

SHILOH
Christian Children's Ranch

Results



SINCE 1977 • MARCH 2025

Saving Children's Lives in Christian Homes

An update for supporters and others interested in the ministry of Shiloh Christian Children's Ranch.



Here is
our
"Why?"

Shiloh
steps into
a new season
of growth.

The Lord make His face to shine upon you, And be gracious to you;
– Numbers 6:25

Spring Training

Roster Changes for Team Shiloh

Spring Training is underway for Major League Baseball. Names are being jostled and juggled as managers look for a championship lineup. You may have also noticed some roster changes for Team Shiloh.



Kevin Blew

By the end of February, we filled all parenting positions at the ranch and with the “front office” administrative staff. There have also been some changes of titles among that crew to reflect adjustments in current responsibilities.

Mark retains his original title of Executive Director, or team coach/manager.

Mari joined the team in January as Director of Accounting and Finance, following Amy Bishop’s retiring after 19 undefeated seasons.

Jenn (EAA) took the field last summer. Her job as Executive Administrative Assistant find her supplementing the Executive Director, technology, and compliance with ministry and governmental policies.

Our AAA player, Mandy, is not a rookie to this squad. A change of title to Administrative and Accounting Associate reflects a greater focus on the financial and accounting duties.

Robyn’s Ministry Resource Manager tasks include human resources, property inventory, and onboarding new staff. She was also a summer acquisition to the lineup.

Another veteran utility fielder for us is Nikki, now serving as Ministry Support Secretary. She balances between serving the administrative needs of the CSC and DOS, and many other duties.

Denice’s retirement from 40 years of homeparenting brings tremendous insights when fielding requests for children to be placed at Shiloh. A new title of Children’s Service Coordinator denotes some additional responsibilities.

Kevin has been working as Stewardship Officer for a few years and has recently been upgraded to Director of Stewardship.

Shiloh Christian School is expanding its portion of the team too! The Teacher/Supervisor position fills a vital role like a Position Coach, helping students overcoming deficits in certain academic areas while encouraging progress in areas of strength. Interviews are in progress! ■

Cherish the Day!
Kevin Blew



Shiloh Christian Children’s Ranch

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Mark Adkison
Executive Director



Jenn McCain
Executive Administrative Associate



Mari Fahrendorf
Director of Accounting & Finance



Mandy Eagan
Accounting & Administrative Associate



Kevin Blew
Director of Stewardship



Denice Blew
Children’s Services Coordinator



Nikki Otto
Ministry Support Secretary



Robyn Coleman
Ministry Resource Manager



Kirk & Denna Moore	Homeparents
Todd & Misty Kolars	Homeparents
Jeremy & Ashley Cohn	Homeparents
Ryan & Kimber Stark	Homeparents
Brian & Hannah Ellermets.....	Homeparents
Kam & Mickie Fitzgerald	Homeparents
Ken & Beth Penfield.....	Homeparents & SCS Administrators
Alice Gardner.....	SCS Supervisor
Ann Mason.....	SCS Supervisor
Jessica David.....	Counselor
Cindy Ayers.....	Counselor
Thomas Barhorst.....	Counselor
Roy Fancher.....	Grandparent

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Our "Why?"

Lots Going on and Many New Faces



Jeremy & Ashley Cohn

Well, 2025 is here and this looks to be a year of growth! As many of you know, we completed one new home in 2024 and started on two more homes to be completed this year. The Lord tells us that when we ask in His name, He will fulfill it, and He certainly has continued to deliver for our ministry! Ryan, Kimber Stark and their two boys joined us in May of last year and just welcomed a new son! They moved into the first new home in the relief parent role. Last summer the Van Dyke's transitioned out of their roles after 8 years of service to our ministry and left an opening that Kam and Mickie Fitzgerald are now filling in house C3. Our next new home was completed in late February. We welcomed Brian, Hannah Ellermets and their four children. And then lastly, the third newly built home that is set to be completed this summer will be our family's new home, House C6 (all our kids are pretty excited about this completion!!!!)

We look forward to seeing many of you this summer as we serve together through work & fellowship!

