

Iron Rose Sister Ministries Newsletter

Summer 2015

Volume 3, Issue 2



Good News to Share!

- IRSM is moving to Arkansas.
- *In God's Right Hand* will be here by Sept.
- Blessed by our intern, Katie Finch.
- More new opportunities.

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IRSM is moving... to Searcy, Arkansas



I have moved a number of times in my adult life. And IRSM and I will be making another move... to **Searcy, Arkansas**.

After two years based out of **Denver, Colorado**, blessed by my involvement with the **Northwest Church of Christ**, and its members, I am

bidding them adieu and relocating.

Cost-of-living in Denver and **proximity to family** are two of the primary factors in this decision. My sister

and brother-in-law who have graciously and generously opened their home to me and the ministry for the past two years, are moving to Oklahoma, so it was time for me to relocate as well.

My parents live four miles from the house I am buying in Searcy and I will be **recon-**

necting with many in the **Harding University community**, my undergrad alma mater.

The move will happen the **first week of August**. I covet your prayers for me and for the ministry as we will be changing our home-base from which **we will continue to serve to equip women to connect to God and one another more deeply across the Americas**.

The new address is **1 Susan Dr., Searcy, AR 72143**

Note: We will keep the PO Box in Brighton, CO, active for approximately a year beyond the move.

A God Story from Coast to Coast to Coast (cont'd on back)

God's hand is working, living, and active. What a blessing when we can catch a glimpse of what he orchestrates—a reminder of his provision and that he never leaves us nor forsakes us.

This **God story** begins in

Baton Rouge at the **South Baton Rouge Church of Christ** many years ago. My parents worked with the singles and campus ministries. Many students at LSU (Louisiana State University) and Southern University

became Christians during the 80s and 90s. I remember many being in our home for Saturday waffles, crawfish boils, etc.

Thursday night, after arriving in **Sacramento, CA**, a kind family offered to give...

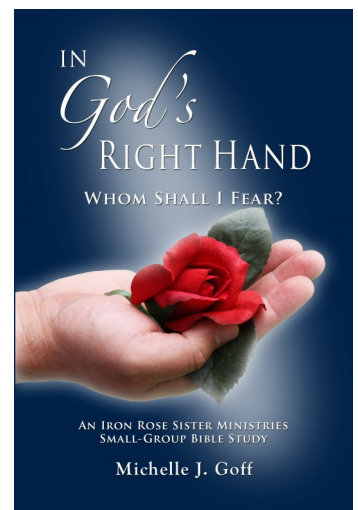
New book ready in September!

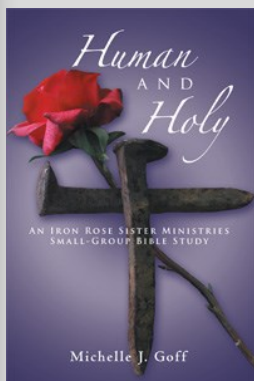
Drum roll, please... **The wait is over!** The second IRSM interactive women's Bible study is in production.

Securely held in God's right hand, whom shall I fear? As a vivid description of our heavenly Father that transcends the Old and New Testaments, God's right hand is a special place of honor from which he demonstrates power and authority, promises

protection and salvation, and provides a source of strength. God's righteous right hand is also where Jesus sits to intercede for us. Through this six-week interactive Bible study, we will explore these characteristics of God's living and active right hand in our lives. Let's join hands with him and walk together on the journey!

Preorder your copy today!





Order *Human AND Holy* for your women's small group today!

"I had never realized the importance of understanding how to minister to the women of our churches. Thank you, Michelle, for your insights!"
~Baxter student



Michelle J. Goff and Katie Finch, summer intern

Seminars at Baxter Institute in Tegucigalpa, Honduras

Tucked in the mountains in the heart of Tegucigalpa, the capital city of Honduras, is a **school of preaching** that houses approximately sixty students from **Central and South America**. I had the privilege of meeting some of the current Baxter students, including the director and his wife when I was in Honduras last year. At that time, an invitation was extended to conduct a **three-day seminar in the days preceding the Baxter Lectureships**. Even though my schedule did not permit me to stay for the Lectureships, we made the most of the days I was there.



Monday was a seminar for all of the students and their wives on **how to minister to the women in their congregation**, especially as it relates to **depression and discouragement**. Given the fact that the majority of Hispanic congregations is women, it is important to prepare future preachers to be attentive to the needs of those women. Tuesday was

for the ladies only and we discussed **Women's Spiritual Health**. Wednesday concluded with a seminar open to all the women in the area on the topic of **Delight!** All of those who attended were hungry to learn more and benefitted from the small group discussion format which made the teaching even more personal and practical.

In the Hands of the Divine Gardener—Destination Retreat

Friday through Sunday, **October 2-4**, women from all



across the U.S. will gather at the Ponderosa Retreat Center in Larkspur, CO, for the **1st ever Destination Retreat** hosted by IRSM.

The theme: *In the Hands of the Divine Gardener* from Jeremiah 31:11-14.

There will be classes, small groups, worship, crafts, and prayer time. You can also come in Thursday for hiking and shopping in the area.

Reserve your spot today by registering and paying a \$25 deposit. You won't want to miss this inspiring weekend in fellowship with other women!

Total cost for two nights and five meals is only \$150.

For more information email: IRSMretreat2015@gmail.com Please contact us if you are willing to volunteer as well.

New opportunity beyond the Americas

In May, I attended the **Pepperdine Bible Lectures**, sharing with those in attendance about all God is doing through IRSM and how they can get involved.

