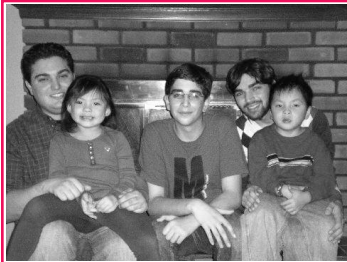




# FAMILY ALBUM

A Quarterly Publication of Nightlight Christian Adoptions

Fall 2008

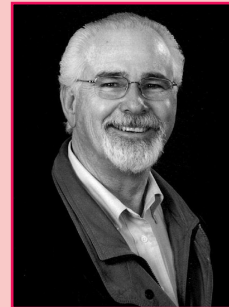


Above: Amy & Chris with their new brothers!

## NEW ARRIVALS FROM OVERSEAS

**FROM CHINA, KYRGYZSTAN, TAIWAN AND RUSSIA, WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE ARRIVAL OF...**

**Jia** to parents Timothy and Cheryl Byrnes of VA • **Owen** to parents John and Elizabeth Hornbuckle of FL • **Brianna** to parent Nancy Way of CA • **Lily** to parents Jim and Debbie Eriksen of CA • **Amy and Chris** to parents Kenny and Stacy Brickel of NY • **Olivia** to parents Ronald and Sheryl Monroe of FL.



## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

When Nightlight Christian Adoptions was formed in the Spring of 1959 (as Evangelical Welfare Agency), the goal of the agency was to meet the needs of birthmothers, children and adopting families. Although much has changed in the past 49 years, the need for our ministry in adoption and orphan care has not.

Our nation has gone through many trials and our agency has experienced similar ups and downs over the years. But throughout this time we have had the assurance of knowing that God is Sovereign. As our economy struggles and as many of our friends and neighbors deal with the loss of jobs, loss of financial security and other crises within families, we are reminded where we should put our trust.

In 1873, Horatio Spafford wrote the words to a well known hymn. Like Job, Spafford had suffered terrible losses, including being ruined financially in the Chicago fire of 1871, and losing his four daughters in a shipwreck. The words he penned are still true today:

*When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,  
When sorrows like sea billows roll;  
Whatever my lot, Thou has taught me to say,  
It is well, it is well, with my soul.*

## SNOWFLAKE ARRIVALS

By Megan Corcoran

**Autumn arrived and so did nine new babies!**

In August, **Adam Charles** was born to Jim & Brenda. In September, **Josephine Marie** was born to Curt & Ashley, **Caleb Edward** was born to Jimmy & Carrie, and **Audrey Claire & Emily Grace** were born to Charlie & Kala. In October, **Emalyn Grace** was born to Chris & Brittany, **Eleanor Abigail** was born to David & Elizabeth, and **Zeb Bryant & Zane Darric** were born to Troy & Kristy. Congratulations to all the new families!

To the men and women who chose to give life to their unborn embryos, your choices gave these couples the opportunity to experience the unconditional love of parenting. You are their heroes. Thank you.



Above: Emalyn Grace



Above: Oliver Eric with his mom & dad!

## NEW DOMESTIC ARRIVALS

**We also welcome home the following babies who were adopted through our Domestic Adoption program and were delivered into the waiting arms of their proud parents.**

CHILD	DATE OF BIRTH	PROUD PARENTS
Dominic Stephen	March 24, 2008	John and Jeanne Benes
Oliver Eric	July 9, 2008	Eric and Stacy Reynolds
Matthew Noah	February 17, 2008	Dana and Jessica Ridgway

We have many challenges facing us as individuals and as an agency. I am thankful that my retirement plan is not a 401(k) but a 3:16(John). As the holiday season approaches I am thankful for our staff and many friends and clients who put our ministry near the top of their prayer and support list. We look forward with great anticipation to the many cards and photos we receive at Christmas time. They are wonderful reminders of the impact Nightlight is making in the lives of children and families.

*Ron Stoddart*  
Ron Stoddart



## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

We are making some changes in the way we communicate with all of you in an effort to control our expenses. As you have noticed, this is a much shorter newsletter. We want to give you the highlights in the mailed version and then follow up with an e-newsletter within the week. Please watch for it! Nightlight News will be in the subject line. If you haven't received it within a week, please contact us to be sure we have your current email address.

The e-newsletter will have important information about upcoming events, articles and helpful hints. You will be able to link directly to our web site for more information and to register for classes and events.

