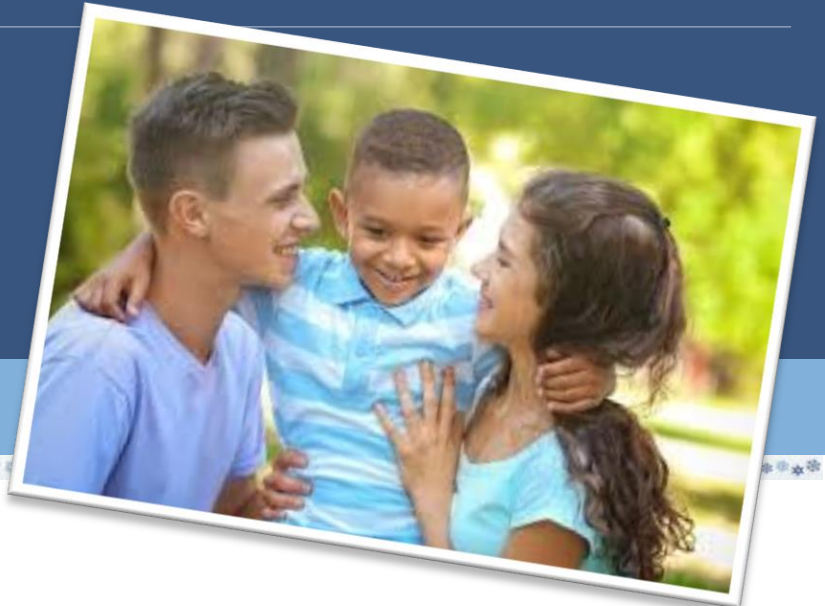


# rphan Care Ministry

Psalm 68:5-6

Father of the fatherless and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation. God settles the solitary in a home



Fall 2018

## Upcoming Events

Nov. 10 <sup>th</sup> Jan. 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb. 15 <sup>th</sup>	Adoption/Foster Support Dinner
Nov. 11 <sup>th</sup>	Orphan Sunday
Nov. 11 <sup>th</sup>	Operation Christmas Child boxes due
Apr. 5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup>	Empowered to Connect Conference

## God's Glory at VBC

*By Darnell Duncan*

God is doing a mighty work of Orphan Care at Village Bible Church! Within the past four months we have seen Him bring three children into forever families. (Did you know Village Bible Church currently has at least 23 families that have adopted!) We have seen Him continue to provide protection and love to seven children through foster care and Safe Families. He is showing care and support to our Adoptive/Foster/SafeFamily families through meals, supplies, cleaning, prayer, and encouragement. He is being provider of basic necessities, education, and spiritual growth to 133 kids in Uganda through VBC sponsors.

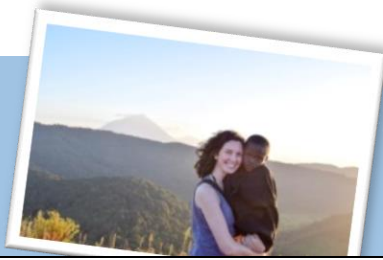
**OUR MIGHTY GOD is doing all of this and more through the faithfulness of you!!!**

Thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus in orphan care! Thank you for broken hearts for those who are orphaned. Thank you for praying and meeting needs. YOU are an amazing church body and GOD is bringing blessings upon so many hearts as we walk this journey of orphan care.

As God continues to be Father to the fatherless, He will call you into new areas of orphan care in order to carry out the work He has planned. Will you pray that God will show you open doors to step into the plans He has? Blessings will always abound for your faithfulness to Him and His work for you!

## Other thoughts...

“The purpose of orphan care isn’t to make us feel like a savior, but to lead them to THE Savior.”



Caoline Murohv and sponsor child, Yustine.



Adoption/Foster Support Dinner

# Partner

It takes Village Bible Church to raise a child!

*There are many ways YOU can partner with others in caring for orphans...*

## Juna Amagara Sponsor Relationship

by Caroline Murphy

I started sponsoring Yustine through Juna Amagara on September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017 after meeting her while I was on the annual trip to Uganda that past summer. I have had several opportunities since then to send gifts to her either with the Uganda mission team or others who are traveling over there. I enjoy picking out little things that I think she will enjoy.

I have loved receiving multiple letters over the past year from her and sending letters answering her questions and sharing details of my and my family's life with her. It is a precious thing to receive a letter in her handwriting (which is at times a bit hard to decipher since she is only 7) telling me she loves me and thanking me for loving and sponsoring her. They often bring me to tears.

## Adoption/Foster Support Dinners

Partnering with adoptive and foster families comes in many forms. One support system that Village Bible Church has in place is through our Support Dinners.

Once a month adoptive and foster families meet for dinner and discuss the various trials and joys that they are experiencing. We also provide some brief training and discussion in order to better parent through these tough situations. Even though no two stories are the same, there is a great deal of understanding among these families. It is a place where they are heard and not judged!

Our support dinners provide connection and belonging for our adoptive and foster families. There are parenting struggles that are unique to adoption and foster care and we don't want our families to walk that path alone.