Lots going on and many new faces are continuing to be added, which is exciting because God is allowing us to reach more children and families in need. We are joining our lights and igniting a much brighter flame for our Lord and for our communities to see. All of this is, of course, possible only through the help of donors and partners like you. We treasure each one of you that pray, serve and donate towards our ministry to help us love each child the Lord sends our way.

One of those very special ways we receive support is through the Christmas gifts that churches send. We are always so blessed to share the light of Christ and you all really showed up this Christmas! We would like to thank all of you who sent gifts and donations to our families this past holiday season.

We have already added to our family this year putting our total kiddo count at 9! Our newest addition is a 12-year-old girl from New Jersey named Kate. Kate is attending our on-site school along with Jacob and Zeke. Our other 6 kids attend the public school and are doing very well.

*May the Lord bless you
and may His face shine
upon you this year.*

As the year begins and swiftly gains momentum, we ask for your continued prayers. Prayers for safety, health, smooth transitions, wisdom as we seek new children to fill our homes, guidance for homeparents, and unity as we serve our Lord through this ministry.

Thank you once again for your partnership with us! Your willingness to serve our God through support of our ministry is truly a gift that keeps on giving. We look forward to seeing many of you this summer as we serve together through work & fellowship! May the Lord bless you and may His face shine upon you this year. ■

*In Him,
Jeremy, Ashley & Cohn Crew*



Our "Why?"

What Two Colors I Would Use to Describe 2025

This update is kind of strange because it wraps up 2024 and covers some exciting 2025 updates. There is a new kid on the ranch, and he asked me what two colors I would use to describe 2025. Kind of an odd question but I took the bait. First, I said "white", because it reminds me that 2025 is a blank canvas starting fresh and we can choose to make it what we want. Then I said "yellow", because it reminds me of sun, warmth, happy and positive vibes that help me paint the picture of how I look at life in 2025.

November is a holiday month for most in Missouri, it's deer season! Ryan got all his residency paperwork finalized just in time to grab a hunting permit before rifle season. This was the first year that Harvey was able to go hunting with Ryan and he was EXCITED! We had taken out several sets of kids earlier in the month to sit in the blind and watch for deer in the evenings. Many had never done anything like that, so to let them use the binoculars and range finder to see deer was a cool experience. Harvey and Ryan went out one evening and every single deer Harvey thought they should shoot. Patience paid off and they were able to shoot an 8 point buck that evening. Jeremy Cohn and Ryan tag-teamed deer processing this year and were able to make over 100 pounds of deer sausage. Some of the kids got to experience cutting meat, then using the grinder, mixing all the seasoning, and then stuffing the sausage tubes full of meat. We even made deer bologna this year to try something new!

One of the outings we did with kids while on relief was take a group to Quincy and visit Krazy Town Trampoline Park. This is a Christian-owned business that really strives to provide a safe and uplifting atmosphere to those who enter the building. The Cohn kids loved being able to go crazy and burn every ounce of energy they had in their body. On the way home we were incredibly hungry and found a deal on the McDonalds app and ordered 80 chicken nuggets for the ride back to Shiloh!

One afternoon we sent a message out to all the parents and said, "It's going to be a warm afternoon. Send your kids over after church and we will watch them until supper time." We had lots of outdoor games planned. Kids rode bikes, played ladder golf, drew with sidewalk chalk, and got a lesson in how to throw color guard flags with Kimber (She was pretty awesome back in the day)!

We can't get enough of the beautiful sunrises that God gives us here at Shiloh! We love that our house faces east and that we get to look out the window every morning and



Ryan & Kimber Stark

see the sunrise during breakfast. One morning was especially stunning and we had to pause breakfast and just go out and marvel. What a creative God we have!

Keeping our marriage strong is important as homeparents. Kids need to see that parents love each other unconditionally, communicate, and take time out for each other. We were able to go to dinner and a concert in Moberly one evening in November to see Disciple, a band Ryan has been following since before he could even drive! They have a side project called Honor and Glory which is focused on worship style songs with a rock flair to them. While there Kimber felt called to sponsor a child when the opportunity was presented. We now sponsor Daissy from Ecuador in addition to Dariel from the Dominican Republic.

