



February 2022

Listen Love Pray

Newsletter vol. 6, issue 2

The Faith of Jesus



Until I read the book *The Real Faith* by Charles S. Price, I did not give much thought to the difference between belief and faith. As long as I can remember I believed in Jesus. There were times when I wondered if He started the world spinning and then moved on to something else, but I always believed in Jesus.

When I learned about the difference between belief and faith, I recognized they are very different. Even the demons believe in Jesus. As Charles S. Price puts it,

"Belief is a mental quality but faith is spiritual. As heart belief opens the door to communication between us and the Lord a divinely imparted faith becomes possible."

As I look back on a spiritual experience I had in 2011, I now recognize my heart belief brought me to a place where the Lord could impart to me His faith. His faith made all things new. The leaves were greener, the sky more amazing, my imagination was awakened in new ways, and my love for people different.

Ultimately, the experiences Lucinda and I had led to starting Listen Love Pray. At the time, I didn't have words to adequately express what had happened, but now I realize that God used my belief to impart to me His faith.

—Ken Nelson, President, LLP



A Message from the Executive Director

In a dim hallway, an LLP team huddled around a hurting soul and whispered prayers of healing. Moments earlier, a gentle leading from Holy Spirit had literally stopped them in their tracks and drawn them into this sacred circle. In the presence of His healing love, faith was imparted and fresh restoration begun.

A few days later, another healing prayer session brought a vision of a mass of flickering flames. Unlike the burning flames contained within man-made enclosures, these images swept into the soul—billow-

ing into a breathtaking display of God's pervasive glory.

With frightening similarity, our human souls can be engulfed by our world, our fear, our pain.

Stressful encounters have the potential to consume and contort healthy thinking. If left unaddressed, emotions are vented back into the atmosphere as angry words, negativity, and physical disease. Over time, responses to every interaction can degrade further, sinking into apathy and indifference.

We pray that God will use this edition to help our world tune in with fresh ears to the invitation of *Romans 15:13: May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.* Step into the awe and wonder of the living Christ found in these pages. Open your heart to His still small voice as He speaks to you through these Kingdom testimonies. All glory to God.

Lucinda Nelson, Executive Director, LLP

His Love Enables Me to Love

February suggests for me Valentine's Day and of course my kids' birthdays. But this is not about my kids, I want to talk to you about love.

All month long a nagging thought has been with me, why do we associate cupid with love and not Jesus?

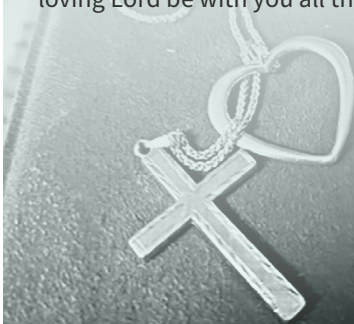
Our foundation logo has the old wooden cross and a bright red heart. I wear a gold cross; I refuse to ever take it off. Even prior to a surgery I remember saying to the surgeon, "the cross stays no matter what". If I am to be perfectly honest, the cross has always been a bit of a stumbling block for me. Over the past 6 years of learning, submitting, reading, even sharing testimonies, I struggle.

One day while getting dressed I saw my gold heart in the mirror and I remembered a little silver heart my dad had given me as a young adolescent. Immediately, I thought the heart should go with the cross. Well, we had some technical difficulties; my childhood silver cross quickly turned black. That black heart and gold cross just didn't work; I saw the darkness. Fortunately, my lovely husband was able to have that same heart made of gold. For me, this completes the message I want to convey while I am wearing the cross of Jesus. It was His great love for me and for you that gave him the courage to endure the cross.

When I look in the mirror now, I know that the cross represents a profound love that is still shrouded in mystery for me, but it is **the love that enables me to love**. I realize the gift of love to a much greater degree when God blessed me with those February babies too!

So, for me this month is about love, but not the love of cupid and his arrows but the life-giving love of Jesus. In the First Epistle of John (4:19), the reflexive nature of this love is highlighted: **"We love, because he first loved us"**, expressing the love of Christ as a mirroring of Christ's own love. Towards the end of the Last Supper, Jesus gives his disciples a new commandment: **"Love one another, as I have loved you..."** May the power of the loving Lord be with you all this month.

—Carolyn



Thank You to The Community Foundation of Frederick County



THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
of FREDERICK COUNTY

For Good. Forever. For Frederick County.

Most people who struggle with addiction can stop using drugs or alcohol for a limited time. But, until they recognize root issues, take ownership, heal from deep wounds, and develop a battle plan for the future, something in daily life will eventually trigger that overwhelming need to use, and relapse happens.

