



# SAMARITAN COUNSELING CENTER of Southeastern Michigan

## NEIGHBORS

Autumn 2011

### Letter from the Director



Dr. Patricia McCluskey

This has been a special year for Samaritan Counseling Center as we celebrated 25 years of committed service. While I only assumed the role of Executive Director at the beginning of the year, I have shared the journey of SCC since 1990 when I arrived as an intern in the Pastoral Counseling Training Program.

Since then I have been on staff as a Therapist, the Director of Training, and as Associate Executive Director before assuming my current role. Thus it was a special privilege to be able to assist in the planning and to share in the celebration of our anniversary.

The spirit of celebration and gratitude was present in all our regularly scheduled annual events such as the Clergy Day and the Golf Benefit Outing. As you will see in these pages, it was particularly present when former and current board members, staff, volunteers, and friends gathered in September for a

special 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration where we remembered the SCC story to which all had made a contribution, recognized the outstanding service of Liz Brandon and Virginia Britton, and listened to an inspiring reflection on the SCC story given by the Founder and first Executive Director, Dr. Wesley Brun.

In addition to the memories of these celebrations, the arrival of new staff and interns, an additional site in Flint for our Pastoral Care Specialist Program, and the introduction of Coaching Services are among some of the blessings of the year which I want to share with you and which will continue to nurture the spirit of gratitude and the sense of hope we have for our future.

Patricia McCluskey, Ph.D., D. Min., LP  
Executive Director



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## SCC Celebrates 25 Years of Service

More than 100 supporters joined us for our 25th Anniversary Dinner Party on September 25, 2011 at Nardin Park United Methodist Church. An afternoon of celebration and gratitude, we recognized the many people who have helped Samaritan Counseling Center serve our community. Past and present board members, presidents, volunteers and staff attended. We gratefully acknowledged each of their unique roles in fulfilling our mission. The keynote speaker, our first SCC Executive Director Dr. Wesley Brun, emphasized that with God's help, we can heal wounds and help people find wholeness.



The Rev. Robert L.S. Brown organized a consortium of churches which founded SCC.



Virginia Britton served many terms on our Board of Directors



Board Members Ron Graham, Beth Hubrecht (Chair), Lew Cantor

### *Our Mission*

*The Samaritan Counseling Center of Southeastern Michigan provides professional therapeutic counseling and educational services to all God's people seeking wholeness through emotional and spiritual growth.*



Executive Directors, past and present: Dr. Patricia McCluskey, Dr. Paul Melrose, Dr. Wesley Brun

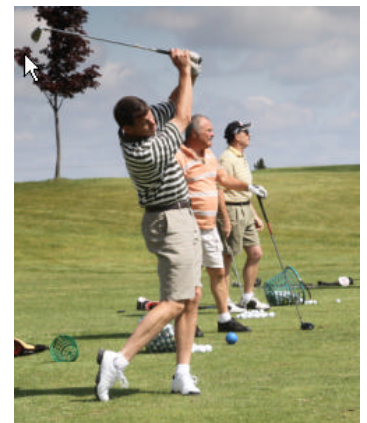
## Golf Outing a Hit

Ninety-five golfers hit the Links of Novi course on Friday, June 17 to raise support for SCC's Client Aid Fund. Thank you to our sponsors, players, attendees, staff, and volunteers for your support of SCC's ministry! Thanks to your generosity, we were able to raise \$15,000 for the fund.

Winning Women's Team: Patricia McCluskey, Rachel Lambert, Mary Katherine Hamilton, and Adele Stommel

Winning Men's Team: David Kubert, Dennis Kubert, Brian Vlazhy, and Chris Walker

We encourage you to join us next year, Friday, June 22, 2012, at a fantastic new venue, Moose Ridge Golf Course in South Lyon.



# Volunteer Elizabeth Brandon Honored

Elizabeth Brandon has been a wonderful and faithful volunteer at the Samaritan Counseling Center of Southeastern Michigan for 24 of the 25 years the Center has been in existence. For this dedicated, selfless service, she was recently honored at our 25th Anniversary Dinner with the Kenneth R. Glide Award.

Named for the founding president/chair of the board 1984 to 1987, Kenneth Glide was dedicated to the establishment and success of SCC. We established the award in 1987 for friends who have made a significant impact on SCC's growth over the years.

Helping in the SCC main office (at Nardin Park United Methodist Church), Elizabeth (Liz) performs general office work including typing, filing, answering the phones, scheduling appointments, filling out client registrations, photocopying, helping with mailings, and whatever else needs doing. She does it all with a cheerful, friendly attitude.

