Issue 4 October 2009



Women Reaching Women is a network of Christian women, reaching out to women from all walks of life. It's all about women coming together building community by strengthening relationships and bringing hope to women in need, including single moms and women who have loved ones deployed in service to our country, protecting our borders and around the world.

Women Reaching Women Newsletter

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Women Reaching Women A Faith-Based Ministry Right to the Heart

Our Lil' Guy

The effects of war are not only seen on the battle-field, but they often follow soldiers home in the form of physical or emotional issues. That is true of one family in which both parents are veterans of war.

We met Judy (not her real name) at an educational dinner and learned of her family's military background and some of their struggles. Although Judy and her husband are divorced, she still helps out with his care. He has severe Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and is on disability. Judy herself has short-term memory loss and has bouts of anxiety attacks.

Gere Abramovs of our WRW team told Judy about Women Reaching Women and arranged a meeting with Donna Long, WRW Director. Donna shared with Judy the benefits of professional counseling.

Weeks went by and Judy received a phone call from her son's school. She was told that her little



It is not only those deployed that pay the cost for our freedom — it is the families as well.

seven-year-old desperately needed help because he appeared to be *suicidal*. Judy's son, we'll call him Danny, was prone to outbursts of anger and would make statements like, "I just wanna die!" Women

Reaching Women was able to successfully place him in counseling and today, nine months later, he is able to recognize his emotions and the onset of anger.

We have been in close contact, checking on him over the summer months. Now that school has resumed, we asked Judy how he is doing. She said, "Wonderful! He may come home on any given day and I ask him how his day was. He might say, 'I had a tough day...the teacher was going to give me a cloud (sticker for a not so good report) and I worked real hard and got two "sunshines" (reward for success)." When she asked Danny what he does different whenever he gets angry about something, he says,

(continued on page 4)

Women Reaching Women...in Brevard

WRW is a faith-based organization that endeavors to come alongside of single moms, military moms and women in general in order to honor, support and encourage one another through life's trials.

Meets 1st Monday of the Month: Oct 5, Nov 2, Dec 7, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. Cartridge Source of America, 8850 Grissom Pkwy, Titusville 32780 Contact: Donna Long at (321) 383-2633

Please visit our website at www.womenreachingwomenfl.org

Inside this issue:

Spotlight on Charlie Arms, New Venture Church	2
Godstock 2009 — Unity for Haiti	2
Spotlight on Military Family, Cortney Spangler	3
Spotlight on Frances Walker Halfway House	3
Note from Donna Long, Director WRW	3
Sponsors	4

Special points of interest:

Women Reaching Women Program Schedule

- ♦ Oct. 5th "The Mask II", Donna Long
- Nov. 2nd Guest Speaker, Angela Courte Bower, Host/Producer of TV's "Power of Praise" Channel 52
- ♦ Dec.7th Women Reaching Women, Christmas Celebration
- ♦ Jan. 4th Happy New Year! No meeting Come one, come all...but come expecting!

Spotlight on Pastor Charlie Arms, New Venture Church

Pastor Charlie Arms has been in ministry for 20 years, serving in his home state of Tennessee, and in Indiana, North Carolina, and Florida.

Charlie was called to pastor at the age of 19 while still attending college and playing football at East Tennessee State University. He started serving as a pastor immediately and earned his Master's Degree at Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, KY. His area of expertise is in church growth and reaching the unchurched. Charlie has fostered church growth and evangelism in every community where he has ministered.

He and his wife Rebecca married in 1998 and now have two elementary-aged children. They are home-schooling this year for the first time.

New Venture Church (NVC) started out with a small group of people two years ago and has grown to over 300 in attendance on a weekend. NVC is a church for the un-churched. NVC's vision is to create an environment where people who don't normally go to church (or are tired of church as usual) feel welcomed and encouraged! NVC is a different kind of church! We seek to be:

CASUAL...

