



Photo: Gambill Family

2015 Annual Report



nightlight[®]

christian adoptions



2015: A Growing Footprint in the US and Globally

“Grandpa, sit here. It’s time to eat. We need to pray!” Those were the commands (in Russian) of our 5 year old daughter, Aidana, who we brought home from Kyrgyzstan just a few weeks ago. Grandpa said, “I see she has gone from orphan to ‘her majesty’ in just a few weeks.” How true that is! The comment made me think of the lyrics from Audio Adrenaline’s song [Kings and Queens](#): “Boys become kings, girls will be queens Wrapped in Your majesty, When we love, when we love the least of these.” Such is the destiny for each of us, as the Apostle Paul writes: “The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by Him we cry, ‘Abba, Father.’” (Romans 8:15, NIV). We are each God’s adopted children, and therefore we are children of the King, and heirs of all that is His. Fortunately, the blessings begin in this life...not just in the life to come.

This year at Nightlight we have seen the favor of God upon hundreds of families and our organization.

Snowflakes® Embryo Adoption. By the end of this year, we expect 445 Snowflake babies to have been born! Our Embryo Adoption Awareness Center again received two grants from the federal government to continue getting the word out about embryo adoption, and ultimately giving more embryos a chance at life. Stories about our Snowflake families were featured on NPR, Fox news, Yahoo Health, CBN, USA Today, and dozens of other local media outlets.

International Adoption. We began accreditation in Albania and Colombia, and expect to be able to help families adopt from these nations early next year. We also had our first cases from Ghana. Our largest country program continues to be China, with 24 expected adoptions this year. Our success there is in large part due to our four one-on-one partnerships with specific orphanages. Despite the long time it takes to adopt from Haiti, we had 5 children come home from that country to their adoptive families this year! And we saw completed adoptions from Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Uganda, Romania, Nicaragua, Hong Kong, and the United Kingdom. Our orphan host program allowed us to bring 11 children from China, 11 children from Kyrgyzstan, and 6 children from Ukraine. These tours remain a vital method for finding adoptive homes for older kids.

New Crowdfunding and Waiting Children website. We are committed to making adoption affordable, and as part of that effort we launched a new crowdfunding site called [AdoptionBridge.org](#) where families can use Facebook to raise tax-deductible donations for their adoption. We also are featuring hundreds of waiting children who are immediately available for

adoption. This site has been very effective at increasing the number of waiting children matched by Nightlight.

Domestic Adoption. Nightlight opened our Athens, Georgia office this year, and merged with Heritage Family Services in Oklahoma. We are merging with LoveBasket in Missouri at the beginning of next year, meaning that Nightlight will have offices in seven states. With this expanding footprint throughout the country, and with the increased collaboration among our staff, our domestic families have greater exposure and options.

Foster Adoption. Nightlight now offers foster care in California, and foster-to-adopt in Colorado. In fact, 24 foster children were placed with Nightlight families in 2015.

Building Purchase. Due to your generous donations, Nightlight is able to purchase (no longer rent) a building in Southern California. See more at www.nightlight.org/nightlight-finds-a-home.

We sincerely appreciate your continued interest and support of Nightlight’s mission to “Get more kids adopted!”

Key Dates for 2016

California

Gala Dinner and Auction: March 19

Reunion Picnic: July 16

Vivian’s Hope Fundraiser: October 1

Monte Carlo Night: November 5

Colorado

Reunion Picnic: June 24

Kentucky

Reunion Picnic: June 25

South Carolina

Reunion Picnic: May 14



Meant To Be

The Seel Family

Before my husband and I had married we had several conversations about adoption. We both knew that it might be the best route for us, since I have scoliosis. In early 2013, the doctor confirmed what we already knew, it would be very difficult for me to be pregnant and that it would also be hard on the baby. That is when we knew we were going to adopt. So we started the adoption process in the summer of 2013.

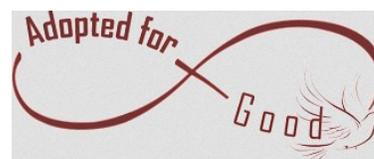
On a late night in Feb 2014, we received a call that forever changed our lives. There was a birthmother at the hospital and was expected to have a C-section to deliver a little boy the next day. He was going to be born in Lexington, so we rushed down there early that next morning. He came two days later. He was so beautiful and perfect. We immediately fell in love with him. That very active little boy who is now



21 months old has been such a blessing to us.

