

# HeartBeats

Service From the Heart Since 1984

From the Director...

January was a month of milestones - some personal - some national. I turned 50 (I still can't believe it), and the 34<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Roe v Wade has come and gone. Sometimes I feel like I've spent my whole life dealing with abortion - watching women make life and death decisions - helping them find their way back to the loving arms of their Creator when they "come to their senses" - celebrating the births of babies that have been "saved." I can say with certainty that I never thought that Silent Voices would still be needed so many years after that fateful Supreme Court decision. Can anyone really wrap their head around the fact that over 48 million babies have been lost to abortion since January 22, 1973? I - like so many of us in the pro-life movement - was sure that we'd eventually win the battle, and see the day when our nation "came to its senses" and overturned that decision. I thought I'd work myself out of a job.

But - here we are - 34 years later - still plugging along. In some respects, we are winning the war. Polls show that most Americans are uncomfortable with the idea that a woman can have an abortion at any time during her pregnancy - for any reason. In our office, we're seeing fewer girls/women coming in thinking that abortion is their only choice. So - all the years of educating the public about what "choice" really means is paying off.

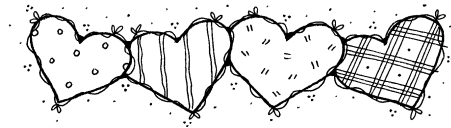
Our work isn't done, though, and I think I've resigned myself to the probability that abortion will always be an issue. There will always be women who are so scared - so uncertain about their future - so unable to care for themselves, let alone a baby - that abortion will be their "answer." And - there are so many women now who have had an abortion that there will always be a need for healing. (43% of all women in the US will have had one abortion by the time they reach the end of their childbearing years. Of those women, 43% of them will have had more than one abortion.) Silent Voices - and the other centers like us - will always have work to do.

I hope I don't sound too melancholic - while turning 50 did cause me to take pause - and to take stock of my life - I'm not discouraged or depressed. Sad, maybe, that so many lives have been lost - and that so many women are struggling with the weight of guilt and grief. I've been blessed to see the "fruit" of our labor, too, so there is joy in this work! I recently met a 21 year old young man - very handsome - who loves the Lord - who wouldn't be here at all if we hadn't been there when his mother needed help. I get to hold the little miracles that come through our doors in the arms of grateful moms. I'm privileged to walk through the valley of death with women who have chosen abortion - and have seen them experience the redeeming power of our Savior's love. All of these things bring me joy.

God is good. All the time. God is good.

In His Service,

Sharon Pearce  
Director



Babies Born in 2006!

These are just a few of the babies that have been born as a result of Silent Voices!

Isaac - 1/9/06  
Jasmine - 2/20/06  
Abril - 4/3/06  
Daniel - 5/15/06  
Luna - 5/17/06  
Andres - 5/19/06  
Emily - 6/7/06  
Adrian - 6/17/06  
Aiden - 7/8/06  
Adrian - 7/9/06  
Michelle - 9/7/06  
Maseyo - 9/9/06  
Anthony - 11/2/06  
Salvador - 11/13/06  
Ava - 11/21/06  
Shayla - 11/27/06  
Altea - 12/8/06  
Andrew - 12/23/06



## "Empty Playgrounds"

A Poem by Miss Norma McCorvey

I sit across from a playground that I visited this eve with a small child.  
I know of such places where children play.  
I know that I am the cause of them not being here today.  
These playgrounds for "innocent children" now dead because of sins I helped do.  
I hope, Lord, that the wonderful playground is well guarded with angels.  
Angels who will protect them keep them happy and safe.  
Angels who will make them smile and laugh.  
So that when that glorious day comes; the children will not hold "the sin" against me.  
For every time I see a playground empty, I will know that Yours will be full.  
The sun is now setting, and my heart hurts, Lord.  
For the numbers who from abortion have been torn apart.  
If you like, Lord, use my body to make your precious children whole again.  
I ask you to do this not only for them, Lord, but also for the love I have for each of them.  
Lord, God, You gave Your only Son, and He died and shed His blood for us.  
All I did was give my baby away so that "women could tear theirs apart."  
For this I will never be able to look in Your face out of shame.

