

Hope SPEAK

Dear Readers:

The year 2008 was a very full and rewarding year, as from Puerto Rico to British Columbia and many places in between, The Hope of Survivors' representatives were able to see victim's lives changed as they began to heal and grow in their walk with the Lord; experience growth as the Latino Division became more actively involved in conducting conferences and working one-on-one with Spanish-speaking victims; spend time with victims at *Hope & Healing* Conferences, and share vital information with pastors and church leaders at *Faith & Fidelity* Conferences; record radio and TV programs in order to spread the word about pastoral sexual abuse so more victims can find the help they need. Indeed, it was a blessed year and we praise God for it!

As we pray earnestly for guidance in 2009, we lay all our plans before God, to be carried out or given up, as His providence shall indicate. A plot of donated land in Nairobi, Kenya will hopefully one day become a healing center for victims there. We hope to visit the location and conduct programs for pastors and victims in Nairobi sometime during the year. Additionally, the Lord has provided exposure through upcoming TV programs, which will further spread the message of hope to victims around the world. In February, we'll conduct a series of programs in Norway and Romania, as well as provide counsel to victims in need. We extend our deepest gratitude to those donors who have made it possible.

There are challenges too. The need is so great. New victims contact The Hope of Survivors weekly. Through our recent survey, we discovered two of the most important things to victims were having someone available to talk to them on the phone or to reply to their emails when they contacted The Hope of Survivors. A significant percentage of respondents stated The Hope of Survivors directly or indirectly prevented them from committing suicide and/or self-injury. As you can see, The Hope of Survivors is providing a vital service to victims of pastoral sexual abuse.

For six years we have been able to operate without salaries (a one-time stipend grant helped for several months), but now economic times are getting tougher for everyone, and we are finding it more difficult to keep volunteer staff on hand to answer phones and reply to emails because we are not able to offer a stipend or salary. The two greatest challenges The Hope

of Survivors faces are lack of qualified and available staff and lack of funds. We know only God can provide for these needs. We simply ask you join us in prayer for these critical elements. Victims depend on having someone to talk to about their experience and pain. Without that personal care, many would not find the courage or hope they so desperately need, and some might even succeed in committing suicide. What an unnecessary tragedy that would be!

During these uncertain times, let us each take comfort in the promise found in Philippians 4:6-7, "*Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*"

May the Lord bless you!
Samantha Nelson

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Healing the Crazy

—Tom Lemon, Chairman of THOS Board and President of the MN Conf. of Seventh-day Adventists



It was hard to remember when life started going crazy for her. It had been a long time ago, and there was a nearly completed cone of sand in the bottom of her hour-glass. No, it wasn't that she was so old, she just felt that way; tired, helpless and old. But while the details of the early memories eluded her consciousness, there was no

mistaking the bruising, the cutting, the split lip, the torn clothing, the pulled hair, the black eyes, and the taunting jeers in her ears as she was dragged through the dawn's early hours toward the place of execution. A rock pile, kept for that purpose, was just outside of town.

She was too exhausted from the previous night's abuse to put up much of a fight, and besides it was a whole gang of grown men, pious men, righteous men, leading men, triumphant men against one tired, worn out woman, what could she do? She didn't have a prayer's chance of surviving this one.

It seemed odd to her at the moment, she had actually at first gone to one of them seeking some help, seeking spiritual encouragement and enlightenment. She had been referred by a friend. But even her friend had no idea what would happen.

And at the beginning she seemed to get what she wanted; an understanding heart, a wise, even common sense level of advice. What she didn't know until it was far too late, was she was not really getting the help she sought. Instead, she was being used, set up really, for one of the weirdest most desperate plots human deviants could concoct. As her counselor got more and more information from her that he could use, he began to subtly apply pressure for payment of a different type. And then he referred her to others and to still others, all of them going after the same thing. No, not her healing; but her total subjugation in an attempt to trap the man they knew would take her side.

So while it started with prayer for her, it was ending with her becoming the prey and the unwitting victim. It had become crazy making in her head. No longer able to trust the churchmen, no longer able to trust their version of god, no longer able to know if the real God even cared or had a will for her, a plan for her life,

if she was even on his radar; no longer even wondering too much anymore.

