

February 2021

Dear SIHG Family and Friends,

As we all begin a new year along with new beginnings, we say farewell to a past. I know that alongside me, everyone at *Seeds in His Garden*, are grateful for the five years of service by Jon Baloian. We have been blessed with his wit, strength, his written expressions, but most of all his past and present commitment to the children in Kenya. I personally appreciate his leadership as President of the Board during these past five years. The Baloian Family have consistently provided excellent leadership to the board. We are thankful for their continued service.

During these challenging times, it's now my honor to be given the opportunity to step in as SIHG's Interim President. It is my hope and prayer that I will be able to serve as faithfully as those who led me. Let us all work together to strengthen our commitment to *Seeds in His Garden*. I ask for your support as I seek to confront the challenges that we all face both here and abroad. Let us be the lighthouse and a beacon of hope for Kenya and each other.

The love of both Becky and the mission is not new to me. I've been friends with Becky since the early 80s when she was devoting her life to children who had nothing. Her passion and drive to be God's servant were so amazing to me and I wanted to understand more about her life. I felt called to be a part of sponsoring several SIHG children, support her, and traveled also to Kenya to witness first-hand the work. Through our friendship, I feel God has prepared me for the task ahead as we lead SIHG into the next generation.

Our immediate focus is to center on supporting Linda Van Dalen in her new role as "MOM" and Director of Kenya and Becky as she continues to seek ways under Covid19 to support the mission here in the states. Our long-term goals include financially staying ahead of our operating expenses, increase our giving for our children's education and continue our commitment to growing our capital projects. I invite you to partner with all of us as we seek the most effective methods for these transitions.



This of course leads me to another transition and change. The devastating loss of Rev. Wayne Adams, father to Becky (founder of SIHG), anchor and leader in the states for SIHG in addition to a great friend and mentor to many. There are no words that adequately express how "Papa" affected our lives. I met Wayne and his family in the early 80s in Monterey, California. Wayne was my Pastor, Friend, Supporter, Mentor, and Counselor. I will always remember how Wayne ended every sermon "Nothing is Impossible When You Put Your Trust in God". Stepping into a challenging position as a leader for SIHG will not be easy. However, with the memories of Wayne, support of Jon and encouragement from everyone, we will continue to make *Seeds in His Garden* an extraordinary place of hope and

opportunities for everyone to participate in. Let's say thank you to Wayne and to Jon's support through the past twenty-five years by going forward in our commitment to OUR SIHG kids.

Now is a crucial time to continue to give. WE NEED YOUR HELP! Please continue to give to SIHG the kids are being touched daily thanks to your commitment to this mission.

All donations can be sent to by mail, online or through planned giving opportunities.

Please feel free to contact me, <u>debbiehallfriede@gmail.com</u> or cell phone 503-519-1058 with any questions. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of Kid's from Kenya!

Sincerely,

Debbie Hall Friede Interim President SIHG

continued

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Our mission is to provide care for abused, neglected, needy, abandoned and orphaned children in Kenya and prepare them to be Africa's future leaders. We are elected to pursue the highest standards obtainable in Kenya for the safety and welfare of children by providing them with more than just food and a bed. At Seeds in His Garden, we seek to provide the children with physical, emotional, academic and spiritual tools needed to develop their full potential.

## 2020 Covid Year at SIHG WOW! 2020 is over and I am grateful!

It is clear that 2020 was a year we will not forget. The faithfulness of so many staff who sacrificed to serve the children in Kenya during a lockdown. Their support meant everything to the children, Linda and me. Volunteers and visitors who remained faithful even when visits and service to the children were postponed indefinitely. Donors and sponsors were unwavering in their commitment to maintain the mission. Their level of commitment allowed Seeds in His Garden to remain stable and amidst dramatic changes. The mission is a beacon of hope for not only the children but government authorities who have had their challenges. Food, clothing, medicine, and education (albeit at home), entertainment, treats and most of all love and attention remained. Thank you, so much for your continued prayers and support.

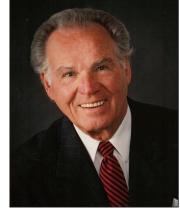
During the year, lots of adjustments were experienced by everyone, many not so pleasant or easy. However, creativity and innovation at unexpected speeds now have become a new norm. Some addressed issues that were on the back burners for years. In my case it created time to address health issues and focus on the next phase of the mission after 24 years. My family and friends went above and beyond to make the adjustment away from the children, staff and Linda, more acceptable. They provided comfort, a place to live, rest, love and encouragement. Along with introspection, a time of healing, re-generation, I was again connecting to others and their mission efforts. I am back in America.

My father was close now, but COVID19 put a few dampers on visits. But it was easier as he was always there on the tough days missing the kids and Kenya. Then on the 28th of January, dad surprised us all and went to be with His Lord.

I thank you all, for the words of encouragement and prayers during the painful loss of my father. He ascended to be with those who went before him and to be with His Lord. He longed to see mom again. It is a transition for the whole family. He was a rock of support on earth for thousands who were part of the "Wayne Adams Clan".

