



GROWING BRANCHES

HERE WE GROW...

At *New Beginnings*, you'd better not blink or you might miss a milestone achievement of some sort. Whether it's a delivery date, baby's first coo, smile, crawl or step, it all seems to happen unbelievably fast. In fact, we are typically so focused on the first year or two of life that another important milestone might have been missed – the 20th anniversary of the opening of *New Beginnings*! Since October, 20 1993, *New Beginnings* has been helping single mothers with God's Word to grow spiritually, make God-pleasing decisions, be responsible citizens in society and become competent and loving Christian parents. He has "defended the cause of the fatherless" (Deuteronomy 10:18) by providing us with diligent and dedicated staff members, volunteers and donors. He has blessed us with the means to provide our mothers and babies with not only a safe, loving Christian environment, but also with fully furnished apartments and an array of baby necessities. Most importantly, He has utilized *New Beginnings* to spread His Word and share His love with hundreds of mothers and babies who otherwise may not have received those blessings.

From the very first single mother to have moved into our program in 1993 to the mothers currently at *New Beginnings*, we have focused on spiritual, family and personal growth. Earlier this year on April 28th, we witnessed the fruits of our labor as we hosted our first alumni reunion. All of the alumni who were able to attend were excited to return and share their success stories with us – from continued education to successful careers and from getting married to having additional children. The ages of the children of the alumni ranged from 2 to 11 years old. It was truly fulfilling to see what a positive impact *New Beginnings* has made on their lives and how thankful they are to still be a part of such an incredible program!

The festivities continued on Saturday, August 3rd, as we officially celebrated our 20th anniversary in conjunction with our second annual open house and ice cream social

As We Celebrate 20 Years!

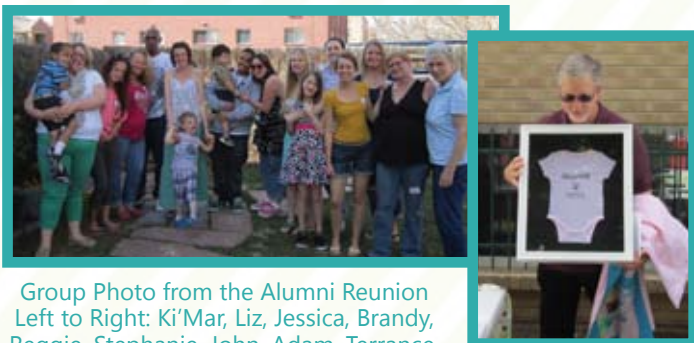


By Heidi Westlund,
Home Manager

event. Our alumni were once again invited to join us along with first-time visitors, local donors and current/previous volunteers and staff members. It was a terrific way to introduce people to our program while simultaneously acknowledging and thanking our donors, volunteers and staff members for their generosity and support. During the event, Craig and Judy (deceased) Schwartz were recognized as the first home managers of *New Beginnings*, and Craig was presented with a token of our appreciation. Pastor Robert Fleischmann, who serves as the National Director of Christian Life Resources, was also recognized as the founder of *New Beginnings*. He was presented with an embroidered, commemorative 20th anniversary "onesie" which we felt was both appropriate and well deserved after two decades of passionate dedication to our program. Overall, it was a remarkable gathering of mothers, children and loving Christians who care enough to help make a difference in the lives of others.

New Beginnings has been a Christian-based safe haven for single mothers and their babies for 20 years, and Lord willing, it will be around for another 20 years. On behalf of everyone at *New Beginnings*, we would like to thank all of our donors, volunteers and staff members for their unwavering support, prayers and love.

"I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25:40). 🌸



Group Photo from the Alumni Reunion
Left to Right: Ki'Mar, Liz, Jessica, Brandy, Reggie, Stephanie, John, Adam, Terrance, Kelsey, Jennifer, Sarah, Ethan, Jay, Mollie, Heidi, Judy, Phyllis

Pastor Fleischmann
with his "onesie"

HERE WE GROW...

With Enthusiastic Volunteers

By Becky Siems, Volunteer House Parent

Hi, we are Becky and Gary from southeastern Minnesota. We are excited to spend time as Volunteer House Parents assisting the staff and residents of *New Beginnings*. We attend Trinity Lutheran Church Lincoln in Lake City, Minnesota. Our two adult daughters have professional careers: one in apparel design and the other in the state legislature.