She could never have foreseen it all ending in a lethal hailstorm of large rocks. And suddenly, those dragging her by the hair, those laughing at her disheveled and torn rags, those leering at her embarrassment, stopped. Was this the end? Were they at the place already? She looked out from behind her bloodied, matted hair and all she could see were men's robes from the ground up to the knees and they seemed to be negotiating something, she couldn't quite tell what. But she was still alive, the pain told her that much.

One of those robes knelt down at the edge of that circle of church leaders and began to trace letters in the dust. Smooth dust on a hard surface. Looking more closely she identified the location as the temple itself. She wasn't far from the very place she had first gone for help.

Yes, her mind interrupted her, she deserved to die. After all she had committed the "A" sin and more than once with more than one of them, more than once. It had seemed so much to be part of the process, part of the healing they promised, healing she desperately needed. But it was sin, they said, and sin meant death. Hers, not theirs. Now they had her where they wanted her and began to shout and jeer again as the man tracing his finger through the sand obviously and pointedly ignored them. His determined silence infuriated them. But it gave her some level of hope or time—or did it?

Finally looking up for a moment he said, "Yes the law says stone her. So go ahead and stone her." She cringed awaiting that first chunk of limestone. Would it hurt very badly? Would it take very long to die? Would she die of blood loss or blunt force trauma or both? "Yes, go ahead and stone her, but..." And a pause that hung in the air for what seemed like a lifetime and then "...but the first rock must be thrown by the one of you who has never sinned at all." Again she ducked her head and gathered her rags about her trying to die with some last fiber of dignity. And the stranger kept writing...

Nothing—she waited and still nothing. Her only sensory input was just the sound of shuffling shoes on the dusty rocks of the temple area. She looked up again, the crowd had thinned. And then, in fact, they were all gone. She was alone again—alone with the only one still there. The only one who could have thrown the first stone, the one who would never throw a stone at all. Only the two of them. He spoke kindly... "Where are those who would condemn you? Is there none left to accuse?"

For the first time she found her voice; it cracked softly with tears. “No sir, they are all gone.”

“I don’t condemn you either—go and leave your life of sin.”

And in His voice, in His grace, her life was restored, her value made real, her future given back to her and a new life to live. Instinctively, she knew He knew the truth—she had been victimized. He knew the real story—she had been set up to get to him, to test and trap him. He knew her heart, her soul. He knew that what she had suffered was not her inner identity. He would never let it become her identity. Yes she had been victimized, but in His voice, in His grace, she was a victim no more. And in that she found a Friend, a Savior, a King; a God who loved her without condition, and in that love her emotional/spiritual sanity was restored. Her life returned.

And so, with varying details, twenty-first century victims of clergy sexual abuse suffer what this woman in John

8 suffered. Seeking emotional/spiritual help, they become victims of clergy predators. They are victims who are then blamed for what was done to them in an attempt to mask or distract attention or somehow justify the perpetrators. No they are not taken out and executed with stones, but they are often treated emotionally in much the same way. One victim said to me when she had lost every church relationship that mattered to her, “This is crazy making.”

But then along comes Jesus, and those who truly follow in His footsteps. Yes, believe it or not, there are church leaders in whom you can trust, who won’t use you, who won’t condemn you, who will point you to healing. You can go to places like The Hope of Survivors and be put back on track with the Savior once again.

You can be sure that this woman in John 8, like so many down through the ages, found in Jesus a new start, a new opportunity, a whole new life. At The Hope of Survivors, we wish that for you; we pray that for you; we offer that to you.



Latino Division Update



Carlos and Shyleene

In July, La Esperanza de los Sobrevivientes, the Latino Division, relocated to Puerto Rico, planning to stay for an indefinite length of time. The goal was to be closer to the Hispanic community and to expand services across the island and do outreach to other Hispanic countries. However, God

opened another door to continue with this goal in the state of Texas and not in Puerto Rico as planned. Texas is a good area to establish the Latino Division because there is a large Hispanic community, which will allow us to spread the message of La Esperanza de los Sobrevivientes.

Our main focus, initially, will be to work with the church administrators in Texas and to coordinate with the Hispanic pastors in order to conduct conferences in churches, hold workshops with the pastors and laymen and provide assistance to the victims of clergy sexual abuse. Consequently, we will work to find funds and donations which will allow us to grow and reach other Hispanic communities and countries.

