

ZooGram



Volume 2 Issue 1 February 2009

Bringing Hope, Help and Harmony to

2008—The Year in Review 2009—Blessings to Come

By Brenda Lancaster

ZooKeepers Ministries
Monthly Newsletter

Inside this issue:

The Year in Review	Pg 1
2009 - Blessings to Come	2
Ministry Goals & Projections	
Online Mentoring Begins	3
Giving Made Easy	4
Memorials to Mother	4

TO OUR SUPPORTERS

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all you gave to support our mission projects in 2008. Some of you were extraordinarily generous, giving above and beyond.

Without your generous giving it would not have been possible for us to have reached so many precious souls for Christ. To God be the Glory!



Many Received Christ as Savior during the twenty-three ZooKeeper events held in Brazil.



Lucie Harris introduced the Zoo to MOPS mother's from around the world.

Wow! Thank you prayer partners and supporters! There is no doubt about it—God heard our prayers! 2008 was a wonderful year in the life of ZooKeepers Ministries! God showed Himself mighty, as He always does. He showed us that His timing is always perfect and His plan is always fulfilled.

In the fall of 2007 the Lord had made it abundantly clear to me that it was time to move forward with producing the DVD teaching accompaniment of *Living in A Zoo*, the Bible Study. I admit to feeling completely overwhelmed at the time with starting a project of that magnitude, but with the Lords leading and much help from our very capable Zoo Team headed by Tami Carr and Debra Spough, proceed we did. In April of 2008, at a Zoo Retreat in Lake Junaluska, NC, the teaching of the twelve lessons was filmed.

In attendance were women from different area's of NC with other states also represented.



In September the finished product was released and immediately introduced at the International MOPS convention in Dallas, Texas where team member Cindy Andrews did a fantastic job designing



our booth. Lucie Harris signed on Representatives in 24 states and Canada to start receiving the newsletter and to introduce the Zoo in their homes and churches.

Another milestone reached in 2008 was the completion of the new

Portuguese version of

Living in a Zoo and with the subsequent three week mission trip to Brazil where our



Lord brought forth much fruit for His kingdom.

Many received Christ as Savior, and many more saw changed hearts and homes.

Home groups were started

Contact the Staff of ZooKeepers Ministries

Read more about the staff on page 3

- Brenda Lancaster, Founder, Author & Speaker*
- Debra Spough, Administrator*
- Tami Carr, Team Member, Online Mentor*
- Anne McGugin, Team Member, Online Mentor*
- Brady Lancaster, Marketing & Publicity*

- brenda@zookeepersministries.com*
- debra@zookeepersministries.com*
- tami@zookeepersministries.com*
- anne@zookeepersministries.com*
- brady@zookeepersministries.com*

Continued from Page 1- 2008 in review

Home friendship groups were started across the country that continue to grow until this day.

Twenty-three events were held in the southeastern section of Brazil over the three weeks of the trip and 550 books, that many of you sponsored, were distributed.

Hosts, Pastor Roberto & Pat Martins De Sa, escorted us and translated at each of the events. They are truly genuine people who love our Lord and with whom we

established a lifelong friendship and partnership in ministry.

Pastor Roberto leads 24 sister churches in the Agape Church Association all over the country. It was a wonderful experience and we can hardly wait for our 2009 trip. Dates for our departure will be announced in our next newsletter, so we need to sponsor some more books gals! Some of the Zoo team will be joining us this time! We are ready to go and look forward to it with great anticipation!

Other great strides were also made in 2008. Our website was

updated in a way to better minister by Micah Ray of Center Cross Creative.

We were interviewed on TCT TV International and WATV in Atlanta.

This year we have seen many come to Christ and homes and



hearts changed! What a year, what blessings the Lord has sent.

To God be the Glory!



2009—Blessings to Come!

We are all so excited about what the Lord has in store for 2009! He is opening many new opportunities for ministry in places we never imagined we would go. Plans are under way for the zoo to minister on military bases in North Carolina, and possibly others in South Carolina, New York and Florida.