During major holidays such as Thanksgiving and Christmas it's usually quiet for the relief house. Kids are with their parents traveling to see family or spending time together making memories. We took the opportunity to invite Kimber's parents out to stay for a few days and visit. It was nice to catch them up on all the new things we have going on at Shiloh. We were able to take a side by side ride and show them some new projects and new animals we have, then be able to share a meal and have some family bonding time ourselves.

Christmas at Shiloh can be hard for some kids. Some don't have great relationships with their family while others have a really good rapport with their biological family. So we really try to be sensitive when we talk about Christmas traditions and family get togethers. We have some marvelous and generous donors that love our Shiloh kids and lav-

ish Christmas presents on them. It really humbled us, as it's our first year here at Shiloh. We had no clue what to expect from Christmas and what the donors send to our kids and us homeparents. A big thank you to all who gave generously this year to make Christmas special for the families here.

That leads into our monthly focus on persecuted Christians in different areas of the world. We decided in 2025 that we would pick a different country every month and share with the kids about what the geography and demographics of that country are, what religions are there, and how Christians are needing prayer in that country. We also make an authentic meal from that country to help connect with what we are learning. In January we focused on Japan and February we will be covering Italy.

We took our time off at the end of January hoping that the baby might come then but no luck . . .

Harvey has enjoyed Tri-County Christian school and is learning so many cool things. One thing that the school does is help kids learn to memorize scripture. The preschoolers memorized John 2:10-14 for the Christmas program. Can you believe a 4 year old can say five verses all together nearly word perfect??? We are so blessed that Tri-County is helping many of our kids hide God's word in their hearts (Psalm 119:11).

It wouldn't be a Midwest winter without at least one big snowstorm. The snow was a gorgeous blanket of white across the landscape of Shiloh this winter. Ryan had an idea to create a ski-bike for the kids to try this year. After a few quick searches on YouTube, he had the plans, and the kids had a blast. If you are familiar with the layout of Shiloh, the hill to the west of the Penfield house faces the neighboring

camp. The kids could slide down the Penfield hill over the two roads and almost to the edge of the pond!

Ryan grew up skiing in Colorado and had purchased some skis to hopefully get Harvey into skiing one day. This year was the second time we tried it and had a really positive experience with Harvey going down the hill by the Cohn house a few times with Ryan's help.

The day after deer season officially ended, we had another big snow, and it covered the fields pretty well, so the deer were forced to look elsewhere for food. The new grass between the Ellermets' and Starks' house wasn't cut all year to help the roots grow deeper and that meant we had longer grass for the deer to eat. We counted over 20 deer between our houses one evening. The kids loved watching them out the windows for nearly 30 minutes.

Kimber has been teaching an elective at SCS and had Ryan help one week making paper airplanes. It was fun to see the kids try different styles of planes, and adding paper clips to balance them out, and then perfecting the perfect toss to make the plane so far, do loop-de-loops, or have enough loft to just float in the air for awhile.

Another tell-tale sign of a Midwest winter is the invasion of sicknesses! Our house had a few rough times throughout the winter thus far but lots of rest and fluids helped us get by.

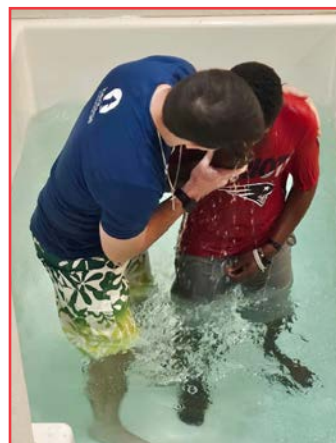
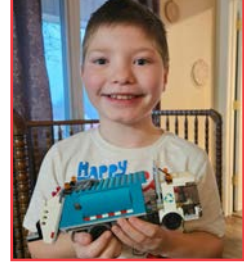
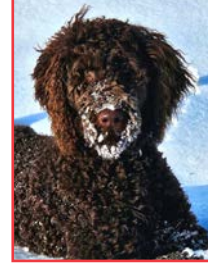
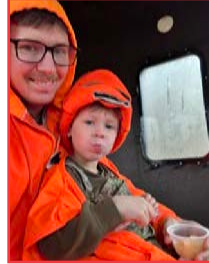
We took our time off at the end of January hoping that the baby might come then but no luck, just Influenza A for Harvey, Gibson, and Kimber. Then on the morning of February 1st at 3:30am, Kimber had that feeling she'd felt with the other two kids and... it was time to have a baby! She started timing contractions, woke Ryan up at 5:30 and we were heading to the hospital. Baby Baylor Samuel Stark was born at 7:59am. Official stats are 19" long, 8lb 9oz, and a full head of hair! ■