I am very thankful to God for the blessings that He has given me through this ministry. I am very confident and sure that He will guide me to fulfill His plan to share with others about God’s love, forgiveness, healing and salvation.

Blessings,
Shyleene Rosado

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Cincinnati Christian University Update

—Sandy Kirkham, Interdenominational Spokesperson for The Hope of Survivors



On November 24, I once again had the privilege of addressing the graduate students in the Practical Ministries class at Cincinnati Christian University. In sharing my own experience and providing educational material and information provided by The Hope of Survivors,

my hope was not only to raise awareness, but also help in preventing future abuse.

I first began by quickly clarifying four points. First, the importance of correctly identifying and naming the topic. It is not, as many would like to refer to it, a moral fall, sin of the heart or, as my abuser called it, a debacle. It is pastoral sexual abuse/misconduct.

Secondly, it is not only minors who are abused. Age is not what determines abuse. Both adult women and men can be taken advantage of by an unethical minister. However, they are rarely seen as abused, because they are adults.

Third, why we call it abuse. It is abuse because it is abuse of his position and power. It is abuse of truth and knowledge of Scriptures. It is abuse of trust. And it is an abuse of Christ and the integrity of His church.

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The final point of clarification was why it is not an “affair.”

After clarifying those points I talked about three key principles or dynamics of pastoral sexual abuse. They were power and boundaries, what sets pastoral sexual abuse apart from other forms of abuse, and response to the victim. A period of questions and answers followed my presentation.

I am grateful for the opportunity professor Mike Shannon and the University have given to me to bring to light a subject that is often misunderstood and many times avoided. I applaud their willingness to allow me to tell my story and represent The Hope of Survivors.

I am also very grateful for The Hope of Survivors and the difference it has made in my life!

Helpful resources...



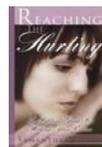
Recently Released!

Do you like to lead small groups? Do you have a heart for sharing the pain of others? Have you ever wanted to be involved helping victims of pastoral sexual abuse? Well, now you can!

The Hope of Survivors has recently released a new resource—*THOS Support Group Manual*, available for only \$49.95 (plus shipping). This manual provides step-by-step instructions and guidelines for becoming a THOS Support Group Facilitator in your area.

Please Note: The purchase of a *THOS Support Group Manual* does not automatically grant you permission to begin a THOS Support Group in your area. You must comply with the guidelines in the *Manual* and submit to a background check (fee included in purchase price of *Manual*) and review process before being approved as an official THOS Support Group Facilitator.

Reaching the Hurting—A Biblical Guide for Helping Abuse Victims



for individual growth, small group Bible studies, and women’s ministries. It covers a range of topics, and is not specific to pastoral sexual abuse. **On sale now** for only \$5.00 plus shipping!

Order these items today at:
<http://www.thehopeofsurvivors.com/products.asp>

Victims & Stress: The Effects of Stress Due to Pastoral Sexual Abuse

—James L. Marcum, M.D.

Autumn's colors were dimming that November afternoon when I first met Susan*. She was the last patient that Thursday afternoon and had traveled quite a few miles for me to evaluate her heart. She was tall with short, blonde hair and was wearing a light green sweater. As I listened, she began telling me about her symptoms. She was having frequent palpitations, shortness of breath, headaches, a poor appetite and could not sleep at night. I scanned her previous evaluations and looked at her X-ray and



electrocardiogram. I felt like I knew what the problem was, but I needed, not more tests, but more information.

Susan's physical exam was normal, however, I noticed this thirty-something woman could not look me in the eyes and sat in a slumped position. I expressed that I felt like these symptoms could be explained by extra

stress on the body with the resultant release of the stress chemicals epinephrine, cortisol, and a host of others. I probed further. Do you think your body is under stress?

