

# Christian Family Services Family Times



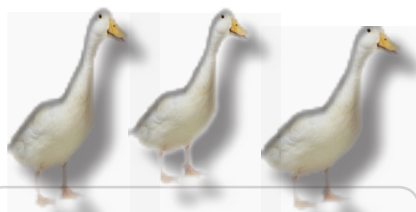
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Spring 2014

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Hard to believe that spring is here (at least in Florida). God has led CFS through quite a season of uncertainty since September 2013. I knew we were losing Marilou who returned to California. I knew we were losing Julie because she and her husband were having a baby (Miss Mackenzie arrived December 27th). What I did not know was that once again, God's timing was not "my" timing. We lost both of these women, who were valuable assets, and had no replacements lined up. In addition, Debbie has needed to spend more time caring for her mother and was available less. As usual, it was only when I let go of how "I thought" it was supposed to go that God was able to reveal "His" plan.



## Faith, Fundraisers and Camo

Becky and in giving guidance in preparation for the annual audit. Finally I want to mention that *Julie*, along with "baby *Mackenzie*," have been extremely helpful during this time of transition.

I know that CFS is not unique in the constant need to be reminded that God is the One who is really in control. There is no limit to what He wants to do in us and

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Our office now looks and functions much differently than it did. *Becky Barclift* has graciously agreed to do our bookkeeping and QuickBooks accounting as her volunteer service. *Donna Brooker* is my new Ministry Assistant. And, God has provided the long awaited new caseworker - *Karissa Stewart*, who comes to us from Western Washington University (Bellingham, Washington). During the "no staff" time frame, *Zena Dampier* was a big help in referring



Giving Hope ♥ Empowering Women ♥ Restoring Lives

God is in Control...Continued from front page

for us if we will but surrender that control. There is also no limit to what God can do "through us" if we will follow His Spirit's promptings.

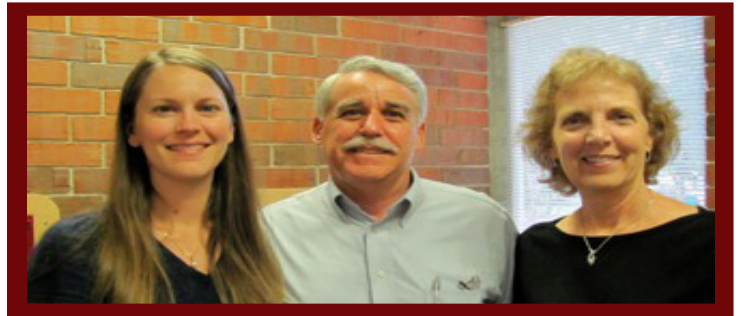
Your prayers for CFS are greatly needed on a daily basis. Your financial support keeps our doors open to young ladies who often feel they have nowhere to turn other than having an abortion. Your willingness to volunteer helps spread the work that is needed to get the word out and educate the communities where we minister.

As I look ahead, I can see how 2014 will be a new beginning for all of us. Please spend some time with God asking how He might be prompting "YOU" to be a part of this great ministry to moms, babies, and families.

*Jerry*

# Season of Change

Two special Ladies who will be missed, Julie and Marilou, were great assets to this ministry. We wish them God's Best for the future!



Julie Dillon, Jerry Callens, Marilou Heckman

## New Staff and Faces in the office of CFS

A new year brought new staff to join Jerry and Debbie in the office!

☺ Karissa Stewart was born and raised in Colorado Springs, Colorado and knew from a very young age that she loved and wanted to care for children just like Jesus. She recently graduated from Western Washington University with a degree in psychology. While in Washington, Karissa interned with an adoption agency and found her love for

this ministry and women facing unplanned pregnancy. Another aspect that sparked her passion for this ministry was while watching Catelynn and Tyler's story on MTVs "16 & Pregnant." The unconditional love

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## PRAYERS NEEDED:

CFS would like to start a Prayer Team via e-mail:

"Eli's Blessing" based on 1 Samuel 1:17

Please contact CFS at [info@cfsfl.org](mailto:info@cfsfl.org) if you are willing to pray for specific requests of this ministry.



## MEMORIAL OR HONOR GIFT

The enclosed gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is given in  Memorial  Honor  
Of \_\_\_\_\_

### PLEASE NOTIFY:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

For Memorials — Relationship to Deceased: \_\_\_\_\_

For Honor Gifts — Occasion: \_\_\_\_\_

BE DEVOTED TO ONE ANOTHER IN LOVE. HONOR ONE ANOTHER ABOVE YOURSELVES. ROMANS 12:10

Remember the special people in your life through a gift to CFS :

Birth-Mother's Day      Birthday

*May 10*

Mother's Day      Father's Day

*May 11*

Graduation      Anniversaries

...or just because

# 2013 PLACEMENTS



*Kaydence Rayne*  
03/06/2013



*Raleigh Kay*  
04/05/2013



*Alison Joy*  
05/03/2013



*Gabryl Raul*  
05/18/2013



*Colter Anthony*  
05/19/2013



*Isaac Thomas*  
05/22/2013



*Benjamin James*  
06/01/2013



*Amelia MariEllen Elizabeth*  
07/22/2013



*James Joseph*  
08/03/2013

# RECENT PLACEMENTS



*March 1st, 2014*

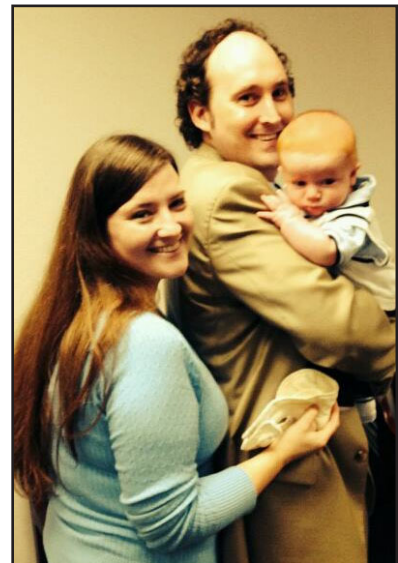
Mandi and Adam are overjoyed to meet their precious little girl, *Kennedy Louise*.

