

HopeSPEAK

Dear Hope of Survivors Family,

A new year, with new opportunities and challenges awaits us! We are excited about what God has been doing in, for and through The Hope of Survivors for the benefit of the church, victims and clergy. When we think back on all that was accomplished by His grace in 2009, we can only praise God for His many blessings.

Before we look ahead to 2010, let's pause to recall some of the highlights of 2009. In January we taped several television programs that later aired throughout the year to give hope to victims. The month of February was spent overseas, ministering to those in need in Norway and Romania, with a few days' respite in The Netherlands. March brought several speaking engagements and an opportunity to participate with a selected group in the media training and pre-release of the results of the Baylor University Research Project on pastoral sexual abuse. April was a month that changed our lives forever, as Steve was employed by the Illinois Conference of Seventh-day Adventists as a pastor of four churches. In May, we conducted a *Hope & Healing* Conference for victims in St. Louis and were pleased to have attendees from many different states. During the month of June, Pastor Steve conducted several abuse prevention emphasis programs at area churches, raising awareness of the issue of abuse in general and educating all about pastoral sexual abuse. Prime 11 Cinemas granted The Hope of Survivors the opportunity to participate in the Monday Night Sponsorship Program and to be a recipient of funds raised during the month of August. In September, we participated in a live radio program, addressing the topic of pastoral sexual abuse and then hosted Alina—the Romania Division representative—for a week of brainstorming and fellowship together.

And then came October and the trip "down under"! October and the first part of November were filled with programs for victims and pastors in Australia, as well as



several counseling sessions, radio & TV interviews and strategic planning sessions with Coralie and Arlagene, the Australia Division representatives.

Coralie's update will give you a greater idea of the many blessings God granted in Australia. Thank

you, Coralie, Arlagene and everyone else involved in making the mission trip a success! Sandy Kirkham also presented a *Trust & Truth* seminar to the graduate students at Cincinnati Christian University in November, as she has done each year for the past few years. December brought the seven-year anniversary of The Hope of Survivors, the year-end crunch for administrative tasks, and a brief, but very necessary, vacation for Steve and me.

So, what lies ahead for 2010? Honestly, we don't know. We believe the Lord still has a great work for The Hope of Survivors to do, as the issue of pastoral sexual abuse continues to come to the forefront and victims are reaching out in ever-increasing numbers. This is a vital ministry for those who have been abused by a spiritual leader and we believe the need for The Hope of Survivors will become even greater in the coming months. Why do we believe that? Because the Bible tells us in 2 Timothy 3:13, "*But evil men and seducers shall wax*

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The Hope of Survivors (Main Office)

P.O. Box 27

Effingham, IL 62401

Phone: (866) 260-8958

Web site: www.TheHopeOfSurvivors.com

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From Darkness and Despair to Hope and Healing

—Madeline Roll



I never thought something like this would ever happen to me. I trusted him and thought he was nice, caring, friendly, and a great tennis coach, until the confusing day that he sexually abused

me, four months ago. I didn't know what to do, think or say. He told me he wasn't doing anything wrong but then checked to see if someone was looking, I was so confused. He previously had told me he was a Christian man who attended church. He had coached me four years ago when I was 10. That day I was bored, sitting by myself waiting for my brother, so I joined in for the last 10 minutes of the session. I went home that Friday

“I thought there was no point in telling anyone because no one would believe me.”

afternoon thinking, *“That was so disgusting,”* considering he is 60 years older than me. I felt like I couldn't tell anybody, especially my parents. I felt like it was my fault for going into the tennis court in the first place. I went back to school on Monday and told my friends what happened. They just laughed and said, *“That is so disgusting.”* My best friend didn't really believe me so I had to prove it to her by getting her to watch him do it to the other girls who were regularly coached by him.

So anyway, I thought there was no point in telling anyone because no one would believe me. I kept it to myself for a few months before telling my sister and her husband. Those few months were extremely difficult for many reasons. One difficulty was every Friday

afternoon after school, I had to sit at school and watch him do exactly the same things to girls much younger than me, while waiting for my younger brother to finish tennis.

