



THE COMPASS

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 3

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Who am I?

Author: Guess Who??

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Who am I?	1
By Anonymous * including excerpts from "Ode to Bald" by Sherry Smith	
Message from the Editor	2
Family and Ministry Matters	2
It's Harvest Time	3
By Shanelda Jackson	
Kiddie Korner	4
Calendar of Events	4

October is
Breast
Cancer
Awareness
Month

*I am a sneaky, insidious devil. I hide where I can and then when one least expects me, out I come ready to wreak havoc on the life of the woman (or man). I think I rule with the upper hand and have claimed the lives of your family and your friends. You can run from me but sadly too many cannot hide. So here it is October again and my name is on everyone's lips. The world has turned into a sea of pink. Large and small industries and the like look to make money based on my infamy and the fear that lurks in the hearts and minds of women around the world. So many women who buy this, support that, donate to fundraisers, walk for 2 days, run for miles, and all the while hoping and praying that we never meet. Yes, it is true that some of the people I visit are not aware of my presence and I quietly manage to get a firm grip into their lives. I have been fought by many, sometimes I lost but more often, I have come out on top. There is so much talk of me and still there are so many that will not take precautions to prevent me from being a part of their lives; for that I say shame on you. But remember this.....being well informed about how I operate can Save Your Life. **Who Am I??**

I am a native of the north but moved to south and now reside in Evans, Georgia. Blessed with a family of my own, I have three wonderful sons and a handsome, bright 2 1/2 old grandson.

In the summer of 1995, six years after having surrepti-

tiously taken my mother, unaware of its presence, it managed to get a firm grip on my life holding my body captive against its will. It had attached itself to my lymph nodes and had become very invasive. It began to invade areas of my body that included the bone marrow, spleen, skull, face, neck and arms; it had come to wreak havoc on my life. I had been handed a fourth stage death sentence making the chances for survival zero to none.

So for me there is reason to celebrate! It is another October and my birthday is just around the corner. When I begin celebrating I stop first "always" to give all laudation to God. I can recall that the sneaky, insidious devil which made an unwarranted visit to me was unavailing in its conquest over my life. Even though I walked through the valleys of the shadows of death, I feared no evil knowing God was with me. After the doctors handed down my death sentence, God began making his presence more clearly known to me. I had to undergo weeks of chemotherapy treatments and after losing all of my hair and nearly all of my strength I decided to stop taking treatments. The doctor informed me that I would not live long after ending my treatments. I in turn told the doctor that I was CRAZY enough to believe God for my healing. True, it tried to rule with the upper hand, but because God is the GREATEST power it could not conquer my life. I don't know why God has given me another chance, but it moves me to tears every time I think of His infinite mercy and grace, it could not defeat me. So here I sit some seventeen years later writing to you as a Miracle of God. So remember this.....there is "Nothing" too hard for God, I am still Here.

Who Am I??? I am not a witch or a goblin, but I have the power to stop it from wreaking havoc in the lives of women (men) around the world. Off of the lips of many you can hear my name; I offer freedom from the chaos, alleviation from the pain, solace in disappointment, shelter from the rain, but yet during the month of October the world becomes a place of mixed emotions, the old and the young alike have the propensity to fear and or celebrate based on the threats of "it". It has left stories deposited in the hearts of women and of men; whether stories of victory or of those that did not win. Unlike it, I will never leave you with stories of defeat for in me there is only victory and joy that is complete. I am able and willing to erase the pain, for to live is Christ and to die is gain. To leave you I will never, I promise; but you must trust me unlike doubting Thomas. I will hold you in times of despair and promise never to put more on you than you can bear. If you would be willing to trade your sorrow for my joy, give up the wrong for the right; **I WILL** heal you from your pain, **I WILL** give you beauty for your ashes, **I WILL** be your bridge over troubled waters, **I WILL** catch you when you fall and **I WILL** give you peace from those fears of uncertainty. For by my stripes you are freed from illness and injury; whether living, or dying, I will bring ultimate healing. **Who Am I?** Can you guess who our mystery author is?

