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## REFLECTIONS by Scott Rosenow

For my column this time, I want to relate to you some of the exciting and challenging events that have taken place in this ministry over the past few months. Our last newsletter came out in the fall—October, to be precise. Many things have happened since then, some of which were momentous and some, of course, which were not. I don't plan to spend much time on the mundane, although the fact that they are commonplace does not thus make them unimportant. Kathy and I were privileged to be able to step away from the demands of the ministry for a couple of weeks at Christmastime, and we greatly enjoyed that bit of a break. (Thanks, Alison, for handling things for us during our brief sabbatical.) We came back to work on January 3, and immediately were hit with a string of events and calamities.

During the first month of the new year, we were subjected to two broken Notebook computers, necessitating the sending of one to the shop for repairs—twice!—coupled with the purchase of a new one to replace the other; rampant stomach flu that ran through the majority of the family; an ordeal involving our attempts to rescue an abandoned baby followed by verbal castigation from the adoption agency responsible for her—my, wasn't that fun!—but which was pretty well resolved in the end; and all of the usual headaches and inconveniences associated with bringing ourselves back on-line following the holidays and our brief sabbatical.

Immediately on the heels of all this, we learned of a baby girl in Guatemala on the point of death. She was only about three weeks old; she had been born with a combination of about five heart defects, and there was serious concern that she would soon die without medical intervention. Our Guatemala Family Coordinator, Melissa Scott, traveled to Guatemala near the end of January and immediately began efforts to do what could be done to save this child, whose name was Maria. Melissa took Maria to the cardiac hospital in Guatemala City (UNICAR) to see if they could help her, but they told Melissa essentially that, though Maria's need was critical, the wait for surgery at UNICAR was too long, and Melissa should take Maria back to the orphanage and make her as comfortable as possible till her death. What ensued was a series of lengthy long-distance telephone calls involving Kathy and me here in Ohio, our Medical Ministries Coordinator, Alison Gutterud, in San Diego, and Melissa in Guatemala. Our focus at this point was to obtain a medical visa for Maria. Alison, who is a registered nurse with extensive training and experience in neonatal intensive care, has been instrumental in obtaining a number of emergency medical visas in the past. We had already established a connection with a cardiac care facility in Maine, through our efforts to bring Ali Vasile here from Romania for surgery (more on that later), so we asked if they would be willing to treat Maria, too. They said yes, they would treat Maria free of charge, in answer to many fervent prayers. So we began the scramble to obtain the medical visa. We also

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## THE FULP FAMILY by Elizabeth Mock



both Daryl and Wanda felt the call to adopt, it was relegated to the back burner once their biological children began arriving. It didn't stay there for too long.

In 1992, they were licensed as foster parents and began creating a safe haven for children. Over the next thirteen years they provided a home for twenty-three children. Each time, the children either returned

to their biological parents or were placed with an adoptive family. Recalling this time in their lives, Daryl said, "We felt our role was to provide stability, love, and nurturing during that tumultuous period of their lives. We never felt God's call to adopt any of them." In 2004, however, two sisters—Ashley and Teisha—who had been living with the Fulps for

*"Although both Daryl and Wanda felt the call to adopt, it was relegated to the back burner....It didn't stay there for too long."*

over three years, became available for adoption. The Fulps knew that these girls belonged in their family. On November 1, 2004, Ashley and Teisha were officially adopted.

God's call for the Fulps to adopt then began to strengthen in their minds, and they began to pursue the adoption of a special needs child from Korea, a little girl who would become Kimberly Jayeong Fulp. Though they had no money for an international adoption

and no idea where it would come from, they knew God would provide. As the adoption process continued, Kimberly lived in a foster home in Korea. Born with cerebral palsy, Kimberly had few chances of being adopted. The Fulps knew that few parents are willing to open their homes to a special-needs child, and Daryl recalled that "[w]e truly wanted this adoption to be focused on the child's needs instead of our own desires. So, we felt God's call to give a home to a special needs child. We are so grateful that we obeyed. We would have missed so much if we had not!"

During the nine months of Kimmie's adoption, the Fulps went through the same roller coaster of emotions as every parent waiting for the completion of an adoption. There were periods of intense excitement interrupted with incredible frustration, then miraculously opened doors mixed with red tape that delayed and infuriated.