Secondly, I was jumpy and edgy and my friends noticed something different about me. Thirdly, my parents found out about the arrest of a 74-year-old tennis coach on the front page of the newspaper. They were wondering if it was the tennis coach from our school. I said that I would not be surprised if it was and Mum asked why. I told her I

“I felt as if I was going down a non-return path leading to destruction, but they showed the path of light and life and hope for the future and healing for the past.”

had seen him kissing girls, but never told her he did it to me, or the other things he did. One night Mum asked me more about what I had seen and I told her very sternly *“Just drop it. I don't want to talk about it.”* She then asked me, *“Can you imagine what these girls must be going through and how they feel? You should think about reporting what you have seen so the girls that have had this done to them can get the support they need.”*

I wanted so badly to tell her I knew exactly what they were going through, but I just couldn't so I left it at that and went to my room and cried because I wanted her to stop talking about him and the other girls, but I just couldn't tell her. Also my friends kept bringing it up at school and I was so over it. I just couldn't take it any longer so a couple of weeks later I told my sister and brother-in-law what he did to me. It was the day Mum and Dad had left to go interstate to meet up with Steve and Samantha. So anyway, my sister told me that she had to ring them and tell them and that I would have to make a police statement. I just started crying because I didn't want her to tell Mum and Dad and wreck their time away, and I told her that I would just tell them when they got back. When she was on the phone to Mum I went to my room and just cried and thought *I shouldn't have said anything. I should've kept my mouth shut. What have I done?*

After Mum found out she flew home to be with me while I made my statement to the police. After the visit to the police station she offered for me to fly back to New South Wales with her to meet back up with Steve and Samantha. I was sort of looking forward to meeting them because Mum had talked about them coming to Australia and had told me a bit about them. After we landed in Newcastle we went straight to a *Hope & Healing* seminar they were presenting. To be completely honest, I thought it was going to be completely boring but I was completely wrong. At first I was not going to go in and listen but Mum convinced me to. After knowing Steve and Samantha and what they do for just a week, God really used them to impact my life in so many ways. They answered all those confusing questions and got rid of all

the lies and replaced them with the truth. I felt as if I was going down a non-return path leading to destruction, but they showed the path of light and life and hope for the future and healing for the past. When looking back was too painful, and looking forward was too scary and unknown, I could always look beside me and see the love and support of my family, friends

and Jesus. I think that God has really blessed The Hope of Survivors and that Steve and Samantha are doing a wonderful job with the help of God.

Looks Can Be Deceiving

—Samantha Nelson

It was 1:30am on Friday, November 13, and I was sitting in bed, rocking back and forth, crying and trying not to wake up Steve. The pain in my right ear was excruciating and I could no longer tolerate it. Just a few days before, I had awakened to discover a painful and itchy rash on my right side and upper back, which was soon diagnosed as shingles. Now it was getting complicated, affecting my facial nerve and ears. Steve woke up, despite my efforts to be quiet and, when he saw how much pain I was in, he rushed me to the emergency



room where the doctor had to place a wick in my ear so that he could get medicine into it, as well as start me on an IV cocktail of antiviral, antibiotic, pain and other medications. It was not a good way to start the day!

This attack of shingles (my first) came on the heels of a tremendous amount of stress and lack of sleep, so it was no surprise I got sick. In many ways, I knew I had pushed myself too much and that I was on the verge of illness. I never suspected shingles, even though I had had chicken pox as a child. It was an experience I would not wish anyone to have to go through.

During this time of illness, some dear, compassionate friends brought over a card and some food for us. One of them made the comment that I didn't look sick like she'd imagined I would. The other friend, who had seen me very pale and in pain a few days earlier, assured her that I was indeed sick.

That incident reminded me of another time, about a decade ago, when I was very ill. It was during the time I was being abused by the pastor and the stress of the abuse had taken a serious toll on my health. At that time, the doctors had not yet diagnosed my autoimmune disease and I was suffering greatly. We thought I would have to quit work altogether and go on disability. Praise God for His healing power, as I now work harder for Him than I ever worked in the secular field! Even the doctors seemed oblivious to the physical and emotional pain I was in. Throughout that timeframe, I was attempting suicide frequently, cutting and injuring myself, and suffering abuse from the pastor. Yet, with all this going on, the doctor noted on my chart just prior to major surgery, "she is...not in acute distress...." Amazing! If only he had been able to see more clearly what was really going on with me, perhaps I would have received better care and help to end the abuse sooner.