As LLP continues our work in the recovery community, we thank The Community Foundation of Frederick County for supporting us with two amazing grants:

Great Life Plan for Men (GLP4M)

A battle plan to prevent relapse at Frederick Rescue Mission. Abstinence is not recovery. That's why relapse is so prevalent. Our goal in the GLP4M is to help the men recognize personal weaknesses, step out of denial (Step 1), and create a battle plan to fight.

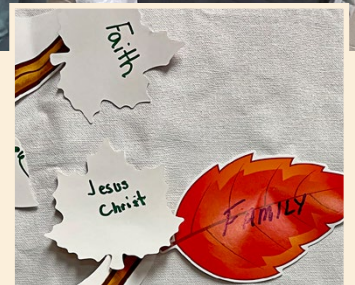
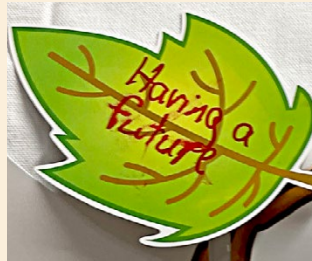
Great Life Plan for Women (GLP4W)

To help prevent relapse and promote long-term recovery from substance use disorder (SUD). Women in recovery have unique healing needs. LLP integrates consistent support, 12-step education, and healing prayer into transformative programs for a long-term recovery from SUD.

LLP Helps Men at Beacon House Focus on Gratitude



Maureen graciously gave the lesson at LLP's Beacon-house ministry time on Sunday January 23rd. As she talked about **Gratitude**, the men wrote down things they were grateful for on brightly colored leaves. The LLP team placed these initial thoughts onto the tree, and read them out loud. The group was then asked to go deeper, and they began to express some profound feelings of gratefulness to God.



LLP Healing Prayer Services Are Now In-person Twice a Month (1st and 3rd Tuesdays)



A friend and I went to a healing prayer service last night for the first time in a long time. We got there late, sat down, had communion and then heard a lady sing a song that brought me to tears; I remembered the feeling I used to get when attending these healing prayer services.

Goosebumps are Jesus' way of showing me he is near. I was covered in them as this lady continued to sing. My eyes were closed and my brother, who passed away a few years ago, showed up to the left of me and leaned his body on my shoulder like he was happy I was there. He didn't leave my side the entire song. I love seeing my brother.

After the song, soaking music started, and a prayer minister came over and asked if there was anything I wanted prayer for. I told her about my brother's appearance and we both thanked Jesus. I then asked her to pray for physical healing for sciatica that had been bothering me for about 3 years. Daily, I would feel shooting pain on my right side. Walking in parking lots I would freeze because it would feel like an electric shock.

We prayed. I had never asked for physical healing because I thought it would not happen for me. But it did. Immediately after prayer my hips were light, relaxed and I could move around with zero pain. Today, about 16 hours later, I am still pain free! Hallelujah. I am in awe of how good Jesus is. Jesus still heals today!

I told my friend that we should start attending the LLP healing prayer service every 1st Tuesday of the month. She agreed!

—Anonymous 33 y.o. woman at December's In-person Healing Prayer Service



God Heals and Delivers

Paula Peddicord has been on the LLP intercessory prayer list for some time. She has been struggling with lung cancer. Her middle and lower cancerous-lung lobes were surgically removed, and at the beginning of November, she started 4 cycles of chemotherapy.

On January 3rd, she rung the *Bell of Hope* on "Graduation Day!"

Paula says: "Thank you, Jesus – I rang that bell for heaven because I knew my time was in His hands. What will you show me in this Lord? Now, I am ready to give back to others. The Big C is Christ. He is my healer. His Name is over Cancer. His Name is over Covid. His Name is over Chemo."

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LLP's Zoom Healing Prayer Service Reaches Far



On the January 25th Zoom healing service, LLP hosted folks from New Hampshire, Florida, South Carolina, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, and all over the state of Maryland.

We discussed El-Shaddai, the strong one and the nourisher, then we prayed for others.

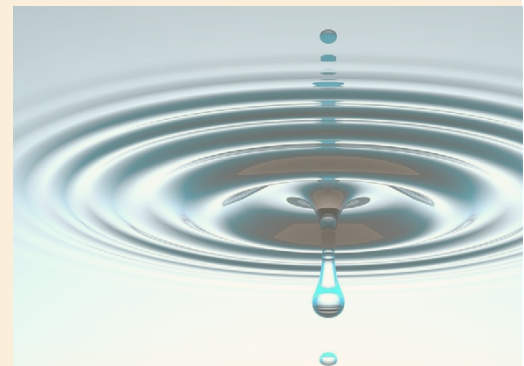
After we soaked in the love of Jesus with quiet music, Nancy and Kathleen shared that the glory cloud had descended upon the entire group.