We knew we wanted to adopt again but were not really sure when we would be ready to start the process again. In early May, we received a very surprising phone call from our social worker, Lisa Whitaker. She wanted to let us know that Logan's birth mother was pregnant again and was due in early June. Before she had a chance to say anything else I asked her if it would be possible for us to adopt his sibling. She said that is why she was calling us to see if we would be interested in adopting his brother. As soon as I hung up the phone and told my husband, we prayed about it and knew this was meant to be. We wanted this little boy! The birth mom was a little off on her due date and Levi was born July 28th. He too is beautiful and looks just like his brother when he was born.

We are looking forward to the days when these two can play together and interact. We can't wait to see what God has in store for these two little boys. We are so blessed to be a part of their lives.



Adoptees: Join Adopted 4 Good

Adopted for Good is the coalition of adopted children. AFG is an online community of adoptees who gather for mutual support, encouragement, resources, and positive advocacy for adoption policy.



Orphan Galaxy: Nightlight's orphan care sponsorship program.

You know that Nightlight is connecting waiting children with loving families. But what about the children left behind? Nightlight is committed to orphan care ministry for all children without parents. You can make a \$25 per month commitment to Orphan Galaxy, and your money will be for our five orphan care projects:

Scholarships for Adoption

Train Orphans vocationally

Aid Orphanages

Rescue from Trafficking

Sponsor Orphan Host Tours

Be one of the STARS in our Galaxy. Sign up at www.OrphanGalaxy.org

Welcome Home!

Domestic Adoptions

Elisha
Hudson
Caleb
Reed
Annabel
Liam
Stephen
Elias
Abel
Turner
Presley
Benjamin
Nathaniel
Evelyn
Levi
Sienna
Katelyn
Ezri
Selah
Callen
Corbyn
Bobby
Ryland
Marissa
Logan
Logan
Shelley
Ayla
Levi
Dawson
Rayna
Cecilia
Ciara
Jack
Wesley
Tarissa
Anne
Alyssa
Eden
Elin
Alex

Sofia
Samuela
Roza
Cristian
Sam
Samuel
Sergios

Laila
Sintija
Aidana
Dennis
Alicia
Abraham
Angie

Jonathan
David
Moses
Judah
Caleb
Melody
Brooklyn
Ren

Lola
Leland
Levi
Theo
Ava
Poppy
Sophia
Liam
Eloise

Asher
Lydia
Ariana

Expected to Come Home

Soon
Moses
Anayelis
Zoey
William
Jim

Fostering Love to Adoption Program

Raelynn
Essence
Amelia
Analyssa
Ajaya
Anthony
Adam
Alivia
Jack
Jason
Sierra
Savannah
Carolina
Carolyn
Phaie
Lili
Cindy
Addison
Jazzmyn
Tristianna
Emmanuel
Bentleigh
Ari
Sam

Braxton
Brody
Elora
Stone
Elias
Ally
Ava
Scott
James
George
Sophie
Corrie
Caitlin
Jessica
Joel
Elaina
William
Ellie
Corinth
Augustine
Prelude
Colin
Bryson
Sydney
Ryan
Regan
Savannah
Mason
Audrey
Everlie
Ezekiel
Zander
Julia
Millie
Skyler
Juliet
Joshua
Madison
Lily