But, the doctor wasn't the only one who failed to see what was really taking place. It was very frustrating for me during this time to share with people how awful I felt and how much pain I was in only to have them say, "Well, you look good." Often, I wished I could look as bad on the outside as I felt on the inside just so people would see what I was really experiencing.

You see, my looks—the outward appearances—were deceiving. I didn't *look* sick, even though I was very ill.

So what does this have to do with pastoral sexual abuse and The Hope of Survivors? Well, much—when you think about it.

Think back to the story of Samuel when he went to visit Jesse for the purpose of choosing Israel's next king from among Jesse's sons. As Eliab passed before Samuel, he thought this was surely to be Israel's next king, but the Lord warned Samuel in 1 Samuel 16:7, "...*Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.*" This experience was repeated as Samuel went through seven of Jesse's sons, until eventually young David was called upon and God told Samuel he was to be Israel's next king.

Israel had previously chosen Saul to be their king because he *looked* kingly and commanded the respect of the people. Yet, Saul did not have the heart or mind of God and He brought spiritual disaster and reproach, among other things, to Israel during his reign.

"Are we missing God's best for us because we, like Israel of old, are looking on the outward appearance and not the heart?"

How many times are pastors chosen because they *look* respectable and command attention from the people? How many are chosen because they speak smooth words and give eloquent sermons? Or, perhaps they are chosen because they appear to be so amiable and outgoing that everyone loves them? Are these the qualifications for a minister of the Gospel? Is it simply to look good, to sound good and to act good?

It makes me wonder, how seldom are pastors chosen because of their heart for God and for the lost sheep? How few times are the shepherds chosen for their purity of heart and Christlike life? Are we missing God's best for us because we, like Israel of old, are looking on

the outward appearance and not the heart? It's something to seriously ponder and pray about.

Pastoral sexual abuse is taking place in every denomination around the globe. When it is brought to light, when the church members and the community find out about it, how often do you hear people say, "Well, he didn't seem like the type of person to do that"? Or, "But he's so charismatic and he's done so much

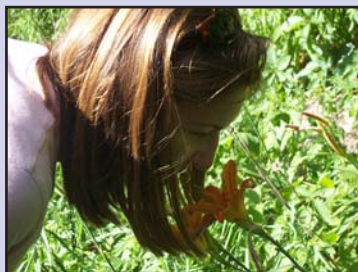
good for the church,"—like that would excuse his abusive behavior! Then, there's always the comment, "He was such a nice/godly/caring (you-name-it) man!" In general, people tend to look on the outward appearance, not on the heart, as God does. This can lead to many tragic experiences in the lives of God's people.

It's true we can't know what is in a person's heart, but God has given us a means by which we may know whether one is truly following God or not—and whether we should remain under their spiritual leadership or not. Consider the warning given in Matthew 7:15-21, "*Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. ...Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them. Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.*"

Judging someone's motives is not for us to do, but God has given us the task of judging one's fruit (behavior, words, etc.) and, in doing so, we can make better decisions about the relationships we have with others, especially the pastor-congregant relationship. Let us pray for God to increase our discernment so that we do not permit the outward appearance to influence our decisions about spiritual leadership. Let us go deeper than just *looking* good on the outside. Indeed, let us be transformed by the Holy Spirit so we may more perfectly reflect Jesus to all.

Calendar Project Update

Due to the lack of funds received for the calendar project, we have decided to include the case studies that were submitted to us in the next several newsletters. We hope you will be blessed by these testimonies of God's grace and healing power and that you will remember to pray for these individuals and for The Hope of Survivors.



