



October/November 2023

ListenLovePray

Newsletter vol. 7, issue 9

Numbers are Nice; Encounters are better

We tend to be impressed by numbers – numbers of Facebook likes, numbers in our bank account, numbers on the scale – numbers are nice, but encounters are better.

September had some “nice” numbers: 69 + 93 + 80 + 50 + 30 + 37 = 359. Broken down, that equals 89.7 per week or 12.8 per day. These numbers reveal how many *direct* contacts LLP had with the people whom we serve, as well as the number of LLP volunteers involved. Smoothly coordinating all those encounters are 9 dedicated LLP staff members who work to respond to anyone who reaches out for help and hope.

It is certainly “nice” that LLP numbers have been steadily growing as the Lord guides us to reach further with His love. “Better” are all the encounters we participate in; being witnesses of God’s amazing grace and the way His healing love changes hearts, minds, bodies, relationships. I hope you catch a glimpse of the beautiful work of Jesus in the pictures and stories of this edition.

Local: In September, the LLP team had 80 personal encounters with men and women in recovery in the Frederick area. Our teams went 4 times to Beacon House at the Frederick Rescue Mission to teach programs and to pray specifically for each man’s concerns. The women’s team taught 6 programs both in-person at Solid Ground Recovery

and Andrea’s House as well as virtually to provide hope, help, and prayer for women battling to stay clean and sober.



National: At the Tuesday Zoom healing prayer services, Holy Spirit connected our Maryland faith family with residents of Texas, Florida, S. Carolina, Virginia, New Hampshire, W. Virginia, and Pennsylvania. Lucinda, Judy and Nancy will be leading a women’s retreat at Lake Deaton church in The Villages, Florida in February.

Global: Zoom private healing prayer sessions responded to folks in Canada and Germany.

EXCITING NEWS: In 2024, Listen Love Pray Foundation will offer a 4-day **healing conference** called “*Something More*”. We chose Shepherd University for the beautiful location and excellent facilities, including dining and lodging on campus. From June 19 to June 22, 2024, LLP will host 5 speakers, 40 small groups, 80 individual prayer sessions, and 3 special music/worship experiences with Nashville artist, Julie True. We trust that folks will experience peace, healing, hope, and renewed strength for whatever they may face in the days ahead. In essence, attendees will leave the event feeling revitalized from the inside-out. Registration is now open with early bird pricing until December 31, 2023 at <https://2024somethingmore.sched.com>.

To God be the glory, great things He has done!

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth. —Acts 1:8

Lucinda Nelson, Executive Director, LLP



On September 24th, Kristin Nelson gave the message to the men at Beacon House, FRM. That night was her brother Scott’s 33rd birthday and she shared her personal

testimony about the healing love of Jesus after Scott died in 2019 from overdose. Later in the night, as 27 men received healing prayer from 9 LLP ministers, the grace of God touched hearts, minds, and bodies. We praise Him for the gift of serving these men several times every month. Each one, precious to us and to God. If you feel led to volunteer at BH, please contact tedlistenlovepray@gmail.com.



We had fun at Solid Ground Recovery painting flowers while discussing one of the harder steps – Step 9 – making amends. Check out Jenna and Jessi’s creations! Interested in volunteering at Solid Ground? Contact judylistenlovepray@gmail.com



To begin a sermon on prayer, a video of Listen Love Pray was shown on the big screens. Afterwards, the LLP team spoke with people and passed out information on the healing love of Jesus at Damascus Road Community Church (DRCC) on Sept 24th.



LLP Helps Make a Strong Front Line

LLP hosted recovery workers, behavioral health specialists, therapists, pastors, sober-home managers, folks in long-term recovery and many more. During this set-apart time, Jesus was glorified, people connected, and Holy Spirit brought so much wisdom for all in attendance. Here are just some of the amazing insights from the Strong Front Line Meeting:



Substance Use Disorder (SUD) is a family disease and life changing for everyone. —Ken and Lucinda

SUD involves family trauma and individual trauma. —Kristin

With relapses the shame and the need to escape increased. Temptation itself is not a sin; it is a call to battle. —Ted and Judy

You often find “a thin place” between heaven and earth around LLP. We are more connected than ever but lonelier than ever; there is a lack of opportunity to really connect and share with each other. —Lenny



Boundaries are an exercise of love and faith that ultimately lead to peace. It takes work to make and enforce boundaries. Our struggles uniquely qualify us to help others. —Tony

It is hard to tune into your body when dealing with trauma. “Drawing” your breath can help you visualize where your body is. —Whitney

Shame drove my decision making. I learned to forgive myself, how to say I am sorry, how to have genuine and authentic relationships, and how to have compassion for myself. —Sean

People pleasing came out of my insecurity. I stopped using, but I wasn't healed, so the cycle started again. The piece of the puzzle that finally fit the empty hole was Jesus (said while pointing to his heart). —Carlton

I knew that the people who had real spirituality were content and happy. —Frank

Shared experiences do help us heal. SUD and mental health go hand in hand. —Jessica





Sketching Our Prayers

There are so many things, thoughts, people, and activities that distract us daily. With so many distractions, how can we focus our eyes on Jesus?

One simple way is to intentionally unplug, silence our phone for a time – just a few minutes or even a few hours – pick up pencil, paper, and our physical Bible (not our phone one) then simply sketch.

