

restore families affected by trauma and abuse



## Barb Stone, "I began to sense where Jesus was through much of these hard times that I'd gone through and began to feel His love embracing me."



I met Diane when I was going through my third divorce. I was and devastated. therapist felt I might be helped by the prayer sessions Diane was doing. Diane and I began to meet regularly, and then I was in the first Authentic Hope group she led. I grew up in a Christian home, but my parents really didn't have good communication skills and didn't show much love for each other in their marriage. There was often a

lot of tension between them, which kept them from giving my siblings and I what we needed. When I got married, I didn't really know what a healthy marriage looked like. As a child, to keep everyone happy, and minimize the tension, I became a people pleaser. This pattern helped me survive in my marriages; however, it was exhausting and no matter how hard I tried it didn't work. My children's father was abusive emotionally, verbally, and physically, and that marriage ended when child protection got involved. I was a single parent for many years. After a brief second marriage, I met a man who I thought was amazing. He appeared to be a solid Christian and treated me like a queen. But after we were married, our life at home was never the way it appeared in public. It seemed like nothing I did, or didn't do, made him happy. It was three years into this marriage, after much counseling, that I met Diane and came to Door of Hope. Going through the Immanuel Prayer sessions with her was so healing. Each time she prayed with me there was a great amount of healing that came. She helped me connect with Jesus and I began to understand His perspective and His love for me. I began to sense where Jesus was through much of these hard times that I'd gone through and I began to feel His love embracing me.

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## **New Things Are Springing Forth Spring Gala—Special Update**

What a memorable evening! On April 22 we gathered for a beautifully deep and joyous evening, celebrating all that God has done through Door of Hope over these past years, and sharing with anticipation what is on the horizon.



He has been so gracious to us this past year! Thus far He has helped us:

- \*Walk with 367 individuals through 962 services.
- \*Meet with 218 men and women for prayer ministry.
- \*Bring Jason, a licensed therapist, on staff who has held over 300 appointments with men, women, and children
- \*To date approximately:
- 100 women inmates have been through Authentic Hope
- 48 women from India and 18 men and women from Zimbabwe have also gone through Authentic Hope support group.
- \*We recorded all of our Authentic Hope teachings and produced DVD's and MP4's that will be available to churches, organizations and prisons.

We want to thank each and every one of you who made this night such a success. To all of our volunteers, our wonderful sponsors and live auction item donators, to Jason Gray, and to each of our wonderful guests - your presence and your support meant the world to us. We couldn't do this without you!

#### With grateful hearts, The Door of Hope Board of Directors and Staff

Our Fundraising Goal was \$125,000. We have received \$64,634 so far which is 52% towards our goal.

Perhaps you were unable to join us for the Gala or were unable to give at the time, you can still give now! Simply scan this QR code with your phone, or head to doorofhopeminiestries.org to donate. Thank you!











Barb's testimony Continued... When Authentic Hope support groups began, I attended, and it was there I gained a new level of understanding of the various traumas one experiences in life and how they affect you. It helped me to understand what I had brought into these relationships that was unhealthy, as well as have compassion for the issues that were brought in by my partners. I began to make sense of it all and began to work on building trusting relationships within groups. The healing of many difficult years began. It has also given me a new perspective on my relationship with God the Father. I now trust Him at a deeper level, and I know His love for me is real and not conditional. As my own healing continued, I became a co-leader for support groups. Since then, I have been blessed to be able to help lead many groups. There is a healing that comes from being in a safe group where you can be vulnerable to share your story and be heard, and loved through it, to a better place. We expose the darkness and walk each other through to shine God's light on every situation. We need healthy relationships to continue our healing journey and it is such a blessing to see these develop in these groups. I came to Door of Hope confused - they helped me find clarity. I came to them feeling hopeless and helpless – they helped me find confidence in Christ. I came with a broken heart filled with pain and disappointment - they helped me heal and feel whole again. I came having a hard time finding Jesus and hearing His voice - they safely brought me into a deep intimacy with Him. I came feeling alone they helped me understand He was there with me every step of the way. Romans 8:28 says - All things work together for good to those who love Him...I know that I can look back and see God always being there, despite my poor choices. Because of the relationship - first with Diane, and then with God the Father, through the support and guidance of Door of Hope, I am now able to walk with others as they find hope and healing in Jesus.



## Diane Stores Presenting at Upcoming MACC Training

Diane Stores, our Founder and Executive Director, will be presenting as part of the full-day workshop on the Immanuel Approach with Stephanie Rossing MA, LMFT at the Midwest Association of Christian Counselors (MACC) Workshop. What an exciting time of diving deeper into an Immanuel Lifestyle and

expanding tools to re-wire traumatic memories in the Light of God's Presence. This is part two of the series, with part one or equal training a prerequisite. Part one is available to complete online at the MACC website, but if you have had training in Immanuel Prayer it may fulfill this requirement. Whether you are a therapist, a pastor, or a church leader, this MACC workshops will bless you and equip you in new and exciting ways.

Learn more and sign up at: <a href="https://yourmacc.com/events">https://yourmacc.com/events</a>

# Women's Authentic Hope Support Group Starting May 1 REGISTER TODAY!

### **Authentic Hope Women's Groups**

 Mondays, May 1 to June 26, 9:00 to 11:00 am (cst)
\*Skipping Memorial Day

For more info and to register visit: doorofhopeministries.org/upcoming-support-groups



Our Summer Support Group schedule will be released soon! Visit our website mid-May to find a group and time that fits your needs. We cannot wait to walk together with you this summer!

### Gala Highlights from Diane Stores

A few words from our beloved Diane at our recent Gala...



Janet with Diane

Meditating on our gala scripture has caused me to pause and reflect on all the ways God has kept me, provided for me, and protected me and all the ways He has done this for Door of Hope. My healing journey with Jesus started 32 years ago this month. It was a challenging, frightening, and very lonely time. I was trying my best to heal with just me and Jesus but would often get

stuck in hard places. Since then, I realize we don't get hurt in a vacuum and we don't heal in a vacuum. We need people to come along side us in the healing process. Several years ago, someone asked, "How would you explain what Door of Hope does in just a few words?" Out of my mouth came the words: We Walk With Them! Before I could walk with others, God brought someone to walk with me on my journey. This person, Janet, loved me, never judged me, fought with and for me and spoke my God-given identity into my life and into my heart. With her support I learned to be vulnerable and find my voice. Healing comes when we come out of hiding and share the reality of our lives. I realized I was getting nowhere by trying to be where I thought I should be, where the church thought I should be or where others thought I should be but could find true healing by just accepting and owning where I was really at.

When people come to Door of Hope we tell them, our goal isn't healing (which often surprises them) but our goal is intimacy with Jesus and with safe people. Once obstacles are removed and people start to hear His voice, understand who He really is and how He sees them, healing becomes a natural overflow of the intimate relationship with Him. We help them feel safe so they can begin to let our love and the love of Jesus penetrate their hearts. As this happens, they begin to realize their true identity. Out of that God-given identity comes their God-given purpose. We see miracles each week as people walk through this process with the gentle lover of our soul.



**Mission:** Through God's power, Door of Hope equips people all over the world to live free from abuse and trauma through safe housing, educational conferences, support groups, trauma recovery counseling and prayer ministry. Door of Hope is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.

