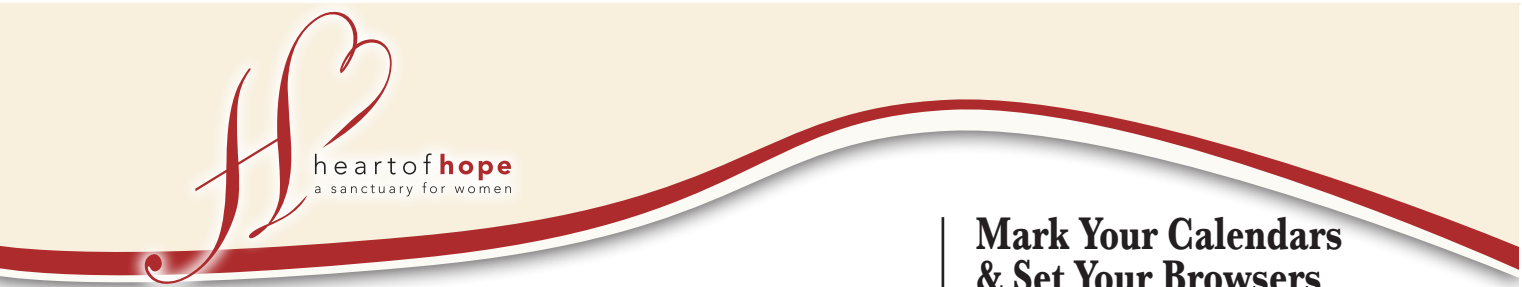


Heart of Hope-A Sanctuary for Women
10420 Heart of Hope Way
Keithville, LA 71047

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FALL 2012



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♥ ♥ ♥ WAYS YOU CAN HELP! ♥ ♥ ♥

- 1.Men's group to help Jerod clean out LARGE shed
- 2.Diaper bags and Newborn Diapers
- 3.Toilet Paper and Paper Towels

Places We Have Visited or Who Have Visited Us...

- Brookwood Senior Adults Lunch
- KSLA-12, Hometown USA Interview
- Kiwanis Club
- Highland Haven
- 1st Baptist Minden Church - Sr. High Class – Food Donations Received
- Bossier Parish Community College – Live T.V. interview
- 40 Days for Life – Kick Off Rally

Thank You to Our Monthly Church/Class/Business Sponsors

Woodridge Baptist • Grawood Baptist-Budget/Food Pantry • Providence Road Baptist
The Healing Place @ Glad Tidings • Living Water Worship Center • Grand Cane Baptist
Emmanuel Baptist –Budget/Food Pantry • Gateway Church • Trinity Heights Baptist
Jewel SS Class- First Baptist Keithville • Adult III SS Class • Radiant Life Church
Just for Ladies -- Radiant Life • Christian Center of Shreveport
Cross Point Baptist • Calvary Baptist • Guardian Alarm
Cypress Baptist • Eagle Creek Recovery Center • Church at Red River
AccuTemp Cooling & Heating • National Mail-it • NW Louisiana Baptist Association
Frozen Frog • Ark-La-Tex CPC • Genru Properties

**Mark Your Calendars
& Set Your Browsers
HOH is blogging
beginning Oct 1st!**



Having fun in The Hope Chest -- in our blog we will share about how significant this room has been in the young women's lives.

We are thrilled to embark on this new writing journey. The blog will not only be a place for us to share our heart and home, but hopefully a place where you, as a reader and supporter, can fill more connected. It is not possible to fit each and every one of you within our four walls on a daily basis- we would have to have a few more bedrooms, but that doesn't mean you can't step into our world every day. We need your daily encouragement and prayers, and hope this blog will better equip you to know for what to pray. We have been working hard to prepare this blog, and think we have a great weekly schedule lined up. We are committing to keep our blog current with regular updates, so we hope you will commit to read and share it with your friends. We would also love to highlight those in the community who are fighting for life alongside us. If you are interested in writing a pro-life piece, please contact Jodi. Most importantly, please join us in praying for the blog. Pray for the hearts of people who God has already planned to touch, and that God will be glorified through our posts. Hope you will join us on October 1, www.heartofhopeministry.com/blog



Scan this with
your smart
phone for more
information on
Heart of Hope.

