



Breath of Life

VOL 29 No 2 • SPRING 2012

The ultimate blood drive

A message from Pastor Dale Hella • Alpha board member

Hebrews 9:12 “Christ did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, having obtained eternal redemption.”

Two or three times a year I donate blood to the American Red Cross, which, according to their own website, is very important. Every single minute of every single day, someone needs blood, but only 3 out of 100 Americans actually give blood.

Donating blood is easy and painless. It takes less than an hour. It gives the most gratifying feeling that you've helped someone that day. (Plus, I've always enjoyed the special treats they offer you afterwards.)

Yes, blood is very important...essential...vital...for it brings nutrients and oxygen to our cells, and then it removes the waste products. Without a healthy supply of blood, we couldn't begin to live or survive in this world.

Blood is also very important for our spiritual survival. “Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness” (Heb. 9:22). No salvation. No everlasting life.

In the Old Testament, we read about lots of sacrifices, and so, lots of blood. The blood of oxen and bulls. Sheep and lambs. Goats and birds.

Day after day. Month after month. Year after year. Thousands and millions of sacrifices. Lots and lots of blood.

This was true especially on the great Day of Atonement, which took place on the tenth day of Tishre, in September. The high priest offered sacrifices for his own sins as well as for the sins of the people, and then he entered into the Most Holy Place—alone—once every year. Never without blood. If you have time, read Leviticus 16.

But of course all of these sacrifices and all this blood couldn't purify anybody. They couldn't appease a righteous God. And couldn't forgive any sins. Not even one!

see It's Time, p. 2



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And God is able to make all grace abundant to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

2 Corinthians 9:8

Pray, Praise and Give Thanks



Thank you, Pastor Hella, for a poetic meditation on this squeamish but mandatory requirement for blood. Praise to our Savior for becoming what we could not to make us into what we are not. Heaven is ours through him!

More praise to the Lord for providing three women who have offered thrie time as counselors to this wonderful message of salvation. Receptionist **Carla Breber** (St. John, Watertown) has stepped into a counselor role, and new volunteers **Teri Carson and Lucilla Klein** (both St. Luke, Watertown) are training to be counselors. Welcome, sisters; the whole of Alpha supporters are praying for your earnest witness and peace-filled service. Please continue to pray for additional volunteers—in all positions—at the Center. We continue to have incomplete shifts, even with this wonderful new batch of volunteers.

A warm welcome also to new Board members **Tom Pasch and Ken Zastrow** (both St. Mark, Watertown), who replace long-time faithful treasurer Erv Huebner and a vacancy on the Board of Directors. The Lord is so good!

We'd like to offer thanks for the following donors who gave to the Roe v. Wade anniversary January signature ad but whose names did not make it into the Daily Times. All these generous gifts are a powerful witness to God's Word on Life in our communities: Helen Tews, Mike & Kris Quest, Eileen & Janelle Anton and Owen & Christine Breitkruetz

We thank our Savior for recent gifts

IN MEMORY OF: from
Andy Nehmer & Nolan Schwager
.....Mark & Carol Meyer
Robert HorackDean & Shirley Freson
Robert Herbert, Sr.Beverly Fulmer
Carl F. JaegerAlida Jaeger
Marcella Huebner Tim & Wanda Fredrick
Kenneth Wilkes Mae Wilkes
Dolores J. Gartzke Betty Huebner
Forrest Braatz Terry & Beth Lundsten
Ronald & Kay Uhlhorn

IN HONOR OF: from:
Walter & Mandy Smithson's Anniversary
Susan & Robert Smithson
Erv Huebner's 80th birthday Gloria Huebner,
Mark & Julie Huebner
Betty Huebner
Beverly Lund's 80th Birthday Janet Genz
Edward & Mary Bankert's 65th Anniversary
Erwin & Gloria Huebner

The Ultimate Blood Drive, from p. 1

For all of these sacrifices were shadows. Images. Symbols. And signs. Of the blood of someone else: the blood of the Son of God, the blood of Jesus, whose blood was pure. And holy. And precious.

His blood was poured out for sinners in Gethsemane, when his sweat was like drops of blood. Poured out for us when they beat him, hit him, punched him and whipped him. Poured out for us when they pressed a crown of thorns into his scalp. Poured out for us when they nailed him to the cross, where he continued to bleed. For six more hours.

Yes, the blood of Jesus our Savior, poured out—for all—for all of us connected with the Alpha Center, and for all of those who call or visit. Once for all. Just one sacrifice. One victim. Only Jesus Christ. The Lamb of God. Who takes away the sin of the world.

The New Testament frequently reminds us of the importance of Jesus' blood: "The blood of Jesus purifies us from every sin" (1 John 1:7). "We have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins" (Eph. 1:7). And many more.

