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## Open Arms Ministry - February 2010 Newsletter

### NEW ADOPTION/FOSTER EDUCATION & SUPPORT AT CALVARY

Open Arms Ministries is very excited to announce a list of educational classes, foster STARS training, support groups and new material resources available to Calvary families who are thinking of, in the process of, or have already adopted or fostered children. God is calling so many within our church walls to open their homes to orphaned or foster children and we want to make sure each family is educated and supported in any way that we can serve as a ministry.

**UPCOMING INFORMATIONAL CLASSES ON FOSTERING AND ADOPTION:** If God is calling you to open your home and family to fostering or to adopt we invite you to attend an informational meeting to be held on Sunday, March 7th at 12noon in room 250B (upstairs above auditorium) at the Mid Rivers Campus. Please RSVP by calling 636-939-4343 ext #1250. If you can't attend this class, we invite you to stop by our ministry resource table on Sunday mornings to talk to one of our ministry leaders and to pick up an informational packet.

**STARS FOSTER AND FOSTER ADOPTION CLASSES:** The next STARS classes will be held in April in St. Charles County and in St. Louis County. For St. Charles County classes, contact April Douger (foster adoption) at 636-940-3406 or DJ Douglas (fostering only) at 636-940-3382. Classes are very limited in size so call to get your packet by the end of February. If you are interested in finding out when and where the STARS classes will be held in St. Louis County, contact Emily or Theresa at One Heart Family Ministries at 314-835-1690 no later than mid-February for information on April classes. Open Arms STARS classes started in January. We are hoping to start new classes in June.

**NEW CALVARY CHURCH ADOPTION/FOSTER EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT GROUP:** Starting Friday, February 26th, and continuing the last Friday of each month (except November and December), Calvary will be hosting an educational support group for Calvary families only that are in the process of adopting, have adopted, or are affected by adoption or fostering. Each meeting will feature different topics and will help our adoptive/foster families to meet and support each other. The meetings will begin at 7pm and end at 8pm. From 8pm-8:30pm, parents may stay and fellowship with each other. Childcare will be provided only for those who RSVP by Tuesday, February 23rd (no exceptions will be made). For further information call 636-939-4343 ext. 1250.

**NEW RESOURCE MATERIALS IN CALVARY LIBRARY:** Check out the new books in Calvary's library on different adoption topics and how to start and walk through the adoption journey. There are also some children's adoption books. You can find all these books under the "Adoption" section.

### CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY OF MISSOURI EDUCATIONAL CLASSES FOR ADOPTIVE/FOSTER PARENTS:

- Feb. 1, 6-9pm Love & Logic Parenting (every Monday through March 15)
- Feb. 4, 6-9pm School Issues Typical in Foster Care & Adoption
- Feb. 10, 6-9pm Parenting in a Cyber-World
- Feb. 17, 6-9pm Parenting Children with Alcohol & Drug Exposure
- Feb. 24, 6-9pm CPR/First Aid for Foster, Adoptive & Kinship
- Mar. 3, 6-9pm Talking to Your Child about Adoption
- Mar. 10, 6-9pm Parenting Teens in Foster Care & Adopted

To register call 314-968-2350 ext. 223 or email [educationandcounseling@chsmo.org](mailto:educationandcounseling@chsmo.org). The Children's Home Society is located at 9445 Litzsinger in Brentwood, MO 63144. Classes are in the lower-level training room. Please enter from the ramp at the west end of the parking lot.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**



**JOIN IN THE OPEN ARMS MINISTRIES MONTHLY MEETING:** Do you have a passion for orphans or foster children and would like to get involved in a ministry that is truly making a difference in the lives of these children? Join our February ministries meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 17th at 7pm, in room 250B (upstairs above the auditorium) and learn ways you can get involved.

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

**COOKS NEEDED:** We could use more volunteers to help out with cooking or pulling together a quick meal for a newly Calvary adoptive family or foster family receiving new children into their home. Contact Cindy Arnel by calling 636/379-6226 or scarnel1@yahoo.com.

**LANDSCAPERS AND PAINTERS NEEDED:** Needing volunteers ages 21 or older to help with Spring landscaping or painting at Epworth Children's Home in St. Louis on Saturday, March 13th from 10am-4pm. Contact Kristen Johnson by calling 636-939-4343 ext 1250.

**FUND RAISER FOR THE MANEAGE FAMILY'S CHINA ADOPTION:** Staci and Jim Maneage are planning a dinner with a silent auction at the end of March to help raise funds for their adoption. They are in need of baskets to be used at the silent auction. Perhaps you don't have enough items to make a basket but could donate individual items that can be grouped together with other items to make a basket. Check your drawers and closets for new items to donate for any of the categories below. Please contact Kim Smith 636-939-4343 ext. 1250 regarding any donations. All donations need to be received by March 14th.

- (1) Spa/Pamper basket - anything bath related - lotion, bubble bath, manicure/pedicure set, candles, robes, slippers, perfume, makeup bag, hairdryer, etc.
- (2) Cooking basket - any cooking items, cook books, spices, food, Pampered Chef, etc.
- (3) Golf basket - golf balls, golf club, golf shirts, hats, golf towels, etc.
- (4) Children's toy basket - any toys for children
- (5) Children's book basket - any books for children
- (6) Children's DVD basket - any DVDs for children
- (7) Gift cards basket - gift cards to restaurants or stores
- (8) BBQ grilling basket - any items for grilling, cookbooks, grilling brushes, accessories, etc.

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

To the Dreher Family on the adoption of their new baby son, Abraham, from Ethiopia!

