



The Mercy Messenger

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Summer 2007

Restoring Relationships

“Restore us, O God our savior, and abandon your displeasure against us.” Psalm 85:5

My husband was going to do some major work on his car one weekend so he asked our son to help him. He came the night before with his family to drop off some power tools they would need to make the job easier.

Emily (6) wanted to spend the night with Nana and Papa and when little Daniel (4) found out her plans he immediately pleaded *“Me too...Me too!”*. He was so excited, what else could we say but *“yes...you too!”*

The next day when the ‘work crew’ was ready to begin little Daniel proudly announced *“I got my tools”* he carried Papa’s ratchet around with pride. He watched very closely all they did, and seemed thrilled to ‘work’ with the guys.



It was late afternoon when they finished working for the day and Emily helped me prepare and serve a simple meal. We said our prayer before eating, then little Daniel looked up with his big blue eyes, and a beautiful smile and said softly *“I love you Nana”*...my heart melted. That made all the extra work from the weekend worthwhile! Little children speak from the heart. Little Daniel felt loved and he was reflecting to me what he felt on the inside.

The reason for my sharing this story is because post abortion healing is not just about healing women, it’s also about restoring relationships.

Women wounded by abortion often pull away from family and friends due to feelings of guilt and shame.

They too reflect what they feel... unworthy of being loved or forgiven. These wounds deeply affect her and radiate through the family and beyond sometimes for decades.

A woman has given permission to share an unmailed letter to the father of her child. She writes to him *“Your actions and the aftermath of the abortion have caused me pain beyond my greatest imagination!.”* In the letter she extends forgiveness to him then ends the letter by saying *“...we must learn to live with our mistakes and learn to love again.”* So true, because we do stop loving ourselves and others and it takes God’s grace to begin to love again.

“...we must learn to live with our mistakes and learn to love again.”

During the healing journey...as she accepts God’s forgiveness she begins to love and laugh again. Her relationships are slowly restored and she finds peace within. She becomes merciful to others because the one who has been forgiven much....loves much.

The forgiveness from God we experience is liberating. The closer we draw to God, the more we will experience His personal love for us. The more we reach out to others in self giving, the more our healing continues. Let’s pass it on....for the Glory of God and souls!



Pray EVERYDAY for those *“wounded by abortion”!*

Healing Hidden Hurts

How it began...how you can help

by Debbie Miller



In 1999 **Healing Hidden Hurts** began after many years of prayer and discernment. I guess it was because of my own abortion in 1977.

For approximately 10 years afterwards I suffered in silence, not realizing the abortion was the cause of my pain. When I reached a point where I had impulses to commit suicide, I remembered God and when I called for help and He came immediately.

A few years later I attended a **Christ Renews His Parish** weekend for women and it changed my life. In the years following my conversion I felt the need to help protect women and the unborn from abortion because I knew how they would be hurt.

I went to the abortion mills to pray. I would see the women going in and would feel overcome with a great sadness, because I knew their lives would never be the same. They had no idea what they were getting themselves into, and how much they would regret this choice one-day.

After a period of time, the Lord made it clear that He was calling me into post-abortion ministry. My own abortion and recovery experience would offer hope to others, since I could understand their pain and knew the hope to be found in Christ.

Since I began doing ministry I have discovered that abortion recovery is really a life-long process. That is why the message must reach women that abortion is a life-changing, traumatic event.

Four thousand women a day are falling for the lie our society promotes...that abortion is an option for birth control, and that it is a safe, simple procedure that has little or no negative effects afterwards.

Women are often so hurt, broken and devastated after abortion they cannot speak about their experience for many years, until they find healing.

How can you help? Share the truth that abortion hurts women. Then join us to help pick up the pieces for those who did not hear the message.



Mercy Messenger

News Briefs

Recently my pastor shared that he hopes to have a chapel built in the Providence Center. This work will begin shortly with the help of our faithful parish volunteers.

I am so excited because this space will definitely be useful for the ministry. Women will use the chapel to pray. If you would like to assist in this project, please let me know.



Board members Michael O'Rourke and Karla Cockman are stepping down after many years of service. Many thanks for your generous and excellent contributions to the ministry. May God continue to bless your precious families!



We are pleased to welcome new members Bob Sparks and Norbert Lindenmaier to the board.

The Mercy Messenger

is the newsletter of Healing Hidden Hurts, Inc., a non-profit, Christian-based, peer ministry offering one-to-one facilitation for women who are ready to begin the process of abortion recovery.

