



## FROM THE DESK OF THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

I recently attended a *Casting Crowns* concert in Lancaster with my husband. We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves; we were only five rows back from the stage! My (somewhat “mature”) ears were quickly muffled from the intense sounds coming from the massive speakers. I could feel the vibrations on my seat and in my chest. My spirit was thrilled as I listened and sang praises to my Lord. I long to do this everyday! I appreciate all

types and styles of Christian music; each has the ability to reach us at different times in our life. Music has always been an integral part of my daily worship to the Lord. I do not consider myself musically talented; therefore, I find joy in the musical talents of others. When I was younger, I tried to play an instrument, but my fingers would not cooperate with my mind. I do not possess this talent; nevertheless, I greatly appreciate music. Today, you will most likely find me working at my desk with music playing in the background, singing to myself.

In Matthew, Chapter 25, Jesus tells the Parable of the Talents, an illustration about Heaven in a story about a man going on a trip. The man called his servants together and divided his money among them to invest for him during his absence. Each servant was given a certain amount of money according to his ability; no servant received more or less than he could handle. God gives each of us talents, time, gifts and other resources and He expects us to invest them wisely until He returns. The issue is not how much we have, but how we use what we have been given to advance God’s Kingdom. It means doing our daily work out of love for our Lord. Our time, gifts and money are not ours to use selfishly. We are caretakers, not owners of what God has given. *What are you doing with your time, gifts and resources?* As Jessica and Friends Community continues to grow and serve the many needs in our community, please consider how you might be involved. We have part-time and full-time employment opportunities and numerous volunteer opportunities available. For example, you can participate in a one-time event or become involved with one of our committees. You may desire to help meet a specific need. Each year, Scout Pack #40 organizes a collection drive for specific food and household items. Additionally, volunteers are needed to help organize our monthly worship services. If you are willing, we can find a place for you to share your time, gifts and resources so that you, too, can invest wisely until His return!

*Casting Crowns* has many songs that are meaningful to me, but I believe the words to “Lifesong” illustrate this point the best:

*Lord, I give my life, A living sacrifice  
To reach a world in need, to be your hands and feet  
May the words I say and the things I do  
Make my lifesong sing, Bring a smile to you.*

*Let my lifesong sing to You  
I want to sign your name  
To the end of this day  
Knowing that my heart was true  
Let my lifesong sing to You.*

Yours in Christ  
Darlene Kuhn



† Caring support for individuals with developmental disabilities within a faith-based environment.

207 Dew Drop Rd. • York, PA 17402

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Jessica and Friends Community has openings in the following positions providing personal care and services and training in daily living skills to individuals with developmental disabilities:

- Residential Services—Direct Care Staff
- In-Home Respite Care Support Staff—York County
- In-Home Respite Care Support Staff—Adams County

Full and part-time positions available with competitive wages. Attractive benefits package for full-time staff persons. Jessica and Friends Community provides exceptional care to individuals with developmental disabilities within a faith-based environment.

Applications are available online at [www.jandfcommunity.org](http://www.jandfcommunity.org) or at our office:

Jessica and Friends Community  
207 Dew Drop Road  
York, PA 17402  
(717) 747-9000



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SPRING 2006

## Introducing the Parent Support Group

Exciting things are occurring within our Parent Support Group, one of the four pillars of Jessica and Friends Community. (You may remember from our previous newsletter that the Four Pillars of our Organization are: [1] Residential Services, [2] Respite, Home & Community Services, [3] Pathway Vocational Services, [4] Parent Support Group.) The Parent Support Group was founded with the dream of banding a group of parents together to pray, encourage, and support one another—realizing and understanding



the rigors of providing daily care for a family member with a developmental disability. Presently, our goal is to see this group of parents energized to provide a higher level of support and encouragement to one another. Leading this revitalized group are its new officers: John Tarman and David George will serve as Co-Presidents; Suzanne Keim, Vice President; Carlene Strausbaugh, Secretary; Ruth Ann Bailets, Treasurer; and Claudia Summerson, Social Chairperson. These new officers are excited about bringing increased activity to this very important pillar of Jessica and Friends Community. We see the Parent Support Group becoming increasingly involved in advocating for the needs of children and family members. Jessica and Friends Community will join in this advocating process as we collectively raise awareness of the needs of those within the community who have developmental disabilities. The new officers have established a list of activities through the remainder of 2006 that they believe present (1) opportunities for parents and families to fellowship and encourage one another, and (2) educational opportunities to learn important aspects of advocating for family members who have developmental disabilities. You are cordially invited to the following events:

June 16, 2006 – 2 Special Events from 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Jessica and Friends Community Monthly Worship Service @ Bethlehem United Methodist Church (Dallastown), including a cookout and roasting hot dogs and marshmallows.

