

SUMMER NEWSLETTER- JULY 2009

SPECIAL THANKS TO PARENTS

Some of you may be unaware that that concerned parents were instrumental in establishing CCR as a ministry. Because of their persevering prayer, service, and financial gifts, CCR developed as **UPLIFT** parents wanted ministry available for their children!

Parents, I have an even greater appreciation, respect, and love for you after my recent experience with my own mother's extended illness and recent demise. A better understanding of the steadfastness and sacrifice of a parent's love, for a lifetime!

You may remember that my mother Phyllis Newman, had been very ill (trigeminal neuralgia, stroke, two minor strokes, COPD, pneumonia) since November 2007. After the last Big Christmas dinner, and celebrating her 78th birthday Feb 14, she continued to decline, and passed away March 7. She was such a wonderful witness of Jesus joy and peace during her entire illness

-Thanks to **UPLIFT** coordinators past: Jack and Margie who began it all, then Georgie, Al and Bev, Ginny and Kay, Lucy!

-Thanks to Wanda and Edrice for faithful service. Both are now busy with other responsibilities, so they retire from leadership. We wish them well, even though we miss them greatly. *So we are looking for new coordinator(s).* Meanwhile, I continue to talk with parents, and meet with them as necessary.

-Thanks to Gloria Zwinngi for her work in San Antonio- to Tom and Martha Hardin and their faithfulness with the **AWAKENING** group

-I continue talking with lots of parents with adolescent sons

ANSWER TO PRAYER Most of those who started in the **COLLEGE STATION** group in 2004 have graduated. Ben Stuart of Breakaway recently had a talk on homosexuality which generated lots of inquiries. Grace Bible Church in College Station will also advertise CCR in their church. Thanks to both of them, so word continues to get out, and we resume the Aggies group in College Station in Fall, 2009!

BARNABAS men's group continues in weekly monthly modules, and is growing again. Most recently we have focused on Spiritual Warfare!

CYBER COMMUNICATION INCREASE

These days most of our inquiries come through Exodus network, CCR website, e-mail Facebook, and instant message for chat with three servers! And I use them all!

I find even those living here in Houston are often loathe to come in for a personal appointment! Exodus, Homosexuals Anonymous, and Exodus Latinoamérica all use me as a resource for email communication with the Latin world. I continue on-line ministry for many Spanish speakers, a struggler in Eastern Europe, a new believer in Italy, a long distance teen, and in French with an Iranian.

PRAYER REQUEST: for us to complete new website and update this month!!

We still would like to transfer our bi-annual mailings to computer generated e-mail, which would help us financially (about \$1,200). We would be able to keep you more current, but we need e-mail addresses from about 1500 of you! Please keep us updated on new addresses!

OTHER ACTIVITIES

-Weekly discipling sessions continue with my 22 year old convert

I did a Spanish interview for the March issue of Genera magazine, a Christian youth online magazine in Spain (available in PDF)

-Talk at St. Mark's Lutheran Church Sunday School class

-Talk at Fellowship of Christian Athletes at Brackettville High School. There were 60-80 students, aged 12-18, all very attentive, with excellent questions

-Talk at Concerned Women of America group

-Helping with weekly Homosexual Anonymous meetings via SKYPE for a group in El Salvador

The sixth ***LIVING WATERS TRAINING*** took place in La Falda, ***Argentina*** April 19-23. I am the only gringo who has ministered with the team in all the trainings! And I am the only person who has assisted all the trainings in addition to Mauricio Montion, the South American director! This year I was the only American besides Andy Comiskey! What a joy it has been to invest in leadership in Argentina, Chile, Bolivia, Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Uruguay, and Spain! I rejoice in seeing the leaders maturing, and being raised up.

We had full days with prayer/confession sessions every morning, ministry during morning plenary session, two small group sessions, optional workshops in the afternoon, supervisory sessions in the afternoon, and ministry during the evening plenary sessions! Again I did most of the translating in the team meetings.

SOBERING NEWS

Did you know that President Barack Obama officially proclaimed June as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, And Transgender Pride Month?

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- I will teach "Ministering to Homosexuals" at College of Biblical Studies counseling seminar in Houston August 22, 2009.
- Ha/ Acceptance Fellowship/ Biblical Life Skills Institute invited me to join team to minister in El Salvador August 30-September 8, 2009 (cost around \$1,000)
- "STRAIGHT TALK, HA Conference, October 2-3 TBA in The Woodlands, Texas
- "An educational conference for anyone dealing with the realities of same sex attraction" Presenters include: Arthur Goldberg, Richard Cohen, Greg Quinlan, and Janelle Hallman. Call CCR at 713 782 7084 for further details.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- More opportunities for speaking engagements in Houston area
- Frequent flyer miles (i.e. Continental, 50,000 minimum) **NONE HAVE BEEN**

AVAILABLE THIS YEAR. WE HAVE TURNED DOWN SOME FOREIGN MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES BECAUSE OF TIGHT FINANCES

More volunteer staff (for all groups)

More dedicated monthly pledge partners to join our faithful ranks (\$1335 committed monthly, minimum budget need is \$5000)

Remember, this is our **ONLY** fundraising effort during the year!

Thank you so much for your financial support, prayers, and words of encouragement

Pastor Michael R. Newman

NON-FUND RAISING EVENT FORM

____ Sorry, I don't trust you and amateurs at a CARWASH. Here's the \$10 donation anyway.

____ My life is too busy to find junk for you to sell or to buy any of yours. Here is \$30 to save me the aggravation.

____ I have fallen arches and can't stand the heat, so I don't want to participate in walk/ride/bike/anything A-THON. Here is \$50 to avoid medical expenses I may have had afterwards.

____ I'm terrible at soliciting pledges or selling stuff, so it's worth it to me to give you \$20 so I don't have to.

____ I can't face another partners' luncheon, so here's \$100 for me and the friend I couldn't find to invite.

____ My wife/doctor/scale tells me to stay away from those sweets, so I'm willing to pay you \$75 to avoid those dessert gatherings.

____ Nor do I need to bake any goodies for aforementioned dessert gatherings. I will donate \$25 instead.

____ I hate phone solicitations, but hate to be rude. Here's \$50 to soothe my conscience.

____ Here's \$125, which is what a session with Michael would cost in the real world

____ I realize that if there were larger numbers of dedicated financial partners, CCR would not be so dependent on fundraisers. I will pledge _____ monthly from _____ to _____ so CCR treasurer will not have those monthly headaches!

PS. Don't forget CCR has accounts at Randall's (1982) You can also contribute

through www.PayPal.com or www.Guidestar.org

