

Winter 2010 Newsletter

Volume 3

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT – Lisa Heuving



Christmas Mercy - helping people.

George is lonely; Ralph is bored and has started drinking again; Jesse is suicidal; Robin is depressed; Frank lost his job; Susan is on disability; Ruth is tired; Dean is desperate; Joe is having an affair; Bob is addicted to pornography; Sarah lost her license; Rick is bullied at school; Joyce needs a place to live.

At the Grimsby Life Centre, it's all about helping people like the hurting people depicted above. We all have the opportunity of showing God's mercy and grace. As I was writing this newsletter I noticed that if you take the "r" out of Merry and put a "c" in its place it becomes Mercy Christmas. Mary and Joseph had been shown mercy by the inn keeper who had no room for them in

his inn and yet this man did not turn the pregnant couple away – he offered the stable. Because of Christ's mercy and grace to us, we in turn give mercy to the individuals and families who walk through the door at the Life Centre. Mercy is compassion – not turning people away; it is giving people a shoulder to cry on; teaching practical life and coping skills; walking alongside someone who is struggling; finding living accommodations for someone in need.... it's all about being merciful. The innkeeper in the Christmas story innately understood this.

As a young girl, I couldn't understand why God would have Jesus born in a stable. As I get older the location of Jesus' birth has a vibrant and different meaning for me. The Prince of Peace, the Almighty Counselor was born in a dirty stable. For me Jesus' birth represents that He really understands the dirt and pain in all of our lives.

As staff, volunteers, and board members we thank you so very much for supporting this 'hope and help' ministry. It is because of your prayers and financial support that we in turn can show God's unbridled love and mercy for all His people, no matter what circumstances life might bring. Jesus was born as the Saviour of the world – it really is a season filled with hope and mercy for all of us!

Have a Merry, Merciful Christmas – from our families to yours!

BOARD NEWS - Harriette Rynberk

"My God will meet your need according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus." (Philippians. 4:19)

Amazing things happen in God's ministry! Amazing things happen when a prayer group is committed and faithful! Amazing things happen when God's people obey and act with wisdom! Daily events at Grimsby Life Centre are amazing!

On September 30, 2010, the Grimsby Life Centre Ministries became the owners of the property at 18 Elm Street. A realtor, contractor, accountant, business man and others, all donated their time and expertise to make it happen. And...our monthly mortgage payment is close to that of our previous lease payments. God is good!

We have a dream! A financial campaign will soon be launched to help pay the mortgage along with much needed renovations. We ask that you continue to pray that we will remain faithful to our calling and that many people within our community will continue to be blessed through this ministry.

To God alone be the glory!

A life touched because of your financial support...

"Through the Centre I have been blessed with counselling which I cannot afford as well as receiving a Christmas basket of gifts for me and my daughters. I have learned that through God's grace we can make it through anything. Even in the darkest of times when death or giving up looks like the only answer, you can look to God and He will lend a hand, a kind word or have a person hug me right when I need it most. If it wasn't for the Centre I don't know where I would be right now. With their help, the girls and I are in a healthy place in our relationship. We know and understand that even when we work hard and there isn't enough the Lord does provide. I now know every day is a journey and when you lean on the Lord His grace will help you make it. Thank you for making this possible."

Client B

Grimsby Life Centre
Christmas Wish List
Bottled Water
Toilet Paper + Kleenex Boxes
Coffee + Cookies
Gift Certificates always appreciated

Reflections from a volunteer:



Janet Lepp

My experience of volunteering at the Grimsby Life Centre could be described in many ways but the word 'well-rounded' covers the spectrum. For example, I have had the opportunity to stretch by installing plastic on the windows to save on heating costs, and this past summer I prepared food for the fundraising BBQ's at Turkstra Lumber which raised over \$2500 for the Centre. Also, I have had the opportunity to network and meet people at various local events such as having a booth at the Festival at the Forty. I have had the privilege of being a part of the prayer ministry, compiling and analyzing statistics, being creative in finding solutions, running errands and covering for the receptionist. I have received nothing but encouragement volunteering here, and we are sure to enjoy a prayer, or laugh together, and I am stretched in many ways, I am thankful for this opportunity.



Annual Fall Benefit Banquet 'Heartbeat at Elm Street'

2010 Banquet – God provides!

This year we are so grateful for the support of over 300 people who attended the banquet. Author Brennan Manning donated 100 copies of his book "The Rabbi's Heartbeat". Over 60 volunteers made this evening a wonderful, God honouring event as we celebrated being in a community together. If you missed the banquet this year – you absolutely have to attend next year! The food was awesome, the silent auction was fabulous, the testimonials were touching and together we celebrated God's provision. Thank you so much for supporting this ministry at the corner of Mountain and Elm Street.

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 One time Gift Monthly Gift Building Campaign

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.*