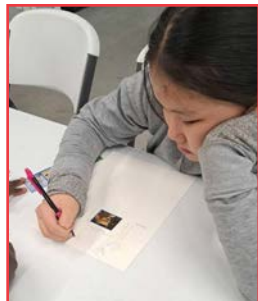
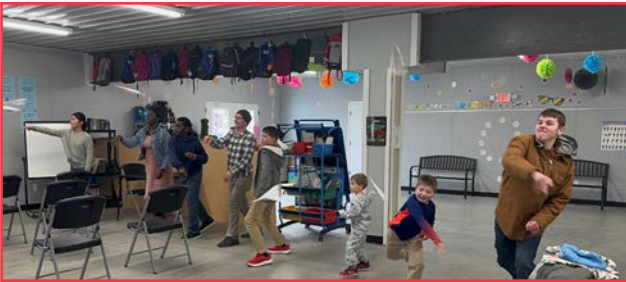
*Grace and Peace,
Ryan and Kimber Stark*

Legacy Gift

Do you want to make a difference for the Kingdom of God even after you pass on from this life? One powerful way you can accomplish this would be through a planned gift to Shiloh. There are many ways to make a planned gift, so we recommend that you discuss it with your financial planner to see what solution is best for you. Please call us at phone number (573) 588-2191, if there is any way we can assist you.

"Why?" OUR





Our "Why?"

A Decade of Busy

Greetings from the Kolars, I hope the new year has brought as many blessings to you as we have received here at Shiloh. We just finished up a great weekend. Our annual crews from Eastern Illinois University Campus House and First Christian Church of Greenville, Il were here. Every year on President's Day weekend, these two groups work alongside us to get our firewood bins full. For those two days we will cut, split, throw, haul, and stack wood. The groups brought roughly 70 hard-working people. There were tons of jobs done, tons of food, and tons of fellowship. We always look forward to these crews. God has blessed this place with so many who are willing to come and serve.

A quick update about our 3 bio kids, who are out on their own now. Titus is still serving as Associate Minister at our church, Shelbina Christian Church. He leads the youth program and now is leading the worship ministry. He also preaches 5 or 6 times per year. Makenna got married last October. She and her husband, Yousef, live in St. Louis. Yousef has a degree in Civil Engineering and works as a project manager for ARCO. Makenna is working toward a certification to do medical coding. Asher gave some big news not too long ago. He and his high school sweetheart, Emma, are engaged! The date is set for this summer, June 21st. It's approaching fast. He's currently a sophomore at the University of Central Missouri, studying Music Technology. Emma is finishing her degree in occupational therapy.

*We thank all of you
for all the prayers
and generosity.*

As of February 21st, I'm proud to say Misty and I officially have been houseparents here at Shiloh for 10 years! Where those years went, I don't know. It just seems like they flew by. All we know is they were in God's hands, and all the years to come will be as well. When you're busy time flies by. And being busy is what we are. We currently have 8 kids who keep us running and make life "interesting." We love all of them as our own and pray they do well in life.

Bella, a junior, is toward the end of basketball season. She plays varsity for the South Shelby Ladybirds. They are having an awesome season, finishing the regular with



Todd & Misty Kolars

23 wins and only 3 losses, and currently ranked 4th in the state in Class 3. The post-season games are up next. She's a lot of fun to watch. Many people in the community have told us she's their favorite player to watch out on the court. She gets pretty aggressive at times. She's yet to foul out this year though, unlike previous years. She's doing great in school and plans to throw shot put for upcoming track season. Prayers for her please as her senior year and life beyond fast approaches.

