

# Christian Woman Perspective Ministries

Journal of a Christian Woman's Perspective

SPRING ISSUE— April 2011

Revised Issue



Alice L. Belcher, M.S. - Founder

this issue

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The Cardinal Stritch University Alumni Association Board of Directors and CWP Ministries, invites you to join in celebrating its distinguished Alumni at the 2011 Alumni Awards Dinner on Monday, April 18, 2011 at 5:30 pm in the Sister Camille Kliebhan Conference Center at Cardinal Stritch University *Award for Community Service*. For more information, contact Joel Cencius, director of alumni relations, at (414) 410-4203 or [jfcencius@stritch.edu](mailto:jfcencius@stritch.edu).

## CONGRATULATIONS! Rev. Alice L. Belcher

2011 Cardinal Stritch University Alumni Award Recipient of the *SPIRIT OF ST. FRANCIS DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE*.

This award honors an individual who has performed exemplary volunteerism and leadership while serving his or her community.

Join us as we celebrate Rev. Alice L. Belcher, '98 Masters in Science Business graduate of Cardinal Stritch University and our Founder and Awardee at this year's event in the Sister Camille Kliebhan Conference Center at Cardinal Stritch University, Monday, April 18, 2011 at 5:30 pm.

## April is Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month

Join us for a Candlelight Vigil in remembrance of the children and awareness and prevention of child abuse in our community. **Friday, April 8, 2011 at 7:00 pm. Marian Center Chapel, 3195 S. Superior Street. DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 pm.**

# April is Child Abuse Prevention & Awareness Month

Join us. Remember the Children.

"Your presence will speak volumes for children who cannot speak for themselves." -ALB

## Child Abuse Prevention APRIL 8th - 2011 Awareness Month

**"The Little Girl Inside The Closet"**



Sexual assault advocate & survivor Benoni Gaud releases her 2nd book "The Little Girl Inside The Closet" The revealing & honest personal story of her life!

**Guest Speaker**  
BENONI GAUD



Candlelight Vigil

7:00 PM

Doors open at 6:30 pm

Inside the Chapel at the Marian Center  
3195 S. Superior Street - Milwaukee, WI

Also available in spanish



Rev. Alice Belcher  
Establishmentarian



Battery Operated Candles or Flashlights ONLY

## Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month Candlelight Vigil

When: Friday, April 8, 2011. Author Benoni Gaud, author of "The Little Girl Inside the Closet," is the featured speaker.

The vigil will be held inside the Chapel at the historic MARIAN CENTER, 3195 S. Superior Street, Milwaukee, WI at 7:00 p.m. Doors Open at 6:30 pm.

*Battery operated candles or flashlights please. Thank you.*

## "Don't Shoot the Messenger: When Women Come to Court"

Your free presentation CD with a \$20 donation to Christian Woman Perspective Ministries, Inc.

All donations go to help meet the need.

Send your donation to:

CWP Ministries  
PO Box 240915,  
Milwaukee, WI 53224

Or donate online at:  
<http://www.cwpmministries.com/donations.html>

## Don't Shoot the Messenger: When Women Come to Court

Rev. Alice L. Belcher, M.S.





## Ancillary Spiritual Care

Christian Woman Perspective Ministries provides emotional and spiritual care for women and their children regardless of their religious affiliation. We provide compassionate support during times of loneliness, anxiety, loss and recovery.

Often having a presence during a time of crisis or sorting through ethical or moral questions concerning yourself or a loved one is beneficial towards healing. Our ministry provides that presence and/or referral to appropriate care and resources.

Spiritual Care services are provided by trained and experienced clergy. The Spiritual Care services include pastoral counseling, and pastoral support.

Chapel is located within our facility for prayer, meditation and reflection. Religious literature is available upon request from our agency.



Participants are provided religious literature, sacrament, and prayers. Hours of availability: by appointment. To request Spiritual Care, please call (262) 408-7283.