I sensed hesitancy and withdrawal. I backtracked a bit and explained what stress was. When we go against the Master's design, the owner's manual, stress is put on the body. This stress might be lack of rest, lack of water, poor eating habits or even lack of exercise. The world also promotes stress by all the chemicals and, yes at times, even medications. Stress is a moneymaker, I explained, and society promotes stress. Sometimes this "work all the time, stay busy, do this and that" mentality contributes greatly as well. This constant stress and the resultant chemical reactions could definitely cause symptoms and was a real disease condition. I had her attention. Her eyes met mine for the first time.

She began to open up. Tears flowed as she related all the stress in her life. She was from a small town and a close-knit family. Her stress began years ago when, as a teenager, her well-respected pastor had made advances. She had nowhere to go and no one to help. This stress led to a myriad of poor choices. Now her body was crying, "I need help."

We talked more and developed a plan to control stress. She realized the mind and body on a chemical level were interrelated. Unresolved conflict, whether in a relationship, in a family, at work, or with our

God, could cause increased stress chemicals and disease. Often our poor coping mechanisms contribute as well.

I asked Susan to go back to the owner's manual—the Bible—as the real source of Truth. I urged her to look for love, the real source of healing. We plan on getting back together after the holidays. A treatment plan had begun. We prayed before she left. Her chemistry was changing. Healing had begun.

* Name changed for privacy.



Dr. James L. Marcum is speaker/director of Heartwise Ministries (<http://www.heartwiseministries.org>). He is a Cardiologist practicing with the Chattanooga Heart Institute and a member of the board of directors of The Hope of Survivors.

Did You Know?

- More than 32,000 people kill themselves each year in the United States.*
- *Nearly 20% of those surveyed stated The Hope of Survivors has directly or indirectly prevented them from committing suicide and/or self-injury.***
- When contacting The Hope of Survivors, what over 60% of people found to be most helpful was being able to correspond by email/phone and/or talking to someone who understood what they experienced.**
- *"Victims of sexual abuse, both in the church and in all of society, do not come forward until many years after they have been abused. Professionals tell us this is a common trait."—Rodrigo Valdivia, chancellor of the San Diego Catholic diocese*
- Access to help via phone or email was more important than other avenues, such as in person support, printed materials, or web site information.**

Stats taken from Centers for Disease Prevention and Control (www.cdc.gov) and The Hope of Survivors Survey.**
View the complete survey at: http://www.thehopeofsurvivors.com/pdf_files/SurveyResults11-4-08.pdf.

Mimi's Story

—Miriam Morones

My story begins when I was a young Christian, 22 years old, newly married with a new baby to boot. I sense my story is not unique among clergy sexual abuse (CSA) survivors, but I trust this will bring hope to other victims also. My testimony is nothing short of a miracle in healing and restoration.

I began attending an independent, evangelical church in Twentynine Palms, CA. My husband (now former husband) was stationed in the Marine Corps at the time. As a new Christian, I didn't know about all the variety of churches to choose from, and simply chose one right out of the *Yellow Pages*. The town was sparsely populated and I picked a church that seemed to fit.



In October 1991, we attended our first service. Shortly after that, since our family lacked many household start-up possessions, the pastor collected used furniture items and brought them one day. He also personally saw to it to bring additional things like food baskets and baby layettes. I viewed this as the concern of a pastor toward his flock, and I felt instantly at home. I spent hours with my baby girl at the pastor's home, which also served as the church's fellowship hall (he only rented space for services at neighborhood churches).

This precursor set up a cycle of trust from one of the most malicious people to ever stand behind a pulpit. Over the next six months, this supplemental support continued. In April 1992, he even gave us the beloved car given to him by a well-known evangelist, a 1981 Cadillac El Dorado. My marriage started to show signs of wear-and-tear, and we started counseling with the pastor in June 1992. At first, the appointments were joint sessions; then I continued to go on my own, alone—BIG MISTAKE—I know (hindsight here).

This "counseling" continued for six months. During the course of our "sessions," the pastor would ask me details of the "bed undefined," AKA, he wanted to know what I did in bed with my husband. When I hesitated, he would coax me with the words, "Oh, come on, you can trust me." Eventually, with repeated coaxing, I'd give in and share the information he wanted to know.

Pastors who live near bases get base driving privileges as a professional courtesy of the chaplaincy. My

pastor was no exception—minus the fact that it took him three years to get his. He used his "base pass" to stalk my whereabouts, which he excused as "watching out for my welfare." I told him, as a former Marine myself, that he didn't have to do that. I felt confident I could take care of myself. (Marine Corps boot camp gives you lots of confidence in yourself.)