Brooklynn, our other junior girl, is enjoying not being in a busy season. She cheered on the varsity football cheer squad last fall. She also does great in school and plans on getting a part-time job during her down time. Got to get her to pass that pesky driving test first though. She'll get it. Senior year is coming right up, so prayers appreciated.

Ethan, our sophomore boy, is keeping busy with being on the South Shelby archery team, pep band drumming, and FFA things. He also enjoys lifting weights and staying fit. He's a football player, and even though the season is over, he's already looking forward to playing in the fall.

Samentha, our freshman girl, tried basketball for the first time, and enjoyed it. She did well. As a freshman, she stayed primarily on the JV squad and got some great experience. She liked it enough to plan on going out again next year. Running is her first love though, and she's very good at it. She talks about the upcoming track season nearly every day. She makes it easy to cheer for her.

Devin, our 7th grade boy, participates in middle school archery at South Shelby. He also plays trombone in band. He's a reserved, hardworking kiddo. He likes to go around the ranch with me doing whatever work I'm doing.

Kendall, our 6th grade boy, attends Shiloh Christian School. He did alright at South Shelby elementary, but we thought he'd do a little better at our on-site school. We were right. Academically and socially, he's doing so much better. He can also spend hours making Lego creations. He loves building things and taking stuff apart.

Larry, our 5th grader, attends Tri-County Christian School in nearby Macon. He's a smart kiddo, too smart for his own good. If he's not challenged, he doesn't always want to do the work or do it well. He's coming along though. He loves to read, likes to take things apart, and is well established as our house comedian.

Julianna, our 4th grade girl, also attends Tri-County Christian School. Julianna is your biggest fan, even if she doesn't know you. If she can keep from socializing, she does pretty well in school. She is our buzzing little social bee. She

likes to work on cheers and cheerleading moves with her old sister Brooklynn.

We thank all of you for all the prayers and generosity.

*Prayer is so powerful.
We pray for you and your churches.*

After 10 years of doing this, we have seen God work so much in our lives and in the lives of our kiddos. Prayer is so powerful. We pray for you and your churches. Thanks again for blessing this ministry. ■

*Thank You!
Todd and Misty Kolars*

MARK MY WORDS

Finding Great Momentum

Empowered by God's Love and Yours

It is a battle. Everyday a conflict. Who is going to win? Who is going to gain the upper hand in winning the focus of my heart, mind, and soul? The choices I make determine the thoughts I have, the words I speak, and the actions that I live out. Will they be for the good of others and for God or will they be selfishly for me alone? I think about where I am in my Christian walk and I have to fight every day for the choices that I make. I should be able to stand up to Satan's attacks and be stronger. Then I think how the great apostle Paul had a hard time doing this like he shared in Romans 7. It is a tough battle that needs to be won. But...

Then I look at the children that we are caring for in our Shiloh homes. They come from such varied situations. They come with trauma, experiences of neglect and/or abuse, and some with no relationship with God at all.



Mark Adkison

for those children that come our way.

Our Shiloh Family works together to strengthen each other in the daily battle for our focus so we can be there for our children. Our homeparents and staff work diligently to ask for God's help and to be winners in this battle so we can be the examples of Christ we need to be. Then our children can experience the love and direction they so desperately want and deserve. We want to be the conduit for our children to see they can win the battle by learning about Christ's love for them and who can be by their side in the daily conflict for their souls. Like Paul said in Romans 7:25, "Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!"

As we thank God for His wonderful love and deliverance, our Shiloh Family thanks each of you for your love for Shiloh! We are thankful that you are in the "battle" with us as we work each day to love and care for our children. Satan prowls (1 Peter 5:7) to devour and uses his schemes (Ephesians 6:11) to wage war. We are so appreciative that each of you are alongside us as we fight to save the souls and lives of our Shiloh children.

Please keep praying and supporting Shiloh as "the day of evil comes," that we will be able to stand our ground, and after we have done everything to stand to protect and teach our children the love of Christ! ■

*In Christ's Love,
Mark*

We are so appreciative that each of you are alongside us as we fight to save the souls and lives of our Shiloh children.

Most have no idea what they are up against or that there is even a war for their young hearts, minds, and souls! Talk about a battle! That is why Shiloh is such an important place

IN LOVING MEMORY

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Mary Aylward

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Mary Aylward

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Our "Why?"

