

THE CENTER NEWS

COLUMBIA
CENTER FOR
WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

SEPTEMBER 2009



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Celebrating the Joy of Service with Director Cherie Stott

"It's not about me, it is about the Center and what God has given me to do in service, in His name," Director of Columbia Center for Women's Ministries Cherie Stott says, as she settles into her chair in a local coffee shop. "It is God's Center." She continued, "I never actually considered being the Director. It was the still small voice of God speaking to me when we were singing Take all of Me in church that opened my heart to listen closely and pray." A few people even told her that she should consider this as the next chapter in her life. Having served for 5 years at the Center in different capacities, she said, "That voice inspired me to follow the direction I was given."

Highs and Lows along the Way

"It's the diversity of our volunteers that makes CWM so special. A number of our peer counselors have full time jobs, and all of the staff volunteer their time. It's a great group of women." When asked to elaborate, Cherie smiled and said, "The desire of everyone here at the Center is to make this a safe place, full of Jesus' love and compassion, so we can welcome the hurting women who God brings here. It is a joy for me to see Jesus at work in this place. The Scriptures tell us to minister to the hurting... but to watch the fulfillment of God's promises through our volunteers is truly awesome!"

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Thank You, Debby!

Please stop by the Center on Monday, September 14 from 4-6 p.m. to honor Debby Boyer with your presence. We want to thank her for her love, dedication, and awesome service as director of the Center for Women's Ministry for the past three and a half years.

Debby faithfully directed the Center with her God-given gifts and her obedience to Him. Her love for hurting women in this Center continues; her beautiful smile and fun-loving nature will continue to overflow as she stays involved in this ministry and oversees our Bunco nights.

Please stop by for five minutes or two hours—this is our time to show Debby our love and appreciation for her.

Bunco Fun Night!

Join us on November 3rd at 7 p.m. at Centerpoint Church right below our Center. We are having a game night for all friends of CWM and the game is Bunco. You don't have to know how to play . . . you will, in minutes! Our desire is to have an evening of fun, getting to know each other better and getting to meet new people. I guarantee that you will laugh, get to know a lot of women, get a prize, and EAT!

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Advisory Board Members

Cherie Stott
Janie Bonham
Nancy Fedorchak
Alice Schawo
Yolanda Sekol

Wish list

Forever Stamps
-
Nutritional snack bars
-
Wrapped hard candy
-
Paper towels
-
Kleenex
-
Ink cartridge for
HP Laser Jet 1020
and Canon MP210
-
Pledge Duster Plus Refills
-
Box of blank
Thank You Notes
-
Yellow 8 ½ x 11
Writing Pads
-
Avery Labels:
Address-1" x 2 5/8"
Shipping-3 1/3" x 4"

New Director, Cherie Stott (Continued from page 1)

I asked Cherie to share about challenges that she has faced at CWM and in her personal life. "Once we were concerned that we wouldn't be able to get the cinnamon rolls we sell as a fundraiser. Miraculously, the transportation problem was resolved. Due to the recession, we have seen the donations to the Center decrease. But God, in His unique ways, shows us that He will supply all our needs. We had just prayed for God to fill two caring receptionist vacancies, when two wonderful women volunteered."

On a more personal level, Cherie's own faith walk has produced a strong emphasis on boundary setting and raised consciousness of the areas in which she needs to continue to grow. Her desire is to know God more intimately and be obedient to His leading.

Some Good Advice

At times she has been moved by God in unexpected directions. For years she had taught aerobics and then God moved her to teach gym classes at her church's Christian school... and then to coach volleyball. "When we're open to God's leading, it brings us opportunities we never would have imagined. God will move you if you will listen," she added. We don't have to be perfect to serve God, just available. Cherie likes a pastor's description of ministry as "her gifts married to her joy!" Her hope for those who serve at CWM is that they would see their giftedness and find joy in serving Him.

In Closing

When asked to offer some advice for CWM counselors, volunteers, and staff, Cherie had this to say: "The closer you are to God, the more strength and the more clarity of purpose you will have. When you make your focus the relationship you have with Him, God will work through you to carry out His will to bless others. Listen for God in prayer and in the Word, (sometimes He even uses people) and not only will you bless CWM, but you also, will be blessed."

~Julia Chappelle-Thomas

Your Invitation to Join the \$10 Club

We'd like to invite you **to join** the \$10 Club in further support of the general fund of our mission.

Here are some creative ways that we can give \$10.00 a week to CWM:

Double the giving—We can ask our employers if our donations to CWM can be matched—many companies will match our gifts to charities. All it takes is a signature on the paperwork, and CWM will have double the gifts!

Instead of going out for coffee—We could skip a couple of visits to the coffee shop and set that money aside.

Who Wants a Cinnamon Roll?—Take orders for your next weekly meeting at work and for Christmas morning among your coworkers, or talk to the hospitality team at church to see if they would like to purchase cinnamon rolls for an upcoming event.

(Continued on page 3)

Bunco (Continued from page 1)

Each person needs to bring a white elephant gift (something at your house that you do not want but think someone else might . . . or not!). If you don't have any, a small plant, candle, or jewelry that you no longer wear will do just fine. We would like each "gift" to be in a bag of some kind. (Deals at Crossroads Shopping Center is a good place to buy very inexpensive bags.)

