



**Clear
Waters**
LIFE CENTER

Life Lines...

Winter 2014

Building Lives, Growing Relationships, Imparting Hope

TURNING A PAGE BY DARIEN NORTHUP

Do you ever think, “You know, this would make a great story, or have you experienced the end of a chapter, a new chapter, or the turning of a page in your life?” As CWLC staff, we are often involved in helping someone through a crisis. Our residents need someone to help them see the way out or to find the good in the situation and hold fast to the truth that God is with us in the midst of the storm.

Many people need to learn to let go of the past and look to the future, to quit holding on to past hurts or unreal expectations. They need to forgive and move on. In cases like these it is a matter of finding God, hearing from Him and moving with His plan. Seeing this happen in their lives is like “turning a page”. They start a “new chapter”. When a new Mustard Seed resident comes, we have to encourage him to run with us, give us a chance, and watch and see. We know that it takes time for him to come to the place of settling. He needs to fully surrender to God’s plan. MSH is at least a 12- month program, the sooner a resident “turns the page” from his plan to God’s plan, the more he will benefit. Once that page is turned, we know God is writing a new chapter in his story; one where the past will be behind him, and he can press on to see what the future holds.

Clear Waters Life Center’s journey is also developing into an interesting read. We were told early on that we needed to build credibility. People usually don’t believe in something until they see it. I Peter 1:13 says “Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought at the revelation of Jesus Christ.” (KJV), and the NASB says “Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace....” We rolled up our sleeves and gave ourselves to the task at hand. So many people have come along side and joined in the work. Day by day, week by week, month by month, and year by year the programs were established. Before we knew it, the Clearbrook facility was overflowing, and we were in need of our Gonvick site. Those were days filled with uncertainty. Our dreams were troubled with a lot of questions. How, what, who, when and again how? It seemed like this whole concept was built on shaky ground, or was it faith? When the task is overwhelming on what do you fix your hope? We found, as we fastened our hope on His grace, He provided over and over. He equally provided encouragement through relationships, grants, and penny jars. He provided through ideas that became businesses that help sustain us. He has been at our side through the lean years, if you will.

It has been said it takes 10 years to become an established part of a community. CWLC started in 2004; we are entering our 10th year. We are an established, integral part of our communities, bringing life and hope to Clearbrook and Gonvick. We have “turned a page” from who will hear our cry to what is next? We have found peace of our own, a settling, and a certainty that God is preparing us for a bigger work. We have been blessed with a roof over Restore It! We have heating systems that only God could provide. We are planning the commercial kitchen in Gonvick. We have been blessed with awesome donations that have brought comfort that the work is going to continue. We have “turned a page!”



MY STORY BY MIGUEL PRINCE

MUSTARD SEED GRADUATE

I was born in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico on July 5, 1990. I lived with my birth mother until I was seven. I am not sure if my birth father lived with us. My two brothers, Moises and Fernando, and I were removed from our birth mother's care by Mexican Social Services. Moises was three, and Fernando was an infant. We were placed in orphanages, but I don't remember if we were all placed together or separately.

Fernando was adopted by a Mexican family; we don't know where he is. Moises and I were also adopted, but by separate Mexican families, and less than a year after being adopted, I was returned to the orphanage. I was adopted by a different Mexican family, but that family also returned me in less than a year. Then, I was placed at Casa de la Nueva Vida (House of New Life) orphanage. I was about ten years old. Moises remained with his adoptive family for about three years before being returned to an orphanage. At thirteen, I became aware that Moises was at a different orphanage and asked the director if he would be willing to bring Moises to my orphanage. He agreed, and Moises joined me sometime in 2004; Moises was about nine years old.



I don't remember, but I have been told that my birth mother abused alcohol and physically abused us. We were removed from our home because of a house fire that was started by a broken fan. Neighbors dragged our family to safety because our mother was too drunk to help her children. I feel badly because I think that I turned on the broken fan after being told by my mother not to do so. I believed it was my fault that we were placed in the orphanage.

Even though I was hurting and alone, God was preparing a home for me...

How I Became a Part of the Prince Family by my father, Jorge Prince

"It all started in 2004 when Pastor Mark Sawyer announced that Lakewood Community Church would be sending a group on a mission trip to work in two Mexican orphanages in Juarez. Throughout the winter, I kept hearing God tell me that I needed to go on the trip, but I was very busy with work and tired, so I kept trying to ignore God. The Sunday Pastor Mark finally announced that the van going to Mexico was full, I breathed a sigh of relief because it meant that I couldn't go; however, when I got home, I could still hear God telling me to go. So, I told God, "OK, I'll ask, but if they tell me no, it won't be my fault." To my great surprise when I asked Pastor Mark, he said, "Sure, we'll just have someone sit on the floor."

The trip was not hurdle free, but God was faithful. Our first stop was an orphanage on the Mexican-US border. As I gazed across at the United States, I could see that it was green and beautiful. The Mexico side was brown and nothing was growing. It made me very sad to see how much America

MY STORY CONTINUED

As I was praying, God said to me, “Jorge, you are going to meet your son on this trip”. I was really shocked to hear that and didn’t understand what He meant. Two days later, we traveled to Casa de la Nueva Vida, and I met YOU for the first time; however, God did not reveal that you were the one. I returned to Minnesota not knowing who you were.

One year later, Amanda and I were planning a vacation to Hawaii for our anniversary. Everything was set, and then I heard God say, “Jorge, you can’t go to Hawaii; you have to go back to Casa de la Nueva Vida.” Again, I really didn’t want to go, but I had

learned to do a better job of listening to God, so I told Amanda what God had told me. We both prayed about it, and God clearly showed us that we needed to go to Casa de la Nueva Vida.

