



October/November 2009

The Women's Ministry at The Chapel at CrossPoint

Linda Penn, *Director*

What is THRIVE?

THRIVE is the women's ministry initiative for all ages at The Chapel. It is the place where you can safely explore, truly encounter, and whole-heartedly experience the love of Jesus. Get connected with other women...and...get connected with God. THRIVE is all about connecting women to women, meeting them where they are, and taking them where they need to go. THRIVE is the place to believe that Jesus died on the cross for you, to know you are made in His image, and He has a plan and purpose for your life. It is also a place for you to become the woman, wife, mother, grandmother, and/or professional that God wants you to be. Join us!

Transformed by the Word

- Honoring Christ
- Reaching the World
- Influencing Others
- Virtuous Living
- Embracing Womanhood



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The View Outside (by Kim Holet)

I woke up one morning with the realization that there is more going on around me than just my own little life. Sure, I have aches, pains, frustrations, irritations, worries, fears, and big problems that seek to “devour me,” but that doesn’t change the fact that the God of the universe knows me, loves me and has more for my life than I can even imagine.

I recently read a scripture passage that was so encouraging that I just had to share it with you. *“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. And He is the head of the body, the church; He is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything He might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.”* (Colossians 1:15-20). Now, read that verse again about three more times and see if you don’t start to feel the pressures of life lifting off of you. Do you realize what the verse says? Jesus created everything. Everything was created by Him and for Him. Also, in Him, all things hold together. I love that part especially. He holds all things together. When my world feels like it’s falling apart, Jesus is the only One who holds it, and me, together. In my thinking, if Jesus can create the heavens, earth and everything in both of those, then He is more than capable to hold my life together.

Additionally, God offers to strengthen me,

not just hold me together. *“Being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light.”* (Colossians 1:11-12). When I look at that verse, the first thing that blows my mind is that He desires to strengthen me with *“all power according to His glorious might.”* How much glorious might does God have with which to strengthen me? Go back to the first verse I shared with you for that answer. God has enough power to strengthen me to have great endurance and patience. I need that great endurance to continue on living for Christ in the midst of a hard and broken world. I also need that great patience to continue loving others, especially when others don’t love me. And I really need *“strength with all power”* to be able to bear up under the pressures and weight of everyday life.

If you have believed that Jesus is who He claims to be and you have rightly aligned your life to His by repentance, obedience and faith, you are *“qualified to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light.”* That inheritance includes access to the only One who has created everything and has the power to strengthen you to live victoriously.

So, why are we not living with this great endurance, patience, and power? Part of it is out of ignorance because we do not spend enough time reading God’s word to know exactly what Jesus has provided for us. Another part is willful disobedience because we think we know better than God.

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NEW!

“Refined” 20- Something’s Group

It’s here, it’s new, and it’s catching on. Of course I’m talking about the new group within THRIVE Women’s Ministry specifically for young women in their 20’s, whether married or single. You have probably heard them referred to as the “20 Something’s” but soon we will be known simply as “Refined.”



This name was inspired by Malachi 3:3 which says, “He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver.” At first you might think, “How sweet, our young women want to be pure and are willing to be cleansed by the fires of life.” True, but this verse isn’t about us and what we can accomplish. There is so much more meaning in the symbolism of this verse as it directs our attention to the work of the refiner, the silversmith. The silversmith must sit and watch the furnace with a steady eye. If the refining time is exceeded in the slightest, the metal will be injured. How beautiful is that! God is our refiner and He knows our limits. He also knows our potential and He is watching diligently to make sure that what goes on in and around our lives merges with His will for us. Then we can be a true reflection of our Maker. They say that the refining process is complete when the silversmith can see his very own image reflected in the silver. Now THAT gives me goose bumps! Truly reflecting His image is achievable because God is in control of this whole refining process. We won’t be a perfect reflection of Christ until we are with Him in eternity. Until then we have the potential to be more and more like Jesus each day. This is exactly what our “20’s Something’s” are desiring.

