



Open Arms Ministry

Reaching out to orphaned and
abandoned children around the world.

September Newsletter

It is amazing to see how God has been truly blessing this ministry and is continuing to open doors with ways to better educate our church & community on adoption/foster/orphan care and personally helping the orphaned. Now is the time we really need each of you to help do God's work that we all are called to do in helping the fatherless.

It will take a team of people like you who have a passion in making a difference in the life of an orphan through the events & projects below. Open Arms Ministry urgently needs volunteers to sign up and help out. If you are not sure what you would like to get involved with, or not sure about abilities and time commitments, please contact me at 688-0166 or rypasm@charter.net and I'll find a place to plug you in.

Kim Smith, Director

Calendar

Please note: There is additional information about many of the calendar items in the "Ways to Get Involved" section.

September 17th - Monthly Ministry Meeting, Room 153, 7-8:00pm

September 19th - Adopting/Foster Mom's (New adoptive/foster moms are included) Night Out at Cappuccino's Café on Bryan Road and Hwy. 70 from 6-9:00pm.

September 19th - "Teaching Churches How to Run an Orphan Ministry" training session at Calvary.

September 20th - Landscaping at Epworth Children's Home

September 27th - Yard Sale to help an adoptive family to raise adoption funding. If you are doing your fall cleaning and have found anything to donate, please contact Chris Michalski at 636-916-5588.

October 25th - Painting dorms and furniture at Epworth Children's Home

November 2, 9, and 16 - Collecting shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child.

November 21st - Orphan/Adoption Prayer Vigil from 7-8:00pm. This will be an evening filled with music and prayer in celebration of Adoption and Orphan Awareness Month. Please invite your neighbors, friends and family.

November 30th - Orphan Sunday. Don't miss this huge event!

December 7th - Adoption/Foster Celebration Luncheon, 1-2:00pm

December 13th - Epworth Children's Home Community Service - wrapping Christmas gifts

Ways to Get Involved

- **WOULD YOU TAKE YOUR SHIRT OFF FOR AN ORPHAN?** During the month of October, we will be collecting new or slightly used t-shirts (children to teen sizes) for Malawi orphans. Please place shirts in a bag and drop them off in the collection barrels at church. We will take these shirts with us in June on our Malawi Mission Trip.
- **ORPHAN SUNDAY** - Mark your calendar for "Orphan Sunday" on Saturday, November 29, and Sunday, November 30, in all services at all three campuses. We need adoptive and foster parents to help with display tables at all three campuses before, after and during the services. If interested in helping with this exciting Sunday, please contact Kim Smith at 636-688-0166 or rypasm@charter.net.
- **TEACHING CHURCHES HOW TO RUN AN ORPHAN MINISTRY-** We need two people to help with directing people and setting up the room. This seminar will be on Friday, September 19th, from 5:45 - 6:30pm.
- **EPWORTH CHILDREN'S HOME COMMUNITY SERVICE PAINTING** - We need volunteers (must be 21 or older) to help with landscaping and painting. We will be landscaping (planting new plants and cleaning the creek with Epworth teens) on September 20th and painting (children's dorm rooms and furniture) on October 25th from 9am - 4:00pm. You may sign up for this service project on Calvary's website under "Serve" and then clicking "Serving in our Community."
- **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOE BOX COLLECTION** - We need help at the table to collect shoeboxes at all three campuses on Sundays, November 2, 9 and 16. Please contact Kim Smith at 636-688-0166 or rypasm@charter.net to volunteer.
- **ORPHAN/ADOPTION PRAYER VIGIL** - The Vigil will be held Sunday, November 21st at Calvary Church. Please contact Staci Maneage at 636-928-1764 to help with planning, advertising and setting up the event.
- **ADOPTION/FOSTER CELEBRATION LUNCHEON** - The luncheon is scheduled for Sunday, December 7th, from 1-2:00pm. We need people to help with cooking and setup.
- **EPWORTH CHILDREN'S HOME COMMUNITY SERVICE** - We need help wrapping Christmas gifts on Saturday, December 13th, from 10am-12:00pm. Please sign up through Calvary's website under "Serve" and then click on "Serving in Our Community."

Mission Trips

MALAWI MISSION TRIP is coming up! If interested, contact Mark Mehlig at Calvary, 939-4343.

Prayer Requests

- **Please continue to pray for Adoptive families:**
 - Gina and Keith Leonard** (adopting from Vietnam) - They are waiting to travel. Please pray that God will speed up their travel date;
 - Stacey & Jim Maneage** (adopting from China);
 - Amy & Kyle Cordes** (adopting from Vietnam);
 - Robyn & Dwayne Crecelius** (adopting from China);
 - Catherine & Scott Dreher** (adopting from Ethiopia);
 - Page & Steve Galbierz** (adopting from China)
 - Sandy & Jeremy Poteet** (domestic adoption)
 - **Foster families:** Please pray for foster families as they seek God's will for the future of their foster children: **Brook & Jason Howell, Tracie Johnson, Stephanie & Jeff Lawson and Paul & Jan Wilkin.**
 - **Future foster and adopting families:** Pray for those Calvary families going through foster classes and hoping to foster or adopt.
 - **New orphan ministries:** Pray that more churches will be interested in starting an orphan, adoption or foster ministry, and that more of His people will get involved in this ministry.
 - **Open Arms Ministry:** Please pray for God's direction, provision of more volunteers, and more doors of opportunity to helping orphans around the world.
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