How can you partner with our Support Dinners? Maybe you are equipped to offer free childcare to a family so that the parents can attend the support dinner. Maybe you are equipped to provide dinner for 6-10 people. Maybe you are equipped to encourage our adoptive and foster families with a note. Maybe you are equipped to pray for our Support Dinner night. We love partners and welcome your support!

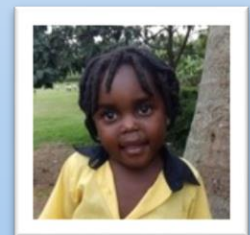
Would you consider **SPONSORING** one of these children through Juna Amagara? Email [Kate@kathleenduff.com](mailto:Kate@kathleenduff.com)



Adrone Amany (8)



Akampurira Macline (13)



Arinda Martha (3)



Tina Branning – Uganda Mission Trip June 2018

## Active Partner

Village family actively caring for children through Foster Care, Safe Families, and Mission Trips.

*Temporary care for long term gain...*

### Uganda Mission Trip

by Tina Branning

Being able to go on a mission trip was something I wanted to do for the last few years, so when the opportunity came around last March at our church to go to a meeting about the trip to Uganda in the summer I felt God nudging me to go learn more about it. When I told my husband about the trip he was not wanting me to go. We had never been apart for more than a weekend. I let it go and the he came back to me the next day after God had nudged him to be open to the idea if this was something I wanted to do. So I went to the meeting and prayed a lot for the decision to be clear for me to go and he just kept opening doors and opportunities for it to happen. So I took the leap of faith and went to Uganda!

Uganda is a beautiful country and it was breathtaking to see it in person. Our church, Village Bible partners with an organization called Juna Amagara and our church members' sponsor over 130 children.

We get to spend time with them and deliver care packages to them. Seeing the country was not anything I had expected. Africa is much more lush and green than it is portrayed. Meeting all the children was an experience in itself. Any time we arrived at a school we were greeted with smiles and hugs from everyone. They were also very interested in our cameras and wanted to see the pictures that we were taking of them. Sitting down with them and talking was at times difficult. Many of the younger children needed translators to understand us. As the children were older we could have conversations with them with no need for a translators. We had many opportunities to sing, dance and even play American games like duck, duck, goose with them. They loved when we participated and had fun with them!!

During the trip there were opportunities to visit some of the children at their home, which was huge over there. The fact that we came all the way to see them at their house meant a lot to them.

I was able to go along on some of these visits and we were always greeted by the entire family, sometimes even the neighbors as well. I was able to meet a boy that is sponsored by my very good friends and it was a joy to be able to deliver letters, pictures and gifts for him and even for his mother.

Towards the end of the trip we were able to explore more of Uganda as a tourist. We went on a safari to the biggest national park there to see elephants, hippos and even a lion out in the wild. It was truly a remarkable experience! We also were able to walk on the yellow line on the equator and went shopping at the African market for a day. Each place was unique to Uganda and I still remember and marvel at what God is doing around the world. I was able to be a part of it and am forever blessed that I was able to go on this trip!







Sisters: Haley and Claire Duncan

# Forever Partner

Village family providing a forever family through adoption.

*We praise God for the provision of family...*

## Families in Process

There are a few families currently in the process of adopting. Take a minute to ask these families how their process is going and how you can pray for them. **Lisa O'Brien: Uganda & Fred & Sue Spencer: Domestic**

## Congratulations!

### Congratulations to the Wood family!

David and Emily, along with their daughters Piper and Haddie, welcomed their son/brother Calvin into their family on June 18, 2018.



### Congratulations to the Gately family!

Sean and Amy became the proud parents of their son, John Harry Duc. He was adopted from Vietnam on Sept. 25, 2018.



## Congratulations to the St. Clair family!

Amir and Sara, along with their sons Reid and Rowen, welcomed their daughter/sister Joanna (JoJo) into their family on Sept 21, 2018.



## Adoption & Sibling Relationships

*by Haley Duncan*

My name is Haley Duncan and I am 14 years old as a freshman in high school. I have one older brother, Parker, and two younger brothers, Kyle and Drew. My whole life I had wanted a sister, but I never thought I would have a Chinese sister. In November of 2014, when I was 10 years old, my little sister, Claire was adopted into our family and I finally had the sister I had longed for forever. Many days after that, I would try to tell everyone I knew about our newest addition. People sometimes asked me who Claire liked the best and I always said myself. There was a big responsibility being a big sister, especially when I shared a room with her and my

parents trusted me to take care of her sometimes. We loved to show her new things she'd never seen before and get excited with her when she learned something new. All of us loved to watch Claire laugh and carry her everywhere.

I loved to play with her and get her ready in the mornings. Even still today, I can crack up laughing at something Claire says and she has given me real, genuine joy from her expanding personality. I often dream of us being super close sisters when we grow up and sharing our life together as best friends. Of course there are days where I want to be alone or can get frustrated by her. And since Claire is still five, she makes the room a mess and there are some times when I just need to take a break from her, but she is the greatest sister I could have ever asked for and I love her with all my heart.

## References

[Villagebible.org/orphanicare](http://Villagebible.org/orphanicare)

[Amagara.org](http://Amagara.org)

[Safe-families.org](http://Safe-families.org)