



NEW LIFE NEWS

The official newsletter for New Life Presbyterian Church • July/August 2010

NE DERELINQUAS NOS ORPHANOS

By Katie Heinze

I finally watched “Slumdog Millionaire.” One of the things that hit me as I watched was the exploitation of the children of the slums. This is not just a made-up movie storyline. It happens.

Did you know that there are over 140 million orphaned and abandoned children in the world who have lost

I felt the world shrink as God’s people from all corners of the globe came together to worship and encourage each other in serving, and it was beautiful.

one or both parents? Over 140 million crying, “Do not leave us as orphans!”

Just a few weeks ago I made my second trip to attend the annual Christian Alliance for Orphans Summit. The alliance is a confluence of Christian churches and organizations that take seriously the Lord’s command to care for the orphan. Their Web site is: www.christian-alliance-for-orphans.org. I appreciate their focus on working through churches and also their emphasis on the evangelistic nature of adoption and how it pictures the Gospel.

I heard an exuberant Ukranian pastor describe how God overcame his reluctance to adopt and led him to be not only an adoptive father, but also a champion for adoption within the church in the Ukraine. I heard the former first lady of Guatemala describe her ministry with street children and express her unwavering faith that the hearts of the people turning to the true God was what would change

her country. I heard the incredible testimony of a woman who many years ago had been abandoned as a biracial child in Korea and then was adopted, against all probability, as an older child at the age of nine. I heard from a woman working here in the United States to formulate adoption legislation to encourage and facilitate adoption. I heard from John Piper, an adoptive father himself, and Al Mohler, and many other speakers with hearts for the Lord and for the orphans. I felt the world shrink as God’s people from all corners of the globe came together to worship and encourage each other in serving, and it was beautiful.

God calls all of us to care for orphans and widows and those in distress. It is not an optional ministry, but part of our calling as believers. There are many ways to help, and it doesn’t require any special qualifications. Be inspired, be encouraged, and be open to what God may put on your heart.

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



When you know that you should do something and you do it, immediately you know more. Examine where you have become sluggish, where you began losing interest in spirituality, and you will find that it goes back to a point where you did not do something you knew you should do.

—Oswald Chambers

MAN APPROACHING

By Julie Kocher

Man Approaching

*This is the ninth, tenth, time I’ve seen you,
And I almost remember your name.
If only those dark glasses were
Hidden in the front pocket of
Your plaid shirt, then
The word would have come.
Instead, I am left clutching
The empty space where I once
Carefully folded and filed
The proper noun.
Then, with little thought,
You grin, and, with the joy
Of a fresh forwarding address,
My mental mnemonic takes flight.
I stand in a child’s playroom
Where a grown man sits at
A miniature table. You clasp
Rounded, rainbowed kiddie scissors,
Gleefully cutting colored shapes,
Three sheets at a time.
The scene freezes, fades, is
Tagged and filed, its job done.*

*Hello, Mr. Craft. Doing well,
And yourself?*



COOKING CLASS WRAP-UP

By Joy Miladin

Over the past several months, four different cooking classes have been held in the New Life kitchen, organized and taught by Andrea Orr. The purpose of these sessions was to teach the girls who attended frugality, hospitality and the kitchen skills that they can apply both at home and in the church. Held on Saturday

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afternoons, each class focused on a unique recipe, and the dishes prepared during class time were served the next day at the church first Sunday meal. Beginning each time with prayer and a thorough hand-washing, Mrs. Orr gave instructions on the dish to be made while we took notes on the handouts provided, complete with cooking rules, tips and recipes. The first class, as mentioned in a previous “New Life News” article, covered how to make a delicious dish of macaroni and cheese. We learned how to make a “roux” (a cooked mixture of fat and flour used to thicken sauces and soups), and how to add the right amount of milk, mustard, onion, paprika, and of course, cheese to make the perfect creamy sauce. Class two was spent making a giant pot of chili, which was later served at the third Sunday soup night. Mrs. Orr, always ready to make a biblical connection, taught us about the “holy trinity” of cooking, celery, onion, and the bell pepper. These three cornerstone ingredients are essential to many soups and stews and provided the base for our chili. Class three focused on spices and herbs