Stephanie Haslick, Michigan

"The most devastating effect the abuse brought on for me was with my relationship with God. Even though I continue to attend church, my heart often is not in it. It took me years before I began to feel connected with God again and it is still a struggle. I had no interest in reading the Bible, attending Bible Studies, or hearing people talk about God and his wonders. I was ashamed to talk with God because I took blame for the abuse. I couldn't forgive myself for allowing the abuse to happen, so why would God want to? Even though I wanted to join a church, I couldn't bring myself to take the steps to do so because I was afraid abuse would happen all over again. As a result of not having steady membership at a church, I may have missed out on a strong support system within the body of the church.

Isaiah 53:5 has been a crutch for me through this process. We are told in Isaiah that through Jesus' wounds, we are healed. This verse tells me that God has compassion for those that are suffering from abuse because he sent his own son, Jesus to experience the horrors of it. Jesus was verbally abused, mocked, slapped, beaten, spit on and violated, but we are healed despite the pain he endured. This passage proves to me that God has compassion for me and will always hold me close to his heart.

I came across The Hope of Survivors website through my counselor's recommendation. Reading through the various information and understanding victim's stories was the breaking point in my healing because I knew I wasn't alone in my situation. It's as if the stories confirmed that yes, my experience had been pastoral sexual abuse, it wasn't just a slip-up. I learned how taxing this type of abuse can be on a person and suggestions on how to heal from the pain which has been extremely helpful to me. This website taught me that there is no excuse for what happened between my pastor and I because he was expected to uphold appropriate boundaries between us, which he didn't. As the website says, a pastor is not "just a man;" this is not an excuse for what happened."

Deceitful Love

—Cecelia

When people describe me, they often use words such as fun, loud, and carefree. In high school, I was completely innocent and naïve, trusting in everyone I met because I had no reason to think otherwise. I was unassuming and carefree. Unfortunately, my trusting and carefree nature was shattered two years ago. Throughout my high school years, I developed close relationships with many of my teachers. I respected my teachers and valued the knowledge they shared with me. Towards the end of my senior year of high school, I became very close to one particular teacher. I was happy for the attention, and I was flattered that she showed so much interest in me. We talked constantly and I told her secrets that I had never told anyone before. When I went off to college, she sent me a card every single week and a care package full of goodies once or twice a month. I felt very lucky to have someone who cared about me that much.

However, a year after we became close, our relationship took a sexual turn. I was confused but at the same time I still felt very special. For the first time, I thought I was in love. I ignored the fact that I was having sexual relations with a woman who was 30 years older than I. She seemed so sweet and loving, and she seemed to really care about me. Often I would feel very guilty about having sexual relations with her, but she would always calm me down about it. She said things like “we are meant to be together” or “God intended us to be together.” I believed her at first and justified what was happening between us. I convinced myself that it was okay and even that it was a good thing. As time went on, though, I got tired of doing sexual things. I wanted out of the relationship, but I was so emotionally entrenched that I couldn’t leave. I wanted to please her in everything I did. Looking back, I realize I was truly manipulated. I was groomed perfectly so that when things did become sexual, I overlooked it and even convinced myself that I enjoyed it. The fear of losing her overrode my good sense and rationality.

The “relationship” ended one year ago when my parents discovered what was occurring. My mother picked me up from the airport and said to me, “I know what happened. We’re going to get you through this, and you’re going to be fine.” I stopped talking to my teacher that night. At first I was devastated at the loss—I just wanted to be with my teacher. I missed snuggling with her



“While all my relationships suffered because of this, my relationship with God has probably suffered the most.”

and feeling safe. But then I started removing my rose-colored glasses and realized how highly inappropriate things were between us. I was deeply confused and felt immense guilt in the months following the “breakup.” It was during this time when I researched sexual abuse on Google, and found The Hope of Survivors website. This website was really a Godsend. I was so unsure and confused at that time, and I emailed Samantha Nelson for advice and help. She was very patient and understanding and spent time helping me work through my issues. Finding THOS website lifted a huge weight off of my shoulders. I knew something wasn’t right—having a relationship with a female former teacher who was 30 years my senior—but until finding this website and corresponding with Samantha, I didn’t realize that I was actually sexually abused. I honestly don’t know what I would’ve done had I not discovered THOS. Samantha and her husband freely give their time to victims like me, and I so grateful for their ministry.