My husband Gary has a degree in Agriculture Economics from River Falls, Wisconsin. He chose to apply his degree in the operation of a family farm corporation. Several years ago he retired from that business and now works with his brother's lime and rock crushing business. He does trucking and operates heavy equipment. He has been active on the Lincoln Church Council, local school board, Pork Producer Board and Wabasha County Extension Board.



Gary Roberson and Becky Siems

I (Becky) have degrees in Family Consumer Science and School Guidance and Counseling. I have 36 years of classroom teaching experience in Minnesota and Hangzhou, China. I enjoy working with young people and have taught classes in parenting, child development, careers, family finance, family relations, food/nutrition, clothing and textiles, conversational English and American culture. Since retiring from teaching, I still substitute teach and enjoy working at a quilt shop. With my more flexible schedule, I have the opportunity to do more creative projects.

While teaching in China, Gary and I unexpectedly met up with the daughter of one of our former pastors. She was doing work for Kingdom Workers. We renewed our acquaintance and attended church at her apartment. It was amazing to see the excitement and dedication of this group of young people as they worked to share the Word of God with Chinese college students. Upon returning home from China we were asked to speak at our church about teaching and living in China. On the Sunday of our presentation, a man from Kingdom Workers and a WELS teacher also gave presentations. Their presentations led us to explore the Kingdom Workers' website where we discovered *New Beginnings*. We both felt we had the skills that could be useful to the program so we decided to apply for the opportunity. We are looking forward to this new adventure. 🌸

20 Years of Countless Blessings

In 1992, when I was interviewed by a newspaper reporter, she insinuated that we talk women out of abortions but do nothing to help them. I knew she was wrong, but I knew more could be done.

Later that day a counselor called to tell me a client who decided not to abort her baby after visiting one of our pregnancy resource centers had entered the hospital. Her boyfriend became enraged that she would not abort and he beat her, killing her baby.

In concept *New Beginnings* was born that day, although it took over a year to open the doors. We wanted to provide a mother an escape from her cycle of bad influences. We wanted to give her a "new beginning."

New Beginnings continues today as a ministry of love to help single mothers live with having made the right decision to spare her child's life. It is a frontline ministry in which we take on a single mother's plight and stand with her in this residential-based program.

In baby steps this unique ministry has altered the life-path of many mothers and babies as Christ becomes the centerpiece of each new family. We and all who have supported *New Beginnings* have touched countless lives in 20 years.

Written by Pastor Robert Fleischmann, the National Director of Christian Life Resources and the founder of New Beginnings - A Home for Mothers. It is by God's grace through donors that this ministry continues. 🌸

Target Baby Registry - Shopping Simplified!

Donating items from our wish list has never been simpler! Just visit our new baby registry at www.target.com – "Baby Registry" and type in First Name: **New** and Last Name: **Beginnings** to see an updated list of current items needed at *New Beginnings*.

Several of the items can be purchased online and shipped directly to us. Be sure to use your Target REDcard for free shipping too! Other items, such as cleaning supplies, are only available for purchase in the store. For some items, specific colors or brands are not necessary. For example, Angel Soft toilet tissue is listed, but any toilet tissue will do. Please remember to keep everything baby-safe and family friendly!

HERE WE GROW...

As Children of God



By Mollie Schultz,
Assistant Home Manager

As Christians, we are blessed to know that we are God's children, but we rarely take the time to reflect on how we were adopted. At *New Beginnings*, we often are given the opportunity to witness precious infants being welcomed into the family of God! We watch reverently as tiny, helpless babies dressed in white are forgiven of their sins as they are sprinkled with water in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. They are then placed gently back into the cradling arms of their earthly family. For those watching this beautiful sacrament, it is both a time of joy for our new sister or brother in Christ and a time to remember how we were once as helpless and sinful as an infant. But no longer! Titus 3:5-7 tells us, *"He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life."* Our Savior has washed us clean and given us his inheritance! What a cause for celebration here at *New Beginnings* and all over the world! 🌸