The girls involved want to be women of influence and examples to their generation. They endeavor to have a testimony and witness of purity that sets them apart

“Refined” Bible Studies:

- Essentials - for new believers
- Topical Study - weekly topics relevant to you:
 - October 12 - No Meeting
 - October 19 - EVANGELISM by Pam Walck
 - October 26 - MENTORING by Elaine Korb
 - November 2 - SPIRITUAL HEALTH by Mary Lou Forte

Studies offered Mondays starting at 6:30 PM in the CrossPoint Theater. It’s not too late to join!

Upcoming “Refined” Events:

November 7th - Corn Maize in Arcade

**November 13th - Clothing Swap Fundraiser
for THRIVE Missions trips**

**November 21st - Christmas Shopping Trip
to Outlets in Grove City, PA**

Check out thrivewomen.com for updates

Contact:

Theresa Hoffman at hoffmant88@yahoo.com

from the compromised absolutes they deal with every day. They strive to have the capacity to love others as their Savior has loved them, going beyond differences in their society and meeting real needs. That is why this group was formed. These young women need to be learning about God’s Word in ways that are relevant to the issues and needs of their generation today.

In summary, “Refined” is an environment for women in their 20’s, whether married or single, to connect, grow, and serve together in relevant ways that will help them impact their generation for Christ. Pray for us as we lead and watch God work in and through all of these wonderful young women.

-Jessica Venne & Theresa Hoffman, leaders



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>October 2009</i>				1 MOPS 9:30 AM	2 Fish Fry Fundraiser for Missions	3 Women as 1 Dinner Out 20-Something Event
4 Family Worship 9:00 & 11:00 AM	5 Evening Edition 6:30 PM	6 Morning Break 9:30 AM Cornerstone Chapel 8:00 PM	7	8 Mom to Mom 9:30 AM	9	10 Women as 1 Event
11 Family Worship 9:00 & 11:00 AM	12 Columbus Day Office Closed NO Evening Edition	13 NO Morning Break	14 Women as 1 Movie Night Cornerstone Craft 6:30 PM	15 MOPS 9:30 AM Women as 1 Event	16	17 Cornerstone Dinner 5:30 PM Women as 1 Night Out
18 Family Worship 9:00 & 11:00 AM Women as 1 Event	19 Evening Edition 6:30 PM	20 Morning Break 9:30 AM	21	22 Mom to Mom 9:30 AM	23 WNY Breakaway	24 WNY Breakaway
25 Family Worship 9:00 & 11:00 AM WNY Breakaway	26 Evening Edition 6:30 PM	27 Morning Break 9:30 AM	28	29 Mom to Mom 9:30 AM	30 Women as 1 Potluck	31 Remember to Set the Clocks Back

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Family Worship 9:00 & 11:00 AM	2 Evening Edition 6:30 PM	3 Morning Break 9:30 AM	4	5 MOPS 9:30 AM	6	7 Women as 1 Dinner Out 20-Something Event
8 Family Worship 9:00 & 11:00 AM	9 Evening Edition 6:30 PM	10 Morning Break 9:30 AM	11 Women as 1 Movie Night Cornerstone Craft 6:30 PM	12 Mom to Mom 9:30 AM	13	14 20-Something Event
15 Family Worship 9:00 & 11:00 AM	16 Evening Edition 6:30 PM	17 Morning Break 9:30 AM	18	19 MOPS 9:30 AM	20 Women as 1 Potluck	21 Cornerstone Dinner 5:30 PM 20-Something Event
22 Family Worship 9:00 & 11:00 AM	23 Evening Edition 6:30 PM	24 Morning Break 9:30 AM	25	26 HAPPY THANKSGIVING Office Closed	27 Office Closed	28
29 Family Worship 9:00 & 11:00 AM	30 Evening Edition Ends 6:30 PM	1 Morning Break Ends 9:30 AM	<i>November 2009</i>			



Where Moms Connect

MOPS Schedule 2009-2010 Season



- October 7 **Apple Picking**
at Blackman Farms
- October 15 **Flying Saucers**
Various Table Discussions
- November 5 **Galactic Gourmet**
Cooking Demo with Donaday
- November 19 **UFO's - Unique Family Occasions**
with Edie
- December 3 **Global Economies**
Various Financial Topics
- December 17 **Close Encounters**
Christmas Gathering
- January 7 **To Infinity and Beyond**
Leaving a Godly Legacy
- January 21 **Houston, We Have a Problem**
Handling Crises
- February 4 **Polar Opposites**
She Needs Love, He Needs Respect
- February 25 **MOPS & Mom to Mom Combo**
- March 4 **Gravity**
Healthy Mind, Body, and Soul
- March 18 **Launch Pad**
Launching Kids Into the World
- April 1 **Total Eclipse**
Momhood Overshadowing Identity
- April 15 **Spa Day**
- May 6 **Tea & Testimony**



Mothers of Preschoolers

MOPS meets the 1st & 3rd Thursdays of every month.