Presentation by leaders of the Vision for E-Quality: “Understanding the Pennsylvania MH-MR Waiver System.” (This informational session for parents will run concurrently with the Worship Service that evening.)

\*\*Please call 747-9000 and let us know if you will be participating in this special event. We need to plan ahead to make sure we have an adequate number of caregivers for this evening.

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[www.jandfcommunity.org](http://www.jandfcommunity.org)

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## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Jessica and Friends Community offers services and support to individuals with developmental disabilities within a faith-based environment. We seek to be a community which affirms the worth of all people, responds to families and individuals seeking a faith-based program, supports personal growth and wholeness, advocates for community and church inclusion, and provides opportunities for spiritual growth and service.

Jessica and Friends Community affirms the worth of each person who is developmentally disabled and strives to be a catalyst for their inclusion in the local community and the local Body of Christ.

Jessica and Friends Community provides supports and services within a faith-based environment to strengthen each and all persons while enabling them to attain their full potential.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mr. Stuart Levey, President  
 Dr. Peter W. Teague, Vice President  
 Mr. Lewis McCleaf, Treasurer  
 Mrs. Kathy Levey, Secretary  
 Mr. Dale Bubb  
 Mrs. Beverly Leiphart  
 Dr. Donald Piper  
 Mrs. Paulette Teague  
 Mrs. Sandy Van Orman  
 Mr. Lee Stare  
 Mr. Dennis Lankford  
 Mrs. Mary Beth Staub

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(Continued from Front Cover)

September 23, 2006 – 2nd Annual Fall Festival @ John Rudy Park

This fun-filled day at beautiful John Rudy Park provides opportunities for families to enjoy fellowship and a day of activities designed for those among us who have a developmental disability. A special informational session regarding long term planning for families of special needs children will be provided. Exciting local entertainment will be provided throughout the day. Food will be available from a variety of local vendors. Plan to spend as much of the day as you can with us; it promises to be a very special time again this year. The event runs from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM.



November 4, 2006 – Parent Support Group Bowling and Fellowship Event

Join us at Springfield Bowling Center, 9335 Susquehanna Trail South, Seven Valleys, for a time of fun, fellowship, and bowling. We will have the entire bowling alley available for our use from the hours of 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM. Additional details will follow. \*\*Please see the article on the very accomplished bowlers we have in our midst.

December 9, 2006 – Jessica and Friends Community Annual Christmas Party at Church of the Open Door in Shiloh. Details will follow.

For more information about our Parent Support Group, contact John Tarman or Darlene Kuhn at 747-9000.

## SAVE THE DATE

September 23, 2006  
 2nd Annual Fall Festival  
 John Rudy Park • 11AM-6PM

food – fun – fellowship

## A NEW SEASON...

Ecclesiastes 3:1 (NIV) states, "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven"...in other words, life holds changes for us and brings various opportunities for service at different times. Organizations face those times of change as well and Jessica and Friends Community is no exception. Solomon continues, "...a time to plant and a time to uproot... a time to tear down and a time to build... a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them...a time to search..." (3:2b, 3b, 5a, 6a). Nearly three years ago, the Lord brought Ted Witman to Jessica and Friends Community as its first Executive Director. Ted's business background enabled Jessica and Friends Community to expand services and establish fiscal policies and discipline to go along with its vision and faith-based philosophy of caregiving. The Lord has recently led him back to the business world with an imprint on his heart left from those he met and served while leading Jessica and Friends Community as Executive Director. The Board of Directors has subsequently embarked on a search for his successor. The search committee is seeking candidates for Executive Director who have a servant's heart and a desire to lead a ministry to individuals with developmental disabilities. The successful candidate will display leadership qualities, exhibit entrepreneurial tendencies, embrace the mission of the organization, and possess a vision for expanding the reach of Jessica and Friends Community beyond York County and throughout South Central Pennsylvania. Please pray for Jessica and Friends Community as this search continues and for the staff who faithfully minister daily to those with developmental disabilities. Anyone interested in pursuing this ministry opportunity should contact Stu Levey, Board President, at (717) 747-9000.

## JESSICA AND FRIENDS COMMUNITY PARTNERS IN PRAYER

You are invited to join the growing number of prayer partners who meet for one hour at noon every Monday at our Dew Drop office to pray for the needs of Jessica and Friends Community. Co-leaders Chris Tarman and Paulette Teague lead us in conversational prayer using the same format each week—ACTS—in order to effectively spend the hour in prayer.

