



# Harmony Outreach

[www.HarmonyOutreach.org](http://www.HarmonyOutreach.org)

April/May 2009



*Robert before surgery*



*Robert now!*



*Judy has a brand new heart.*



*Linda's very serious heart condition has now been corrected.*

## THREE HARMONY ORPHANS RECEIVE SURGERIES!

Since our last newsletter three Harmony House orphans completed Step #2 of our *Three Steps to Hope* program, by getting their special needs problems surgically corrected. For some, like cute little Robert, it was a relatively easy matter to repair his cleft lip. But to him the psychological impact is huge because he will never have to grow up feeling broken or ugly. Judy and Linda are both brand new to Harmony House. In fact we just reported on their arrivals in our last newsletter. Their problems were more serious as both of them needed heart surgery. It didn't take long – both received heart repair surgery in April. We are really joyful to have fixed their little bodies, but at the same time these surgeries have depleted our medical reserve account. In Linda's case alone the surgery cost us over \$7,000, but her condition was so serious we did not want to wait until we could find a sponsor for her surgery. Some of the orphans that are in our care are in frail health necessitating frequent hospital visits, which is why it makes us a little nervous to have depleted the medical fund. If you would like to help us replenish that fund, please contact us. That would be an email that Lily and I would be happy to receive.

# IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST. FRANCIS

Eight years ago when God called me to come to China, I was a middle-aged attorney who had never been to Bible school, had no background in Chinese culture, and didn't speak a word of the language. I didn't seem a very likely candidate to be one of His representatives to the people of China. But I came in faith, remembering that God had called an old Bedouin to deliver the Israelites from Egypt and a shepherd boy to be King of Israel. He called a fisherman to be his apostle to the Jews and a Pharisee to go to the Gentiles. I was unqualified by every measurable standard. It didn't matter – God had called me. *“Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God. He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant...”* (2 Cor 3:5-6)

Because I couldn't speak the language I knew I had no ability to reach people with words. So I did what I could do, which was to just help people. I started by helping orphans, and later it grew to helping other classes of vulnerable people. As it turns out, the lack of words was not as big a problem as I had imagined. Time and again, people would come to faith, almost “accidentally,” by mere observation of our work.

It happened again just last month. In February, I was in Canton province visiting my friend Jeff Dixon. While I was there,

Jeff told me about a family who had approached him the previous year seeking help for their daughter, Chen Shurong, who needed heart surgery. At that time Jeff lacked the resources to help them. I told Jeff that Harmony would like to help. So we contacted the family and went to their home to meet and pray with them.

As in many Chinese families, the young Mom was a believer but Dad wasn't interested. We told them we would try to help their daughter, and it didn't take long. Before I could even post the need on our website I received an email from a supporter in the U.S. who felt led to sponsor a surgery. That surgery was successful, and now Chen Shurong is healthy and strong.

We reported on her surgery in our last newsletter, but after the newsletter went to print I received an email from Jeff advising me of further developments. After returning home from the hospital, the family asked Jeff if he would meet with them. The father had been so moved by what Christians had done for them, asking nothing in return, he wanted to know more about Jesus. That evening, after talking with Jeff, he received Christ. How did this happen? I don't really know, but when I think about it I can't help but recall the words St. Francis of Assisi uttered nearly 1,000 years ago: *“Preach the gospel at all times and, when necessary, use words.”*



Jeff Dixon and I meet Chen Shurong's family for the first time.



One surgery healed two hearts.

Goal:  
\$235,000

Current:  
\$183,300



## GREAT NEWS!

Thank you for the outpouring to help us purchase Harmony House in China. So far we have raised 78% of the money needed to purchase the home! We are absolutely thrilled with the level of response we have received so far, and we believe we will soon be able to complete this purchase.

If there is any way you could help us reach our goal, we would be grateful. Please fill out and return the enclosed response card with your gift.

To help us in our work, please send your tax-deductible gifts to Harmony Outreach.

Harmony Outreach • 41685 Date Street, Unit B • Murrieta, CA 92562 • USA • 951-600-4474 • 1-877-CHINA70