



Life Lines...

May - July 2013

Building Lives, Growing Relationships, Imparting Hope

Community: a group of individuals sharing common values

I looked online for the definition of community and found this: ***“In human communities, intent, belief, resources, preferences, needs, risks, and a number of other conditions may be present and common, affecting the identity of the participants and their degree of cohesiveness.”***

Nine years ago when we were defining the mission of Clear Waters Life Center (CWLC), we decided ***“A faith-based community of people, working together, providing a place to: Encourage youth, Support individuals, Strengthen families, and Equip young adults”***. Today, we have come to a point of recognition that though we had many ideas and passions that were diverse in the scope of who we wanted to reach, there is an underlying heart beat that brings them together.

We thought that unity came from our belief in Jesus Christ even though our church affiliations were varied. Though this is true, and we were and still are excited that the Spirit of God can cross denominational barriers, we see, now, that there is a deeper unifying factor in those whom we serve. The Spirit is working to bring life and wholeness to a diverse group of people who often don't know Him in a powerful, personal way.

So, what is the unifying factor in these groups and individuals who span all ages? Why is there a breakdown in families? Why is there an abundance of discouraged youth? Why are drug and alcohol addictions continuing to rise? Why are young men and women feeling lost, hopeless, and ill-equipped to overcome the challenges of adulthood? Could the answer be Malachi 4:6? *“He will restore the hearts of the fathers to their children and the hearts of the children to their fathers, so that I will not come and smite the land with a curse.”* Fatherlessness, is it possible this is the community we have been called to serve?

According to various sources, children from fatherless homes account for 63 percent of youth suicides, 71 percent of pregnant teenagers, 90 percent of all homeless and runaway children, 70 percent of juveniles in state-operated institutions, 85 percent of all youth who exhibit behavior disorders, 71 percent of all high school dropouts, 75 percent of all adolescents in chemical abuse centers, 85 percent of all youths sitting in prison.

A quote from FATHERLESS GENERATION by John Sowers from one who is fatherless, *“We are a rejected generation, left behind to pick up the fragile pieces of our broken existence. Confused, we grope in the dark for meaning, purpose, and hope. Alone,*

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COMMUNITYCONTINUED

we hide behind machine and computer screen, projecting voiceless signals out into the oblivion. We grasp for anything that feels like acceptance but are too afraid to open our hearts and embrace it for ourselves. We are a generation displaced. A refugee generation, shuffling from one shelter to the next in search of belonging. We are a generation that desperately wants to be found, a generation that desperately wants to be home.

Psalms 68:5 (NLT) says God is the: **"Father to the fatherless, defender of widows— this is God, whose dwelling is holy. God places the lonely in families; he sets the prisoners free and gives them joy."** This is and has been the Father's work from the beginning, to be a Father to the fatherless, to place the lonely in families—**being able to be at home** with those who have His heart. This is our destiny, for us that are fatherless, for us that are being the "fathers", for us as a community, being a home.

Statistics have shown that one-to-one mentoring is the most effective way to reach a fatherless generation. Healthy and loving human relationships are the most powerful behavior modifier in the world. Are YOU willing to be one who will love others with Gods heart and see our communities restored from "fatherless" to "fathered"?

Submitted by Darien Northup and Becky Dorman

YOUTH CONNECTION

Youth Connection Party
for all youth, 4th-12th grades
FREE!!

**Join us for BBQ's,
Nerf wars,
obstacle course,
prizes, and a short
program.**

May 9th, 4:00-6:00 PM
CWLC - Clearbrook
To finish out the
Youth Center year!

Youth Connection has been going strong. We have great volunteers, great food, and fun. Robotics has been added to the after school options. It has been an adjustment year for us at CWLC, and we are looking forward to next year as we continue to provide a place and a connection for youth.

If YOU have any ideas for Youth Connection or would like to be part of the planning team, call 776-2789 and ask for Becky or Darien. We would be happy to involve you as part of our team! We will be planning a "Family Fun" fundraiser before the next school year to help offset the cost so that we can offer the Youth Center free next year.

Thank you for a good year!

