



Dragonfly Ministries

Reflecting and Refracting God's Love

September 2009

Volume 2, Issue 1

Dragonfly Retreat Ministry Expansion

Dragonfly Ministries has been holding women's weekend retreats since 2003, when we began our retreat ministry in north Texas.

In 2006, we held our first women's weekend retreat in Pennsylvania and in 2007, we partnered with Light of Christ Ministries in Texas to bring a weekend retreat to southern Texas.

In 2009, Dragonfly Ministries partnered with churches in Illinois to lead women's retreats through speaking and music.

As we look ahead to 2010, we are excited to announce our first weekend retreat in Racine, Wisconsin. The retreat facilities sit on beautiful Lake Michigan. At this retreat, we will introduce our newest worship leader, Kristin Moroni and our guest speaker, Cassidy Novak! Check the website for pictures, registration, etc.

We often hear the question, **"How can I bring a Dragonfly Ministries Retreat to my region?"**

1. Pray and ask the Lord to lead you in HIS desire for the women of your region.
2. Talk to the women from your region to see if they would be interested in attending a weekend retreat hosted by Dragonfly Ministries. Registration minimum is 20; maximum should be limited to 40 women.
3. Discuss possible weekend dates that the women would be available to attend a weekend retreat. Please plan in advance. To put together a weekend retreat with facilities, meals, travel, etc., an average lead time is between six to twelve months. Retreat facilities generally book one year in advance.

4. Designate 1-2 women to work with Dragonfly Ministries staff to discuss and work through lodging facilities, meals, registration fees, etc.

Dragonfly Ministries can partner with churches to bring a retreat to your region but that is not necessary. Our retreats are structured to bring women into the presence of God so that they can meet with Him.

We are a non-denominational organization that preaches Jesus and the message of salvation through His sacrifice and resurrection. Retreats should be scheduled for groups of women who want to grow in their Christian journey and who want to invite friends to attend for the same purpose.

Currently scheduled retreat dates and facilities are shown below. To register, visit us at www.dragonflyministries.com

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Laney Lodge, Fairfield, PA
September 11-13, 2009
www.middlecreekbible.org



Light of Christ Ministries, Gause, TX
October 2-3, 2009
www.lightofchristministries.com



Camp Hoblitzelle, Midlothian, TX
March 5-7, 2010
www.hoblitzelle.com



Siena Center, Racine, WI
May 21-23, 2010
www.racinedominicans.org

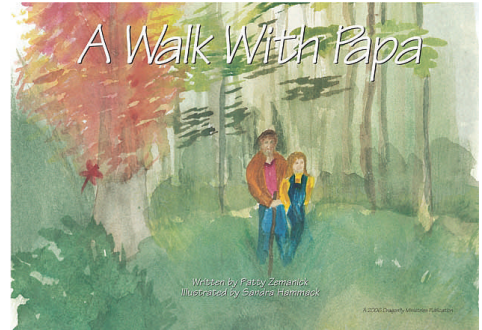
For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

Update—“A Walk With Papa”

Our first publication, a children’s book entitled “A Walk with Papa” has hit the ground running. Published in January 2007, the book has sold hundreds of copies and is now available for purchase on both Amazon.com and Target.com. The book has been reviewed by Tanya Dennis, a managing editor of Christian Children’s Book Review. Last year, the book was featured on WPUL 1590 am “Jonzun Radio Kids”. The radio host, Shali Jonzun, interviewed both Patty Zemanick and Chelsea Whitaker about the book and the way that it is being used as a witnessing tool to children.

The book has been featured at book festivals in South Carolina and has received a write-up in the Greenville News (Greenville, SC). “A Walk With Papa” has a featured ad on Facebook, is being carried in several independently owned Christian book stores including a bookstore in the United Kingdom, and was advertised to Children’s Pastors and Ministry Leaders at the Children’s Pastor’s Conference in January 2009. While we are still learning how to market and distribute the book, we are encouraged that God continues to open doors for the book to be shared in many countries around the world as well as currently being distributed through the United States.

