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Volunteers Make Such a Difference!

A work crew came in July from LifeBridge Christian Church in Longmont, Colorado and completed several projects including; renovating a bathroom, putting on a new stovetop, fire prevention maintenance around the lodge, finishing up our prayer walk, deep cleaning, and cutting wood. Another group of volunteers cut down beetlekill pine trees around our campus and split and stacked 7 cords of firewood for the winter! Thank You all for your labors of love!

We welcome you to review our new YouTube video of these two volunteer crews by searching "Marble Retreat Summer Projects".



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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.

Fall 2015

Faith in the Storms of Life

By Mike MacKenzie

We believe that God is good and that He is in control. We believe that God is always up to redemption in His people. We believe God is a loving God who heals. But, at times, faith can be hard. Faith challenges us to focus not on what is seen, but what is unseen. Faith challenges us to react to situations based on believing God is in control and up to something good and not on our fears and anxieties of what is happening in front of us. Faith challenges us to trust people and things into God's hands when it seems like they are in our hands.

On August 14, 2015, our 3 ½ year old son, Dylan began having seizures. He had four tonic-clonic seizures that first day which resulted in his being admitted to children's hospital. Over the next couple of months Dylan ended up in the hospital six times with his seizures increasing to the point where he had twenty in a two-hour time period. There have been many ups and downs in this journey and as parents we desperately desire and pray for our son to be healthy, happy, and healed.

A few weeks ago we were at a local church and during prayer time multiple members of the church gathered around me and prayed prayers of healing and comfort over me for our son Dylan. These prayers were acts of faith and love by brothers and sisters in Christ and were healing, encouraging, comforting and hope giving to me. Moments later I walk downstairs to the playroom where Dylan was playing with Kari and within seconds of opening the door Dylan has a seizure. What is one to do with that? How is one to reconcile their faith when the "evidence" seems contradictory?

Peter instinctively knew what to do in this type of situation. When he got out of the boat and walked

on water, seeing the storm around him began to undermine his faith, he cried out to Jesus, "Save me!" Jesus reached out his hand and saved him. Or in Mark 9:24 after Jesus makes the statement, "Everything is possible for him who believes," the man desiring healing for his son responds, "I do believe, help me overcome my unbelief." This man recognized his own weakness and limitation in the area of faith, yet had faith Christ could help him. Instead of Peter and this man trying to intellectually figure out the apparent contradiction between their faith and the circumstances in front of them they both reached out to Jesus to help them – which, ironically, is a great act of faith. It is faith in who Jesus is, faith in His love, faith in His ability to help, and not faith in the circumstances surrounding them.

When we see Dylan having a seizure and are reminded that our prayers for healing have not yet been answered it could throw us into a theological conundrum. And while, in the moment it is very tough and confusing, turning to Jesus, trusting Him when we cannot figure it out, putting Dylan in His hands, is our step of faith.

This past week Kari and I were convicted that we needed to set aside a day to fast and pray for Dylan. We chose Wednesday. Throughout the day we took opportunity to pray for Dylan. It ended up that on that Wednesday Dylan had no seizures for the first time in 6 ½ weeks. We believe God showed up not only because of our prayers, but also because of the many prayers of others and mostly because He is a faithful God. Seeing God move in that day of prayer gave us hope and an awareness of His presence with us in this trial. Sometimes just knowing God's love and power are with us in the trial gives us the strength to carry on in the storm.



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We are excited to welcome the following to our Marble Retreat family!



Bob and Lisa Rue

In June we welcomed aboard Bob and Lisa Rue, as full time host couple. They have been an incredible addition to our team. Bob is an excellent cook and Jeep tour guide. Together they make the lodge a comfortable, hospitable, loving, and fun place for our guests. Bob retired as a school teacher this past spring, making it possible for Lisa and him to make this transition. Lisa still maintains her position as a professor with the University of Northern Colorado. Bob and Lisa have two grown children, Sarah and Rick and two grandchildren. As you may remember, Bob and Lisa were periodically volunteer hosts over the past few years and we all imagined if some day they would be able to join us full-time. We are thankful that God brought the pieces together to make it possible.



