

# HeartBeats

Service From the Heart Since 1984



## From the Director...

I don't know about you, but I'm REALLY tired of the commercialization of Christmas. I love Hallmark cards - but I believe they started the trend of selling Christmas early by offering their holiday ornaments in July. It wasn't long before we started seeing Christmas items in stores before Halloween! Now it's a never ending stream of advertising for months on end. It's enough to (almost) turn me into the Grinch!

Every time I see or hear another Christmas commercial I say a little prayer that the TRUE meaning of Christmas won't be lost - that we'll remember what this is really all about - the birth of our Savior. His entrance into this world was certainly not orchestrated by an advertising mogul. The first to see Him weren't the rich and famous - they were the poor and lonely. He wasn't looking for "branding" - but His name and His message have been heard around the world. Knowing Him has brought light to those in darkness - hope to the hopeless - freedom to those in chains - and LIFE to those who would believe on His name.

I hope that as you prepare for Christmas this year, that the Christ Child will be at the center of your celebration, and that you won't let some slick advertising campaign make it anything less - or more - than it should be. Simple. Serene. Sincere.

Remember - Jesus is the Reason for - EVERYTHING, right?! DUH!

Celebrating the Savior,

Sharon Pearce  
International Director

Auction Item...



We forgot to mention this in our last newsletter - someone left a hooded sweatshirt jacket at the Auction, and we'd LOVE to return it to its owner! If you think it's yours, give us a call - if you can describe it, you can have it!

## Year End Tax Tip...

If you are at least 70½ years or older, and are receiving "required minimum distributions" (RMDs) from an IRA account, you can choose to donate up to \$100,000 of the RMD to a charity (like Silent Voices!). This allows the IRA owner to lower their adjusted gross income (AGI) since the RMD is not included in your income for the year. (On the flip side, no "Schedule A" charitable deduction is allowed on this contribution.) However, doing this can help older taxpayers by causing less of your Social Security benefits from being taxable, and with the lower AGI, more of your "Schedule A" medical expenses may be deductible. If you are interested in taking advantage of this option, you should speak to your IRA Trustee. The funds must be distributed directly from the IRA Trustee to the charitable organization, and the deadline for making this kind of charitable donation is December 31, 2007.

## Praise Report...

"Naomi" was already crying before we had a chance to talk to her. She is 35 years old, has two children (17 and 7) and is pregnant again. She was distraught, felt hopeless and alone, and was ready to get an abortion because of her circumstances. The father of her baby has left her, and he already has another girlfriend. Naomi can barely make ends meet with what she has - another child was just too much to think about, and she had no reason to believe that the baby's father would offer her any kind of support.

We talked with her for quite awhile, and shared how we could help her through the Bridges to Motherhood program. We asked her if she could take a step of faith and trust God - and us. We gave her one of the beautiful "Baskets of Love" that we've been given for just this kind of situation. "Naomi" couldn't believe that we would give her something so elaborate - not knowing for sure what she would do! Before she left she said she'd "make a go of it" because she knows we'll be here for her!

## Please help...

Our hearts and prayers go out to the young woman who sent us this email -

"I was doing fine until up to about a month ago, I woke up crying because I had a nightmare of the abortion. It was a rerun of the fetus being surgically removed from my uterus. The last words the woman said before she left the room with my aborted child was, "I will be right back I need to make sure that I have all the tissue" and she was in my dream saying that to me again but in my dream she dumped it out on the table and made me look at it. I have been having a really hard time since then. I constantly think about it and don't know what to do. I really do regret it, I have recently been put back on depression medicine, today is my second day taking it - Prozac. I often wonder if I will ever be able to carry full term, because I think if I couldn't keep my first child, what makes this one so different? and I always bring up how old it would have been and what it would have looked like or if it was a male or female.. Please help me! I don't know what to do anymore! Do you think I will ever have a child and be happy?"

We're hoping to hook her up with a Post Abortion Group so she can work through her feelings, and experience God's forgiveness. Please pray with us that she'll email again and that she'll be open to attending a group.

Silent Voices will be offering a  
Post Abortion Healing & Recovery  
Bible Study

January 25 - 27, 2008

If you know someone who needs to attend,  
please give them our number!

Silent Voices believes that God is the Author of life, that all human life is valuable - born and preborn - and that abortion is never the answer to an unplanned, "crisis" pregnancy. We are dedicated to giving compassionate, practical assistance to women experiencing unplanned pregnancies, providing accurate information about the realities and possible consequences of abortion, and offering help, hope and healing through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ to women already struggling with the trauma of abortion.

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### Wish List

One of the vendors we've used for years has come up with a "wish list" program for pregnancy centers like Silent Voices. This allows our supporters the opportunity to provide us with the specific items we need for our ministries here and in other countries. If you'd like to know what we need, check out our "Wish List" page at:

[www.cpcdonations.org/silentvoices](http://www.cpcdonations.org/silentvoices)



### Christmas Outreach...

THANKS to everyone who has sent in gift cards for our Bridges moms for Christmas! We know that this really blesses them, and we appreciate your gift, too. It's not too late - there's still time between now and Christmas to mail us gift cards to WalMart, Target, Mervyns, Vons or Ralphs!

### Sanctity of Human Life Sunday...

We're already planning for Sanctity of Human Life Sunday, which will be observed on Sunday, January 20, 2008. Next year's observance marks 34 years of the legalization of "abortion on demand" in the United States.

We will be having an open house for anyone who would like to come and see our facility. We'd LOVE to see many of you that day! If you plan to come, would you consider bringing a "baby shower" item with you? Our moms are always blessed to receive new baby items - clothing - toys - as well as diapers, wipes and baby shampoo/lotion/powder.

We'll be open that day from 11:00am - 2:00pm. Please come - see our offices - enjoy the refreshments - maybe even meet some of our moms and their babies!

## Bridges

### To Motherhood

North Park Community Church blessed our moms with a Thanksgiving Feast and party! Everyone had a great time! Here are some pictures from that special night!



### Opinions are changing!

"With respect to the abortion issue, would you consider yourself to be pro-choice or pro-life?"

Pro-life rose from 33% to 43%

Pro-choice declined from 56% to 48%

Source: Gallop Poll as reported in the New York Times, 1/21/01

### Abortion in America

1.29 Million/year (2002)  
 Number of abortions per day: Approximately 3,700  
 (That's 154/hour or 3/minute)  
 From 1973 - 2002: More than 42 million