



Siloam Missionary Homes

"providing housing to missionaries for a lifetime..."

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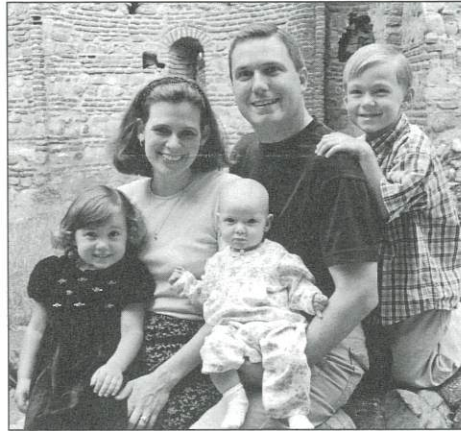
Too Good To Be True

BY CARMEN PHILLIPS

Have you ever lived in a home the size of a small motel room with three little kids? How about a home with pieces of the floor missing, showing the ground underneath? Have you ever fixed up a place up only to have the landlord triple the rent because now "it looks so nice?" What about a place where none of the appliances work and your time there is so short that it is not worth fixing them?

Home is a place that conjures up images of safety and security for most, but for us this has not always been the case. In fact, when asked the question, "Where are you from?" both my husband and I find ourselves looking at each other uncomfortably wondering how we should respond this time. You see, growing up as MK's (missionary kids) and then deciding to go into missions ourselves, home has never had the permanence or security that it does for so many. In fact, the issue of "home" is for us the single most difficult issue we have encountered again and again in the missionary life.

The issue of "home" arose for us once again last December as we began trying to figure out where to go during our time in the States for furlough. After all, we have supporting churches from Alaska to Florida and both sets of our parents live in places that we have never lived before. Finding affordable, short-term housing is difficult enough,



Missionaries Dale and Carmen Phillips with their three children.

but add to that the fact that we own no furniture nor such household items as a telephone or an iron. The thought of purchasing things to once again give them all away in a year was discouraging to say the least. One night, while thinking about what to do, we typed in the words "missionary housing" on our computer and up came a place called **Siloam Missionary Homes**. The pictures looked so nice and the price was unbelievably low. The situation looked too good to be true, and we discussed at length what the "catch" might be or if they just had a really good photographer. We called to see if there would be any availability for us and when there was we were thrilled, but still a bit skeptical as to what the situation would be.

We arrived in March, after being in

Romania for four years, and were shown a beautiful home for our family. We never could have imagined it would be so nice. Being a creative person myself, aesthetics are so important to me, but often something I have to let go of in this lifestyle. Here the home was put together so nicely with each room color coordinated and beautiful. In the backyard we saw a playground...my kids call it a park. They have never been able to just run outside and play and climb and swing. What a treat for them too. The fellowship with the other missionaries has been wonderful for us and our kids. Where else could they or we have instant friendships? Every time we turn around it seems that something else is being done for us, from milk being donated to Dad's Country Store, to new socks or diapers. I can't tell you how much this helps us and how nice it is to come "home" to a place where we are so blessed by blessings and not additional obligations.

We are also happy to be so near such good medical care. We are expecting a baby in just 3 weeks and our two year old has to have heart surgery. Plus there are just a lot of other medical checks that we need during this year while we have access to good care. In one year we will head back overseas to Thailand and look forward to going back across the ocean refreshed and renewed, thanks to so many people who make these missionary homes a possibility.

GOD BLESSES HIS PEOPLE

- Proverbs 25:25, *"As cold water to a weary soul, so is good news from a far country."*

- Proverbs 15:30, *"The light of the eyes rejoices the heart, and a good report makes the bones healthy."*

We praise the Lord for all His blessings. Youth Alive gave Siloam Missionary Homes the playground from a fast food restaurant. With the help of Scott Mitchell, Ken Carden, Paul Smith and Tina Teague, we disassembled the two-story structure and moved it home. We plan on putting this in front of the Family Center for the kids to play in.

Life is...“Heartache and Wonderful”

BY LARRY GEORGE, PRESIDENT

Greetings from Siloam Missionary Homes. I pray this letter finds you all well and serving the Lord with gladness. We have been extremely busy the past several weeks but not too busy to give you an update. First, we are grandparents again! **David Levi Rich** was born on Friday, May 12th. Of course, he is the most beautiful grandbaby in the world. We are excited about Abbey and David's homecoming and praise the Lord she and the baby are doing well. Macie and Preston are adjusting to their new brother.



We are always saying good-bye. **Patrick Cassidy** and family from Peru are finishing their furlough with family in California. They were only here a few weeks, but we enjoyed getting to know this wonderful family.