Janelle Edmiston

In August we hired a new office manager, Janelle Edmiston. Janelle and her family recently moved to the Roaring Fork Valley from Austin, Texas after feeling led by God to switch directions and move away from the hectic pace of city life. Janelle has worked in Office Administration for over 17 years in a variety of industries. Just as she was finishing up her Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management, she gave birth to a beautiful baby girl. After spending some quality time at home raising her daughter, Janelle is excited to put her business management skills to good use for Marble Retreat. Working for Marble Retreat has been an answer to prayer for her. Janelle loves to spend time with her husband, Steve, 3-year-old daughter Sierra and their dog Nutmeg. She loves to ski, snowboard, hike, camp, sing, play piano, spend time with friends and family, and read good books. Janelle's presence in the office has already added so much to the Marble Retreat team.



Andrea Meador

At our October board meeting we had the privilege of welcoming a new board member, Andrea Meador. Andrea is the daughter of Louis and Melissa McBurney, and as such she brings a rich history to our board as well as an intimate knowledge and passion for this ministry. Andrea attended Baylor University for 2 ½ years, then was a nanny for a family in St. Thomas for about 6 months. After which, she transferred to the University of Texas, Arlington where she received a Bachelor of Science in Architecture. She is married to Darrell Meador, who is VP of Sales for ActiveCare, a diabetes disease management company. She has a son, Dakota, and a daughter Sydney. Both of her children have recently left the nest. Sydney graduated in 2015 and is currently at Baylor University studying Film & Digital Media. Dakota graduated in 2012 and is currently working for Global Networks and attending ITT Tech in Richardson, Texas.

Marble Retreat Needs List

Your ongoing investment in this ministry is such a blessing to those who attend and for us as staff. Since our last needs list we received funds for a wrench set, queen size bed sets for three rooms, several new wall pictures, and a new stove top. Please consider if you would like to help with one of the following:

\$200.00 each	Ceiling fans for guest rooms	\$320.00 valances for all guest rooms
\$500.00	Patio Furniture for deck	\$600.00 Treadmill for lodge rec room
\$2800.00	Full individual scholarship	\$5600.00 full couple scholarship
\$20,000	Good condition pickup truck	\$35,000 replace lodge windows

Happy Thanksgiving from the Marble Retreat family!

Alumni Quotes – Fall 2015

"I have to say, our trip was amazing and God far exceeded our wildest expectations on the healing that would occur there. Mike and Kari are absolutely anointed and were used by God in a powerful way to mend what was broken. We are doing very well and communicating like never before. We both know God did a major work in each of us and are healing more every day and experiencing intimacy on every level way beyond what we could have ever hoped or wished for. God is so good and Marble retreat is truly sacred ground."

"Every meal was excellent."

"We are doing better than ever, we are deeper, stronger, and more truly

intimate in our relationship than we have ever been in 38 years of marriage. Thank you for your part in our growth and healing journey."

"I wanted to start by thanking you both for your time, energy and prayers to help us work on our relationship. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!"
"Bob and Lisa were over the top in serving us and providing a welcoming and fun atmosphere."

"We have been to at least 3 other counselors over the years and we never got to the core issues, nor were given practical help. This was personal, helpful, fair, insightful. We had a chance to practice, learn tools, and see our own blind spots. It was scratching where we itched!"

"Mike and Kari together were a great team, individual focus on our issues, process oriented, grace-filled yet truth filled discussions, and meaningful tools shared. This was an amazing experience and we would highly recommend it to others in ministry!"



Newly Finished Prayer Walk

STAFF

Mike MacKenzie, D. Min., L.P.C.
Clinical Director

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

Janelle Edmiston
Business Manager

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

Melissa McBurney
Co-Founder

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