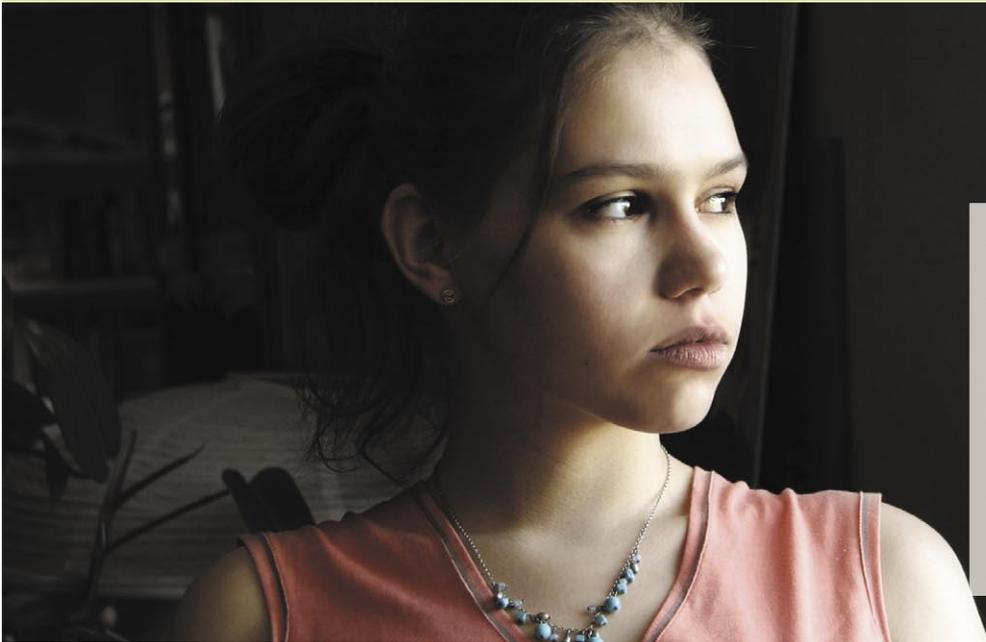


MESSAGES OF HOPE

How you bring love to life through Lutheran Media



I was
really
struggling...

When the young lady from Queensland called to say thank you for the booklet on depression we sent her, she was really thanking you.

It's your kindness and generosity that puts Messages of Hope on over 700 radio stations across Australia and New Zealand, reaching more than one million people each week. So let me share with you what that young lady shared with us:

"I was really struggling when I found your booklet on depression.

"As I was reading it I realised that other people felt the same way and this started me on my path to getting better. It's taken a long time to get through my depression; with counselling and lots of other things ..."

"It was your booklet that helped me realise I could be helped."

As you know, depression is a serious and debilitating condition.

According to the Bureau of Statistics more than 3 million Australians battle this illness that can hurt sufferers and their families and friends so deeply.

Not everyone is brave enough to call up after hearing a Messages of Hope on the radio, but your help reaches people in other ways too. A University Chaplain shared how he offers our booklets to students both through counselling and also on a rack just outside his office. He told us:

"I'm always amazed by the number of people who will take a booklet when they think you're not looking as they pass by. Booklets on things like depression, addiction or relationships. I'm not sure if it's the topic of the booklet or if they are simply embarrassed to be seen as needing help, but it's a blessing that they take them and read them."

That brings us back to that young lady from Queensland, and how your kindness is now being multiplied to others through her life:

"I just wanted to say thank you for your booklets and what you do.

Now I can help other people by sharing your booklets and my experiences."

We rejoice God has used your Messages of Hope to touch someone's life so dramatically, and thank you for all you do to support this ministry.

LUTHERAN.MEDIA)))

COMMUNICATING CHRIST



where love comes to life

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AUTUMN 2017

Where does my help come from?

My help comes from the Lord. Psalm 121:1-2



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Messages of hope

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HAPPYLAND

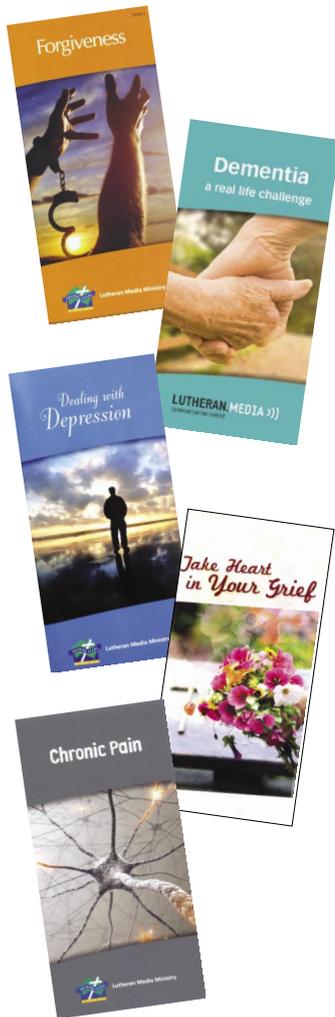
www.happyland.com.au

In this new column you'll meet the people who call Lutheran Media after hearing your Messages of Hope

THE CALLS YOU ANSWER

Thank you

for bringing love to life through this special Lutheran ministry.



