## OHIO PREMIERE: ALL GOD'S CHILDREN, DOCUMENTARY ABOUT CHILDREN FROM OHIO SURVIVING ABUSE AT THE HANDS OF AMERICAN MISSIONARIES IN AFRICA

Film's Participants and Directors to Attend Screenings in Akron, Columbus and Minerva

(New York, April 2009) *All God's Children* will have its Ohio premiere on **Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Goss Memorial Church in Akron** with screenings following in Columbus and Minerva. The film's directors, Scott Solary and Luci Westphal, as well as several of the film's participants and Akron natives David Darr (Columbus, OH) and Dianne Darr Couts (Akron, OH) are scheduled to attend. The event in Akron will take place at the church that sent the Darr family out to the mission field in Africa in the 1960s.

Sunday, May 24th - 3pm	Tues
King Avenue United Methodist Church	Mine
299 King Avenue	501/
Columbus, OH 43201	Mine
Phone: 614-424-6050	
	King Avenue United Methodist Church 299 King Avenue Columbus, OH 43201

Tuesday, May 26th, 2009 - 3pm Minerva High School 501 Almeda Avenue Minerva, OH, 44657

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 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 and without any reliable means of communication, the children quietly suffered from the abuse by the all-missionary staff. It took the children decades to acknowledge the effects on their lives. When they finally dared to speak out, 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 <u>info@allgodschildrenthefilm.com</u> Website (Trailer, Hi-Res Stills, Press Kit, etc.): <u>www.allgodschildrenthefilm.com</u>

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