Our Mission: Building Lives, Growing Relationships, Imparting Hope

SUMMER ACTIVITIES



Two Fishing trips this year:

6th-8th graders & 9th-12th graders

**FREE Events! In July and August
(on a Saturday to be announced)**

Meet at CWLC • Clearbrook
**Come and enjoy a day of
catching fish, relaxing on the lake, and being
with friends!**

Limited space so sign up early by contacting the CWLC office at 218 776-2789, we will get your name on the list to contact with the dates!

Signed Permission Slip required to participate



Clear Waters Life Center's Food Booth **Clearwater County Fair** **July 31st-August 4th**

Join our Team and Lend a Helping Hand

Open 3:00 to 10:00 PM everyday. Cooks and servers needed! (AND of course PIES, PIES and MORE PIES!!) If you are able to help, but for only a short time, opening and closing are our busiest times. The Fair has been a great connection for CWLC throughout Clearwater County and the surrounding area. Come and join the fun!

Call 218-776-2789, 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM,
Tuesday through Friday,
to sign up for a shift or to let us know that you
can bring pie!

CWLC·GONVICK MURAL “COMMUNITY: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE”

CWLC · Gonvick will create a “**Community: Past, Present, Future**” mural on the southeast outside wall of CWLC-Gonvick. The mural design will center around what “community” means, the beginning and rich heritage of the Gonvick area, what it means today, and how it provides hope for the future as each individual plays a part in our community’s future. Our goal is to create an eye-catching mural with a message!

The actual painting of the mural has been designed to involve the whole community. It will be a **free** two-week painting event this June. Artist Jay Jones has a passion to see the arts flourish in small communities like ours, so we are privileged to have Jay lead us in the creating process by providing instruction and encouraging quality art! The mural will be enjoyed, not only by our community, but by visitors, as well. Thanks to R2Arts for the grant and to Valspar for providing all of the primer and paint that we will need!

An educational component is part of the process. Through participation in this project, the two mentors, along with the volunteer participants (students), will develop a knowledge of creating an historical mural that will have a lasting message and enhance Gonvick with a piece of high quality visual art to be enjoyed for generations to come. They will gain interpersonal skills in working as a community and understanding as they explore ways to convey a message through the arts. This hands-on project will be a wonderful exercise in creativity on a very large scale.



Come and join us as we build community while creating together. Call to sign up to help with the project whether for a day or the whole two weeks! For ages 13 to 95!

"This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through grants from the Region 2 Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund."

MY SHORT STORY BY PHILLIP NOELL

All alone and pushed out of this world without a single thought from anyone, no one cares; everyone just hates me without knowing me. They push me around and use me, but they don't understand that all I want is acceptance. Is that too much to ask for? It seems that everywhere I go and everything I do is wrong. No one likes me or is even nice to me. I just want to belong somewhere; please let me belong.

Throughout my life, and especially in high school, jokes were always made at my expense. I am the target for everyone's attacks, and they are ruthless, relentless, and brutal. They don't care how it makes me feel; they never care about me. Bullying is a crime that is never victimless; it's all about mental and emotional destruction. Leaving nothing worth while standing in their path, they just destroy what they see as weak or ugly; anything they dislike has to be destroyed.

Words are a weapon when used to bring someone else down, ripping all hope out of still beating hearts, and leaving nothing but damage and decay. We outcasts have been used as target practice for too long; it's time to stop it. STOP IT NOW!

The spiral of depression is an endless pit of despair that feels like death on every level of life. It feels like there's no end. It's a fight that must be fought until you find a way out, be it Jesus or suicide, life or death; you must fight it or never get better ever again.

Drugs can make you friends, and they can be your friend, but it only lasts so long until you get to a point where you have to jump to reach bottom. All drugs do is drag you through your own personal hell of deceit, untrue friends, deep misery, and hatred for anyone that really loves you. It's a vicious cycle that isn't worth the time of your life that you spend on it. Drugs aren't the true answer to happiness; they're a temporary happiness with strings attached to death. Addiction brings the slowest and most painful form of suicide. You hate your family because they try to help, but in your eyes they are a threat to your using – your most precious priority in life. My flawed coping skills were just me pretending to cope.