Left to Right: Cheyenne, Heidi, Judy & Darian, Mollie, Olivia, Lorena & Gabriel



Left to Right: Kelsey, Linda, Pastor Voss, Hiyaw & Hebrew, Heidi, Tara & Stephen

NEW BEGINNINGS GROWTH CHART

*My, How They
Have Grown...*



- | Class of... | |
|-------------|--|
| 2002 | Jennifer is married with 2 children and has her own at home business. Her daughter Sarah is now 11 years old and doing great in school! |
| 2007 | Rachel is married with 3 children and living in Tennessee. |
| 2009 | Brandy was married in April and her son Ki' Mar is growing like a weed. |
| 2011 | Maggie is going to college and her daughter Daisy Blue is already two and a half. |
| 2011 | Kelsey was recently promoted to a Loan Officer at a local credit union and has been in a healthy relationship for almost a year. Her son Adam will be three in December!!! |
| 2012 | Scearrah and her son Rhyan moved to Florida and Scearrah is busy going to college and working part-time. |
| 2012 | Hiyaw is working full-time and taking CNA classes. She and her daughter Hebrew are doing well. |
| 2013 | Erica is engaged and has moved back to Kentucky to be close to her family. |
| 2013 | Prinshel is working for the local school system and her daughter Ja' Merra just turned one. |
| 2013 | Tara married in July so she and her son Stephen are happily adjusting to married life. |
| 2013 | Mia is working full-time and she and her daughter Ariel are living in their own townhome. |
| 2013 | Judy recently married and she and her son Darian moved to Fort Collins. |



SHOP FAMILY TREASURES & GIFTS!

A GREAT WAY TO SUPPORT NEW BEGINNINGS



TUMBLER & PLACEMAT GIFT SET

A. Butterfly

B. Bug

Double wall-designed tumbler keeps drinks hot or cold. Coordinating travel lid with easy-slide opening. BPA-free. 16 oz. Durable ribbed placemat is 18" x 13".

Retail \$12.99 **FTG Sale \$8.49 each**



BOOKENDS

A. Butterfly

B. Bug

Bright-colored wood bookends with paper facing feature a whimsical design, inspirational sentiment and Scripture. 5.5" x 7" x 3.5". With felt "feet" to protect surfaces. *Books not included.*

Retail \$25.00 **FTG Sale \$18.79 each**



Ultrasound Photo Frame

Adorable ceramic green unisex frame for placing that special ultrasound picture. Frame measures 5" x 6" overall, and holds a 4.125" x 3.25" ultrasound image. Frame reads "Our little angel"; heart charm on bow reads "Love." Easel back.

Retail \$14.99 **FTG Sale \$10.50**



KID'S T-SHIRTS

A. God Made Me Cute

B. Sweet Jesus

Adorable witness t-shirts allow kids to share their faith with their friends in an open way. Encouraging to the wearer, and a witness to those (of all ages) around them! Sizes: 3T, 4T, 5T, Small

Retail \$13.99 **FTG Sale \$9.99 each**

Christmas Catalog SALE!

View all sale-priced items at **www.FAMILYTG.COM**

Sale prices good through Dec. 31

FREE SHIPPING
with purchases over \$50



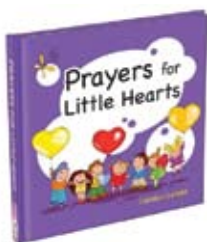
KID'S T-SHIRTS

A. Don't be Angry be Happy

B. John 3:16

Kids have an enthusiasm that allows them to share with their friends in an open way. Designed to be both an encouragement to the wearer, and a witness to those (of all ages) around them! Sizes: 3T, 4T, 5T

Retail \$13.99 **FTG Sale \$9.99 each**



Prayers for Little Hearts

In simple, rhyming language that little ones will love, Carolyn Larsen introduces toddlers to prayer. PRAYERS FOR LITTLE HEARTS thanks God for friends, family and playtime; as well as butterflies, bunnies and birds, among many others. Jam-packed with basic prayers, this charming book is a wonderful way for parents to teach little ones how to start or end their day.

Retail \$4.99 **FTG Sale \$3.79**



Prayers for...