Today, a year after the abuse ended, I am still struggling immensely with the repercussions. I am 21 years old and am supposed to be carefree and light at this time of my life. Instead, I had to leave the university I was attending and come home to recover over this mess. My college years have been greatly affected by this, and I envy my friends who live such “normal” college lives. I wish that my biggest concerns in life were what dress to wear for the weekend, or whether I made an A on an exam, or if I should flirt with a crush. Instead, I worry about my soul and I worry about having panic attacks in public. Although I know I am not responsible for the relationship, I still am bogged down with constant guilt. That, unfortunately, is my biggest concern in life right now.

While all my relationships suffered because of this, my relationship with God has probably suffered the most. My abuser was a religion teacher. She taught morality and social justice, ironically. I used to be a very spiritual person, and I yearned for wisdom from God. But when the abusive relationship

“Most of all, I have learned to become aware. I would like to believe that everyone is a trusting friend, but the reality is that some people have ill intentions.”

started, my relationship with God stopped. I became spiritually numb. Luckily, I am making progress in my faith, although it is moving slowly. I have started small, saying little prayers here and there and listening to Christian music. I always think about how easy the recovery would be if I could just completely surrender to God and lay down all my worries. I am angry that my teacher has affected my relationship with God, and I am determined to be close with Him again. I know He is waiting for me, and I am grateful for His forgiveness.

However, I am very confident that I'm on the path to recovery. I have good months and bad months, with the good months occurring more frequently. I have learned so much about professional exploitation, and I have also learned how to have good, healthy boundaries. I also discovered how truly lucky I am for my family. This was hard for me to go through, but even harder for my parents. I'm not a parent yet, but I can imagine sexual abuse is a parent's worst nightmare. My parents have stuck by me through everything and have been very understanding and loving. Most of all, I have learned to become aware. I would like to believe that everyone is a trusting friend, but the reality is that some people have ill intentions. Going through this experience has caused me to grow up. I now am aware that not everyone is your friend. While this experience has certainly been negative, I also think it's important to move forward and look to the future. Dwelling in our sorrow will only perpetuate the problem. For now I will try to trust in God and let Him take care of the rest.

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worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived."

The problem is not going to get better; it's going to get worse. And we want to be able to be there when victims are in need and when pastors and church leaders seek help and education in this area.

The challenges the ministry faces are great. There is a shortage of funding, something we know many other ministries and nonprofit organizations are also struggling with at this time. There is also a lack of qualified volunteer staff, which leaves many projects uncompleted. Projects that could truly be life changing and healing to suffering victims.

But this is no time to be discouraged! We know God raised up The Hope of Survivors and we believe He will sustain and strengthen it. Will you join us in praising and thanking God for the blessings He will bestow upon the ministry and the doors He will open in 2010? Let us follow the example in Philippians 4:6, "*Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.*" (NIV) Then let us trust His Word in Philippians 4:19, "*But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.*"

The Lord bless you and keep in this new year!
Samantha Nelson, VP & CEO

Testimonials

"Words cannot express how much it meant to me to see you and be able to feel safe during worship again. I have so often thanked God for His presence through your selfless dedication towards my healing...and so many, many more like me. Thank you so much for your belief; invaluable encouragement and support of this journey which will soon be unfolding through its challenging trial of upholding the TRUTH..."—Western Australia

"Thank you, Steve & Samantha, for all that you do in giving a voice to what is so often a silent crime gone unpunished."—IL

"Thank you for being a light in darkness for those who have come through this abuse, knowing there is a ministry like this to turn to has truly been a blessing in time of great storm, with time God can turn it all around and heal and raise up the broken."—SC

"May God bless you and Steve and your ministry. I have never met two people in my whole life that can change my life for the better in one week, thank you so much."—Australia

Steve & Samantha “Down Under”

—Coralie Roll & Arlagene Groves



In October we were very privileged to have Steve and Samantha visit Australia for a whirlwind tour—lasting only 12 days. This included their time to recover from jetlag! The first week was spent at Coorabong, New South

Wales, where they conducted a *Hope & Healing* seminar for survivors of pastoral sexual abuse and two *Faith & Fidelity* seminars for spiritual leaders to help them remain true to their high calling. The first was an interdenominational conference for leaders in the Newcastle area and the second was presented at Avondale College to Theology students and their wives.

