

# TRUE TO LIFE

An Evangelical Child and Family Agency Publication



## ECFA's 41st Anniversary Celebration with Shelia Luck and His Way



This year's 41st Anniversary Celebration will feature speaker Sheila Luck, inspiring client testimonies, and music by local talent, His Way.

Since answering God's call, Sheila has been blessed with the opportunity to write and publish 6 books and speak numerous times for pro-life organizations, pregnancy centers, churches, youth groups, women's retreats, and public and private schools. She aims to positively influence the world around her through her life and her work.

Since 2013, His Way has captivated audiences with their powerful blend of contemporary Christian music. As finalists and nominees for the WAMI Awards in 2023, 2024, and currently up for nomination in 2025, the band continues to gain recognition in the industry for their heartfelt performances and musical talent.



We look forward to seeing you with your family and friends as we reflect on another year of ministry to families in Wisconsin. Tickets are \$30 or \$300 per table. An opportunity will be given to support the ministry of ECFA, impacting the lives of those we serve. We have been blessed with a \$5,000 matching grant from friends of ECFA. Seating is for tables of 10. Table and other sponsorships are available.



**RSVP by Monday, May 5, 2025**  
@ [ecfawisc.org/anniversary](https://ecfawisc.org/anniversary).

For more information or promotional materials please call (262) 789-1881 and ask for Sue Carlson or email [suec@ecfawisc.org](mailto:suec@ecfawisc.org).

**Saturday, May 17th**  
**Doors open at 9:30am & Breakfast Buffet at 10:00am**  
Marriott Milwaukee West  
W231 N1600 Corporate Court  
Waukesha, WI 53186

# Special Visit, Special Memories

I was recently granted a rare privilege to visit a family who moved to Missouri after adopting two “daughters” through ECFA in 2008 and 2019. Having completed both home studies and all the post-adoption visits required by the country, I got to know the family well, and we have kept in contact over the years.

Loren and Linda Sanders initially heard about ECFA through Linda’s mother who was a donor of the agency. They had discussed adoption early in their marriage and always had a deep desire to help orphans and provide a child with an opportunity in life that he/she may not have had otherwise. When Loren and Linda faced many medical challenges in having their own biological children, they believed God was leading them to build their family through adoption. The Sanders were drawn to the country of China because of their love for the culture, people, and Chinese food. They also had friends who had adopted from China.

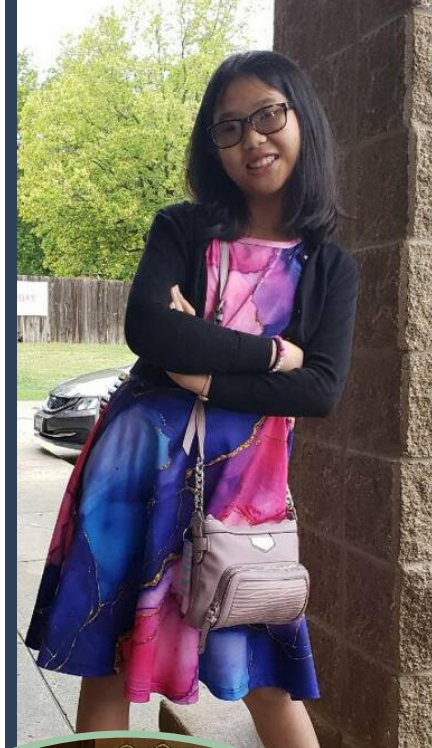
I completed the initial home studies for the family, and they also worked with one of our partner agencies for international adoptions – America World. Eventually, they were matched with Lucy, a five-month-old who was found on the steps of an orphanage at two days old. The couple traveled to China in May 2008 and returned home with Lucy two weeks later.

A few years later, as Lucy was praying for a “sister,” and the Lord had been nudging their hearts, the Sanders felt called again to adopt another child from China. They returned to ECFA for a second home study which was completed in 2017. Within the year, they received a referral for Leah, a five-year-old who had been abandoned at three weeks old with pneumonia, behind a boat by a pond. Her eyes, at that time, were tiny slits. After her “rescue,” Leah was in the ICU for three weeks. One of the orphanage workers took her home as a foster child until she was adopted by the Sanders. Leah had a diagnosis of Blepharophimosis Syndrome, a condition that mainly affects the development of the eyelids. She had her first eye surgery in 2019 which was successful in extending her eye openings. She had a second surgery later that year to attach slings to the muscles of her forehead and eyelids to open her eyes wider. This surgery was successful as well.