Wear your blue jeans, shorts, or flip-

flops... because we will!

MODERN...

We're not just singing warmed up older stuff or speaking about yesterday's news... but our music and messages are modern, fresh, and relevant!



POSITIVE...

Feel better after church than you do before church!

FUN...

We expect everyone to truly enjoy coming to church!

ADVENTUROUS...

If you're looking for excitement and want to be part of something new, come join us!

KEEPING IT REAL...

Be yourself! At NVC, you'll find real people, with real struggles, looking for real answers! You don't have to pretend to have it all together, because nobody really does!

NVC's mission is to Encounter Christ, Explore Faith and Engage Others. Some of the core values found at NVC include: Authenticity, Relevance, Excellence, Boldness, Community, and Reproduction/Growth.

NVC is pleased to offer The Alpha Course, Financial Peace University, Life Groups, excellent children's and youth ministries, and more!

New Venture now has two weekend services, Saturday night at 6:30 p.m. and Sunday morning at 10:15 a.m. with donuts and coffee starting at 9:45 a.m. Both services feature modern worship (rock and roll) music and a casual atmosphere where people can be themselves and get a real and positive message. Coming soon! — a new "Unplugged" service. God is constantly blessing and changing lives through the ministry at NVC, and Charlie and his family are blessed to be a part of His movement in the community.

New Venture Church Pastor Charlie Arms (321) 267-2428

E-mail: Charlie@New-Venture-Church.org Web: www.New-Venture-Church.org Service Times: Saturday, 6:30 p.m.; Sunday, 10:15 a.m.

"Godstock 2009" — Unity for Haiti

In the summer of 1969, half a million people gathered in a show of unity in a field in New York in what became the legendary music festival called Woodstock. Forty years later, that display of unity is being repackaged as Godstock 2009. Godstock 2009 — "Unity for Haiti" is a free festival of music and fun set in the 12-acre field at First Christian Church in North Titusville. This festival is a multichurch, community-wide effort to bring people together to raise awareness and support for the impoverished people in the nation of Haiti. This family day of music and fun will be held just 1 block west of U.S.1 and Jay Jay Road in North Titusville.

Admission to Godstock is FREE to all.



Godstock 2009 — Unity for Haiti Sunday, November 8th from 2:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Godstock will feature:

- Christian Bands
- Lots of Great Food
- Gatorland Reptiles
 - Petting Zoo
- Bounce House Hayride
- Kid's Games Dunking Booth
 - Vintage Cars
 - Fire Trucks & K-9 Unit
 - Raffle for Prizes
- · Live Radio Broadcast & much more...

If you would like to contribute to this ministry, please make checks payable to First Christian Church 2880 W Jay Jay Road Titusville, Florida 32796 (321) 267-4858

Spotlight on Military Family, Cortney Spangler

Cortney Spangler is a Master Sergeant with the Air Force Reserve, at Patrick Air Force Base. Cortney is currently working for the 920th Rescue Wing, in Information Management. She has been in the Air Force since 1999; her first assignment was in Korea at Kunsan Air Base. She has since been stationed at Patrick AFB while on Active Duty. Cortney separated from Active Duty in 2004 and joined the Air Force Reserve that same year. Once in the Air Force Reserve, she has deployed to Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan three times. She deployed in 2005, 2007 and most recently in 2008 to 2009. Each time has been with the 920th Rescue Wing, 301st Rescue Squadron, a Combat Search and Rescue Helicopter unit. She has just returned from her third tour to Afghanistan, this time being in country for four months, returning in January of 2009. There she performed her job as a Client Support Administrator and worked on the computer networks while deployed. Her husband, Scott Spangler, is an HH-60 Helicopter Flight Engineer and has deployed with her on each tour to Afghanistan.