Snowflakes

Babies
Enoch
Tyler
Luke
Hannah
Noa
Graceson

Parents of Expected Snowflakes Babies

Brandon & Mandy
John & Christy



The Gilliam Family

International Adoptions

Ambrosia
Alexander
Iulia

Georgios
Ajara
Jonas
Erly
Erlande
Petouchka
Amanda

Danisha
James
Bernis
Lenox
John
Isaac
Angel

Joshua
David
Cody
Jia
Anabelle
Opal

Titus
Sarah
Valentina
Alexander
Mitchell

God's Perfect Plan

The Mattingly Family

On July 18th of 2003 I don't think (in fact I know) my husband and I had ever thought about adoption. This was our wedding day and we had big plans for our future! This plan included getting married, moving to Georgetown KY and starting our family in a few years which would include 3-4 children. We thought we had it all figured out and our plan was going as scheduled! In January of 2005 we had our first child, Isaiah and a couple years later we had our daughter Anna Kate in May of 2007! After this, our plan started going in a direction we didn't expect or wanted. In December of 2009 I had an exploratory laparotomy and had to have my left ovary removed due to health concerns. We were still very hopeful we would still be able to conceive more children. As a couple of years went on without getting pregnant my remaining ovary brought up many health concerns as well and eventually lead to the decision of having a complete hysterectomy. This was a very tough decision for us as we were not ready to give up the ability to have more children and this really didn't work with what we had planned. After much prayer, discussion and more prayer we decided the hysterectomy was best for my health and I remember God giving me a peace about it all—which could only come from Him. In the next year or so we realized that "our" plan was never really our plan in the first place and God had a much different, and better, plan prepared for us! Instead of the expression when one door closes another one opens and we believe when this door was shut, God opened a huge 3 car garage door! Through the beautiful process of adoption!

About a year after the hysterectomy we desired to have more children and God revealed to us we could still have more children, just not in the way we originally planned. Again through much prayer, discussion and more prayer we were heavily considering adoption, but still had some reservations. I remember thinking and fearing how, and if, I could love another child just as much as my biological children. Feeling so ashamed for questioning such things I remember coming across a story in a daily devotional where a lady was having the same questions and fears. She said she realized even her biological children were really not hers and God was only letting her have them for awhile to raise, to teach about Christ and to train them up in ways that are pleasing to God until He calls us all back to Him one day. Wow! What a beautiful picture! These biological children I so selfishly called "mine" were no different than other little boys or girls I did not bear in my womb. They are all His and we are called to care for them in some way!

God continued to confirm He did indeed want us to adopt and we decided to get on board with what He wanted from us!

"Pure and undefiled religion before our God and Father is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress..."
James 1:27

Even after this we were still presented with bumps in the roads and times where we questioned what God wanted us to do. When we first started the process, I think we both imagined bringing home a healthy little newborn baby. God continued to show us again that our plans were not His plans. Again through much prayer, we decided God was calling us to adopt from China a child with special needs. Just the process and waiting for the child God had planned for us was such a learning and growing experience for our family. We watched our children pray for their unmet sibling and proclaim a love that was so amazing to see! It was a true display of unconditional love—I know we never could have taught them with our own teaching and training. We grew closer as a family as we waited for this child and more importantly we grew closer to God. We leaned on Him in times of frustration, in times of impatience, in times of doubt and with all the rest of the emotions that came with the adoption process.

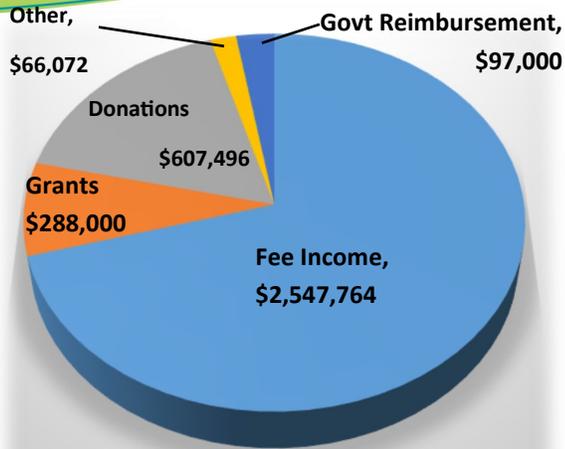
In April of 2014 we were matched with a beautiful little girl and were so thankful to be able to finally bring her home that July!! Little Emma Grace Shiyun Mattingly has truly been such a blessing and a gift from God! After we brought her home, we remember certain people saying just how blessed this little girl is to be a part of our family. We do agree that we have probably changed Emma's life for the better but we would wholeheartedly debate we have been far more blessed! Not only has she been such a blessing to our family, but to our extended family, our church family, our community and the list goes on! We have made the difference in only one little life, but she has made a difference in so many! This once very shy, sad faced solemn girl can now light up a room with her big personality, funny antics and beautiful smile. She has taught us so much about life and love! Since the adoption, my husband and I continue to have hearts that burn and hurt for orphans. We continue to pray for orphans that are not home with their families and for those that never will. We continue to share our story in hopes it may lead others to support orphans and possible lead them to decide to adopt. We continue to financially help others adopting as we are able. And most importantly we continue to place our trust in God and let Him lead our life instead of making "our" plans!