"Much of the frustration in us," Daryl said, "was rooted in our desire to get her home quickly, knowing she was getting older, experiencing milestones, and having formative experiences. From the time we felt God's call to adopt Kimmie until the time we brought her home, we felt as if we were missing part of our family.

"But through the process we had some great people walking with us. Our U.S. agency, Dillon International Inc., was wonderful! They patiently answered our questions, worked to cut red tape, communicated regularly and effectively, and were like supportive friends through the nine-month process. In addition, The Shepherd's Crook was

*W*aiting. In modern American society we hate to wait. We expect everything to arrive quickly, efficiently, and most importantly, when it is convenient, when it fits into our lives. But when we stop and reflect, a startling realization hits us. We spend most of our lives waiting: waiting to get into a good college, waiting to get married, waiting for that next promotion... waiting to have children. There is no pain, no frustration quite like that of a parent waiting to bring home an adopted child. God's call to adopt destroys our American notions of immediate gratification and convenience. The adoption process is arduous, exasperating, thrilling, rapturous, yet it humbles, it refines.

Before they were even married, Daryl and Wanda Fulp discussed their desire to "one day adopt children in need of a home." Daryl is the pastor of Crosspoint Church in Troy, Ohio. Wanda has a degree in elementary education and is a stay-at-home mom. After seventeen years and eight children, God has fulfilled their desire to adopt and has used their openness to provide a loving and stable home to three girls: Ashley (fifteen), Teisha (twelve), and Kimmie (two). Although

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## WHAT WAS LOST “I will seek **what was lost** and bring back what was driven away.”

*The following children have come home since our last issue:*

BELLA



**Before:** In a Chinese orphanage.

**After:** In her Milford, OH home.

KIMMIE



**Before:** In a Korean foster home.

**After:** In her Troy, OH home.

SHADRACH



**Before:** In a Chinese orphanage.

**After:** In his Polk City FL home (no picture).

FRANCES



**Before:** In a Chinese orphanage.

**After:** In her Memphis, TN home.

CHANDLER



**Before:** In a Chinese orphanage.

**After:** In his Windham, ME home (no picture).

CLAIRE



**Before:** In a Chinese orphanage.

**After:** In her Anthony, FL home.

ALEXANDER



**Before:** In a Guatemalan foster home.

**After:** In his Hamilton, OH home.

ISABEL



**Before:** In a Chinese orphanage.

**After:** In her Silverdale, WA home (no picture).



## Banquet Underwriters

We are once again looking for corporate sponsors to help underwrite the cost of our upcoming Celebration Banquet. If you are in a position to make decisions about charitable contributions for your company, or if you know someone in such a position, we urge you to consider prayerfully if you might be able to assist us.

If you would like to help, contact us from our web site or call us at 513-844-8873.

### RAYA AND EDIK



**Before:** In a Russian orphanage.

**After:** In their Kelso, WA home.

### SAMUEL AND SUSANNA



**Before:** In a Guatemalan orphanage.

**After:** In their Waterloo, IL home.

### CALEB



**Before:** In a Chinese orphanage.

**After:** In his Lakeland, FL home.

We invite you to join us as we  
**CELEBRATE ANOTHER YEAR**  
of God's goodness at our  
**5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CELEBRATION  
BANQUET**

THE SHEPHERD'S CROOK MINISTRIES  
**CELEBRATION  
BANQUET**



JUNE 24<sup>TH</sup> | FAIRFIELD, OH | 6P - 10P

Go to [www.theshepherds-crook.org](http://www.theshepherds-crook.org) to register, beginning in late April.



## OUT FROM THE NATIONS “I will bring them out from the nations and into their own land.”

*The following adoptions have been started since our last issue:*



MARCUS

**Waiting:** In a Korean foster home.

**Coming home:** To Emerson, NJ.



STEPHEN

**Waiting:** In a Chinese orphanage.

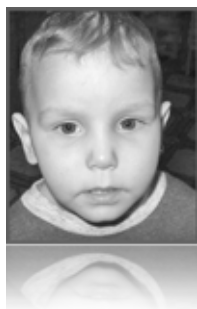
**Coming home:** To Nolensville, TN.



