

Dear W.C.,

I am hoping that things will be better in the new year. 2024 was a very difficult year for me as I lost my mother to cancer six weeks ago. I also lost my job four months ago as I cared for my mother for the past year as her condition worsened. During this time my husband left me and took our good running vehicle, along with our bed, some furniture and emptied our savings account. This all happened while I was at the hospital with my mother. I knew our marriage was struggling but I had no idea he was capable of that cruelty on top of what I was already going through. I finally found a job that will cover our living expenses, but I find myself struggling to get to work due to being left with a car that needs many repairs and is unreliable. My attendance at work is very important to me so I can maintain employment and provide for my children. I have two children and have not been able to take my daughter to the dentist even though she has a toothache. Finding her crying in her room today is what finally made me search for help and everyone I ask refers me to The Time is Now to Help. My husband is no help as he has disappeared to different state with another woman. I pray you can help us begin this year anew and to help lift the stress and pain we are going through.

Dear Readers,

This mother sounded like she had been through a lot in 2024 and needed our helping hand up to get her back on track. When I contacted the mother, I could hear the sadness in her voice as she spoke. She had indeed been through a lot this past year with the loss of her mother and the desertion by her husband.

After we introduced ourselves and spoke at great length about her car troubles and financial difficulties, I listened as the woman told me about her beloved mother and all she had been through. I could tell she needed someone to talk to, so I let her share that personal story with me. With the bond between them that I sensed, there was no doubt she had to be by her mother's side until the end. This had taken a toll on the woman's emotions though as she cried with the incredible grief she still felt. We talked at great length about healthy ways to grieve and about positive ways to lift her spirits, especially for her children's sake as she confessed her children were stressing about her sadness.

I spent a long time talking with this woman as I wanted to be sure she was in the right positive mindset when we ended our call. I could understand grief and even anger at her husband for his abandonment, but the mother now seemed to thoroughly understand that she was her children's lifeline, their hope for the coming year and beyond. She had to make them feel secure and confident that she could do that.

With our help in paying two months' rent, obtaining a good used vehicle to replace her old car that was too expensive to repair, providing a new bed for the mother, and gift cards for food, gas and other daily necessities, we removed the stress of poverty they were all living with. We also provided dental care for her daughter that had been suffering with dental pain. This assistance made possible by your support provided this mother with reliable transportation to her job and new confidence in her ability to provide for her children in the future.

Thank you for your support as we begin the Ava Gable Memorial \$25,000 Matching Grant, a \$25,000 matching grant provided by the Carolyn J. Gable Foundation in loving memory of Ava Rose, Carolyn's cherished daughter. Ava Rose's spirit of kindness and light continues to shine and will be felt by all who are touched by this matching grant. Every dollar donated will be matched, providing \$50,000 to support programs that bring hope and healing throughout our communities removing the pains of poverty for our Fellow Creations. We wish you a very Happy and Blessed New Year!

Health & Happiness, Love & God Bless Everyone, Sal

Please Help: There are many coming to us in desperation. Our good fellow creations need our compassion. Together we make a big difference. Make checks payable to: The Time Is Now to Help, P.O. Box 1, Lake Geneva, WI 53147. The Time Is Now to Help is a federally recognized 501(c)3 charitable organization. You will receive a tax deductible, itemized thank you receipt showing how 100% of your donation was used for providing poverty relief.

Please visit our website to read more of our past and current columns and/or to make a donation: www.timeisnowtohelp.org Please go to the home page, follow the yellow highlighted link that says WC Letters to see current and past columns.

A Very Special Thank You: Carolyn J. Gable Foundation, Kunes Family Foundation, Ziegler Charitable Foundation, Paul Ziegler, Wayne and Beverly Hilbelink, The Gallo Family Fund, Jeff Martin, Edward Hechmann, Gerald and Cheryl Kuhn, Mark and Sandra Schmitt, John and Valerie Lincoln, Barbara and Lee Zuzanek, Ernest Roy, Paper Dolls, Colleen Heffernan, Peter and Rosalie Riewer, Jon and Patricia Meagher Clare, Gerald and Donna Gerndt, Lake Geneva Area Realty, Renaissance Charitable Foundation, Margaret Rifken, Monroe and Birdeen Putnam, The Dan and Donna Casey Family Fund, Vanguard Charitable, Marshall Groom, James and Michelle Pody, Rogers Klenske, Dick and Trae Torhorst, Diane Emerson, Douglas and Gloria Reed, Kyle Koenig, Gregory Swanson, Charlene Hatfield, Carolyn Doorn, Maureen Gleason, William and Beth Norton, Kelly Tomaske, Marianne Bretz, Pat Pappas, Jake and Melissa Rankin, Ed McKeown, Julie Ferraro, Jeanne Allen, Martha Doolittle, Karin Slayton, Cynthia Petersohn, William Davit, Karen Alexander, Richard and Christine Costa, all of our anonymous donors and ALL of you who support The Time Is Now to Help donation boxes. Anyone who would like a Time Is Now donation box in your business, please call (262) 249-7000.

Memorials: James and Pat Herda in memory of the Lux Family. Dolores "Lor"

Piotrowski in memory of beloved parents Gene and Lottie Piotrowski and best friend Martha "Dee" Valentine.

Prayer Chain: The power of prayer and positive thoughts comes from the true healer, our Lord answering our prayers. Please pray for healing for the following people: Brian, Mike, Sylvia, Megan, Kayla, Maria C., Judy, Scott, Annie, Marilyn, Brandon, Helen, Dennis, Mary, Joseph, Jordan, Jean, Tom L., Dr. Peter, Matthew, Pam E., Jenene B., John S., Patricia H., Wendy, Eric, Anthony, Mary, Charlie, Tom P., Christina, Billy, Mike, Cheryl, Bryan E., Betty, Ellie, Concetta, Cheryl, Kirubel M., and Wanda L.

Please visit: www.timeisnowtohelp.org