



THE MINISTRY OF
Alongside
Renewing and Equipping Christian Leaders

Alongside is a non-profit organization whose mission is to restore hope, purpose, passion, and relationships among Christian leaders, promoting personal wholeness and greater ministry effectiveness.

UPCOMING RETREATS

**March 16 -
April 3**

April 13-24

May 4-22

June 1-19

Hidden Identity

We would like to thank each and every one of you who helped make last year a wonderful year of ministry for Alongside! In 2008, we welcomed nearly 70 Christian leaders to one of our intensive counseling retreats, and dozens of other pastors and missionaries were ministered to in additional ways by our staff of professional counselors. We also welcomed many new friends to our ministry, including some very gracious donors, and our board has discerned and continues to explore God's leading into some exciting opportunities for the future.

While it's wonderful to share all of that with you, there is something missing from our end-of-year report; pictures and stories! We wish that we could show you pictures of the pastors and missionaries who were renewed and restored by our ministry this past year and tell you their stories, because nothing testifies to the effectiveness of a



ministry better than pictures and stories of the people whose lives were changed. However, our ministry has a strong professional commitment to confidentiality, and we zealously respect the privacy of our guests. While this makes it more difficult for us to publicize our work to potential guests and prospective donors, confidentiality is a vital component of the work that we do. In lieu of pictures, we would love for you to visit our website and read some of the testimonies there, or contact us and we will send you a summary of our most recent client feedback. Thank you again for your support!

Scholarship fund - Many of the pastors and missionaries who come to Alongside operate with limited means, and they do not have the financial resources to pay the full cost of our retreats. Because it is our policy that we never turn anyone away due to their inability to pay, we offer need-based scholarships to those who qualify. These scholarships are funded by generous supporters and enable Christian leaders to receive help who otherwise would not have the opportunity. Our scholarship fund is currently operating at a deficit; please consider making a gift to this fund today!

If you would like to receive this newsletter by e-mail, please contact us at info@alongsidecares.net

Our Board of Directors

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Good-bye, Grandma Ruth

Along with her family and friends, Alongside mourns the passing but celebrates the Home-going of Grandma Ruth. Grandma Ruth turned 100 in December, and led weekly Bible studies until just before her death. She was a beloved supporter of Alongside; upon hearing that we needed bicycles for our guests, she sent enough money to purchase two bikes. When she learned that Alongside was \$3000 away from ending 2008 in the black, she promptly sent \$3000 so we could begin 2009 with a clean slate. In addition to being a wonderful friend of this ministry, she was a devoted servant of the Lord Jesus Christ, and we will always remember her final act of love for pastors and missionaries before going Home.

Good-bye, Grandma Ruth! You will be greatly missed by many!

“Alongside has literally come alongside our missionaries and has encouraged them, challenged them, and given them tools to work with that would improve their lives, relationships and spiritual health. In the process this has also helped them to be more effective missionaries. We are very thankful for the ministry of Alongside.”

Twana Johnson, World Gospel Mission

**What
Member Care
Personnel
Are Saying
About
Alongside**

Did You Know ...

... that 80% of seminary graduates will leave full-time ministry within the first 5 years?

... that every year more than 5,000 U.S. missionaries leave their fields of service for preventable reasons?

... that the staff of Alongside have ministered to over **1000** pastors and missionaries since 1996?

For more information about our ministry, please visit our website at www.alongsidecares.net!

Home Furnishings Needed

We are in need of some home furnishings for our guest accommodations; would you be willing to donate an item from the following list?

Small microwave, “mini” refrigerator, coffee maker, new bedding for queen-sized bed, table settings for 4 including dishes and cutlery, television with DVD player, and small chairs. We also invite you to adopt an entire guestroom; please call for more information.

While Alongside charges a fee to those who attend our intensive counseling retreats, our fees do not cover the total cost of our services. We depend upon people just like you to partner with us in this vital ministry. All contributions are tax-deductible, and we thank you in advance for your generosity! Contributions can be sent directly to our Richland address or by giving online: www.alongsidecares.net.



*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*