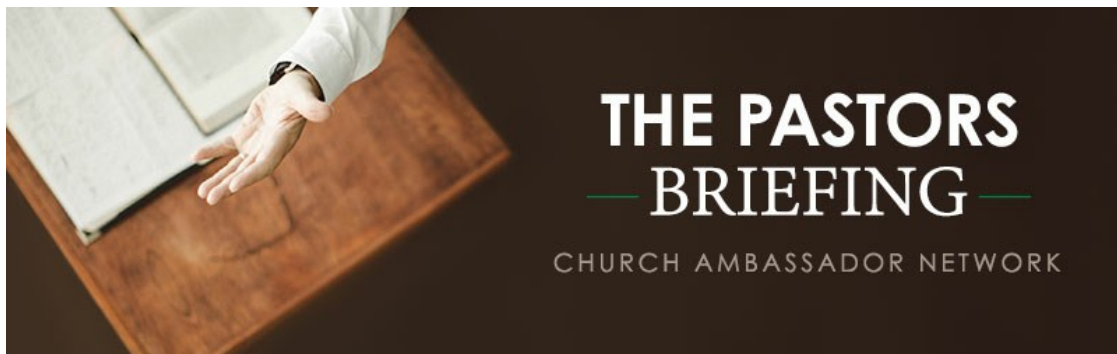




What if every church in Pennsylvania became part of helping vulnerable children and families in our communities?

I had the honor of having dinner this week with [Ryan Bomberger](#), one of our *City on the Hill* speakers. He shared more of the story of his mother, who conceived him through rape, chose to give birth to him despite being pressured to have an abortion, and placed him for adoption. More than 50 years ago, he was welcomed into a loving family in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. His story is one of redemption and mercy.

Nearly 15,000 children are currently in foster care in Pennsylvania, and close to 3,000 children are awaiting adoption. The need is great—but so is the opportunity.

I recently had the honor of meeting in DC with Alex Adams, Assistant Secretary for Family Support leading the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. This year the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services launched [A Home for Every Child](#), an initiative focused on strengthening the child welfare system and helping ensure that every child has a safe, loving, and permanent home. The initiative presents an important opportunity to think creatively about how communities and especially the Church can come alongside children and families in need. [Click here to hear Alex Adams talk about the importance of the Church.](#)

But let's dream for a moment. **What if every church in Pennsylvania found a way to help in foster care?** What if every congregation asked, "What is our something?" Some churches might have families who can become foster parents. Others might support foster families with meals, transportation, childcare, respite care, or practical needs. Some may provide mentors, prayer, or financial assistance. Every church may not be called to do the same thing, but every church can do something.

What a tremendous opportunity for the Church! If anyone should be looking for ways to help the needy, the vulnerable, the hurting, and the orphan, it should be God's people. Scripture calls us to "look after orphans and widows in their distress" (James 1:27). And when the disciples tried to keep children away from Jesus, He said, **"Let the little children come to me."** The Church should reflect the heart of Jesus by making room for vulnerable children and families.

I encourage pastors and church leaders to consider how your congregation can become part of the solution. Organizations such as [Keystone Family Alliance](#), [Bethany Christian Services](#), and [CarePortal](#) can help churches and individuals discover practical ways to serve children and families.

The question is not whether every church can become a foster care agency. The question is: **What is our church's something?**

Could your church support one foster family? Could you recruit one new foster family? Could you provide meals or transportation? Could you offer respite care? Could you pray regularly for children in foster care and the families serving them?

On Tuesday, we are hosting a **Breaking Bondage Event** in Reading, Pennsylvania, to discuss how churches and people of faith can help address the foster care crisis in our Commonwealth. [Click here to register and find out more.](#)

A home for every child is an invitation to the Church to play a role. Let us be the people who see the

vulnerable, welcome the hurting, and make room for the little children. Let us be the hands and feet of Jesus to children and families who need love, stability, and hope.

Everyone can do something. What is your church's something?

In Christ,



Kurt Weaver

Director

Pennsylvania Church Ambassador Network

P.S. Join us in Harrisburg on Monday, September 21st for the PA March for Life!



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