

# HeartBeats

Service From the Heart Since 1984



## From the Director...

Greetings! Many of you know that I've been in the process of becoming a Certified Natural Family Instructor since October of 2003, and I'm very happy to report that I'm finally finished! I received my certification on June 16<sup>th</sup>! It's been a long road - and lots of work - but worth the time and effort. I've learned a lot about how God created our bodies, and am in awe of His handiwork!

I'd like to share what happened when I was within days of passing my certification - it's a real testimony of God's protection - and a reminder to me of the spiritual warfare that goes on "behind the scenes."

Part of my certification involved following 10 couples for 6 months, preparing files on each couple that included all of my notes and documentation for what was taught, what each couple was struggling with, etc., as well as a copy of their chart (a record of their fertility for those 6 months). When all of my files were completed, I debated about making copies of them for my instructor, but decided that I would lend her my files instead - so I had no "back-up" copies available if anything happened to my originals. But - nothing was going to happen to them, right? WRONG!

One of the other students and I planned to get together to review each other's work - not to read the "nitty gritty" in each file, but to see if we both had the same paperwork, ask each other questions, etc.. We had decided to go to Mimi's Café in the Valley for lunch, and review our files over a nice meal. Brenda was going to pick me up as I was "on her way," but when she called to tell me she was running late, we decided that I would meet her there instead, so I could run errands after our meeting.

I heard "something" as I pulled out of my driveway, but assumed that it was something rolling around in my trunk, and didn't give it another thought. Once I was at Mimi's, I opened the trunk to retrieve the envelope that contained all of my files - and it was GONE! It was then that I remembered taking the envelope out of my trunk and putting it on the back of my car so I wouldn't forget it when Brenda picked me up! The "something" I heard was the envelope falling off my car and into the street!

Imagine how I felt at this point - all my work for the last 18 months was in that envelope - I didn't have copies - AND it contained VERY personal, private information! I immediately called my neighbor and asked her to look in the driveway and street to see if it was still there - but it wasn't. I thought I was going to be sick - or die - or both! BUT - I was out in public, and I knew I couldn't "lose it" with people watching!

SO - I hopped in my car and raced home. To help me stay calm (and remember to breathe) I started paying attention to the words of the song that was playing (a Steven Curtis Chapman CD) - the words were amazing, and spoke right to what I was feeling. The song was "Believe Me Now," and the refrain is "Believe Me now / Believe Me here / Remember all the times I've told you loud and clear / I am with you and I am for you / so believe Me now / Believe Me now." WOW - just what I needed to hear from the Lord! My prayer was similar to the father of the child with a mute spirit (Mk 9:24) "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!"

When I got home, I looked everywhere I could think of - even places I knew were ridiculous - and the envelope just wasn't to be found. SO - I got back in the car and headed down to Mimi's Café, hoping that I'd see my envelope laying along the road somewhere - but I didn't. I called my mom and a friend and asked them to pray - specifically that whoever found the envelope wouldn't use the information in it to hurt or embarrass anyone.

Brenda was waiting for me, and I told her what had happened, and said that I just couldn't eat - I knew I would be sick if I tried - and that I needed to go home and continue to look. She suggested that we pray - and we did - and then offered to come and help me look. SO - back up the hill to my house, and the search continued. Brenda went to the businesses on the street, while I continued to look in the house. When I was sure it was gone - and there was no hope of finding it - I called my instructor to tell her, and she was very understanding and sympathetic - she assured me that it would be found and that all would be well. The next call was harder - I had to call the Diocese to let them know, because ultimately, if something bad happened as a result of this information getting into the wrong hands, they were the ones supervising me, and they were the ones who would be "in trouble."

I reached the Office of Marriage and Family Life, and before I had a chance to tell Chris what had happened, she asked, "Did you get my email?" "No - what email? I'm calling to tell you that I've lost all of my client files." "Sharon - I HAVE the envelope - it's just been returned to us!" The tears started rolling down my cheeks as she told me that a delivery man had found the envelope in the street, and had called them to ask what he should do - and he was willing to drive them all the way to their office!

I went immediately and picked up the envelope, and there wasn't a mark on it - not one tire tread (and I live on a VERY busy street). I asked Chris if they'd gotten the name and address of the man who returned it so I could send him a thank you note, and she said that they'd asked him to write it down for them, but he couldn't, because he's illiterate! The only way he knew where to bring the files was that they each had a cover sheet with the Diocese' phone number - and he can read numbers!

SO - here's what God did for me - He had someone come upon my envelope of files as soon as they fell off my car - and it was someone who couldn't read them! They (the files) were already on their way to the Diocese before I even knew they were missing! Do I "believe Him now?" YOU BET!

In His Service,

Sharon Pearce  
Director

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Sharon Pearce". Below the signature, there is a small, faint drawing of a heart and some illegible text.

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.