Steve and Margie Reynolds and their three children arrived from Singapore. It was a wonderful reunion for us, since we had visited them in Singapore a couple of years ago and had a wonderful time. They moved into the Aaron house. This is the home we added the extra bedroom and living room onto. Joyce and I had just finishing hanging up pictures when they arrived.

Kent and Becky Bryant arrived on Monday from the Fiji Islands. They stayed with us on their last furlough and their kids have grown so much since their last stay with us.

We are so thankful that our son-in-law, Mike has recovered from knee surgery. He is still having physical therapy every day, but is back to work, plus helping Abbey with the new baby. I am so glad he is back. “Dear old dad” is tired. I go to bed at night with aches I have not felt in years and in places I did not know existed. The missionaries have all chipped in and of course, good ole faithful Paul Smith (his parents are missionaries to New Guinea) helped us keep things going. I hope that we can get back to normal. Then again, what is normal?

Last evening I was watching a program on TV and a Doctor talking about her profession said, “*Life is heartache and wonderful.*” I was thinking about this when I started this letter to you. Living the Christian life is same - the heartache of trials, and saying good-bye. The wonderful is new babies and greeting family and friends. The heartache is bearable because of grace through the Lord Jesus. He said he would never leave us or forsake us and that he would give us the Holy Spirit. Praise the Lord. God is faithful!

PAPA AND NANA'S GARDEN

David Payne of Cooper-Payne gave SMH several beautiful palm trees for our courtyard. This area is a place for all of us to enjoy trees and plants from around the world.



Next to the courtyard, just behind the Family Center, a picturesque and peaceful waterfall was donated by Michael Wheeley of American Aquascape and Doug and Terry Palmer. When a missionary or a visitor wants a relaxing place to sit, they can pull up a chair next to the waterfalls, beneath the palm tree and just soak up the beauty of God's creation.



Larry and Joyce holding grandchildren Macie and Preston in Papa and Nana's Garden behind the Family Center.

MK Corner BY ABBEY RICH

We have had so much fun with the missionary kids this year! The Pleasant Hill Christian Church's home-school group has been coming out once a month for the past few months. First, they helped our missionary kids plant a tree in our Nana & Papa's Garden behind the Family Center. They did a great job! We had our annual Easter Egg Hunt, complete with a sack race, egg toss, egg hunt, hula-hoop relay & lunch. The missionary kids had so much fun with the homeschoolers! We appreciate them coming out!

Right now, we have 26 missionary kids and 1 “on the way” at Siloam! It is wonderful to to see so many kids playing out here, knowing that we are possibly raising the next generation of missionaries!



The kids enjoy the easter eggs they found during the hunt.



Children carefully tossing eggs.



MK's and Pleasant Hill homeschoolers enjoying a sack race.

A WORD FROM THE FAMILIES

Dear Siloam,

We want to thank you for your overwhelming hospitality. What a fantastic surprise to have such friendly helpful people at the end of a two day journey. The house is perfect!

What a tremendous blessing you are, especially during this time of transition.

THANK YOU!

John and Kimberly Hauenstein,
missionary appointees with AIM

Dear Siloam,

Just a quick note to thank you for your hospitality for the past few months. What a blessing it has been for us to be able to stay here at SMH. God, indeed, has used you to answer our prayer for housing this furlough.

We have appreciated your vision, insights and burden for the needs of missionaries. It seems that you are always thinking of new ways to be more effective in your ministry to us. Thank you!

What a tremendous blessing you have been to our family. May God continue to guide and bless you as you continue to seek to serve Him.

Charlie and Bonita Frink,
missionaries to New Zealand

"OH, GIVE ME A HOME..."



I found this in our files and thought you would enjoy it! Clarklake Community Church in Michigan came to Siloam last summer and did a week long work project. We had such a good time with them. One of the things that we do with our work groups is have them divide into teams, come up with team names and a team song. This was a song that one of the teams came up with – to the tune of "Oh, Give Me a Home." Maybe it will bring a smile to your face, just as it did ours!

O, give me a home, that is named Siloam
Where all the missionaries stay
Where never is heard, a very bad word
And the work crews labor all day.

Where the fences are white,
and we get up at night
To plant the posts in the ground
Where the women all paint,
and Justin gets faint
Cause the sun makes his head pound.

Larry and Joyce have made the right choice
To start up a mission like this
So churches can give,
to let God's servants live
And enjoy a time of sweet rest.

Our Clarklake church crew,
has done something new
We've come here to sweat in the sun
But it's not a great chore,
we'd do it once more
Cause sweatin' is just such great fun.

