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## Open Arms Ministry - March 2010 Newsletter

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

**STARS Foster/Foster Adoption Classes:** We are working on getting another STARS class at Calvary for June. But if you don't want to wait, the next STARS classes available 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.

**CALVARY CHURCH ADOPTION/FOSTER EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT GROUP:** Starting Friday, March 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. The meetings starts at 7pm and ends 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, March 23rd (no exceptions will be made). For further information or to RSVP for childcare, 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:**

March 3, 6-9pm Talking to You Child About Adoption

March. 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 March, 17th at 7pm, in room 151 (across from the Atrium) 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.

**EPWORTH CHILDREN'S HOME:** We need a volunteer to help coordinate the three projects we do for Epworth Children's Home in St. Louis for this year. Contact Kim Smith at 636-939-4343 x1250.

**MINISTRY RESOURCE TABLE:** We need a volunteer to help answer questions or talk to interested families on adoption or foster care on Sunday every other month at our ministry resource table in the Welcome Center between services or after the second service. If you are interested in helping, please contact Kim Smith at 636-939-4343 x1250.

**FUND RAISER FOR THE MANEAGE FAMILY'S CHINA ADOPTION:** Staci and Jim Maneage are planning a dinner with a silent auction on Sunday, March 28th, to help raise funds for their adoption. They are in need of donated filled gift baskets to be used at the silent auction. If you can donate a basket, please contact Kim Smith 636-939-4343 ext. 1250 regarding any donations. 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. 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 basket - any books, DVDs or games for children

- (6) Gift cards basket - gift cards to restaurants or stores
- (7) BBQ grilling basket - any items for grilling, cookbooks, grilling brushes, accessories, etc.
- (8) Sports basket - items for playing sports or outdoor games.

For tickets to the Chinese Fund Raiser dinner, contact Staci Maneage at [jsmaneage@aol.com](mailto:jsmaneage@aol.com). Ticket prices are \$30/adult and \$15/child (under the age of 12). Dinner is a Chinese buffet. Entertainment will be by the Chinese Language School dancers. There will also be a 50/50 raffle and silent auction.

### **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 (domestic adoption);  
Joseph & Michelle Clevenger (foster adoption).  
Sharon & Paul Young (domestic adoption);

#### **Foster families:**

Tracie Johnson  
Monica Bembry  
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

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