*Norma McCorvey is the "Roe" of Roe v Wade. She became a Christian in 1995, and began the "Crossing Over Ministry," encouraging women to have their babies. While she knows Christ, her poem shows the heart of a woman who is still struggling with her sin. We pray for her, that God's love will be so real to her that she will be able to walk "unashamed."*

**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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**HeartBeats**  
Issue 63  
February 2007

*Silent Voices*  
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www.silentvoices.org  
Newsletter -  
Published Irregularly

### Three Ways to Support Silent Voices - Without Even Thinking!

All you have to do is register with one of the grocery stores below, and a portion of what you spend will come to Silent Voices!

**Vons:** Register at [escrip.com](http://escrip.com). Escrip has lot of opportunities to support the ministry besides Vons. You must renew with escrip every year. Our ministry number is: 3567119.

**Albertsons:** Go to [www.albertsons.com/abs\\_inthecommunity/](http://www.albertsons.com/abs_inthecommunity/). Click on "Community Partners" logo and then follow the directions. You can also send us your Albertsons card number and phone number, and we can register for you. Our Community Partner number is: 1159004.

**Ralphs:** Go to [Ralphs.com](http://Ralphs.com), click on "Community Contribution," then click "participant." Our NPO number is 83960. You must have a Ralphs Club Card - they are available at the customer service desk at your local Ralphs. If you use your phone number at the register, call 800-660-9003 to get your Club Card number. You must swipe your Ralphs Club Card when shopping for each purchase to count.

## Bridges To Motherhood

We are SO grateful to everyone who sent gift cards for our Bridges to Motherhood moms! We were able to give every mom and "mom-to-be" gift cards worth \$25/child! One family gave up giving Christmas gifts to each other, and spent their money buying gift cards for our moms instead - WOW!

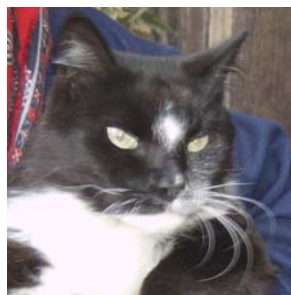
We had a Christmas party for our moms, and we were blessed to have a group of Christian women come and share their gift of music with us. We'd like to share a note that we received from one of them:

"It was such a blessing to be a part of the Bridges Christmas get-together. My girlfriends were also glad for the opportunity. For me it was extra special because I've always had a soft spot for your ministry, but never really knew the reality, or wasn't able to really put faces to those women (and girls) who were being touched by Silent Voices. That's all been changed now. To see a young woman so excited just to get a grocery bag full of diapers, and to know that she wouldn't have even needed the diapers unless God had intervened and saved her baby's life. It must get overwhelming for you - I can't even imagine. All this to say - Thank You for asking us to be a part of that get-together - I was TREMENDOUSLY BLESSED!"

WE were blessed by these women - and so were our moms. We hope this encourages you to consider what you can do to bless our moms. We know that once you meet our moms and hold their babies, you'll want to come back and spend more time with them. We hope you will - we ALWAYS need volunteers for this program. If you can give up two evenings a month - the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of every month - please call Stephanie and let her know!

### Missy Needs a Home...

If you've read the newsletter for very long, you know that we're a "soft touch" when it comes to cats. For about five years, we've been feeding a stray (Sweet Pea) who was abandoned in our parking lot. (FYI - no ministry money is being used to care for these kitties.) Off and on during that time, other strays have come and gone - and one (Riley) now lives in our office (he's "living the life!"). We have a new stray - we've named her "Missy" - and we'd really like to find her a home of her own. She's a sweet kitty - she's black and white with medium length fur. She's affectionate and likes to be held and loved. She doesn't like sharing her food, though, and that's created a problem for Sweet Pea (she won't stand up for herself). We think Missy'd do best in a home where she can be the "top cat" - but with time, she might adjust to a home with other pets. If you can give her a home, please give us a call. She deserves better than a plastic crate in the parking lot!



♥ Be Mine ♥