



Crib Notes

November 2005

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A Christmas Gift Which Honors Your Loved Ones

If you are like most of us, there are people on your gift list who truly do not need to be burdened with another gadget or magazine subscription. They are people, like you, who delight in giving to others instead of accumulating things for themselves. Yet, you want to express affection for them at Christmas or other times of the year. What better solution than a gift that honors those individuals and helps to change lives for the good through the work of Lois' Lodge.

Your gift in honor of friends or loved ones tells them that you recognize their heart for kindness. Your gift will encourage them and provide a far more lasting memory than a box of chocolate or a coffee table book.

Christmas cards are available for tax deductible gifts of as little as \$15 each. Our unique greeting card will announce your gift and

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The Director's Corner



One of the highlights of the Lois' Lodge banquet was the testimony of a past resident. Through her emotional presentation she shared how the Lord used Lois' Lodge to bring about dramatic change in her life.

Beth stayed at Lois' Lodge through the course of her pregnancy. Prior to coming to Lois' Lodge she had been estranged from her family and involved in a lifestyle revolving around alcohol, drugs and partying. Beth was rebelling against the Christian foundation which her family had provided for her. She became pregnant and contemplated abortion. But the Lord had other plans for this mom and her unborn child. Beth was unable to follow through with the abortion procedure. Instead she chose to come to Lois' Lodge where she experienced a renewed closeness in her relationship with the Lord and began to develop positive plans for her future. She placed her baby for adoption with a loving Christian couple who were not able to have children of their own. Following the birth of her child Beth returned home to the loving arms of her family. She has returned to church and rededicated her life to the Lord. Beth is currently attending school in order to serve others within the nursing field. She has been on two mission trips to Nicaragua during the course of the past year.

As I write this as I am sitting in the hospital room of a fifteen year old who will soon be delivering her baby. This young mother went to an abortion clinic to end her pregnancy. But the Lord had other plans for this mom and her unborn child. She was informed that her pregnancy was too advanced for her to have the procedure. The baby's life was spared. He or she will have the opportunity to be parented by a Christian adoptive family. The story doesn't stop there. The fifteen year old mother made a decision to accept Christ as her Savior during her

stay at Lois' Lodge. I can't wait to provide an update on how God continues to work in the life of this precious teen.

Thanks to the faithful supporters of this ministry we have countless stories such as these to share. If you haven't already, I hope that you will allow God to use you to help us to accomplish His purposes at Lois' Lodge. We are privileged to have a role in changing the life courses of families. This important work has generational and eternal implications.

I am reminded of Paul's words for the church in Corinth.

You are our letter, written in our hearts, known and read by all men: being manifested that you are a letter of Christ, cared for by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

2 Cor. 3:2-3

Your sister in Christ, Debbie

Thoughts from my Chair...



Diane Medeiros is the chairperson of the Lois' Lodge Board of Directors

There have been three young ladies who have made the decision to accept Christ as their Lord and Savior over the past month. This morning, during devotion, I found such encouragement and wanted to pass it along. I was thinking how, when I pass from this world into Christ's presence, I will be held accountable for what I have and have not done. From there I began to ponder the fact that we take with us only that which we do for Him.

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Thoughts from my Chair

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Many of us, I would venture to say, have not directly led many people to Christ. Being a part of Lois' Lodge and the women that come to faith through that ministry makes us a part of their conversion. When we stand in His presence, somehow and in some way, those women will be part of how our Lord sees us. I do not, you do not, go before the throne empty handed.

Diane

If you would like to know more about having a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, check out our website: <http://loislodge.org/whoareyou.php> or call us at (704)845-2185.



Walk-A-Thon Results

We had another beautiful day for the third annual Lois' Lodge Walkathon. We would like to thank everyone that participated as a volunteer or as a walker. At this time funds are still coming in. Current total for funds raised is about \$10,000. Top fundraisers were Debbie Durrell (\$1800), Bonnie Sporman (\$1700), Peggy White (\$1500) and Betty Tucker (\$1000). Special thanks goes to the Praise Band from Shiloh Baptist Church for a wonderful time of Praise and Worship, Judi Broome and Deb MacDonald, our wonderful event organizers and Panera Bread for providing breakfast treats. Thanks also to the town of Matthews for providing emergency medical staff that were on standby in case of a medical emergency and to the Matthews Police Department, who provided us with a police escort.



Anniversary Event Sponsors

Our sincere thanks to the following individuals and businesses that provided support for our September Anniversary Events. Without you, these events would not have been such a success!



