



# Covered Bridge Therapeutic Communities, Inc.

*"A Residential Substance Abuse Aftercare Program"*

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January 1, 2008

Dear Friends,

It's another snowy day and in its hushed descent there's a stillness that betrays the swift and event-filled passing of the year 2007. As you know, we began 2007 in transition from our first rented house on Railroad Street to the purchase of a 3500 sq ft home on Pearl Street. Our move has held its share of challenges as we assume a greater responsibility with the stewardship of such a fine house. Lorie's gift of vision and organization inspired the nearly complete painting of the entire exterior. Our neighbors have lavished us with compliments on the work. Our sign was finally set in place in October. If you're in the area, please stop in for a tour!!

In November, we completed an application for a renovations and upgrades grant from Vermont Housing And Conservation Board. We're hopeful that this funding will be secured to complete much-needed upgrades to the electrical along with energy conservation (insulation, windows, heating) and bathroom and kitchen expansion. We also hope to retire our debt as soon as possible (right now it's at \$144,976.76) through grants and contributions.

We have been "at capacity" since November and it appears that will be the case for the foreseeable future. We now have several men on a waiting list. With Jose's unexpected departure in October, Lorie and I have been very busy and I've decided that I need to "let go" of preaching regularly at Passumpsic. I do hope though to get out to visit more churches in 2008. We have had no new supporting churches come "on-board" since 2006. This is not good, as we need to continually broaden our base of support. We are very grateful to those churches that have faithfully continued giving and have even increased their support of Covered Bridge. And it's also the faithful giving of individuals and families that sustains this ministry. Last year's expenses totaled just under \$100,000 and by God's gracious provision, our donations have kept pace!! Our gratitude is inexpressible!!

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*"Reconciliation To Community By Building Bridges Of Restoration"*

## RESIDENT UPDATES

Patrick is thankful for the end of the Christmas holiday travels. He was blessed by the last remaining holiday traveler, Don returning to Covered Bridge and everyone back safely. Patrick is very grateful for the gifts received from the friends of Covered Bridge and U.B.C. He can see God's spirit alive here and certainly working in his life. His biggest challenge is being patient and allowing God's plan for his life to unfold.



Scott is grateful for God's work in his life and the time he was blessed with at his Auntie Pearl's house with his Uncle Dennis. He was blessed with meeting and rekindling a family that he wasn't familiar with through the grace of God. He spent Christmas Eve in Swanton Church with family and Pastor Dan Brueckner. Scott would like to thank all of the people who generously gave to the residents of Covered Bridge this Christmas.

Alex had a wonderful Christmas here at Covered Bridge and would like to thank everyone for all of the donations. Alex is fitting in here nicely and is thankful also for the safe haven here at Covered Bridge. He continues to learn diligently of His Lord's grace and power.



Richard would like to thank the friends of Covered Bridge for a wonderful Christmas and a joyous start to a new year. He is looking forward to the New Year with great expectations and renewed love for the Lord. Richard is very thankful for the work God is doing in restoring his relationship with his mother.

Dave would like to thank God for all of the answered prayer in his life by the Holy Spirit. He continues in his studies with a renewed zeal. He would personally like to thank New Christian Fellowship and Pastor Bob Emery for his gracious spirit of during the Christmas season and for his support year around. May bless them all abundantly.



Life  
giving  
God



Don is thankful for the time spent with his son Keith during Christmas in various activities such as going to the movies and dining out. Don's growth in the Lord continues through service and mentoring younger brothers.

We would like to thank God for the time we spent with Darwin Jurentkuff, Pastors Carmen and Rick Menard, Steve Towsley, Bill Beaulac, Judy Kennedy, Courtney/Reenie/Larry Bergeron. It would not be possible for Pastor Steve and Lorie to go see their family without your love and support. Through your

generosity they were able to disconnect with Covered Bridge for some much needed quality time with family and our Lord and Savior.

Emmale/D.J./Crystal Little blessed us with spending a few days at Covered Bridge over the Christmas season this year. God bless everyone and may the Lord prosper you all this season, keep pressing in His steps. May all the hopes and dreams of this coming year be answered through love and prayer in His presence.

We're scheduled to be at Georgia Plain Baptist Church on Sunday, January 6th! We're looking forward to returning to a place that holds such wonderful memories and to very special friends!

We truly need a larger vehicle! Is there someone out there who can find a vehicle that seats a minimum of 8 adults? We don't have the money to spend, but perhaps you know someone who is generous!! Our 7-passenger mini-van (Dodge Caravan) is really designed for a couple adults and children. There are eight of us—two over 6 feet tall!!

In His Love & ours,

Steve & Lorie Clark

#### **Prayer Needs**

- **Help with managing the house!!**
- **A van for the ministry**
- **We'd like to be able to get out to share the ministry with churches in the area!**
- **Wisdom and spiritual protection!!**