When Liz first began volunteering at SCC, soon after its inception, she came once a month. As the Center grew, so did the workload; and she has given more and more of her time. She has volunteered one afternoon a week for 23 years or more. Liz also has been accommodating about the day of the week she volunteers, switching the day as needed. Liz is always willing to give extra hours to SCC when we have special projects.

An avid quilter, Liz's handmade gifts at the annual Christmas party are highly sought by staff, board members and other volunteers alike. Her artistic ability has been wonderful in maintaining the Center's scrapbooks.

Liz also served on the Samaritan Counseling Center Board of Directors as a representative from Nardin Park UMC. She served two, three-year terms from 1997 through 2002, attended board meetings faithfully, served on committees, and served as Secretary of the Board for three years.

Giving so much of herself to the Center in time, talent and financial support, we have been truly blessed to have Liz's services for so long. She has been an integral part of our growth into what we are today. We owe her a big debt of gratitude!



Elizabeth Brandon (right) receives her award from Beth Hubrecht, SCC Board Chairperson.

# SCC Welcomes New Staff And Interns

In September, Linda Potter-Gallant, LLP, joined our staff. Linda brings extensive experience working with children, adults, couples, and families. Her specialties include working with Life Transitions, Mood Disorders, and Relationship Issues. Linda sees clients at both our Northville and Farmington Hills locations.

SCC continues to collaborate with academic institutions to provide internships which foster the formation of future health care professionals, enabling the further development of clinical competencies as well as the ability to integrate the client's faith resources within the therapeutic process. This year we have two interns from the Michigan School of Professional Psychology. William Reese, LLP,

a fourth year doctoral student is in his second year of internship with SCC, working on his dissertation, and planning to graduate in August, 2012. Vanessa Brown, TLLP, is a third year doctoral student who began a year of internship at SCC in September. We also have two graduates from the Licensed Professional Counselor and Art Therapy Programs at Wayne State University. Gail Singer and Shazia Siddiqi are both completing hours required to meet licensure requirements.



# Pastoral Care Specialist Training Programs

In addition to the Pastoral Care Specialist (PCS) Program functioning at our Farmington Hills office, the program is being offered in Flint this year. Along with instructors who provide the didactic seminar, each site requires the presence of at least one person with Fellow status in the American Association of Pastoral Counse-

lors (AAPC) who accompanies the group throughout the program. Lisa McIlvenna, D.Min., LPC, one of our own SCC graduates who continued on staff until leaving to open a new Pastoral Counseling Center in Midland, MI, is collaborating with SCC in the Flint program.

## Clergy and Congregational Leaders Day

### Healthy Leaders and Vital Congregations: Are They Connected?

As leaders in congregations today are facing massive changes in focus, resources, and capacities, this important

question will be the topic of SCC's next Clergy and Congregational Leaders Day scheduled for Wednesday, May 9, 2012. Dr. Emlyn Ott, Professor of Ministry and Pastoral Leadership at Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Columbus, OH, and CEO and Director of *Healthy Congregations, Inc.* will enable participants to learn how Bowen family

systems theory can bring a unique and deeper view to the challenges faced by leaders and congregations in today's environment.

Date: Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Location: Nardin Park United Methodist Church

Cost: \$65 which includes lunch, materials and snacks. (Leaders of SCC sponsoring congregations please call for a reduced rate).

Register: By calling 248-474-4701 or through Paypal at our website: [www.samaritancounselingmichigan.com](http://www.samaritancounselingmichigan.com)



Dr. Emlyn Ott

## Upcoming SCC Classes and Workshops

### Preparation for Marriage Workshops

Feb. 18, 2012 at First UMC of Birmingham

April 14, 2012 at Nardin Park UMC

June 9, 2012 at First UMC of Northville

### Lay Caregiver Series

Jan. 15, 2012 A Pastoral Response to the Challenges and Uniqueness of Relationships during Senior Years

Feb. 19, 2012 A Caregiver's Response to Chronic Clutter: Letting Go & Making Room

### Lay Caregiver Series (continued)

Mar. 18, 2012 Dealing with Conflict—a Caregiver's Response

April 15, 2012 A Pastoral Response to Couples in Crisis

### Certification as a Prepare/Enrich Counselor

Feb. 1, 2012 at Nardin Park UMC

June 6, 2012 at Nardin Park UMC