Cortney is currently attending Columbia College for a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology. She is involved in a couple different projects to help the veterans that are coming home from Iraq and Afghanistan. Cortney was able to do some research during her most recent deployment to Afghanistan on PTSD, Combat Stress, Depression and Anxiety. Upon returning to Florida and a new passion to help veterans and their families; Cortney has been working with "Welcome Home Vets", a non-profit organization that helps veterans of all generations with many different issues.

She is also involved in the new Congressional program "Yellow Ribbon Reintegration" to help those that are currently serving to reintegrate back into their lives and their families' lives. Cortney is planning on attending



graduate school to further her education to become a Clinical Psychologist. She and her husband live in Melbourne, Florida with their dog Kaycee.

Spotlight on Frances Walker Halfway House

What an honor! Women Reaching Women had the privilege of having three girls from Frances Walker Halfway House share with us about their life's journey – from growing up in broken homes, to falling into drug use, to being incarcerated. As each of them related their experiences with simplicity, our hearts were captivated by these girls and by how important it is that we reach out to them and others who have been caught in similar circumstances.

Their presentation was followed by three girls from East Coast Christian Center who shared the struggles that they had been through and how people communicating with and encouraging them had helped them to grow and overcome their temptations.

All of the girls then provided a panel to answer questions like "How were you able to forgive? Have you been reunited with your families? Do you know where your father is now? What did your mother do that helped you the most?" The answers helped us to understand the strong temptations that our young people are faced with and challenged us to reach out to our young women with understanding, resources, counseling, and love. They are in a battle for their lives, and we are committed to their cause.

Frances Walker Halfway House is a residential program here in Titusville (continued on page 4)

A Note From Donna...Director of Women Reaching Women



The changing of seasons, the falling of needles and leaves are actually the beginning of nature taking a rest from the

summer production of beauty. Like nature God created us to be able to rest

in the seasons of our life no **MATTER** what the circumstances. There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. (Heb 4:9)

MATTER

Oh, for the mind to know,
For the heart to feel.
Understanding is fleeting.
Emotions demanding.
Life never ends,

For eternity beckons.
Just one glimpse would hold.
Only seconds remain for destiny calls.
Today will be tomorrow.
Success and failure,
Together they travel
Hand in hand.
Step by step,
Forming the world,
Making it all matter.

Donna Long

ISSUE 4 Page 3



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Our Lil' Guy (continued from cover page)

"I remember what the doctor (counselor) has told me, and that is to 'redirect myself', to think on good things."

We would like to thank Keys to Life Counseling for their love and expertise with this little guy and to everyone who has contributed to Women Reaching Women in order to provide help such as this.

There is such a great need. One study states that 35 percent of troops returning from Iraq deal with post traumatic stress disorder. Women Reaching Women endeavors to come alongside our military by providing funding for counseling for male and

female vets, their spouses and children as these soldiers come home from war suffering from severe depression, or traumatic brain injury (TBI). By helping this lil' guy and others like him, we are serving Jesus who said "inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me. (Matthew 25:40)

If you would like to contribute to this cause, please send checks to Women Reaching Women, Inc., P.O. Box 456, Titusville, FL 32781. Women Reaching Women is a nonprofit 501(3)C faith-based organization.

Frances Walker Halfway House (continued from Page 3)

for girls thirteen to eighteen that provides them with treatment for substance abuse, and mental health and family counseling. Their average stay is six to eight months and they are from all over Florida. Josette Lopez-Shipman is the program director; she welcomes volunteers who will mentor individual girls (some of them receive no family visits), who teach a class, who donate clothing, yarn, or money dedicated to helping families travel here to visit their daughters. She hosts an annual event "An Evening with Rose," a dinner on the grounds, which gives our communities an opportunity to visit the program, meet the girls, and see and appreciate their talents. For more information, contact her at 321-264-4033 x 233.



The Community Band of Brevard presents

"A Winter Concert Featuring the Nutcracker Suite"

Sunday, December 6, 2009, 3:00 pm Merritt Island High School Auditorium FREE

Visit our web site: www.communitybandofbrevard.org



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