



New Hope Counseling Center

Winter 2008

God's Sovereign Hand

We've started keeping an "official" book of blessings here at the center. We have so many things happen that only God could have arranged and so many "little" things that we know God did just for special blessings. We don't ever want to get to the place where we forget any of these wonderful, awesome things that happen in our everyday lives and as we serve here in this ministry.

One day, a few weeks ago, we had a woman walk in who none of us knew and handed us a \$100 bill. When she started to turn right around walk out, Kelly asked her who we should send the Thank You Receipt to, she said, *Oh, that doesn't matter. I know you'll put it to good use.* Then she left. We still don't know who it was or how she knew about us, but we say, *Thank You.* This was on a day that we had a specific need and we didn't know where the money would come from.

One time, quite awhile back, a sweet lady stopped by for something and as she was walking down the steps to leave, she turned around and came back. She said she put her hand in her coat pocket and found some money in there. She said that must have meant it was supposed to be for us and handed us the money.

We can't adequately convey how special and important every single donation and every single gift is to us. There are no small gifts. Every single one comes to us to meet a specific need. God is so faithful to supply all of our needs, but sometimes (more often than not), He waits until the last minute to bring it in. It has become an exciting adventure to see the ways God provides. He tests and tries our faith. He wants us to have to trust Him for everything and I don't think that will ever change, nor do we want it to.

God's Perfect Timing

Not only is God's sovereign hand at work here all the time, His perfect timing is also revealed in many ways. We had one example of this recently. A pastor from LeClaire, Iowa had heard about New Hope from one of our Advisory Board Members seven or eight months ago. He had called and talked to me about the ministry kits we have available and said he was feeling the Lord's leading to have a counseling ministry at his church. He had a copy of our Counselor Handbook to look over and was going to look at our website to see the different kits available. He said he would get back with me when he decided which way he wanted to go with it. He called me back in January. He had just had several different people in his church come talk to him, separately, about the Lord burdening them for a counseling ministry. He knew it was God's timing at work. They ordered the entire New Hope Counseling Center Ministry Kit and are implementing it at their church. We praise the Lord that He is using New Hope as a pattern and duplicating our ministry at many other locations.

We don't get discouraged very often, but sometimes we do. (*Imagine that.*) We need to remember how God can cause orders to come in from anywhere, at any time. There are many people all over the country who have a sample of the New Hope materials. There are even people in other countries who are taking a look at our materials. We never know when one of our Handbooks could lay on someone's desk for many, many months, and then God prompts them to pick it up. We are so glad that God is in control and we are always excited to see what He is going to do next.

Invitation to a National Conference

We have received an invitation to do 2-3 Workshops at the Disciples Heritage Fellowship National

Conference, which is going to be held in Mesquite, Texas (near Dallas), July 10-13. We are very excited to be asked to share our New Hope materials and ministry kits with the pastors who will be there from all over the country. Pastor David Welch of the Plano Christian Church was instrumental in generating their interest in New Hope. There will be an honorarium gift for leading the Workshops, but it won't quite cover all of our travel and lodging expenses. We were going to take the opportunity in this Newsletter to share our need and appeal to anyone who would like to help us cover this expense. But praise the Lord—He has already answered most of this before we even asked! Someone has already told us they want to cover all of our costs for the round trip to Texas. What an unexpectedly quick answer to prayer for us! If there is anyone else who would like to help with the cost of printing up booklets to give out for the workshop participants, which will give a sampling of our materials, that would also be greatly appreciated. Please be praying for us as we prepare for the conference, for our safe travel, and that we will represent the ministry well.

Counseled Home Again

This is a poem written by the mother of a former Counselee, describing the counselee's journey. It also beautifully reveals God's miraculous healing of individuals and family relationships along the way:
When trials and troubles came my way, My faith it weakened, I began to sway. Then I drifted from God's Word, things I knew, promises heard. Till someone cared and touched my heart; Counseled me to a brand new start. I learned again about God's love, His forgiveness from above. He's beside me every day, to guide me along life's way; To fill me with His grace and love; Send me blessings from above. My sins forgiven, Now a pure heart, Thank you God, for a brand new start.

Benefit Concert for Annual Fundraiser

God works in so many wonderful ways. During a New Hope for Spiritual Growth Seminar being held at NHCC, it was made known that one of the participants is a personal friend of Susie Luchsinger, who is a Christian singer and sister of country star, Reba McEntire. We had decided that maybe we should try something different than the usual Testimony Dessert Banquet for this year's annual fundraiser. We had been praying about the Lord opening up other avenues to consider. We had even thought of some sort of benefit concert using local musicians. Praise God! He divinely arranged for this contact with a local Christian to bring about the plans and purposes He had for New Hope Ministry's annual fundraiser. After much consideration and schedule juggling, the benefit concert, featuring Susie McEntire Luchsinger, is set for Thursday evening, June 19, 2008 at 7:30 p.m., in the Simon Estes Auditorium at the Centerville High School. Tickets will be available for \$5.00 in advance and \$7.50 at the door. Children 10 and under will be admitted free. For ticket information you can contact New Hope Counseling Center at 303 W State St (Upper Floor), in Centerville, 641-856-3326. Please mark your calendars in advance to join us for this special event.

Radio Interview Broadcast

We had the opportunity on February 18th to share about New Hope Ministry on Richard Grime's talk show on the Albia radio station, KIIC 96.7 FM. Pray that hearts were touched and that we will see much fruit from this.