**A—Adoration:** we specifically praise the Lord for one of His attributes each week

**C—Confession:** we spend a few minutes in a silent prayer of confession

**T—Thanksgiving:** we thank our Lord for the answers to prayers that He has provided

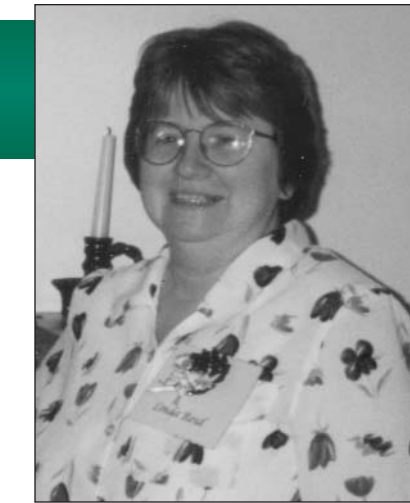
**S—Supplication:** we bring specific requests to the Lord for the many aspects and needs of Jessica and Friends Community and those we serve

Please join us for this exciting time of prayer. You may contact Chris Tarman or Paulette Teague with any questions.

## JESSICA AND FRIENDS COMMUNITY UNVEILS NEW WEB SITE



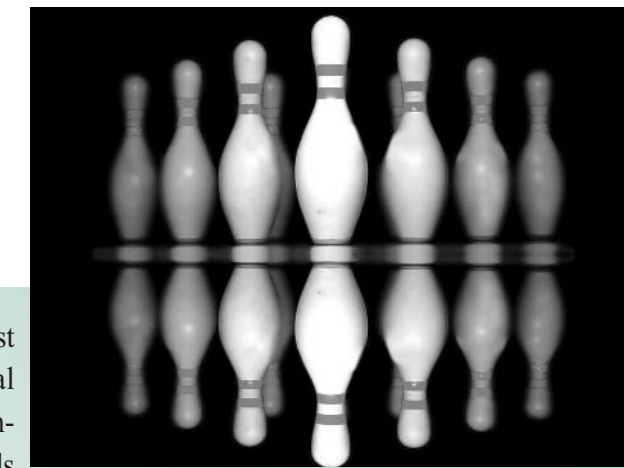
We are pleased to announce that our web site has undergone a significant upgrade and invite you to surf over to our site—www.jandfcommunity.org. Our new site includes updated information on services we provide and enables you to download past newsletters and informational brochures about our organization and the services we provide. We believe you will find our new web site easy to navigate and full of valuable information about Jessica and Friends Community.



## INTRODUCING LINDA REID...

Linda Reid joined our direct care staff at Sarah Kathryn's House in January and has become a very valuable member of our team. She finds great enjoyment in working with the three residents and says her favorite aspect of her position is doing arts and crafts and activities with these three ladies. Linda is a member of Stillmeadow Church of the Nazarene. She received her B.S. Degree in Christian Education from United Wesleyan College. Linda met her husband, Bob, at York Hospital where they were both volunteering in the Pediatrics Department. They have been married for 24 years and have two sons. Linda's interests include reading, gardening, traveling, and going to the movies.

## Jessica and Friends Community Congratulates Award Winning Bowlers



Did you know that we are privileged to serve some of the most prolific bowlers in the area? Recently, York County Special Olympics announced the winners of several awards at the conclusion of the 2005 bowling season and many of those awards were presented to friends of Jessica and Friends Community. Award winners included: Betsy Bailets (most improved), Philip Genovese (most improved), Jessica Teague (highest average) and Cody Blymire (highest average) in the Ramp Bowling category and Karen Eckard (highest average and most improved) and Richard Eckard (highest average and most improved) in the Bumper Bowling category. Sarah Keeney won for highest average and most improved in her age category. Congratulations to each of these accomplished bowlers!

## MEMORIAL/HONOR GIFTS

Jessica and Friends Community receives contributions given in memory or in honor of loved ones and friends. Each gift is gratefully acknowledged to further ministry in the disabled community.

**In Memory of:**  
 Louise Brandt  
 Pearl Crabtree  
 Louise Oldhouser  
 Robert Teague

**Given by:**  
 Kevin & Sydney Nell  
 Russell & Jean Jungling  
 Rick & Carole Oldhouser  
 Len & Tirlochan Bhat

**In Honor of:**  
 Betsy Bailets  
 Betsy's Birthday  
 Jessica's Birthday

**Given by:**  
 Margaret Taylor  
 Ruth Ann Bailets  
 Ruth Ann Bailets