MOORES' MUSINGS

With All Endings Come New Beginnings

An era is coming to an end. Nine years ago, we had the three Claypool kids and the three Moores, plus Sierra and Mercy. Then we added the three Lootens. Having 9 kids, from ages 1 year to 12 years, was an adventure. Laundry piles, lunch packing, listening to reading homework, and going everywhere with a row of kiddos following was our life.

I was at a ball game recently, and someone asked where my ducklings were. I pointed towards the band, and said, "They grew up."

Now instead of reading homework, we watch ball games, archery, and music performances. Instead of packing lunches, we pack suppers for teams and sack

miss the little people they were; we are so proud of the young adults they are becoming.



Denna & Kirk Moore

Titus is ready to head to Ozark next fall. Ashley is loving her new job at H&R Block. Heaven passed her driver's test, and was ready to help haul archery kids. Grace has her permit and is ready for the snow to melt. Mirlanda has really kicked it in, passing her P.A.C.E.s at Shiloh Christian School, and earning lots of lunches out. Hunter has improved a lot in archery this year. Ezra and Luke have been learning new tricks on their roller skates. Elisha and Ezmae have been enjoying their roller skates too. It's such a blessing for them to be able to skate inside the lower level of the bunkhouse on these cold days of winter.

With all endings come new beginnings, as we add two more new home parent couples and fill their houses with new kids. A new, united, full season is about to begin, and we are excited to see what God has in store.

Thank you for being part of the adventure. ■

*Blessings,
The Moores*

suppers for when there isn't enough time to come home.

In May, Titus and Ashley will graduate, and just like that the 9 will be down to 5. Although there are times when we

Our "Why?"

We Are Dedicated to Serving Here at Shiloh and Giving All the Glory to God



Kam & Mickie Fitzgerald

welcoming home. Unpacking each item has been like rediscovering cherished memories, each object whispering stories of our past and hopes for our future. It's truly amazing how quickly this place has begun to feel like ours. More than just a move, this feels like the start of a whole new and exciting chapter for our family.

Beyond setting up our own space, we've been eagerly diving into the heart of the Shiloh community. I (Kam) have taken on the delightful responsibility of managing the school driving runs. It's a small task, perhaps, but it's a wonderful way to get to know everyone, support the other houseparents, and contribute to the smooth rhythm of daily life here. It frees them up to focus on other essential tasks, and it fills my heart to know I'm playing a part. We truly feel blessed to be a part of this special place and to have our own "piece of God's sweet pie," as we affectionately call it.

The most exciting news of all, the news that makes our

We're filled with joy to share an update from Shiloh Christian Children's Ranch! The past few months have been a whirlwind of activity as we transitioned from Illinois to Missouri and began building our new life here. It's been an incredible journey transforming a house overflowing with boxes into a warm and

hearted sing, is that we've welcomed our first child into our home! This is such a profound blessing, and our hearts are overflowing with love, hope, and anticipation for him. It's still very early, but we're already covering him in prayer, asking for his healing and growth in every way. We're committed to creating a safe, nurturing, and loving environment where he can truly thrive. We're focusing on helping him understand what a real "home" feels like, perhaps for the first time in his young life. We long for him to discover the unwavering power of faith and to develop positive habits that will serve him well throughout his life. We know there will be challenges, as there always are, but we are committed to loving him unconditionally, providing the stability and support he needs, and guiding him with grace and patience.

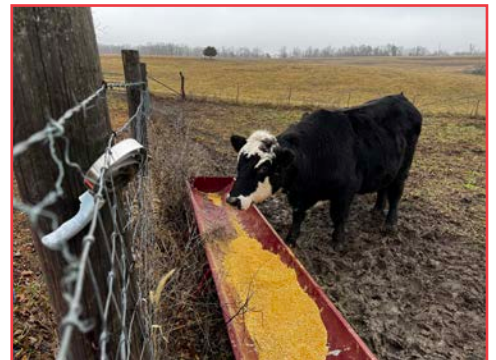
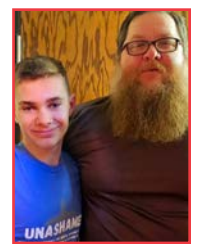
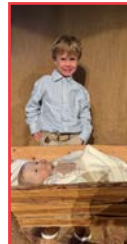


