

# HeartBeats

Service From the Heart since 1984!



## From the Director

We're coming up on another birthday - we'll be celebrating 26 years of service on June 8<sup>th</sup>! I hope you'll send up a little of prayer of thanks to God for His faithfulness - it's only by His grace and provision that we're still here!

In reminiscing with friends after our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet, I said that when we started Silent Voices we didn't have a clue what we were doing - or how we were going to do it. We knew we didn't have all the answers - looking back, I realize we didn't even have all of the questions! But God is good, and as we walked with Him day-by-day, He guided us every step of the way, and has been providing for our every need.

We thank all of you who have partnered with us on this journey, and we hope you'll stick with us in the years ahead!

In His Service - Sharon Pearce/Director

## Celebrating the Life of Linda Parker

Linda worked for us for almost 10 years. She joined our staff when we were working out of a small office near SDSU. She was passionate about talking to the girls on campus about the choices they were making.

When that office closed, Linda joined us in Chula Vista. We had started a new program - Bridges to Motherhood - and she stepped in as the director of that program when the previous director left. It was a perfect fit! Linda loved our moms, and they loved her back! She didn't limit her involvement in their lives to the office - she attended their graduations - baby showers - their baby's birthday parties - she was a huge part of their lives.

Linda left Silent Voices to pursue working alongside her husband John, at the church where he served as Children's Ministry Leader. We were heartbroken when she left, but we understood her desire to spend more time closer to home with the husband she loved.

Shortly after leaving us, Linda was diagnosed with breast cancer, and for the past four years, she fought it valiantly. Through it all she held on to her deep faith in the Lord - her love for the Word - her sense of humor - and her abiding concern for others. During the past few months, she was on the receiving end of the same tender loving care she had so selflessly given to others. She lost her battle with cancer on Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup> - but we know she was instantly in the presence of Jesus, and we also know she heard Him say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant. Enter into the joy of the Lord!" Linda's legacy lives on in the lives of those women who are better mothers because of her care and concern - and in the lives of the children who were saved from abortion because she took the time to talk to their moms.

## Linda's life verse: Proverbs 3:5b

*"Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take."*



**Lovely Linda**

April 3, 1948 - May 1, 2010

If you knew Linda, and would like to send a note to her family sharing a special memory you have of her, let us know, and we'll give you the contact information.

## Earth Works Fair in San Diego

Silent Voices participated in the Earth Day celebration in Balboa Park on Sunday, April 18<sup>th</sup> - it was an exciting and interesting experience! Our booth promoted Natural Family Planning as being "Better for Women - Better for the Environment." We were able to talk to hundreds of people about the risks of birth control, and the benefits of Natural Family Planning. We also had lots of information about how the hormones in many forms of birth control are harming our environment.

A number of studies - from all over the world - are showing that the artificial forms of estrogen and progesterone found in birth control products are entering our water supply and having deleterious effects on our ecosystem. Male fish have been found showing female characteristics - some even have eggs! They are not able to reproduce, and that means that fish supplies are going to be depleted if the contamination continues.

AND - using NFP is the ultimate "green" choice in family planning! If we don't want to buy beef, chicken or milk that comes from animals treated with hormones, why should women pump themselves full of harmful chemicals that can have serious health risks? NFP doesn't add anything to the woman's body - it doesn't dump harmful chemicals into the water supply - what could be more "green?"

*THANKS to the Brenda Heyman, Linda Crawford, Rachel Rogerio, Dawn Souder and Louis Washington for staffing the booth for us!*