We loaded the church van with food and clothing for the orphanage and drove down to help in any way we could. Amanda and I spent a week and returned home, but God had revealed that YOU and Moy were our family and that we needed to bring you home to Minnesota! God spoke to both of us, but God brought YOU to me when there was only YOU sitting on the steps on that first visit. We flew back to Mexico and asked you and Moy if you wanted to join our family. You both said, “Yes”, and the adoption paperwork was started. It took almost NINE months to get the adoption completed, but God was faithful through it all.

When we tell people that we were able to adopt without using an attorney, without speaking Spanish, and that we legally got you both into the United States without passports or visas, they can’t believe it. We know it only happened because God was right there in the middle of it! I tell you this to remind you that YOU were created by God for a very special purpose. He loves YOU very much, and He wants YOU to know Him and walk with Him because He has great plans for you. He has plans to prosper YOU and to use YOU. “



You see God is at work even when we don’t realize it. God changed my life when I moved to Minnesota. I want to be a missionary to Mexico to help people. In the last year I have changed. I accepted Jesus Christ in my heart, and I want be like Him. God is my savior and surrounds me. God has a plan for my life. Jeremiah 29:11 “For I know the plans I have for you”, declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. “

This is my story, this is God’s story.



CWLC BUSINESSES

SHOP AT THE TOP
NON-PROFIT OUTLET



OPEN:

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

Good used clothing and house hold items. Inexpensive Pricing!



Monthly membership fee of \$15 with BlueCross BlueShield insurance reimbursement available. Weight resistance training is mandatory prior to unsupervised use. Full range of weight resistance machines & free weights.

Open

Monday - Thursday
7:30AM-9:00PM
Friday 7:30AM-5:30PM &
Saturday 10:00AM-3:00PM



Clear Waters BOOK STORE

Providing a selection of
new Bibles &
Greeting cards for all
occasions

OPEN
MONDAY—FRIDAY
8:00AM-12:00PM



CREATE IT!

Pottery and Mosaic/Painting studios open with instruction available on Mondays.

Special winter/spring classes:

Majolica Class - David Hudson - Jan. 6 & 13
(a ceramic glazing technique developed in Spain)

Basket Creations - Monie Martin - Jan. 20 & 27

Hypertufa Garden Art - Leanne Walberg - Feb 3 & 10

Watercolor - David Hudson - Feb 17 & 24

Acrylic Painting - Jay Jones - March 3

Air Brush Painting - David Hudson - March 10

Metal Sculpture - Jay Jones - March 17 & 24



CWLC BUSINESSES

Restore It!

FURNITURE
SHOP

OPEN:

Monday - Wednesday - Friday

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Saturday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Good used, refinished, re-purposed
furniture for your home!**

**Donations accepted during business hours.
Limited customer refinishing available.
New items weekly.**

Grow It!
GREENHOUSE &
GARDEN CENTER

Open Seasonally April - June
Grow It! has a full line of bulk seeds, potting
supplies, seed potatoes, onion sets and bare
root strawberries, raspberries and asparagus.

Open Mother's Day
Gift Certificates available.

MISSION AND PURPOSE

Our businesses are multi-purpose. They provide vocational training for our MSH residents and for other community members through Rural Minnesota Concentrated Employment Program (RMCEP) and Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP). We provide a positive, flexible atmosphere where individuals can learn job skills. Our volunteers are given opportunities to find purpose through mentoring our MSH residents and youth to impart skills and spiritual wisdom they have acquired. Our businesses help sustain our programming and communities.

Thank you for YOUR patronage - it helps us do what we do:

Build Lives, Grow Relationships, Impart Hope

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

Without the faithful support of our many volunteers, Clear Waters Life Center would not be where it is today. Our volunteers wear many hats, and whether you volunteer an hour every few months or a few hours every week, we appreciate you. You are a vital part of our ministry team.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION BANQUET

Monday, February 24th

6:00PM at The Gathering Place in Clearbrook

Join us for a great meal and to be APPRECIATED....it's all about YOU!

COMING SOON TO CWLC • GONVICK SENIOR CONNECTION ACTIVITY CENTER

The Senior Connection will provide adults who are experiencing the challenges of aging, and their caregivers, a supervised, engaging setting to interact, socialize, and receive compassionate, creative care in a safe, cheerful, and home-like environment. Abundant family-friendly life and activity takes place at CWLC • Gonvick to bring joy and stimulation to the lives of participants. Our facility provides year-around access to art studios, accommodations for coffee, games, snacks, a massage therapist, gym, and furniture shop, as well as our seasonal garden center with a community garden and walkways.

Benefits include: *Improved overall wellness achieved through fun and uplifting activities, art and massage therapy, exercise, peer support, and socialization respite for caregivers.*

Care Plan: *Customized to work for each individual based on physical and mental capabilities.*

Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday

10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Come and visit our newly remodeled space!



MEMORIALS

Clear Waters Life Center gratefully acknowledges the receipt of memorial donations given on behalf of those whom we had “adopted” into our CWLC family. The spirit of adoption was displayed to us with the passing of financial gifts on behalf of those whom we came to love. Adoption means giving when you can’t get anything back. The monetary gifts that CWLC receives as memorials will be used to carry on the work that these individuals came to support and value. With their help, we will continue to “Build Lives, Grow Relationships and Impart Hope”.

Thank you for the gift from Elaine Ramstad in Memory of Ed Paine.

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.

various occupations and denominational affiliations.

The Clear Waters Life Center is a faith-based non profit 501 (c) 3 corporation governed by a board of directors from

