

Vine and Branches

The Monthly e-Newsletter of Rachel's Vineyard Ministries

August 2009

Rachel's Vineyard weekend retreats for emotional and spiritual healing after abortion are held internationally. Rachel's Vineyard welcomes women, men, couples, grandparents and former abortion providers. Our retreats are held in both Catholic and Interdenominational settings. Rachel's Vineyard Ministries is a resource for clinical training, education, and healing models.

Rachel's Vineyard is a non-profit 501(c) 3 organization. All contributions are tax deductible. We work in partnership with Priests for Life and Gospel of Life Ministries.

Rachel's Vineyard Ministries is available on the web at www.rachelsvineyard.org and through our 24/7 help line 1-877-HOPE-4-ME.

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"The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity. The optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty." – Winston Churchill
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The Fruit of the Harvest: A Reflection on the 2009 Rachel's Vineyard Conference

by Kathryn A. Boyle

Everywhere you turn: smiles, warm embraces, joyful first meetings. The lobby is packed with laborers in the Vineyard from all over the world: the US, Canada, Italy, Jamaica, New Zealand, Australia and more. It's Tuesday morning of the Conference and the excitement is so thick you can taste it in the air. As I buzz by Dr. Theresa Burke as she chats with a friend from Arizona I can't help but feel electric, I'm excited, and nervous. Did we forget anything? Will we be able to get the speakers what they need on time, every time? What will I do for the talent show (ask anyone who attended the conference for the wacky answer to that question)

I have been to conferences before: pro-life groups, theological seminars, youth conferences, but nothing compares to my experience with the people who attended this years Rachel's Vineyard Conference. Besides the fact that four days of presentations went off without a hitch, offering cutting edge information on abortion healing; what moved me and energized me the most were

the walking miracles I had the pleasure of spending a week with.

Working at Rachel's Vineyard Headquarters, I've listened to post abortion horror stories of emotional torment on the hotline that would haunt me for days. Women and men who reach out from the muck of abortion trauma in the hopes that someone, somehow can help them. My job is to give them the information for the retreat nearest them and then we'd say our goodbyes. It's hard to know that people are walking around every day, all day with that kind of weight on their hearts. But there is truly hope. Every attendee at this conference was a billboard for hope.

This realization hit me as I was standing in the back of the Main Conference Center during a keynote presentation when it occurred to me that virtually every person in the room had suffered abortion loss in their life. At first I was shocked by the idea. 'But these people are so filled with joy and love and life.' I thought. That's exactly right, they are! Because, of the thousands of people that volunteer for Rachel's Vineyard, most of them became involved after their own healing through the program.

As I continued to scan the room I heard the whisper of the words of Christ, "Behold, I make all things new." These incredible people, who once were trapped in the muck of trauma themselves had allowed the Divine Physician to rebuild, not only their hearts, but their relationships with their children and with God Himself. And now here they are, beautiful, bright and full of zeal for healing and hope through the power of Christ. God is good like that. There is nothing He cannot transform, there is nothing He can't renew, rebuild or strengthen. There is no relationship beyond repair and no soul that can't be brought out of the darkness into the light. That's what I learned beyond a shadow of a doubt at this conference. The presentations were incredible, the facility was lovely, but I will always remember the week I spent surrounded by people who were true miracles, rescued by the God who loves them and brought to a place where they, by the grace of God, are now doing the rescuing themselves.

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Rachel's Vineyard "Healing Journey After Abortion" Conference Leeds, England

August 14-16, 2009 Rachel's Vineyard Conference "The Healing Journey After Abortion"
Leeds, England

Rachel's Vineyard in the Diocese of Leeds, England will be offering a three-day conference with Theresa and Kevin Burke. Topics covered will include Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Traumatic Re-enactment, an overview of Rachel's Vineyard, a seminar on the Silent No More Awareness Campaign presented by the movement's co-founder Janet Morana, as well as informative seminars on how to minister to men and families suffering after abortion. A special seminar for clergy will be offered on Friday August 14th.

