



# Life Lines...

November - December, 2011

Building Lives, Growing Relationships, Imparting Hope

## Spirit of Adoption

Adoption – a call to be being inclusive

As I became aware of orphan Sunday approaching, my heart traveled back to a day when I too was an orphan or at least felt the aloneness of not belonging anywhere. Being from a divorced home I found my search for love and acceptance a driving force in my life fueled by the need to belong.

Belong to someone....somewhere...thirsty but never satisfied.



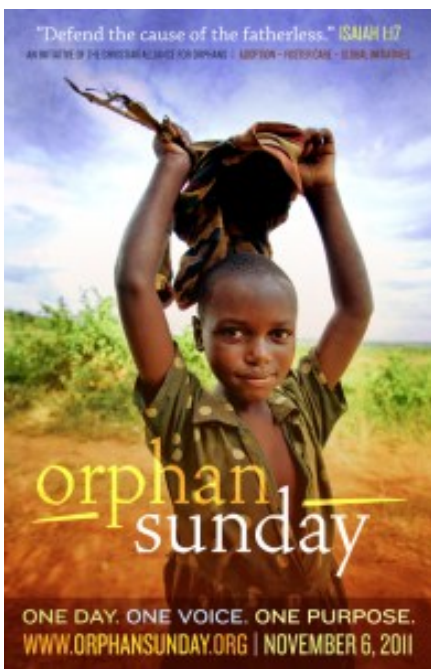
God gently drew me to Himself and set me on a path that changed my life forever – one that would settle me into a secure place where my thirst is satisfied – He truly is everything I need – it is where I belong. Jesus was inclusive, He loved everyone, he hugged the leper, took time for the woman at the well, for little children, for those that needed a physician. His followers, alias “family” were an odd one but they knew they belonged. He has included me in his family and has compelled me to do the same.

**“You received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, "Abba, Father." Romans 8:15**

**WOW.... Abba, Father.....Daddy.**

So when did he adopt us? When his son, Jesus, died for us. The death and resurrection of Jesus eliminated any hold our earthly past had on us. We often do not comprehend just what “good news” this is. We have an opportunity at a new blessed life, a life with a whole new DNA. A life with a whole new family. Everyone else has that opportunity as well. John 1:12 says “Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God”. The adoption papers were signed long ago. We didn’t realize it. We just needed someone to show us the inclusive love of God. So now the challenge is to us, to be inclusive, love the unlovely, care for the hurting, someone to be just what we needed when we didn’t fit in. Someone who will introduce them to their new daddy.

# Adoption Avenue



*"Every good and perfect gift is from  
above...." James 1:17*

## **Mission Statement:**

To LINK families with agencies  
which will help them through the adoption process.

Orphan Sunday is officially November 6, 2011. This is only one day in the lifetime of forever of children waiting to have a forever home. The heart of the child beats daily in lives around the world. Anything you do is something.

Every little drop in the bucket adds up and the drops become puddles, then ponds, and finally clear waters filling streams, lakes, and oceans that help fill cups to overflowing with hope. We become streams of living water through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Have you ever thought of adopting? Have you ever taken that first step? They say that if you write down your goals, they are 50% accomplished. In other words, just writing down your dreams makes your journey half complete in the process of adoption. What do you do after that? You take one more step, and that next step can happen with Adoption Avenue. That is what we are there for. We are there to link you to whatever that next step looks like for you. We are not an adoption agency, but we do have agencies we work with to place your hand into theirs.

They say that you will know if the call to adopt is authentic by two things. First, if you have had adoption on your heart for a while and it does not leave. Just as your heavenly father never leaves you nor forsakes you, he will see you through. He calls the little children unto him and, he will not leave them orphaned. Secondly, if both you and your spouse are in total agreement with the idea of adoption, then you are called.

Follow His lead. Trust and obey. Peace be still and call 218-776-2789. Adoption Avenue through Clear Waters Life Center will be there to take your hand in the heart journey of adoption.

# Graduation Testimony

Sunday, October 16, the Mustard Seed Homes family hosted a graduation reception in honor of Randy Helgeson and Brian Hourscht. For us at CWLC, the graduation was not so much about “completing the program” and moving on, as it was about finishing one chapter of their lives and passing into the next. It was a celebration of a year-long investment.



So many of you have invested time and energy in our MSH residents and included them in your families. Our MSH residents come into our lives as strangers, but as we adopt each one into our larger family, they become our brothers and sisters and friends. Your willingness to “run along side” and encourage them with “you can do this” has brought Brian and Randy to a point that they are now running the race with us and saying to others, “You can do this!”. What a joy!

As part of the family, we are pleased to have them staying, not only in the area, but working with the Mustard Seed Homes program and at CWLC, In addition, they are doing carpentry and painting projects for area residents.

## Healthy Opportunities in Clearbrook

**Grief Support Group** meets Wednesdays at 1:00 PM on the 2nd floor

**The Most Excellent Way** (addiction recovery support group) meets Thursdays at 7:00 PM on the 2nd floor. Friends and family are welcome. Child care available.



A public weight room located on the 3rd floor. Must attend three mandatory training classes prior to unsupervised use with monthly membership fee.

