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The mission of Marble Retreat is to help bring healing, hope and restoration to those in vocational Christian ministry and the Church at large through Christ-centered brief intensive counseling.

Winter 2014

40th Anniversary Celebration

The culmination of our 40 year celebration of ministry happened on October 11th with an event at The Orchard Church in Carbondale, Colorado. It was a wonderful evening! The event featured impactful testimonies, incredible art by Noah Fine Arts, a silent auction that not only saw many items sold but also was a great time for old and new friends to connect, a delicious BBQ Dinner catered by Marble's own Slow-Groovin' BBQ, and an inspiring concert by Christian

artist, Mark Schultz. The event was well attended and it was great to see many in the audience who have given so much to the ministry



Noah painting

over the years. The monetary gifts given at this event went into our scholarship fund to help pastors and missionaries be able to come to Marble Retreat when they are in need. It was a great success! The focus of the evening was praising God for His faithfulness to this ministry since its founding and asking His favor as we move into the future.

Counting Our Blessings

As we approach this time of year, I am reminded of just how much we have to be thankful for. I am thankful that at times God allows us to see His work in the lives of people. Here at Marble Retreat, I feel like a fly on the wall getting to watch His miraculous work in the lives of those He loves. I am blessed by His majesty and grandeur expressed in His beautiful creation surrounding the lodge. I am so thankful for the many beautiful people that we meet in this ministry who are sacrificing so much for the kingdom, for their marriages, and/or for those they love. What an inspiration it is to see the good and loving hearts of God's people impacting the world. I am thankful for the privilege of being a part of

a ministry that has made a positive impact in the lives of people for over 40 years. As we have celebrated forty years this year, I wish I could share the countless testimonies of changed lives that have emerged as we have looked back. I am thankful for the vision of Louis and Melissa McBurney for this ministry and their faithfulness to God's call forty years ago. I am thankful for God's provision of Estel, our new Manager of Administration. She brings so much to the Marble Retreat team. I am thankful for our many supporters, their financial, emotional, and prayer support that keeps us going. I am thankful for the Marble Retreat Board of Directors who give so much encouragement, wisdom, and support to this

ministry. To God be the glory for His wonderful blessings!

I was reading in Psalm 69 today, the affliction and despair of the psalmist, "I am afflicted and in pain," he says in verse 29, but immediately follows this statement in verse 30 with, "I will praise the name of God with song; I will magnify Him with Thanksgiving." I was reminded of how many times in the Psalms we see this same theme; the psalmist cries out to God in his anguish and then nearly in the same breath says, "and yet I will still praise You." At Thanksgiving, I am reminded that no matter what muck and mire we find ourselves in today, there are blessings from the Lord all around us.

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We Welcome A New Staff Member



Estel Beresford

We are proud to announce the addition to our staff of Estel Beresford, who joined the Marble Retreat team in April 2014 and serves as the Manager of Administration. Estel is married to Michael, a pastor of a local church where she assists him in ministry. Michael and Estel have two grown daughters. Estel brings extensive experience in office management, operations, organization, publicity, communication, events, and computer, web and software experience. Estel served as a Non-Profit Communications Director in Colorado and North Carolina for two years before moving to Colorado, and served as the Executive Assistant to the

Vice President of Crusades and Training Ministry at the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association for almost nine years prior. Estel earned her college degree in Sacred Music and Piano Performance, with further education in Business Management. Estel is often the first to answer the phone when someone who is hurting reaches out to Marble Retreat for help. Our clients are so appreciative of Estel's kindness, support, faith, encouragement, and professionalism. Estel enjoys teaching music when not at the Marble Retreat office, as well as numerous hobbies, which include baking/decorating, sewing, painting, bike riding, golfing, hiking, fishing, and adventuring.

Please check out our remaining silent auction items at www.marbleretreat.org/40anniversarypostauktion.html

Alum Quotes – from Winter 2014

“Our time with you has been water to our parched souls. You have created a safe place to share our burdens, open our souls and begin to find healing. Thank you for pouring your lives into us.” – *alum*

“Our small group gave us confidence to share our story. It was wonderful to know we were not alone in our particular need for healing. Our hearts knit together into dear friendships.” - *alum*

“I just want to thank you for your Spirit led compassion and care for my wife and me. You were both so professional and yet so personal and genuine. You guys are such a great team! You balance grace and truth beautifully. Thank you for being Christ as you spoke into our lives and led our sessions. Marble Retreat is just what you said it would be – a place used by God for rest, relaxation, and healing. God is using you and the Retreat in a powerful and unique way. Thank you again for refreshing our souls.” – *alum*

“I thank Jesus for being here in the midst of us as we battled our minds and our way to victory. It is a good beginning for the rest of my life.” – *alum*

“The Holy Spirit gave you insights that addressed core issues in our lives and your ability to articulate those truths was beneficial in ways that will be long remembered. Thank you for touching our hearts, teaching us Biblical truth and sound psychological principles, and for loving us just as we are. Our lives have been positively changed, thanks and blessings!” - *alum*

“Pointing us back to Jesus is a wonderful gift to our pained and weary hearts.” – *alum*

“Insightful, perceptive, knowledgeable, sensitive, practical” - *alum*



Melissa with Doug and Rebecca

CAN YOU GIVE TO MARBLE RETREAT?

We recently asked an alum and long-time supporter of Marble Retreat's ministry, "Why do you give to Marble Retreat?" His reply was simply, "I give because Marble Retreat needs my support." In order to do what we do, helping Christian leaders, we do need your support. By giving to Marble Retreat you help provide hope and healing to those who sacrifice so much for the kingdom of God. As we approach a season of giving please consider a gift to make it possible for a Christian leader to attend Marble Retreat.

Marble Retreat is a 501©3 non-profit corporation. You have several ways to donate, on-line click the donate button, check, or credit card by mail or phone.

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Clinical Director

Kari MacKenzie, D. Min., M.A.
Executive Director

Estel Beresford
Manager of Administration

Louis McBurney, M.D.
(1938 - 2009)
Co-Founder

Melissa McBurney
Co-Founder

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