For more information on the seminar in England or to register please contact:
Deacon Charles Conner charlieco7@yahoo.co.uk

Click [here](#) to view our brochure.

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Healing Abortion Trauma and Rachel's Vineyard Retreats from Three Participants

By 'Genevieve,' Peter Maher & Tom Ryan

Read this powerful article about the impact of abortion and the healing work of Rachel's

Vineyard. The article includes the moving testimony of ‘Genevieve,’ who shares her story of abortion loss and new hope found in Rachel’s Vineyard.

Click [here](#) to read the complete article.

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“Joy is a net of love by which you can catch souls” – Blessed Mother Teresa
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A Note from the Pastoral Director

Dear Friends,

We had a great training week together with so many laborers in the Vineyard at the end of last month in Malvern, PA. It renewed my gratitude for the work so many of you do and the way you have responded to the Lord’s call! We felt the spiritual unity with those who were not able to be present in person, and lifted them up in our thoughts, words, and prayers.

We dealt with some powerful themes during our days together, and it reminded us all that we all need continued healing as we face the ugliness of abortion. We can appreciate how great the Lord’s mercy is when we recognize how much he forgives.

In this task, we have to help one another, which again, is why it is so important for us to keep coming together. That is one of my greatest joys, as I spend so much time interacting around the country with those who have had abortions and with those who minister to them.
Blessings!

Sincerely,
Fr. Frank Pavone
Pastoral Director and Chairman, Rachel’s Vineyard
National Director, Priests for Life

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Help Our Friends at the Elliot Institute Spread the Word on Squidoo

What is Squidoo?

Squidoo is a popular web site with a hand-built collection of nearly 90,000 pages. Users can build a free page (or pages) about any topic that is important to them, and it's a great way to share information with others in a quick format. The Elliot Institute now has three lenses on Squidoo and is adding more.

The UnChoice lens is in the Top 100 in the News/Politics category on Squidoo. The more visitors to the lens, the higher the ranking is. If the UnChoice Lens gets into the Top 5, it will be featured on Squidoo's home page and seen by everyone who visits the site!

This is an important issue that is currently being out-ranked by news about the Presidential puppy, an alleged moon-landing hoax and even Al Capone. We think we can do better. What do you think?

Help the Elliot Institute to make it to the top 5 on Squidoo by visiting the site below and supporting the UnChoice Lens.

Visit www.squidoo.com/theunchoice today!

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"Humor is healing."- Brad Garrett
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Music Video- "Fix You" by Coldplay

Watch this moving music video about the healing power of God through Rachel's Vineyard featuring the emotive song "Fix You" by Coldplay.

Click [here](#) to view this beautiful video.
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A Late Summer Appeal

As summer winds down and our minds turn to thoughts of "back to school," many women and men who have lost children to abortion can find this to be a very difficult time of year. The perfect time to donate is now; make your donation today and help those still hurting after abortion find the hope and healing they long for.

Choose how to make your donation:

Online www.RachelsVineyard.org/donate

by phone 610-354-0555

by mail PO Box 140130 Staten Island, NY 10314

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"Words of kindness are more healing to a drooping heart than balm or honey."
- Sarah Fielding
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United in Prayer

We ask for God's blessing of protection and safety for **Kathryn Boyle**, administrative assistant to Theresa and Kevin Burke, as she travels to her new home in California.

Please pray for Cynthia Wynn as she continues to battle an aggressive cancer.
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Grief to Grace - Healing the Wounds of Abuse

Grief to Grace - Healing the wounds of Abuse will be held in a number of different locations this year. If you or someone you care about is suffering because of past abuse visit www.griefftograce.org. This new program was composed by Theresa and Kevin Burke, the founders of Rachel's Vineyard, to provide a psychological and spiritual healing journey for anyone impacted by sexual, physical, emotional abuse or neglect.