Frank described it as, "the mercy zone descending lower toward us all that night". He said that whenever that zone comes closer, everything changes – what is dry and arid immediately becomes refreshed.

As God works in all things, during the middle of soaking prayer time, it started physically raining outside Frank's home and he was reminded of a relevant quote from Shakespeare, "the quality of mercy is not strained, it falleth from heaven like the gentle rain." Praise God!

LLP invites you to join by Zoom every 2nd, 4th, and 5th Tuesday of the month.

The 1st and 3rd Tuesday healing services will be in-person at Marvin Chapel, Mt Airy.



"One drop

from heaven's fountain is sufficient for a thousand desert places" —Frank

ListenLovePray Events

February

- Feb 1/15 Healing Prayer Service (in person)**
1st & 3rd Tuesdays • 7:00 pm at Marvin Chapel UMC
- Feb 2/9/16/23 Ladies Bible Study**
Wednesdays • 9:30 am at Marvin Chapel UMC
- Feb 2/16 Rainbow of Love Recovery Bible Study**
1st & 3rd Wednesdays • 5:30 pm
- Feb 3/10 Foundations of Healing Class (on Zoom)**
Thursdays • 7:00 pm
- Feb 3/17 Celebrate Recovery at Beacon House**
1st & 3rd Thursdays • 7:15 pm
- Feb 7/14/21/28 Ladies Recovery Bible Study**
Mondays • 7:00 pm
- Feb 8/22 Healing Prayer Service (on Zoom)**
2nd & 4th Tuesdays • 7:00 pm
- Feb 9 FRM-Beacon House**
Every 2nd Wednesday • 10:30 am
- Feb 16 Lucinda speaks at DRCC Forum**
Wednesday • 7:00 pm (on Zoom)
- Feb 19 FRM-Beacon House Prayer Sessions**
Saturday • 9:00 am
- Feb 24 Recovery Focus Practicum (on Zoom)**
Thursday • 7:00 pm
- Feb 27 FRM-Beacon House Healing Program**
Every 4th & 5th Sunday • 6:00 pm

March

- Mar 1/15 Healing Prayer Service (in person)**
1st & 3rd Tuesdays • 7:00 pm at Marvin Chapel UMC
- Mar 4/5/6 LLP Retreat: A New Season of Grace**
Hallowood Retreat Center; a few spaces left,
email maureen.armacost@gmail.com

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Congratulations Paula! We give thanks to Jesus for His constant care over you and pray for your complete recovery and restoration.

The bell ringing ritual started at the MD Anderson Cancer Center in Texas in 1996, and has since spread to cancer centers around the world. A patient who completes chemo or radiation treatments rings the bell and staff and other patients cheer and take photos.

In the rough and painful moments of cancer treatment, many agree with one patients' comment: "I wanted to quit. But pretty much every time I would go, I would hear someone ringing that bell. It was like a **beacon of hope** for me. It really helped me get through, knowing my turn would come."

DRCC's Zoom Forum on Mental Health

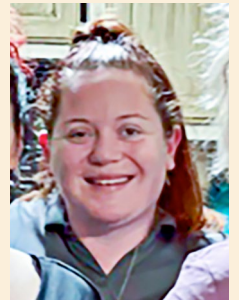
On Wednesday, February 16th at 7:00 pm, LLP's Lucinda Nelson is one of four to speak at Damascus Road Community Church's Zoom Forum on Mental Health. The topics are depression, anxiety, addiction, and spiritual healing with time for Q and A.

We hope you can join Lucinda, go to <https://www.damascus.com> to find the zoom link or contact Lucinda.

LLP Asks the Community for Prayer

Annie, one of our wonderful ladies from **Rainbow of Love Recovery**, had a heart attack and is on a ventilator with double pneumonia and a blood infection. Please pray for her complete recovery, comfort for her four children and peace for the other ladies in the Rainbow of Love house who are shocked and saddened.

After a late-January LLP bible-study with the ladies of ROLR, Annie told Carleah (founder of ROLR) how much she had gotten out of it. The bible-study had touched her heart. LLP Prays that the Lord touches and heals her heart again.



ListenLovePray Foundation

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LLP Foundation is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit entity.

Your generous donations of time, effort, and money empower the healing transformations that Jesus does here through LLP. To donate, visit our website. All donations are tax-exempt.

Lord, continue to bless the spirits, minds and hands of our loving donors. Keep LLP ever faithful to your call and your word. May each soul touched by LLP feel the healing love of Jesus. Amen.



LLP works in recovery centers, churches, and the community. Jesus still heals and delivers people today!