Financial Information

How we fund our mission

(2015 Budget)

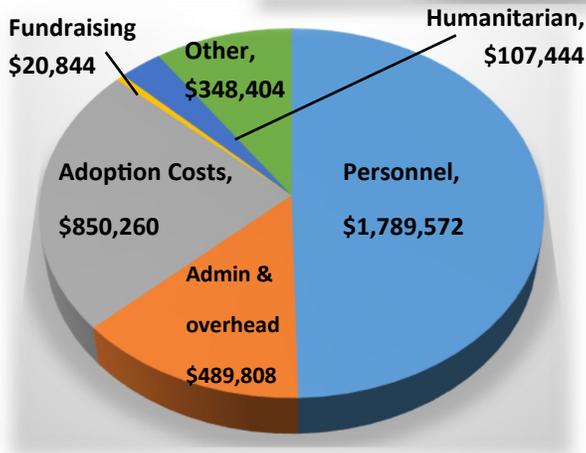


Please consider making a year-end gift to Nightlight with the envelope provided, or online at www.nightlight.org/donation-opportunities. Your gift will help with several urgent needs:

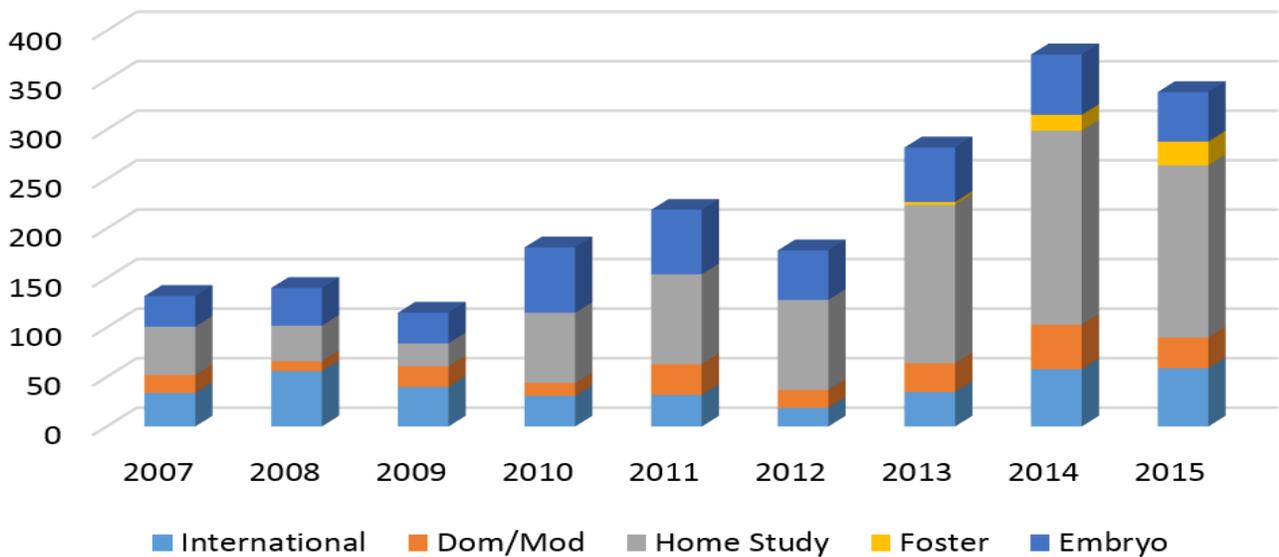
- Humanitarian aid to orphanages in China, Haiti and Uganda (\$110,000 needed)
- Adoption scholarships with the Nightlight foundation (\$10,000 needed)
- The down payment on our new building (additional goal of \$185,000)
- Birthmother outreach and advertising (\$50,000 needed)
- Our 2016 orphan host program from Ukraine, China, and Kyrgyzstan (\$100,000 needed)
- Snowflakes® embryo storage scholarships (\$5,000 needed)

The cost of our mission

(2015 Budget)



