

AN UPDATE OF MASTER'S TOUCH MINISTRY



A DIVISION OF
WAYSIDE CROSS
MINISTRIES

lifeCHANGE

FEBRUARY 2014

FRIENDSHIP DINNER SET FOR MAY 13th

The Master's Touch Ministry's Friendship Dinner, its major annual fundraiser, is being held at Gaslight Manor, 2485 Church Rd. in Aurora, on Tuesday evening, May 13th. Doors open at 6:00 pm, and dinner will be served at 6:30 pm.

Once again, well-known radio personality Mark Elfstrand will serve as Master of Ceremonies.

The evening's Guest Speaker will be Karl Clauson, host of 180 with Karl Clauson, heard weekdays 4-6pm on AM-1160 WYLL.

Karl was born in Homer, Alaska and loves adventure. He completed the 1,100 mile Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race in 1979 at the age of 18. In his mid twenties Karl experienced deeply what he is so passionate to share. He was spiritually transformed on February 11, 1984 after years of being raised in Church but missing the life found in Jesus Christ. Karl graduated from Multnomah University with a degree in Biblical Studies. Karl has worked in ministry serving in South Africa, Denver, CO and later in Little Rock, AR where Karl worked under the mentorship of Robert Lewis at Fellowship Bible Church. Karl later served as lead pastor of ChangePoint in Anchorage, Alaska between 1999-2008. Under Karl's leadership it became the largest church in the state and one of the fastest growing churches in America. It was featured on the front page of the New York Times (Nov. 23, 2007) for its strategic outreach and innovation. Karl is a gifted communicator who has spoken nationally at numerous conferences.

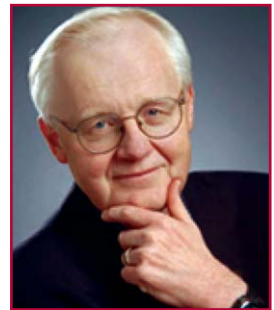
Ministering in song will be Ben Adair, an anthem singer for the Chicago Bulls, and current member of the Apollo Chorus. Ben is also a keyboardist and worship arts singer for Compass Church in Naperville, and its Celebrate Recovery program.

The evening will also include a ministry update from Master's Touch Director Randy Tomassi, as well as personal testimonies from residents and volunteers whose lives have been impacted by the Master's

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**THE MASTER'S TOUCH MINISTRY'S
FRIENDSHIP DINNER
Tuesday, May 13
Doors open 6:00 pm
Dinner 6:30 pm**

**Gaslight Manor
2485 Church Road
Aurora, IL**



Mark Elfstrand



Karl Clauson



Ben Adair

Director's Corner

Thanks for taking the time to read Life Change, a periodic newsletter intended to keep you abreast of how Our Lord is at work in our Bible-based, Christ-centered residential program for men who are seeking a permanent solution to the crisis of a broken life.

I am pleased to announce that on January 1, 2014, Resident Coordinator Melvin Hinton was promoted to the newly created position of Resident Coordinator Team Leader. This promotion is the latest development in the life transformation process that Our Lord began in Melvin's life almost six years ago.

Melvin enrolled in our program in September of 2008. At that time, his life was completely unmanageable, as a result of years and years of destructive behavior, including drugs, alcohol, criminal activity, incarceration, etc. As a Master's Touch resident, Melvin worked through his various issues through our Biblically-based curriculum, which was supplemented by weekly one-on-one mentoring sessions. He also worked full-time in our work rehabilitation program. Additionally, he completed a personalized regimen of math, reading, grammar, and writing skills in our Greenawalt Learning Center.

After completing our six-month program, Melvin served as a graduate Resident Assistant for several months. On 11/01/2009, he joined the WCM staff as a Master's Touch Resident Coordinator. After four years of faithful service, he has now been promoted to Team Leader. He is also a student at nearby Waubensee Community College, where he is very close to earning his AAS degree in Human Services. After completing his final two classes and an internship, he can become a Certified Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Counselor. Melvin is an active member of Covenant of Grace Orthodox Presbyterian Church.



Randy Tomassi
Director,
Master's Touch
Ministry

For those of us who remember the Melvin Hinton who walked through our doors in 2008, observing the "2014 model" immediately brings 2Corinthians 5:17 to mind: ***"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold the new has come."*** (ESV)

By God's grace, Melvin's experience is not an isolated one; WCM is blessed to have twelve other Master's Touch grads on its staff. Reflect on that for a moment—over one-third of the WCM staff comprises men whose lives have been transformed by the power of Christ through the Master's Touch Ministry. Not only are they full-time employees who provide valuable services within our various ministries, but many of them continue to reside on our New York Street campus, thereby providing our residents with the blessing of a "24/7" staff presence.



These men are:

George, our Kitchen Supervisor (Master's Touch Ministry)

Mike, our Maintenance Supervisor (Hope Outreach Ministry)

Chris, a Resident Coordinator (Wayside Center, Elgin)

David, an Assistant in WCM's Development Department

Ralph, a Resident Coordinator (Wayside Center, Elgin)

Carl, our Warehouse Manager (Hope Outreach Ministry)

Mike, who splits his time as an Assistant between WCM's New Life Corrections Ministry and WCM's Development Department

Richard, our Hope Chest Floor Supervisor (Hope Outreach Ministry)

Michael, our Scheduling Coordinator (Hope Outreach Ministry)

Joe, our Hope Chest Staff Cashier (Hope Outreach Ministry)

Blaine, a Resident Coordinator (Master's Touch Ministry)

Please join me in thanking Our Lord for the work He has done, and continues to do in the lives of Melvin and our other alumni on staff (Philippians 1:6), and please remember them in your prayers. If you would like to receive our semi-monthly prayer request updates, or if you have any other questions concerning The Master's Touch Ministry, please call me at (630) 723-3422, or email me at rtomassi@waysidecross.org.

May God richly bless you.



Randy Tomassi
Director, The Master's Touch Ministry



FRIENDSHIP DINNER *continued from page 1*

Touch Ministry.

The funds that we raise will allow us to continue to provide our residents with food, clothing, housing, Bible classes, tutoring, mentoring, work rehabilitation, and an array of other services, all of which are aimed at life transformation through the power of Jesus Christ.

In providing these services, we incur expenses of approximately \$285 per month, per resident (a little more than \$300,000 annually, based on an average occupancy of 90 residents). This is a small fraction of the cost of a typical in-patient program, as a result of the volunteer-driven nature of our program.

There is no charge for the event, but a “free will” offering will be taken. Please attend and help us meet our financial needs. We encourage you to invite guests. There will be 8 to a table.

To make a reservation, please call Randy Tomassi at (630) 723-3422, or email him at rtomassi@waysidecross.org.

