

Promise UPDATE



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A Walk Through the Door of Opportunity



Through *Children of Promise International* you have a *door of opportunity* through which you can affect the lives of orphans, widows, and destitute children.

Many of you have walked through the door as a sponsor of a child or worker, supporter of our world operations or a missionary, or a short-term mission team member. There are numerous opportunities in *Children of Promise* to give and serve. In this issue we will be knocking on some doors of those who have given of time and money to see what sparked their interest in giving and serving.

Individuals sponsoring children and workers...

Sponsor, Gregory Crow of Missouri was introduced to Tim and Dena Stromstad, *Children of Promise* missionaries and directors of a children's home in Costa Rica. His heart was touched by what they were doing and he decided to sponsor a 6-year-old child in Venezuela (now 17). Three years ago Gregory wanted to sponsor a child where he could go visit and personally meet him. Last June he made that visit to the *Children of Promise* partnership home, *La Vid*, and now he has involved his church. Gregory never visits without the church gathering up supplies for the home. When talking about the *La*



Vid home, Gregory says, "there are no words to describe

what it is like to hear a large group of all ages children pray together and sing praise to the Lord FOUR times a day (each meal and evening devotional)! There are children from all situations learning about God and his son Jesus Christ, giving them hope for a brighter future. That is why I visit as much as possible to help provide above my sponsor amount."

Sponsor, Marjorie Ersland of Oklahoma married into *Children of Promise*. Her late husband, Ed, met our founder

Linn Hartz and caught the vision through his stories about children in great need. He was sponsoring before they married and Marjorie's heart was toward children as well. In her 80's, Marjorie continues to use her Social Security check to help support children, workers, and special projects. Marjorie

is thrilled how the ministry is expanding more and more.

Sponsors generating sponsors and more...

Terry and Valerie Goldade of North Dakota have been involved with the mission since 1987. Terry has been to the homes in Haiti three times, with their son joining him on his last trip in 2000. Dur-



Gregory and his sponsored child

GETTING INVOLVED

Share the joy of sponsorship with your family, friends, co-workers and church. For more information call Kathie at 888. 6 ORPHAN or email sponsor@promise.org

ing that trip they found themselves confined to the compound because of the volatile state of affairs in Haiti. This trip greatly impacted their son (age 13 at the time). He was amazed that you didn't need to know the same language to play with the kids and enjoy the interaction with one another. It was here that his heart for missions was birthed.

Although she has never been to the field, Valerie caught the vision of helping the children by finding more sponsors for them. They had been sponsoring a child from Haiti for many years, and she knew others needed sponsors too. She has blessed 10 children by finding sponsors for them.

The Goldade's also were instrumental in raising funds through their church and friends so the children in Haiti would have Christmas gifts. Those involved were invited to a special dinner at which Wilson Cohoon, *Children of Promise* Board Member and Caribbean Director, shared about *Children of Promise* and the work in Haiti.

Also through the Goldade's another church member has developed a desire to help. That member has been to our Moldova partnership home, *Bethany Christian Center*, and is excited about what she can do to do more.

Supporting missionaries and greatest needs of the mission...

Doris Kramer, missionary to Hong Kong, is very thankful for all of her donors who make it possible for her to remain on the field. Doris teaches and has over 90 students. She uses her teaching as an opportunity to share Jesus.

"Jesus can be worked into any topic," she says. By the time the classes are fin-



Doris with three members of her Sunday evening class.

ished, the class members have become like a family unit, so they still have each other, along with the Gospel message.

One of her donors, Sylvia Sayre, has known Doris since 1979 when Doris and her late husband, Henry, went to Manila as missionary teachers for the children of the mission team the Sayre's were on. She recognized Doris and Henry's deep love for the Lord Jesus Christ. After Henry's death, according to Sylvia, Doris knew the Lord was calling her to continue in missions. Sylvia shares that, "because of her love for Jesus and commitment to Matthew 28:18-20, 'To go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit,' we committed ourselves to support and pray for Doris and will continue as long as the Lord gives us that opportunity."

Steve B. from Texas personally met and fellowshiped with Roger Lai, missionary to Hong Kong, when he came to Steve's church and shared about his work. Steve began providing support for his work in 1988. When Steve's church closed, he felt impressed to send an additional monthly donation to help meet the greatest needs of the Children of Promise mission work.

Churches and businesses making a difference...

Churches of all denominations are sponsoring children, and supporting the mission in many ways.

Since 2000, *Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church* in Montana have two of their church groups each sponsoring a child. The church Sunday school made an extra effort to make their child feel special by making a

quilt. This past summer the church Vacation Bible School children



collected funds to send to Africa. *Children of Promise* partner home, *Cradle of Children's Hope—Kenya*, was the recipient. Because of that gift they now have beds in which to sleep.

Businesses and corporations get involved as well. One of the owners of a major corporation in Chicago has sponsored 30 children in India for several years. He and his wife have a heart for children. Unable to have their own, through their corporation they are making an impact on the lives of orphaned and destitute children.

Another businessman gives toward a nutrition program and other special needs and recently offered his services to work on and host our website. We have experienced a lot of setbacks on our website and look forward to his expertise at getting it up and going.

There is a *door of opportunity* at *Children of Promise* you can share with others. If you would like to tell others how they can make a difference in lives of orphans, widows, destitute children and others who do not know Jesus Christ, and would like brochures or sponsorship booklets, call us at 888.6 ORPHAN (888.667.7426). Your help will be a great blessing!