The goal of CWPM's Spiritual Care Program is to share spiritual care, pastoral support, and healing grace to women and their families. Ministering to the body, mind and spirit is the very foundation on which Christian Woman Perspective Ministries was built and will continue to be upheld as the focus and mission of our ministry.

Christian Woman Perspective Ministries  
Partner for Behavioral Health and  
Recovery Services  
Milwaukee County  
Wiser Choice Provider

For appointment call: 262-408-7283

## Available Online

This quarterly publication is deliverable to you electronically! Partner with Christian Woman Perspective Ministries for a suggested donation of \$10.00 per month or \$100 annual commitment. Receive advance notice of special events, and 10% discount for early bird registration for educational conferences and trainings with Isaiah's Coalition for Women and Children. We also invite you to submit your community events for publication. Thank you for your donation to help meet the need.

**“When ones mind is made up this diminishes fear.”  
Christian Woman Perspective Ministries, Inc. provides  
holistically for the spiritual care of individuals & families.**

Rosa Parks, said when asked about her defiant move to not give her seat up to a white man, sparking the civil rights movement, that she was just “sick and tired of being sick and tired.” Rosa, would later go on to state, that infamous quote that, “...when one's mind is made up it, this diminishes fear.” Truly, Rosa Parks spoke for a not only her generation, but for generations to come and set a powerful example for women to follow.

If you are sick and tired of being sick and tired and your mind is made up that you want positive change to happen in your life now-and want to empower yourself mind, body, soul and spirit to be the woman and/or mother you want to be. Call us for an appointment at (262) 408-7283. We want to help you meet your need.

## Women: Pregnant or Single in Need of Recovery

Christian Woman Perspective Ministries , provides for ancillary services to women with or without dependent children; including women attempting to regain custody of their children. Such care includes light case management overview to ensure women and their children needs are met. May also include intervention for children in the custody of women in treatment. Intervention could include, child developmental needs, issues of sexual , physical abuse or neglect., and parenting skills.

## Women in Recovery or Criminal Justice System in Need of Care

If you are a woman committed to recovery or is on supervision and are determined to complete it successfully and you are in need of spiritual care, prayer and guidance contact us for an appointment at: (262)-408-7283. We will work with your referring agency to help meet your need.

*“The Lord will restore you as if the events in your life never happened.” - TD-Jakes, Woman Thou Art Loosed!*

# “DON'T ASK. DON'T TELL.”

The U.S. Military is not the only culture who adopted a policy of “Don't ask. Don't tell.”

Increasingly across our nation, protective parents of reportedly abused children by the other parent, are adopting a don't ask-don't tell policy in the name of protection for their children in matters of domestic-in-home child abuse. It is not uncommon for an abuse victim to be threatened with having their children taken away by the abuser if they report the abuse of themselves or that of their children or attempt to leave their abuser.

Given the current climate trend within the Family Courts across the nation, protective parents who report suspected child abuse on behalf of their children or if the children themselves report being abused by the other parent, it is the protective parents who are losing their custody and/or placement of their children.

What research shows is, more often than not in such cases, when a protective parent seeks the protection of the courts, instead of receiving protection for their children, increasingly the protective parents are instead, having their custody and placement of their children taken away from them and the child given to the parent who the child says abused them, or for whom it is reported as having abused the child, and in some cases, even when there has been an actual finding proving to have abused the child.

Child protective services who are first responders in such “domestic child abuse” reports, are routinely referring protective parents in such cases to the Family Court, leaving the protective parent solely responsible to seek the protection of the child through a child abuse injunction in family court. This leaves the protective parent without the protection of anonymity as afforded to other reporters of child abuse under the law; and subjects the protective parent to the abusers manipulative defense tactics using the family court, gal's and evaluators to abuse, harass and accuse the protective parent of lying or parental alienation or some other sugar-coated word which means the same thing in family court.

One consideration in such domestic-in-home child abuse cases is that child protection services themselves file for the protection of the child within the Children's Court and/or as a Child in Need of Protective Services (CHIPS), when there is a finding that abuse of a child occurred by a parent

or while the child was in their care. The parents relationship to each other is inconsequential.