and making marinades and sauces, which were then added to pulled pork to make savory sandwiches. Three different barbeque sauces were made: a vinaigrette with paprika and cayenne pepper, a mustard sauce with balsamic vinegar and Worcestershire sauce, and a tomato sauce with garlic and onion. The fourth and final class was led by guest teacher, Mr. Orr, who instructed us on casseroles and taught us how to make his gourmet lasagna recipe. We learned how to layer the perfect amounts of mariana sauce, lasagna noodles, and ricotta cheese, and then made two large lasagna, one with spinach and one with ground beef. These classes have been a wonderful experience for all the girls as we talked, laughed and learned together in the kitchen. We gained a better sense of frugality, experienced the joy of service in the church, acquired kitchen skills and knowledge that we will take with us into our own home and, above all, we learned to honor God in our actions and decisions, yes, even in the kitchen. Thank you, Mrs. Orr, for volunteering your time and effort to organize and teach this class!

Mrs. Orr’s cooking classes were a lot of fun, and we all learned some great things from them! I loved being able to share the dishes we made with the church for first Sunday meal and getting feedback on them! —Aimee Miladin

God designed the human machine to run on Himself. He Himself is the fuel our spirits were designed to burn, or the food our spirtis were designed to feed on. There is no other. That is why it is just no good asking God to make us happy in our own way without bothering about religion. God cannot give us happiness and peace apart from Himself, because it is not there. There is no such thing. —C.S. Lewis Mere Christianity



I learned how to slice vegetables properly and make lasagna. It was super awesome! —Genevieve Power

I liked spending time with the Orrs and with the other high school girls. And I loved learning about how important spices are to different dishes! —Rebecca Watt

I really liked how we were able to learn in an environment that let us have fun while learning. It was a mix between fun with friends and learning how to cook!

—Jennifer Dossett

CRUISE THE COSMOS WITH GENESIS 1: SPACE PROBE VBS

The countdown for Space Probe is about to begin!

Join the crew for an exciting, fun-filled mission in search of the Lord of the Universe!

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MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

By Michael Christiansen

Hello New Life friends! I guess it is my turn to contribute to the member profile section of “New Life News.” You may have seen me around, but for those of you who don’t know me, my name is Michael Christiansen. I have been attending New Life for almost four years. I became an official member last summer. The story thus far: I was born in Nashville, Tennessee, but my mother and I moved out here very early on. I somehow managed to retain some southern charm, however, as we first settled here in San Diego, but then moved up to a town called Redlands about an hour and a half north of here. I confess that it was great living in a small town with my mom (now remarried), and at some point, around the age of seven, I asked her if we were ever going to attend church. I think it surprised her, but she agreed, and we started attending an enormous Baptist church. It was there I first learned about the Bible and Christianity. I refer to it as time when I learned the “stories” in the Bible more than any experience of grace and salvation because by the time I was a teenager I had lost interest in attending any church large or small. Life went on and somehow in the back of my head I always knew that someday I wanted to go back to church. Well, that day came about nine years ago when frankly I was fed up with the world and the way it worked and started attending a church down the street from my house. The stories of the Bible became stone cold reality, and I was hungry for knowledge and experience. At some point several of my friends introduced me to the reformed faith over dinner one night (grace at a “Chevy’s,” who knew?), and it was “game over” as far as finding knowledge and truth. I’m often fond of saying that I want a supernaturally changed heart as opposed to a morally restrained heart, which is a line from one of my favorite preachers, Tim Keller of

Redeemed Presbyterian Church in New York City. But it is more than a line, of course, as the growth and experience of being a Christian man and the challenges and excitement that it contains affects me more and more daily. It can be a hard road at times as everyone here well knows, but I am glad and thankful to have come to know God’s sovereign



grace. I have enjoyed my time here at New Life a great deal so please feel free to say hello at any point. ✪