Families United



From Siberia to Haiti

The Lott Family

Our First Adoption

It was clear when we married in 2005 that adoption would one day be a part of the way that we would build our family. Little did we realize the way that God would use adoption in our lives. We started our first adoption in May of 2008. We chose an international adoption and we chose to adopt from Russia. We knew that we wanted a girl as young as possible. We had people tell us that we would never get a little girl as young as we were requesting. In Russia at the time we were adopting all children that were being adopted had to be on the Russian data bank for eight months from the time they were given up before being released to the international data bank. We were advised that the wait for a young girl could be a year or more once our paperwork was submitted. But God had a different plan that superseded our expectations. Our paperwork was submitted on November 2, 2009 and on December 11, 2009 we received a call from Kate at Nightlight that we had been matched up with a baby girl 8 ½ months old. She had been given up at birth and had been released from the Russian data bank 2 weeks prior. On April 9, 2010 we brought home Isabella Marie Lott. She was 12 months old when we brought her home. Every day we realize how blessed we are to be her parents. She is a gift from God. She is now 6 years old, in first grade and is a competitive gymnast. In January of 2015 she asked Jesus into her heart and wants to be baptized soon.

Our Second Adoption

We knew from the time we brought Isabella home that our family was not complete. We made the decision in June of 2012 to adopt again and we looked at Russia because we were familiar with the Russian program. We contacted Kate and started the process. In September of 2012 we received word that they had a baby boy for us. We were praying for a dark-hair, dark-eye baby boy. On

December 28, 2012 Russia banned all US adoptions. We were devastated. It almost felt as if we had had a miscarriage. We had not met this child yet and we did not know him but we already loved him. We saw our dream of the perfect family crumble before our eyes. We decided to take the month of January 2013 to pray about what God wanted us to do. We knew He had a child for us. We knew that He had a plan for our family. Most of all we knew that God was not surprised by the events that happened. The beginning of February 2013 after praying for God's direction we were asked by Kate if we would consider Nightlights brand new program in Haiti. We said yes. This was definitely God's plan and His perfect timing. We received our official referral from Haiti in January of 2014. We traveled for our 2 week bonding trip in February of 2014. On June 10, 2015 we brought home



Alexander Thomas Lott. He is our handsome dark-hair, dark-eye little boy. He has dimples when he smiles. He loves his papa. He has a deep belly laugh. He loves to play outside and he loves playing tricks on his mama. He absolutely adores his sissy Isabella.

While it has been a big adjustment for all of us it has also been one of the greatest blessings. God had a perfect plan and gave us two children who perfectly complete our family. We will forever be thankful to Kate and all of the staff at Nightlight and for the roles they played in our adoption process. Kate is like family to us and we are blessed that God brought us to Nightlight for both of our adoptions and that He made a way for us to complete two international adoptions. Most of all we are thankful to God for His perfect will, His perfect timing, and how He can take a daddy and mommy in the US, a little girl in Russia and a little boy in Haiti and make them a forever family.

Major Donors

Many thanks to our major donors whose names have not been included on this list either because they have not consented to being listed or would like to remain anonymous. Please contact Daniel if you consent to having your name listed and we would be happy to add you!

Individual Donors over \$1000

Gerald Nixon
Christy Carruthers
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Daniel and Kristina Nehrbass

Chad and Sherry Tracy

David and Debbie Wolfe

Corporations and Churches

Grace life Fellowship, NE
Red Hill Lutheran Church
Our Savior Lutheran Church
Abel/Weatherwax Foundation
Providence Church, NC
Southland Christian Church
Calvary Chapel, Surprise AZ
Truth Bible Church
Bethel Baptist Church

ADOPTION BRIDGE

Waiting Children | Crowd Funding

At AdoptionBridge you can view Waiting Children profiles and pictures, view Waiting Family profiles, and contribute to their adoption fundraising. There is also information about upcoming events like hosting a child during a hosting tour or Monte Carlo Night (an annual fundraiser) under the Every Child Has A Name tab.

Whether you have completed your home study and are seeking a child waiting for their forever family, are wanting to fundraise your adoption costs through the crowdfunding feature, or want to support those in the adoption process there is something for everyone on AdoptionBridge.

The site is password protected, but to gain access is free and easy. To learn more about this wonderful site and how you can get involved visit www.adoptionbridge.org.

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