# Youth Connection



## A Musical Performance For 4th-12th graders

Six Wednesday Practices, Nov.30, Dec. 7, 14, Jan.4, 11 and 18

4-5:30 pm at Clear Waters Life Center Clearbrook

Our winter musical will be a combination of stomp, dance/singing and a puppet production. What kid does not want to beat on pots and pans, or drum on a trash can? Stomp music is all this with fun, high energy and a unique appeal to kids. All of the songs and drama teach the values seen in Joseph's life - integrity, faith, courage, endurance, humility, compassion, and forgiveness. We will have three teams in this musical extravaganza: stomp, dance and puppetry will offer something for almost everyone! Encourage YOUR youth to stretch their creative wings and help bring a quality production to the stage in Clearbrook!

**Just ride Bus over to Clear Waters Life Center after school.**

*You will need to arrange for transportation home or we can get you back to school for the late bus.*

The performance of our "From Pit to Palace" Musical Theatre will be at the Gathering Place in Clearbrook on Saturday Jan 22, 2012 at 6:30pm with a coffee and Dessert Bar! If you would like to be a part of the Stomp Musical please call for more information and to register. We need 18 participants to make this work so consider being part of the team!!

# Art Mondays

Classes are offered at CWLC • Gonvick . The cost is \$5 for adults to cover the cost of materials & Free for 7th grade and up. All classes are for 7th grade - adults. Under 7th grade may come accompanied by an adult.

### Painting

#### **(Collage/Mixed Media)**

November 7 & 14

Instructor Jay Jones. Painting with watercolor and acrylic, and brief drawing with pen & ink; incorporating techniques into collage and mixed media paintings.



### Birch bark ornaments

#### **& Jewelry making**

December 5 and 12

Instructor Joy Parker. Create natural birch bark ornaments to add to your Christmas décor and learn the basics of making your own Jewelry!





# Becky's Award invitation



Improving the quality of life for women and girls

Northwest Minnesota Women's fund has nominated Becky Dorman as the *2011 Outstanding Community Builder*.

You are Invited to Honor Becky at the celebration held by Northwest Minnesota Women's Fund a component of Northwest Minnesota Foundation.

**Tuesday, November 15, 2011**

**7:00 PM**

In the Tuscany Room  
At CWLC Gonvick  
226 Elm Street  
Gonvick, Minnesota

Outstanding Community Builder Awards are presented to women who have demonstrated leadership in improving the quality of life for those around them, making Northwest Minnesota a better place to live, work and raise families.

PO Box 155, 256 2nd Ave. SW, Clearbrook, MN 56634 218-776-2789 cwlc@gvtel.com www.clearwaterslife.org

# The Heat is on in Gonvick!



Kyle Anderson and John Gerlofs drilling the wells for the new geothermal system.

The first phase of the heating system for CWLC-Gonvick has been installed. The geothermal system will heat 6,000 square feet. Thank you Anderson Well Drilling for working hard on the project, it is really nice to walk through the north wing and have heat! Thank you to the many Gonvick Alumni who generously gave towards the heating project!

“The project was funded [in part] by USDA Rural Development’s Community Facilities Program which finances essential buildings, equipment and vehicles in rural communities. Rural Development also has funding available for home loans, business loans, water and wastewater treatment, renewable energy projects and high speed internet in rural areas. To learn more about Rural Development programs, visit [www.rurdev.usda.gov/mn](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mn), or call the area office in Bemidji at (218) 751-1942, ext. 4.”

We are in the process of designing a system and applying for a grant for our second phase of heat which will include the gym.

It is exciting to see various events taking place and community members using the space for activities, it is what we want and having heat helps!

# Memorials

Clear Waters Life Center gratefully acknowledges the receipt of memorial donations given on behalf of the 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 to the families and friends of Tom Hendrickson and Paul Morkassel who donated a total of \$630.00

Rodger & Merry Whipple in memory of Tom Hendrickson

Sheryll Torgerson in memory of Tom Hendrickson

Nancy S. Mason in memory of Tom Hendrickson

Frank Northup in honor of Paul Morkassel

**The Lives We’ve Touched**

Since September first, the CWLC family has touched :

70-80 4th - 12th grade students through the Youth Connection  
5 through Mustard Seed Homes  
26 adults & 12 children in The Most Excellent Way (Addiction Recovery Support Group)  
14 through Counseling appointments  
15 through this months Art Monday Class

✂

If you would like 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 donor and will commit to giving \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per month.

I understand 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

I would like to receive your newsletter by email. My email address is: \_\_\_\_\_

PO Box 155, 256 2nd Ave. SW, Clearbrook, MN 56634 218-776-2789 cwlc@gvtel.com www.clearwaterslife.org

# Businesses

**SHOP AT THE TOP**  
NON-PROFIT OUTLET



## **CWLC's Businesses**

**OPEN at the Clearbrook Location:**  
256 2nd Ave SW

Clear Waters Bookstore: Tues. - Fri., 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM

Shop-At-The-Top : Mon. - Sat., 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM



**Restore It!**  
FURNITURE  
SHOP

**OPEN at the Gonvick Location:**  
226 Elm St. (North Entrance)

Restore It! Furniture: Mon, Wed., & Fri.  
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
Saturday, 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon

The gym is open for use  
during our business  
hours!!

## **Are You Willing?**

If you are willing to receive your newsletter electronically via e-mail, please send a quick, simple e-mail to us at [cwlc@gvtel.com](mailto:cwlc@gvtel.com) indicating your willingness. Electronic delivery will save CWLC postage and guarantee speedy delivery, as well as, provide you with a full color pdf copy of the newsletter.



256 2nd Ave SW

PO Box 155

Clearbrook, MN 56634