#### **PRAY FOR:**

##### **Waiting families:**

Stacey & Jim Maneage (adopting from China);  
Page & Steve Galbierz (adopting from China);  
Amy & Kyle Cordes (adopting from Vietnam); and  
Amy & Rob Anderson (adopting from Vietnam);  
Joseph & Michelle Clevenger (foster adoption).

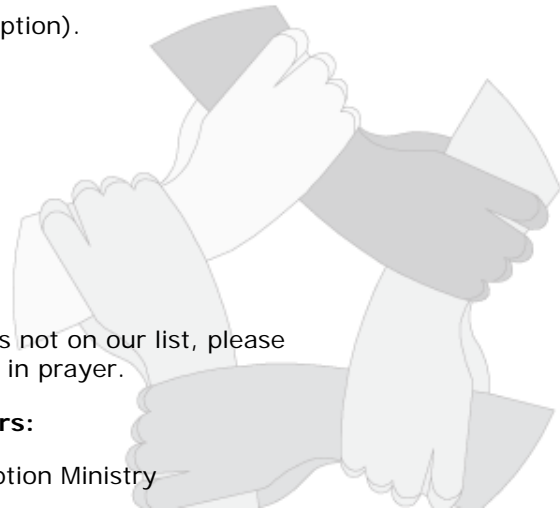
##### **Foster families:**

Tracie Johnson  
Monica Bemby  
Paul & Jan Wilkin

If you are adopting or plan on fostering or know of anyone within Calvary that is not on our list, please let our ministry know so that we can add the family to this list, and lift them up in prayer.

##### **Open Arms Ministry Team Leaders:**

Laura Fox & Chris Michalski - Leaders for Adoption Ministry



Staci Maneage & Brian Taylor - Leaders for Orphan Ministry  
Kristen Johnson & Christy Kaufman - Leaders for Foster Ministry

I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. John 14:18

Kim Smith  
Director of Open Arms Ministries

**Save Orphans Ministry**



Date: January 11th 2010

Dear Friend,

RE: EMERGENCY APPEAL FOR SUPPORT

On behalf of Save Orphans Ministries I write to let you know that following global financial crisis the organization has been affected greatly. The heavy effect of the crisis was not felt until July 2009 when most of our big supporters either stopped or cut their pledges. Since then, the organization has laid off some of its staff and cut salaries by 30%. However, the situation is worsening monthly, so much so that we have one month of reserves to which we started dipping into from July last year.

Because of lack of funding, our 30 college students did not start school this year on the 4th of January and will have to stay home till next year if things don't change. Because of crisis our feeding program for 5,000 children will have to stop and by doing so we will expose these children to hunger and malnutrition since they depend on the day care feeding project. Without finances our 200 HIV/AIDS clients will suffer greatly. Due to the lack of finances we will have to lay off 40 of our workers out of 45 including myself and my office (director's office, admin assistant, accountant and driver) will have to be closed. The only programs that may continue will be HIV/AIDS which has funding from the Christian Reformed Church for one year.

With that information, I would like to appeal to you to consider supporting the work of Save Orphans Ministries. Our monthly budget is \$3,500 and if only 100 people gave \$35 per month we would save the lives of 15,000 children and 1,000 HIV/AIDS affected adults that we serve. Would you consider being a partner in this noble cause of reaching to the need by committing \$35/month to Save Orphans Ministries?

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and prayers in the past and pray you will do the same in these difficult times that the organization you love dearly is experiencing financial difficulties. Please make checks payable to: Save Orphans Ministries, 5718 Wrenwyck Place, St. Charles, Missouri 63304.

I look forward to serving with you in this service and thanks in advance.

Yours truly,

Justin Majawa, Director  
Save Orphans Ministries  
Mobilephone in the US: 616-821-3950  
Email. justinsom@malawi.net  
Web: saveorphansministries.com

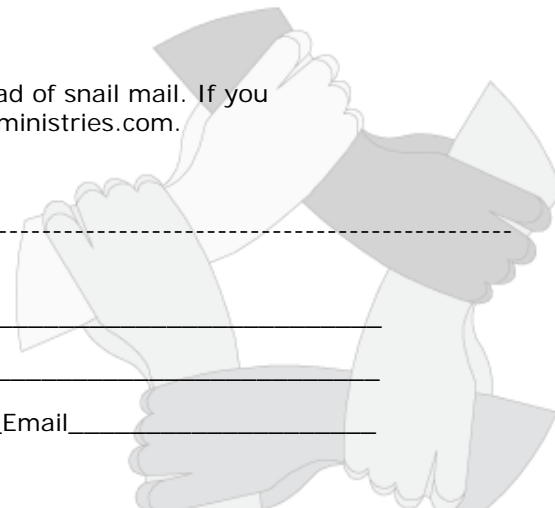
PS: Another way to lower our costs it to be able to e mail our supporters, instead of snail mail. If you would allow us to e mail you please send your e mail to mailings@saveorphansministries.com. Thank you for your help.

Save Orphans Ministries  
Sponsorship Response Form  
Supporters Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to support Save Orphans Ministries in the following way:



\_\_\_\_\_I would like to be a part of your prayer support team.  
\_\_\_\_\_I would like to make a onetime donation in the amount of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_I would like to monthly give this amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please make check payable to Save Orphans Ministries)

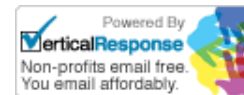
Mail to:  
Save Orphans Ministries  
5718 Wrenwyck Place  
St. Charles, MO 63304

[www.saveorphansministries.com](http://www.saveorphansministries.com)



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