My former spouse then got called to Somalia and left December 8. Prior to this, the pastor promised to "take good care of his family while he was gone." Upon my husband's departure, the pastor's behavior skyrocketed out of control. I saw him watch me everywhere. He even gave me a jewelry set for Christmas in front of his wife, and told me "not to tell the congregation so they wouldn't get jealous."

The rest of the Christmas week passed without incident, namely because he was busy with his own kids. December 30, 1992, was our military payday Friday, and I went to the commissary (military grocery store). I saw the pastor coming out of our housing area, which meant he had already been to my house. He pulled up to my car, and asked if he could help with the groceries.

We got back to my housing unit, and I stayed outside while he unloaded the groceries. By this time, the stalking thing was out of control. It made me feel uncomfortable, and I decided to leave the church quietly. But the pastor talked me into attending the New Year's Eve party at his house. "Come on, it'll be fun; we'll play some great games." I wanted to see my friends one last time; reluctantly, I agreed to go.

During the party, while his wife was SIX FEET AWAY, he proposed sexual relations with me. Using the information he garnered during our "counseling sessions," he specifically mentioned that he'd enjoyed those things also.

Shocked, I gathered my baby, and practically raced home, shaken. The next day, New Year's Day 1993, I confronted him in front of his wife IN HIS OWN HOME. He denied it, and never repented. The next week, I confronted him in front of the church. He still didn't repent. I then took it to his leaders who promptly took the church away, and removed his covering. I found another church, and got three years of free counseling; one of the conditions of the "gentlemen's agreement" was that I play nice in the neighborhood (not tell the police of his actions). He was told to stay out of ministry for the rest of his life.

Let's fast-forward 15 years. In a shocking way, I found out he entered the ministry again one day while surfing on the Internet. He covered up his

entire TRUE ministerial history. I turned him in again, forcing me to re-live the entire thing, word-for-nasty-word. This time, I already had previous experience behind me and knew what to do.

I called his leaders and said, if they didn't take immediate action, I WOULD turn him into the authorities this time. They pulled him from Central America and opened up an official investigation. This time, there was no turning back—I had to prove everything with witnesses and documentation, etc. Fortunately, I found every person, including the former leaders, who corroborated my entire story.

He lied on his application, exploited thousands of people, and stole \$1.5 million dollars from his current organization. We even called the FBI for assistance—this time he was a criminal, not just a nasty preacher. He is now facing life imprisonment for fraud and misrepresentation. He was arrested by U.S. Marshals on June 6, 2008, in Phoenix, AZ.

Part of the reason, praise God, for my unusual success with my second go-round was the church leaders realized he was exploiting all of THEM also (minus the sexual commentary). That he lied repeatedly to all of THEM, exploited THEIR trust of him, and manipulated THEM, too.

So in a way, my “moral issue” simply became the impetus for a much larger issue. In covering up his true history, the district that credentialed him again, was open for a lawsuit by the churches from whom he received money. He worked his way up to being a missionary! They were open to the

“In spite of the world’s challenges going on, I’ll simply remember 2008 as my year of almost impossible miracles. God showed me He is who He says He is. Truly, ‘If God be for us, who can be against us?’”
(Romans 8:31)

lawsuit because he withheld vital info from his background; therefore, no real background check was performed.

I will also share that I had to play hardball with the leaders at times to get the results I got—I told them in no uncertain terms that I'd skip over the ministry and take the story to the media. I had to TELL them to call the FBI on this

guy. Once we all realized how much money he had stolen, the investigation became a cover for what we really intended to do—set him up and have him arrested. I gave them a full character profile, etc.

If you ever get word regarding CSA that occurs within the Assemblies of God world, know that the entire organization, including headquarters, acted IMMEDIATELY to pull him from the field. And there are official records kept on nasty ministers. Any disciplined minister is pretty much “out” in the Assemblies of God organization.

I got the closure I desperately needed; I was BELIEVED wholeheartedly, had the support of my current church, and learned to trust again. I now am in a position of favor and respect of the organization that opened the investigation. I decided to get water baptized again on August 10, 2008, and attended a women's retreat in September.

