

THE PEACEMAKER CENTER

Winter 2011

OUR OFFICE LOCATIONS

Downingtown: 103 Garris Road
Kennett Square: 321 E Cypress St
West Chester: Providence Church
 430 Hannum Ave
 Day and Evening Hours
Phone: 610-269-2661
Fax: 610-269-7562
contact@thepeacemakercenter.org



Do You Like To Shop?

If you shop through **Amazon.com** consider starting at www.thepeacemakercenter.org. Each time you begin with our page and enter Amazon.com a portion of the proceeds goes to The Peacemaker Center. Just click on our shopping cart



And shop for all of your Christmas needs! We also have a **book store** with suggested books for specific mental health needs.

Also like us on Facebook! Post questions or peruse the links to articles on tough emotional situations.



We Want to Say Thanks!

Thank you to all of our volunteers who came out to help us clean up the landscape around the office! We are so thankful for the support and hard work!



A Bridge Between Two Cities.....Finding Thankfulness

Hearing, "It's the most wonderful time of the year!" no matter its intention always brings my mind to the Staples commercial shown in August when the kids are getting ready to go back to school. The parent rides through the aisles on the back of a shopping cart with a look of euphoria while the children are dragging their feet with downtrodden faces.

This season also reminds me of the classic novel, "The Tales of Two Cities" by Charles Dickens. "It was the best of times; it was the worst of times." As a therapist I have learned the holiday season swells a wave of depression and even increases suicide. While for others new beginnings, happy times, and exciting life lasting memories are created around tables, trees and celebrations.

As I am beginning to transition between a former way of life to a new way of living I find myself ebbing back and forth between the feelings of sadness and despair and the anticipation of what could be. As my closest friends have been sailing along side of me, with life preserver on call, I have been challenged to face my present storm with thankfulness. My dear friend told me that before my feet even hit the floor each morning I should write down at least five things to be thankful for. Her admonition was just that I find something to be thankful for each day.

The past 48 hours has provided me something that I did not expect. I sincerely hope we all have a few friends/family that will love us despite our flaws, our failures and cheer us on to fulfilling our individual potential and beyond. I believe having those people in our lives is something to be truly thankful for everyday. However, to my surprise it was not ONLY those few people who have remained loyal and faithful in their support for me that have brought me laughter and strength to face today, it was the kindness and words of a few who I have never met that touched my heart deeply.

The details of the circumstances do not matter; it was the words and actions of these "strangers" that gave me a different view of the world in which I live. The goodness of people was surrounding me and the kindness that showered me was from faces I would not even recognize. The goodness and love of God through humankind penetrated deep these past few days. These divine "chance" encounters gave me a beautiful gift this season.

It may be the best of times for some and for me it feels a little like the worst of times. However, as I take a step back and look for things to be thankful for, so I can fulfill my commitment of keeping a gratitude journal (let's be honest of the motive); I was given a beautiful bridge that I can choose to use to cross over the raging waters of my life. It is a bridge that consists of people who are the closest of friends and others I do not even know but all pour out goodness and love in generous quantities. As I take each unsure step, it is my hope that through the journey I will daily realize what a true gift this bridge is and that I too can be a part of someone else's bridge.

Written by Lori Peters-McClure, MA, a friend of The Peacemaker Center

Matching Grant Extended!

So far, The Peacemaker Center has received **\$5650** towards a generous matching grant that will double all donations up to **\$10,000**. We are very grateful for the donations received so far! If you have not already, consider taking advantage of this opportunity to support the scholarship fund here at The Peacemaker Center. All donations are tax deductible. Send in a donation today to see that tax deduction in April 2012!

Make a Difference Today!

GALATIANS 6:9

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. ¹⁰ Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE: THEPEACEMAKERCENTER.ORG



New Beginnings

Want to Do More than Just Attend The Banquet?

- **Donate \$500 and reserve a table for 10 guests**
- **Donate a silent auction item to promote you business and help raise scholarship funds**
- **Commit to praying for The Peacemaker Center by signing up for our prayer request email**
- **Commit to a monthly donation to support the scholarship fund**

To get involved email info@thepeacemakercenter.org

Save The Date!

The Peacemaker Center Annual Banquet & Auction

Each year The Peacemaker Center raises money to offer scholarship services for those who cannot afford counseling. Our annual banquet and silent auction will be held **March 23, 2012** at Waterloo Gardens. If you have never attended don't miss it! The free to attend banquet is a delicious dinner and silent auction. Auction baskets include gift cards, jewelry, trips and products from local businesses. This year our speakers will include people who have experienced healing at The Peacemaker Center. Reserve your place or table by please emailing info@thepeacemakercenter.org.

Kennett Square Knitting Group!

The Peacemaker Center is Collaborating with Healthy Start to create a knitting group for young Latina mothers. The group's purpose is not only to teach women how to knit, but build a social support network that will provide emotional support to help young mom's transition into this new phase of life. If you would like to donate yarn or wisdom email: info@thepeacemakercenter.org



Un Grupo de Tejer

Este enero estamos empezando un grupo de tejer para madres nuevas. Ven a aprender a tejer y platicar con otras madres! Y se puede traer sus ninios. Para obtener más información llame al: (336) 688-2343



POST ADOPTION SUPPORT GROUPS for Parents and Kids 2011 - 2012



**675 Unionville Road
Kennett Square, PA 19348
610-444-2670**

**We meet monthly on
Tuesdays from 6:30-8:00 PM**

November 15	March 13
December 13	April 10
January 10	May 8
February 21	