

Obituary

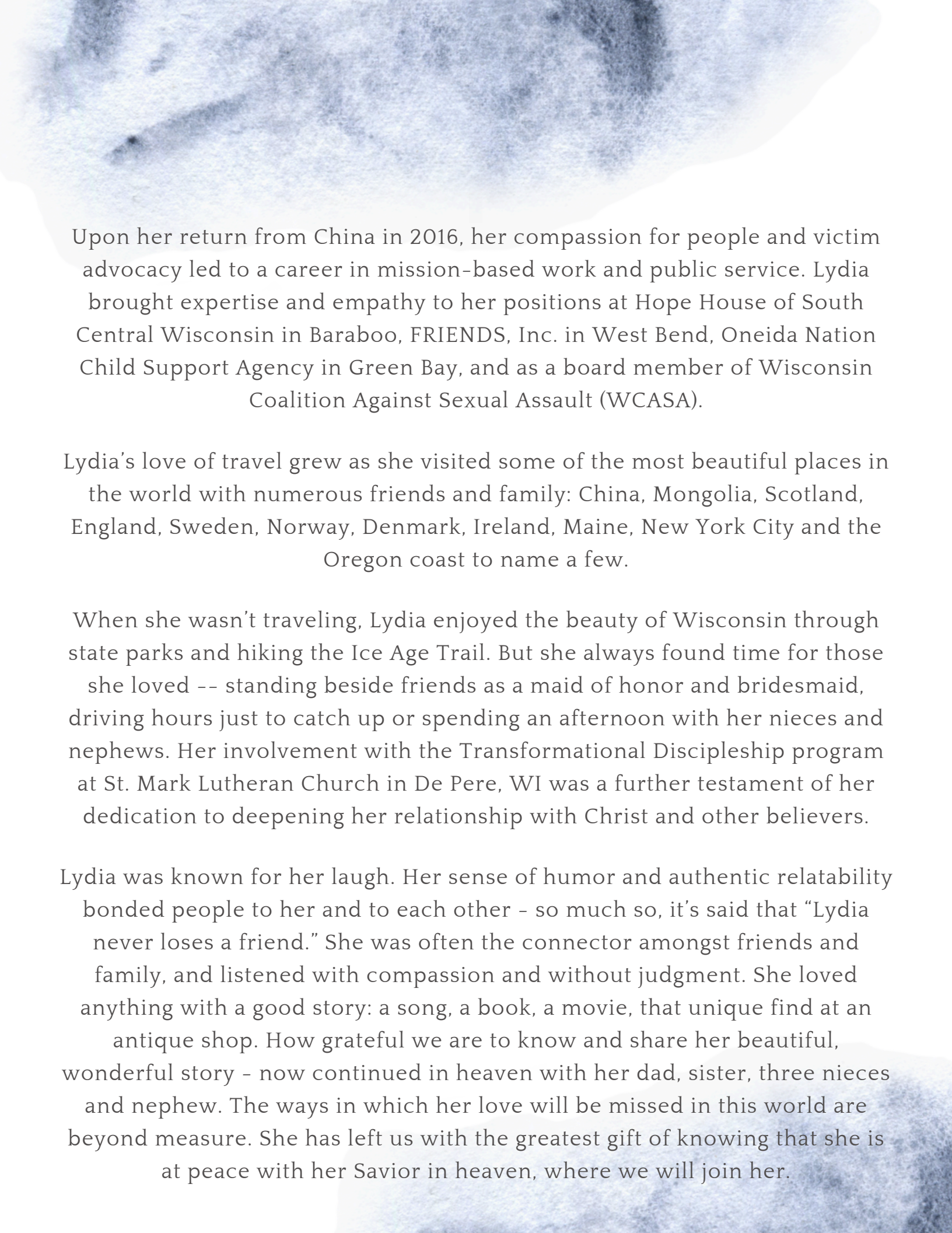
LYDIA'S STORY

Lydia Marie Witte was born on March 7, 1989 to Rev. Steve and Mary Witte in New London, WI. The Lord Jesus officially made her His child through baptism and continued to grow her faith in Him, confirming it at Emanuel Lutheran Church and grade school in New London, and Fox Valley Lutheran High School in Appleton, WI.

Lydia graduated in 2011 from Wisconsin Lutheran College with undergraduate degrees in Political Science and Psychology. Even in this formidable phase of life when it seemed everyone was searching for who they would become, it was always clear who Lydia was: the most devoted friend and confidant, a genuinely caring person - and unwaveringly steadfast in her love for Jesus.

After WLC, Lydia became a family law attorney, graduating with a Juris Doctor degree from Marquette University Law School in 2014. She worked part-time at Sperling law firm in Milwaukee. In these years and during a summer law school program in Geissen, Germany, Lydia created even more lifelong friendships.

In 2015, Lydia accepted an opportunity to serve with Friends Network (formerly Friends of China) to teach English and spread the gospel. She taught freshman oral English at Beijing Union University during the day and helped share Jesus in Bible study groups on weekends.



Upon her return from China in 2016, her compassion for people and victim advocacy led to a career in mission-based work and public service. Lydia brought expertise and empathy to her positions at Hope House of South Central Wisconsin in Baraboo, FRIENDS, Inc. in West Bend, Oneida Nation Child Support Agency in Green Bay, and as a board member of Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault (WCASA).

Lydia's love of travel grew as she visited some of the most beautiful places in the world with numerous friends and family: China, Mongolia, Scotland, England, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Ireland, Maine, New York City and the Oregon coast to name a few.

When she wasn't traveling, Lydia enjoyed the beauty of Wisconsin through state parks and hiking the Ice Age Trail. But she always found time for those she loved -- standing beside friends as a maid of honor and bridesmaid, driving hours just to catch up or spending an afternoon with her nieces and nephews. Her involvement with the Transformational Discipleship program at St. Mark Lutheran Church in De Pere, WI was a further testament of her dedication to deepening her relationship with Christ and other believers.

Lydia was known for her laugh. Her sense of humor and authentic relatability bonded people to her and to each other - so much so, it's said that "Lydia never loses a friend." She was often the connector amongst friends and family, and listened with compassion and without judgment. She loved anything with a good story: a song, a book, a movie, that unique find at an antique shop. How grateful we are to know and share her beautiful, wonderful story - now continued in heaven with her dad, sister, three nieces and nephew. The ways in which her love will be missed in this world are beyond measure. She has left us with the greatest gift of knowing that she is at peace with her Savior in heaven, where we will join her.