KAI SHI

**Waiting:** In a Chinese orphanage.

**Coming home:** To East Hardwick, VT.



IVAN

**Waiting:** In a Russian orphanage

**Coming home:** To Batavia, OH.



LIN LI

**Waiting:** In a Chinese orphanage.

**Coming home:** To Rowlett, TX.



MIN BAO

**Waiting:** In a Chinese orphanage.

**Coming home:** To Franklin, TN.



DANIEL

**Waiting:** In a Chinese orphanage.

**Coming home:** To Stokesdale, NC.



OWEN

**Waiting:** In a Chinese orphanage.

**Coming home:** To Dover, DE.



DELLA

**Waiting:** In a Chinese orphanage.

**Coming home:** To Lawrenceville, GA.



JORDAN

**Waiting:** In a Chinese orphanage.

**Coming home:** To Tecumseh, MI.



LILLIAN

**Waiting:** In an East Asian orphanage.

**Coming home:** To Skandia, MI.



RUBEN

**Waiting:** In a Guatemalan foster home.

**Coming home:** To Cincinnati, OH.



*L*UIS, JUAN, & HIGINIO

**Waiting:** In a Guatemalan orphanage.

**Coming home:** To Madison, AL.



*J*AYDEN

**Waiting:** In a Guatemalan foster home.

**Coming home:** To Lubbock, TX.



*L*OUIS, JOSE, & JULIO

**Waiting:** In a Guatemalan foster home.

**Coming home:** To Fairfield, OH.



*E*VAN & *L*AUREN

**Waiting:** In Guatemalan foster homes.

**Coming home:** To Cincinnati, OH.



*S*ERGEI & *L*ARISSA

**Waiting:** In a Russian orphanage.

**Coming home:** To Felicity, OH.



*J*ACOB & *K*ARINA

**Waiting:** In Guatemalan foster homes.

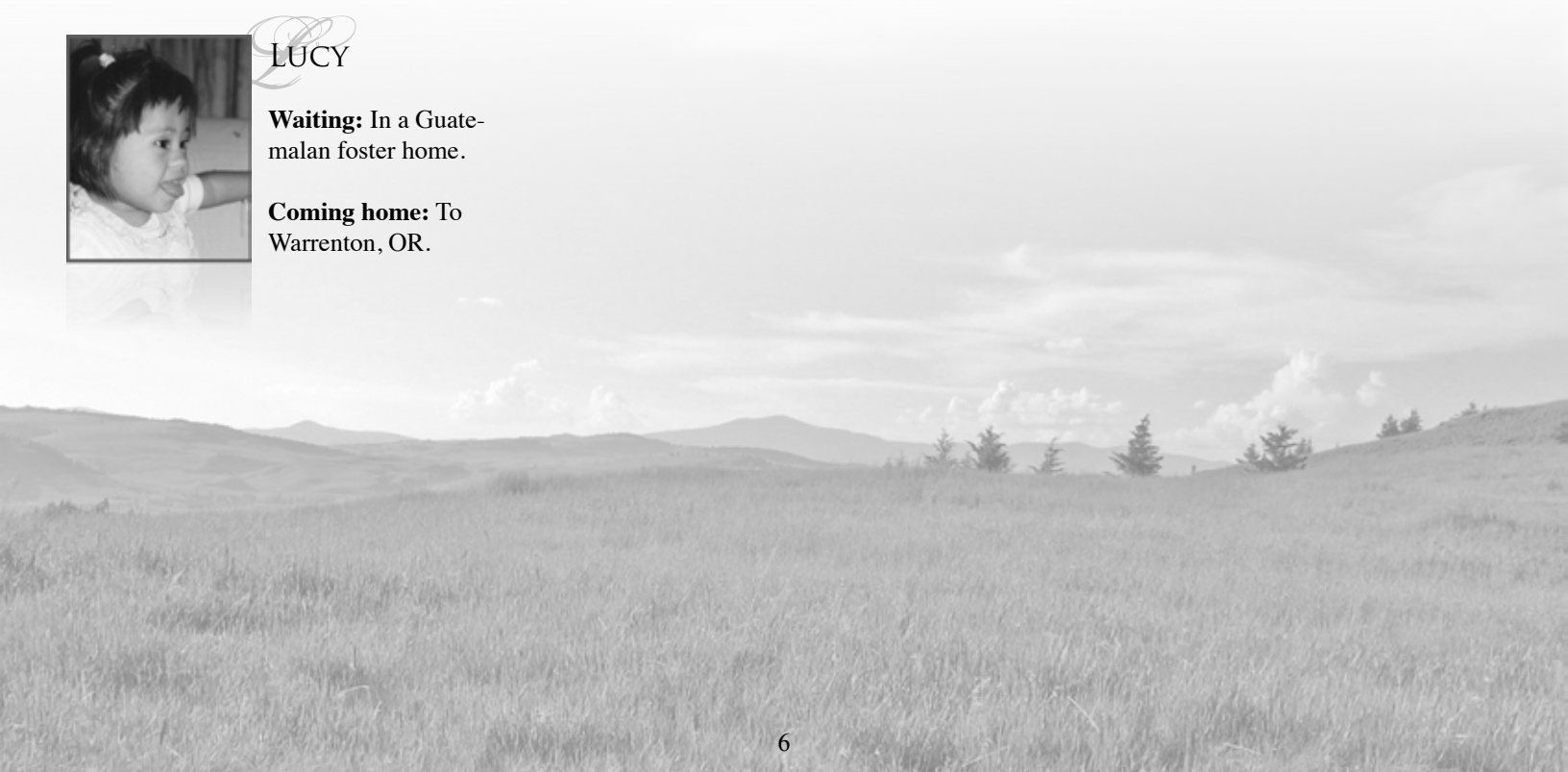
**Coming home:** To Zanesville, OH.



