  
Her  
first  
sonogram

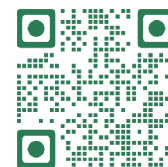
## Make your year-end gift to Thrive TODAY!

**When Nadine was pregnant** with her second baby, she used her phone to search for abortion clinics and found Thrive instead. **She chose LIFE! Will you help more women take the same steps?**

Donate on behalf of someone else, and send them one of our greeting cards. Give this gift AS a gift!

## ONLINE CATALOGUE:

**[vinekeepers.org/xmas2021-vine](https://vinekeepers.org/xmas2021-vine)**



### LOCATIONS:

#### Central Dallas Clinic

6500 Greenville Avenue  
Suite 600  
Dallas, Texas 75206

NOTE: This is our corporate  
and mailing address.

#### East Dallas Clinic

12959 Jupiter Road  
Suite 260  
Dallas, Texas 75238

#### West Dallas Clinic

3901 Holystone St.  
Dallas, Texas 75212

#### Irving Clinic

1111 W Airport Fwy  
Suite 229  
Irving, Texas 75062



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