Dear Family and Friends,

We are writing with exciting news: Baby Lixia Yang (杨立夏) will be joining our family within the year! We don't know who he/she is yet, but God does; Lixia is currently in China at an orphanage awaiting our arrival as soon as our paperwork is approved for travel and adoption.

For us, this journey of adoption began over 6 years ago when we lived in China and regularly volunteered at a local orphanage. It was then that we began to see the needs of orphans in a very deep and tangible form, especially with their faces, names, and voices permanently etched in our memories. After returning to the U.S. to give birth to our son Levi in October of 2011, we understood more powerfully the parental bond and the need for every child to belong to a family. We also have become more grateful for our adoption as heirs and children in God's family, just as Galatians 4:4-5 "But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born



of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship." Then, in September of 2013 we prayerfully began the adoption process. After months of paperwork, authentications, doctor's visits, a homestudy, adoption training, and even a required mental examination, we recently submitted our dossier to China for review. We are currently awaiting our approval from China and the State department to officially begin the process of being matched with our future child.



We are now humbly writing to not only share our excitement and joy, but also to ask for your prayers and petitions as we finalize our adoption and fly to China this fall to bring Lixia home. We know that upon arrival there will be many additional uphill battles that will need prayer including working through attachment issues as well as developmental delays.

In addition, we also wanted to share that we have received a \$3,000 matching grant from *Lifesong for Orphans* to financially help us with our adoption. Our goal date for the grant is *May 31st*, but funds will be accepted until our adoption is complete and we are all home together. Our adoption, like most others from China, will cost anywhere from \$25-30,000 including airfare, paperwork, and mandatory fees. We have already paid 1/3 of the total cost, and this matching grant is an incredible help toward the rest!

Although we know that we cannot help all of the 150 million orphans on our own, we do know with certainty that God has called us to be Lixia's forever family, and we are excited by how the Lord plans to grow our family and mold us as His children this adventure! As part of our efforts to fundraise, we want to live out what James describes in chapter 1:27, "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world." As a result, we are committed to helping several widows and widowers in our community as a way to honor God in our adoption and extend our love to others in need. From yards work to household chores and meals, we hope to serve them as God has called us to during this waiting period before we get Lixia.

In all of this, we are thankful to be a part of Christ's Body and want you to know that your friendship, prayers, and support are greatly appreciated! We look forward to keeping you updated and introducing you to Lixia soon!

In Him,

Frank, Ginny, & Levi Yang



TO PRAY...please pray that God will

- 1. Tenderly care for Lixia in China until the adoption is finalized.
- 2. Prepare Levi for the upcoming changes to our family.
- 3. Give us wisdom, discernment, and insight as we bond with Lixia and raise both our children to know & love Jesus.
- 4. Provide the remaining financial support we need.

TO GIVE...If you would be interested in supporting our adoption through a <u>tax-deductible</u> donation, thank you! The following information will hopefully guide you, but please don't hesitate to contact us with questions.

To Give by Check

- 1. Please make checks payable to Lifesong for Orphans
- 2. In the memo please write: **Preference to 4371 Yang.**
- 3. Mail checks to...Lifesong for Orphans PO Box 9, Gridley, IL 61744

To Give Online by Credit Card

- 1. Go to www.lifesongfororphans.org/give/donate
- 2. Select Give to an Adoptive Family
- 3. Complete online form and fill in the field Family Account Number as **4371** & Family Name field as **Yang**.

Any additional donations above \$3,000 will not be matched but will still go to our adoption fund and are tax deductible. This fund is open to donations until the time we finalize our adoption. Donations of \$50 or more will receive a tax deductible receipt, and receipts for donations under \$50 will gladly be sent upon request.

Lifesong has been blessed with a partner that underwrites all U.S. administrative and fund-raising costs (TMG Foundation and other partners) so that 100% of your donation will go directly to helping orphans. As a non-profit, they do retain full discretion over donation use, but intend to honor donors' suggested use.