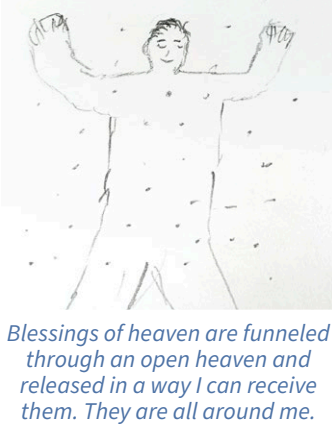
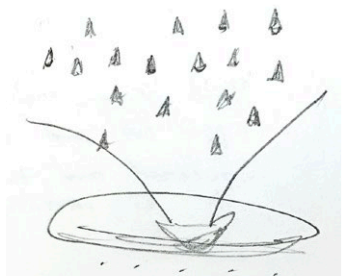
We can draw or doodle while we meditate on the Word. Sketching helps us stay focused, and often, God gives us pictures to help engrave His Word in our hearts. Drawings can be squiggles, circles, lines, stick figures or masterpieces. Your sketch is between you and God.

The pictures can be amazing in that we are seeing with the eyes of our spirit as we engage our senses and welcome Holy Spirit's inspiration in our time of prayer and meditation. Try it! You might find yourself with a pencil in hand every time you choose to spend time with the Word, Jesus Himself!!

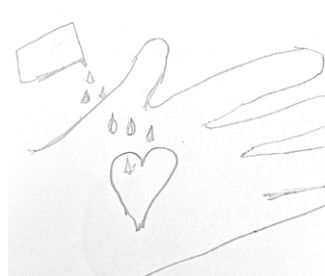
—Edi McHenry



Illness is painful, but you are still with me, Lord.



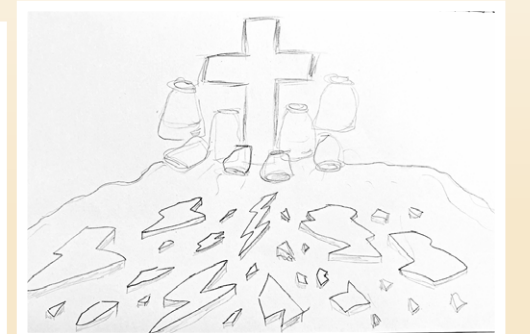
Blessings of heaven are funneled through an open heaven and released in a way I can receive them. They are all around me.



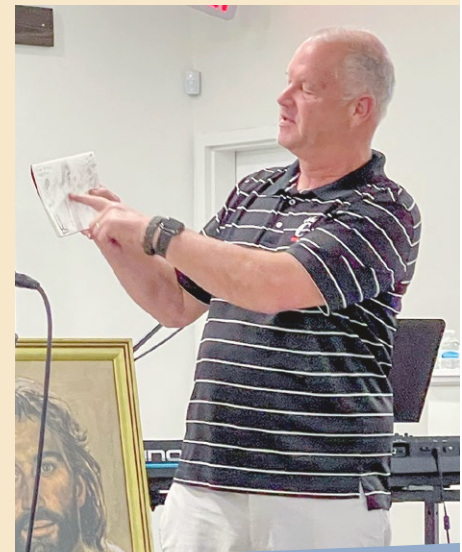
Jesus holding my heart, and something poured out on it.



The Lord is always with you.



In August, LLP hosted an evening to sketch your prayers. Edi gave a wonderful lesson on prayerful sketching. Each participant received their own sketch book. After the group spent time sketching, anyone could come up and talk about their time sketching and praying.



ListenLovePray Events

October / November

- Oct 16 / Nov 6/20 Ladies Recovery – Kelsey's House**
1st & 3rd Mondays • 5:30 pm on Zoom
- Oct 16 / Nov 6/20 Ladies Recovery Step Work with Emotional Healing**
1st & 3rd Mondays • 7:00 pm on Zoom
- Oct 17 / Nov 7/21 In-person Healing Prayer Service**
1st Tuesday (also on YouTube Live) • 7:00 pm at NBNC
3rd Tuesday • 7:00 pm at NBNC (no streaming)
- Oct 18/25 Women's Bible Study**
Nov 1/8/15/29 Wednesdays • 9:30 am at NBNC
(No meeting on Nov 22)
- Oct 18 / Nov 1/15 Ladies Recovery – Andrea's House**
1st Wednesday (at Andrea's house) • 5:30 pm
3rd Wednesday (on Zoom) • 5:30 pm
- Oct 18/25 Women's Celebrate Recovery**
Nov 1/8/15/29 Wednesdays • 7:00 pm at NBNC
(No meeting on Nov 22)
- Oct 19 / Nov 2/16 Celebrate Recovery at Beacon House**
1st & 3rd Thursdays • 7:15 pm at FRM
- Oct 22/29 / Nov 26 Men's Recovery Ministry – Beacon House**
4th & 5th Sundays • 6:00 pm at FRM
- Oct 24/31 Zoom Healing Prayer Service**
Nov 14/28 2nd, 4th & 5th Tuesdays • 7:00 pm on Zoom
- Oct 25 / Nov 29 RICH for Men in Recovery**
Wednesday • 6:00 pm at Frederick Church of Christ

November

- Nov 4 Faith House Staff Training**
Saturday • 9:00 am at Faith House
- Nov 7 Brainstorm 2025 "Week of Music"**
Tuesday • 6:15 pm at NBNC
- Nov 8 Recovery Ministry – Beacon House**
2nd Wednesday • 10:30 am at FRM
- Nov 18 Intensive Prayer Ministry**
Saturday • 8:30 am–1:30 pm at NBNC

December

- Dec 2 Prayer Blitz – Beacon House**
Saturday • 9:00 am at FRM

Save the date: **LLP Healing Conference: Something More**
Shepherd University, Shepherdstown, WV
June 19–22, 2024

Volunteer Appreciation Picnic

On a cloudy, rainy, September day, everyone felt the warmth and light of Jesus shining indoors. LLP hosted its annual gathering to gratefully acknowledge all the help, work, and love of our amazing volunteers!



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!