Benevolence Fund

Ministry organizations need to prayerfully consider whether God would want them to tithe on their income. NHCC's founding Board of Directors sought God's answer on this and He led us to Malachi 3:10: *"Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."* Some ministries tithe to other ministries, but if that is not directly indicated by the Lord, this can risk offending donors who gave their money to go to your ministry. Again, we sought the Lord's leading on this and He directed us to set up our own Benevolence Fund. He directed us to give 10% of all our income into this Benevolence Fund that is used to help meet financial needs of the people God sends to us. This way all of our donor's gifts do benefit this ministry. We cannot express what a blessing this has been for us to be able to give to help those in need. Plus, we also have God's promise to pour out His blessings on this ministry because of it.

There are more promises in verses 11-12: *"And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts. And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the LORD of hosts."*

God's Word also says that by giving, we have an abundance for every good work. *"And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work: (As it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth for ever. Now He that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness;) Being enriched in every thing to all bountifulness, which causeth through us thanksgiving to God. For the administration of this service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God; While by the experiment of this ministration they glorify God for your professed subjection unto the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal distribution unto them, and unto all men; And by their prayer for you, which long after you for the exceeding grace of God in you. Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift" (2 Corinthians 9:8-15).*

We want you to know what all your financial gifts are used for when you give to New Hope. When you give to help us in this ministry, your donation not only helps us carry out our work, but it is also giving to help the poor and needy. There are wonderful promises attached to giving to help those in need, of which you share in:

- "Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the LORD will deliver him in time of trouble" (Psalm 41:1).
- "He hath dispersed, he hath given to the poor; his righteousness endureth for ever; his horn shall be exalted with honour" (Psalm 112:9).
- "He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will He pay him again" (Proverbs 19:17).
- "He that hath a bountiful eye shall be blessed; for he giveth of his bread to the poor" (Proverbs 22:9).
- "He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack..." (Proverbs 28:27).

Thank you for stretching out your hand to those in need (Proverbs 31:20).

Payer Requests

- Preparation for speaking engagements this summer.
- Safety and travel mercies as we head to Texas for the Disciples Heritage Fellowship National Conference in July. Pray the Lord's blessings on this entire experience.
- Inspiration on writing the "Warriors of the King" Graduate Materials.
- Please pray for fruit to bear evidence of God working in the hearts and lives of people as a result of the radio interview.
- Earnestly intercede against media and special interest manipulation during this presidential primary season. Pray that moral, God-fearing, pro-life, pro-marriage, and pro-family men and women be selected, supported, and find favor in local, state, and national campaigns. Intercede that the Lord reveal His choices, expose corruption, immorality, bribery, the occult, and hidden anti-biblical agendas.
- Pray asking the Lord to provide Counselors and Prayer Partners who are committed and strong in the Lord. This is very important as the ministry grows and more and more people come to us for counseling. Hallelujah, we recently had someone new join our volunteer staff to be a Prayer Partner!
- Pray as we are still trying to get our materials into prisons. Pray that the Lord opens the door into the Newton prison. Our materials are being used in the Wapello County Jail with blessed results.
- Please pray for Anne & Kraig Elliott as they are putting the New Hope handbook into children's form. These materials are greatly needed! Pray for the Lord's guidance, wisdom, protection, and health for their entire family, as they work on this extremely important project for the Lord and New Hope.
- For the expansion of God's Kingdom through New Hope's Ministry. Ask the Lord to anoint the New Hope materials with His mighty power. Pray that He be magnified through New Hope's work. "Let them shout for joy and be glad, who favor my righteous cause; and let them say continually, 'Let the Lord be magnified,'" Psalm 35:27a.

To find out how you can become part of New Hope Counseling Center's Intercessory Prayer Team, please contact Intercessory Prayer Team Director: Andrea Clark at 641-856-3326

Needs List

Ongoing Material Needs List:

- Toilet Paper (*Northern*)
- Kleenex
- Scotch tape dispenser refills
- Copy Paper
- Letter Size Envelopes
- Legal Size Envelopes
- Invitation Size Envelopes
- Highlighters
- Hand Soap (pump)
- Paper Towels
- Folgers Half-Caf Coffee
- Homemade Cookies
- Used Printer Cartridges for recycling
- Old Cell Phones for recycling

Monetary Needs:

- \$150 - for Monthly Telephone Expenses
- \$150 - for Resource Materials
- \$500 - for Printer Ink
- \$250 - for Office Supplies
- \$500 - for Seminar Expenses
- \$1,000 - to Sponsor a Counselee



Susie Luchsinger

IN CONCERT



Thursday
June 19, 2008

Simon Estes
Auditorium
(Centerville High School)

**This Christian Music Singer is
a Multiple CCMA Winner and
Dove Award Nominee**

www.SusieLuchsinger.com

Tickets: \$5.00 in advance
\$7.50 at the door
Children 10 & under free
(No Nursery Available)

For ticket information contact:
New Hope Ministry
641-856-3326

Benefit Concert for New Hope Ministry

New Hope Counseling Center
PO Box 151
303 W. State St. (upper floor)
Centerville, Iowa 52544
641-856-3326

www.NewHopeMinistryAndCounselingCenter.org

Winter 2008

NON PROFIT

US Postage Paid
Permit Number 154
Centerville, IA
52544

Location: Simon Estes Auditorium at Centerville High School
Centerville, IA

Tickets: \$5.00 in advance
\$7.50 at the door

For ticket information
contact:

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