



WOMEN'S REFUGE OF VERO BEACH

Psalm 46:10 God is our refuge and strength

December 2022

Thankful Beyond Measure

As we enter this special time a year, I have nothing but praise to offer my precious Lord. *"I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds."* (Psalm 9:1) I am so thankful that God called me to be a part of His ministry here at the Women's Refuge.

After serving in the military for nearly a decade and then serving as a public-school teacher for two decades, I knew God still had plans for me. About halfway through my teaching career I was called to become a Biblical counselor. As I walked through the process of counseling, God reinforced not only my faith, but my love for serving Him by loving others through their deepest hurts. I sometimes questioned... How could God use someone as broken as me to walk alongside others and offer hope? But then, He showed me... it is because I am broken. I realized He uses common people like me, to do His uncommon and healing work. It is not because of me, but ALL because of Him. I am humbled and thankful for the wonderful deeds He has done in and through this once broken-down, yet now joyfully redeemed soul, that has led me to the Refuge.

I walked through nearly a decade of confidence in Him, yet not knowing where He was leading me, while pursuing my Biblical counseling career. I knew there was a place and a plan in my future, but I had no idea what it was. As Barbara Gardner so eloquently shared with us in August's newsletter, God led Donna and Ted Robart to start the Women's Refuge twenty-five years ago, never looking back. God has used these last twenty-five years to grow and prepare me to step into this position. When I was in San Antonio and saw the job posting, I knew. This job was

different. From our first zoom interview and through the whole interview process, God gave me peace... His peace. The kind of peace that exceeds all human understanding. In the matter of less than a few months, our house was sold, and we found ourselves saying goodbye to our life in San Antonio. My husband and I, like Donna and Ted, so many years ago, never looked back. We are a team, and a family... His family, at the Women's Refuge. We are so very grateful, with all our heart, that God had called us to this place *"for such a time as this."* (Esther 4:14) The presence of the Lord is radiant at the Refuge, you can feel Him everywhere and see Him in every heart. I am honored to be the Director of Counseling here.

I will thankfully tell of His wonderful deeds, such as placing me under the loving training and vision of our dear founder, Donna Robart. I am humbled to accept the passing of the counseling baton from her. She has entrusted a stellar, knowledgeable, prayerful, and strong counseling family for me to work with. How thankful and blessed beyond measure I am.

Whether as a resident, a counselee, a volunteer, or a donor, we hope to see you soon! May God's blessing be abundant upon you!

Prayerfully,
Jill Miller
Director of Counseling



Prayer of Praise and Thanksgiving

Taken partly from the Valley of Vision Book

Our God and Heavenly Father, hear our prayers of praise and thanksgiving. For You are the fairest, yet greatest Creator and King of all the world. Our hearts admire, adore, and love You. Our frail vessels are full of peace and joy during this time of year when we remember Your faithfulness to us, Your children. You created us in Your image. We bless You for the soul You have created, for adorning it and sanctifying it, for the body You have given to us, for persevering its strength

and vigor, for providing senses to enjoy delights, for Your royal bounty providing for our daily needs. Thank You for our relatives and friends, for the ability to serve others, for a heart that feels sorrows and necessities, for a mind to care for other people, for opportunities of spreading happiness around, for loved ones in the joys of heaven

I, personally, love You above the powers of language to express. Donna

Jenny Finds Peace

When I came to the Refuge, I was weary, heavy, and longing for healing. I immediately encountered time- extra time to pray and be in His Word- to be surrounded by other tender, like-minded women- who wanted more Jesus and less of me. Through the readings, times in devotionals, counseling, and in learning, I was deeply and sweetly reminded that only my life IN CHRIST is going to work. Any needs I have apart from Him are useless, senseless, and wasteful. I was not aware before the Refuge, of my unforgiveness toward a few family members. So much of that unforgiveness is tied to MY expectations and MY desires for good outcomes. God has equipped me to hand all that unforgiveness to Him and to no longer carry it in my heart or in my body and to let it belong where it belongs.

I feel lighter because I am lighter. I still desperately want a sweet outcome for my son and with my sister, and yet, my joy, nor my peace, will not depend on outcomes. I will depend on my God, Father, and king. I will trust His Spirit in me and the promises of His Word. That is where I will anchor my life.

I'm hopeful that three months, six months from now, to hear my husband say, "Wow, you really are trusting the Lord more completely." I'm trusting and praying that my softer,

greater heart will be felt by my adopted daughter and adopted son. God has their future securely in motion already.

I'm so thankful for the respite piece, the pace of the Refuge. I needed that to find deeper healing. It's been so refreshing to be away from my phone. Thank you, Lord, for the Women's Refuge. Thank you for the many more women who will come here to heal.

The Refuge provided healing for my weary heart- I am revitalized, refreshed, released of unforgiveness and aware that I too need to be forgiven daily. I have a renewed refreshment of being in God's Word and a "slower" life.

May the Lord bless you!
Jenny



ANGER MANAGEMENT

SUPPORT GROUP:
Keys to Breaking
the Cycle of Anger
6 week class 3-5 PM
1/20-2/24 Cost \$30
Plus cost of book

Thank you to our Newsletter Sponsors!





WOMEN'S REFUGE
RESALE SHOP **Unique Finds**  POSHMARK

Open House EVENT

TUESDAY NOV. 29 10AM-5PM
Refreshments and Raffle Drawings

ALL STORES 50% OFF
NOV 28TH - DEC 3
(772) 567-3598 1615 10TH AVE.

Chairish **CYBER MONDAY**
NOV. 23-30
50% OFF EVERYTHING
WWW.CHAIRISH.COM/SHOP/WRRESALE