The Spanish version of *Living in a Zoo* is underway with completion expected by early summer. We have been contacted

by one mission in particular to take it to Nicaragua and hopefully to the DM.

Now that the DVD's are available, new home groups are popping up and small churches are able to offer it for the first time. We look to our wonderful Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, to lead us wherever He wants us to go, whenever He so chooses. We know without a doubt that it is only by His work that anything good is accomplished. We give Him all Praise,

Honor & Glory and praise Him for allowing us to serve Him in this way!

Next month we will share more of our vision for 2009. Until then, keep serving the Savior! Blessings!

We have re-evaluated our goals for 2009 and adjusted our needs accordingly to reach more women than ever for Christ!

Ministry Goals and Dreams for 2009

United States

1. Goal for 100 Generation One home groups to start in the United States in 2009.
2. To see ZooKeepers Ministries reaching women in all 50 states through home and church groups and via our website.
3. To begin specific plan of ministry to women on military bases in NC first, then other states as the Lord leads, subsidizing cost as needed.
4. Fundraising Goal of \$25,000 by June 1, 2009, in order for the above projects to be accomplished.

G O A L S

Foreign Missions

1. To Produce & take 500 Spanish edition copies of *Living in a Zoo?* on mission trips to women in Spanish speaking countries and to subsidize the cost to refugees living in the USA.
2. To take 500 additional copies of the Portuguese version for women into the north and eastern sections of Brazil where the cost of books is well above the means of everyday women.
3. To produce 500 Portuguese & Spanish dubbed copies of DVD's for Missions in Brazil and Spanish Speaking Countries.

ONLINE MENTORING BEGINS!

We have anticipated this for the last several months and are very excited to now see it come to fruition! Online mentoring begins this month! Today's young mom desperately needs a helping hand and we are ready, willing and able to reach out to her in any way possible, and online mentoring in a great way of accomplishing that goal. Titus 2, verse 3 states clearly that older women are to teach younger women seven basic principals; to be disciplined, in our actions and emotions, to love our husbands, to love our children, to live pure lives, to be keepers on the home and to follow our husbands leadership. Meet the team who will blog online with young women on these issues:

Tami has been leading ladies in Bible study for over twenty years and is trained as a Precept Bible Study leader. She is currently serving as Women's Ministry Director at Life Community Church in Jamestown, NC where she and her husband, Darin, co-teach the MarriedLIFE Sunday School Class.

They've been involved in couples' ministry for most of their married lives and are founders of Happily Ever After, a ministry dedicated to training and teaching couples God's plan for marriage. Humor is definitely a factor in their own marriage. When asked how long they've been married, Darin's typical response is, "10 wonderful years - 24 total!"

Tami's primary passion in life is to know God and encourage other women to pursue a relationship with Him through His Word. She has experienced God's faithfulness in the healing of a broken marriage and the return of a prodigal son. Tami is willing and available to God to minister to women out of her own experiences as a wife, as a mother, as a mentor, as a friend.

Tami serves on the Board of Directors for Zookeepers Ministries.



Online Mentor
Tami Carr



Online

Anne married her husband Dan in 1985 and by 1992, she was the mother of four children under the age of five years old. Talk about a zoo!!!! Looking back, she recalls that those were some of the sweetest days of her life. Being able to be a stay-at-home mom for nearly 22 years has been such a blessing from the Lord. She sees the need of God calling the wife and mother to be the "keeper of the home" and realizes the importance of this role. She has a passion for young mothers, and has ministered to young pregnant unwed girls through the Crisis Pregnancy center as a peer counselor.

*Anne is currently a mentor mom at her local church, and is involved in the Ladies Ministry Team. Her gift is organization and "passing on" things not used, making for a home simplified and organized. She has been accused of being a minimalist which is amusing in a time when everyone seems to think they need so much stuff. She is amused that the accumulation of possessions is such a focus in society today that we end up renting storage units to keep it all! Anne holds the belief that God blesses us with possessions to either use or give away to someone in need.
1 Corinthians 14:40 "Let all things be done decently and in order."*

- ❖ Small group builds a support system for each woman – she doesn't feel alone anymore.
- ❖ Brings them into contact with others who are facing like struggles.
- ❖ It eventually introduces them to other programs and studies to keep them growing.
- ❖ It offers the opportunity to gather with other women for week-end retreats and seminars – for further growth and bonding with other Christian friends.



