



Life Lines...

November - December, 2012

Building Lives, Growing Relationships, Imparting Hope

BLOW, MIGHTY BREATH OF GOD

Most times you can do all you can do, but unless the Spirit brings the grace and power to accomplish the work, your labor is in vain. It is then you realize that it is not about all you can do; it's about all that He does when we are willing, ready, and available.

In times past we have referred to the Clear Waters Life Center experience as setting sail on a voyage to an unknown destination. Getting the ship on the water and waiting for the sails to catch wind was a faith journey in itself. We traveled turbulent seas and endured fog-filled nights. We waited for a gentle breeze, a ray of sun shine, something to bring clarity and confidence that we were heading in the right direction. Always God was faithful! He would encourage us just enough to make us press on. Eight years have passed since we left port. We have experienced great growth. Most days there is a constant buzz of activity. Many hands are connected to the lines, hoisting sails, packing cargo, and feeding the hungry. We know who we are, what our mission is, and we have become somewhat accomplished at what we do. Yet, we find a need.

Sometimes it's a minor course correction like expanding Shop At The Top. We have been so blessed with donations; we needed to expand to be better stewards. Maybe it's just adjusting the sails like when the grant for the Youth Connection ended. We had to determine from which direction the wind was blowing, share the plan with the team, share the plan with parents and students, and then launch off once again. Maybe, it's finding that special someone who has a dream yet to be discovered. Who is just waiting for the opportune time to follow Him? We are always on the lookout to connect people to a ministry that fits them.

That is what is exciting about the CWLC journey. Every person who volunteers is meeting a need, ministering to the body in practical ways. Each person does what he or she can do, and we wait for the Spirit of God to breathe life into the work. Without Him moving in power, it is all for naught. If He doesn't touch the young heart before it strikes out in anger, give grace to the one who is the brunt of that anger, or give wisdom in time of need, we would be a drift in the sea of hopelessness, destined to struggle on in our own power. But Glory to His name, we are not hopeless!! His eye is on us. His ear is attentive to our every cry. He gives grace! He meets the need! His Spirit moves over the face of the deep. Blow mighty breath of God. Move in power and grace. Transform lives for your glory. Move us, oh Lord! Move us!

YOUTH CENTER START UP

Up and Running Again!!!

Youth Connection is on its way!!! Games, food, crafts, fun, relationships, and new friends are all a part of being involved. The youth center is a safe place. Bullying is not tolerated.

Volunteer teamwork makes it happen. We are equipped with wonderful volunteers who are supportive of youth and committed to the ministry of CWLC. Different individuals make up each of three teams which serve one day each week.

We have been able to continue each of the activity areas: gym time where youth learn teamwork, good sportsmanship, and honesty. In the Skill Center they learn creativity, to use their imaginations, and build competence in things they think they can't do. Board and table games are offered in the canteen where students hang out with their friends and build relationships. Lots of laughing is always heard. Healthy snacks are provided every day.

If your youth haven't Experienced It!, we hope to see them soon. Each youth is asked to contribute \$1.00 per day to help offset food costs. We really appreciate the individuals, local businesses, and churches which have chosen to support youth who need scholarships to attend. If you have questions, call Todd at 218-776-2888.



SHOP AT THE TOP EXPANSION



You have to Experience It! to appreciate it. Shop-at-the-Top has undergone an expansion during the last month, adding a room and a completely new department featuring Christmas items.

Shop-at-the-Top has been our greatest revenue producing business to date, and we realized that it could not reach its full potential in the space that we had. Thanks to our dedicated volunteers who donate countless hours of their time and generous donations of community members, we are able to offer our customers good quality clothing and miscellaneous household items at prices far below most second-hand outlets.

Men's clothing was moved to the new space, along with the Christmas items. New signage makes it easier to locate items within the shop. Infant and children's clothing is sorted more thoroughly to make shopping more convenient. Ladies petite sizes are displayed separately.

Shop-at-the-Top continues to add new items daily to the sales floor. Our great pricing continues with many children's items at just 50 cents and most adult clothing in the \$2.00 to \$3.00 range.

CREATE IT! COMMUNITY ART STUDIOS OPEN HOUSE

Monday, November 12, 5:00 to 7:00 PM

Come experience our three Art Studios: Painting/Drawing, Mosaic/Glass and the Pottery.

Tour the facility, meet the studio artists and mentors, and see hands on demonstrations.

Class and studio participants will showcase their work along with the artists, and a variety of original art pieces will be available for sale .

FREE soup, homemade bread, cookies and coffee will be served in our Coffee Coop and Tuscany room.

Our three professional artists and trained mentors help our students, experienced and novices, in the studios on Mondays. Studios with mentors are available EVERY MONDAY, 1:00 to 9:00 PM with classes offered 1:00 to 4:00 PM and 6:00 to 9:00 PM in specific studios as follows:

Pottery Studio with Al Spray - 1st Monday of each month

Studio Mentors: Randy Helgeson and LeAnne Walberg

Drawing/Painting Studio with Jay Jones - 2nd Monday of each month

Studio Mentor: Rebekah Kjolhaug

Mosaic Studio with JoAnn McFarlin -3rd Monday of each month

Studio Mentor: Brian Hourscht



Come and Experience It! CWLC•Gonvick, 226 Elm St.

Check us out at www.clearwaterslife.org

This activity is funded, in part, by the Minnesota State Arts Board through the arts and cultural heritage fund as appropriated by the Minnesota State Legislature with money from the Legacy Amendment vote of the people of Minnesota on Nov. 4, 2008.