They then headed north to Queensland where they had a well-earned day of R&R in Toowoomba before heading to Brisbane for more meetings. On the last day before they left for home they presented a second *Hope & Healing* seminar. All of the seminars were well received with about 100 participants in total. In addition to the presentation of The Hope of Survivors seminars, Steve also presented his three-part revival series both weekends they were here.

In between their busy speaking schedule they also squeezed in a radio interview, a TV news clip for the Hope Channel, a visit with Safe Place Services and an appearance as guests on *Talking Life*, a two-hour talkback show on Christian radio. A recording of this show can be listened to at <http://www.96five.com/pages/content.aspx?pid=128>.

It was wonderful to have the opportunity to meet face-to-face with people who we have journeyed with on the road to healing, and to meet others who we are just getting to know. Hearing Steve and Samantha’s stories and how they found healing was a powerful message for all listening. On behalf of those who attended and benefited from Steve and Samantha’s trip ‘down under’, I would like to thank those who contributed financially to make this trip a reality.

For us, and I am sure for others too, it was a real blessing to be able to meet Steve and Samantha in person after

conversing by email, and occasionally phone, from one side of the world to the other for a number of years. Not only did they bring a special blessing for those attending the seminars, but also for our own families. Steve baptised Madeline (Coralie’s daughter) on the last weekend before they returned home. The devil did his best to disrupt plans but what was meant for evil God was able to use for good.



One of the blessings of this trip was that an attendee who was helped by the message Steve and Samantha presented has offered to assist in the incorporation of The Hope of Survivors in Australia. This is something that we have pursued from time to time, but the ‘red tape’ has made it difficult

and the costs have been way more than could be afforded. God has provided a qualified person who has offered to do this pro bono. This is truly an answer to prayer.

Unfortunately with such a full schedule there was not much time for sightseeing, however, Samantha did enjoy the small amount of time she spent hand feeding kangaroos. Samantha came with one request—to see kangaroos and koalas in their natural habitat. The kangaroos were very obliging but the koalas were not!

We praise God for sustaining them throughout the busy schedule and we pray that God will again bring them to our shores in the not-too-distant future to continue the healing and educating work of this vital ministry (and maybe for Samantha to catch up with the elusive koalas).



Australia Division

Coralie Roll (Administration)

Arlagene Groves (Victim Support Services)

Phone: (866) 260-8958 extension 6 (from U.S.) or (in AU) 07 4615 2430

Web: www.TheHopeOfSurvivors.com

Email: Coralie@TheHopeOfSurvivors.org

Email: Arlagene@TheHopeOfSurvivors.org

We Need YOUR Help!

Please consider the following commentary and needs and pray for God to reveal to you how He would have you help forward the mission and cause of Christ through The Hope of Survivors. There are many victims of pastoral sexual abuse who are hurting and in need of someone to come alongside them to lift their burdens and point them to the Great Physician for healing. Will you help us to help them?

“God’s chosen messengers, who are engaged in aggressive labor, should never be compelled to go a warfare at their own charges, unaided by the sympathetic and hearty support of their brethren. It is the part of church members to deal liberally with those who lay aside their secular employment that they may give themselves to the ministry. When God’s ministers are encouraged, His cause is greatly advanced. But when, through the selfishness of men, their rightful support is withheld, their hands are weakened, and often their usefulness is seriously crippled.

...Those who are called to the work of the ministry, and at the call of duty give up all to engage in God’s service, should receive for their self-sacrificing efforts wages sufficient to support themselves and their families.

In the various departments of secular labor, mental and physical, faithful workmen can earn good wages. Is not the work of disseminating truth, and leading souls to Christ, of more importance than any ordinary business?

Special Thanks

We would like to thank the following individuals and foundations for the generous donation of their time, talent and means. Your kindness is a tremendous blessing to The Hope of Survivors and those we serve. God bless you!