A Message from the Editor



Dr. Kristie Searcy

There is a very silent issue among us. Countless men and women make the decision to live with this matter daily while secretly hoping that nobody notices and that everything appears to be normal with their life. They are hoping that no one recognizes the signs or sees the fear in their eyes. Some are hoping that no one recognizes their problem with anger. The issue of which I speak is domestic violence. Today and for the remainder of the month, our country will be colored pink as we focus on breast cancer awareness. However, October is also the month that we bring attention to the very important subject of domestic violence. I find it important that we mention this in the church because in many instances, the church has missed it. Pastors are not teaching on it, no one is talking about it, and the individuals dealing with it suffer in silence. It is important to note that not all domestic violence is physical. According to hotline.org, domestic violence is any pattern of behavior in any relationship that is used to gain or maintain power and control over an intimate partner. The abuse may be physical, sexual, emotional, or economic. This includes any behaviors that frighten, intimidate, terrorize, manipulate, hurt, humiliate, blame, injure or wound someone. If you are suffering SPEAK UP! If you are victim, please speak with someone you trust to get help. If you are perpetrator, SEEK HELP. You can be taught to manage this issue. We all need to become educated on the issue of domestic violence. It's not just someone else's issue. It may be closer to you than you think.

“Let us not pray to be sheltered from dangers but to be fearless when facing them.”

--Rabindranath Tagore

Ministry Matters at NDCC

The singles ministry is in full effect!!! We experienced history in the month of September with the launch



of this new ministry. Pastor J spent a few precious moments addressing the importance of singles ministry as well as addressing issue pertinent to singles. Following their time with Pastor, they spent a night at the movies. If you missed it.....it's ok. You can plan to join them this month. See the calendar of events for detailed information. Bring a friend!!

It's Harvest Time

-Shanelda Jackson

It's that time of year again! We've bid farewell to a spectacular summer and welcomed in an awesome autumn. As a child I can recall my mother teaching us that as Christians we don't celebrate Halloween. All I heard was that we weren't able to have fun with the other children. As an adult I now know that she wasn't trying to suck the fun out of our lives. She was merely teaching us what Paul meant when he wrote Romans 12:2. He advised us not to be conformed to the pattern of this world, but to be transformed by the renewing of our minds. To the world this season is synonymous with dead things like ghosts and goblins. It is important for us to know that Jesus came so that we can have eternal life. Here at New Direction Christian Center we celebrate this season with our Annual Harvest Fest. The harvest symbolizes the gathering of crops. Crops are the results of the seeds we've sown. Since we are aware that God promises us that we will reap what we sow, it is our job to teach our children to sow in love. We will join together as a community of believers as we prepare to harvest the fruits of our labors of love. Don't miss this opportunity to enjoy family, fellowship, food and fun !



**Saturday October 27, 2012
10:00 AM to 2:00PM**

Free Fun for the entire family!!

-Games

-Prizes

-Food

-Music

-Face Painting

Kiddie Corner

H	X	W	F	A	R	M	E	R	W	R	T	Y	U	M
A	A	S	D	F	G	H	J	J	K	L	Z	E	X	I
C	O	R	N	D	O	L	L	Y	Q	W	M	E	R	C
M	B	X	V	X	P	O	I	U	Y	O	T	S	A	H
Z	X	C	V	E	B	M	N	B	H	C	X	T	X	A
P	O	I	U	Y	S	R	E	W	Q	D	Q	R	F	E
L	A	M	M	A	S	T	I	D	E	G	S	A	A	L
L	K	H	G	F	D	S	F	A	Z	X	E	C	V	M
C	O	M	B	I	N	E	H	E	F	H	J	T	A	A
H	A	R	V	E	S	T	E	R	S	W	Q	O	H	S
M	N	B	V	C	X	X	Z	T	Z	T	P	R	I	U
C	Y	T	R	S	A	Q	A	W	E	R	I	T	Y	U
R	A	M	A	S	R	E	F	G	H	J	K	V	K	L
O	C	V	O	B	H	N	M	O	O	N	N	M	A	S
P	Z	D	V	W	N	M	R	E	J	X	J	L	S	L

HARVEST FESTIVAL WHEAT SHEAF CORN DOLLY MOW
 COMBINE HARVESTER FARMER HOME MOON CROP TRACTOR

What's Happening

- October 13** Leadership Meeting
10:00
Choir Rehearsal
2:00
Family Game Night
7:00pm—Washington Commons
- October 14** Men's Fellowship
- October 20** Singles Ministry Fellowship
- October 26** Marriage Ministry Outing
- October 27** Leadership Meeting
9:00 am
Harvest Fest 10:00
Children's Choir Rehearsal
- October 28** College Sunday

Breast Cancer Pink Out
October 21st
During Worship

❖ To Honor Survivors

❖ To Remember Those Who Have Died

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