In spite of the world's challenges going on, I'll simply remember 2008 as my year of almost impossible miracles. God showed me He is who He says He is. Truly, *“If God be for us, who can be against us?”* (Romans 8:31)

The Hope of Survivors assisted me by simply being a resource for other CSA survivors, of whom I think I've moved to the category of “thriver

or victor.” I trust my story will give hope to so many other victims of clergy sexual abuse.



When my incident occurred, there was no Internet, so I suffered false shame and silent tears for many years. Therefore, I became a prisoner to it. Even the post-counseling I received wasn't long enough. My deep wound during my formative years as a Christian, in the issue of trust, haunted me for years. I closed off my heart.

I encourage women no matter how long ago it happened, to find a loving, safe place to share your pain. Get the healing your heart and life need. The Hope of Survivors is a refuge for all CSA survivors.

The Hope of Survivors has broken the mold, so to speak, of the silence. It has taken on the mission of the most difficult subjects to breach through in the Christian world. My prayer is for its continued success and outreach that will continue for many years to come.

Creative ways to help...

Did you know The Hope of Survivors is listed on the social networking site **Facebook**? Check it out! (http://apps.facebook.com/causes/47537?m=33935&recruiter_id=12747904)

Have you ever wished you could buy products with The Hope of Survivors logo on them to help raise awareness and generate conversations about pastoral sexual abuse? Now, thanks to **Charlton Commerce's online store**, you can! Just visit <http://thos.webstore.us.com>.

No money? You can still support The Hope of Survivors! We will receive a penny each time you search the Internet using **www.GoodSearch.com**. Just be sure to type The Hope of Survivors in the charity to be supported box.

Do you shop online? Then shop through **iGive.com** and earn money for The Hope of Survivors each time you order from popular merchants online!

You can also donate through **American Express Giving Express** by going to: <http://amex.justgive.org/nonprofits/donate.jsp?ein=65-1211701>.

Thank you for supporting The Hope of Survivors!

Current Project Needs

- Monthly operating expenses (postage, office supplies, utilities, printing, etc.), staff, educational materials and victim assistance.
- Calendar project printing costs (\$5,000). If you make a donation for this project, please specify "Calendar" on your check. Thank you!

Donations are the primary source of funds that make it possible for The Hope of Survivors to maintain its ministry. Since The Hope of Survivors receives no denominational subsidies, your gifts are vitally important. Thank you for considering a tax-deductible donation to further the work of this ministry and bring hope and healing to wounded hearts.

Testimonials

"I would also ask that anyone who is able visit <http://www.thehopeofsurvivors.com/> for information on clergy sex abuse and hopefully to make a contribution to this ministry. That is the organization that was instrumental in helping my daughter begin this journey of healing."

—Victim's Father, on a blog posting

"I will be praying that the funds come in. THOS has been for me, and is for so many, a lifeline of support during a very dark time. You offer hope...at a time when all feels hopeless. God knows how you reach the hurting, and we'll just pray that He continues to provide for this ministry..."—WA

"I have learned so much from you. Thank you for all of the knowledge that you have so willingly shared with me. You are a true Godsend."—WI

"I wanted to thank you for being there for my family when it was really hard and also for believing in me, it meant a lot, it's only people like you and my mother that kept me going without doing something really stupid that might have taken my life."

—Child Victim

Samantha and Steve Nelson are Co-Founders of The Hope of Survivors. They strive to facilitate healing in the lives of those who have been wounded by a spiritual leader.

The ministry is founded on the commission in God's Word, which calls us to *"...comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God."*

—2 Corinthians 1:4



Calendar of Events

January 25, 2009

Ooltewah, TN—*BibleRx* Program Taping
Steve and Samantha Nelson will join host Dr. James Marcum to tape a *BibleRx* TV program focusing on healing from pastoral sexual abuse. Details on air times and dates to come.

January 28, 2009

Thompsonville, IL—3ABN *Today* Program Taping
Steve and Samantha Nelson, along with The Hope of Survivors Board Chairman Tom Lemon, will be interviewed for a 3ABN *Today* program. The program will air on Three Angels Broadcasting Network (3ABN) at a later date.

