Katelyn's Fund orphan ministry, inc.

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Fall 2016 Newsletter

Learn to do what is right! Seek justice, encourage the oppressed, defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow and the orphan. Isaiah 1:17

See page 4 for more details!

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Come Together

By Sheila De Jong, Katelyn's Fund Founder and President of the Board

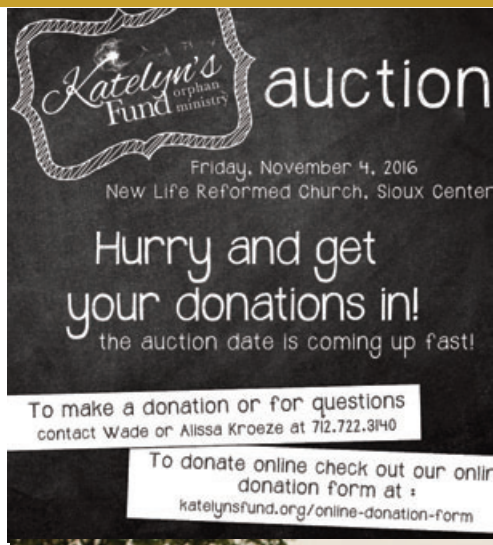
Sometimes I sit back and think, "how, Father". How, Father did you provide for all that you have given? We are simply in awe. How, Father are we going to continue meeting the needs before us? They seem too many. How, Father do we continue to seek justice, love mercy, and to walk humbly with You? Our heart's desire is to follow. How, Father do we express our gratitude for the fellowship we have with You and the joy we get to experience seeking and serving, doing Your work, and following Your heart. In all of this, it seems you are settling us with the idea that we need to come together.

We come together with you. In Ephesians 3:13, You invite us to come fearlessly into your presence, to know Your heart, and to be strengthened. You invite us in Ps. 27 to come into fellowship with You. When we call and want to talk with You, You welcome us. Jeremiah 33:3 tells us that You say we can call on You and You will answer us with great and unsearchable things.

We come together in the Church. You are stirring, working, and calling us to action, for Your church to work together, many times each bringing what gift or portion that each has. It is so humbling to see what each brings. You know the needs, You know the gift, You know the provision, You know and say, come together.

Thank you, Father, that You welcome us, You say, Come, You say, follow Me, You say, we are together, that we will never be alone, we are not displaced. Thank You, Holy One, that You invite us to come together in You.

Thank you friends for your support of these precious ones who are not able to speak for themselves, that we can literally all come together to seek justice, love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God. (Micah 6:8)



Mission Statement

Speaking boldly for the fatherless. Advocating that all children, regardless of circumstance, race, or origin, are children of God, and deserve physical and spiritual restoration, implemented by the body of Christ, in obedience to the commands of the Father

Katelyn's Fund Board Members:
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Lindsey Kuipers
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Patt De Jong
Veronica Postma
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Lacey Hubers
Toni Swanson
Jenny Sinkgraven
Celete Osmanson

Events:

Katelyn's Fund Auction
November 4

Orphan Sunday
November 20

See Support Schedules on page 7

Honorary Donations

In loving memory of Art Krampe
by his family

Donations to the ministry can be mailed to:

Katelyn's Fund
Orphan Ministry
1327 Third Ave. SE
Sioux Center, IA 51250

All donations are tax deductible. If you would like to make an honorary donation, please indicate the child/family in honor or in memory of.

A blessed kind of Corny!!

As Katelyn's Fund we have been so blessed again this year by the Van Roekel family! For the last four years they have been raising and selling sweet corn along highway 75 in Sioux Center in support of adoption – and for good reasons as Mike Van Roekel explains:

"Adoption has been a part of our family for years. My sister has adopted both of her children. My niece has adopted all three of her children. My nephew has adopted one of their children. My daughter has adopted her child. Family gatherings and Holidays are a mixture that makes one large family for all. Adoption not only helps makes a home for a child, but makes a family a whole!"

This year's "sweet corn for Katelyn's Fund" crew consisted of Mike and Judy Van Roekel, Joshua, Aspen, and Tristan Van Roekel, Larry Van Roekel, and Chris DeSmit.

Mike also wants to thank Mark Kinrade at Fareway for donating new bags for the corn. He also thanks the raccoons for learning that the fence means STAY OUT!

