

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact:

Good Hard Working People

Luci Westphal

[info@allgodschildrenthefilm.com](mailto:info@allgodschildrenthefilm.com)

[www.allgodschildrenthefilm.com](http://www.allgodschildrenthefilm.com)

[www.stmarks.net](http://www.stmarks.net)

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

**DC PREMIERE: ALL GOD’S CHILDREN, DOCUMENTARY ABOUT CHILDREN SURVIVING ABUSE AT THE HANDS OF AMERICAN PROTESTANT MISSIONARIES IN AFRICA**

*Film’s Participant and Directors to Attend Screenings in Arlington and Washington, DC*

(New York, July 2009) *All God’s Children* will screen as part of the SNAP (Survivors Network of Those Abused by Priests) National Conference on August 8<sup>th</sup> in Arlington, VA and have its Washington, DC public premiere on Sunday, August 9. The film’s directors, Scott Solary and Luci Westphal (Brooklyn, NY), are scheduled to participate in Q&As after both screenings together with several of the film’s participants: Beverly Shellrude Thompson (Burlington, ON), Marilyn Shellrude Christman (Seattle, WA) and Dianne Darr Coutts (Akron, OH).

Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm  
SNAP National Conference  
Hyatt Regency Crystal City at Reagan National Airport  
2799 Jefferson Davis Highway  
Arlington, Virginia, 22202

Sunday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 4pm  
St. Marks Episcopal Church - Capitol Hill  
118 Third Street, SE,  
Washington, DC 20003

Through the eyes of three families, the documentary *All God’s Children* (70 minutes) tells the personal story of the first boarding school for children of Protestant missionaries to be investigated for abuse at the hands of the parents’ missionary colleagues. The survivors and parents share their journey of seeking justice, redemption and healing.

While the American parents were stationed in remote outposts throughout West Africa, their children - starting at the age of 6 - were required to attend the Christian and Missionary Alliance (C&MA) boarding school in Mamou, Guinea. Cut off from their parents, the children quietly suffered from the abuse by the all-missionary staff. When they finally dared to speak out decades later, the C&MA denied all allegations and refused to help. Through years of persistent activism the survivors and their parents finally compelled the C&MA to conduct an investigation and acknowledge the abuses. The healing could begin.

*"Exposing a horrific scandal that's virtually never been highlighted anywhere, this deeply moving film is about far more than childhood betrayal. It's also about the heroic work of wounded adults to hold callous and deceitful church officials accountable for stunning crimes. It's both jaw-dropping and awe-inspiring."*

*David Clohessy, national director of SNAP, the Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests*

To request a DVD Screener of the film, please email [info@allgodschildrenthefilm.com](mailto:info@allgodschildrenthefilm.com)

**Website (Trailer, Hi-Res Stills, Press Kit, etc.):** [www.allgodschildrenthefilm.com](http://www.allgodschildrenthefilm.com)

The filmmakers and the families featured in the documentary are available for interviews.

#####