

*From the Heart of the Director***One simple word that defines our existence**

When you hear the word “February,” what’s the first thing you think of? Love? February 14? Valentine? President’s Day? For me personally, I think about my children because all three of our special valentines were born in February. When they were growing up, February was a busy month and Valentine’s Day seemed to arrive out of nowhere. Yet, whether Tom and I were celebrating our kids’ birthdays or exchanging gifts and flowers, one foundational theme was always there: “love.”

When we tell people why this ministry exists, the word “love” also comes to mind. The word “love” however, is used today in so many ways that it has become almost impossible to define. For instance, some will say “I love rocky road ice cream,” “I love my dog,” while others will say “I love that outfit on you” or “I love that movie.”

Love has become an emotion, and while there is nothing wrong with positive emotions—especially when it comes to ice cream—it is easy to muddle things. Today, “I love you” may be said with pure sincerity from one spouse to another, or it might be uttered casually by someone simply trying to achieve a desired outcome on a date.

Here at Crossroads, we know that the latter mentioned above happens far too often. The words “I love you” are tossed about, then taken back quickly at a later time. This does not stop with dating relationships because we see marriages end with people saying, “The love just died.” How does love “die?” How does a pure love—as outlined in 1 Corinthians 13—simply fade away? Do we think for a minute that when he penned those words, Paul was writing about some emotion that would disappear when conditions change?

Love—in its true form—never dies. After all, Paul tells us that love “bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.” Later in the same chapter Paul reminds us that some things will disappear. But not love.

Here at Crossroads, we want to introduce our clients to true love. Some have never seen love before. They know nothing of God’s love, the kind of love that gave His only Son so that we might have eternal life.

Eternal life, as Jesus told us in John 17:3, is “*that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.*” Jesus came that we might know God—and we know God is love, the kind of love that many of our clients want so much to know. So if you’re wondering why we do what we do, if you are wondering why we keep going in the face of some long odds, there is a word we like to use: “Love.” We use it often, and it is the foundation of why we are here. *Let all that you do be done in love.* (1 Cor. 16:14)

One heart at a time...one life at a time.

Kathryn Enloe, Director

Center Life: *Serving the Lord with gladness (Ps. 100:2)*

Donations: A special thank you to **Debi Bridgford, Micki Bettencourt, Carol Blank, Joanna Jackson, Patti Streeter** and **Catholic Daughters of the Americas** for their generous donations of various baby items and Gideon Bibles. God bless you for your gracious giving to this ministry!

Surrendering the Secret: If you are one of the many women who have had an abortion and believe that your decision has had a negative impact on your life, be encouraged! There is help and healing available. A group is forming for *Surrendering the Secret*, a beautiful 8-week Bible study for women to begin or continue healing the brokenness that so often accompanies abortion. Each woman learns of tearing down the roadblock of anger, of forgiveness, of dealing with grief, and finding restoration and true peace in Jesus Christ. If you or anyone you know would benefit from this study, a new class will be forming soon—completely confidential and offered at no cost. Please call us at the Center at 583-1900 or Liz at 816-3368. Email: lizwagner93245@gmail.com.

Giving Envelopes: Due to the increase in online giving and other means, some may have noticed there is no envelope with your newsletter. As stewards of the resources we have been given, we will provide envelopes to those who would like to receive one on a monthly basis. If you would like to have an envelope included in future newsletters, please let us know.

Prayer Requests: *Kathy & Pat Mundy for ongoing prayers for Kathy (James 5:14); *The Supreme Court of the United States in “NIFLA, et al., vs. Becerra” (Prov. 21:1) **Oral arguments begin March 20, 2018;** *Our volunteers, staff, clients, and Board of Directors (Gal. 6:9); and *for all of us as we engage each caller and client with wisdom, grace and truth. (Col. 4:2-6)

Thank you for praying with and for us!



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Center Mentors: Welcome!



L-R: Maegen, Brandee and Daniel

What a joy it is to welcome these three amazing volunteers in training to be our new Client Advocates! We completed 8 days of course training in our manual "**Intimacy Before Impact**," which begins with the importance of cultivating our own relationship with the Lord, enabling us to have an impact on other's lives. We discussed spending time with Him in repentance, in His Word, in worship and in prayer. In Jude 1:20-21 we read, "*But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting anxiously for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life.*" It is when we are cleaned and filled that we can pour out His love and hope to others. Please pray for us as we continue the orientation process.

Center Lobby: A new look

We are almost to the finish line! Phase I of the lobby remodel is now complete with a new counter and security door to the stairs. Phase II will be the installation of new carpet, a glass partition on the staircase and some finishing touches on décor. We are thankful to the Lord for His provision and for the laborers who made these plans become a reality!