If you would like more information about this children’s book, please visit our website, www.awalkwithpapa.com. This website provides testimonials written by the author, Patty Zemanick and the illustrator, Sandra Hammack. We have also included teaching tools for Sunday School teachers and Children’s pastors, ordering information, and a story of how a young woman and her dog are using this book in ministry.



“A Walk With Papa”

Patty Zemanick, Author

Sandra Hammack, Illustrator

Dragonfly Ministries and MOPS by Mary Hamrick

Soon after moving to Illinois, I accepted a position in full-time ministry. As a part of that opportunity, I was able to meet many wonderful Christian women and to travel the states of Illinois and Wisconsin.

During one of my trips, I met Trina. Trina is the mother of three young children and at the time was involved with MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers). As Trina and I shared stories of God’s goodness in our lives, Trina suggested that I put some of my stories together to share with MOPS groups in Illinois and Wisconsin.

As I prayed about the presentation that I would share with MOPS groups, the Lord began speaking to my heart of the importance of sharing with younger women how He works through the

normality of life and the mundane tasks that are repeated daily. In my mind, I could see how God spins those chores, tasks and normal moments into the character of our life and our children’s lives. It is not the mundane tasks of our lives that develop our character to be more like Christ, but it is the attitude and the joy in which we complete those tasks that grow us in His likeness.

Over the past two years, I have had opportunities to share my stories with young moms involved with MOPS. Last fall, I had the opportunity to meet and work with the CEO of MOPS, Elisa Morgan. It was a privilege to be able to offer her a word of encouragement in her work with young moms and to share with her the passion of Dragonfly Ministries and a copy of our children’s book.

I thank God for introducing me to Trina whose wisdom put me on the path to ministering to young moms in a meaningful way. Through MOPS events, I have also been able to present our children’s book, “A Walk with Papa” with many young mothers. This book is well received by mothers of young children and I receive many emails rejoicing in the fact that young children are being led to the Lord through the sharing and reading of this book.



Mary Hamrick pictured with the CEO of MOPS, Elisa Morgan.



In the Stillness—Hearing and Recognizing the Voice of God

Dragonfly Ministries retreats follow the same basic format for each weekend. The strength of the retreat is the quiet time that is given to retreat attendees on Saturday afternoons. This is a stretch of time where the women are encouraged to spend time alone with the Lord.

Some of the guidelines we give for the quiet time, geared toward helping women learn to be still and recognize the voice of God in their spirits, are as follows:

1. Read from God's Word; start in Psalms or John. If one verse speaks to you, re-read that verse several times to see how God wants to apply it to your life. Highlight any key words or phrases that speak to you.
2. Use the Bible concordance (located in the back of your Bible) to find scripture with these key words and see what the scriptures say. Some-

times God speaks to you through a single word or a short phrase. Sometimes He points out a particular word or phrase so you will do more research in your Bible to discover what He is saying.

3. Ask God to open your eyes to see Him at work; ask Him how to apply His word in your life.
4. Carry your journal and pencil with you. Anytime God speaks to you is a unique experience. Write it down.
5. As you talk to God, tell Him everything so when He answers, you will recognize that the answer is from Him.
6. Sit still and listen. As you read God's Word, repeat a verse several times, concentrating on the words. Still your heart and listen to the silence. Getting accustomed to the silence will prepare you to hear God's voice when He does speak.

During retreat weekends, we encourage women to step outside of their comfort zone, and obey the gentle promptings that they sense, with these instructions:

If you think that you are hearing God's voice or if you think that God is prompting you to do something or talk to someone, then take a step of faith and obey. Remember, God may ask you to do something that is completely outside of your comfort zone, but He will never ask you to do something that does not line up with His scriptures and commands.

If what you heard or sensed was God's voice, He will confirm His voice once you take the first step. The best way to learn to recognize and hear God's voice is to act in obedience each time you believe you are hearing or sensing God prompting you to do or say something. As you obey these gentle promptings, your ability to sense and hear God's voice will increase.