During the Lenten and Easter seasons we have been reminded once again that Christ has entered the Most Holy Place...heaven...when he so gloriously returned to the presence of his Father. Once for all. Not with the blood of animals...but with his own holy and precious blood, shed on the cross, to obtain for us an eternal redemption, forgiveness, salvation and eternal life.

As the result of the compassion and generosity of the people who donate, our volunteers are able to freely distribute diapers, wipes, clothing, toys, car seats, household items and financial assistance to the women and families who come for help. But especially important, our receptionists, counselors and hotliners are able to distribute the good news about Jesus and his blood, through pamphlets, books, Bibles and their own personal testimony. May the Holy Spirit preserve and strengthen them in this work! To the glory of God's name, and the salvation of many souls.

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News about Alpha ... know it, use it, share it!

“Life” Contest winners honored at annual dinner

Several area students received recognition and prizes for their winning entries in the eighth annual “God Gave Us Life” contest, sponsored by the Alpha Life Resource Center and the Tri- County chapter of Christian Life Resources. The winners were honored at the chapter’s annual meeting held at Luther Prep in Watertown January 29.

The contest was open to students in area WELS churches and schools. Kindergarten through second grade students participated by drawing a picture on a life-related theme and grades 3-8 wrote essays with life issues themes.

Drawing contest winners include kindergartener Caleb Lange, from St. Paul, Ixonia and first grader Litzy Toldedo from St. Mark, Watertown. The winning drawing and caption from second grade is Desirae Pugh, St. Mark, Watertown. Third through eighth grade essay winners are Joshua Poston, third grade, St. John, Watertown; Daniel Faupl, fourth grade from St. Paul, Ixonia and Sierra Mueller, fifth grade, Bethany, Hustisford; Charissa Jensen, sixth grade at St. Mark, Watertown; Samuel Ruesink, seventh grade and Johanna Brauer, eighth grade, both from Trinity-St. Luke, Watertown. Each winning grade school entry received a gift certificate from Northwestern Publishing House.



Alpha Life Resource Center 2012 annual “God Gave Us Life” contest winners pictured are (back row, l-r) Sam Ruesink, Johanna Brauer and Charissa Jensen. Front row l-r are Caleb Lange, Litzy Toldedo, Desirae Pugh and Joshua Poston. Missing winners are Daniel Faupl and Sierra Mueller.

Richwood 4–H Club organizes drive for Center



A group of enthusiastic and dedicated club members recently dropped off the results of a very successful donation drive at the Alpha Center. Pictured with a sampling of the many items the volunteers at the Center can now offer to grateful families because of the generosity of the Richwood Rangers 4-H Club and its donors are (left to right) members Kelsey Schwartz, Ashlyn Rein and Paige Wollin, along with Center volunteer Linda Sielaff. Among the items donated that are always in need at the Center are disposable diapers, sizes 1–6, baby wipes, hygiene items such as lotion and baby shampoo, socks, bottles and gently used Christian children’s books and devotionals.



Inside Alpha

WHAT'S GOING ON AT THE CENTER, HOW IT AFFECTS YOU

Kimara Winters, Center Director

New volunteers bring breath of life

On page two of this issue we introduce the names of some new counselors in training at the Center. It is with no small murmur of gratefulness that we welcome Carla, Lou and Teri to the stable of Alpha volunteers: we have been so wanting for help during the past year that there have been weeks where 4 of the 6 shifts have been missing a counselor. (Bless our faithful receptionists who have been able to keep the doors open and reschedule walk-ins for shifts that have counselors assigned!)

Some might be thinking how wonderful it is that the Center has had prayers answered in these new counselors. (We have!) Yet the prayers continue, for gaps in the counselor schedule remain. In addition, our crew of receptionists has not seen a new face for over a year, and one of our new counselors had been a receptionist, so we "lost" one even as we gained one.

It's my hope and prayer that even more hearts are motivated by the generous spirits of these new volunteers to find the time and inclination to give some hours each month to our friendship ministry on Main St. in Watertown. These women, along with the dozens of veterans on staff, are proof that God's Great Commission burns brightly in the hearts of our WELS sisters and brothers in this area. Will you prayerfully consider how your hours are spent -- whether you have the ability to offer 3-6 hours a month to be a receptionist or a counselor with us?

If we could receive messages from six more hearts with room to spare for this ministry—a ministry that gets to witness joy like the faces in the picture to the right—Alpha Center would be in a very good place heading into summer. We have no shortage of souls who need to hear the good news of Easter; will yours be that heart to help the good news continue to be shared within our doors?