Possible other consideration may be more aggressive referrals for criminal prosecution in such cases through the district attorney office to bring justice and protection for abused children and protective parents who do step up to report and try to protect their children; instead of the reported re-victimization of both the child and the protective parent who gets separated from each other because they spoke out about the abuse.

More research is needed in this area, but it appears on the surface that increasingly protective parents may be adopting the policy of don't ask-don't tell and not reporting child abuse of their children at the hands of the other parent when parental separation exists. This don't ask and don't tell child abuse policy is possibly out of fear by protective parents of losing their custody and/or placement of their children if they report the abuse when they must seek injunction before the family court without the benefit of either district attorney prosecution or child protective services direct involvement in protecting the child, but are left to file a child abuse injunction on their own in family court.

Research of family court cases across the nation show a disturbing and increasing trend. More often than not, the very issue of the child abuse for which the protective parent sought an injunction, gets lost and in many cases is never really addressed or judgment is deferred to GAL's or psychologists with economic attachment to such cases, which then morph into child custody placement matters between parents, often vilifying the protective parent who sought the protection of the court for the child in the first place.

Recent Wisconsin child protective service reports show a decrease in “reported child abuse” cases. Possibly, actual abuse of children is decreasing. National numbers speak differently. One possibility for decreased “reported cases” may be attributed to the fear factor. “Fear” of protective parents in losing custody or placement of their children if they report suspected or actual child abuse of their children (“don't tell”) and encouraging their children likewise (“don't ask.”) If you suspect a child is being abused or neglected, CALL (414) 220-SAFE (220-7233). In a life threatening emergency, dial 911.



## The Founder

### You can help.

We are dedicated to empowering families, particularly women and their children, holistically sharing and teaching the Word of God in prayer through Biblical study, worship services, educational conferences, and community outreach-speaking out against violence against defenseless women and children.

Established in Milwaukee County in the State of Wisconsin, we have aided women and their families. Many of those we helped were able to find new direction for their lives with restored hope, health and faith.

As an edict of our faith to give back to God 10% of our tithe, time and talent, Women and Men of Faith fund this ministry; and by the charity of the community at large through your kind donation.

Thank you for your support of time, tithe and talent to help us meet the need.

# Women's Health



## EMERGENCY ROOMS:

### MISSING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS

*Study, published online in the Journal of General Internal Medicine, Dr. Karin Rhodes.*

Researchers examined all emergency hospital room visits and domestic violence-related police events from 1999 to 2002 at eight hospitals in a semi-rural Midwestern county.

The research found that over 70% of women treated in emergency rooms are not identified as victims of domestic abuse according to a new study. Even though a total of 993 female victims of domestic violence generated 3,246 related police incidents over the four-year study period.

Women who had filed a police complaint the day of treatment, had been taken to the hospital by the police, had self-disclosed domestic assault, or who had mental health and substance abuse issues, were more likely to be identified as victims of domestic violence, the study says.

#### Your Inner Thoughts and Feelings

##### Do you:

- feel afraid of your partner much of the time?
- avoid certain topics out of fear of angering your partner?
- feel that you can't do anything right for your partner?
- believe that you deserve to be hurt or mistreated?
- wonder if you're the one who is crazy?
- feel emotionally numb or helpless?

#### Your Partner's Belittling Behavior

##### Does your partner:

- humiliate or yell at you?
- criticize you and put you down?
- treat you so badly that you're embarrassed for your friends or family to see?
- ignore or put down your opinions or accomplishments?
- blame you for his own abusive behavior?
- see you as property or a sex object, rather than as a person?

#### Your Partner's Violent Behavior or Threats

##### Does your partner:

- have a bad and unpredictable temper?
- hurt you, or threaten to hurt or kill you?
- threaten to take your children away or harm them?
- threaten to commit suicide if you leave?
- force you to have sex?
- destroy your belongings?

