



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

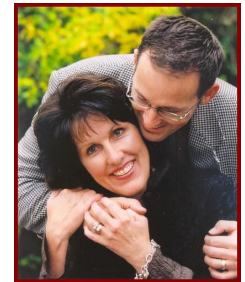
- CHECKOUT OUR NEW WEBSITE:
www.mendingthesoul.org
- READ ABOUT CONGO 2008
- PRAYER IN THE TRENCHES
- DATES TO REMEMBER
- FIND OUT HOW TO DONATE TO MTS MINISTRIES

A Word from the Founders: Steve and Celestia Tracy

MENDING THE SOUL: A Church Without Walls

*"Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus...and seeing the man who had been healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it. Now Lord, grant to Your servants that with all **boldness** they may speak Your word, by stretching out your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus... And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken: And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and they spoke the Word of God with **boldness**."*
Acts 4:13-14, 29-31

When we read the dramatic story of the launch of the first century church we are stirred with passion at the opportunities that lay before us as westerners in the 21st century. No previous generation, even maximizing its potential, could have considered reaching seven billion people with the "good news" of Christ's love (McManus). We are convinced and inspired that God would not have allowed us to live in a time of such great opportunity if He did not have on His heart the desire to pour out the greatest movement of His Spirit in human history. He has called us to be "God in skin" (Epistle to Diognetus 10) to a bruised and hurting world. Abuse requires our response. We cannot do this alone – let's partner together in this cause.



Your Servants,
Steve and Celestia

Upcoming TV Series on Domestic Violence



Last year Steve and Celestia helped Radio Bible Class/Day of Discovery produce a 4-part video series on Domestic Violence titled "When Love Hurts." Steve and Celestia, Christine Stephenson, and others who are a part of MTS appear in the four programs. This is a very professional and helpful Christian educational tool on domestic violence. The series is being re-aired this fall. In the Phoenix metro it will be on KPNX (channel 12) on Monday mornings at 12:35 AM and on Sunday mornings at 7:30 AM on ION TV. The four program titles are: October 12: "When Abuse Is Worse than Divorce"; October 19: "When the Bible Is Used To Abuse"; October 26: "When Apologies Are Dangerous"; November 2: "When the Church Is Needed Most". The DVD of the series can be purchased from Mending the Soul Ministries.

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"He has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted"

Isaiah 61:1



"One Voice, One Stand"

The women at the abuse survivor conference in Beni, DRC standing together declaring that they are saying "no to sexual violence".



The Democratic Republic of Congo

What does love look like?

It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of men. That is what love looks like.

St. Augustine



Elige - one of the heroes of the faith in the DRC who works with rape survivors. She walks many miles alone through jungle to reach these women risking encounters with rebel soldiers and bandits.

The Democratic Republic of Congo is a country that has experienced so much suffering and evil for more than a decade. It is a country wrecked due to civil war, rebel fighting, torture, death and sexual violence. In the last decade 5.4 million people have died and over 250,000 women and children have been raped.

This past July, 12 of us went to the Democratic Republic of Congo at the invitation of local community and church leaders to help train pastors, caregivers, and community leaders in their work to care for abuse survivors. In addition, we held a conference for the abuse survivors themselves, a conference for prostituted women, a seminar for the military and a seminar for political leaders.

It was an amazing time where God showed up BIG time. We heard tremendous stories of healing and hope. We heard stories of terror, violence, abuse, evil and suffering. We met and prayed with people completely broken and shattered because of the abuse and evil they had experienced. We held precious babies born of rape. We saw women accept Christ as their savior and leave prostitution. We saw women by the dozens sign up for skills training so they could provide for themselves and their children. We counseled woman after woman who had been raped, tortured and seen families members killed before their eyes. We visited different clinics and organizations to support their ministries and to just be present with the patients and survivors of abuse. We spent hour after hour with the local people and listened to their stories - the people just wanted to be heard. We were able to be alongside and encourage heroes of the faith who tirelessly work day in day out for the Kingdom and are bringing about such change in a dark land.

The good news is that God is doing great things in Congo. Satan is being pushed back and hope is returning to Congo but it is a long road. As God leads you would you pray for the DRC? Pray for the rape survivors, the caregivers, the leaders and for the dark forces of evil to be overcome. MTS will be returning to the DRC next year. Please pray that we will be strategic in our ministry as we determine our next steps and the needs of the Congolese.

We Have a New Website

It was time to revamp our website. We are delighted to announce that our new website has launched. Our website address is www.mendingthesoul.org. Please visit...you will find lots of new information and resources.

- Read about our mission and vision, our history and philosophy, our leadership team.
- See our resource center for MTS materials, interesting articles, research data and helpful links.
- Find a supporting church or information about Mending the Soul small groups.
- Check out our events calendar to find out about future training events, conferences, and fundraising events.
- Learn about our international work in the Democratic Republic of Congo and other countries.
- Find out how to donate through our website.

Help us continue to develop our website to meet your needs. Please give us feedback through our contact page on the website.

How to Find Out More About MTS Ministries

For more information on MTS Ministries, for our products, for speakers or training, please visit our new website at: www.mendingthesoul.org

Prayer in the Trenches by Janet Martin

Mending the Soul Ministries recognizes that abuse survivors need prayer support to face their pain and to find strength to reach out for help. MTS is engaged in a spiritual war requiring a unique strategy to move forward to accomplish the overall mission of equipping churches, counselors, facilitators, and community groups to bring healing to abuse survivors. This spiritual battle must be advanced through the weapons God has given His children: effectual, fervent prayer for one another.