What lies ahead in 2021? Who knows but I am gearing up for the journey! What about you? As Papa Wayne, shared with me days before his passing "We may be unacceptable but always accepted".

Becky Adams



## REV. WAYNE M. ADAMS OCTOBER 16, 1929 – JANUARY 28, 2021

Rev. Wayne M. Adams, beloved Pastor and faithful servant, went to be with his Lord on Thursday, January 28, 2021, at the age of 91 years. He was born on Oct 16, 1929 in Sonora, CA to Neola & Merle Adams and had five siblings: Vione Pauls, Oakley Adams, Frank Adams, Donna Myovich and Chaplain Richard Adams. All pre-deceased him.

He received his education in the California Public School System and at Vanguard University. He was ordained in the Christian Ministry in 1954. His ministry has included pastorates in California, Oregon, and Washington. He also served for five years as Director of Youth and Christian Education for 200 churches in the state of Oregon.

He met his future bride, Patricia Junker, in seventh grade, and they married on August 27, 1950. God blessed them with 68 years of marriage and they were totally devoted to each other and to their call to the ministry. His beloved wife predeceased him in Oct 2018.

Rev. Adams has lectured throughout Latin America, Canada, the South Pacific, Europe, Asia, Africa, and the United States. He has spoken extensively at camps, conferences, youth and Christian education conventions, and for organizations such as Boys Scouts, 4-H Clubs, Future Farmers, Jaycees, service clubs, schools, and business groups.

Active in civic, educational, and political affairs, he served on the Boards of Directors of United Way, Children's Home Society, Chambers of Commerce, Kiwanis International, Suicide Prevention, Boy Scouts of America, and several Ministerial Associations. He was a Charter Board Member of Leadership Monterey, a past president of Pacific Grove Kiwanis Club, and a past President and past Campaign Chairman of United Way. He has served on Mayors' Commissions for various projects in the cities of Pacific Grove, CA and Vancouver, WA. He was appointed by then Governor Dan Evans to serve on the Washington State Committee on Law and Justice. He has worked in an advisory capacity for Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Y.M.C.A., Young Life, and other organizations.

In a 1997 survey conducted by The Monterey Herald, he was recognized as one of the most influential religious leaders in Monterey County. In 2002, he was given the Boy Scouts of America Humanitarian Award for his many years of outstanding community service.

Rev. Adams was the Founding Pastor of Cypress Community Church, a non-denominational congregation, where he served and ministered for 32 years. Cypress was founded in 1972 and is located on Highway 68 at Corral de Tierra, Salinas CA. From the beginning and with the help of a very small group of "dreamers and doers," it grew into a thriving community of believers committed to faith, fellowship and service. During the years of prayerfully following God's leading through the challenges of building that church from the ground up, Pastor Wayne often led his growing congregation in singing, "Nothing Is Impossible When You Put Your Trust In God". . . and he believed that with all his heart! He was always an enthusiastic and passionate communicator of God's Word, and his weekly Biblical messages of love and grace were a great source of inspiration and hope to all who came to worship. At the end of each service, Pastor & Pat would personally greet each person at the door as they departed, offering a warm smile, handshake, and words of encouragement. Truly a blessing to be counted on each and every week for decades!

After 51 years of ministry, Pastor Adams retired in May of 2005. He then founded Hands of Hope International, a non-profit religious and humanitarian corporation, where he served full time without pay as the President. He continued to speak to churches and groups throughout the U.S. as well as travel to many foreign countries to assess and respond to many needs in our hurting world. As the U.S. Representative for *Seeds In HIS Garden Children's Home* for abandoned children in Nairobi, Kenya, he made regular trips to Africa and continued to raise funds for its support. He also continued to conduct worship services, weddings, funerals and was always available for prayer and counseling.

He was always a "hands-on" and enthusiastic leader, enjoyed sports and bicycling with his family, meeting with his "Old Friends" group for lunch each Thursday, and appreciated the splendor of God's creation here on the Monterey Peninsula. In 2019, he marked his 90th birthday by skydiving with his son-in-law and grandsons to raise funds for *Seeds In His Garden Children's Home* in Nairobi, Kenya. Upon landing on the airfield, he was greeted with the cheers of many family, friends, and former parishioners gathered there to celebrate his long and exceptional life. He will be lovingly remembered for his faithfulness to God, his dedication to his congregation and community, his commitment to help the hurting in this world, and for truly "making a difference" in countless lives.

He is survived by his two daughters, Rebecca "Becky" Adams and Wendy Adams Rosa (Earlin), as well as 3 grandsons, Robert Campos (Kasey), Nicholas Campos and Samuel Campos, and 3 great grandchildren, Jesse, Jillian and June Campos.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at a later date. Donations in his memory may be made to *Seeds in HIS Garden Children's Home*, PO Box 12583, Fresno CA 93778. To send condolences or share a memory, go to <u>www.bermudezfamilyfunerals.com</u>.