



ABC Network

Empowering Women to Make Choices For a Lifetime

Volume 15, Issue 1

Spring 2005

Celebrating 15 Years of Saving Lives

We are celebrating 15 years of saving lives! A Better Choice Women's Center, Inc. is in the midst of planning our 15th Anniversary 'Renewing Our Vision' Volunteer and Fund Raising Banquet. The banquet will be held on Tuesday, May 3, 2005 at 5:30 PM, at the Pavilion on Crystal Lake, a beautiful facility where you can watch the sunset over Crystal Lake while enjoying hors d'oeuvres followed by a scrumptious buffet prepared with you in mind.

Please join us as we celebrate the joy of choosing life and hear testimonies shared by women who chose life for their babies in 2004. In addition to inspirational testimonies, a very special guest has been invited to cel-

brate with us. Margaret Detzler, who in 1990 accepted the challenge to open the doors of A Better Choice Women's Center as its first Director, plans on attending! She had vision and missionary zeal to do the impossible in gathering volunteers (no one could say 'no' to Margaret) and promoting the center to the community. Through her efforts, the center was established as a referral for women in crisis pregnancy.

The evening will also be highlighted by *Faith, Hope, Love and Laughter*, a Christian teaching and entertainment ministry. They reach out to people through humor, storytelling, music and drama and have graciously offered their talents to make this anniversary celebration

Continued on page 3

Renewing Our Vision

Our ultimate vision is a world without abortion and a world with Christ. This basic vision remains the same purpose for the center, as well as our success in ministering to women in crisis pregnancy situations.

Yet, we cannot, as a ministry, simply remain the same. Doing the same things, the same way – we slowly become old news and do not draw new people in, especially new clients.

Instead, we need to remain vibrant and fresh with new ideas, new ways of reaching clients, and new ways of ministering to those clients. This means new development and marketing of those desired changes.

Some undesired changes have come to us, such as the resignation of our Executive Director Wanda Dudek this past November, following her heart attack earlier in the year. Wanda was in the midst of gathering information on ABC Women's Center becoming a medical center offering ultrasound imaging to abortion minded clients.

To reach abortion minded clients, our first major change will

Continued on page 2





ABC Director's Corner

New Life - A Continuous Process

*Written by Lynn Jaycox
Client Services Director*

As we look back over the last year, there are many reasons for us to thank the Lord for the ministry of ABC Women's Center. Many young women came to us with a variety of reasons to terminate their pregnancies. One woman who came through our doors succinctly stated to our reception staff that she "had to have an abortion." After sharing the truth with her, educating her about the abortion decision and presenting her with alternative options, her heart and mind were changed. Nine months later, she became the proud mother of a baby boy. Little did she know that this precious one was going to be the glue to keep her family together in the face of a tragedy a few months later.

Daunting thoughts of continuing her education while parenting a small child was the reason given by a pregnant college student who came to us "undecided" concerning her unplanned pregnancy. After speaking to her about a potential abortion decision and encouraging her to talk to her mother about the situation, she received the support she needed to parent her child.

The prospects of a second abortion were almost unthinkable to a young girl who had aborted her baby the previous year. Having regretted the choice she had made, she came to us last year seeking help when she found herself pregnant again. With our help and guidance, she found she was able to parent her child and so, choose life.

Little ones are expected this spring, because a mother was wrestling with the decision of whether or not to terminate a pregnancy and came to talk to us last year. We are awaiting the arrival of these and other precious ones because women DO change their minds when given the TRUTH!

As we roll into the new year, another woman has a

new life in Christ and has decided to continue on with her pregnancy. Because of the Lord and his work at, and through, ABC, new life is an ongoing process!

Another reason to be thankful is for our Post-Abortion Recovery Bible Study/Support Group, the first of which was held last fall. To have witnessed our awesome heavenly Father work as He helped the women to grieve, work through difficult issues and heal from the trauma of their past, was a thing to behold. He imparted *new life* into them through His healing hands. So again, we see new life as an ongoing process, continuing with our next Bible Study/Support Group this spring. For more information on the Study/Support Group, please see the ad in this newsletter.

Board Opens Search for Executive Director

The Board of the ABC Women's Center has initiated a search for a new Executive Director, following Wanda Dudek's resignation last autumn. Posters announcing the opening were mailed out to all of our supporting churches at the beginning of the year. The position is halftime, with responsibility overseeing the day-to-day operations of the Center. Additional responsibilities may include, but not be limited to: administration, budget oversight, counseling clients, overseeing staff and volunteers, serving as a liaison to the Board of Directors, fundraising, community and public relations.

We are asking all friends of the Center to uphold the entire process in prayer. Also, we are counting on you to spread the word about our search. If you, or someone you know, would be qualified and interested in applying for the Executive Director position, please have contact Laura McLean, 860-657-8667, or email: eowynish@sbcglobal.net. Closure date for requesting an application has been extended to March 31, 2005.

Renewing Our Vision Renewing Our Vision

Continued from front



be in the way we advertise. In addition to our ad in the Yellow Pages, we now must think of other ways to bring to the center college age women in crisis pregnancy. We know that an ultrasound picture of her baby will show a woman that she is carrying a baby, and not just a "mass of cells." Ultrasound technology is a wonderful 'visual' tool for Life, yet we must attract abortion minded clients to the center in order to put this powerful tool to use. They must want to have this ultrasound done, and therefore be willing to receive the truth it brings to them: That a *life* has been created and already begun in their womb.