Once again, thank you friends for your long hours of labor and gift of loving support for the orphan and ministry of Katelyn's Fund.

Adoptive Child Poem

by Sherrie Eldrige

If I live with secrecy,
I will learn to obsess about the unknown.

If I live with denial of adoption's complex emotions,
I will learn to suffer silently.

If I am not told about my birth and birth family,
I will learn that my parents believe something is inherently wrong with me.

If I live with parents who have unresolved grief and loss,
I will learn that they are disappointed in me and I must take care of them.

If I live with parents who are not concerned about my missing history,
I will learn that my past and beginnings are not important.

If I live with parents who are not comfortable about the subject of adoption,
I will learn to shut down my emotions and become defensive when asked if it's an issue.

If I live with parents who don't provide a spiritual foundation,
I'll learn that my life was a mistake.

If I live with parents who acknowledge that losing my birth family was traumatic,
I will learn that my parents understand and are there for me.

If I live with parents who celebrate my differences in identity,
I will learn that "different" is not bad, and eventually can be fun.

If I live with parents who live from their strengths and passion,
I'll learn that there's a special plan for my life.

If I live with the knowledge that I was created for a purpose,
I will learn to look beyond my broken life narrative to see the big picture of life.

Katelyn's Fund orphan ministry

invites you to our annual

auction

Friday, November 4, 2016

Doors Open: 5:30pm

New Life Reformed Church, Sioux Center

Meal Served: 5:30-6:30pm • Auction Begins: 6:30pm

childcare & activities provided

Money raised at this auction will be used to fund grants to help bring children into loving, Christian homes. Money raised wil also assist with our partnering orphanage in Haiti. Your donations - and your attendance at this event - can make a real difference in their lives!

To make a donation or for questions
contact Wade or Alissa Kroeze at 712.722.3140

To donate online check out our online donation form at :
katelynsfund.org/online-donation-form

No gift is too large or small!
Food, merchandise & services of all kinds are welcomed!

Katelyn's Fund orphan ministry

Orphan Sunday 2016

Sunday, Nov. 20, 9:30am
First Reformed Church, Sioux Center, IA

A good shepherd is never far from his sheep. He provides and protects, guides and guards, leads them to safe places and steady waters. As He has done it before, He will do it again...

Join us in celebration and worship as we gather together, lift each other up in the world of orphan care, and hear of stories of His faithfulness through the testimonies from Diana Prykhodko and Tara Quinn.

Diana was born in the Ukraine, where her journey of trial, of trauma, and of tribulation began, but like a good shepherd, the Lord was faithful. Her mother, Tara, will also share how the Father prompted her to walk in obedience to Him, and the impact Diana's story has had on both of their lives.

Our God is Mighty to Save. He is living among us, He is a Mighty Warrior. In His love, He calms all our fears, He rejoices over us with singing. Zephaniah 3:17

Learn to do what is right! Seek justice, encourage the oppressed, defend the

The Carlson Family

Michael and Signe
Children: Esther (21 months), Daniel (21 days - in process of adopting)

Church: Chrio Communities, Mesa, AZ

We always knew we wanted to be parents. The blessing and sacred responsibility of raising children was something that excited us long before we met. So when we began to struggle with infertility early in our marriage, it was a painful burden. But God has a way of taking what's broken and making it beautiful. A deep excitement for adoption began to grow in our hearts, so after a lot of paperwork, many meetings, much fundraising, and even more praying, we took our first child – a beautiful, healthy, baby girl – home from the hospital. Esther continues to this day to be an endless source of joy and gratitude. But even as we were in the midst of our first adoption, we knew we had the desire to adopt again. So earlier this year we began the process a second time. Since we had just been through it, we knew how difficult and uncertain fundraising can be. Would we be able to raise the needed funds again? What if we came up short? Despite the anxiety these questions caused, we decided together that we would trust God to provide what we needed. We knew that God's always been a big fan of adoption. Plus, he had provided everything we needed the first time. We had every reason to trust that he would provide again. And he did, beyond what we could've asked. The support we received through Katelyn's Fund was such clear evidence of God's grace and helped us take our second child – Daniel, a healthy, baby boy – home from the hospital in September. These days we find ourselves overjoyed, under-rested, and filled with gratitude for God's abundant provision. Thank you Katelyn's Fund for playing such an important role in our journey!