Time: 9:30 - 11:30 AM

Location: The Chapel Crosspoint Theatre

Registration Fee: \$80 per year

Scholarships are available. Your MOPS fee includes all the benefits of your local MOPS group plus benefits from MOPS International, such as MomSense magazine, Mom e-mails & other gifts.

Check our website for additional MOPS, Women's Ministries, and Childcare info: www.thrivewomen.com

Contact: Dana Hensley, Coordinator
at 984-0691 or dana_m_hensley@yahoo.com



MOPS Antiquities Fundraiser

Antiquities' portraits feature your children in old-fashioned situations with styles of dress including lace dresses, bare feet, overalls, blue jeans, etc. Antiquities supplies the props and clothing; you supply the children (under age 16).

Location: The Chapel at CrossPoint

Dates: November 12, 13, & 14

Contact: Annette at 745 - 3704
You will be contacted for an appointment

Cost: \$10 for ONE 10x13 sepia-tone portrait
Coupons available at the THRIVE Table



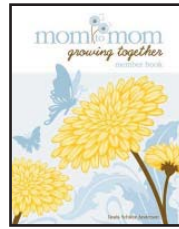
CHILD-CARE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Help moms follow Jesus by providing child-care for MOPS on Thursday mornings from 9am - 12 pm. Contact Holly at x269 or hollymcrowe@yahoo.com.

Mom to Mom Testimony...

Motherhood can be one of the most challenging and difficult jobs that God could bless you with, yet it is still rewarding at the same time. The Mom to Mom Ministry, which models the New Testament writings in Titus 2, is very beneficial because it is a place for older women to advise and mentor younger women. Having joined Mom to Mom last year (after attending only two services at the Chapel) I am delighted to be a part of Mom to Mom again this year. I represent the “older” woman, since my children are young adults now. However, I have found that the common thread of motherhood, in both young and old, in addition to the common thread of faith, have created a most beautiful fabric of love, understanding, partnership, and connection. I thank God every chance I have for this incredible ministry!

–Kathy Nocera



Mom to Mom (DVD study the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month - Fall to Spring)

Cost: \$22.00 (plus \$2 late fee)

A Bible-based, parenting program designed around the Titus 2:4 concept of older women teaching and encouraging younger women in their relationships with their husbands and children. For any mother who feels isolated, intimidated by information overload, or even insignificant in her role as a parent.

Growing Together is the second title in the Mom to Mom Ministry series and challenges moms at all ages and stages to grow deeper, even as they help their children grow. It addresses parenting and family issues while helping moms stay connected to the ultimate Power Source.

Topics include:

“When You’re Running on Empty,” “Taming the Top 10 Marriage Monsters,” “Three Gifts I’d like to Give Every Mom,” “Everyday Crossroads: Choices and Consequences for Parents and Children,” and “Who’s the Parent Here?”

Mom to Mom Testimony...

I have known Jesus since I can remember or at least I’ve known “about” Him. I now know there is a difference. I’m excited to give my testimony; not to share how I was saved, but how He’s transformed me through Mom to Mom.

I’ve been married for 15 years. God has blessed us with 5 healthy children. Being a mother and wife has been challenging. After all, where does our identity as women lie when we are spread so thin? All is for nothing unless we walk with the Lord. He completes us!

I became concerned about my children’s choices, even though we went to church, talked about God, and prayed at meals and bedtime. I saw that I needed to make different choices so that my children would see Christ’s example in me.