The two girls have been blessed to have parents who dearly love them and have provided them with a wonderful Christian home where they have flourished. Today, these girls have grown to be beautiful young ladies who love the Lord and their family. Lucy is a junior in high school and hopes to be an echocardiogram tech once she graduates, while Leah is in 6th grade and aspires to be a pediatrician.

Meeting this family and coming alongside them in their adoption journeys as part of God’s redemptive plan for Lucy and Leah’s life has been a true privilege and blessing. I am excited to watch God’s plan unfold in their lives.

**Dorinne Geldon, Adoption Social Worker**





# WITH A GRATEFUL HEART

There is a continual outpouring of blessings received by this ministry. As a result, there are many individuals to be grateful for in each quarterly newsletter. *"I will give thanks to you, LORD, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds." Psalm 9:1*

## Thank you to all the dedicated volunteers who assembled a mailing for the Agency in January & March:

Janet Abts	Kelly Smith
Art & Annette Cernohous	Darleen Snyder
Barb Chernouski	Scott & Karen Snyder
Ruth Engelhardt	Chris Steiner
Marvin Engle	Nancy Stone
Sharon Fuller	Jan Story
Paul Gephart	Shevonn Tate
Bonnie Gruber	Jan Tyler
Amia Harwood	James & Leah
Rita Hoffman	Valentine
Ginny Hughes	Margo Whitcomb
Pat Johnson	Barbara Ziedonis
Anita Julius	Friends of ECFA
April Old Coyote	

## Serving at Our Office:

- Installation of our AED box and some hauling by Marvin & Sally Engle

## Miscellaneous Gifts:

- Staff Christmas treats from an adoptive couple, Pat Johnson, & Margo Whitcomb

## Memorials

In loving memory of: My father, Lawrence Fronk  
From: Thomas Fronk

In loving memory of: My wife, Janet Schley  
From: Gerald Schley

## Pregnancy Support Services:

- Many diapers, sleep sacks, baby clothes, nail clippers, crib, & bottles from the Hardins
- Pacifiers, pacifier clips, , stuffed bears, socks, teethers, sleep sack, swaddles, neck supports, nursery décor, car seat cover, nursing pads, milk bags, bottles, blankets, crib sheets, hats, mittens, toy, towel set, bather, nail clippers, closet dividers, stroller organizer, baby powder, postpartum items, hangers, candles, lotion, & small bags from Karen Griffith
- Beautiful layettes from Linda, Karen, & Monica
- Many diapers, brand-new baby clothes, & blankets from anonymous friends
- Knit hats, booties, ponchos, & blankets from Little Hands, Little Feet ladies group at River Glen Church
- Beautiful hand sewn zipper pouches for our moms from Caroline Moen
- Baby clothes, breast pump supplies, & diaper rash cream from Rosemarie Nieznanski
- Baby swing from the Luebkes
- Toddler bed from Don & Linda Hansen
- Baby wipes, diaper rash cream, mittens, & milk bags from Carol Honeyager

Dana Hauser has been a valued member of the ECFA team since January 2022. Most recently serving as our District Director, Dana has brought both a heart for service and a creative spirit to her work. Over a year ago, Dana earned her Master's in Counseling and has recently accepted a full-time counseling position. Dana is currently working part-time at ECFA, with her last official day on staff being April 29th. Dana has led the Wisconsin office with grace, dedication, and compassion. Please join us in praying for Dana as she steps into this next chapter.





**Evangelical Child  
& Family Agency**  
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New Berlin, WI 53151

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# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**41st Anniversary Celebration Brunch- Saturday, May 17, 2025**  
Marriott Milwaukee West – Featuring Sheila Luck

**Beats for Heartbeats – Saturday, September 6, 2025**  
Kettle Moraine Lutheran PAC

**Bike & Hike – Saturday, September 13, 2025**  
E.B. Shurts Building, Waukesha, WI  
Bike or Hike on the Glacial Drumlin Trail

**Benefit Auction – November 21, 2025**  
Spring Creek Church – Pewaukee

**YOU'RE  
INVITED!!**

**NEW  
LOCATION**

For more information about these events, contact Sue at 262.789.1881 or [suec@ecfawisc.org](mailto:suec@ecfawisc.org)