*L*UCY

**Waiting:** In a Guatemalan foster home.

**Coming home:** To Warrenton, OR.





our cheerleader and prayer partner throughout the process. So many calls and notes telling us of their prayers, encouragement through the frustrations, rejoicing with us in the victories. Always letting us know that we were not alone. I don't know what we would have done without them!"

Throughout the struggles of waiting, red tape, and countless pages of paperwork, God's blessings shone brightly. God's provision of the necessary money to complete Kimmie's adoption, the strengthening of Daryl and Wanda's marriage, and the constant support and community provided by Dillon International Inc. and The Shepherd's Crook, helped the Fulp's to persevere.

One year after the adoption of her two older sisters, on November 1, 2005, Kimmie came home. The Fulp's find it difficult imagining life before Kimmie; she has captured their hearts. While life has gotten busier since she came home—due to her numerous doctors and physical therapy appointments—she is a constant source of joy and laughter for the family.

When asked to describe Kimmie's personality, Daryl said, "She has a strong will and a wonderful sense of humor. She learns quickly and is anxious to try new things. She loves American food, taking walks, riding in the car, music, and playing with blocks and cell phones. She especially loves to sing. She hates naps, not getting her way, and having to wait for our family to pray before eating."

When asked what advice they would give to parents considering adoption they said, "First, take time to pray and make sure it is God's will for your family. You will need to cling to that call during the frustrating times. Second, don't let finances keep you from adopting. God is more than able to provide the money you need as you follow His call in adoption. Third, be patient, and trust God's timing. No matter how long it takes, God is in control and has a purpose for the process. That enables you to relax through the red tape and delays. Finally, surround yourself with support! Supportive agencies, friends, and other adoptive families can be a great help through the process."

Because of their experience adopting Kimmie, the Fulp's have learned to live in a world of waiting. They learned patience in the face of frustration and that God has the ability to overcome any obstacles to accomplish His will. Reflecting on this experience, Daryl said, "we have gained a greater heart for the fatherless in our world! We are prayerfully considering leaving the pastorate to pursue a full-time ministry of promoting adoption in churches and providing adoption assistance to families going through the process."

immediately flew Alison to Guatemala to assist Melissa in caring for Maria until the visa could be arranged. I can't possibly convey what that weekend was like. Alison arrived late on Saturday, and they didn't even really sleep that night. Every time Maria slipped into a deep sleep, she would turn blue and they would have to rouse her to get her color to improve. All day Sunday and through that night was pretty much the same. They had arranged to attempt the visa interview on Tuesday, but a necessary element in that process was to obtain a letter from a Guatemalan physician to the effect that the treatment Maria needed was unavailable in Guatemala, and that she needed to get to the U.S. for treatment. Alison and Melissa took Maria to UNICAR Monday morning and presented their case. This time, however, the doctor who saw them—a different doctor than the one who turned Maria away earlier—said that the baby was very sick and needed surgery immediately, and that it could be done at UNICAR. An echocardiogram was performed that same afternoon, and the doctor who administered and interpreted the test said that Maria was so severe that she needed surgery that very evening. He was certain that she would not survive the night without the surgery, and he was willing to do it himself. Wow! This was certainly an unexpected turn of events.