The Great Egg Drop by Jerod Jessup



Aristotle once said "What we have to learn to do, we learn by doing". Since May, we have been teaching the young ladies about the fruits of the Holy Spirit and this month we are learning about patience. Many times when you ask the Lord to teach you patience He doesn't give you a book to learn it from but rather life experiences. We wanted a way to teach our girls patience through an experience, so after some thinking we came up with the idea of pairing the girls up to do an old science project - the infamous Egg Drop challenge. If you don't remember this project it consists of protecting an egg with provided materials to withstand a 12 foot drop onto concrete - without even cracking!



We wanted to teach patience primarily but also teamwork, leadership skills, and following instructions from a peer. We paired each girl with another whose personality is different to test their patience. We wanted the team leader to be the girl that wasn't as vocal to give them the opportunity to lead. Kristin, our house assistant and myself were the judges, since my wife, Stephanie, was needed to even up the four pairs. To begin the exercise, the team leader had five minutes to come up with an idea to protect the innocent egg from its fall. They were given straws, Styrofoam cups, paper towels, string, and tape to create a safe haven for their egg. Also, the contraption had to fit onto a sheet of paper. After sketching their idea, the team leader explained their design to their teammate and off they went! Each team had twenty minutes to build their egg protector. Our main rule was that the non-leader of the team could not question or complain about the design or the contraption. If she did and we overheard her, that team had to stop building for three minutes. We told the teams if we caught them twice, we would have to place tape on their mouths (thank goodness we didn't make it to that step).

Times Up! It was time to test, grade, and reward the winning team. The teams would be judged in four different categories - egg survival, teamwork, creativity, and patience. You may be asking what we gave as prizes. The 1st and 2nd place team got chocolate, which happens to be more valuable than a gold medal at the Olympics around this house. Our girls did such a great job! Only one poor little egg lost its life that day. The winning team feasted on an abundance of chocolaty morsels and the other three teams tied for second, so everyone got a little chocolate fix.

Everybody won that day. Well, maybe not that one little egg. But for the girls - patience, teamwork, leadership skills, and following instructions took on a deeper meaning. Also, everyone got chocolate so everyone was in a good mood. Just another day at Heart of Hope!



Winners!

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"Another Hallelujah"

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Volunteers...You MAKE the Difference!

10420 Heart of Hope Way
Keithville, LA 71047
318.925.4663
www.heartofhopeministry.com



He will produce a harvest...

I love that time in the morning when you are waking up from a dream and you can hear every word you are saying, and it makes sense. I think it is wonderfully strange. You are speaking in your dream and you think "This is so good, I hope I can remember that when I wake up!" Well, that happened to me this morning! I shot up out of bed at 6:25am and began writing this to you. In my dream, I was telling my husband about a garden.

This is the second year a community group from Norris Ferry Community Church has come to plant a garden. Last year they salvaged some old wood from our football stadium to build four garden boxes about 6'x10'. There is a walking path in between the boxes so we can easily weed the garden and harvest its fruit and vegetables.

Steve Carter and his group planted seeds of cucumber, squash and cantaloupe as well as tomato, peppers and herb plants. They combined rich soil with mulch so these plants and seeds could have the best chance of survival. Early every morning this summer, Jerod turned on the sprinkler and watered the earth where our plants were patiently growing.

This year, everything worked together – the soil, water, and sun – yielding a great supply of tasty tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, cantaloupe, squash, and basil!

The success of our garden relies on the preparation, the planting, the watering, and the waiting. It is in this last stage of waiting that God is faithful to show signs of life

and growth! When His work is done, not only do we get to enjoy the reaping of our harvest, so do those around us!