My husband’s heart and where God was in his life was a concern also. I realized I needed to pray for Christ to change my heart and fill my soul for my behavior to be a testimony of my love for Christ and my family. (see *I Cor. 7:13, 16a*)

Part of this new desire for change came when I realized my efforts to be the best mom, wife, and friend weren’t fulfilling. I kept my extra weight off and my husband happy, both of which I saw as weakness if not controlled. I was involved in church activities and had my kids in activities to keep busy. Not that these were bad; I was just very busy. “I” accomplished much yet still fell into a “pit,” joyless and confused. “I” was not including Jesus Christ (my Friend), God (my Father), and the Holy Spirit (who fills me with power and love). (see *II Tim 1:7*)

I decided to spend more time with

Christ. Every morning is my goal. I sit where my kids will see me to notice who I give my time to. I also want them to know that my faith rests in God and in the time that I spend with Jesus and His word.

All this has strengthened my faith and brought me joy. I am drawn to the Lord, not by guilt, but because I miss my quiet time with Him when I don’t have it. Life goes on and I still get busy, but I’m drawn to spend time with Jesus.

Now that I give more of myself to Jesus, satan throws obstacles to distract me. I “see” them now for what they are. I’m not perfect and I may sin, but my “desire” is not to. My desire is to love others so that I shine for Christ and open up many opportunities to share the good news of Jesus Christ.

–Alisha Jauch

THRIVE's Upcoming Missions Trips

Do you have a nudge or unsettled feeling from God of, "Why not consider going on a women's mission trip?" Yes, it may be out of your comfort zone (it was for me, too, when I went the first time). It was the best decision I ever made to see Jesus at work in both me and others. So, consider joining us. - *Linda Penn*

Costa Rica March 13-21, 2010



Dominican Republic October 2-9, 2010



Join us for an Informational Meeting about both trips
Sunday, November 8, 2009
in the Andrews Chapel
during the 11 AM Service



Fish Fry Fundraiser FEATURING

Krolick's Barbecue Catering

\$10.00

Friday, January 29, 2010
4:30pm - 6:30pm

The Chapel @ CrossPoint ▪ 500 Crosspoint Parkway

CALL (716) 631-2636 EXT. 273 to place your order.
There will be a LIMITED NUMBER OF TICKETS available at the door.

DRIVE THRU ▪ PICK UP ▪ DINE IN

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE
THRIVE WOMEN'S MISSIONS TRIPS

Applications available at the THRIVE Table

\$250 deposit required by November 25, 2009

Stay tuned for updates on donation needs
for our missions trips this coming year

“Blitz” Our Community Saturday, November 21, 2009

“Taste and see that the Lord is good!” (Psalm 34:8)

On Saturday, November 21 from 9:00AM - 2:00PM we will be “Blitzing” our community within the 5-mile area of the church to thank the local businesses for serving us with their goods and services.

We’d like to be an encouragement to each business as we strive to reach “every man, woman, and child in our area of influence to see the Gospel at work.

Join us by baking “homemade” cookies (serving our community with your best recipe) as we share “thanks and gratitude” to our community.

We’ll need hundreds... no thousands...of baked cookies to share.

This outreach will prove to be a wonderful opportunity for family participation with your children.



You can help by:

- baking cookies,
- getting cookies ready for distribution on Saturday, November 21
- being a designated driver to drop off cookies to merchants and businesses in the area

Sign-up at the THRIVE Table today!

Stuffed Portobello Mushrooms



- 2 tsp extra virgin olive oil
- 5 medium Portobello mushroom caps
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- Balsamic vinegar

STUFFING:

- 1 Tbsp extra virgin olive oil
- 3 cloves garlic, chopped
- 1 small yellow-skinned onion, chopped
- 1 box frozen spinach, defrosted and drained
- 1 can artichoke hearts in water (drained well on paper towels & chopped (6-8 count or 15 ounces))
- Salt and freshly ground pepper
- 4-6 sprigs of fresh thyme, chopped (about 2 Tbsp)
- 3 slices Italian bread, toasted and chopped
- ½ cup chicken or vegetable stock
- ¼ cup grated Parmigiano Reggiano cheese
- Sliced swiss cheese

PREPARATION

Pre-heat oven to 400 degrees.

Heat a large non-stick skillet over medium-high heat. Add just a drizzle of extra virgin olive oil and then the portobello caps. Season the caps with salt and pepper to taste and cook for 3 minutes on each side.