People use you until you are just a hollow husk of who you really are; they make your heart bleed and your brain split, and you go numb, so you don't feel the hurt anymore. This is when you become a zombie; a dead, numb, emotionless, and decaying soul that doesn't know which way to go, so you stay stuck in the same rut with the same people and nothing changes... until something jumpstarts your soul. The Holy Spirit saves you from your deadened state and sparks you back to life... something new... something fresh... something that you've never felt before, the true Jesus effect. In Him you become washed, fresh, and new, ALIVE, not the dead husk of a soul you used to be, but one that is burning with life. Although it only lasts as long as you seek and follow Him and remember what He has done for you, the unimaginable price He paid for your life. Now that He is with you, you don't have to put up with death or evil anymore because your King, Christ, did not put up with it. He descended into the depths of hell, broke the gates, and returned to life, like what He has done for you.

**Corruption is over; life has begun.
What will you choose?
Life or Death?
Heaven or Hell?
Darkness or Light?
He's alive. Are you?**



GROW IT! SUMMER SCHEDULE

Come and step into one of our greenhouses and experience a taste of summer!



Grow It! is open!

Monday, Wednesday, & Friday, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Saturday, 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

SPECIAL MOTHERS DAY WEEKEND HOURS:

Friday, 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM, Saturday, 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Sunday, 12:00 to 3:00 PM

Extended Hours begin May 13th through the last week of June

Monday - Friday, 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM & Saturday, 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

SHOP AT THE TOP NON-PROFIT OUTLET



If you haven't seen the changes at Shop-at-the-Top, you need to stop by and check it out!

Monday - Friday 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
& Saturday 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

We are offering limited time, unadvertised specials on a regular basis, seasonal clearance sales, and continue to be blessed with outstanding donations.



From hats to shoes our "Friday" volunteers are all decked out with outfits from Shop-at-the-Top's Garden Tea. We love and appreciate each and everyone of our volunteers. Thanks for being uniquely YOU!

Restore It! FURNITURE SHOP

CWLC • Gonvick

Mon., Wed., Fri.

9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Sat. 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Extended hours starting May 13

M-F 9:00 AM-6:00 PM and Sat. 9:00 AM-2:00 PM

Good used, refinished, re-purposed furniture for your home! Enjoy a cup of coffee in the Coffee Coop and browse through our newly refinished items.

We are always looking for woodworkers to join our volunteer team and furniture donations! Thank you for your support and for making CWLC • Gonvick a FUN place to be!

BOOT(H) CAMP WEIGHT TRAINING

Enjoy the Open Gym on the bottom floor at CWLC • Clearbrook!

Monday - Friday 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM & Saturday 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Children 13 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Please put the balls away and turn off the lights when you are finished.

Open Gym is CLOSED:

Anytime other groups are using it; Tuesday & Thursday during Youth Connection; Wednesday during Care Group, and any other reservation.

Extended Hours for Boot(h) Camp Members Only

Monday - Thursday 7:30 AM - 9:00 PM

Friday 7:30 AM - 5:30 PM & Saturday 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Jump ropes, aerobic steps, resistance tubes, kettle bells, mats, basketballs, etc. available for your enjoyment. If you are interested in becoming a member, call 218-776-2789; Tuesday - Friday, 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM, e-mail cwlc@gvtel.com, or stop by the office on the 2nd floor.

Financial Support

If you are willing to become a financial supporter of the Clear Waters Life Center, please complete and mail to the address below. All donations are tax deductible.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

_____ I want to become a monthly financial supporter and commit to giving \$_____ per month.

_____ I understand that I will receive a monthly donation coupon book for this purpose.

_____ I want to make a one time donation of \$_____.

Please return to: CWLC, PO Box 155, Clearbrook, MN 56634

To receive our newsletter by email, print your email address: _____

Experience It!

www.clearwaterslife.org & visit us on Facebook

You can support us in a variety of ways: Use GoodSearch as your Internet search engine; save your Galen's receipts and turn them in to our office; volunteer; "like us" on Facebook, share our posts with your Facebook friends, donate gently used clothing, housewares, and furniture; pray for our ministries, or become a regular financial supporter of CWLC. Thank you.



256 2nd Ave SW
PO Box 155
Clearbrook, MN 56634

All profits from CWLC businesses are returned to Clear Waters Life Center to continue and expand programming and maintain facilities to build lives, grow relationships and impart hope.