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

**Melissa McBurney**  
*Co-Founder*



*A higher standard.  
A higher purpose.*



# Marble Retreat™

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.

Spring 2022

## Renovations Underway at the Lodge

*"Refreshment at Marble Retreat."* Usually, these words are used in reference to our guests, but this time they are specifically linked with the Marble Retreat Lodge. Due to a generous foundation grant the lodge is getting a much-needed facelift! Major renovations are currently in progress primarily on the main floor in the kitchen and living/dining room. New flooring, counter tops, cabinets, a dining room table and chairs, comfortable seating areas and lighting are just some of the improvements our guests and staff will enjoy.

In addition, our always incredible Longmont volunteer team has taken on the project of renovating the downstairs recreation room. While many of us reminisce fondly of the 70's, it is time to let the décor of that era go! New flooring, new paint, storage cabinets, an updated bathroom, brighter lighting and other touches will make it the inviting area we have always intended it to be. A workout area complete with new exercise equipment and a massage chair will encourage guests to take steps toward improved physical health and well-being in addition to addressing mental health needs.

A huge thank you goes out to those who have given to support these impactful improvements. Our guests will be blessed for years to come!



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# Ministering and Living in Stressful Times

**People are stressed!** You see it everywhere from the millisecond it takes people to start honking their horns if someone delays in moving at a green light to all the acting out that is happening on airplanes.

We all know the many reasons for this stress as we are living it, too. **If you are a pastor, you might be experiencing stress multiplied!** Directly feeling the stress of these times including inflation, COVID, racial and political tensions, war and tragedy in Ukraine, and our increasingly post-Christian culture is added to and exacerbated by the stress of those in your congregation and the pressure to help them.

**Here are a few thoughts on how to handle all of this.**

First, a certain amount of stress is not bad. It can motivate change, problem-solving, and action. One source of anxiety is trying to control those things that we cannot, but another source is not controlling or influencing those things that we can do something about.

*So how have we as a church addressed the current challenges?*

*What has God called us to in these times?*

**Stress can become a problem when we never get or take a break from it.** Giving your congregants an intentional pause from the stress and challenges of their lives through worship, the reminders of God's providential care from His Word, fellowship, and perhaps the church just doing something fun together can be so helpful. However, these experiences are not always a break for the pastor! Taking your Sabbath, protecting special family time, participating in a hobby, hanging with friends, or going on a hike or spending time outside can remind you that all of life is not a problem to be fixed.

**For Christians and Christian leaders, these past couple of years have disrupted our security, stability, patterns, and comforts.** While painful, the good to come from this is a purification and clarification of what we hold most firmly to when life is hard. The Gospel is sounding sweeter, and the Psalms are speaking to our experience. We all need time of connection with Christ and a feeding of the Word. It is important for the pastor and missionary to have a regular time for this outside of when they are ministering to others.

**Stress can be revealing. Many of us have been operating with no margin** and the extra challenges have pushed us over the edge. Like Peter sinking in the water when



watching the waves, we need someone to pull us out when we finally yell help. **That is what Marble Retreat is here for.** We are not Jesus, but we are the hand of Jesus and are here to help when it is just too much. And lately for many, it has felt like just too much. That is when we need to reach out and allow others to help us.



# Annual Report: Fiscal Year 2020-2021

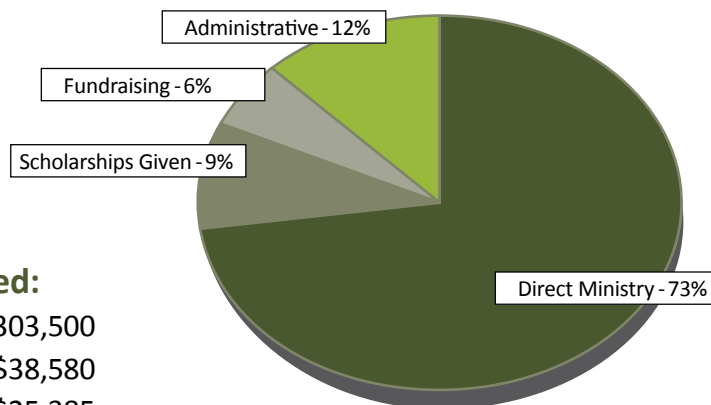
God is good and faithful! We continue to see the hand of God in how the financial needs of Marble Retreat have been met amid many challenges. We are thankful to be in the black because that allows us to continue to provide counseling services to the pastors and missionaries who reach out to us. And the need is great for Christian leaders right now. We are grateful to have been able to grant more scholarships than past years due to generous donations from you, our supporters. Thank you for investing in the well-being of Christian leaders.

## Financial Statement October 1, 2020 – September 30, 2021

*Marble Retreat depends on the support and generosity of our board, staff, alumni, friends, churches and foundations. Thank you!*

### Support and Revenue:

Contributions	\$222,291
Program Fees	\$246,720
Other Income	\$16,239
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$485,250</b>



### How Resources are Invested:

Direct Ministry	73%	\$303,500
Scholarships Given	9%	\$38,580
Fundraising	6%	\$25,385
Administrative	12%	\$51,709
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>\$419,174</b>

*The full Marble Retreat audited financial statement is available upon written request.*

## Quotes from Recent Alumni

- *Marble Retreat has been life changing, and in many ways, lifesaving. You have shown so much love, compassion and capacity to heal. In my darkest hour of life you all have been a shining beacon of hope and light. You have been Jesus in the flesh and I can never repay or say thank you enough.*
- *I truly felt I was on hallowed ground and I truly believe that what you and the staff are doing is definitely KINGDOM WORK!! What an awesome ministry you guys have up there. The things I learned about myself and the tools I have gained have forever changed my life.*

WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE OUR NEWSLETTER AND OTHER UPDATES ELECTRONICALLY? Please contact us via our website [marbleretreat.org](http://marbleretreat.org) or email [ministrycare@marbleretreat.org](mailto:ministrycare@marbleretreat.org).

## REMAINING 2022 SESSION DATES

June 7 - 16  
June 21 - 30  
July 12 - 21  
July 26 - August 4  
August 9 - 18  
Aug. 23 - Sept. 1  
September 13 - 22  
October 11 - 20  
November 8 - 17  
Nov. 29 - Dec. 8

### STAFF

**Mike MacKenzie, D. Min., L.P.C.**  
*Executive Director*

**Patrick Crowder, M. Div.**  
*Pastor Care Therapist*

**Mindy Crowder, M.A.**  
*Pastor Care Therapist*

**Cheryl Yarrow**  
*Office Manager*

**Bob Rue**  
*Manager of Hosting and Maintenance*

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## CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

We continue to receive grateful responses from pastors and others who have found Dr. Mike's book ***"Don't Blow Up Your Ministry: Defuse the Underlying Issues That Take Pastors Down"*** so impactful. May the following quote from this helpful book be an encouragement to you:

*"When a Christian leader fully embraces their freedom in Christ, they become who they were truly created to be. No longer driven by unanswered soul questions, they can rest in who God says they are and the specific calling he has for them. Out of our identity should come our work and not vice versa. When we get them in the right order we will find joy, peace, and confidence in "the good works God prepared for us in advance to do." (Ephesians 2:10) It is a beautiful sight to behold when one becomes who they were created to be and casts off the sin and shame of this world by seeing themselves and their ministry through the eyes of Christ." (pg. 151)*

Michael MacKenzie  
Executive Director, Marble Retreat

