



New Hope Counseling Center

Introductory Newsletter

Greetings,

In July of 2001, I was working on staff at the Tri-State Women's Pregnancy Center (a counseling ministry) in Carthage, Illinois. I began to feel that the Lord was speaking to me about there being some kind of a ministry like our center in Centerville, Iowa where all of my family lives. At the time, I didn't know what I could possibly do about it, so I guess I kind of ignored it for awhile. Three months later I received a call from my sister, Vicki, telling about someone in Centerville who was a counselor and was really feeling led by God to start something where Christian counseling could be done. Vicki started telling her about the place where I was working and how it was set up. After listening, she wanted to know what it would take to get me here to help her do this. Shakily, I tried to laugh it off and said, "Well, you would have to get my husband a job and that would be next to impossible with 15 years teaching experience." What I didn't reveal was how impossible it would be for us to leave everything we had there. My husband had a perfect job, I had a perfect job, we had a beautiful home, wonderful friends, and belonged to the perfect church.

Well, I can't even begin to explain what transpired in our lives over the next year and a half, but through a series of events that only God could have arranged, we are now living near Albia, where my husband, Scott, is a teacher and coach at Albia High School and I am now serving as the director and seeking to present the ministry of the New Hope Counseling Center.

I don't know if God gave my husband what he needed to be ready to move because I was suppose to be doing this—or if He gave me this, so I would be willing to go because Scott was suppose to be here for some other reasons. All I know is that He works "all things together" and we serve a mighty God.

I have been trained in crisis counseling and biblical counseling, I am a certified counselor the American Association of Christian Counselors, and I am a member of the AACC.

God has led me here and has brought me together with some incredible people who are also a part of His plans. This newsletter is to introduce ourselves to you and give you an overview of this ministry.

In His Service,
Cindy Farrington, Director

Our Burden

God says in Jeremiah 29:11, which has become our theme verse, that He has a plan for every life, a plan for good and not for evil, a plan to give us hope and a future. God has placed in our hearts the desire to minister to those whose hopes and dreams for the future are crushed; those with life controlling problems, or those

MISSION STATEMENT

The New Hope Counseling Center exists to glorify God (Matthew 5:16) by making His purposes (Ecclesiastes 3:1; Romans 8:28), and hope (Jeremiah 29:11; 31:17), and healing through Him (Luke 4:18b; 1 Peter 2:24) known to all people (1 Peter 3:15).

who just have a *problem*, something they are struggling with and just can't overcome. We want them to know that when all seems hopeless—there *is* hope. We want them to know that there *is* an answer to every problem and every pain their hearts feel. We want them to know that God has a plan for their lives that will bring hope and a future beyond their dreams.

Our Commission

In the Great Commission we are told to go and take the Gospel into all the world. I think sometimes we forget that *begins* right here—in our own communities. It is right and good to become or to send out missionaries to all the parts of the world. But I also believe God is calling some to be and support missionaries right here, right now. God has called us to share a life-changing message. That is why the Church exists. We are called to share this message with the world and to build it into our own communities. John 4:35 says, "I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest."

Establishing a ministry like this is a call of God. And if God calls you to do something, He will both equip and provide. Proverbs 19:21 says, "There are many plans in a man's mind, but it is the Lord's purpose for him that will stand." It is so important to be in the will of God and we want to be certain that whatever we do is by His direction. Our prayer is that no one will miss the perfect will of God for his or her life.

And God calls on the Body of Christ to pray, to call on God for a mighty act. There are people who are not living the joy filled abundant life that God so wants for them to have; people who are in bondage today. And who alone can break the chains of bondage? Jesus Christ. This ministry must be covered in prayer. Prayer changes lives. Will you pray and ask God to do a mighty work? Will you start praying for the families and individuals who are in turmoil, that God will do a transforming work in their lives? Take a moment and ask God what He is calling on your heart to do.

