

Winter 2011 Newsletter

Volume 6

A WORD FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - Lisa Heuving



People are complex; handle with love.

John 3:16-17. "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him."

It is true. God is a God of love. How do I know this to be true? Because I witness it five days a week here at the ministry centre. People come through our doors and often times say to me, 'If God loves me so much why is life so difficult?' Let's take a sneak peak at the Christmas story. It must have been a very difficult time for Mary and Joseph. Do you think the couple really expected to have the baby born in a stall.....the smell, noises and dirt of the animals? Sometimes I wonder what Mary was breathing in while pushing Jesus out into this world. I am sure that it was not a pleasant atmosphere and it was not something that was planned by the couple, it must have been a

hard time for them. Now going back to the question of why is life difficult? I don't really have an answer to that however I do know that all of us at some point in our lives will go through a season of pain. I also know that no matter what our situation God will love us through this pain. How does God do this? By putting people in our lives who show us tender support, love and care, those who are willing to walk alongside us as we cope with our heartache; for their listening ear as painful memories repeat over and over again; by placing people in our path who do not judge us or give unsolicited advice; people who simply help us along life's way. This help reveals the unconditional love that God showed by having Jesus born into this world. For me personally, this is how I know that God is a God of love! Just imagine this Christmas season being surrounded by God's ever flowing bank of love and grace as the Messiah delights in you being you!

From all of us at the ministry centre, we thank you again and again for your prayers and financial contributions for the work that is being done. You make a huge difference!

Thank you for your random acts of kindness.

We don't know who you are: but we thank you for blessing us!

To the teenage girl who has raked over 50 bags of leaves this fall around the ministry centre on Saturday's!

To the individual(s) who donated a new computer to the West Lincoln site!

To the individual(s) who planted a lovely hardy mum in our garden!

To the individual(s) who donated 85 cases of bottled water for the clients and staff to drink

To the individual(s) who donate the coffee and tea that we find at the outside of our door!

To all the people who graciously, prayerfully, and financially make this ministry thrive and grow



CLIENT TESTIMONIAL...

In October of 1996 I was diagnosed with an anxiety/panic disorder. The doctors medicated me which allowed me to manage day to day tasks, but never told me why this was happening or how to manage it. This past summer of 2011, I had a large relapse and was told by my Chiropractor about the Grimsby Life Centre and that I should just go and talk to them, that they might be able to help. So I made the phone call and was able to talk to a counselor immediately.

I made an appointment to see her on the following Monday. Nervous and anxious, I sat down with the counselor and proceeded to talk about what was going on. She reassured me that I wasn't going crazy and that we would get through this together. She told me that I was going to have to fight through this, but she would give me the tools that I needed to help me through it. Well it has been a couple of months since I started going and I have learned many different ways of dealing with this disorder and how everyday events compacted make up this disorder. So we are now unpacking and dealing with all kinds of personal baggage. But instead of hiding from it, I'm taking it head on and if I falter, all I have to do is pick up the phone and a friendly voice is always there. Words cannot express how much the Grimsby Life Centre means to me.

Thank you so much for giving me the tools to take back my life and showing me that there are still people in this world that care.

From a grateful client

"For unto us a child is born".

Isaiah 9:6

Wishing you and your family immeasurable Joy as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

SECRETARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS - Jenny Inneo

As we approach this Christmas season, we rejoice for the Lord is with us. Indeed, He is Christ among us. We celebrate the work of His Holy Spirit, present in the work of the staff and volunteers of the Grimsby Life Centre, and as evidenced by the abundant fruit and miraculous interventions experienced by His grace in 2011. Every day He is making an impact.

We wish to thank Him for His faithfulness and love, and for His grace among us and through us. As well, thank you to the faithful supporters of the work of this ministry. Through you, the life and love of God extend to the needs of our community, bringing help and hope to those who are hurting. Thank you to the clients of the Centre. Your faith and confidence has been a genuine source of encouragement, as together we go forth and respond to His call for this organization.

May the Lord richly bless you and yours during this Christmas season, and may He prosper you in the New Year ahead. May His call on your lives become clear, and may you receive the grace to carry out His commission.



INTRODUCING A NEW MEMBER OF THE GRIMSBY LIFE CENTRE TEAM:

We wholeheartedly welcome Susan Scott!

Susan has a Bachelor of Math from the University of Waterloo and will be graduating from McMaster University with a Masters of Divinity in May 2012. She has just completed a two year residency program working at St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton in chaplaincy and grief counseling and is currently writing papers for Specialist Certification in the Canadian Association of Spiritual Care. She is passionate about prayer, especially how it transforms and deepens our relationship with God.

Susan previously lived in the Netherlands for four and a half years learning the language, raising children, and travelling as much as possible. Her two older children are currently off at university, and she is now enjoying the quiet

life with only one son at home. Susan has a blue belt in Karate and enjoys reading everything from theology to mysteries.

Susan has started working up at the West Lincoln site every Wednesday, and works in Grimsby on Thursdays and Fridays. *Thank you Susan for joining the team!*

News, Notes and Needs

Are you someone who might be interested in helping the ministry centre?

♥ **Prayer Ministry** – Please join us as we pray for the work of the Centre, for the wisdom, courage and strength to serve as the hands and feet of Christ. *'The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.'* James 5:16. We meet twice per month for prayer; you are most welcome to join us!

♥ **Banquet Blessings** – Thank you so much for those who attended and volunteered their time for our annual fundraising banquet. It is pure joy to have the opportunity to share with everyone present what the ministry is all about. We had over 300 attendees, and made over \$35,000 which will keep us going for another four months. We are in awe at how God provides! Thank you so much for blessing the centre.

♥ **Tuesday's with Jane** – Last week a lovely woman by the name of Jane volunteered to clean the ministry centre every Tuesday morning! Wow. Her cleaning technique brightens up the centre and her positive and fun attitude is contagious. If you ever feel down, drop by on a Tuesday morning for a smile and a laugh.

♥ **Supplies anyone?** - We are always in need of gift vouchers and paper products including toilet paper, paper towels, and cleaning supplies. We run a very tight ship!

YES, I want to make a year end gift to the Grimsby Life Centre to celebrate the season!

Name _____

Address _____ City/Town _____

Province _____ Postal Code _____ Email _____

Donation \$ _____ Cheque (Payable to Grimsby Life Centre)

VISA Mastercard (Please indicate) One time Gift Monthly Gift

Cardholder Name: _____

Card# _____

Exp. Date ____ / ____

Signature _____

Or, you may wish to donate by visiting www.grimsbylife.org/donate or CanadaHelps.org.

Official receipts for income tax purposes will be issued for donations over \$10.

Please do not send cash through the mail. Charitable Organization # BN 80678 8824 RR0001

Grimsby

LIFE ♥ CENTRE

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Grimsby Life Centre Ministries is a registered charity dedicated to helping those in local communities regardless of age, race, religion or marital status. All services are confidential and free of charge.

*Offering help and hope
with compassionate
concern for all.*