We are asking for a \$10 donation to play, but if this is a hardship do NOT let this stop you from joining us, please! Donations are optional. *We do need to know if you are coming and how many are coming with you. Call the Center at 256-1799, or send us an email at colcwm@mchsi.com.*

One of the common themes that runs through intake interviews is loneliness. This is true for many women, and not just clients. The game night will provide a safe environment for clients, friends, counselors, and staff to connect with others. SEE YOU THERE!

Training

CWM will be holding peer-counselor training classes Monday evenings, September 14th through November 2nd. Classes will meet at the Center from 6:30 to 9:00pm.

We would love for you to pass this information to your friends and your churches. Please have them call the Center at 573-256-1799. They will need to fill in a volunteer application form and pay \$10 for the materials before classes start.

Goals for CWM 2009-10

Gifts of time, talent, and treasure at the Center are both needed and appreciated. Through more trained volunteer receptionists, substitute staff, and counselors, as well as an increase in monthly gifts to the general fund, we can continue to provide for the needs of our community.

Gifts come in various amounts, depending on the giver's ability to bless the Center. We ask our donors to first tithe to their churches.

CWM suggests that you ask your place of employment if it will match your gifts. Our monthly goal of around \$1200.00 keeps the Center running.

All of us serve on a volunteer basis, and so we depend 100% on the donations of time, talent, and treasure to continue in this blessed mission of helping the hurting women of Mid-Missouri at CWM.

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because the Lord has anointed and qualified me to bring good news to the afflicted (Isa 61:1).

The Book Nook: The Life Recovery Bible *Reviewed by Julia Chappelle-Thomas*

Coming to know Christ through *The Life Recovery Bible* (Tyndale House Publishers' adaptation of The Living Bible) is a true blessing for those who seek application of biblical principles to their daily lives as thrivers and survivors after troubling life experiences and problematic relationships with family, friends, coworkers, and self. This Bible contains both The Twelve Step Devotional Reading Plan and The Recovery Principle Devotional Reading Plan. It also contains an in-depth topical index for Scriptural readings related to issues that we all face in our lives as we recover and serve others in recovery. Recovery Profiles of over sixty biblical individuals and their relationships are featured, to assist us in connecting our lives to theirs. Each book of the Bible is introduced with recovery themes, and each page contains recovery commentary notes. This Bible speaks to us all!

Joyful Givers' Profile

We want to recognize the ongoing support given so generously to CWM each year by the congregation of **Bethel Baptist Church** of Columbia. For the past three years, this loving and supportive church family has taken up a collection for our mission. This annual gift helps purchase cinnamon rolls for fundraising, provides a place for our staff to do the work of the mission, and puts this newsletter in your hands, among other things! God bless this wonderful church family for joining us in supporting

\$10 Club Creative Giving

(Cont. from page 2)

Lighten the load—With CWM we can share a portion of the proceeds from our annual garage sale, an E-bay sale, or the sale of an item through a local newspaper.

Gifts may be given to CWM in honor of someone who has died. We would print this in a memorial section of our next newsletter.

Nice and easy does it—We can arrange electronic bill pay through banking online and give \$10 to CWM from our monthly paychecks!

Together, each of us can raise the \$10 that CWM needs!

With a \$10 donation from each of us just once a month, we would be able to meet our expenses that help provide our services of support to the women in the Columbia area. They depend on us to be a light in the darkness for them!

In the words of Paul, "All of you together are the one body of Christ, and each one of you is a separate and necessary part of it" (1 Cor. 12: 27).

Thank you, in advance, for giving \$10 a month to CWM. To those of you who have been generously giving other amounts on a regular basis, we thank you also. Together, we are making a difference in the lives of many—and it takes all of us to make this possible!

Upcoming Events

Open House in Honor of Debby Boyer

September 14, 4-6 p.m.

Bunco! September 1, November 3, February 2, and May 4, providing that Centerpoint Church is available

Training Fall Session dates Are Set. Winter session will be held January 25, February 1, 8, 22, March 1, 8, 15, and 29

Happiness or Joy

Happiness after a while becomes empty.
Joy with time grows more complete.

Happiness comes and goes.
Joy remains consistent.

Happiness is made of anxious highs and lows.
Joy stems from peace.

Happiness takes my eyes off God.
Joy comes from keeping my eyes on God.

Happiness is all elusive.
Joy is a promise.

Happiness soon becomes a God.
Joy comes only from God.

Happiness measures my circumstances.
Joy measures my walk with the Father.

Happiness is aimed at pleasing myself.
Joy results from pleasing God.

Happiness does not exist in trials.
Joy is made complete through trials.

*by Helen Simmons, at the age of 19 in 1986
Submitted for you by Reova Meredith, National
Director of CWM*

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ **Bless and thank you, joyful giver!**

*Please mail this along with your gift to the following address:
CWM Club, 1900 N. Providence Rd. Ste. 210, Columbia, MO 65202*

Columbia Center For Women's Ministries

1900 N. Vandiver Rd. Ste. 210
Columbia, MO 65202

Phone: (573) 256-1799

Web site: columbiacwm.org

E-mail: colcwm@mchsi.com

Please note that our mailing address has changed from the P.O. Box to 1900 N. Vandiver Rd. Ste. 210, Columbia, MO 65202