President – facilitator: Debbie Miller
 Spiritual Director: Rev. Vince Lampert
 Treasurer: Judy Chapman
 Secretary: Jean Knarr
 Board Members: Bob Rust, Bobbie Lawless, Eileen Hartman, Elizabeth Kane, Norbert Lindenmaier and Bob Sparks.

If you have questions or concerns, call or email Debbie Miller:

(317) 297-7578 **all calls confidential**
 (800) 827-1617 **toll free**
healinghiddenhurts@pngusa.net

Pray EVERYDAY for those "wounded by abortion"!

A special thanks to those who support this ministry through prayer. Your faith along with the encouragement and donations of time, talent and treasure help this ministry to thrive and grow. You are sowing seeds and making an investment into the restoration of women and countless families. May you be richly blessed!

A big Thank you...for speaking referrals. May the awareness of abortions aftermath protect babies and families from the heartbreak that follows this choice. And may many women and men find hope as I share my experience of God's forgiveness and mercy.

Thanks to a special young woman who has translated the brochure into Spanish and will also translate the guidebook. This young woman wants to attend our next training session then return to her country of Guatemala to begin helping her people. May God grant her this desire, and may He be Praised!

We show our appreciation to our board members by inviting them to be our guests at the annual Right to Life of Indianapolis dinner on Tuesday, September 18th. If you would like to join our table please call the ministry to reserve a place, there are a few seats available.

HEALING HIDDEN HURTS

Giving Opportunities Reply Form:

I would like to be an **intercessory prayer partner** for this ministry. I want to pray that women may be restored and healed through the Grace and Mercy of God.

I would like to distribute your brochures and newsletter in my area.

I understand that this ministry is non-profit, the **women are not charged** for the help they receive. I would like to help financially so you can continue this important work.

I will commit to \$_____ each month for 12 months.

This is a one time gift \$_____ .

Name _____ - Address _____

street city zip

Signature _____ Telephone _____

Save postage...**no thank you necessary** - All gifts over \$100.00 will receive a receipt for tax purposes.

I would like to receive email updates of Prayer Requests and Praise Reports!

My email address is _____

Please clip this form and return it to: *Healing Hidden Hurts *P.O. Box 532992 *Indianapolis, IN 46253*

Pray EVERYDAY for those "wounded by abortion"!

Praise Report:

I give **Praise and Thanks** to God for the opportunity to travel to Iowa for the taping of the program 'Faces of Abortion' to be aired on Sky Angel cable station during the month of August. There were ten of us representing four states and although each story is unique, each person shares a similar pain and path to healing through Jesus Christ! **Opportunities for speaking and sharing:**



- ◆ **Prince of Peace** Catholic Church in Madison, Indiana on the weekend of August 11/12th during the Masses. This is prior to Christ Renews His Parish weekend for women. Praise God! Yeah!!
- ◆ **Gesu** Catholic Church in Cleveland, Ohio during the weekend Masses on October 13/14 and during a Sunday evening event I will share my testimony as well as things I have learned from doing ministry. John Carol University is also connected to this parish. Thank you Lord!
- ◆ **Valparaiso University** Law school students have invited me to come and speak to them on October 18th. I also hope to speak at a nearby parish the following weekend if God provides.
- ◆ **Facilitators Retreat** will be offered again this fall. We Praise God for this time of faith and fellowship among ourselves.
- ◆ **Facilitators Training** will take place this winter for those interested in learning how to lead others through the ten-step process. Do you feel called? Come and see!
- ◆ **Our Web Site** should be up and running by the next newsletter...say a prayer!

Please consider placing the following advertisement in your Church bulletin...it works!

Healing Hidden Hurts is a ministry of healing for women wounded by abortion. This is a confidential, one-to-one, 10-step process that brings freedom and peace whether it's been 1 or 30 years. Call Debbie Miller at 317 297-7578 or (800) 827-1617. All calls are confidential; there is no fee.

I will bless the Lord at all times, His Praise shall continually be in my mouth!

HEALING HIDDEN HURTS MINISTRY

P.O. BOX 532992

Indianapolis, IN 46253

(317) 297-7578 **all calls confidential**

(800) 827-1617

*Giving Love, Offering
Hope, and Healing
Hurts through the
Grace of God... One
Woman at a time!*

Pray EVERYDAY for those "wounded by abortion"!