



A Place of Refuge Ministries of South Wisconsin, Inc.

Quarterly Newsletter — Winter 2018

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Happy Anniversary

In January of 1993, twenty-five years ago, *A Place of Refuge* was established as a subcommittee of the South Wisconsin District's Human Care Committee. In the intervening years, God has blessed us with growth that led to incorporation. Our official name, *A Place of Refuge of South Wisconsin, Inc.*, identifies our continual close connection to the church. It is this connection with congregations, auxiliaries, schools and individual members of our churches that has been the "secret" to our success. God has provided the means to help mothers and their babies through all of you, our faithful supporters and volunteers. This ministry would not be here if it were not for your prayers, your time and your gifts.

The greatest blessing has been to hold little ones in our arms and then place many of them into Jesus' arms through Holy Baptism. By the grace of God, we have been able to touch hundreds of lives with the love of Christ Jesus. For this we thank you! Above all, we thank God for all of His blessings on *A Place of Refuge* throughout this quarter century. Please continue praying for guidance, wisdom and blessing as the Lord leads us into the next twenty-five years of Christ-centered service to mothers and their precious babies. In the name of Jesus, the Lord of Life.

Pastor David Paape, APOR Board President

News from Refuge House

Happy New Year from Refuge House and from the residents and Murrays. Last year was a busy one with five new babies born while mom was a resident in Refuge House. One of the babies was born Christmas Day and was the only girl born among four boys. She was our Christmas baby, and she is gorgeous.

Our latest boy was born in October. He weighs 18 pounds and is already starting to teeth and is adorable. And we added another beautiful baby girl at the end of January!

Christmas was a true blessing for the moms and babies. The benefactors were so generous with them. Moms received gifts for their babies, themselves and their children. They were so happy. Please accept the moms and my personal appreciation for the generosity this Christmas.

We are again in need of a bunk bed frame and two mattresses. With small bedrooms and moms transitioning to small apartments, these are very much in demand. Please contact our office at 414-438-2737 if you have these items to donate.

Time passes so fast. When some of the moms stop by Refuge House with their growing children, it is unbelievable. I have managed Refuge House for six years now, and I am always grateful to God for the birth and baptism of each precious baby.

May 2018 be a peaceful and blessed year

God's blessings to all...
Ronne Murray, Manager



The newest addition to
Refuge House

Blessed Again News

The past 3 months have been busy at the store and these months usually are. We averaged over 1000 customers per month purchasing merchandise. Winter merchandise is now coming to an end and we are working on spring and some summer clothing. We cannot, of course, do any of these things without the help of our dedicated volunteers. This time of year is also a time we do not receive furniture donations. Please keep us in mind when you begin your spring cleaning projects.

The Just Between Friends pick-up will be April 20th at 10:00am – 3:00pm. The pick-up is at State Fair Park and we welcome any groups that might be able to help. This donation is the biggest we receive twice a year and it includes books, toys, shoes, and children's clothing. Please call 414-464-9099 to schedule your group.

We have two areas in which we could use some volunteers: anyone who likes to test small appliances and electronics and the pricing of toys. We are especially shorthanded on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. Stop in and check out our working area with all the necessary supplies to complete the tasks and we promise to find an area that you will be comfortable working in.

God's Blessings,
Maribel

Supporting: A Place Of Refuge-Ministries Of South Wisconsin Incorporated

About your charitable organization

A Place Of Refuge-Ministries Of South Wisconsin Incorporated

Welcome to
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You shop. Amazon gives.

- Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.
- AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.
- Support your charitable organization by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com.

Hello from Advocacy!

We have been busy driving the streets of Milwaukee to deliver layettes, car seats, cribs, and of course Bibles to the women who need them. We have already delivered four layettes in 2018. Sometimes I pick up more than one layette, two cribs and a car seat at a time from Joanne, and if my neighbors happen to see my car; they worry that I am moving!!