~Call 920-261-9207 or e-mail office@alphalifecenter.org~



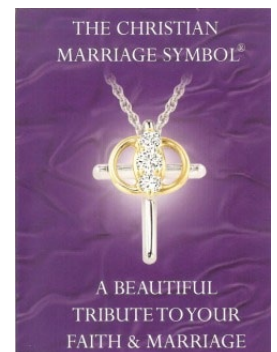
Volunteers at Alpha were thrilled to see a picture of a new life in Jesus celebrated by a client of the Center. This mom was pleased to share a picture of her daughter's baptism at a local WELS congregation, and told us to share with anyone we'd like. Who better to join with us in praise to God than the entire newsletter mailing list?!

Looking for a Mothers Day gift? Help Alpha too!

Generation Jewelers, owned by St. Paul, Ixonia member Dave Beduze, located at 111 E. Main St. in Watertown, is having a sale that will run through Mother's Day where a portion of each sale benefits the ministry of the Alpha Center. This includes wine as well as jewelry purchases. Find special pricing on jewelry and gift items as well. Stop in and see what he has in store for your special Mother!

www.diamondstowine.com • Phone: (920) 261-1671

Store Hours: Tues.-Thurs. 9-5:30, Fri. 10-7, Sat. 9-3, Closed Sun. & Mon.



Young Slovakian Sculptor Captures Post-Abortion Pain, Mercy and Forgiveness



Sculptor: Martin Hudáček

Born 1984

Home: Banská Bystrica, Slovakia

Title of sculpture: "Memorial for Unborn Children."

Accompanying message: For those suffering after abortion, there is hope through the Love and Mercy of God.

For more info assistance, contact: www.hopeafterabortion.org

Family Life Council, Inc. has reprinted this photo with permission of the sculptor. For more info on the sculpture, or downloads, see: www.4life4family.org/sculpture

Family Life Council, Inc.,
2416 N. 74 St., Wauwatosa,
WI 53213 tel: 414-771-2965
www.4life4family.org

The sculpture shows a woman in great sorrow grieving her abortion. The second figure in the work is the aborted child, presented as a young child, who in a very touching, healing way, comes to the mother, to offer forgiveness. As an art student, Martin Hudáček of Slovakia was moved to create a sculpture to draw attention to the devastation abortion can bring to the woman, and that through the Love and Mercy of God, reconciliation and healing are possible. Marek Hudáček, brother of Martin, says both he and his brother were extremely surprised by the positive reactions from all over the world to the sculpture, "We did not expect it... The main intention of my brother to do the sculpture was not to be famous, but to speak about the important value of human life and the necessity to protect it from conception." (*Dan Zeidler, LifeNews.com*)

Center congratulates its Watertown Daily Times "Design-an-Ad" winner


The Alpha Center again participated in a newspaper sponsored ad design program wherein hundreds of area students are encouraged to design display ads for area businesses and organizations. The organizations then select "winning" ads from all those submitted for their businesses and those appear in a special supplement to the Watertown Daily Times each spring.

Alpha Center has been a part of this program for several years, as the Board of Directors agrees that it raises awareness of our ministry among many area middle- and high-schoolers and their families. This year's winning ad for the Alpha Center, pictured at right, was drawn by Lucas Wetzel, who attends Watertown High School. Congratulations, Lucas, and thanks to the several other students who designed for the Center. We wish we could have published them all!

Alpha Resource
Life Center

All services are FREE & CONFIDENTIAL

- Christian counseling
- Pregnancy testing
- Relationship help
- Parenting resources and adoption information
- Clothing for maternity and children
- Infant supplies and equipment
- Medical help, housing, financial assistance



You're making tough choices - you don't need to figure it out alone

513 E. Main St., Watertown
Hours: Mon. & Thurs. 1-7 p.m., Tues. 8 a.m. - 12 p.m., Wed. 12-3 p.m.
261-9307 or 800-924-6075 (24 Hour helpline)

Lucas Wetzel
Grade 11
Watertown High School

Happy Mothers Day • May 13, 2012

Blessed Fathers Day • June 17, 2012

Look for special inserts in your church. Alpha Center loves to celebrate moms and dads and families!

Ice Cream Social • Sun, July 8, 2012

Whether you are a decades veteran of our wonderful social or if you've never been, please mark your calendar. There's a new meat on the menu this year, and the desserts are sure to continue to be out of this world!

Auction & Banquet • Sat, Oct. 20, 2012

Have you joined us yet for our most recent tradition that just keeps getting better and better? Keep this sweetest day open to be a part of the fun—better yet, talk it up with your friends and make it a night to really remember! Great shopping, awesome food, wonderful fellowship, support beyond our ability to thank. Keep the night open!

Pro-life Convention • Sat, Nov. 3, 2012