Thanks again, Clarklake!

Aaron's House Completed

The two room addition to Aaron's House (the home donated to Siloam last June) has made a two bedroom home into a much more usable 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. With the help of many willing hands and hearts, the finishing touches were put on just hours before missionary family Steve and Margie Reynolds arrived from Singapore with their three children.

Praise the Lord for His marvelous provision!



Osceola Baptist Church prepare foundation.



Apple's Chapel put on shingles.



Holly Hill Baptist Church frame up floor and walls.



Completed living room addition.



Completed dining room addition.

SPECIAL GIFTS

GIVEN BY ~ Anna Murray
IN HONOR OF ~ Jim Murray

GIVEN BY ~ Rev. Ken & Sandy Hopkins
IN HONOR OF ~ Clark Kincaid

GIVEN BY ~ Edward Plottke
IN HONOR OF ~ Uriah Miller

GIVEN BY ~ Rockwell Automation
IN HONOR OF ~ Uriah Miller

GIVEN BY ~ Leona Long
IN HONOR OF ~ Uriah Miller

GIVEN BY ~ John & Lori Yanosich
IN HONOR OF ~ Uriah Miller

GIVEN BY ~ Mitch and Carolyn Childress
IN HONOR OF ~ Steve and Beth Kennedy

GIVEN BY ~ Barbara Blust
IN HONOR OF ~ Ralph & Esther Cummings

GIVEN BY ~ Margaret Stanner & Loma Yoder
IN HONOR OF ~ Marie Wolfe

GIVEN BY ~ Betty Hall
IN HONOR OF ~ Marie Wolfe

GIVEN BY ~ John Robinson
IN HONOR OF ~ Marie Wolfe

GIVEN BY ~ Leonard Robinson
IN HONOR OF ~ Marie Wolfe

CAROLINA "T" HOUSE

For over 100 years, the Carolina T, a 2-story "T" shaped farm house has been home to many of us and our grandparents here in the South. Plans are under way to build a 4 bedroom, 3 bath missionary home in this design. This will replace the 1 bedroom singlewide at the entrance of the property. We continue to receive calls from missionaries with 6 or more children who need larger homes.

This home will be built in honor of the 100 year anniversary of the Women's Missionary Union of the Mt. Zion Association in Alamance County. Please pray with us as plans continue.

Newsletter layout and printing provided by Art Foote at:

KATART GRAPHICS

143 West Street, Unit U, New Milford, CT 06776
(800) 410-0553.

Dear Coffee Club Members,

We are so excited about our new grandson, David Levi. He is a beautiful little boy with brown hair. It is so neat to watch Macie pat his head and Preston lean over to give him a kiss. Being a grandparent is one of the most precious gifts God has ever given to me. I pray every day that I will be a good example to them and a blessing in their lives.



A couple of weeks ago, I sat in the library of our Family Center with some of the missionary moms. We were having our bi-weekly Bible study. As we were discussing God's Word and His faithfulness in our lives, one mom spoke up. She said, "God knew what my family needed when He brought us to Siloam. This place is so peaceful and safe. My children have the freedom to roam and play and just be kids here, without fear. I want to give them a happy childhood and this place helps us do that. They would never have this freedom in Africa."

As another mother of four from Romania nodded in agreement, my eyes welled with tears. "Thank you, Lord, for allowing Larry and I to be part of a ministry that brings peace to these families!"

I could tell other stories - about a teenage MK boy who desperately misses his friends in Peru (because that is home to him) and how he found a friend, another MK, here at Siloam Missionary Homes.

That is what SMH is - a place where families can come and rest and be encouraged and strengthened to face the opportunities and challenges of ministry that God will bring into their lives.

We have some new Coffee Club members to welcome: Jack and Ellen Phillips, Scott Batson, Betty Hall, and Loren and Chong York.

Thank you, for your faithful part in helping us give these precious families this wonderful place. It's not just a home; it is a haven of rest for them. God bless you.

God bless each of you.
Your "Coffeemate," Joyce George

My love gift: I would like to join the Coffee Club with a monthly pledge of

☐ \$15 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ Other \$ (Please send my Coffee Club cup.)

One Time Gift \$ _____

Please designate my one time gift for:

DONATION FOR (check appropriate box):

☐ Family Center ☐ Larry & Joyce George salary ☐ Mike and Abbey Rich salary
☐ General Fund or ☐ (specify project)

Please make checks payable to Siloam Missionary Homes

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

All gifts are tax deductible and receipts will be mailed at year's end, unless otherwise requested.