BOOT(H) CAMP WEIGHT TRAINING CLASS

Start feeling better by staying in shape!

November 5th from 5:30-7:00 PM

November 6th from 6:00-7:00 PM &

November 8th from 6:00-7:00 PM



Sign up today to guarantee a spot . Class space is limited.

\$30 for adults. FREE for youth through high school age. After completing all three classes, you will receive FREE membership for November and December!

After your two free months, monthly membership dues are just \$15 for adults.

Youth through high school age continues at no charge.

For more information or to register for the class, call Mistie @ 776-2789, or stop by the office on the second floor of CWLC•Clearbrook. Tuesday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

Look forward to hearing from you!

Look us up online too @ www.clearwaterslife.org

LETTER FROM A CWLC BOARD MEMBER

Dear fellow CWLC encourager,

As a new board member to CWLC, it's my desire to partner in the vision to be a light in our communities. I am writing this because I know others share that heart as well.

Another side of being a board member is to be a good steward of the resources that are given to us to spread that light. In recent months, CWLC has been running at a deficit of approximately \$2000 per month. To me this seemed overwhelming, until we laid it before God and asked for His wisdom. Some ideas began to come forth: small changes to reduce the expenses and minimum fees that could be charged to the people receiving the services available at CWLC. Another idea that surfaced put that \$2000 in a new light. (God's wisdom always feels like a light shining in dark situations). Two thousand dollars is a lot of money, unless it is divided into smaller parts.

For example: \$2000 divided by 10 = \$200 a month or \$2000 divided by 20 = \$100 a month.

The smaller pieces seem possible. Finding 10 or 20 people with a heart to support the vision and work at CWLC doesn't sound so overwhelming, and the amount doesn't seem so big when reduced to just one part at a time.

So the question is: Are you one of those 10 or 20 people that are called to be monthly supporters? I know that it reduced the amount enough that my husband and I feel we could be monthly supporters and make a very real difference to CWLC and what it does.

If you feel that YOU, too, could be one of the 10 or 20 monthly supporters, you can respond by calling the CWLC office at 218 776-2789, emailing CWLC at cwlcc@gvtel.com or filling out the form on the following page. Thank you for considering taking this challenge to be one of the team that stands in the gap!

Sincerely, Brenda Rouland, CWLC Board Member

As CWLC Executive Directors **we were blessed by Brenda's letter to help us fill the need.** We need to be more creative in filling the financial gaps that resulted from a loss of funding in various areas. Specifically we are trying to raise funds to:

- Keep the youth center functioning -\$1300 a month
- Raise our portion of matching funds for phase two of the geothermal heating system in Gonvick (\$20,000)
- Pay our administrative and operational staff to keep CWLC •Clearbrook and •Gonvick running.

Our heart is to be a blessing to the community and to feel we are doing our part as managerial staff to hold it together while over 100 volunteers help make it possible. (We are short \$2000 each month.) We are in the process of expanding our businesses, charging a minimal fee for services, and encouraging individuals and organizations to become monthly donors.

We just felt we needed to make our needs known and keep our supportive network aware as we all work together! Your prayers and wisdom are appreciated.



RESTORE IT! PRE-HOLIDAY SALE WEEK



October 29th - November 3rd

25% off EVERYTHING!!

Mon./Wed./Fri., 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
and Saturday 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon

Restore It! is located at CWLC · Gonvick, 226 Elm Street

Restore It! offers good quality used furniture, cleaned up, refinished, and in some cases , re-purposed. We also have antiques that have been refinished. New items come in weekly with an abundance of dressers and tables this month! Come and check out our new treasures and find some of your own.

If you happen to enjoy furniture repair, refinishing, and re-purposing pieces or would like to serve customers and keep the showrooms looking nice, we are always looking for volunteers to join the Restore It! team. Call and talk to Becky or Darien, and we will find a place for you. CWLC 776-2789 or email at cwlc@gvtel.com



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: _____

VOLUNTEERS—OUR BACKBONE

Volunteers always have been and always will be the backbone of Clear Waters Life Center. We love and appreciate each volunteer for the time, the talent, and the blessing that each gives to CWLC. As we have added programs and businesses over the years, new volunteers have answered God's call to serve. Some of our volunteers have been with us since the beginning; others only for a season, but regardless of the length of their service, they have met a need and blessed others in the process.

The need for volunteers continues to grow. As Shop-at-the-Top expands and Restore It! grows, more volunteers are needed to keep the ship maintained. Grants, as we have experienced with the Youth Connection, come and go. The ministry remains. The need remains. The youth still need caring and supportive adults. Volunteer is a two way street—CWLC is blessed and the volunteers are blessed in return. Filling a need enriches a life. New friends are made. New ideas improve our mission.

Whether you want to sort treasures for Shop-at-the-Top, enjoy gym time with youth, drive, refinish furniture, or make cookies for the youth, stop in and talk with us. If you have the time, we have a place for you.

Testimonies from our volunteers.....

I enjoy being a blessing to others and being blessed in return.

I like meeting new people.

I know that I'm making a difference.

I find myself energized and fulfilled when I engage others.

It's fun!

Local CWLC supporters: If you do your grocery shopping at Galen's in Bagley, save your receipts. Mail or drop them off with Mistie at our main office in Clearbrook. Galen's donates 2% of the receipts that we collect back to CWLC.



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

Experience It!

www.clearwaterslife.org & visit us on Facebook

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.