October 26-29, 2009

Aston, PA

November 19-22, 2009

Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada
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Upcoming Events and Trainings

Friday, August 14, 2009 -- Sunday, August 16, 2009

Rachel's Vineyard Conference - Leeds, England

Speaker(s): Theresa Burke, PhD and Kevin Burke, MSS/ LSW

Contact info: Deacon Charles Conner charlieco7@yahoo.co.uk

Event details: Friday 8/14 designed for Clergy
CLICK [HERE](#) to view brochure.

Friday, September 25, 2009 to Tuesday, September 29, 2009
Rachel's Vineyard Retreat and Clinical Training - Honolulu, HI
Speaker(s): Theresa Burke, Ph.D and Kevin Burke, MSS/LSW
Contact Info: Lisa Shorba
808-469-5470 lisaals@hotmail.com
Event Details: Rachel's Vineyard retreat 9/25-27/2009
Clinical Training 9/29/2009

Friday, October 2, 2009 -- Saturday, October 3, 2009
Clinical Training - Baltimore, MD
Speakers: Kevin and Theresa Burke
Contact Info: Denise Douglas
410-354-6900
projectrachel@archbalt.org

Friday, November 6, 2009 -- Saturday, November 7, 2009
Clinical/Regional Training - Tucson, AZ
Speaker: Theresa Burke, PhD
Contact Info: Jean Aggerbeck
520-777-4638
breadbasket777@aol.com

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"Peace is a daily, a weekly, a monthly process, gradually changing opinions, slowly eroding old
barriers, quietly building new structures."
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Other Events of Interest

August 9-15, 2009
Hope Alive Level One Training
Contact: Marie Peters-Ney www.mtjoycollege.com

Upcoming Retreats

August 7 - August 9, 2009 -- Longbranch, Washington
Contact: Valerie Jacobs 800-822-HOPE valeriepr@aol.com

August 7 - August 9, 2009 -- Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota
Contact: Nancy Blom 952-882-2072 rwr-nancy@usfamily.net

August 14 - August 16, 2009 -- Mesa, Arizona
Local Host: St. Timothy & St Thomas the Apostle
Contact: Karen Ord 480-329-6795 mkord@cox.net

August 14 - August 16, 2009 -- Miami, Florida
Local Host: Clamor de Vida y Esperanza Ministry
Contact: Jackie Guillen 305-302-9436 clamordevida@aim.com
Note: Spanish

August 14 - August 16, 2009 -- Saginaw, Michigan
Contact: Sandy Buza 989-797-6652 sbuza@dioceseofsaginaw.org
Contact: Sandy Buza 800-453-2081 x652

August 14 - August 16, 2009 -- Upstate / Greenville, South Carolina

Local Host: Diocese of Charleston

Contact: Christy 803-554-6088 grace4healing@gmail.com

Contact: Kathy 803-546-6010 postabortionhealing@gmail.com

August 21 - August 23, 2009 -- Cherry Hill, New Jersey

Local Host: Diocese of Camden

Contact: Stephanie Claudy 866-4-RACHEL sclaudy@camdendiocese.org

Contact: Spanish Retreats: Margarita 1-877-665-2974 popejp2rc@verizon.net

August 21 - August 23, 2009 -- Palm Beach, Florida

Contact: Donna Gardner 561-602-4778 isaiah61@bellsouth.net

Retreat Location: Our Lady of Florida Spiritual Center

August 21 - August 23, 2009 -- Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Contact: Toni Jester 412-621-6953 toniafj1@comcast.net