# RECENT FINALIZATIONS

*November 15, 2013*



Steve and Debbie (pictured with Judge Coker) are so glad to have their daughter, *Amelia MariEllen Elizabeth*, officially part of their forever family!



A family of 3! Chris and Carrie feel so blessed to have their son, *James Joseph*.

Letter From the President of the Board

portrayed by the birthmother in the film gave Karissa a new perspective of Christ. Also. it opened her eyes to how much He loves her and what it means to be adopted into His family.



Donna Brooker

Karissa Stewart, Donna Brooker, Debbie & Jerry Callens,

considers herself a "Native Floridian" as she has lived in Gainesville longer than anywhere in her life. Donna is married to Don Brooker, whom she met in Chapel at Harding University over 30 years ago. They have two grown sons Wess and Michael (and new wife Lindsay). Donna comes to CFS with seventeen years experience as a small business operator, with a desire to use these talents for the Lord in a ministry setting.

Becky Barclift is retired with over thirty years experience as a bookkeeper around the state for Farm Bureau. She is now giving back to God by using the talent that He has blessed her with. Becky, too, has a great passion for helping those in need. She recently gave her hair to "Locks of Love." She is also camera shy : ) .

Other new faces...And, last but not least, newborn Mackenzie Grace Dillon has been on call with Julie while she helps bring Donna up to speed on office procedures.



Mackenzie Dillon and Debbie Callens

I have the opportunity to teach the 3 to 5 year old class on Sundays from November through February each year. Why do I give my time to teach the children? Perhaps it is because I enjoy seeing them have fun being together and learning new things. I see them laugh and hear them say funny things. But most of all, I get to see them learn about God and how to trust Him. Although everyone I know loves children, they may not feel comfortable or have the patience to teach them in a class setting. For me, it is a joy and privilege. God has given each person a talent or gift and perhaps mine is teaching little children.

CFS is about women, babies and families and it starts with counseling those who find themselves in a crisis situation. Not everyone has the talent and ability to provide counseling, especially to someone deciding on what do to about their pregnancy - to parent, to place the baby for adoption, or terminate the pregnancy. CFS is fortunate to have staff that have the God given gift and love to provide counseling to those in need. This is not easy work and there are highs and lows depending on the situation and how the person responds to counseling. However, whatever the outcome, the CFS staff remains steadfast in their mission knowing that God's word will eventually produce fruit. Your support through financial giving, prayers, and letters of encouragement has provided CFS the ability to provide this gift of counseling to those in need for many years and for that we are thankful.

"Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world" (James 1:27, NIV).

May God bless you! Jesse T. Wilson

Baby Bottle Boomerang ~ coming soon!

Be part of the CFS Mission to minister to Birth Mothers in their time of need. Look for Baby Bottles to be distributed at your church home, or contact our office to be part of this effort.





Donation Drawing  
for  
**Christian Family Services**

An  
Original,  
**one-of-a-kind,**  
*autographed* by the  
**DUCK COMMANDER**  
himself,

**Phil  
Robertson**

*the "Go Gators" Duck Call*

Tickets - \$5.00 from CFS office, online,  
or from a board member.

Begins: April 01, 2014  
Drawing: May 18, 2014

Bring your Donation Drawing ticket for the  
Winner Reveal at  
**"Coffee & Camo for a Cause"**  
3 pm  
University City church of Christ  
*Family Life Center*  
Gainesville, FL

## Christian Family Services

A Christian Alternative

2720 SW 2nd Ave  
Gainesville, FL 32607  
Phone 352-378-6202 Toll-Free 800-226-2367  
Fax: 352-378-6205 Email: info@cfsfl.org

[www.ChristianFamilyServices.com](http://www.ChristianFamilyServices.com)

### Staff

*Executive Director/*  
Case Worker  
Jerry D. Callens

*Case Workers*  
Debbie Callens  
Karissa Stewart

*Ministry Assistant*  
Donna L. Brooker

*Bookkeeper*  
Becky Barclift

### Board of Directors

Tim Berry  
Jimmie Brunson  
Jackie Collins  
Don Dasher  
Leroy Frison  
Fran Poppell  
Don Price  
Jesse Wilson  
Rick Worley

*Foster Family*  
John & Charlotte JeBailey  
and their children

*Nicole* writes: "Eight years ago to-  
day Keith & I started praying that if  
it were God's Will, He would bless  
us with a baby through adoption.  
Unbeknownst to us, Brency was  
born the very next day. Sixteen  
days after we began praying, I held  
my precious daughter in my arms!

God is good!!

Thank you for CFS's role in our fam-  
ily's incredible journey!"