Volunteer Opportunities!

If you have attended a Dragonfly Ministries retreat weekend, this message is for you! You have an idea of the ministry that God has called us to. You have seen firsthand the work that God does at a weekend retreat. You know that a great deal of work and detail go into each retreat. Let us extend a personal invitation to you—"You are officially invited to join our ministry team!"

How?

Schedule a retreat for your region. (See page one.) Each retreat has volunteer positions that need to be filled.

Retreat / Facilities Coordinator (*)
Registration Table Hostess

Set-up / Clean-Up Hostess

Agape Gifts Coordinator (**)

Transportation (airport runs)

Retreat Prayer Coordinator (monthly

prayer meetings 3 months prior to retreat and 1 month after retreat).

*Retreat Coordinator position is involved in all stages of the retreat planning.

Other positions are involved for a shorter commitment period.

**A budget for each retreat is set for agape gifts; expenses are reimbursable.

If you currently have a retreat scheduled for your region, please feel free to contact your Retreat Coordinator to see where you may volunteer!

If you are considering having a retreat in your region, you will want to pray about who will fill these positions based on their gifts, skills and abilities.

RETREAT COORDINATORS

Illinois / Wisconsin—Cate Porter
lilypuddin@yahoo.com

Maryland / Pennsylvania—Dori Morrell
dmorrell420@aol.com

North Texas—Aubrey Benitez
aubrey.benitez@yahoo.com

We are currently looking for volunteers to help with the following:

Website Design

Proofreader for printed materials
Prayer Coordinator for Overall Ministry
(email based communications)

(email Mary for additional information:
maryh@dragonflyministries.com)



Dragonfly Ministries

Postage Stamp

**Reflecting and Refracting
God's Love**

Return Address:
295 Noble Circle
Vernon Hills, IL 60061

Our Mission Statement

To encourage women to the point of enlightenment in their walk with God that produces a changed heart and a call to action.

TO:

The dragonfly is a symbol of growth and development. Her life begins in water, but as she matures, she moves to the air yet always stays close to the water. She reaches her strongest physical point during the summer months as she gains optimal strength from the warmth of the sunlight. Her brilliant colors result from reflecting and refracting the radiance of that same light.

The dragonfly serves to remind us that we too can reflect the light of God in a darkened world, by letting His Son shine through us. In a sense, we desperately need to be "dragonflies" for God. God specifically places His light (The Holy Spirit) in our hearts to teach us, guide us, and to shine through us so that others will be drawn to Him. Our light is the love of Jesus Christ. When we stay close to God, our source of life, we are at our strongest - we are essentially at His best.

2 Corinthians 4:6 *'For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.'*

Will you be a Dragonfly for God?

Dragonfly Stuff

Donation Amount:

\$ _____

Donations to the ministry are tax-deductible

(Monetary gifts may be earmarked for any of the following ministries:

General Fund, Retreat Scholarship Fund, Book Publishing Fund)

Gift designated to: _____ Fund (mentioned above)

Officers:

Mary Hamrick, President

Martha Shipman, Vice President

Mary Slovak, Treasurer

Amount Enclosed:

\$ _____

Merchandise Order Form

Dragonfly Ministries logo t-shirt (\$12.00 each)

Dragonfly Ministries logo black canvas bag (\$6.00 each)

A Walk With Papa children's book (\$10.95 each)

(Also available online www.awalkwithpapa.com)

Worship Leaders:

Jennifer Young

Jennifer Carson

Kelly Willie

Kristin Moroni

Shipping Charges

(Add \$2.85 for first item, \$1.50 for each additional item) \$ _____

Retreat Coordinators:

Aubrey Benitez, North TX

Cate Porter, IL / WI

Dori Morrell, MD / PA

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email address: _____ Phone Number: _____

**Make checks payable to Dragonfly Ministries and mail to:
Dragonfly Ministries, 295 Noble Circle, Vernon Hills, IL 60061**