We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places

Ephesians 6:12

Those who are on the front lines of counseling abuse survivors, facilitating MTS small groups, or meeting one-on-one to offer encouragement and support are also in need of consistent daily prayer. Those in churches and other community organizations need prayer to be alert to signs of abuse and to get help for those in need of professional support. Prayer is foundational to MTS.

Men and women, we can help one another in the battle to create safety in our homes and communities and find healing from the terrible damage done by abuse. Pray for Jesus to take His stand against the enemy of our souls. Especially, pray for souls to be healed so intimacy with our Heavenly Father is strengthened. God does hear and He does answer.

HELPS by Missy Gryder

HELPS - Highlight Emotional Learning and Personal Safety - is a project started by Dr. Missy Gryder to promote the personal safety, social and emotional development and health of elementary aged children in grades kindergarten through five.

"Had only one teacher taught me that it wasn't OK to be touched 'down there,' I would have gone in at the next recess and told. My four-year abuse cycle would have ended much earlier." This quote from an adult who grew up in Scottsdale epitomizes the message of the HELPS Project. HELPS offers seven hours of direct abuse prevention services to children in kindergarten through fifth grade in their public school classrooms at no cost to school districts. Lessons are active, engaging, and fun for children. During the 2007-2008 school year, HELPS served 853 children throughout the valley.

Please contact Dr. Missy Gryder at 602-320-0374 to learn how you can help protect our children by supporting HELPS.

Dates to Remember

Joyful Needle Fall & Christmas Boutique Fundraiser

Saturday, November 1, 2008: 9 AM to 3 PM at Whitton Avenue Bible Church, 2601 E. Whitton Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85016. There will be many handmade items for sale including table runners and toppers; tote bags, placemats and napkins, decorative pillows, lap and baby quilts, children's activity bags, aprons and pot holders, tree skirts, and much more.

Small Group Facilitator Training November 7-8, 2008

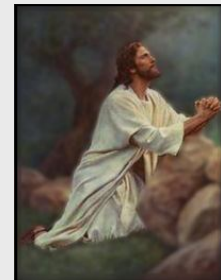
Friday 6:30-9 PM, Saturday 8-4 PM at Mesa Baptist Church, 2425 S. Alma School Rd, Mesa, AZ 85210. Join us to hear our experienced trainers share their expertise and wisdom regarding MTS small support groups. Come and learn what you as a facilitator need to do to stay healthy. Come and develop your facilitator skills. This training is designed for leaders who have done a significant amount of their own healing and who are leading MTS groups or wish to learn how to do so. For more information see our website.

Facilitator Get Together November 15, 2008

All our current and past facilitators are invited and encouraged to attend the 1st Annual MTS Facilitator's Gathering on Saturday, November 15 beginning at 11:30 AM. This luncheon is being hosted by Helen Williams and will be held at her home. Please RSVP and get directions no later than Monday, November 10th by calling 480-924-3707 or send an email to hcwpinto@aol.com.



Dan Hoffman—one of the team members praying for a patient at the CEPIMA clinic.



Considering donating to

MENDING
THE SOUL

BRINGING HOPE TO GENERATIONS

It is not how much we do, but how much love we put in the doing.

It is not how much we give, but how much love we put in the giving.

Mother Teresa



Facilitator Training

January 2008

MENDING THE SOUL MINISTRIES

P. O. Box 97636
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You Are My All

I was broken and your words comforted me
I was distraught and a song lifted me
I was sick and a prayer gave me strength

I was hurt and your spirit covered me
I was burdened and peace enveloped me
I was afraid and your promises put me at ease

I was alone and love engulfed me
I was angry and kindness calmed me
I thought this was all there was, but you gave me new life

For every moment when I need you
There you stand with open arms.
Ready to catch me when I fall
Ready to cradle me to sleep
Ready to surround me with your love.

You are my all.

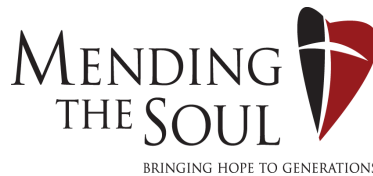
Dagny Mallory

"He has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted"
Isaiah 61:1

MTS: The New Look

MTS Ministries has undergone many changes this past year. We have felt God's calling to redefine the organization in order to be more effective and efficient in fulfilling our vision and mission. All of us at MTS are so excited at what we believe God will do over the next few months and next year.

We have a new look, new logo, new website, new ideas and plans for 2009. Keep checking our website for updates, the latest news and developments.



A New Staff Member

MTS is delighted that Dagny Mallory has joined MTS as our administrator. Not only is Dagny an incredible multi-talented administrator, she is also a poet—she is the author of the poem in this newsletter.



Would You Join Us in Prayer?

Please pray specifically for:

- For the facilitator training in November
- For the fundraising event on November 1st
- The MTS Board as they plan for next year
- For future training events in 2009
- For the many women and men we know who have been deeply wounded by abuse
- For the situation in Congo which is precariously close to civil war

For more information on MTS Ministries resources, products, speakers or training, please visit our website at:

www.mendingthesoul.org

Or call us at

866-535-5044