



# The Heartbeat

Monthly Newsletter of Life Saver Ministries/ January 2017

Every year, I order myself a fresh new day planner and every year I chuckle to myself. **“Day Planner”**-- A more accurate name would be “The best guess that I have of what may happen based on commitments I have made to others and they have made to me all at the mercy of the choices of those around us and the sovereign will of our Almighty God- Notebook.” I’m sure the marketing gurus have decided it best to keep calling it a “Day Planner” but we all know, the best laid plans can turn on a dime and so often what I plan for my day isn’t even remotely close to what God brings my way. This is exactly what played out several weeks ago when-- in full discloser-- I was having a discouraging day in which, at every turn, it seemed like evil was winning. I was struggling with seeing so much pain, chaos, and destructive cycles playing out in the lives of the families we serve ; the evil one was whispering those \*Screwtape Letters-esque lies in my ear and I was foolish enough to pause to listen. **Not for long though as**, at that moment, a young women who I had never seen before walked into our center. I could see that this new face was pained and restless. As I introduced myself and began to talk to her, it was as though everything that was simmering under the surface was getting ready to let loose-- and it did. Her eyes started to brim with tears, she became a bit abrasive, at which point I invited her to step into our office to speak more privately. She seemed relieved and once we were in the shelter of a quiet room, the floodgates opened. This precious young woman was at a breaking point. She explained how she has a medical condition that essentially causes connective tissue in the body to break down causing excruciating pain, easily dislocated joints, and a myriad of physical torment. **This is awful stuff.** She explained how it takes every bit of strength and literally several hours to prepare a meal for her daughter; she has to be extremely careful of opening her refrigerator door as she has dislocated her shoulder doing so in the past. Making matters worse, this young mom has no one in her life who she can count on. Her mother died years ago, her father is absentee, and her brother who lives with her has a newfound drug addiction that is creating an increasingly horrific living situation. Her daughter seems to be slipping away as she struggles to provide for her and be available for the “normal” duties of a mom. My heart broke under the crushing weight of this poor girl’s daily fight. She can’t pay her bills. She can’t stir her oatmeal. She can’t carry groceries in. She can’t hold down her job anymore.

(Continued...)

## Heart & SOHL

As you may be aware, January is Sanctity of Human Life month; please pray for the ongoing efforts of Life Saver Ministries as we seek to help prevent choices that destroy life both within the womb and through all seasons of life.

Please pray specifically for:

- \* our pregnancy helpline and website of [helpimpregnant.com](http://helpimpregnant.com) that we will be a beacon of truth and hope in a sea of overwhelming information of the world wide web. The prayer of our heart is that we may be used to provide good counsel, hope & help when most needed.
- \*our post-abortive women’s support group that is seeking to minister to women who may be struggling with the after-effects of abortion whether it be months, years or decades later.

Please read more about this important effort...





## Her Choice to Heal

Post-Abortive Women's Support Group



**Held at The Soulutions Center of  
Life Saver Ministries  
14-16 East Pine Street, Gloversville**

This group is held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month from 6-7:30 p.m. and is an opportunity open to women of all ages who are experiencing difficulty dealing with issues that often arise after an abortion; for some women, there is a sense that their abortion experience is something that can never be talked about and there is often little to no aftercare and support readily available. We seek to create a safe environment for an open, honest dialogue about the individual's after-effects of abortion and any negative impacts or challenges that have arisen due to it. This is an open discussion that explores the book and study guide "Her Choice to Heal" by Sydna Masse of Ramah International. Please feel free to view the website [Ramah International.org](http://RamahInternational.org) to learn more about this organization, the curriculum, and see testimonies of post-abortive women who have found healing and wholeness. If you are interested or know someone who would be interested in coming in to our Soulutions Center to speak to someone in a one-on-one setting, please do not hesitate to contact us either via email at [lifesaverheartbeat@gmail.com](mailto:lifesaverheartbeat@gmail.com) or via phone at 518.725.5777. Class may be cancelled due to inclement weather, so please feel free to contact us if this is a concern. You may also text the ministry at 518.774.4786 if you have any questions or concerns.

UPHOLDING 

# Life &

## CHANGING LIVES

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(Continued...) She can't see an end to the struggle anywhere in sight and , to be honest, either can I, but what I can see is the Throne of Grace and I know the voice of the One who reigns and as He whispered to me the words of hope to say to this precious girl's heart , I could see her face soften and change. I could see her take a deep breath. I could see the resolve in her eyes to follow through with the simple, small steps I encouraged her to take. As I gave her a hug, I stepped back and asked her "What made you stop in here today?" She thought for a moment and said, " I came here when my daughter was younger and all I knew was that I felt loved here. This was the only place I knew to go to." **Time stood still** for a moment and that brief silence was deafening as it drowned out the vile words of defeat and despondency that had clouded my heart just moments prior. I believe I speak for many of the people who actively serve here at this ministry when I say that often times it is the very people we are serving that God uses as vessels to draw us closer to Himself; in that moment I knew that this precious soul knew the same Voice that I know. She longed to touch the edge of His cloak. She knew the love of our Heavenly Father as it was transmitted through one of the faithful servants of this ministry years ago and she remembered it. She craved it. She followed the trail back to where she found it. That, friends, is something to be eager for in the year to come. As we "plan" our days, the inevitable fight that will follow as we become more involved in this woman's life and that of so many others, is something to be eternally grateful for, for it is a privilege. The fact that we can be used to bear her burdens, to pick her up and place her back on the path of life, to point her to the Author of life, is a gift like no other. To live in a perfect, sin-free world is the best case scenario and one that we as believers look forward to eagerly and with every fiber of our being. The next best thing is to have that hope of Heaven and the Holy Spirit with us to navigate through this broken world making a radical, eternal impact along the way in the lives of those that God places in our lives.. So as I look ahead at the blank space in my 2017 Day Planner, I trust that the stroke of our Savior's pen is yet to appear to our human eyes in the indelible, eternal ink of His will; our Heavenly Father has a plan that He will be penning that will be a story of hope and healing through our work together as we are Life Saver Ministries—a collaboration of the Church and a family of the King. May He do more than we could ever begin to imagine as we lay hold of the good works He has prepared for us long before time began, works that will fill 2017, but ripple into an eternity that will know no bounds of time. To the eternal Son who will light our lives for eternity be glory forever.

- Abbey Ballard, Ministry Director

**Ephesians 2:10**

**"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath ordained that we should walk in them."**

\*The "Screwtape Letters" is a literary work by C.S. Lewis that compiles satirical conversations from the perspective of demons who are creating strategies to thwart the faith of a Christian. If you've never read it, I encourage you to!