Please keep praying God will use the messages you put on the airwaves to bring hope.

God's Detectives

A lot of our work here at Lutheran Media is detective work!

You might think that writing down a message heard on the answering machine sounds simple enough - but often there is a great deal of detective work involved before we can send the correct booklet out to the correct person.

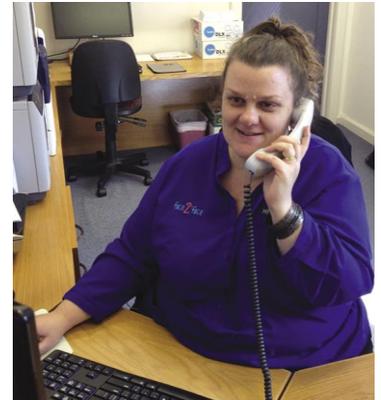
A missing postcode or spelling of a suburb is easy to find, but finding out which booklet a person means when they just request "the free booklet" isn't easy.

Then, of course, there are challenges trying to identify if the name is a Schutz or a Schulz or a Schultz! Especially when they don't leave a phone number or street address.

Monday is the busiest time as we check our website, emails, answering machine messages and take phone calls in response to the latest Messages of hope on the radio over the weekend.

Along with the detective work, we do data entry, packaging and lots of chatting - with the wonderful people who support the work of Lutheran Media. That's why we are so thankful we are blessed with two wonderful volunteers - Barb and Annette.

With each booklet we send out, we include a letter of encouragement and an offer of more support. As we do this, we pray they find hope in Jesus Christ.



Sarah – Lutheran Media receptionist

Sarah Wiltshire
Lutheran Media Reception

Witness in Whyalla

G'day Pastor Richard and LM team!

We've used the booklet ministry here in Whyalla for the past 5 years. The health area is the most used (which is encouraging because its being used - but discouraging because the spiritual side is not being read, but they are using more relationship and faith life booklets).

We keep two of each booklet in our carousel in the church entrance.

The booklet "regrets, reality and restoration" is one of the best booklets I have ever read and was a spiritual experience for me, as lots of the things

Pastor Tim had been trying to get through to us made more sense.

We have been encouraging people to use the booklets for themselves, and also to give to others in need.

I know the booklet ministry is labour-intensive, and postage is a challenge, but it serves an important function, when people know about it. It is most excellent news the media is now sharing with New Zealand and Africa. No doubt you are very busy. So keep going and God bless your work.

Thanks
Dorf (Michael Simpfendorfer)

Your hand-up for families in danger of breakdown

What happens when a family breaks down?

The statistics tell us one story:

- Family breakdown costs the Australian economy \$14 billion each year
- 750,000 Australian children live in one parent families
- Around 50,000 couples get divorced in Australia each year

Yet we know that numbers can't tell the whole story of the pain and fear children suffer when their parents separate.

The challenge of poverty and homelessness when families break down. The risk of depression, and self-medication through alcohol or illicit drugs, when the pain gets too much.

Families are a blessing, but they can also be very hard work. Parenting is not easy, especially when work responsibilities demand time and add pressure that is almost too much to bear.

That's why Lutheran Media has invited Julie Hahn (past writer for The Lutheran) to write a new booklet for parents that offers them God's grace, love and helping hand.

You know already the beautiful simple way Julie shares important messages. You see it in this booklet too...

***Bringing back
the smile gone missing.***



Bringing back the smile gone missing

NEW BOOKLET SAMPLE...

"The children each expressed in their own way that life was not as it should be. The five-year-old took control of everything—and everybody. The three-year-old bounced off walls and grabbed attention any way he could. The baby became an expert tantrum-thrower.

I thought I appeared calm on the outside, most of the time, but on the inside I was screaming, stressed out and miserable.

... One day, our children's preschool teacher took me aside and asked, 'Miss Julie, is there a reason I don't hear you saying 'Yes' to your children?'

I didn't have an answer. But that question changed our family's life path.

When preschool ended that day, for the first time ever I squatted down and held my arms out as wide as I could. My children spread out their arms and ran into mine. I'm glad they knew what to do because it was new to me. But it restored the smile that had gone missing. ..."

The booklet is planned to be offered over radio in the lead up to and on Mother's Day in May.

The focus on mothers and parenting is a great opportunity to connect with people and offer them a powerful message of hope, along with very practical tips for purposeful parenting.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Your help is needed now to produce, print and post this parenting booklet to families at risk of breakdown.

A gift of \$80 can provide 20 booklets, while \$200 can support a 30 second Messages of Hope radio ad on a country station, reaching thousands of people.

Simply call 1800 353 350,
go to lutheranmedia.org.au
or mail the **Donation Slip!**

YOUR THOUGHTS?

We are already planning to produce booklets on coping with cancer and overcoming addiction. As you look around you at the people in your life, what topics do you think would be of most benefit to them?

**Call and let us know –
1800 353 350.**

**You can search for and order a
booklet at lutheranmedia.org.au/
booklets**