Amica Mutual Insurance Company
Auto, Home, Life Insurance
Top Ranked Customer Care
Dwight Durrell, Sales Executive
(704)563-4737

Panera Bread
1834 Matthews Township Parkway, Suite 100
Matthews, NC
Mr. David Lutton, Manager
(704)846-4003



Crocker and Nicolai
Financial Services Organization
Advise, Counsel, Motivate and Direct
the wealth management of their clients
to provide peace of mind through the
retirement years.
300 East John Street
Matthews, NC
(704)882-4545

Dr. Scoot Goodman
Pediatric Dentistry of Matthews
1340 Matthews Township Parkway, Suite 201
Matthews, NC
(704)847-4717

We would also like to extend special thanks to Susie Snyder, the banquet coordinator; Becky Justice, who provided the beautiful music for the banquet; Sondra Bradford, Pat Langenmeyer and Susan Neal for their leadership with the Silent Auction and to the Providence Country Club for their excellent service and hospitality.

A Christmas Gift...

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express our thanks. The card can be sent from Lois' Lodge (without including the amount of the gift), or you may personalize and deliver the card yourself.

What better way to join in the spirit of Christmas than by helping to provide shelter and care for young women and their unborn children. For our clients Lois' Lodge is their Room at the Inn, the place where they can see God's love and find hope for a better future for themselves and the babies they will bear. Grab your Christmas list and respond today. Your gifts will be a true blessing to your family and friends and to the ministry of Lois' Lodge. Please send your donation to:

Lois' Lodge,
PO Box 2993
Matthews, NC 28106

Be sure to provide the name and address of the person in whose honor you are making your gift so that we can send them one of our beautiful cards.

*A Note
of Thanks*

Anniversary Weekend

The Third Annual Walkathon and First ever Silent Auction and Banquet were a huge success! A big thank you to all who participated in the walk, helped with coordination, and donated items to the silent auction. We appreciate all the time and effort you put into these events. This weekend wouldn't have come together the way it did without all of your hard work. We had a great anniversary month. Hope to see all of you again next year!

Carlyn Lawson, Volunteer Coordinator



Love in Action Volunteer Spotlight

Thanks to you with Gratitude...

We couldn't accomplish God's work at Lois' Lodge without His sending you to come alongside us. Lois' Lodge would like to express how grateful we are for all of our dedicated and loving volunteers. We appreciate all the heart felt enthusiasm you bring to this ministry. This page in the newsletter is offered up in honor of you to express how blessed and thankful we are for each and every one of you. This is a new way to honor our precious volunteers. Look in upcoming newsletters and soon on our website (www.loislodge.org) for spotlights on our volunteers, as well as, current volunteer needs. Thanks again for serving at Lois' Lodge.

In Him, Carlyn Lawson, Volunteer Coordinator

There are many people who come together in powerful ways to enable a ministry such as Lois' Lodge to be able to make a difference in lives. In an effort to recognize and express our deep appreciation for your time, energy, financial contributions etc, it is our intent to acknowledge the contributions of our priceless volunteers. There is always a risk in doing this, however, because names could be left out and feelings could be hurt. Please forgive me in advance if we have neglected to acknowledge your participation. Please know that though we may not have mentioned your name in this edition of our newsletter, we have totally remembered your efforts in deep appreciation.

At this time we would like to recognize several of our volunteers and groups of volunteers for their outstanding contribution to the ministry at Lois' Lodge over the past several months:

- Yvonne Robertson, Bible Study teacher, Stonecroft Ministries
- Mary Buwick, Parenting Class instructor
- Carolyn Bomgaars, Elizabeth Mueller & Beverly Berling, Office Assistance
- Tiffany Slack, Church Liaison Coordinator
- Pete Bonney, Newsletter Publisher

- Lisa Hargett, and the Act Teens from Shiloh Baptist Church
- Christ Covenant Youth
- Love in Action group- Hickory Grove Baptist Church
- Men of Acts- Central Church of God
- Nancy Fisher and group of sixth graders from Calvary Church
- Woodell Sunday School class- Hickory Grove Baptist Church
- Jenny Pemberton, Sarah Fite, Sonja Speck- Houseparent assistance
- Tom Miller- Computers
- Morningstar Lutheran Church

We would also like to acknowledge those that are serving in a volunteer capacity as church liaisons. Currently we have liaisons for the following churches: First Baptist, Matthews; Calvary Church; Shiloh Baptist Church; Mathews United Methodist Church; St. John's Episcopal Church; Messiah Lutheran Church; Arlington Baptist Church; Mecklenburg Community Church; University Park Baptist Church; Central Church of God, Morning Star Lutheran Church; Stallings United Methodist Church. If your church is not represented by a church liaison at this time and you would like to serve in this capacity please let us know.

The Spirit of Christmas



At Lois' Lodge, we wish that we could put some of the Christmas spirit in jars and open a jar of it every month throughout the year.

