

Spring 2013

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Modesto Pregnancy Center's Newsletter

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When I look back over the last seven years, it still amazes me the path the Lord has led me down. He knew the poor choices I would make and the painful path of abortion I would eventually choose, but He loved me and continued to pursue me and I am forever grateful.

I believe the journey I have traveled has prepared me for the work He has called me to do at Modesto Pregnancy Center. I don't think I could understand as clearly as I do now the actions that come out of panic and fear once a woman finds herself in a crisis pregnancy situation. Because of my past, I completely understand and can relate to those coming through our doors! I have been blessed that the Lord continues to use my past experiences to speak truth to those contemplating this heart breaking choice.

Because of my history, I also understand the denial and the need to do something "right now" that creeps in with a positive pregnancy test. I have a heart of compassion for those frightened women who choose the same path I did because I am so keenly aware of the anguish, guilt and sadness that will come later as she tries to keep her abortion secret.

Through this experience in my life, He eventually brought healing and ultimately brought me full circle into my new position at Modesto Pregnancy Center. Looking back in 2006 to that first phone call I made to the Center as a fearful and hurting woman, I clearly see God's healing and His promises fulfilled. As stated in Isaiah 61:3, there is good news for the oppressed:

**To all who mourn in Israel,
He will give a crown of beauty for ashes,
a joyous blessing instead of mourning,
festive praise instead of despair.
In their righteousness, they will be like great oaks
that the Lord has planted for His own glory.**

I thank the Lord that I am forgiven and I'm free to share my story with others and to offer hope and healing through God's word and the different ministries here at the Center. God has blessed each volunteer and staff member with His heart and His love for the Sanctity of Human Life. I not only speak for myself, but for each and every one of us at Modesto Pregnancy Center when I say that we are truly blessed to be used as the hands and feet of Jesus Christ on a daily basis.

Blessings,
Chrissy Aguiar

Journey to Freedom



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Facebook: Friends of MPC

Praising God for His Provision

“How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you?” 1 Thessalonians 3:9

In March 2010, the Modesto Pregnancy Center sent a letter to you, our donors and supporters, inviting you to participate in an extraordinary opportunity. In spite of the deep recession and hard economic times that gripped our region, God seemed to be calling MPC to acquire a building of its own, strategically located just a few blocks away from one of the most active abortion clinics in Central California. Girded by constant prayer and petition for the Lord's guidance and provision, MPC embarked on an ambitious capital building campaign to raise the funds needed for the acquisition, remodeling, and equipping of 2801 Coffee Road, Suite A5. From the very outset, it was pledged that the capital building campaign would remain completely separate and in no way drain the general funding for MPC's critical mission – saving babies and ministering to those experiencing unplanned pregnancies.

In the months that followed that first letter, the Lord repeatedly proved to all those connected with the building project that when He leads His people forth, He WILL provide and equip. Through your specifically designated donations, countless hours of volunteer labor, and gifts of building materials at cost or below-cost prices, God's people answered His call. Every board meeting became a time of praise and worship as we marveled at what was being accomplished. In July 2011, MPC opened for ministry in its new home, a full six months earlier than predicted.

Now, almost three years exactly from the sending of that very first letter, it is with profound awe and humility the Board of Directors for the Modesto Pregnancy Center announces that, as of March 7, 2013, MPC's capital building campaign is complete! An exceedingly generous estate bequest and 2012 year-end donations have allowed the outstanding mortgage to be retired, with only minimal input from the general fund. Ever mindful of the seriousness of our responsibility to be excellent stewards of our donors' support, the board felt the most prudent use of these unexpected gifts was in paying off the mortgage, thus saving tens of thousands of dollars in interest payments over the course of the next 15 years.

In Psalm 127, King Solomon says, “Unless the Lord build the house, they labor in vain who build it;...Behold, children are a gift of the Lord; the fruit of the womb is a reward.” The Lord has so graciously built this new home for the Modesto Pregnancy Center, please pray that within its walls, we will continue to have the ability and opportunity to speak the truth and reveal the blessing of the gift of children to those involved in unplanned pregnancies.