In my dream, I did not see soil, seeds and plants. I saw girls! Our girls! God was showing me that Heart of Hope is His garden for our young women. He led us to prepare a place where our girls are given a chance to not only grow, but flourish. Sometimes our harvest is quick to see, much like our basil plants. They just shoot up, exited to show everyone their fragrant leaves. Other times, we find ourselves doing a lot of digging because the weeds of her past are trying to choke out God's plan for her future. Most of the time, God's gift of patience is the predominant ingredient in Heart of Hope's soil. We trust God that He will produce a harvest as we water her with His Word and love her as our own.

Today we have quite a variety growing in our Heart of Hope garden. We have seven beautiful, smart, and determined young ladies whose ages are between 13 and 20. They are certainly blooming as we have a baby due any day now. In fact we have babies due each month through the end of the year and one in February 2013.

"Indeed, the Lord will give what is good, And our land will yield its produce." Psalm 85:12 (NASB)

God does give good gifts, and we thank you from the bottom of our gardens for your support, trust and faithful seed!

Serving Christ with You, Jodi Burns

upcoming events

- SAVE THE DATE -
PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR 6TH ANNUAL BANQUET
"Another Hallelujah"

Thursday, February 7, 2013 • 6:30 - 8:30
Summer Grove Event Center

"You have taken account of my wanderings; Put my tears in Your bottle. Are they not in Your book?" (Psalm 56:8)

Our brokenness does not go unnoticed, and in fact is caught by the hand of God and recorded in His book. Join us **February 7th** and share in the miracle of God's grace as we hear testimonies of lives once shattered but now made whole by the redeeming love, grace and power of God. You might catch yourself saying one *Hallelujah* after another!

He is your praise and He is your God, who has done these great and awesome things for you which your eyes have seen. (Deuteronomy 10:21)

If you would like to host a table, register as a Table Host and fill a table of 8 with interested guests at no cost please call **925-4663** and reserve yours. At right are opportunities to help underwrite the expense of the banquet.

Platinum
\$2,000

Gold
\$1,000

Silver
\$500

Bronze
\$250

Please mail sponsor donation to 10420 Heart of Hope Way, Keithville, LA 71047

The following Gifts Were Received in Thoughtful Tribute to the Memory or Honor of Someone Cherished
In Memory of... •RHONDA CASKEY - Clara Burt •PAT SCHOLLING - Carolyn Frost •IRMA DUPONT - Henry & Janet Dodd
•MARGARET & RAY GILL - Providence Road Baptist Church •CLYDE SIMMONS - Providence Road Baptist Church
•RACHEL HUCKABAY - Lucien & Roxanne Branch, Bill & Hope Shaw, William & Candace Atteberry



Join Our Heart of Hope Family on Facebook.
Look for Heart of Hope, A Sanctuary for Women

volunteer highlight

Love Looks Like Something!

"Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are on body, so it is with Christ" (1 Corinthians 12:12)



A few of the ladies from 1st Baptist Minden circling expiration dates on just one of four tables full of the donations.

First Baptist Church In Minden-GOD'S IDEA

We had Christmas in July! The Sr. High Class at First Baptist Minden was looking for a Mission's Project and started searching the web for a local organization where they could help meet a need and serve. Amber and Stacey called us and asked what our needs were. They told Stephanie they were going to hold a Food Drive at their church and also wanted to schedule a day to come out and do a project with our young ladies. They also organized a day where the young people set up a table outside the Minden Wal-Mart and

handed flyers to the shoppers asking if they would help Heart of Hope fill their food pantry. On July 28th, a truck and several cars pulled into Heart of Hope packed full of food, paper products, meat, meat, and more meat! Thank you First Baptist Minden and Sr. High Class for loving our girls and supporting us through your amazing donations! We also want to thank the shoppers who stopped to listen to these young people who asked you to help make a difference and help meet a need at Heart of Hope. Our shelves are stocked, our freezer is packed and our HEARTS are FULL! This is what you call a God idea! Love you gals and guys!!