Kelly Noe-Evans:

Because I am a fairly new Christian, I felt it necessary to begin by sharing my Salvation with you. I was saved in the spring of 2001 in my personal bathroom of our home in Albia, IA. After years of struggling with alcoholism, I cried out to the Lord to please forgive me and to save me from the miserable life I was living, or to please let me die. Well, He did not let me die, and I was saved and delivered from the horrible life I was living. Although, it wasn't until I started attending a small church in Albia in November 2001 did I realize I had been redeemed and saved by the blood of Jesus Christ and that I forever was forgiven and would spend eternity in Heaven with our Heavenly Father. Praise the Lord! My Husband, Brother and Sister-in-law accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior in November 2001. All of us were baptized by water and joined that little church, "*The Albia Baptist Temple*." My mother accepted Christ as her Savior in April 2001. What a Blessing! Thank you for letting me share my Salvation story with you. Now, onto the steps that led me to my involvement with the ***New Hope Counseling Center***:

For 6 months I was fed the Gospel through Church, Tape Ministry and through reading the Holy Bible. I was unemployed and was diligently searching for work. But, one thing was different. I was a child of the Living God. He gave me the faith, courage, and strength I needed to keep me faithful and of good cheer and courage while I waited for him to reveal where He was going to use me. On June 17, 2002, I began working at an Outpatient Mental Health/Substance Abuse Clinic in Centerville, IA. With no healthcare background, I knew there was only one answer as to why I had been offered the position as Clinic Manager for this organization. This could only be the work of our Heavenly Father. But, I had surrendered and turned over this burden of seeking a job to the Lord. He was to use me where he wanted and needed me. So I accepted, and began working, "in the real world," once again.

The biggest challenge I faced was the fact that this was secular counseling. Although some therapists use biblical principles when applying their treatment strategies, they are not allowed to openly use God or His Holy Word as a reference. I struggle with this daily. Because I know from experience, the one thing missing in his or her life, a personal relationship with Jesus, is what everyone needs. He is our great Counselor and Comforter. I shared my feelings about this with the therapists as well as the business office personnel. One particular individual, Vicki shared with me how a former counselor shared the same frustrations that I felt, and was at that time working with her sister Cindy on establishing a Christian Counseling Center in Centerville. Cindy and I had grown up together but each of us went our separate ways after High School Graduation and had not kept in touch. But after just a month of working at the Clinic in Centerville, the grace of God brought Cindy and I together. She shared with me her testimony of how the Lord had burdened her to come back to Iowa and to begin working on establishing a Christian

Counseling Center. Of course, I was in awe at how the Lord was working in her life as well as her obedience to follow His instruction. She knew that I was working in the same organization as her sister Vicki. I shared with her my testimony of how I became a Christian and then of how concerned and burdened I was about the direction that secular counseling tends to lead a person and the void that it leaves unfilled.

Each day as I came to work, I would pray that God would give me the grace to get through the day. I became more burdened about seeing the need for Jesus to be the focus of the counseling process. On October 1, 2002, I received a call from Cindy. She called me at the Clinic where I work. She explained to me how the Lord had put me on her heart and she felt the need to contact me. We met that week and she explained the direction God was leading her with the New Hope Counseling Center. Cindy and I have been meeting weekly since then, working on preparations for this ministry. What a joy to the soul this gives me. It is such an honor to be part of the New Hope Counseling Center serving the Lord! I am very excited to see the way God is working in each of our lives. How he molds and shapes us giving us a servant's heart. And I am now serving as the assistant director of NHCC.

With a sincere passion to share the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ,

Kelly Noe-Evans

STATEMENT OF FAITH

1. We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative Word of God.
2. We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
3. We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the father, and in His personal return in power and glory.
4. We believe that for the salvation of lost and sinful man, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential, and that this salvation is received through faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord and not as a result of good works.
5. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life and to perform good works.
6. We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; they that are saved unto the resurrection of life and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.
7. We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.



Biblical Counseling:

When hearing about the New Hope Counseling Center, many people ask, "What will you be providing counseling for? Marriage counseling? Substance abuse? Depression? Etc..." When we explain that we will cover any problem area, they want to know how we will be able to provide counseling on so many different issues. We have gone on to explain that there are basic biblical principles that can be applied to any problem.

