

# CHRISTIAN FAMILY SERVICES FAMILY TIMES



VOLUME XLI ISSUE III

OCTOBER 2019

## FAITH'S JOURNEY

**Supporters and prayer warriors like YOU** make it possible for CFS Case Workers to be able to respond to any God-Given opportunity, at a moment's notice. Here is one such example of your efforts.

**Meet Faith.** CFS Case Workers first saw her in the arms of a nurse at the hospital in September. Faith was a "Safe Haven" baby. Her Birth Mother surrendered Faith at a fire station. EMS took her to the hospital, and the hospital contacted **Christian Family Services** to place her for adoption.



*Now faith is the  
substance of  
things hope for,  
the evidence of  
things not seen.*

Hebrews 11:1

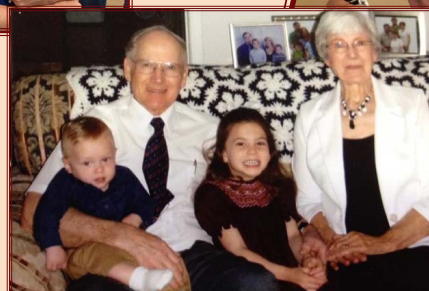
When we heard about Faith, we had several adoptive families who we knew were ready to take her home, but only one couple "got the call." It is always interesting to witness couples as they meet their newborn for the first time.

This couple, who had been in process to adopt and knew they wanted to add a child to their family, was still functioning in **shock** mode when they met their newborn. Not even a day had passed since receiving the call that would make them parents, and their world had changed forever! New dad took one look at her and said, "she is pretty." New mom was nothing but smiles.

The car seat that was purchased the night before was filled with their precious cargo and we joined them as we walked to their car. **Oh, by the way, where was the car?** We certainly didn't know and it was apparent that in their shock and

FAITH'S JOURNTY continued on following page...

## September 13, 2019 was Grandparent's Day! CFS honors all Grandparents!



*"Grandchildren are  
the pride and joy of  
old age."*

Proverbs 17:6 ERV

# RECENT PLACEMENTS



Jason and Melissa traveled from their home state to add Zachary Pierre to their family. This placement made Ben a big brother!



Blayze Chloe peeks at us from her mother's arms. This was Jeremy and Nikki's second time to Florida to add to their family. Ryland was excited to meet his new sister as well as see where he was born!

Give to CFS using work place donations platforms, such as



Does your community or place of work have a "Giving" event? Consider telling others about Christian Family Services for such fundraisers.



*"We have been greatly pleased with the Christian Family Services...they are very loving and compassionate. They are there during the entire hospital stay not only for (the birth) mom, but adoptive parents. The Spirit of God is evident in their lives and they never leave without prayer. They will always have a special place in our hearts."*  
A CFS Birth Grand Mother

## FAITH'S JOURNTY continued from page one...

excitement, they couldn't remember, either! After searching several parking areas, the car was eventually located. **This brand new family then began their journey home and a forever life together.**

While I focused on Faith's adoptive family, I should also share how selfless her Birth Mother was. **You see, she, too, loved Faith, and recognized it was best that someone else raise her.**

When Faith was safely placed with the Fire Department, her Birth Mother left a car seat and a few baby things for her.

Faith was clean and wearing a new outfit with a headband and bow.

Like Hagar in **Genesis 16:13**, HE is the "God who sees me..."

One surety in this case is that HE saw and heard this Birth Mother's prayer and now her baby is safe with a Christian family.



Donna and Faith, just after meeting at the hospital.



## Memorial Gifts

☺ **Kenny Coleman**  
Mary Freeman

☺ **Georgianna Daniel**  
Jane & Burton Farley

☺ **Carl & Annie Ruth Jacobsen**  
Linda Jacobsen

☺ **Edith Robinson**  
Annetta Beazlie  
Ben & Chong Ingram  
Judy Thomas  
John & Tina Vairo  
Genie White  
Gary & Pat Wyder

☺ **Jacque Keen**  
Ricky & Ginny Ross

☺ **Stephen Izard**  
Harvey & Judith Allen  
Michael & Pamela Billings  
Rick & Deborah Boyer  
Richard & Sandra Chamberlain  
Nancy Chambers  
Mickey Davis  
First Care Team  
Robert & Glenda Gray  
Danny & Madeline Grisson  
Lon & Gayle Hamby  
Eddie & Delinda Hicks  
Jackie & Marilyn Holt

☺ **Stephen Izard (cont'd)**  
Bobby Hood  
Gary & Diane Jones  
Wayne & Deborah Kellis  
Lexington Church of Christ  
Anthony & Robin Lynch  
Reggie & Cecelia Mobley  
Palmetto Health Credit Union  
Michelin North America  
Dr. & Mrs. March Seabrook  
Karen Seitz  
Mary Ann Shokes  
John & Mary Turner  
Arthur & Kathleen Upton  
Rebecca West  
Stewart & Roberta Young

# November is National Adoption Awareness Month

Holly & Justin share the steps to adopt and how it led to their son

After they made application to adopt with CFS, Holly & Justin provided personal references, physicals, background screens, and details of their home so a Home Study could be written. They took adoption training. Once these items were in order, they became a CFS waiting family.

