



## This Is My Story

One Woman's Journey To Healing After Abortion

January 2, 1973 was a glorious day for me. I delivered my second son into the world and I was overwhelmingly happy. My husband and I had two beautiful boys and our family was complete.

Shortly after the birth of my son I found myself pregnant again, which would have meant having three children under the age of 5 needing daycare. After discussing the situation with my husband, and our mothers, we decided that financially it was impossible for me to be a stay-at-home mom. We needed both of our incomes to survive. Since abortion was now an option, covered by our insurance, we chose to go that route without even considering the life of our unborn child who had no voice in the matter at all.

Fast forward 19 years to Christmas eve, 1992. My oldest son left a party where he had been drinking and was killed in a car accident at 12:15 a.m. on Christmas morning. He was 23 years old and had just returned from Iraq three months before.

My family was no longer complete and I immediately thought back to the time in 1973 when I so thoughtlessly gave up another child. Now, my remaining son didn't have a sibling, but he could have had either a sister or brother to share this tragedy with. My guilt was overwhelming at that moment. The guilt and shame did not come immediately after my abortion, but it hit hard when it came. I thought then that my son's death was my punishment for acting so carelessly with another human life nearly 20 years before.

I have now gone through the ***She's Restored*** program offered by Pathways Pregnancy Clinic. ***She's Restored*** has allowed me to forgive myself and the others who were involved in my abortion in 1973. It is a powerful program, but it is also a program that would be best if no one ever had need of.

This is my story. I will always regret my decision to have an abortion, even though I was eventually healed. I have faith that my child is in Heaven in the loving hands of God. However, I would rather have had that baby to hold, to watch grow up, and been able to share in their life today.

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# Do You Know Their Names?

A message from our Director

Do you know the name of a poor person? When you consider this question, is a gap exposed between the Christian you are and the Christian you are called to be? When I asked this question of myself, I was careful to acknowledge the difference between caring for the poor, and knowing the poor. Do you know a poor person? Do you know... Do you know her name? Do you know her story?

She's not the person we've passed while running down the street for coffee. She's not the homeless beggar we may have handed a dollar to on the street corner. She's not the anonymous fire or earthquake victim we contributed online donations to so she and her family could rebuild their home. Do you know her name?

If God's heart is for anything, it is for least of these: the suffering, the sick, the needy, the uneducated, the foreigner, the lost, the lonely: this much is clear. For Jesus has told us: *"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me..."*

We care about these people. We pray for them, and we even try to contribute worldly things to meet their needs, but how many of them call us friends? Do we know their names? Pathways Pregnancy Clinic is a place where we meet the broken, the hurting and sometimes the destitute. Pathways offers the opportunity to commune with the poor and brokenhearted. The heart of our charge is centered in listening to, encouraging and educating broken, hurting and scared young women.

God has called us to use the talents and gifts He's embedded within us: to pour them back out on one another, ultimately glorifying Him. The prophet Nehemiah said, *"I told no one of what my God had put in my heart to do..."*

If you have a heart for women, babies, parenting, and pregnancy, and have a longing to serve our community, would you pray alongside me and ask God if this might be the ministry in which you could serve? It may be your time to learn a name you have been destined to know.



## One in Every Four

Do you know someone who needs healing from an abortion? Chances are that you do. According to Guttmacher Institute, nearly 1 in 4 women will have an abortion by age 45.

If you know someone who needs healing from abortion, please share with them about the She's Restored program at Pathways. She's Restored is a 9 session Bible study designed to help women struggling to forgive themselves for an abortion in their past.



## Ways To Help

Are you looking for ways to be more involved with the ministry of Pathways? Here's one way that you can take the next step and grow in your support for Pathways.

**Become A Prayer Partner** - Prayer is by far the most important way that you can partner with Pathways. In Ephesians, the Bible tells us that "We do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, and against the rulers of darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places." We are in a war to reach the women that come into this clinic, and we need you to go to battle with us in prayer. If you're not already a part of our Prayer Partner team, please consider joining. Each month you will receive an e-mail with the current prayer needs for Pathways. You can sign up under the *Ways To Help* tab on our website or contact the clinic by phone at (360) 834-7256 and request to be added.



## A Client Shares...

*"She's Restored impacted my life in more ways than I can put into words. I learned to grieve and that it's ok to grieve a loss. I learned to forgive. God met me in ways I never imagined possible. He showed me He is kind and that He is watching over me which is something I always struggled with. I made friends and was accepted, loved and cared for when I felt the most unworthy, unlovable and unacceptable. It began a journey of healing deep heart wounds, a journey of freedom from deep pain, guilt and shame. It began a journey of relationship with God in new ways."*

*- Past She's Restored Participant*

## upcoming events

FEB. 24TH, 2018  
2:00 PM  
LADIES DAY OUT  
RADIANT CHURCH

MAY 19TH, 2018  
8:30 AM  
RUN FOR LIFE  
LACAMAS LAKE PARK

FIND OUT MORE  
ON THE EVENTS  
PAGE ON OUR  
WEBSITE



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## Contact Us

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(360) 834-7256

[PATHWAYS180-PARTNERS.COM](http://PATHWAYS180-PARTNERS.COM)



## Volunteer Highlight - Mary Breuner

Mary and her husband Dennis moved to Washougal from San Diego in September 2005. Shortly after moving, they attended a fundraising banquet for a pregnancy clinic in Vancouver, where their daughter-in-law volunteered. It was at this event that God put a calling in Mary's heart to serve in this type of ministry. Mary began volunteering at the pregnancy clinic in Vancouver and before long God gave Mary the desire of her heart and called her to serve in her own local community at Pathways Pregnancy Clinic.

Having grown up in the Bible Belt of America, her volunteer work at the clinic was a way for God to open her eyes to the struggles facing the women who came to the clinic. God gave Mary a heart to love and to serve these women, and even though she might never see them again she hoped that she could make an impact in their lives. Between the two clinics, Mary has dedicated 9 years of her life to serving in pregnancy clinics. Her servant heart and belief that we are all a special creation of God and that we are fearfully and wonderfully made have made her a tremendous gift to this ministry.

Mary and Dennis continue to live in Washougal and have been attending Bethel Church in Washougal for the last 3 years. In June of this year, they will have been married for 50 years. They have been blessed with 2 children, 6 grandchildren, and 3 beautiful great-grandchildren, all of which know the Lord.



## Our Mission:

*Pathways Pregnancy Clinic is a pregnancy and family resource center that empowers individuals to make healthy, life-affirming decisions by offering education, resources, and support.*