

## **A Note from the Director**

This past year has been a great year at the Hope Women's Center. We have had many opportunities to serve women and girls in crisis and physical need. We thank the Lord for giving us the chance to be of service and to assist those in need. The Lord has truly blessed by supplying our needs through the kindness of people in the community. We have had 16 babies born this year and we praise God for that. We also assisted 868 families. We were only able to do this because of the support, gifts and prayers of all of you who care about this ministry. We would like to thank all of you. May God continue to bless you for caring for Hope Women's Center and the ministry it provides.

Serving Him together,  
Judy

## **Success in 2008**

This past year the staff has had many speaking engagements in churches regarding the Center, Sanctity of Human Life and Abstinence. We had seven church ladies' groups meet at the Center to learn about the services we provide. The Center also sponsored a Volunteer Training course in April and as a result we have three new volunteers who are fully trained. We participated in five health fairs, did a program on the Center and abstinence at Pickens Middle School, were part of a Victim's Advocate Rally and spoke to the Pickens Rotary Club. In addition, we spoke at the Pickens Leadership Group, and the Women of the Moose. Joan Johnson and Judy Pace attended an Infant Adoption Training program, and the benefit by Cornerstone Christian Book Store.

## **SPECIAL THANKS**

For the second time, Ryan Norris of **Norris Ford** selected Hope Women's Center to be the recipient of their yearly fundraiser and through this we received \$10,400. We are very thankful to the Norris organization and we praise God for His many blessings.

## **The Gator That Almost Wasn't**

Florida Gators Quarterback Tim Tebow made history on Dec. 8, 2007, by becoming the first sophomore ever to win the Heisman Trophy, college football's most coveted award. Tebow, 20, a 6-foot-3-inch, 235-pound sophomore has wowed football fans with his abilities as a dual-threat quarterback who can run and pass. But Gator Nation was almost denied the privilege of such an outstanding player. Pam Tebow, Tim's mother, suffered an infection with a pathogenic amoeba during her pregnancy, and a Philippine doctor suggested that she abort the fetus because the strong medications she was being treated with could cause serious disabilities to the baby. "We knew that we could not do that," she said of the suggested abortion. "We all prayed to God for a healthy baby," she recalled. "And God answered our prayers when Timmy was born."

The Tebow family, missionaries in the Philippines at the time, home schooled all five of their children, instilling the family's deep Christian beliefs along the way. That's evident in Tim's life, who says his list of priorities, in descending order of importance, is faith, family, academics and football.

When Tim accepted the Heisman Trophy, ESPN interviewed the family and Pam related the story of her refusal to abort "Timmy" when she was advised to do so. As a result of that interview, she now has a national platform to encourage the pro-life message. She said she is excited about the opportunity to share her pro-life beliefs. And, because the Tebow family strongly believes in the sanctity of human life, Gator Nation has a formidable quarterback

We say a big THANK YOU to the **Upcountry Quilters Guild** for all the beautiful baby quilts they gave us again. Because of their love and hard work many little babies will be warm this winter.

## **Fall Banquet at Brush Creek Baptist Church**

The fall banquet was held again at Brushy Creek Baptist Church this year. Thank You Brushy Creek for your faithfulness, support and prayers for the Hope Women's Center. More than \$11,000.00 was raised at the banquet for the support of the Center. We are moving closer to our long-term goal of providing ultra sound services for our clients. We particularly want to thank the sponsors who made considerable monetary contributions for the banquet.

Cornerstone Insurance Resources, Inc.  
Gwinn's Tire and Alignment  
Hendrick Honda of Easley  
Heritage Propane  
Keowee Baptist Church  
Sulzer Process Pumps (US) Inc.  
Drs. Dan and Kristine Pasui

### **On Going Needs**

We are always in need of certain items, which include:

Diapers, wipes, baby lotion, powder, shampoo, baby oil, pacifiers, bottles, formula (please check the expiration date), sleepers, preemie clothing, warm coats and sweaters, baby clothes, baby cribs (with all the parts), bassinets. We try to provide anything a baby up to the age of 24 months might need. In addition, we also need maternity clothing.

We strive to serve God by giving Him our best at Hope Women's Center—spiritually, physically and emotionally. When the women/girls come through our doors, we want to furnish them and their babies with the best items possible. Therefore, we ask for new or gently used items for our clients. Thank you for helping in this way.

### **Why Should I Be Pro-Life?**

Taking a stand for what is right is not always the easy path. When Daniel was given the opportunity to eat what was unclean from the king's table, the easiest thing to do would have been to eat what he was given. But Daniel knew God's law, and he was ready to stake his reputation, his position, and possibly his life on his belief that God's law is better than man's riches.

Daniel took a stand on the side of right, and he was found to be on the side of God.

The pro-life position is such a belief. It is easier to keep quiet and go along with the status quo. But the Bible tells us that God has given value to every human being and that He formed our inward parts and wove us in our mother's womb. (Psalm 139:13-16). It also reveals that God loves and cares for the weak and innocent (Matthew 11:28, Deu. 21:9, II Kings 24:4) and He desires that His followers do the same. (Romans 15:1-3). As with Daniel, we have a choice to make. Are we ready to take a stand for what God's law reveals or do we just follow along wherever society leads? Will we be found on the side of right? Will we be found on the side of God?

### **Center for Disease Control Study Reveals Alarming Teen Statistic**

In March, 2008, the National STD Prevention Conference presented a CDC study that estimates that 26% (one in four) young women between the ages of 14 and 19 in the United States (that's 3.2 million teenage girls) are infected with at least one of the most common sexually transmitted diseases. These include human papillomavirus (HPV), chlamydia, herpes simplex virus and trichomoniasis. This is the first study that looked at the national prevalence of common STDs among adolescent females in the U.S. It's about time!

### **What Does "Pro-Life" Mean?**

A pro-life person takes action to protect the weak and speaks up for those who cannot speak for themselves.

Being pro-life means:

- \*believing that a baby's life is a gift that should be cherished.
- \*believing that a mother is a precious human with value and dignity.
- \*believing that all human life belongs only to the Creator who gave us life.
- \*believing that all life is God's to give and take away.