**House Parents for New Beginnings** 

—by Joe Keim and Mike Campbell

Dear Friend:

Ten years ago, Mike Campbell contacted the MAP, asking of we could help him share the gospel with his Amish customers. From there, the relationship between us and the Campbells grew. It never once dawned on us that God was preparing Mike and Kelly for New Beginnings. When it did come together, it just fell into place. We all had peace about it.

Mike and Kelly have already been a huge blessing to Esther and me. The girls at New Beginnings have connected with them. We love their testimonies and we love their heart for the Word of God.

Thank you Lord! You've known how desperate we have been for house parents, and how we nearly gave up. But now that the Campbells have moved in and we have had time to do ministry together, we have already forgotten all the frustration and discouragement. —Joe Keim

### Mike and Kelly's Perspective

The past couple of weeks have been quite amazing at New Beginnings. As Kelly and I were moving from Central Pennsylvania to North Central Ohio a couple of weeks ago, we knew what our obligations were, but we did not know what to expect in terms of the girls accepting us as the new house parents at New Beginnings. Back in September when we knew we were going to be house parents and learned some of the history of the girls, we decided right away that we

needed to live by the biblical principle to let our yes be yes and our no, no (Matt. 5:37; Jam. 5:12), so that the girls would know that they could depend on us.



When we arrived, several of the girls greeted us openly and helped us unpack our U-Haul along with others from the local church. We found out that they had also cleaned our apartment and cleaned out the flowerbed for us which was so welcoming. We wasted no time jumping right into ministry at New Beginnings. Kelly had taken some time off work the first week so we could unpack and settle in. She found time to ride with Mattie several times throughout the week for driving lessons. Meanwhile I had the opportunity to help Ruthie with the

electronics in the driver's side door of her van that had stopped working, as well as helping her five children by airing up their bike tires. The following week we also had the opportunity to travel to Holmes County, Ohio to pick up Miriam from counseling and get to know her a little better on the drive back to New Beginnings.

This past weekend, we all participated in a pumpkin painting party that Kelly had organized where we enjoyed getting to know one another a little better as well as fellowship and a meal afterwards. As we have gotten to know the girls over the past couple of weeks, we discovered that the girls could use some help scheduling their week. We sat down with them this past Sunday and helped them write out their schedules. Kelly also discovered that Ruthie needed help with her kids by developing structure in their household. Kelly helped Ruthie write out chore charts for all of the kids so they could participate in the chores. The kids have been so excited that they jumped in right away and have been diligently working each day to keep up with their tasks. Through all of this, we have seen the Lord remove all barriers and the girls have accepted us with open arms. It has been amazing to see God work in our lives over the past couple of weeks giving us additional confirmation that He has called us to minister as house parents at New Beginnings. —Mike Campbell

Joe & Esther Keim

Greenwich, OH (419) 651-6813 jkeim@mapministry.org **Samuel & Polly Girod** 

Bennington, IN (419) 631-5162 samuel@mapministry.org Mike and Kelly Campbell
Greenwich, OH
(419) 962-1515
mike@mapministry.org





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# The STEPOUT OF THE BOAT To learn more, go to our website: MapMinistry.org MARCH 24-26

#### Thank You!

We deeply appreciate and value our volunteers. They are missionaries at heart and love to serve in their local churches as well as at MAP. The smiling group below is from Camden Baptist, just north of where the ministry is located.



We often get emails and calls from retired people around the country, asking if there is anything they can do to help from a distance. As much as we would like to find a spot for each and every request, it is very difficult to do so from a distance. We do, however, need more volunteers to help serve at the local office. Several of our faithful volunteers passed on to glory in the past month and have received their much deserved rewards from Jesus.

To all of our local folks, we could use your help! We can hardly keep up with the thousands and thousands of Bible lessons that come through every month. If you have time to spare, call Holley at (419) 962-1515. —Joe Keim

Miriam and Sara

–by Joe Keim

In November, we welcomed Miriam and Sara to New Beginnings. Miriam left the Amish in Michigan. Sara left her community in Wisconsin and ended up at Operation 612, a ministry similar to ours. After 8 months, Sara graduated from



the Operation 612 and needed a place that could help her reach the next level in her life. Both girls are working on their GED and serving at Beyond Measure Market. Miriam works on the register and Sara works in the deli. Be sure to greet them, if you come to the store.



Miriam and Sara will soon be working on getting their driving permits and taking driving lessons. While at New Beginnings, they are enrolled in the *ABC for Christian Growth*, a 10-12 month commitment.

We recently applied for a \$300,000 ministry grant. If the Lord provides, we would need to raise an additional \$200,000 for a second apartment house. Our goal is to eventually end up with three apartment houses. We would appreciate your prayers concerning this rising need.

You are most likely aware that the ministry took in a mother and five children earlier this year. In the past two months, we could have taken in three more mothers and children who have left their husbands and left their communities. I honestly see it happening a lot more in the coming months. Many families within the Amish communities are very much struggling with many of the same things that we struggle with in non-Amish communities.

Laura, one of our Plowman's Academy students, writes: Pray for my daily walk in life as I step out of my Amish church. It's been a real struggle. I stepped away because they tried to make me confess of something that was not a sin. It was just all materialism. And I stood my ground and didn't listen, then they didn't let me go along with communion. But I felt at peace with it all.

## GIVE BY TEXT Just text the word "MAP"

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If the Lord leads you to participate in sharing a year-end gift with the ministry, it would very much encourage our hearts. The easiest and simplest way to share in giving is to text the word *MAP* to *(419) 962-3230*. You can also go to *MapMinistry.org/Get-Involved* and follow the instructions. Thank you for helping us *Sow Seeds for Eternity*. —Joe Keim