Transfer the mushroom caps to a cookie sheet. Drizzle with balsamic vinegar and rub into the mushrooms to coat evenly. Return the pan to the stove and add olive oil, garlic, and onion. Sauté the onions and garlic for 3 minutes, then add the spinach and artichoke and heat thoroughly.

Season the veggies with salt and pepper and thyme. Add the chopped toast and dampen the stuffing with chicken or vegetable stock. Combine the stuffing and sprinkle in the grated cheese. Top each mushroom with the filling, segments of swiss cheese, and some extra parmesan cheese.

Set the mushrooms in oven for 10 minutes to set the filling and melt the cheese. Cut each mushroom into four pieces and transfer to a serving dish.

Now enjoy!

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But mostly, I believe, we don't live fully because we don't ask God. This asking is called prayer. Prayer takes faith and trust in God. Prayer involves making ourselves quiet enough to hear when God answers. Prayer is a relationship with Someone who loves you and also desires to give you good gifts (see *Luke 11:5-11*). God says that if we call to Him, He will answer us (see *Jeremiah 3:33*). We get our strength from Him. But, if we are not spending time with Him, how do we expect to get strength, endurance or patience? God must take priority in our lives for out of our relationship with Him flows everything we need to fully live. When God becomes the focus of our lives, the pressures and weights of life don't seem quite as heavy. We also begin to look outside ourselves and care for others instead of being so wrapped up in our own stuff. We start seeing the big picture and the trials we are facing

no longer overwhelm us in light of the things of God.

If you are feeling stuck or dry in your walk with the Lord, ask God to give you a heart like His. This means that you are asking Him to impress on your heart the things that are important to Him. Try looking outside yourself to what God may be doing around you. He is always doing something and desires for us to join Him. The mission of the Chapel is that every man, woman and child would come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. This is a mission from God that you can participate in easily. Start by walking around your neighborhoods praying for the people who live around you. Find a place to serve that is a bit out of your comfort zone so that you must trust a little more in God than in your own abilities. God desires for you to know Him because in Him is life and all we need to live it. Why not begin by asking?



Ladies, here's the place to get connected—whether you are new to The Chapel or you have just moved into the area—we center on bringing women together in casual, fun settings. These get-togethers are themed with you in mind. Get to know other women, get connected, have a great time, and build some meaningful relationships. Meets the 1st Monday night of each month through May at The Chapel in the CrossPoint Theater. Also, new this year are connection meetings on the 3rd Monday night of each month at 6:30 PM at various locations. Visit thrivewomen.com for more details.

Cost: \$15.00 (plus \$2 late fee)

Women as 1

Especially geared toward women who from time to time would like not to be alone. Together we'll enjoy restaurants, movies, and even vacations. There's so much to do in life and it's much more enjoyable when we share the experience with others.

Upcoming Events:

October 10 - Ellicottville Fall Festival at 11:00 am
October 14 - Movie Night at Movieland 8 (*Time and Movie TBA*)
October 15 - Dr. David Jeremiah HSBC Arena at 7 pm
October 17 - Benji & Jenna Cowart Concert at Lighthouse Café at 7pm
October 18 - Arcade Fall Foliage Rail Tours at 2pm
October 30 - Pot Luck at Sue Pruet's at 6 pm

November 7 - Doctor Birds Rasta-Rant (*Time TBA*)
November 11 - Movie Night at Movieland 8 (*Time and Movie TBA*)
November 20 - Pot Luck at 6pm (*Location TBA*)

December 5 - Eastern Pearl Restaurant on Maple Road (*Time TBA*)
December 9 - Movie Night at Movieland 8 (*Time and Movie TBA*)
December 18 - Christmas Party at 6pm (*Location TBA*)

**Contact Sue Pruet at 688-8935, Kim McGinty at 688-0483,
or Kim Crispin at 884-0326 for more information.**



THRIVE is the Women's Ministry at
The Chapel at CrossPoint
500 CrossPoint Pkwy.
Getzville, NY 14068
716.631.2636

www.thrivewomen.com

THRIVE Ministry is a part of The Chapel at CrossPoint's Kingdom Come family of ministries that seek to ensure that every man, woman and child has repeated opportunities to hear and see the Gospel of Jesus Christ.