#### Your Partner's Controlling Behavior

##### Does your partner:

- act excessively jealous and possessive?
- control where you go or what you do?
- keep you from seeing your friends or family?
- limit your access to money, the phone, or the car?
- constantly check up on you?



## HUMAN RIGHTS

### INCLUDE WOMEN'S RIGHTS

- ◆ "I have the right to be heard and be responded to with courtesy."
- ◆ "I have the right to be treated with dignity and with respect."
- ◆ "I have the right to the love and consortium of my children."

May 3, 2011  
MOTHER'S DAY MARCH

Sponsored by the "Voices of the Suffering Mothers"

*"Mother's Day for many mothers throughout Milwaukee County is no longer a joyous celebration. Therefore, we shall be in mourning for the loss of our children and grandchildren." - Pastor M. Stone.*

**The suffering mothers of the City and County of Milwaukee will be marching on Tuesday, May 3, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. to express the hurt and pain that families are experiencing in our community due to violence and the destruction of families that it brings.**

The Voices of the Suffering Mothers are individuals across the community assembling together to exercise their freedom of speech to stop the violence in our community. We invite you to join us.

For more information contact:

"VOICES OF THE MOTHERS"  
2977 N. Sherman Boulevard  
Milwaukee, WI 53210-1703  
Email: Mmo8mo4s@aol.com

Pastor M. Stone  
Pastor B. Echols  
Pastor A. Belcher  
Pastor D. Wellington  
Co-Pastor H. Fifer and

"Thus said the Lord of hosts, consider ye, and call for the mourning women that they may come; and send for cunning women, that they may come. And let them make haste, and take up a wailing for us that our eyes may run down with tears, and our eyelids gush out with waters. For death is come up into our windows, and is entered our homes/cities, to cut off the children from without, and the young men from the streets." JEREMIAH 9:17-18, 21.



# 10 Steps

## Resolving Couple Conflict

"Don't find fault, find a remedy." - Henry Ford

*Building a Strong Marriage: Prepare/Enrich Program*

PREPARE/ENRICH Program—Building a Strong Marriage

turn violent.]-*Eph. Added.* Healthy couples find ways to resolve marital disputes without turning them into marital wars. Couples who accept and appreciate the fact that their partner has independent opinions tend to reach successful satisfying resolutions.

When you have issues that are ongoing, use this Ten Step approach to deal with them. The exercise may boost your success in ending issues that resist resolution.

As simple as the Ten Step Exercise looks, remember it is not a game. Take time to work on all of the steps. Focus on one issue at a time and you will

- Set a time and place for discussion.
- Define the problem or issues of disagreement.
- How do you each contribute to the problem?
- List past attempts to resolve the issue that were not successful.
- Brainstorm. List all possible solutions.
- Discuss and evaluate these possible solutions.
- Agree on one solution to try.
- Agree on how each individual will work toward this solution.
- Set up another meeting. Discuss your progress.
- Reward each other as you each contribute toward the solution.



## Upcoming Events—April 2011

### Candlelight Vigil

April is Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month. Join us for a candlelight vigil inside the Marian Center CHAPEL. Friday, April 8, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 PM

### Women & Children First an Isaiah's Coalition Broadcast

Be empowered! Tune in each Saturday at 6:00 pm to "Women and Children First an Isaiah's Coalition Broadcast" - a blog talk radio program. Call in or listen live. Dial 646-721-9829

*"The Lord will restore you as if the events in your life never happened."*

Bishop Theodore Dexter Jakes

### Specialized Development

Isaiah's Coalition for Women and Children presents trainings on various topics, including domestic violence (DV), Intimate partner abuse (IPV), Domestic Violence Systems, Clergy/DV Edification and Basic Life Skills and the Restorative Process, and others. In addition, also pro-group trainings at your site upon request.

CONTACT US AT:

Email: [admin@Isaiahcoalition.org](mailto:admin@Isaiahcoalition.org)  
Phone: (262) 408-7283

**CWPM—A Christian  
Woman's Perspective  
SPRING ISSUE - April 2011**

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