Contact: Toni 412-352-5348

August 21 - August 23, 2009 -- Sydney, New South Wales Australia

Contact: Debbie 02-9440-7980 info@rachelsvineyard.org.au

August 27 - August 30, 2009 -- Richardton, North Dakota

Local Host: Bismarck Diocese

Contact: Carol Kling 605-374-5639 ckling@sdplains.com

August 28 - August 30, 2009 -- Fort Worth, Texas

Contact: Betsy Kopor 817-923-4757 forgiven@racheltx.org

Contact: Macaria (espanol) 469-767-8669 misericordia@racheltx.org

August 28 - August 30, 2009 -- Tampa, Florida

Contact: Emma Boe 813-631-4370 eboe@ccdosp.org

September 4 - September 6, 2009 -- Cork City, Ireland

Contact: Bernadette 087-859-2877 bergoulding@eircom.net

Contact: Dr. Rita O'Connor 061-468-570

September 4 - September 6, 2009 -- Ilkley, England

Contact: Marene 07505 904 656 rachelsvineyard.leeds@hotmail.co.uk

Retreat Location: Ilkley area of West Yorkshire

September 4 - September 6, 2009 -- Kingston, Jamaica

Local Host: Archdiocese of Kingston

Contact: Stephanie Christian 876-322-8041 archfldir@gmail.com

September 11 - September 13, 2009 -- DC Metro Area, Maryland

Contact: Eugenia Hadley 301-300-1997 mena4481@aol.com

Note: Español and English retreats offered

September 11 - September 13, 2009 -- Jacksonville/St. Augustine, Florida

Contact: Donna Augustine 904-221-3232 rachelsvineyardjax@yahoo.com

September 11 - September 13, 2009 -- Wichita, Kansas

Local Host: Rachel's Vineyard of the Diocese of Wichita

Contact: Tama Dutton 316-269-4673 duttont@cdowk.org

Contact: Statewide only 888-456-4673

September 18 - September 20, 2009 -- Charlotte, North Carolina
Local Host: Catholic Diocese of Charlotte
Contact: Maggi Fitzpatrick Nadol 704-370-3229 MNadol@CharlotteDiocese.org
Contact: Deacon Tom Rasmussen 828-495-7234 deacontom@charterinternet.com

September 18 - September 20, 2009 -- Dallas (Español), Texas
Contact: Norma 972-679-4760 sanacion@racheldallas.org
Note: Español

September 18 - September 20, 2009 -- Fairfield County, Connecticut
Local Host: Diocese of Bridgeport
Contact: Clarissa Cincotta 203-218-0291 jeremiah31v17@aol.com

September 18 - September 20, 2009 -- Linden, New Jersey
Local Host: Archdiocese of Newark
Contact: Michelle Krystofik 732-388-8211 arnewrespect@sjanj.net

September 21 - September 23, 2009 -- Edmonton and Rural Area, Alberta Canada
Contact: Jennifer 780 960-8857 jensbranches@live.ca
Contact: Carla Houston 780-963-4048 carlahouston@shaw.ca
Contact: Marlene Javorsky majbutterflies@aol.com
Note: Interdenominational Retreat

September 25 - September 27, 2009 -- Auburn (Español), Washington
Contact: Noemi 206-450-7814
Note: (Español)

September 25 - September 27, 2009 -- Honolulu, Hawaii
Contact: Susanna Jones-Hart 808-696-4948
Contact: Lisa Shorba rvhawaii@gmail.com

September 25 - September 27, 2009 -- Los Angeles, California
Local Host: Rachel's Vineyard Los Angeles
Contact: Christine Lowe 866-2-RACHEL rvla.christine@gmail.com

September 25 - September 29, 2009 -- Richmond, Virginia
Local Host: Post Abortion Healing Ministry, Epiphany Catholic Church
Contact: Kay Marie Geiger 804-330-3137 kmg4hope@verizon.net
Retreat Location: Benedictine Abbey Retreat Center

September 25 - September 27, 2009 -- Sacramento, California
Contact: Debbie Anderson 916-733-0161 projectrachel@diocese-sacramento.org

September 25 - September 27, 2009 -- Tulsa, Oklahoma
Contact: Mary Lee 918-585-8167 mlingram@catholiccharitiestulsa.org

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