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

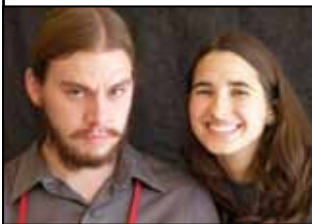
BEFORE AFRICA, LESSONS IN FAITH AND TRUST

By Christopher Verdick

There are a great many circumstances in life which we all know God is overseeing and giving shape to, but most of these have plausible, human explanations that—when recounted by someone less-than-spiritual—are often the reasons given. Mission work, to the contrary, always necessitates faith at its core. It’s probably a strange thing to hear from someone who might unwillingly admit that they are one of these less-than-spiritual people, but it is something that I have to come face to face with whenever I’ve made an attempt at missionarying, and it has certainly been our experience as we planned to go to Karamoja.

Chloe and I met with the Missions Committee one Sunday and they asked that question which always renders one inarticulate and incoherent, “What are you going to do while you’re there?” Well, of course, we have to come up with something. So we lay out a long list of skills we have, some roughly sketched ideas we’ve come up with, but when pressed, we cannot do anything but shrug our shoulders and say we don’t know. Whatever they tell us to do. Not exactly the most convincing case ever explained.

Somehow inexplicably they buy our story, and so we have to purchase plane tickets. Out comes the credit card and I say to myself, “We should really start thinking about writing a support letter,” as the transaction is being processed. So we type up a support letter and send it off and sit upstairs on Sundays with our binoculars, trying to see if anyone is writing us a check for the offering basket.



In the midst of this, the Mission sends us a list of jobs that they’d like us to accomplish. Somehow they have great need for an art-teaching-welding-web-designing-microfinancing team to come over and do work this summer. What rapture! Suddenly things are making sense—God is showing us that He for sure wants us to go. So we run to the treasurer on Sunday and ask if we’ve met our support goal yet. “Eh, you’re about twenty percent of the way there.” With two weeks until the plane leaves and that credit card bill sitting on my desk and our suitcases laid out like ripe fruit ready to burst from their skins, we are wondering what to do. Besides freaking out, because we’ve already got that covered.

So we talk to some friends who are way more spiritual than us. We ask them to pray. We plead for that little tiny mustard seed to grow. And it does, and somehow the money comes in, and here I am frantically checking off the last items on my to do list before we leave (will the cactus really survive if it isn’t watered for the next three weeks?) He is there in the uncertainty, telling us, “I got you here, and I’m not going to send you home without accomplishing my purposes.” ✪

Whom have I in heaven but thee? And there is none upon earth that I desire besides thee. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. —Psalm 73:25-26

WHAT ARE YOUR SUMMER PLANS

Jennifer Dossett and Cassidy Fredrickson took photos and asked this question to several New Life members at the Memorial Day picnic at Presidio Park.



Rebecca Watt: "Learn a lot of things at 'Worldview.'"



Connor Fredrickson: "Football and 'Worldview.'"

Aimee Miladin: "Beach with the Zadoks."



Disa Power: "Beach, family in Pennsylvania, Forest Home, and see friends in Virginia."



Julie Kocher: "Cabin in Montana."



Francesca Nunez: "Work at Sea World and prepare for college."

Allison Dossett: "Refinish and have upholstered an antique chair, sew pillows for the couch, repaint the front door, put in a new threshold, and hike Half Dome."



Pastor Tallman: "Family vacation."



Court Patton: "Help Miles move off campus and 22nd anniversary with Tiff in San Francisco."



Jimmy Dossett: "Work in the library at school, go fishing and camping."



Chris Verdick: "Uganda"

Jonathan Felix: "Beach... 'Nuff said."



Trish Fredrickson: "Football."

Janet Watt: "IBCD conference and cadet leaders' conference music, Palm Springs, and lots of beach days!"