We decided that we had no choice but to proceed. They took Maria in for a heart-catheter surgical procedure to insert a stent into a blood vessel at her heart, to divert some of the blood flow directly to her lungs so as to better oxygenate her tiny body. The result was very good: her blood oxygen saturation levels (sats) rose immediately, and she began growing healthier right away. We had a bit of a scare again on Wednesday, when her sats fell dramatically and she had to be rushed back to the cath. lab for another procedure to insert a second stent. Maria has been doing great since then, and we are now watching her thrive and

grow in a foster home while she awaits her adoption. I think Alison and Melissa both aged about ten years that week, as they through the grace of God poured they hearts and energies into keeping this fragile and beautiful child alive. We really believe that God used these two young women as His agents in placing His healing hands on Maria, and we are grateful to them for their devotion and compassion and to all of you. And the best part for us now is that we, Kathy and I, have been given the privilege of pursuing Maria's adoption. She will need a major heart surgery sometime around four to six months of age, and we are praying that we will be able to complete her adoption in time for her to have that surgery here in the States.

Less than three weeks after returning to San Diego from Guatemala, Alison flew to Romania for a four-week trip, during which she was to secure a medical visa for Ali—mentioned earlier. Ali was born with tetralogy of Fallot, a congenital heart defect comprising four separate heart anomalies. We learned of him on one of Alison's trips to Romania a couple of years ago; he was severely cyanotic (blueish skin due to inadequate oxygen supply to the body) and languid. Through the generosity of TSC supporters, we were able to arrange for a temporary surgery for Ali, to prolong his life and allow him to grow strong enough for the permanent repair of his tetralogy. However, the option of the final repair within Romania, which at one time was held to us out as a possibility, soon evaporated, and we initiated plans to bring Ali to the States for surgery. We made arrangements with an excellent cardiac facility in Portland, Maine for the procedure, free of charge, and we were able to line up a family in the area to host Ali during his time here. At the conclusion of Alison's four weeks in Romania, Kathy was to fly over to help her escort Ali home, and then we were to fly him up to Maine for the surgery and two-month recovery. However, there was a hitch in the plans. On Monday, February 27, Alison went to the American Consulate in Bucharest to apply for the emergency medical visa, and we were denied. This was a devastating blow, since we knew we had all of the paperwork and supporting data to justify the visa, and everything seemed in order. But the consular official who conducted the interview was not convinced that Ali would return to Romania following his surgery, and so she denied the petition. As I said, we all—and especially Alison—were devastated by this setback. Not only were all of our plans in jeopardy, but Ali's very life was now at risk. Uncorrected tetralogy of Fallot usually results in the death of the patient by the age of twenty. For us, "let it be" was simply not an option. Once again, though, God had something in mind that we had not imagined. The surgeon in Romania who had done Ali's temporary repair and who had initially promised to do the final repair, on which he subsequently reneged, had been very cool and even rude to our contact during the time since Ali's temporary repair. At one point he even hung up on the telephone call he was having with our attorney, who was acting on our behalf to try to get Ali the treatment he needed. Our attorney decided to call this physician one more time, just to ask his reasons for refusing to do the surgery. This time, when the attorney asked the question, the surgeon said something like, "OK, I'll do it." We were all floored when we heard this! What caused him to completely reverse himself and agree to do the procedure? We don't know, but we are proceeding anyway, thanking God for making a way for us to help this little boy. The surgery is scheduled for March 21—next week, as I write this. Alison is extending her time in Romania so she can be there for the surgery. By the time this newsletter is in the mail, the surgery should be complete. Please join us in praying that the doctor will honor his word this time and actually do the surgery, and that God would protect Ali throughout.