We would greatly appreciate your support and ask that you call or email to provide your best email addresses—multiple addresses will enable the whole family to receive the newsletter directly.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please pass them along, Kathryn@Nightlight.org. We appreciate your understanding.

## A SPECIAL BOOK – NIGHTLIGHT MEMORIES

Would your family like to be part of a very special book? We are compiling a book that will capture the essence of adoption, with photos of the special children who have come into your families through adoptions with Nightlight Christian Adoptions. Two of our client moms, Stacy Richards and Courtney Atnip will be working on compiling this very unique book. We would love to have photos of your child when you first saw them as well as a recent photo. Family photos and a little description are welcome as well. At a minimum we would like before and current photos, first name of the child or children, and the program(s) they were adopted through.

When you have your photos and the text you would like to share, please email them by January 16 2009 to nightlightmemories@gmail.com. Stacy and Courtney will compile the book, which will be one of the highlights of our 50th Anniversary Gala.

If you have any questions, you may address them to the above email address or you may contact Kathryn Deiters (Kathryn@nightlight.org).

## FAMILY ALBUM STAFF

### Ronald L. Stoddart

Executive Director  
Email Ron@Nightlight.org

### Kathryn Deiters

Editor of the Family Album  
Director of Marketing  
Email: Kathryn@Nightlight.org

### Rhonda Jarema

Director of Family Support Services  
Email: Rhonda@Nightlight.org

### Victory Allan

Director of Social Work  
Email: Victory@Nightlight.org

## Nightlight Christian Adoptions

801 East Chapman Avenue, Suite 106  
Fullerton, California 92831

P: 714.278.1020  
F: 714.278.1063  
E: info@nightlight.org

www.nightlight.org

## CLASSES, SEMINARS, AND SUPPORT GROUPS

Nightlight offers the following classes in our offices. If you would like further information on any of these classes, please call us at (714) 278-1020. Pre-registration is required for all of the classes.

### SUPPORT PROGRAMS

There are two ongoing support groups: Moms of Internationally Adopted Preschoolers and Moms of School-aged Internationally Adopted Children. If you are interested in participating, please contact Rhonda Jarema, Rhonda@Nightlight.org, for more information.

### EMAIL SUPPORT GROUPS

**Snowflakes:** If any of you would like to be added to the Snowflake Adopting Parent or Genetic Parent Yahoo groups, please contact Megan Corcoran at Megan@Nightlight.org. The Snowflake families are great about sharing information they learn with others in the group. We would be happy to add you.

**Taiwan:** Families adopting from Taiwan may join our Yahoo group for this country, which provides a wonderful way to meet other families adopting from Taiwan. Please contact Kathryn Deiters at Kathryn@Nightlight.org to be added to this group.

### ADOPTION SEMINARS

These are informational seminars on Domestic, International, and Embryo adoption. Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon: No charge, but registration is helpful.

Adoption seminars can also be held at local churches. If you would like an adoption seminar offered at your church, please call us at (714) 278-1020 and ask for Kathryn Deiters. Dates for 2009: February 28 • May 16 • August 1 • November 7

### ADOPTION CLASSES

Adoption classes are required for all families completing a homestudy through Nightlight. All classes are held in our office. Please call (714) 278-1020 or email info@nightlight.org to register; registration is required for all classes.

## LIFE-LONG ISSUES IN ADOPTION (Required for all clients)

Thursday evenings from 6:30-9:00pm; Cost: \$50/Couple

In this class we will look at the core adoption issues, which will give you an understanding of how you are linked to the other members of the adoption triad: the adoptee and the birth family. For information on upcoming classes, please check our web site: [www.nightlight.org](http://www.nightlight.org). Dates for 2009: January 22 • April 23

## DOMESTIC ADOPTION DECISIONS (Domestic clients)

Thursday evenings from 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.; Cost: \$50/Couple

This class will feature a panel of adopting parents and birthmothers discussing their open adoptions. They will discuss how the type of contact was agreed upon and how it is working out for them. Dates for 2009: January 15 • April 16

## ATTACHMENT & OTHER ISSUES OF INTERNATIONAL ADOPTION

(International clients)

Wednesday evenings from 4:00 – 9:00 p.m.; Cost: \$100/Couple

Understanding the theory behind parent and child attachment is important for any parent. However, it becomes particularly important when adopting a child internationally. Please contact Rhonda Jarema, MA, Director of Family Support Services, with any questions about this class, by emailing her at [Rhonda@Nightlight.org](mailto:Rhonda@Nightlight.org). Dates for 2009: January 14 • April 1