The Cloran Family

Kevin and Cherad
Children: Rachel (3), Natalie (5), Avery (7), and Audrey (9,)
Joey (2, just adopted from China)

Church: Bedrock Community Church, Bedford, Virginia

Our decision to adopt began before we even got married, over 13 years ago! We met in college and dated for 3.5 years before getting married in 2003. Before marriage, we quickly realized we shared a desire to adopt a child one day. Cherad's love for adoption began on a mission trip to India in 1998. While in college, Cherad worked in the Light Ministries mission's office. Each year, a team traveled to India for "Christmas With An Orphan". There were about 300 children in the orphanage at the time. During her time there, Cherad's heart broke for the great number of children growing up without the love of a family and she knew she wanted to adopt a child one day. Kevin has worked with kids in crisis for more than 15 years. Often, these kids spend years in foster care or group homes. Furthermore, Kevin's grandfather lived in an orphanage in Philadelphia, PA from 9 years old until he transitioned at 18 years old. Together, we spent time in Cambodia working at an orphanage in the summers of 2005 and 2006. We are still in contact with many of those kids and they have had a tremendous impact on both our lives and in

Continued on next page

our children's lives. Many of them have spent time in our home with us and our children have been able to get to know them. Adoption is definitely a huge step of faith! We are thankful for the many ways God has provided for us throughout the process. The grant we received through Katelyn's Fund was tremendously helpful as we were in the final stages of our adoption with many expenses due. This grant was yet another way that God provided for us right when we needed it!

The McHugh Family

Dan and Angela
Children: Joshua (12 yrs), Nathan (10 yrs)

Church: Protestant Church of Oman

Our heart for adoption began with mission trips to orphanages in South America and Egypt 20 years ago. We worked as children's pastors for many years, as well as foster parents. When we moved overseas, we found it difficult to adopt. However, the Lord continued to put this desire into our hearts to bring orphans into our family. Adoption, to the people of the country we live in, is a shocking truth of our God's unconditional love for all of us. It astounds them and shows that He is a God of grace. With that said, we are very excited to adopt a girl from an orphanage in the Republic of Georgia. We are currently waiting for a referral, and will be so blessed to bring her into our family! We were very blessed to skype with board members from Katelyn's fund, and their prayers for our family were a great encouragement. It is a blessing to not only have the financial support we need, but also prayer support in this adoption journey. Our daughter's testimony will touch many. We are deeply grateful for Katelyn's Fund and want to say a sincere Thank you to those who have made it possible! May God richly bless you and your families.

The Reynolds Family

Robert and Amy
Children: Kellen (5), Caleb (5), Norah (3) and Owen (3)

Church: Sojourn Church, Boise, Idaho

We officially started our second adoption journey in June 2015 after much prayer and discussion. Our oldest son was adopted domestically as a newborn. We did not feel financially "ready" to adopt again at all, but we definitely felt that God was leading us to start the process, and that He would provide a way. We had a lot of support from friends and family, but the cost was still overwhelming at times. But God proved faithful, as always, and we were able to travel just a year later, in June 2016, to bring home our sweet son from China. The grant we received from Katelyn's Fund was such a blessing! It was a relief to have some of the financial burden lifted so we could focus more on our family and meeting Owen's immediate medical needs when we arrived home. Owen is a happy, sweet, active little guy, and he fits right into our family. We celebrated his 3rd birthday just a few days after coming home. We are still all adjusting to our new normal, but we will never regret saying "Yes" to God's call to care for orphans, and to Owen in particular. He is a joy and a light in our lives! Thank you, Katelyn's Fund, for helping us to bring him home!

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Help Support Katelyn's Fund orphan ministry

❒ YES! I want to join Katelyn's Fund in support of the orphan and those who cannot speak for themselves.

Enclosed is my gift in the amount of $_____

Name _____

Address _____

City_____ State_____ Zip _____

Please send your tax-deducatable gift to:
Katelyn's Fund Orphan Ministry
1327 Third Ave SE
Sioux Center, IA 51250

SUPPORT MEETINGS SCHEDULES
Sioux Center and Sioux Falls