



GROWING BRANCHES

HERE WE GROW...

At *New Beginnings*, change is a way of life. As a matter of fact, changing lives through Christ is our mission! Matthew 18:3 tells us: *“unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”* What a blessing it is at *New Beginnings* to witness on a daily basis the uninhibited love and trust of little children.

Although our mothers and babies are the focus of our ministry, there is no denying that through our interaction with them as staff members, our lives are changed as well. Each new resident brings her own experiences, perceptions, talents and abilities to the home. The same is true of each new staff member and volunteer. In His Almighty wisdom, God guides us in utilizing our individual gifts to prosper His church here on earth.



Linda Olson

For the past 12 months, God blessed our program richly through the efforts of Linda Olson, our Volunteer Houseparent. Her knowledge and experience as a mother of four served our new mothers and babies well in teaching discipline, patience and love. Her education and background in nursing was essential in helping our new

mothers care for themselves and their babies. Her love of cooking had snack time anticipation at an all-time high and created a new appreciation for ingredients like zucchini and rhubarb! Linda's passion for cleanliness brought new meaning to our Saturday morning apartment checks. Above all, her strong Christian faith was evident during her time at *New Beginnings* and served as a great example for us all.

As Linda heads back to Florida in August, we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for her hard work, God's

Through Change



by Heidi Olson,
Home Manager

blessings on her future endeavors and an open invitation to come back and visit whenever possible. We will look forward to seeing you later, gator!

As Linda's stay comes to an end, we eagerly anticipate more change with the arrival of Mollie Schultz, our new Assistant Home Manager, and Dave and Rosie Bunnaw, our new Volunteer Houseparents. Additional information on our new staff members will be included in our next edition of *Growing Branches*, so please stay tuned! 🌸



Resident Kelsey and her son, Adam

New Beginnings brought me to God and has taught me so much to be the mother, daughter, sister, friend, etc. that I am today. It truly saved my life. :) ♡ Kelsey

HERE WE GROW...

in God's Unconditional Love

Desperate. That is the one word I can use to describe myself when I first came for my interview for New Beginnings. I was desperate for a place to call home, a place with love and even more, I was desperate to better understand God's will for my life. At this point, I didn't know where my life was going or how in the world I would be able to take care of my child. I just knew that I needed help and well... I needed a new beginning in my life.

I didn't know who or where to turn. I wasn't close to my parents and after being pregnant out of wedlock I was an outcast in the community where I had grown up. I felt so abandoned. I felt as though God had even turned His back on me. I felt as though I was no longer His child like I had learned so many times growing up. Of course I still knew who He was, but it was as though I had used up all of my get-out-of-jail-free cards. Done. He was done. All of that changed when I met Heidi and Ms. Linda*.

Always smiling. That's how I can describe those two. Never a bad day and always reminding me that God never leaves my side.

I came to New Beginnings heartbroken and not knowing who to turn to, and now here I am happy as can be. Being here is like being a step away from heaven. Heidi and Linda have been the "godsend" who remind me there really is good in this world and that God has never and will never turn His back on me. Being here I learn every day that God is always with me and as each day passes I learn more about His grace, His mercy and His love.

I am finally happy and ready for my daughter to arrive. I am at home here, and as each day passes I am taking steps to make my life right with my family and to make things right for the time my daughter comes into the world. Most of all though, is that all the desperation is finally gone! I am finally at peace with God, and I know I am His child until the end of time. Never again will I feel as though He has left my side and without this program and every single person involved, I would have never figured it out. I am thankful beyond words for Heidi and Ms. Linda and everyone who has put effort into putting this program together. My life has truly changed because of it.

*Heidi Olson serves as New Beginnings' Home Manager;
Linda Olson serves as the Volunteer House Parent

Hiyaw

Hiyaw at
Optimist Club
Baby Shower



HERE WE GROW...

With Change for Life

We rely on the generosity of caring people like you with the “Change for Life” program. What’s “Change for Life”? It’s an easy church or school project whereby individuals fill coin boxes or bottles with coins, currency or checks to support the vital work at *New Beginnings*!

**So far we have raised
\$11,085.68 in 2012.**

If you would like your congregation to get involved, contact us at caseys@christianliferesources.com or 1-800-729-9535. 🌸

TOTAL DONATIONS

**2012
GOAL:
\$55,000**

\$50,000
\$40,000
\$30,000
\$20,000
\$10,000



“Change for Life” Set-Up from
Grace Lutheran Church in Crivitz, Wisconsin



Concert at Christ Lutheran Church in May, from left to right:
(back row) Marissa, Hannah, Tara & Stephen, Hiyaw, Linda,
Heidi, Stephen, Rebecca (front row) Christy, baby Eliana, Elijah,
Emily, Elisabeth (www.StephenBautistaMusic.com)

• A Second Benediction

by Ellen Kuber

• It wasn't her church; she was just passing
• through town. She had gotten there early –
• Bible Class was still going. She strolled down
• a hallway, absently reading flyers stapled to
• bulletin boards.

• A posted thank-you letter drew her attention.
• Tears suddenly filled her eyes. She hadn't
• expected them. She quickly looked down
• the hall both ways, wiping the tears with her
• fingertips.

• The letter was to this congregation, thanking
• them for their support of a place called *New
• Beginnings – A Home for Mothers...* in
• Colorado! These people had sent money to a
• place half-way across the country for women
• they didn't even know. Those lucky, lucky
• women. She knew the kind of gratitude those
• girls must feel. The thought brought fresh
• tears.