## MEDICAL ISSUES OF INTERNATIONAL ADOPTION By Dr. Gary Feldman

(International clients)

Saturday mornings from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon; Cost: \$60/couple

Dr. Gary Feldman, Medical Director of the Stramski Center at Miller Children's Hospital, will be leading this class to provide an overview of the medical issues commonly experienced by children who have been adopted internationally. This class satisfies the medical issues training required by The Hague. Dates for 2009: January 31 • April 18 • July 11 • October 17

## LIFEBOOKS WORKSHOP

If you have not begun your child's Lifebook because you're having trouble knowing where to start, come join us. The Lifebooks that parents have made are beautiful and the children are excited to see them after each session. We have a lot of fun sharing stories and pictures from orphanages. Please join us! Workshop is held from 12:00-4:00 p.m. Please check our website for upcoming class dates.

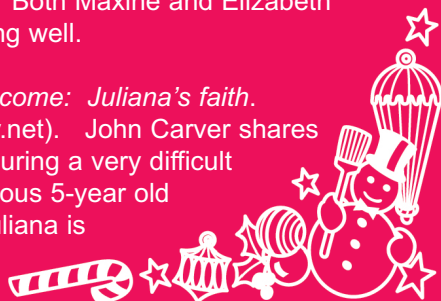
## IN THE NEWS

*If you find Nightlight or one of our families appear in the News Media, please let us know so we can share with all of you.*

**KABC News, Family adopts frozen embryos.** November 24, 2008. Mike and Stephanie Maciborski and their Snowflakes® children, Andrew and Mark, were featured on the KABC news recently in a very positive story on embryo adoption, with Ron Stoddart and Huntington Reproductive Center's Dr. Nelson further elaborating on how beneficial embryo adoption can be for all involved.

**The News Courier, We're lucky they're alive.** September 6, 2008. The Athens, Alabama paper reported the circumstances surrounding the Mok family who adopted their twins from China last July. Both girls were quite sick, especially the smaller one, Maxine. Both Maxine and Elizabeth Beasley Mok are home and are now doing well.

**Good News Daily, Let the little children come: Juliana's faith.** September 4, 2008 ([www.goodnewsdaily.net](http://www.goodnewsdaily.net)). John Carver shares how their family learned to trust in God during a very difficult time in their family's life, when their precious 5-year old daughter Juliana was fighting cancer. Juliana is now cancer free!



## NIGHTLIGHT CALENDAR



2009

### January

- 14 Attachment & Other Issues
- 15 Domestic Adoption Decisions
- 22 Life-Long Issues in Adoption
- 31 Medical Issues of Intl Adoption

### February

- 28 Adoption Seminar

### March

- 28 50th Anniversary Celebration Gala

### April

- 01 Attachment & Other Issues
- 16 Domestic Adoption Decisions
- 18 Medical Issues of Intl Adoption
- 23 Life-Long Issues in Adoption

### May

- 16 Adoption Seminar

### June

- 07 Jabez Cut-A-Thon Fundraiser for Nightlight

### July

- 11 Medical Issues of Intl Adoption
- 8-29 Summer Tour (Tentative)
- 18 Summer Reunion (Tentative)

### August

- 01 Adoption Seminar

### October

- 17 Medical Issues of Intl Adoption

### November

- 07 Adoption Seminar

For more information on any of these events, please call the office: (714) 278-1020.

# FAMILY ALBUM

Nightlight Christian Adoptions

801 East Chapman Avenue, Suite 106  
Fullerton, California 92831

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*Merry Christmas*



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## NIGHTLIGHT'S FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

2009 marks the Fiftieth Anniversary of Nightlight! We will be celebrating our golden anniversary throughout the year, particularly at our Gala and 2009 Summer Reunion.

**The 50th Anniversary Gala will be held on Saturday, March 28, 2009 at the Pacific Palms Resort in the City of Industry.** This is a

beautiful resort perched on a hill with a lovely view, freeway friendly and centrally located for our families in Los Angeles, Orange and Riverside counties. Please visit our web site to learn more about the event—and to let us know if you'll be joining us. For those of you who will be traveling some distance, please let us know if you would like to

reserve a room at the Pacific Palms. The room rate will be \$139/night for a double. The resort offers many amenities, including championship golf. You may want to make this a mini-vacation, even if you live nearby!