Finally, in the midst of all of this, we have been undergoing a bit of a shake-up in The Shepherd's Crook. Several of our Board members, who have been serving for a number of years now, came to the conclusion that it was time for them to rotate off of the Board. Additionally, we have been presented with an opportunity to get the word out to the churches about adoption and how Christians can get involved. Daryl Fulp, a friend of this ministry and TSC Dad (see their story on p.2), approached us with the idea of coming on staff specifically for the purpose of traveling around to speak in churches and similar forums, to challenge believers to take a look at how God views adoption—how important it is to Him—and to consider how they might get involved, either through pursuing adoptions themselves or by financially supporting the adoptions of others. We are even now making plans to implement this exciting step in our ministry, and we ask you to join us in praying that God will make it possible and that He will direct us throughout, to ensure that our efforts and our zeal do not get ahead of our desire and determination to serve Him faithfully.

As you can see, there has been a lot going on since the holidays. We have been busy, at times we have been stressed and exhausted, and we have even at times wondered once again if we were supposed to continue. But God has indeed confirmed to us that we are to continue, and that He is not yet done with The Shepherd's Crook Ministries. So, as I have said on many occasions, please continue to pray with us and for us as we strive to do this work in a way that leads clearly and consistently to God's glory.

Thank you, Father. Amen.





# *Bind up the Broken* SUPPLY PROJECTS

*We have recently launched two new branches of our Supply Project initiative; one in Guatemala and another in Romania. Find out how you can help with these new projects below.*

## PROJECT: GUATEMALA

There is a desperate need in Guatemalan foster homes and orphanages for Desitin or Balmex, as well as infant and children's Tylenol. We want to begin supplying this need there. Our Guatemala Family Coordinator, Melissa Scott, travels down often enough that she will be able to deliver these things for us, so we are asking any who feel led, to begin supplying us with these items. We have a new TSC volunteer, Kate Fey, who will be heading up this project for us. She will collect and store the supplies, and then ship them to Melissa whenever it's time for Melissa to travel down to Guatemala. The first shipment has already been sent, but this will be an ongoing project, so please let your churches and adoption groups know about it. Contact Kate, at [babysupplies@theshepherdscook.org](mailto:babysupplies@theshepherdscook.org), to arrange getting the items to her. If you aren't local, she will tell you where to send them. To clarify, specific items needed are as follows:

- Desitin diaper cream;
- Balmex diaper cream (We have been told that the foster moms prefer this brand);
- Infant's Tylenol (Generic brand is fine);
- Children's Tylenol (Generic brand is fine).

Thank you for your help. We would love to be able to make a difference in this way for the babies waiting in Guatemala for families.

## PROJECT: ROMANIA

The second project will provide help for abandoned babies in Romania. A social worker there, who for the past three years has served as liaison for us in getting help to the children of Romania, has told us that there is an urgent need for baby formula for the babies abandoned at the maternity hospital. We can't ship the formula, but we can send the money monthly for our liaison to purchase it. She needs \$100 a month to provide enough formula for the babies. We aren't asking any one person to provide the full \$100---any portion of it would be very helpful. If monthly commitments exceed \$100, then we will also be providing diapers for these babies. Often the babies only get changed once a day because there aren't enough diapers, and sometimes they can't be diapered at all because they run out. Due to Romanian adoption laws, these children will not be able to be adopted and leave Romania, but God has still called us to care for them in tangible ways. This is a way in which we can directly touch the lives of these babies. Please contact Alison, our Romania Family Coordinator, at [alison@theshepherdscook.org](mailto:alison@theshepherdscook.org), for more information. Gifts for this project---which, of course, are tax-deductible---should be as follows:

Payable to: The Shepherd's Crook Ministries;  
Designated for: Supply Project: Romania;  
Mailed to: The Shepherd's Crook Ministries  
P.O. Box 773  
West Chester, OH 45071.

These new projects will be on our web site soon, and you will also be able to donate from there. Thank you for your prayers and support for these children.



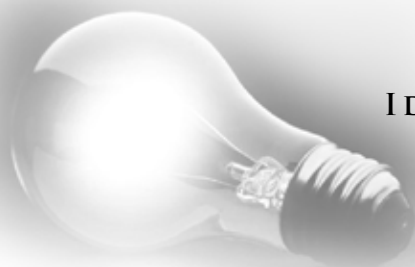
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THE *Shepherd's Crook*  
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for our newsletter.

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