William N. Kirkham, Frost Brown Todd LLC
William R. Dally Foundation
Darren Tappouras, Accounting First (Australia)
Dolores de la Vega Design (www.doloresdelavega.com)

And are not those who faithfully engage in this work justly entitled to ample remuneration? By our estimate of the relative value of labor for moral and for physical good, we show our appreciation of the heavenly in contrast with the earthly.”—*The Acts of the Apostles*, page 340-341

Immediate Needs...

—Donations to offset the current budget deficit due to unfulfilled pledges (\$12,000).

—Funds to print new booklets to replace current set of brochures and include additional information (we have \$2,000 reserved and need \$2,100 more due to the booklet being larger than originally intended).

—Monthly operating expenses (postage, office supplies, utilities, printing, etc.), staff, educational materials and victim assistance.

—*Hope & Healing* (victim’s) conference expenses (meeting space rental, meals, travel, materials, etc.).

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 denomi-

national 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.

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)

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.

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!

Calendar of Events

January 1, 2010

OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED for the holiday. Have a great New Year!

June 23, 2010

Atlanta, GA—The Hope of Survivors annual board meeting

June 24-July 3, 2010

Atlanta, GA—General Conference Session

Location: Georgia World Congress Center, Exhibit Hall C-C3 and C4, **Booth #1324**

The Hope of Survivors will be exhibiting at the General Conference Session of Seventh-day Adventists, which takes place once every five years. In 2005, The Hope of Survivors gave away thousands of DVDs and brochures and spread the word about pastoral sexual abuse around the globe. This is an excellent venue for reaching victims of pastoral sexual abuse and for raising awareness among church leaders. Please support this avenue of outreach.

All are welcome to visit the booth, pick up educational materials and speak with representatives from The Hope of Survivors. There is no fee to enter the exhibit hall and visit the various exhibits.

Exhibit hours are as follows:

Thursday, June 24—2:00pm-7:00pm

Friday, June 25—9:00am-7:00pm

Saturday, June 26—2:00pm-7:00pm and 9:15pm-10:45pm

Sunday, June 27 through Friday, July 2—9:00am-7:00pm

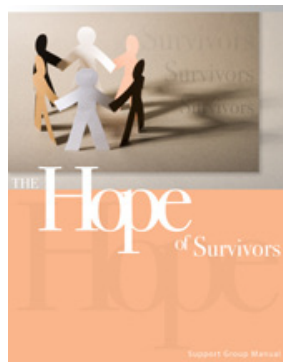
Saturday, July 3—2:00pm-7:00pm and 9:15pm-10:45pm

Hope & Healing victim's conferences are currently being considered in various locations (i.e., Indianapolis, IN; Jacksonville, FL; etc.) and will be scheduled when funds become available to conduct such programs.

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

Small Groups Tool!

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?



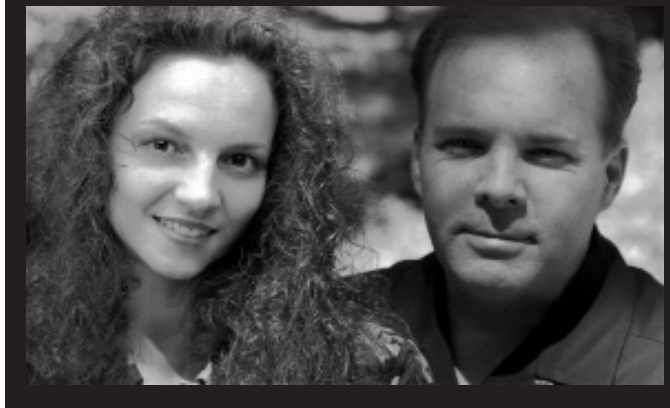
Well, now you can! The Hope of Survivors has just released a new resource—*THOS Support Group Manual*, available for only \$49.95. This manual provides step-by-step instructions and guidelines for becoming a THOS Support Group Facilitator in your area. Order today!

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.

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



THE **Hope**
of Survivors

P.O. Box 27 Effingham, IL 62401