

Connection and support study

January 2020

Celebrating 25 years!

Dear Paulette,

Is it really 2020? Oh.my.gosh...I can't believe it! *This year is the 25th Anniversary* of Just Moved Ministry!

Since you are part of my inner circle as a leader, you might be interested in knowing the inside scoop on how our ministry started twenty-five years ago. It will make a great story to share with the women in your After the Boxes are Unpacked groups.

You know the part about our fourteen moves with Bill's career in the hotel business and our move to Phoenix. You know that God used all those moves for me to write about my struggles, challenges, the raw emotions of being uprooted, and how it affected the core of my being, my marriage, and my parenting. Yes, He sure did...

But, you don't know that after moving to Phoenix I hit rock bottom, and the only way I could pull myself back up was to stand on the rock of Jesus Christ and cling to His word. When I climbed out of the pit of despair, I knew there must be other uprooted women going through similar things and I desperately wanted to give them the hope and encouragement I found in Christ.

From scribbled notes on notebook paper, I began teaching at my church the biblical principles I had learned. People began to encourage me to consider writing a book, which would reach far more women than those attending my class.

I submitted a book proposal to every Christian publisher in the universe, or so it seemed. Rejection after rejection came. Focus on the Family headquarters was in California then, so I boldly flew there to visit a friend in the area and we drove to their office building, prayed in the parking lot, and up to the door I went with book proposal in hand. The receptionist politely said to go upstairs and see the person in the first office there. I walked up the winding staircase and knocked on the door. A voice said, "Come in, just pardon the mess with all the boxes. We are in the middle of a move to Colorado Springs." He kindly said it would be months before he could even look at my proposal and get back to me. I was so excited he even kept it, that I gleefully slid down the banister to the lobby!

Months later, I was standing in the kitchen when the phone rang. I answered it over the noise of the TV and the kids in the background. "This is Larry, from Focus on the Family. I read your proposal. We just moved 350 families from California to Colorado and we're ready to talk about publishing your book." (I always laugh and say that God moved Focus on the Family from California to Colorado to get my book published!)

When the responses from the book poured in from uprooted women all over the nation, it became obvious there was a huge need for a ministry to broaden and deepen the outreach to these women. *After the Boxes are Unpacked* became the catalyst for the birth of Just Moved Ministry, which now has a global outreach and touches countless women for Christ. It started in my guest bedroom, with one volunteer. We have since moved to an office with seven part-time staff and over 25 volunteers. The book has sold over 100,000 copies.

The Lord has done great things for us and we are filled with joy! (Psalm 126:3) So raise your pom-poms high, join us in giving God the glory, and praise Him for the great things He has done in the life of Just Moved!

Celebrating together in 2020,

Jusan



1996 - Susan Miller (right) with the first Just Moved volunteer, Joan Langston (center) and and another long-time volunteer, Margie Wallinski

Register your Winter/Spring After the Boxes study

2020 has rolled in and orders are starting to arrive for the Winter/Spring *After the Boxes* studies! Remember to contact JoAnn or Paulette (<u>480.991.5268</u>) so you will receive the church discount of \$9 per book, get the lowest shipping rate, and receive a *Bloom* publication for each book you order. If you are a new Group Leader, do you need a <u>Teacher Guide</u> or Video Series Facilitator Guide? The <u>Newcomer Study Guides</u> are discounted if you buy 10 or more. We are giving away autographed copies of Susan's book, *But Mom, I Don't Want to Move!* when you place an order of 10 or more *After the Boxes Are Unpacked* books.

But Mom, I Don't Want to Move! is a complete guide for moms who want to help their children make the adjustment to a new house, school, and community as smooth as possible. It is available only in the <u>Just Moved Shop</u> for \$10. Consider giving away your free copies to parents of children in your study group!

To provide the most accurate information to every newcomer who contacts us or visits <u>JustMoved.org</u>, it's important that you update/register your After the Boxes study! Go now to <u>register online</u> or call JoAnn or Paulette at <u>480.991.5268</u>.

Please let us know if you have any questions. <u>JoAnn</u> and <u>Paulette</u> are your After the Boxes Support Team and here to serve you!

Leader Tip

Abundant Life Church Group Leaders in Lee's Summit, MO (pictured below in their Group Spotlight) gave each study member an adorable **suitcase** that they found on Amazon. <u>Click here</u> to check them out! Remember to go to <u>Smile.Amazon.com</u> and enter Just Moved Ministry as your charity of choice to receive a percentage of all your Amazon purchases.

Do you give members of your study a miniature bird's nest with eggs when you teach Session 5, Create a New Nest? Susan orders bird nests for her study groups from <u>Favors LTD</u> and the eggs from <u>Factory Direct Craft</u>.

If you have a source for special handouts or visual reminders that you use in your study groups, send an email to <u>Paulette</u>, <u>paulettemiller@justmoved.org</u>. She'll pass the info on to other group leaders.

Study Group Spotlight



Adundant Life Unurch, Lee's Summit, MO Group Leaders: Susan Sesker, Deb Powers & Patty Tow

Our class has six members, and it is unique as there are only two who have moved recently. Three have lost a spouse. One member is neither a mover, nor a widow, but brought her mother who is a recent widow. All the women say that the class has helped them. Even the woman who brought her mother said this book and class has helped her with some family issues she is having with her grown children. The women are finding the Biblical principles in Susan Miller's teaching and book to be helpful and encouraging. The discussion time and sense of community have been uplifting.



Group Leader: Jamie Bullman

Jamie shared, I'm privileged to lead this beautiful group. We took a downtown tour of landmarks, monuments, historical areas and hit of a lot of the major things to see. We made a day of it and enjoyed every minute!

Email <u>Paulette</u> or <u>JoAnn</u> your fun photo of your newcomers to be submitted for a future <u>Group Spotlight</u>

Cheering you on, Paulette & JoAnn

Your Support Team at Just Moved Ministry:

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480.991.5268 (M-Th, 9am-4pm, MST)









Just Moved Ministry

Web: JustMoved.org email: info@JustMoved.org

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