A. Little Girls

B. Little Boys

This cute book with precious prayers and charming illustrations will teach kids to thank God for all He has made. The prayers will make them realize that they can talk to God about anything. Parents and kids will love finding the adorable animal in each picture. Ages 3-6, 132 pages.

Retail \$9.99 **FTG Sale \$7.49 each**



CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BOOKS

A. The Story of Christmas

B. Jesus is Born!

These activity books are perfect for keeping little hands busy and little hearts focused on Jesus during the Christmas holidays! Great gift for children, grandchildren, or children's Sunday School classes. 16 pages of fun activities and 4 pages of stickers.

Retail \$2.99 **FTG Sale \$2.29**



ADVENT CALENDARS

- A. Christ the Savior is Born**
- B. Jesus in Manger**
- C. Born this Day!**
- D. Kid's Stable**

Cute paper advent calendar with 24 numbered flaps concealing a biblical scene. Size: 7.5" x 10"
 Retail \$1.59 **FTG Sale \$1.00**



A. Nativity Magnet Set

8-piece magnetic nativity scene.
 Retail \$2.00 **FTG Sale \$1.49**

B. Nativity Sticker Set

Set of 28 stickers.
 Retail \$2.00 **FTG Sale \$1.39**



Baby's First Christmas Ornament

This adorable ornament is designed as a picture frame to capture and keep your little one's first Christmas! The top reads "A child is God's best idea." On the bottom is a long banner saying "Baby's First Christmas" with a white lamb standing at each end. Holds a 1.875" x 1.5" photo.
 Retail \$4.00 **FTG Sale \$2.99**



Veggie Tales Nativity Playset

This precious toy set has beloved Veggie characters depicting the Nativity scene. Fun and durable and is sure to become a favorite part of the family traditions in teaching children the story of Christ's birth! The star lights up and sings *Away in a Manger*. Age 3 and up.
 Retail \$29.99 **FTG Sale \$22.99**



Veggie Tales Seek & Match Game

Help Bob, Larry, Junior and Jimmy find their stuff! Remember where the 4 items for each character are on the game board. The first player to collect all 4 of their items and return to the center of the board, WINS! Ages 4+, 2-4 players.
 Retail \$16.99 **FTG Sale \$10.99**



Veggie Tales Checkers

The classic game kids love to play is now part of Veggie Tales! Bob and Larry make this a must have for your Veggie Tales collection. Ages 3+, 2 players.
 Retail \$16.99 **FTG Sale \$10.99**

SHIPPING ALWAYS \$7.00 PER ORDER • LIMITED QUANTITIES AVAILABLE • WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

The written materials sold at Family Treasures & Gifts are written or translated by imperfect human beings. Despite their popularity in the Christian market, these items are written by human authors and all likely contain errors. We encourage buyers to adopt the heart of a Berean (Acts 17:11) and search the Scriptures to compare what is read with the inerrant truth of God's Word.

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New Beginnings appreciates your prayers to our gracious God on our behalf. We also appreciate your gifts.

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Where to find the Card ID #: For MC/Visa/Discover: 3-digit code on back; AMEX: 4-digit code on front.

*Required

- Please contact me about having my gifts enhanced through Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.
- Please contact me about remembering *New Beginnings* in my will or estate plan.
- I want to support this ministry on a regular basis. Send me information on becoming a Clearly Caring Sponsor.
- I do not require an acknowledgment of this gift.
- I want an email acknowledgment of this gift: _____ I want a letter acknowledgment of this gift.



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PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING US WITH YOUR GIFTS TO NEW BEGINNINGS.

*If you would like to help save costs & receive *Growing Branches* via email, please send your email address to info@homeformothers.com

New Beginnings - A Home for Mothers is a Christ-centered ministry for single mothers and their children operated by 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: **Mrs. Heidi Westlund - Home Manager**
Ms. Mollie Schultz - Assistant Home Manager
Ms. Cheyenne Linde - Volunteer Resident Assistant
Mr. Gary Roberson & Mrs. Becky Siems - Volunteer House Parents
- 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

MOST NEEDED ITEMS

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For a complete list, go to: www.HomeforMothers.com

When mailing items, please send directly to New Beginnings.

Christian Life Resources provides all fundraising, staffing and administrative services for *New Beginnings*.