At the end of the year, Joanne and I visited a mom with identical twin boys; two little blessings from God that make this all worth it. The best part was that we each got to hold one of them.

One young woman who contacted us last year was expecting in December. We can call her Mary. Mary called us for help due to the fact that she had a high risk pregnancy, was ordered to bed rest, was laid off from her job and she needed energy assistance. As often happens in these situations, Mary was being pressured to abort. She called me often just to talk. Mary's job involves helping others, and by the loving way she talked about the people she cared for, it was evident that she had a good heart for others. When we talked about her baby, she said she definitely wanted to parent. In the following months, we paid her electric bill and referred her to a food pantry. Sadly, Mary lost her baby. Please keep her in your prayers.

The reality is that there are so many women out here struggling every day with things we take for granted...and there are so many stories. When we are sick, we get in our cars and go to the doctor. When their kids are sick, they have to take them on the bus or walk because there is no car or no bus money. Their family and neighbors are all struggling as well. One woman told me she received a truancy letter because she was sick in bed and could not take her boys to school.

When a new baby is born to our mothers it is a blessing from God and a symbol of HOPE! Thank you for helping us share His hope with them.

Blessings,
Linda Haas

LifeWalk 2018

While we don't yet have a host church for our 2018 LifeWalk, we are confident that the Lord will provide. Information packets will be mailed to your church in April. You can help us by checking with your church secretary to see if the packet has arrived. It will contain information for your church newsletter and bulletins and also posters that you can put up at church to advertise the event. You can also find A Place of Refuge Ministries on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to get the latest information on LifeWalk and our other news and events. We love it when you keep in touch with us!

Honorariums

FROM:

Mick & Mary Senn

John & Judi Behlke

Rev. Arthur & Olga Senn

Paula & Keith Ott

Richard Pappas

Bob & Kathy Stuyck

Bonnie Lindemann

Rev. Robert Gebel

Mara Demien

Mara Demien

IN HONOR OF:

Rev. Arthur &

Olga Senn

Rev. Arthur &

Olga Senn

In Thanksgiving to
our Lord & Savior
Jesus Christ for
the love & care
of our children

Oscar & Sue Ott

Rev. Arthur &

Olga Senn

Rev. Arthur &

Olga Senn

Luann Roman

Sue Gebel & co-

workers at

Lutheran Indian

Ministries

Jan Schuman –

Happy Birthday

Jesus

Jan Schuman,

Happy Birthday

Mom



Memorials and Honorariums

Debra Herman

Marie Huntington

FROM:

Sharon Stehli
Donna Klosterman
Marilyn Dahl
Jennifer Fenne &
Keith Rabiola
Joanne Fairchild
Lenore Chandler
Heide Dowdy
Paula & Keith Ott
Fred Abendroth
Audrey A. Schaller
Florence Meissner
Carolyn Freiberg
Delores A. Weiss

IN MEMORY OF:

John Stehli
Larry Klosterman
Vince Dahl

Robert A. Gress
Gregory Fairchild
Robert Gress
Rev. Kenneth Dowdy
Lucille Walter
Betty
Kenneth W. Schaller
John Meissner
Ewald & Susan Timm
Nancy Sharpe

FROM:

Glenn Kraft
Neal & Erika Degner
Sharon Stehli

Phyllis A. Schulz
Jim & Carolyn Koebert
Carolyn Anderson
Mary Steinbrenner

Jacquelyn Scheck
Frederick Coxey
Ruth Lawonn
Joann Maske

IN MEMORY OF:

Sharron Kraft
Rev. Peter Kelm
Madge & Emil
Schlemmer, parents
Norbert Schulz
Helen Koebert
Heinz Schiffner
Jane Natzke &
Betty Steinbrenner
Rev. Elmer Scheck
Lois Coxey
Gerald Lawonn
Rich Maske



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A Network of Caring People ~ A Caring Place

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**Help Line for Pregnant Women
(414) 476-6333**