Weekly Class Titles

- Life Might Be A Safari..... but I live in a Zoo!
- Jungle Princess
- Crusty Kids & Crumbling Moms
- Me Jane – You Tarzan
- Keeping Cool When Papa Bear Is Hot!
- Sleeping With A Plucked Chicken
- Baby Bears & Monkeys Too!
- Pet Training In The Zoo
- I'dlaughiferen'tcryingsohard!
- Livin' La Vita Loca?!
- Grazing The Carpet To Find A Snack
- Now Lord, I'm Just As Smart As He Is So Why Does He Get To Be Boss?

Start a Zoo Friends Group in your Home! Home Group Concept Fact Sheet

- ❖ It is not a church program, it's a people group focused on God & family. According to Titus 2:3 it is a personal commitment by women to women. It is an act of obedience to mentor.
- ❖ It doesn't burden the church budget, but the long term effect is that it builds the church.
- ❖ It doesn't require the leader to have the gift of teaching - you just offer hospitality and the hand of friendship. Lessons are taught via DVD automatically giving that "older woman" Titus 2 refers to.
- ❖ Minimum time requirement is only 1 ½ hours a week for 13 weeks. It's KISS (keep it simple sister!) but it also offers ministry opportunities long term for those who feel called to it.
- ❖ It crosses denominational boundaries and geographical borders with its light hearted cover and chapter titles.
- ❖ It's going out into "the highways and hedges" – not waiting for them to come to us and it carries out the Great Commission.
- ❖ It is bringing God to the woman first - and then the woman & her family to the church.
- ❖ Women are introduced to the Gospel in a non-threatening friendly atmosphere and disciplined in the Word of God daily. It's a starting point for every woman no matter how mature or new she is to the Faith. She experiences a little bit of victory each day.
- ❖ It takes place in the home – right where the real battle is – and brings in prayer & praise to it.

LADIES HOME FRIENDSHIP GROUPS

HELP REACH 2,555 WOMEN IN 2 YEARS!

For More Information about starting a group

Email us at www.zookeepersministries.com

Visit us @ www.zookeepersministries.com and help us reach women for Christ!

Giving Made Easy

ZooKeepers Ministries
P.O. Box 1111,
Jamestown, NC 27282

Bringing Hope, Help and Harmony to Women's Hearts and Homes

Honor your Mother or Mentor

With a photo and special story about how they have influenced your life on our special Honorariums & Memorials Page online
\$25

Email us for more information

Donations

Simply send your tax deductible donations to:

ZooKeepers Ministries
P.O. Box 1111
Jamestown, NC 27282

ZooKeepers Ministries is supported totally by the sale of tools, products and through the generous contributions of our friends. We appreciate your support from the bottom of our hearts. Thank you for helping us reach women with the message of hope, help and harmony found in Jesus Christ.

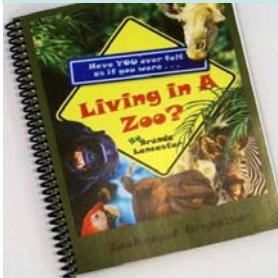
Book Sponsorship Opportunity

Sponsor a woman in a South American country by subsidizing the cost of a Spanish or Portuguese version for only \$10 each

Encourage the recipient of your book by writing a special message to her on the inside cover. What a blessing that will be to you both even if she is half a world away!

www.zookeepersministries.com

PRODUCTS



"My Mama Says We Live in a ZOO!"



Bible Study Books	\$16
DVD Sets	\$25
Day Timer Calendars	\$13
T-Shirts	\$12
Coffee Mugs	\$ 6

ORDER ONLINE TODAY AND HELP REACH WOMEN FOR CHRIST
www.zookeepersministries.com