After much research into Christian counseling methods and philosophies, along with much prayer and seeking the Lord's guidance and wisdom, He has led us through His word and through some other ministries to pure biblical counseling. Pure biblical counseling does not counsel on "issues." That is the world's counseling method. Secular counseling wastes so much time traveling thousands of miles down endless roads that usually wind in circles searching for the "root" of the person's problem or "issue." Whereas, pure biblical counseling leads a troubled person through a scriptural system that covers the main "root problems" of all "issues." If all the "roots" are properly dealt with *first*, when completed—the "issues" tend to go away. Some may have wounds that need help with further healing and in those cases, *after* they have gone through the biblical principles counseling, further counseling can then be done on specific issues, which then becomes a process of identifying wrong thinking, rejecting lies, and replacing them with truth. Biblical principles are powerful when they are obeyed and applied. The low success rate of secular counseling methods is seen in the endless cycling of their counselees. Symptoms are only the outward manifestations of inward problems and only by getting rid of the root causes can true and lasting healing come.

We have developed a counseling guide on Biblical Principles by adapting materials used by other biblical counseling ministries which cover main root problems that are common to all emotional problems. From our research we have found that most experts agree: emotional problems all seem to stem from one or more of these main roots. We deal with the heart, not "issues" in counseling. When you take care of the roots first, the issues seem to take care of themselves. Then a healthy root system can be developed, being firmly "rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith..." (Col 2:7), with roots of freedom, humility, submission, forgiveness, and a belief system based on truth.

But...it is always important to remember: God equips people differently for different ministries. We know, that we know, that we know, God has instructed us to use *this* counseling method. That doesn't mean that it is the only method that is right or the only method that will work. But we know it is the method He is equipping us to do for a very specific reason and purpose that *He* has. My husband always says, "you gotta have the right tool for every job" (which usually means: I need another new tool...). But, I know he's right. No one tool works for every job. You need a different tool for different jobs. And God equips different

ministries with different tools for the different jobs that He has for them to do. He has a reason and a purpose for raising up a pure biblical counseling center in this area. And those who are answering His call are excited to see His plans unfold and to be a part of fulfilling His purposes. Henry Blackaby, in his book *Experiencing God*, advises people to take a step back, watch for where God is working, and then join Him there. God is working here—join in!

Our Services

We believe the Bible is the divinely inspired Word of God without error. And God has set forth some eternal, absolute, principles in His Word that if implemented, will give a 100% success rate. If you compare that with the success rates in the secular counseling field, we truly believe this is why God is raising up this ministry. We will be providing biblical counseling regardless of a person's religious preferences. And all of our services will be provided free of charge. We will have at least one certified Christian counselor and a team of trained biblical counselors who will assist people in identifying and understanding the true source of concerns, define and strategize ways to change, and guide them through the healing process toward the abundant life that God so desires for them to have. In all areas we will be seeking to point clients to the "Wonderful Counselor," Jesus Christ.

VISION STATEMENT

❖ TO GLORIFY GOD

God is the foundation of this ministry and the board members, staff, and volunteers seek to show forth the fact that it is from Him, by Him, and through Him.

❖ MAKING HIS PURPOSES KNOWN

We desire to make it known that God has a purpose for everything and everyone, and that He is able to take even the bad things that happen to us and use them to accomplish His plan for each life.

❖ HOPE THROUGH HIM

Our desire is to reach out to all the men, women, and children who feel that their life or their situation is hopeless and let them know that there is hope, and *that* hope can only be found in Christ.

❖ HEALING THROUGH HIM

We long for all to know that there is help and healing available for all hurts, wounds, and scars, and to see people who are hopelessly lost in life-controlling problems embrace the transforming power of Jesus Christ, whereby we are saved and lasting change is truly found.

❖ TO ALL PEOPLE

Our ministry is to be a light to lead unbelievers to Christ. It is a light to the community through education on Godly principles and as a testimony to His power. It is to be a light to God's people for encouragement, discipleship, and an opportunity to share and participate in a work for Him.

Our Ministry

We believe God has specifically impressed upon us that our services are to be provided free of charge. We believe that counseling needs should be met through the local church. And we are an extension of the local church. NHCC is one in goals and purposes with Bible-believing churches that faithfully teach the Word of God, that teach salvation by grace, that desire to help their members grow in their Christian lives, and who are concerned for those outside the church. "The church" is not any specific denomination. Those who have accepted Jesus as their personal Lord and Savior are a part of the Body of Christ. We are "The Church."