When the work was done, our new friends wanted to help our houseparents continue teaching about the Fruits of the Holy Spirit so they sat down with the girls in the activity room and did their own painting with a twist.



Ladies from New Creation Family Church, from left to right - Katherine Young, Loraine Morton, Monique Washington, Loura S Stroughter, Denise Stevenson, Crystal Taylor, and First Lady Teresa Cooper

It Is All About Jesus

Since November of last year, New Creation Family Church in Shreveport has partnered with Heart of Hope in many different ways. The ladies have collected items for our Hope Chest, orga-

nized service projects, invited our young women to events at their church, given financially, and held intimate worship nights in our living room. Just recently, Crystal came with a group of ladies on a Friday night and gathered everyone in the living room to share in a night of praise and worship. These worship nights have become a very special time for our home and staff. Crystal has someone from their church share their own life's story so our young women are able to hear the testimony of Jesus in a transformed life. These are strategic moments as the Lord is ushered in through the Praises of His people and the tender hearts of His daughters are available to Him for healing.

***"Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him."* (Psalm 34:8)**



Mr. Ray spent almost three weeks Taking Care of Business. We think he is AWESOME!

Another Hallelujah!

One of our major concerns for so long has been the empty buildings that sit beside our Maternity Home. We first thought these buildings could be renovated for future additions to the ministry. However, this was not going to be possible due to the instability of the structures. So, for the last two years we have been praying for God to make a way and clear the way for these buildings to be demolished and removed. Joey French, one of our board members, told us he knew someone who might want to help with this matter. We soon got a call from Bart Little, owner of Testament Construction. Mr. Little volunteered his company to eradicate the buildings and instead of the expense of hauling them off, they could dig a hole – A GREAT BIG HOLE – and bury the debris.

I had the opportunity to speak with Mr. Little and as you will read, his heavenly Father's business is his business!

Me: How did you come up with the name of you business – Testament Construction?

Bart: In the beginning there were three of us, and as Christians, our goal was that everything we did we wanted it to be a testament to our faith in Christ.

Me: How long has Testament Construction been making a difference in our community and what do you love most about what you do?

Bart: We have been in business since 1999. The most rewarding part of my job is seeing a project from being just an idea to becoming a reality and exceeding someone's expectation for what they thought the finished product was going to look like.

Me: I have heard you love to go on mission trips. What country did you last travel to and what did you do there?

Bart: Actually, I went on my first mission's trip this year to Russia! We went to do maintenance in a church there. It was really amazing to see them worship – in fact it is a lot like the Western Church in that they have a contemporary and a traditional service. It was very refreshing to see their faith being expressed out in the open as they have only been free to do so for about 20 years. Actually, I say free, but they still are required to report the names of all the church members to their state agency. While they enjoy freedom of worship, there is this sense that someone could sneak in and take it away. I had this idea one day that we should make up a flyer and pass it out to the public to invite people to church – like we do here in America - but I was told that would not work because people would think it to be propaganda because that is what was used so widely to spread rumors and such under communistic rule.

Me: Lastly, we are so thankful for your generosity of spirit and resources in eradicating the ruined buildings that were beside the Maternity Home. Anytime one gives of their time and resources it is a sacrifice, because it is time and resources that could be saved for themselves. Can you share what God had done in your life that has caused you to want to be such a blessing to others?

Bart: Paul wrote in Acts 20 "...remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" You know, I have never done anything for the kingdom that I don't receive tenfold back somehow. I am a firm believer in the principal of reaping and sowing. Not only in finances, but in every area of my life – personal relationships, family, business, etc. If it all falls apart tomorrow, God is still God and I am going to serve him. Anything I have ever done for His name's sake pales in comparison of what He has done for me.



Mr. Ray's big claw demolished three buildings - it was like pushing over toothpicks!