We are so incredibly grateful for the outpouring of love and support we've received from our family, friends, and our church community. Your prayers and encouragement mean the world to us. We're also constantly turning to prayer for our own guidance and strength as we embark on this incredible journey. We know that this path isn't always easy, but we are dedicated to serving here at Shiloh and giving all the glory to God. Thank you, from the bottom of our hearts, for your continued prayers and support. They truly sustain us. ■

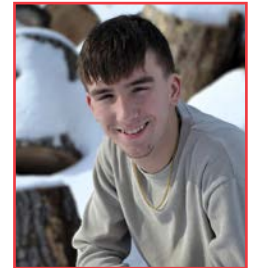
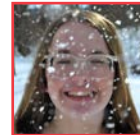
Kam and Mickie Fitzgerald

HONORS GIFTS

Bill & Esther Witsman	Kevin & Julie Renner
Bill & Joanne Ragan	Curtis Farr
Bob & Lisa Gard	Dave & Bonnie Wright
Charles & Betty O'Laughlin	Darwin & Carol Bears
Dan & Janet Bingaman	Brenda Wietholder
Donna Charlton	Doug & Dina Charlton
Greg & Shirley Olson	Glenn & Debbie Foster
Jim & Becky Bilbro	Betty Brown
Jim & Sharon Adwell	Kelly Quinlin
John & Jane Leeser	Bradley & Whitney Trenkamp
Kevin & Debbie Smith	Robert & Beverly Barrett
Kevin & Denice Blew	Randy and Cassandra Grissom
Ron & Catherine McDowell	John Meyer
Ron & Catherine McDowell	Laurie Munson
The Kennedy Family	Alice Solter
Tim Hayden	William & Norma Hayden



OUR
"Why?"



"Why?" OUR



Our "Why?"

PENFIELD PROGRESS

Anticipation for New Children

As the new year began, it seemed like there was a sense of anticipation around our Shiloh site.... anticipating new families moving in soon. That meant seeing lots of professionals at both new houses working on insulation, flooring, drywalls.... Kirk's truck always parked at one or the other as he continued to pour himself into these projects.... our families sometimes help by sweeping or clearing out things needing thrown away, etc. As I write this, we are expecting two different work groups to arrive during this cold, snowy month to help fine-tune some projects so the Ellermets can move in very soon. Quite an exciting time!

There has also been anticipation for new children. One of those new children kept us all on "Baby Alert" for several anxious times as we all anticipated the arrival of the Starks 3rd child...I'd catch myself wondering if my phone dinged in the middle of the night.... everyone making sure all bases were covered..." just in case..." etc.

Well, little Baylor finally made his debut, and he is quite the cutie! Not quite sure who was excited the most... his parents, Ryan and Kimber.... his big brothers, Gibson and Harvey....or his new "Shiloh aunts & uncles/cousins/grandparents" on site! Think little Baylor will never have to worry about finding someone to hold him around here!

There is also anticipation as we realize with two new sets of homeparents comes the arrival of new children on site. The Fitzgeralds just got their first child with anticipation of more soon to come. The Ellermets are also soon to arrive and begin the process as well, so there will be plenty of children around site...shooting hoops at the ball court... helping



Ken & Beth Penfield

with chores on site.... eating around our big tables...etc. We're looking forward to getting to know them as we do relief together with the Starks, and as Ken and I work with them in our school on site.

That being said, there is also anticipation for more help at our school. Many of our students coming in need individual tutoring, direction, and time just to get to know them.

Our classroom numbers will be growing. As new children arrive, they may begin their time in our home to allow time to adapt and time for all of us to get to know them better, seeing where their needs are. As with our other two school supervisors (teachers), we saw God's leading and direction in bringing them to us and know He will do the same with this new need. Please be in prayer for wisdom and direction as we take this new step in expanding.