Lois' Lodge recognizes that some people want to volunteer or participate at Christmastime as a special part of their own

holiday tradition. We are very grateful for the generous outpouring at this time of year. We already have had a number of inquiries from individuals and groups desiring to help us provide a meaningful holiday experience for the ladies that we serve. Although we welcome any gift which you would like to extend to this ministry, this year we would like to encourage you to allow us to help you to address the needs of our clients while providing you with an opportunity to partner with us in celebrating Christ's birth.

Often, we are asked for specific information on our current clients. It is important to understand that we may not have the same residents at Christmas that we have in November, or even in the beginning of December. Babies come and the clients move on and new clients move in to take their place. Also, because Lois' Lodge exists to provide for the needs of our clients throughout the year — we also need gifts at other special times, such as birthdays, good report cards, graduations, celebrations of spiritual milestones... We are very grateful when we have the opportunity to use gifts which remain after everyone has received Christmas gifts, for these types of special occasions throughout the year.

Practical gifts (such as laundry detergent, cleaning products...) given to meet the daily needs of the clients can also serve to express the generosity and love which is so much a part of this holiday season. If you want to be more creative, you might want to consider giving gift

cards which would provide a night out for the residents and houseparents. They would enjoy being able to go out to have pizza and see a movie, activities that many of us take for granted.

We have created lists of gift ideas for the residents and for the home which we would love to provide to you for your consideration. For additional information on ways to contribute to the Christmas experience at Lois' Lodge please contact Carlyn Lawson, volunteer coordinator at (704)845-2185 or via email at: volunteer@loislodge.org.

Thanks for the Memories



Thanks to Libby Smith who organized the Lois' Lodge fundraising "scrapbooking event" to benefit the ministry of Lois' Lodge. It was a wonderful day of fellowship, food and fun. The ladies that attended are all enthusiastic about doing this again sometime in the future. If you are interested in participating in a scrapbooking day at Lois' Lodge in the future please contact Libby at ilovewaxhaw@aol.com.

We would like to acknowledge the following businesses and individuals that provided meals for that day:

Betty Short, Chik Fil A, Matthews
Jeff Faw, Owner- Subway, Matthews
David Patton, Owner- Panera Bread, Matthews

Sharing in Ministry



This is an example of how Lois' Lodge is able to share the resources which the Lord has provided to us. We were blessed with a large supply of baby formula and were able to share it with the Epic International Center.

This wonderful ministry holds periodic community events where they share practical items while sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Hi, Debbie!

I just wanted to thank you for all of the baby formula and baby supplies! Would you believe that we gave out everything?! Things went even better than we expected, and we ended up serving 1,000 people!! We had over 100 people who were saved, we gave out close to 300 bags of groceries, gave out over 100 free haircuts, gave out 1,200 free BBQ hot meals, and stayed extremely busy!!! I just wanted to send you a quick praise report to tell you about the wonderful things that God did last weekend and the way that He used your generous contribution.

Blessings,

Angi Jeffcoat
Epic International Center

Lois' Lodge Partners

The regular monthly support developed through the years through our Lois' Lodge Partners will remain stable and permit the security of assuring that the ministry of Lois' Lodge will continue to serve women in crisis. Grants, church support, and special fundraising events will be planned to enhance the efforts of the ongoing supporters.



___ Yes, for .67 per day, \$20.00 per month, I will become a PARTNER with Lois' Lodge (\$240/annually)

___ Yes, for 1.34 per day, \$40.00 per month, I will join my spouse in becoming a partner (\$480/annually)

___ The Lord has blessed my family and I would like to share that blessing with Lois' Lodge. I will become a Lois' Lodge Partner by pledging ____/month.

___ I would like to make a one time donation of: ___\$2500, ___\$1000, ___\$500, ___\$100, ___ other

My company will match my donation to Lois' Lodge.

Company Information: _____

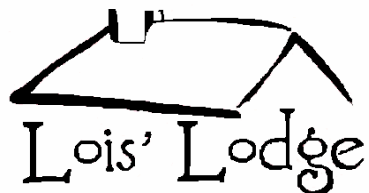
Under United Way's Specific Care program, donors have the opportunity to direct their gift to the causes that are important to them. You may designate to Lois' Lodge by identifying our 501C3 number (#56-2077047), along with our address and phone number on the United Way application.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone #: _____ Email Address: _____



A family-style home in Matthews, North Carolina
for young women facing the challenges
of an unexpected pregnancy

Lois' Lodge, Inc. is a non-denominational, Christian organization that provides practical love, care, and support to women experiencing the challenges of unexpected pregnancies and to their unborn babies.

<http://www.loislodge.org>