



# EXPECTATIONS

Mother Teresa Maternity Home Of El Dorado County

December 2011



*Celebrating  
The Love of Life*

*The Captain's Dinner  
Aboard the ....*

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**SS MOTHER TERESA**

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**AT THE ANNUAL GALA  
DINNER AND AUCTION  
SATURDAY, FEB 4, 2012**

The crew has been working diligently acquiring fantastic auction items and arranging for a scrumptious catered dinner with incredible wines from award winning California wineries. If you have an item to donate to the event, would like to become an event sponsor or for ticket information please contact one of the following crew members.

Live Auction Betty Ackley  
[ackley@jps.net](mailto:ackley@jps.net) or 530-626-9635

Silent Auction Tina Rheault  
[tina.rheault@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tina.rheault@sbcglobal.net) 530-622-7692

Sponsorships Jane Meuser  
[janemeu@sbcglobal.net](mailto:janemeu@sbcglobal.net) 530-622-0848

Ticket Sales Renee Meuser  
[ssjandme@hotmail.com](mailto:ssjandme@hotmail.com) 530-409-4988

If you are available and would like to help with the event set-up on Friday Feb. 3. please contact Captain Norm Rogoway at [normr7432@sbcglobal.net](mailto:normr7432@sbcglobal.net) or 916-934-0227



**Board of Directors**

- Barbara Goyette, President
- Jane Meuser, Vice President
- Roberta Riley, Vice President
- Tom Kozlowski, Treasurer
- Jean Kuzmich, Secretary
- Fr. John Sullivan
- Miriam Dixon
- Mary Muse
- Peggy Mosbacher Wood
- Norma Hansler
- Marguerite Hill
- Norm Rogoway

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Merry Christmas



## Letter From A Former Resident!

Baby Jacob just celebrated his first birthday, I'm finishing my semester at college, my husband is working, and we are getting settled into our new apartment. We have a roof over our head and food in the refrigerator. Life is great. I take a moment to thank God for all of my blessings, then I reflect on the past year and remember how I got here.

I remember being pregnant and afraid. My husband was incarcerated, I had a high risk pregnancy and was restricted from working, and I was staying with a family member who was using drugs. My home was chaotic and unhealthy, even frightening at times. I remember the desperation and hopelessness I felt. I went to the Pregnancy Counseling Center in Placerville seeking help, and was referred to the Mother Teresa Maternity Home. I went there immediately and was given an interview and was put on a waiting list. The home was full, so I returned to the horrifying environment I was living in.

I prayed that night that I could find some solution or refuge. Someone was listening because I received a telephone call the very next morning from Joni Fielding, the Director of MTMH to let me know someone had unexpectedly left the previous evening and there was a room available! I anxiously packed a few things and rushed off to my new home. I was filled with nervousness and excitement as I pulled up to the home, but felt an overwhelming sense of relief and peacefulness the moment I walked through the door. This is a feeling shared by many residents. You would think it would be frightening to go to a new environment surrounded by strangers, but many girls I've talked to share this feeling of calmness when they walk in.

Once I completed the intake, I was taken to my room to get set-up. I was given a robe, pj's and slippers to help get me settled in. The residents of the home are given everything they need to have a healthy and comfortable pregnancy. They are given toiletries, there is a closet with maternity clothes that the girls can use, and they are provided with transportation to meetings and medical appointments. Residents attend weekly in-home meetings with Family Connections, an agency that provides counseling, parenting and life skills classes, and helps connect you to resources that enable you to have a place to transition to once the baby is born. Mother Teresa's does a lot more than shelter pregnant woman. It gives them the skills and tools needed to provide a safe home for their baby.

When Jacob was born, he had clothes, diapers, a bassinet, a car seat to come home in, and all of the things a baby needs. It was such a relief to come home from the hospital without any worries. All of this is because of the donations from people like you. Even the smallest contributions are appreciated and can help touch someone's life. As Mother Teresa said, "We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop".

Now that the holidays are approaching and we're surrounded with our family and friends, we should all take a moment to think of those who are less fortunate, such as the expectant mothers and babies at Mother Teresa Maternity Home. I know that as I put up my Christmas tree, I will remember how someone took the time to pick out a beautiful tree and bring it down to the maternity home for the girls to decorate. I will remember that feeling I had when I saw all the wonderful gifts for baby Jacob and myself from people we had never met, but that cared about us. It is a feeling I can't describe.

When you're doing your Christmas shopping this year, try to remember the women and babies at the home. It truly touches their hearts to know that someone is thinking about them and cares. It makes me think of another quote from Mother Teresa, "It is a kingly act to assist the fallen." I know that Mother Teresa's has a list of desperately needed items. They're always in need of diapers, baby items, toiletries, and maternity clothes. Gift cards and monetary donations are also a great idea. They enable the Staff to purchase necessities for the home. I remember when baby Jacob was ill and Jane Meuser, vice president of the Board of Directors, ran out late one night to pick up a humidifier, some Pedialyte, and some infant Tylenol for him. Gift cards and cash donations are necessary for these types of situations. Gifts and donations are tax deductible.