Anticipation can be a good thing...right now, after a couple of months of ice/snow/bitter cold temperatures and winter flu bugs/sickness that go along with that, we are anticipating the first spotting of flower buds popping through the dirt.... longer days of sunshine.... signs of spring! Same thing with our lives when there are struggles, heartache, tough times...we often don't feel like we'll get through it... but anticipation means we KNOW there's something better around the corner because we KNOW who holds the future!

Thank you for your prayers and support that help us be able to show our children and hurting families just what God can do.... It's not about us but all about HIM! ■

*In His service,
Ken & Beth Penfield*

Your gift is very much appreciated and fully deductible as a charitable contribution. A copy of our latest financial report may be obtained by writing to **Shiloh Christian Children's Ranch, 601 N. Center Street, Shelbina, MO 63468 and 573-588-2191**. Shiloh Christian Children's Ranch was formed in Missouri. If you are a resident of one of these states, you may obtain financial information directly from the state agency: **FLORIDA** – A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE, 1-800-435-7352 (800-HELP-FLA) OR ONLINE AT www.FloridaConsumerHelp.com. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. Florida Registration # **CH47516**. **MARYLAND** – For the cost of copies and postage, Office of the Secretary of State, State House, Annapolis, MD 2140. **MISSISSIPPI** – The official registration and financial information of Shiloh Christian Children's Ranch may be obtained from the Mississippi Secretary of State's office by calling 1-888-236-6167. Registration by the Secretary of State does not imply endorsement. **NEW YORK** – Office of the Attorney General, Department of Law, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271. **NORTH CAROLINA** – FINANCIAL INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION AND A COPY OF ITS LICENSE ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE STATE SOLICITATION LICENSING BRANCH AT 1-888-830-4989. THE LICENSE IS NOT AN ENDORSEMENT BY THE STATE. **PENNSYLVANIA** – The official registration and financial information of Shiloh Christian Children's Ranch may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement; **VIRGINIA** – Virginia State Office of Consumer Affairs, Department of Agricultural and Consumer Services, PO Box 1163, Richmond, VA 23218. **WASHINGTON** – Charities Division, Office of the Secretary of State, State of Washington, Olympia, WA 98504-0422, 1-800-332-4483. **WEST VIRGINIA** – Residents may obtain a summary of the registration and financial documents from the Secretary of State, State Capitol, Charleston, WV 25305. Registration with any of these state agencies does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by any state.

Here is



"Why?"

What happens when we hear with God's heart?

Beyond the urge to sing out with robust, baritone exuberance comes the invitation of the Spirit to soften, and to listen. We are three songs into the worship service replete with the gentle strings of keyboard and guitars, plus rhythmic percussion. It is an upbeat rendition of an ancient lyric, "All Creatures of Our God and King" and I am gently drawn to listen to the cavernous sanctuary filling with the voices of God's people. Majestic in its simplicity.

Then from the nearer reaches of my perception comes a bright, cheerful nearly nine year-old's contributions to the Psalm 100 admonition to joyfulness. My little neighbor girl is standing behind me and she is beaming! Whatsoever she may lack in polish or pitch is lost in an ocean of delight. She has caught her Heavenly Father's ear and she has caught His heart. And in that moment, Ezmae has caught mine too!

Two days earlier, Denice and I had trekked to a college to hear Kierslynn and Ashley perform at the Central Methodist University's annual music festival. Both are older and understandably possess more command of polish and pitch.

It has been a few years since we had musicians involved in such contests and festivals, so we were gloriously pleased to listen from the hallway as the judge asked a previous performer, "Do you have a moment? I like what I'm hearing and I would love to help you become even better..."

After Ashley's flute solo, her judge gave a similar invitation. This gentleman had undoubtedly jotted down an evaluation based upon polish and pitch, but in this moment, he stopped being the Judge and became a Mentor, and an Encourager.

Why is there "Shiloh"? Why do your Prayers and Partnership matter?

Because we give children the opportunity to experience life beyond simple care and feeding, we provide nurture. And a chance to realize the Ultimate Judge of the Universe has a very beautiful heart and He earnestly desires to help us "become even better". Then, because perfection cannot be achieved, He gives us Grace. He gives us Jesus.

Cherish the Day!
Kevin Blew

Save the
DATE

SHILOH OPEN HOUSE
SEPTEMBER 6, 2025

*More details
to follow!*