With sincere thanks for your continuing prayers and support,

Board of Directors, Modesto Pregnancy Center



Modesto Pregnancy Center's Walk/5K Run for Life

Saturday May 4, 2013

Tuolumne River Regional Park
1200 Tioga Drive • Modesto

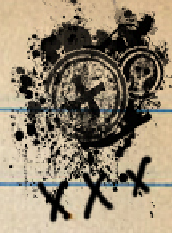
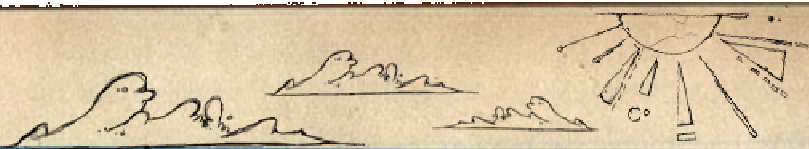
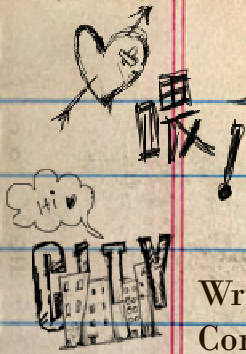
8:00 A.M. - Registration

8:30 A.M. - 5K Run

8:45 A.M. - 1 Mile Walk

Register at www.modestopc.org by **April 5** to get a t-shirt!

Check out our website www.modestopc.org for Team Prize and Family Drawing details



Reaching the Youth

Written by Katie Den Brave;
Community Education Director

Moments like these make it all worth it...

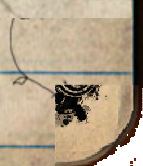
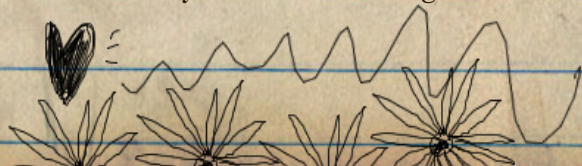
This past semester Holly and I were on the campus of one of Modesto's larger high schools giving Abstinence presentations to their freshman class of 350 students. We were hanging out in the classroom between periods watching the usual flow of students hustling from one class to the next when a very familiar face walked in and greeted us each with a big smile. This young man, although in a hurry to get to his next period, explained that he had the opportunity to hear our presentation the year before (hence the familiar face) and since hearing our presentation had his wallet stolen which contained the abstinence Gift Card we had given to him.

Each student receives this Gift Card at the end of our presentation. This gives them the opportunity to make a commitment to remain sexually pure until marriage, keeping the Gift Card as a reminder which one day they can pass on to their future spouse. This young man heard that we were back on campus and searched us out in hopes that we would have an extra Gift Card to replace the one that was stolen with his wallet.

Now, this may not seem life-changing to most, but when considering the mind frame and priorities of a typical high school boy, it's unexpected. Knowing that the commitment he made to abstinence his freshman year was important enough for him to seek us out a year later speaks volumes! Aside from the incredible interactions we have had with students throughout the greater Modesto area, God is clearly at work within our Community Education Program. He is opening doors left and right, and allowing us the opportunity to speak with groups we had never even considered.

Our program continues to grow; over the past three years we have seen a 45% increase in the number of students we have been able to reach (3,805 students in 2009 to 6,956 students in 2012) and a 50% increase in the number of presentations that have been given (162 presentations in 2009 to 326 presentations in 2012)! Praise God for His favor, His faithfulness, and His provisions in allowing us to accommodate each of the presentations that has been requested of us! Be encouraged and excited about what God is doing and will continue to do within the Community Education Program of Modesto Pregnancy Center!

Relationships



MPC Staff



There have been several staff changes in the past few months here at Modesto Pregnancy Center. For those of you who have not met all of the new members of the staff, we took a picture so that you will recognize us. We hope that you will stop by and meet us in person if you have the chance! From left to right Art Anderson *Interim Men's Ministry Director*, Holly Merrell *Community Education Assistant*, Carisha Lee *New Community Ed. Director*, Avis Van Vliet *Development Coordinator*, Amy Whitley *Bookkeeper/P A C E*, Chrissy Aguiar *Executive Director*, Jean Pool, *CNP Assistant Nurse Manager*, Jackie Roberts *Office Manager*, Charlotte Brewer, *RNC, Nurse Manager*, Erin Koolhaas *Client Services Director*, Katie Den Brave *Community Education*, and not shown Daryl Dutter M.D., *Medical Director* .

Delores Wolterstorff's Retirement Party



Delores Wolterstorff's retirement party was a wonderful way to say thank you to her for many years of service to Modesto Pregnancy Center. Delores served as a peer counselor, on the Board of Directors and then as Executive Director for the last eight years. Thank you to the Board of Modesto Pregnancy Center for hosting the party in January. (From left to right: Jack Copland, Trina Malsom, Amy Foster, Delores Wolterstorff, Dan Slagel, Janice Freeman, Pete Duyst, and Alfred Huffman).