Some local churches and pastors do provide counseling and that is so wonderful. But the need we see is that some churches either do not have that available or their pastors are overloaded with the needs for counseling, or they need somewhere to refer for more in-depth counseling. I Peter 5:2-4 talks about not being "greedy for money, but eager to serve." We know there are ministry organizations that do charge for services and there is nothing wrong with that. But God is raising up *this* ministry to provide a place where these services can be made available to more people, and free of charge. Since we will accept no state or federal funding, this ministry will depend on the contributions of individuals, churches, and organizations to keep the doors open and to provide the needed counseling to those who come seeking help. Nancy Alcorn, the founder of Mercy Ministries, put it so well when she said, "God has not appointed the government to set the captives free. He has appointed us, those who believe in His word and call on His name."

This may seem like an impossible task, but we know that with God, all things are possible (Matt. 19:26). One of the most exciting things about the previous ministry I was involved in was watching how God was at work. He owns the cattle on a thousand hills and it is so awesome to see how He uses His resources to accomplish His plans. Time after time God showed Himself to be Jehovah-Jireh, Our Provider.

This ministry can also provide an avenue of obedience and blessing for donors. Giving is an act of worship. Paul called the gifts of the Philippians "a fragrant and acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God (Phil.4:18)." We are simply asking people to be a part of God's work in supporting a local mission work. Our resources come from God and He is sovereign over all our efforts.

Henry Blackaby, in his book *Experiencing God*, talked about operating a budget on prayer. He said, "When you do that, you are attempting something only God can do." We have to trust God for everything. And we are asking people to begin praying for God to provide and do everything we believe He has led us to do in establishing this counseling ministry. Mr. Blackaby went on to say, "When it happens—you cannot explain it except in terms of God's intervention. Only God could have done that."

"God did it with a people who had determined to be servants, who were moldable and remained available for the Master's use. John 15:5 says, 'I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing.' When you obey, God accomplishes something through you that only He can do. Then you come to *know God* in a more intimate way by experiencing Him at work through you. 'It is God who works in you to will and to act according to His good purpose' (Phil. 2:13). The kinds of assignments God gives in the Bible are always God-sized. They are always beyond what people can do because He wants to demonstrate His nature, His strength, His provisions, and His kindness, to His people and to a watching world." Will you partner with us and join us in the Lord's work here?

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

1. The New Hope Counseling Center is an outreach ministry of Jesus Christ through His church. Therefore, the NHCC, embodied in its staff and volunteers, is committed to ultimately presenting the gospel of our Lord to men, women, and children who are hopelessly lost in life-controlling problems. Commensurate with this purpose, those who labor as NHCC board members, directors, staff, and volunteers are expected to know Christ as their Savior and Lord.
2. The NHCC is committed to providing the God ordained system of Biblical counseling principles revealed in the Scriptures, where the power of God's Word, the power of the Holy Spirit, and the power of prayer combine to achieve God's plan for believers.
3. The NHCC is committed to providing men, women, and children with emotional support, encouragement and practical assistance when possible through the provision of God's people and the community at large, so that those individuals may face the future with hope and be able to plan constructively for themselves and their families.
4. The NHCC never discriminates in providing services because of race, creed, color, national origin, religion, age, sexual orientation, or marital status of its clients.
5. The NHCC offers its services free of charge at all times.
6. The NHCC, in understanding the proportions and effects that Post Abortion Syndrome has on society, is committed to furthering the pro-life cause and upholding the sanctity of human life and will strive to bring hope and healing to lives that have been affected by abortion.
7. The NHCC is committed to a ministry of discipling new believers, building them up in their faith, and providing God's people with one-on-one discipleship training in order to minister in their local churches.
8. The NHCC is committed to creating an awareness within the community of the Godly view of sexuality and the promotion of abstinence based education.
9. The NHCC is committed to strengthening the family.



Involving God's People

This is a non-denominational ministry, but it is a Christian ministry. And we feel a real importance for involving God's people, from wherever they may be, in a work for the Lord, so that they might be a part of receiving the blessings that come from serving Him in such a way.