Let our vision be renewed in a new dimension so we can reach others with this truth. Participate with us as we celebrate our 15th Anniversary 'Renewing Our Vision' Volunteer and Fund Raising Banquet on May 3, 2005. See back cover for banquet information.

Are you a committed friend and supporter of the ABC Women's Center? Has God given you a concern for the needs of our clients, women and families in central Connecticut? Do you intercede on behalf of the Center, but find yourself wishing you knew how to pray more specifically? Do you have access to an email account? If so, please consider signing up for our ABCWC Prayer Chain.

Join this group of committed, prayerful individuals and churches who receive regular prayer updates from the Center. Updates are sent out as email attachments every month or two with specific requests and answers to previous prayers listed on them. These serve as a concrete guide to those

The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. James 5:16b

The Power of Prayer



wishing to pray for the Center's specific needs.

In addition, prayer chain members occasionally receive urgent prayer requests via email. Frequently we are praying because one of the Center staff or volunteers has just counseled or spoken to a woman who is seriously considering abortion.

In these cases, immediate, strenuous prayer is called for, and we want to alert our prayer warriors as quickly as possible. Email technology is such a blessing for times like these!

We are always looking for more praying individuals and churches. If you would like to join the chain, send an email to Laura McLean at eowynish@sbcglobal.net

A Letter from Wanda

As most of you know, I suffered with a heart attack on May 15, 2004. No one was more surprised than I was. When it happened, my husband called first our children and then the ABC Prayer Chain, knowing these were people who care and know how to pray.

Miraculously, God healed my heart. Even now the doctors are surprised at how good my heart looks and works. Yet I continue to have heart attack symptoms. Also, I have had adverse reactions to the medicine and the polystyrene stent since I am allergic to plastic. When I returned to the center in September, I found I could not deal with the work load and stress. Finally November 1, 2004, I had to resign from the job I love in order for the process of obtaining a new executive director to begin.

Since November, I have seen improvement in my health, and in the last few days I have been able to do minimal exercise without complications. There is a song which says:

*"How can I say thanks
for the things you have done for me,
Things so undeserved,
yet you gave your life for me.
The voices of a million angels
could not express my gratitude
All that I am or ever hope to be
I owe it all to Thee."*

When I think of this song to our Savior, I also think of all you who prayed for me. There is no doubt in my mind that prayer worked the miraculous healing in my heart. Prayer also helped me to find the answers to the physical complications caused by the medicines. I wish I could thank each one of you individually who has prayed for me. Please know each of you hold a special place in my heart. I shall always be thankful for you.

To the board of directors, I say, "Thank you for being patient with me as I fought against the decision to resign. You were so willing to wait 'till I recovered. You were so caring. Thank you."

To Lynn and all the wonderful staff at ABC Women's Center: You are mighty women of God who have been a blessing to me in so many different ways over the years while being at the center. I have already said thank you, but a thousand times said would not be enough. You are the best. You are so dependable, so caring, and so committed to life. Thank you for praying with me when my life was a stake. It made all the difference.

Thank you to all!!

Wanda continues to recover at home with her husband, who has just retired. Her days are filled with playing with and enjoying her four granddaughters.

Celebrating 15 years

Continued from front
extra special.

The banquet is a great opportunity to invite someone to learn about the center and renew their own passion for LIFE! There will be information and pamphlets concerning the ministry and opportunities to volunteer and become a part of this great life saving work here in central Connecticut.

Finally there will be an update on A Better Choice Women's Center becoming a medical center and the wonderful miracles God has performed in this last 15 years. You will not want to miss this banquet. Call now to reserve seating: 860-873-1305 or 860-267-6564. Please let us know by April 15th that you will be able to join us. The staff, volunteers, and Board of Directors look forward to meeting you and seeing you at the Pavilion on Crystal Lake on May 3rd.

Sign up now for our
**Post-Abortion
Bible Study/
Support Group**

Confidential - Healing
Begins : March 14th
Day: Monday evenings
Duration: 11 weeks
(Important to attend all 11 weeks)
Time: 6:30 – 9:00
Call Lynn at the Center
for further information.
860-344-9292



ABC A Better Choice Women's Center, Inc.



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Empowering Women to Make Choices For a Lifetime

Please send all correspondence to:

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Center Located at:
180-184 East Main Street
Middletown CT

Phone:
860-344-9292

On the web at:
www.ABCWomenscenter.com

The Mission of ABC

is to provide clients with accurate and complete information regarding both prenatal development and abortion, assisting women to carry to term by providing emotional support and practical assistance. Through the provision of God's people and community at large, women may face the future with hope and plan constructively for themselves and their babies.



Renewing Our Vision Renewing Our Vision

Please join us as we celebrate our
15th Anniversary of Saving Lives
during our annual
Volunteer & Fund Raising Banquet

◆ Special Invited Guests:

Margaret Detzler our First Director (1990-1994)
and her husband Rev. Wayne Detzler

- ◆ Client testimonies
- ◆ The Christian teaching & entertainment ministry of
FAITH, HOPE, LOVE & LAUGHTER

Tuesday, May 3, 2005, 5:30 PM
The Pavilion on Crystal Lake
144 Prout Road
Middletown, CT

\$40.00 per person
\$75.00 per couple
\$300.00 per table of 8

For Tickets, Directions or
Information Contact:
Ruth Bennett
860-873-1305
Or
Jennifer Hendrick
860-267-6564



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