• There had been no *New Beginnings*’ home
• for her. She had acted in fear and panic and
• haste. Her baby was gone before it had barely
• begun. But it had been there. It had been
• her baby. She had been numb for years, and
• when the numbness thawed the pain began.
• Then followed the years of guilt and self-
• punishment. Finally, true repentance; then
• forgiveness: pure, sweet, complete. She
• praised her God for that without fail, every
• single day.

• A door opened; voices drifted into the hall as
• people shuffled out of Bible Class. She walked
• down the hallway ahead of them to find a
• place to sit in church – she preferred the back.

• At the end of the service the pastor gave the
• Benediction, and ushers began dismissing
• people row by row. Ordinarily she didn't pay
• much attention to the process, but today she
• looked at each person as they passed: the
• grandmother with a violet coat, the young
• father holding a toddler, the retired couple, the
• soccer mom with her three kids, the elderly
• man with a cane. They kept coming.

• She watched each one with fascination. “Any
• one of them,” she thought, “could be the one
• who helped those girls in Colorado.”

• “They will never know what they have done.” 🌸



SHOP FAMILY TREASURES AND GIFTS!



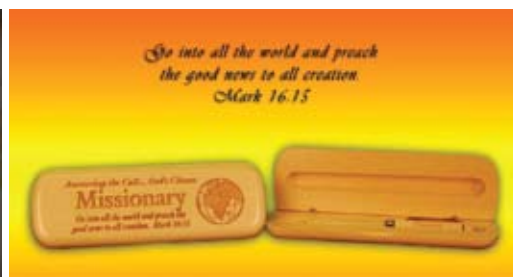
Sale \$19.25 (MSRP \$27.50)

Pastor MasterStone Plaque with Easel Holder - Precision sand-carved ceramic tile plaque includes a black metal hinged easel for display.
Size: 12"W x 6"H



Sale \$11.89 each
(MSRP \$17.00)

Doctor and Fireman Pint-Sized Pro Sculpture - These pint-sized professionals will delight adults and kids alike. Each one captures the handcrafted feel of the artist's original papier maché sculptures.
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Sale \$13.99 each (MSRP \$20.00)

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Size: 12"W x 8"H

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are also available.*



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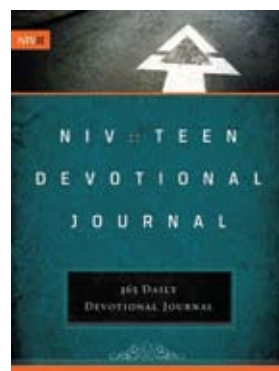
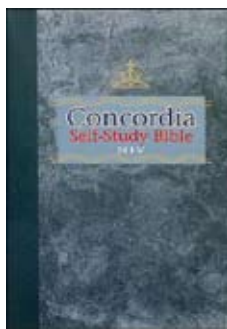
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*NIV84 no longer available
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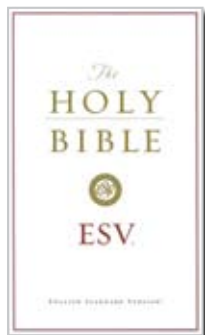
Concordia Self-Study Bible

- Combines the easy-reading of the NIV with Lutheran interpretive notes. The ideal choice for bringing new vitality to Bible study. Hardcover with jacket.

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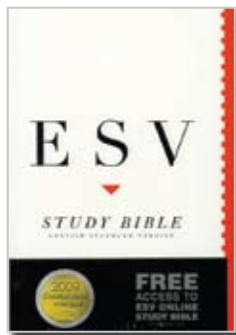
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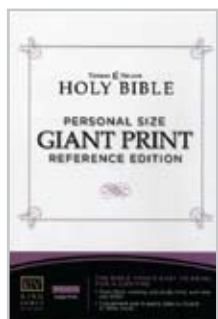
ESV Outreach Bible

The ESV is ideally suited for personal reading, public worship, in-depth study, and Scripture memorization.



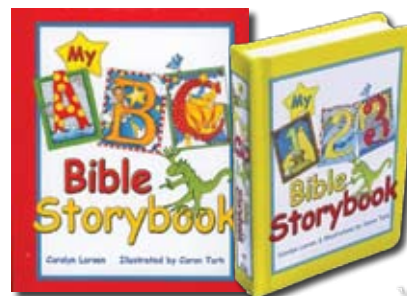
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New Beginnings

A Ministry Sponsored by Christian Life Resources

A Home for Mothers

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You receive *Growing Branches*.

It contains a "Most Needed Items" list.

It includes an envelope for your gift of support.

We seek your support through this periodical.

PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING US WITH
YOUR GIFTS TO NEW BEGINNINGS.

- *New Beginnings - A Home for Mothers* is a Christ-centered home for single mothers and their children. It is affiliated with Christian Life Resources. The home has been serving residents since 1993. It is supported entirely by the generous support and prayers of those who are committed to sharing Christ and reflecting His sacrificial love.

Contact: **Ms. Heidi Olson - Home Manager**
Ms. Mollie Schultz - Assistant Home Manager
Ms. Linda Olson - Volunteer House Parent
Mailing Address: **PO Box 423 • Aurora, CO 80040-0423**
Telephone: **303-364-0890 • 1-800-720-MOMS**
E-mail: **info@homeformothers.com**
Website: **www.HomeforMothers.com**



*A ministry sponsored by
Christian Life Resources*

***New Beginnings* appreciates your prayers to our gracious God on our behalf.**

We also appreciate your gifts. Would you consider helping us out?

Yes, I (we) would like to help *New Beginnings*: ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ other \$ _____

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