Mother Teresa's Maternity Home truly impacted my life, as well as countless others. I honestly don't know where baby Jacob and I would be without the maternity home. I don't even want to imagine it. I am so grateful for the staff and supporters of MTMH. I want to thank all of you for your love and generosity. Your kindness will never be forgotten.

With Love and Respect,  
Former Resident



Jacob happily playing in a box.



## Luncheon Success!

On Oct. 2, we held the 13th annual MTMH fall luncheon at Gurnell Hall, and as in the past 12 years, it was a rousing success! Thanks to dozens of hard working volunteers, the hall was full of lovely decorated tables and happy guests. Over 200 guests enjoyed a delicious salad lunch and Apple Hill cake

dessert, a spirited live auction, and drawings for dozens of raffle baskets. The funds raised will go a long way toward maintaining a safe home for mothers and their babies. A special thanks goes out to Father John Cantwell for his continued support of the home by donating the use of the hall for our

event. Also the St. Patrick's Ladies Society members, headed by Joan Delfino, Kelly Tighe, and Barbara Goyette produced the outstanding lunch for us. Thank you , ladies!

Betty Ackley, Chairman



## In Memory Of:

Betty Drennan by *Tom & Jane Meuser*

Robert Cook by *Ruth Cook*

Lee Schurman by *Tom & Jane Meuser*

Betty Drennan by *Mabel Morton*

Michael Ward by *Chrisine & Verne Sanders*

Tom Morinko by *Pat & Carole Murphy*

Leo Dowling by *Lawrence O'Shea*

Delores Garcia by *Joe Harn*

Lee Schurnam by *Ellen Yevdakimov*

Joseph & Louise Clement by *Clara Clement*

Lee Schurman by *J.L. Bafus*

Lee Schurman by *Pete & Nancy Bettencourt*

Children Victims of 9/11 by *Bill & Doreen Thornhill*

Lee Schurman by *Elizabeth Heaton*

Yvonne Clements by *Charles Clements*

Lee Schurman by *Marguerite Butler*

Sr. Lisa Doty by *Annie O'Connor*

Lee Schurman by *Patricia Harrell*

My husbands birth mother by *Annie O'Connor*

## Christmas Tree Trimming Party

Mother Teresa Maternity Home will be having a Christmas Tree Trimming Party on December 4, 2011 at 2p.m. at the home. Every year a beautiful Christmas Tree is donated by Kids Inc. and Ann Johnson will bring miniature trees for the residents to decorate. Cookies & punch will be served.



## Year End Contribution!

Please consider a donation to support the program of Mother Teresa Maternity Home of El Dorado County, when making your year end gifts. The need for our program continues to be great. We are the only place in the county to house pregnant women in need. Our program works closely with other community services to assure the healthy and substance free births of our babies. For the past 6 months, we were completely full, and had an extensive waiting

list. It costs approximately 15,000 dollars a month to run our program. Your gift of any amount will help us maintain our staffing and home. You can donate by mailing a check made out to **MTMH** to 3122 Sacramento St. Placerville, CA 95667 OR you can use your credit card online at [www.motherteresamaternityhome.com!](http://www.motherteresamaternityhome.com)

We would be grateful for any amount, large or small. Thank you for your kind consideration.



*Mother Teresa Maternity Home*

*3122 Sacramento Street*

*Placerville, CA 95667*

*(530) 295-8006*

*motherteresa530@hotmail.com*

Non Profit Org.

BULK MAIL

U.S. Postage Paid

Placerville, CA 95667

Permit #327

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

We're on the Web!  
Motherteresamaternityhome.com

# Thank You To Our Community!

**Service Electric** donated supplies and labor for 2 more room remodels! They have been an amazing help to the maternity home. They are professional and knowledgeable! We are very grateful for all their donated service! If you need any electrical work, please call Kevin or Mike at service electric: **(530) 621-4242**

**Rolling Hills Christian Church** included the maternity home in their Great Day Of Service. A large group of volunteers came to our home and painted our much needed living room and dining room. They also purchased flowers and planted them in our backyard. They did a beautiful job! Thank you so much to Rolling Hills Christian Church and the generous volunteers!

**Paul Kuzmich** donated a much needed

refrigerator! It is so wonderful to have 2 refrigerators! It was a challenge for 6 women and their babies to share one small refrigerator. Now, it is much easier to keep their food fresh. Thank you so much Paul!

**Holy Trinity & St. Peter & Paul Catholic Church** have both put up a giving tree for the maternity home this Christmas! This is such a wonderful way to bless our maternity home. The gifts received are used all year long!

**Joel Bigelow** made it possible for our residents and babies to have their pictures professionally taken. They each received plenty of prints for their family and friends! This was a priceless event!

**Karen Hokanson** gave all the residents a hair make-over! This was an abso-

lute fabulous event! Each resident left the salon feeling beautiful! The residents are all very grateful that she took the time to give such wonderful care and attention! Karen said "It was so much fun meeting the women and their babies! It was as good for me as it was for them!" Karen works at The Maradonn Salon in Placerville and can be reached at **(530)919-1360**.

## Wish list

Gift cards for Walmart, K-Mart, Payless Shoes, Safeway, SaveMart, Raley's, Rite Aid, & AT&T Go Phone Cards!