February 2-7, 2009

Skøtselv, Norway—The Heartgood Foundation
A revival series focusing on spiritual healing and having a genuine relationship with Jesus will be held at the Skøtselv Seventh-day Adventist Church. In addition to this series, there will be other meetings for workers, student classroom presentations at the



European Bible School, and individual counseling sessions throughout the week.

February 11, 2009

Bucharest, Romania—Popa Tatu Seventh-day Adventist Church
Time: 6:00pm-8:00pm



Steve and Samantha Nelson will be conducting a question & answer session for victims, pastors and church members on the topic of pastoral sexual abuse and misconduct, as well as how the church/organization should respond if/when a situation arises, and how the church can heal from the betrayal. All are welcome to attend.

February 13-14, 2009

Cazaci, Romania—Cazaci Seventh-day Adventist Church

A revival series focusing on spiritual healing and having a genuine relationship with Jesus will be held at the Cazaci Seventh-day Adventist Church. There will also be individual counseling sessions throughout the week, and training will be provided for the new Romanian Division leaders.



February 20-21, 2009

Bucharest, Romania—Popa Tatu Seventh-day Adventist Church



A revival series focusing on spiritual healing and having a genuine relationship with Jesus will be held at the Popa Tatu Seventh-day Adventist Church. There will also be individual counseling sessions throughout the week.

February 22-26, 2009

Amsterdam, The Netherlands—Respite
Steve and Samantha will enjoy a few days of rejuvenation after such a hectic schedule.



To schedule or sponsor a conference in your area, call (866) 260-8958. Check our web site for additional details and the most current information. [www. TheHopeOfSurvivors.com](http://www.TheHopeOfSurvivors.com)

New Affinity Credit Card Funds Important Work!

We're excited to announce a brand new way that you can support The Hope of Survivors!



When you apply for the new Hope of Survivors platinum Visa Card, our issuing bank (UMB) will donate \$50 to The Hope of Survivors the very first time you use it! And UMB will donate a percentage of all your future purchases on the card to The Hope of Survivors as well! All of this is done at no cost to you, and no cost to The Hope of Survivors!

The more of us who participate, the bigger the impact we can make.

All the benefits of a platinum Visa card will be yours, along with the satisfaction of showing your support of The Hope of Survivors' mission every time you use your card.

Each of the custom Hope of Survivors card choices makes a statement about our mission and about you.

So request your Hope of Survivors' Visa card today and take advantage of the low introductory rate!

Apply online at: <https://www.cardpartner.com/enduser.aspx?AEID=9DCo4>

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. How does opening a credit card with UMB benefit The Hope of Survivors?

A. The Hope of Survivors receives \$50 for each approved application that is activated and used within 90 days of approval. Additionally, a percentage of every retail purchase made using the card will be donated to The Hope of Survivors.

Q. Is there an annual fee?

A. No, there is no annual fee.

Q. What is the interest rate on the card?

A. 0% for the first six month introductory period on purchases and balance transfers. After the six month introductory period, the interest rate will be the federal prime rate (no lower than 5.25%) + 5.65%.



Q. Can I apply over the phone?

A. Unfortunately, not at this time.

Q. How can I get an application by mail?

A. Paper applications are available by contacting help@thehopeofsurvivors.com. We encourage you to apply securely online to help us reduce marketing and processing costs.

Q. When I apply for the card, will my transaction be secure?

A. Yes. Your application will be transmitted to UMB through an encrypted security page.

Q. Do I have to activate and use the card within a certain time period for The Hope of Survivors to receive the \$50?

A. Yes. But you only need to use the card once within the first 90 days. Of course, we encourage you to make it your primary card because The Hope of Survivors receives a percentage of every retail purchase at no additional cost to you.

About CardPartner

CardPartner, Inc. (www.cardpartner.com) is an online company that specializes in helping smaller U.S.-based membership organizations and charities create affinity credit card programs. CardPartner is a unit of the privately held Serverside Group, a technology provider to many of the world's leading banks. Visa cards offered through CardPartner are issued by UMB Bank, n.a., headquartered in Kansas City, MO. UMB Bank approves credit decisions, grants credit, and manages the administration and cardholder service for card programs by CardPartner.