Below, Holly & Justin dropped by the CFS office to deliver their profile book.



Couples start the adoption process not knowing how long they will wait for a child.

During the wait, the profiles of CFS families are shown on the website and social



media. Some families are able to meet with the Birth Mother prior to the birth of the baby. Some are unable to meet the Birth Mother, due to her wishes.

Justin & Holly received the call they had been

waiting for and prayed about the decision.

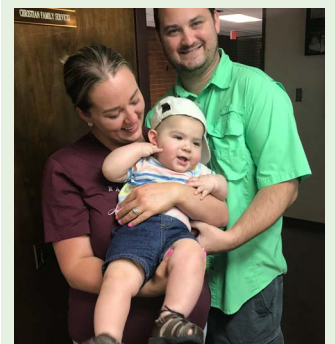
They followed Jerry through the hospital to meet a baby boy.



They met him, completed the placement paperwork and took their son home!



Some families meet with the Birth Mother and/or family, following placement, at mutually agreed upon schedules and locations. Some birth and adoptive families interact electronically. Other adoptive families do not meet the birth



family. Luckily for CFS, we get to follow families after finalization!

Above, Holly, Justin and Judah drop by for a visit at the CFS office!

You may choose to donate to the ministry of CFS through matching donations or grant options by using



MAY - AUGUST, 2019

51  
WOMEN WITH AN  
UNPLANNED  
PREGNANCY

CONTACTED CFS  
Because of Donors  
like YOU

Partner with Christian Family Services as we reach out to birth mothers dealing with an unplanned pregnancy. Christian Family Services, Inc is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization as determined by the Internal Revenue Service. 100% of the contributions received by Christian Family Services, Inc. are retained by the agency. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION (CH4221) AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE 1-800-435-7352, WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

## RECENT FINALIZATIONS



**Judge Groeb's** chambers were happily full following **Room's** finalization. **Sean & Jennifer** were thankful to add another child to their family while **Major, Addyx and Beckett** were happy with their little brother.



**Naomi's** family appeared in court via the telephone. **James & Beth** were pleased to add **Naomi** to their family as their youngest child. **Abby and Julius** were pleased to welcome a little sister!

## Vounteers Retiring!?!

As a non-profit organization, Christian Family Services relies on volunteer support. Our close proximity to a university sometimes allows us to have volunteers and Interns who assist during office hours, but much of the fundraising effort depends on volunteers from the local church.



In year's past, we recognized that volunteers for Game Day Parking were the major "time donors" of fundraising support. They gave up to 6-7 Saturday's in the fall for this effort. We also were aware of the need to train new volunteers for this service, and allow those who had given so much of their time to take a break, change their service to CFS, or retire.



We want **ALL** volunteers to know **YOU** are **needed** and **wanted**, but we also do not want to work the faithful until they are burned-out!

So, instead of a list of the long-time volunteers who **MAY** be retiring from the Game Day Parking effort, we instead want to remind **all volunteers** how **MUCH** you have done for **Mothers** and **Babies** all those Saturdays in the fall.



### Staff

Jerry D. Callens, Exec. Director & Case Worker  
Debbie Callens, Case Worker  
Jasmine Pierce, Case Worker

Donna L. Brooker, Ministry Assistant  
Becky Barclift, Bookkeeper  
John & Charlotte JeBailey and their children, Foster Family

### Board of Directors

Jimmie Brunson  
Fran Poppell  
Rick Worley  
Jackie Collins  
Don Price

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www.ChristianFamilyServices.com



I Will help a baby have **life** and a **Christian Family** to raise him/her through the Ministry of Christian Family Services:

My One Time Gift Today: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Monthly Gift (*Hearts for Hope* donors pledge \$84 month or \$1000 year)

\$250  \$100  \$75  \$50  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Memorial option below.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

This donation is sent in Memory or Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Please notify: NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Their relationship to the person (in memory or honor of) is? \_\_\_\_\_

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

***A father to the fatherless,  
a defender of widows,  
is God in his holy dwelling.  
God sets the lonely in families...***  
Psalm 68:5-6

CHRISTIAN FAMILY SERVICES

A Christian Alternative  
2720 S.W. 2nd Ave  
Gainesville, FL 32607  
352.378.6202



A 501 (c) 3 non-profit.  
All gifts are tax deductible.



**Help Reach Her:**

- ⇒ Pray for Birth Mothers to find CFS
- ⇒ Pray for Christian families to adopt
- ⇒ Host a fund-raiser at your church or organization
- ⇒ Use your talent to host and/or plan a Birth Mother event
- ⇒ Use your talent in the CFS office
- ⇒ Donate funds through United Way, Choose Life, or matching donations in your workplace
- ⇒ Follow, share, like CFS social media platforms
- ⇒ Write a review for CFS at Google.com