There are many ways people can be involved in this ministry. There is a need for Pastors or those who would like to go through our biblical counseling training, those who could teach classes, those with accounting or tax preparation experience, computer graphic skills, or electronics skills. We will need office, secretarial, and receptionist help, cleaning, maintenance, decorating, PR and fundraising help, those with grant writing skills and experience, financial support and prayer warriors. Even those who don't think they have anything to offer can be given an opportunity to be a part of a ministry, to feel as if they are an important part of God's plan. For example: The ministry I was a part of in Illinois also did educational presentations in the schools. A precious elderly lady in our church, in her late 80's, asked me one day if there was *anything* she could do to help us. She said she wasn't able to come to the center and volunteer, but she had been praying that the Lord would give her something she could do from her home that would help her feel as if she were really doing something for Him. One of the things we always had a hard time keeping up with was preparing the handouts that we gave to the students in the schools. So I said, "Why yes! There *is* something you can do for us!" Dorothy folded hundreds of tri-fold brochures, cut out pledge cards, colored and cut out hearts for one of the presentation games. What a blessing she was to us! And in turn, she received such a blessing to be able to feel like she was really contributing.

I believe this is about *more* than just ministering to the clients we will serve. I believe God also wants this ministry to give opportunities to His people to give of their talents and skills, time, and/or monetary support in a mission work; to weave them all together as only He can and bless the givers even more than they can *be* a blessing.

We have been praying for many months that God would go before us and prepare the way. And I *know* He *has* been speaking to hearts and preparing people for this very thing. Has He been speaking to *your* heart? Has He been preparing *you* to be involved in this ministry?

Board Members

God went before us and chose and prepared those whom He has called to serve on our board of directors. Two years have gone into the preparation and groundwork phase of this ministry. Our actual formation meeting was held on June 13, 2003. We felt that the Lord was directing us to invite couples to serve on our board as a team. There are so many benefits with this arrangement. Husband and wife teams compliment one another strengths and help each other see things from

different perspectives, and it is also such a blessing for them to be able to be involved in a ministry together. *But*, singles will not be excluded from serving on our board if called to do so. Our board members are: Leo and Beth Ballard from the Chariton area, Gary and Micki Cline from Exline, George and Joyce Mosley from Albia, and Robert and Janice Young from Plano. We are so blessed to begin this ministry with such a wonderful group of board members who have such a heart to serve our Lord and the ministry which He has entrusted to them. The board then approved Cindy Farrington as Executive Director and Kelly Noe-Evans as Assistant Director.

Training:

We are periodically holding Training Seminars for anyone who would like to be involved in the ministry of NHCC. If the Lord is calling you to be involved in the New Hope Counseling Center ministry in any way, this training seminar is the first step. This also serves as the base training for biblical counselors. If you are interested in attending one of our training seminars, please fill out and return to us the card on the back of this newsletter. Again, we say: Do not disregard the call of the Lord. Those whom He calls, He will also equip.

Praise:

- ◆ A local attorney provided his legal services to file our Articles of Incorporation free of charge. What blessing! Thank you!

Prayer Needs:

- ◆ Board Members
- ◆ Staff
- ◆ Volunteers
- ◆ Clients
- ◆ The families of all who are involved.
- ◆ Fundraising
- ◆ Opportunities to present this ministry.

Our top priority right now is presenting this ministry as we seek to raise mission support as a local mission work. Funding is needed to be able to secure a facility and begin providing the much needed services. Please pray for open doors to present the ministry to churches and organizations. If you are interested in having us come present our ministry to your church or organization, please contact Cindy Farrington.

Thank you!
And God bless you!

**New Hope Counseling Center
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Introductory Issue

NON PROFIT

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Centerville, IA
52544

Please mail pledge card to: NHCC - PO Box 151 - Centerville, IA 52544

New Hope Counseling Center

PLEDGE CARD

- I will pray faithfully for this ministry.
- I would like to join your Intercessory Prayer Team.
- I would like to take your Training Seminar in order to be a volunteer or trained Biblical Counselor.
- I would like to serve on a board committee.
- I would like to support this ministry financially: One time gift of _____
 Monthly gift of _____
- Please put me on your mailing list.

Name _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Phone Number _____

Your ways, O God, are holy. What god is so great as our God?
You are the God who performs miracles: You display Your power among the peoples.
Psalm 77:13-14