

## Haven of Hope

OCTOBER 2023

As our hurricane season is entering its last few months, we know from experience that it's no time to let our guard down. It seems towards the end of the season is when the storms grow in intensity, frequency, and threaten our coastline on a recurring basis.

Compare this to the days where we stand at the water's edge, when the seas are calm, and the ocean flows gently around our ankles. All seems right in the world and the gentle lapping of the sea soothes our spirits.

I see the parallel to the women who come to the Refuge, seeking help and deliverance from the storms that rage just below the surface. Storms not visible that bring chaos to their minds and anxiety into their hearts. The winds of their private hurricanes have delivered them here to the Refuge; seeking a safe shelter from the tempests within. The whirlwinds they have been experiencing have proven too much for them to bear on their own and they need a lifeline, a solid rock to stand on amidst the waves.

We offer a haven of hope for them. We show them one purpose of God's Word is to give them guidance during the trials of life, as the prophet Jeremiah says, "to give them a future and a hope". We surround them with peaceful and tranquil surroundings where they have time to hear from the Lord, receive biblical counsel, and apply the truth of God's Word to their daily lives. The healing power of our Lord surpasses anything else the world may offer. Our prayer is that we prepare them for the turmoil and trials they will encounter as they go out, knowing now they can survive any gale that threatens them.

"As for everyone who... hears My words and puts them into practice,... they are like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built." Luke 6:47,48

After the storms pass, there comes a break in the cloud cover and the sun begins to shine. It is nothing short of miraculous when we see someone who has grasped hold of the truth, cleared their mind of the false beliefs, and set a new course for their lives, knowing God is in control. He is our lifeboat in the stormy seas.

"Give all your worries and cares to God, for He cares about you." 1 Peter 5:7

Thankful for His faithfulness, Diane A Ludwig, Executive Director

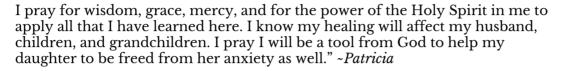


## PRAYER FROM OUR FOUNDER Norma Lee Robert

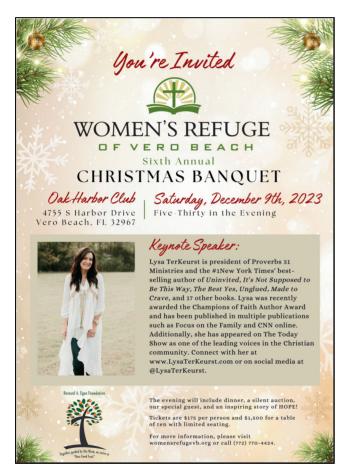
"Dear Heavenly Father, we adore You! We worship You as our Creator and King. You are the refuge for the oppressed in times of trouble. You are our hiding place. You shall preserve us from trouble. You are our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear." Quoted from Psalms 9, 32 and 46 chapters. In the power of the Holy Spirit and through the sacrifice of Your Son, Jesus, we are still and waiting. We know that You are our true Refuge. Amen.

Peace & Trust in God

"I was experiencing anxiety and panic attacks in the middle of a massive emotional and mental crisis, with my marriage, finances, and much more. I received revelation of who I am in Christ and that I am in Him. I am forgiven, accepted, and loved. I have lived a life by my own strength and standards, disguised with spirituality, religiosity, and positive flesh. I was my own god. I repented of my idolatry and lack of trust in my Father, my God. My priorities were not aligned with God's. Now I am free and dependent upon God.

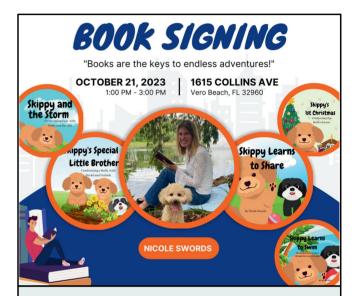






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