While there, I learned about the opportunity to **share some of IRSM's resources in Nigeria** in late February/early March 2016. After I returned to Denver, I

presented the idea to the IRSM Board of Directors and we agreed that it is a tremendous opportunity to **equip a large group of women with the tools to connect with God and one another more deeply**.

Prayerfully, I will join with a few other women from the U.S. to conduct a **week-long training with some of the**

Nigerian women on various topics, but specifically regarding small groups in preparation for the **weekend event** which has an **anticipated attendance of ~2,000 women**. Please join us in prayer as we **partner with Right Steps and Susana Homes** to bless, equip, inspire, and encourage many Nigerian women.

Wonder Woman Conference ~ Touching a life

Over three hundred women gathered April 16-18 from northern and southern California, even North Carolina, Texas, and other U.S. states. The **Parkway Church of Christ in Sacramento** hosted the **Wonder Woman Conference** and welcomed speakers for breakout classes, and keynote speakers.

I was blessed with the opportunity to share with all the women about what it means to be "*Human AND Holy*," as well as two classes for the single women: "*Single and Lovin' It (Mostly)*" and "*Falling in*

Love with Jesus."

What an honor to be among so many wonderful women praising God and joining together to learn more about how to live the Christian life.

Sunday morning, I shared a **class with the Hispanic sisters**, which facilitated my return visit to Sacramento in June as the speaker for their Spanish Ladies' Day.

For the June event, **Norma invited Judith**, a sixteen-year-old, to attend, prayerful that she would be encouraged by the loving words of truth shared about being *Victorious and Joyful in*

Battle. Judith has had her share of challenges and battles in her young life, but after hearing the lessons and sharing in the small group time, she shared with me during lunch that **she was so glad she had come so that she could find hope, learn that she is not alone, and hear Scripture that she could lean on for those reminders in the future.**

Judith was one of **many visitors present** for the Ladies' Day hosted by the Parkway Church of Christ Hispanic congregation.



Norma and Michelle in Sacramento, CA

"This was my first time doing small groups like that... I got so much out of discussing things with my Christian sisters! Thank you!"
~conference attendee

2015-2016 Calendar

August 20-22—Women's Conference, Health Talents Int'l, Guatemala

Cochabamba, Bolivia, & National Women's Conference, Santiago, Chile

Wichita, KS

September 11-12—Ladies Retreat, Enterprise Blvd CoC, Lake Charles, LA

Late Feb/early March—Small Group Training and National Conference in Nigeria

May 3-6—Pepperdine Bible Lectures (booth and Spanish classes)

October 2-4—Destination Retreat in Larkspur, CO

April 9—Ladies Day, Village CoC, Hot Springs Village, AR

Book your event now for 2016!

October 20—November 10—Buenos Aires, Argentina,

April 15-16—Women Walking with God (booth),

amazon.com[®] Smile

Don't forget to select IRSM as your charity of choice.



Women of all ages participated in the Hispanic Cole Mill Road CoC event

Our fabulous intern ~ Young ladies also a part of NC event

What a blessing to have **Katie Finch** working with IRSM this summer! She is currently a student at Harding University, studying Spanish & Psychology.

During the seven weeks she is spending in Denver, she has been an **invaluable assistant** in various aspects of IRSM and the behind-the-scenes tasks that make it all possible.

If you are interested in **getting involved** or interning with me, let me know! We would love for you to be a bigger part of all God is doing through us!

The **Cole Mill Road Church of Christ** Hispanic congregation hosted a Ladies' Day, Saturday, May 16, which three congregations near

Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina, attended.

What a blessing to see some of the **young ladies as a vital part**: some led singing with their moms, and others helped take care of the children so that the other women could attend all of the sessions.





Tax-deductible contributions:

**Iron Rose Sister Ministries
(IRSM) 1 Susan Dr.**

Searcy, AR 72143

For online contributions:

www.IronRoseSister.com

Advisory elders:

Northwest Church of Christ

Westminster, CO

Contact us:

501-593-4849

ironrosesister@gmail.com

Women's Ministry Resources in English and Spanish:

- Facilitate Christian sister relationships that will be like iron sharpening iron, encouraging and inspiring each other to be as beautiful as a rose in spite of a few thorns
- Provide women's Bible studies simple enough for anyone to lead and deep enough for everyone to grow
- Create a network of Christian women and women's ministries across the Americas
- Conduct seminars, ladies' days, women's retreats, etc. teaching, empowering and inspiring women on their journey as Iron Rose Sisters

www.IronRoseSister.com



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A God Story from Coast to Coast to Coast (cont'd from front page)

... me a ride to the hotel on their way home.

Tekisha, their daughter visiting from No. Carolina asked where I was visiting from.

"I live in Denver, but I grew up in Louisiana..."

"Oh, my husband is from Louisiana."

"Geaux Tigers!" was my

immediate, enthusiastic response.

"Geaux Tigers!" she echoed and we were bonded for life.

"My husband, **Derrick Brown became a Christian** while a student at Southern and worshipped at the South Baton Rouge CoC."

"No way! That 's where I grew up! I bet I know him. Do you have a picture? I bet we know tons of the same people." Words were spilling out of my mouth in excitement and Tekisha's eyes

got bigger and bigger.

We were unable to confirm our connection to the **Gulf Coast** until the next day since we were on the **West Coast** and they live on the **East Coast**, but the story had barely begun.

That night, I texted my parents, who remembered Derrick, and also **George Myer** who not only remembered Derrick, but also mentioned that Derrick and **Charles Martin** were really good friends "back in the day."

"Charles is in the hospital recovering from surgery and would love a call from an old friend."

"Great! I'd love to pass on

his number."

I found Tekisha on Friday morning and I could not even finish my sentence as tears filled Tekisha's eyes. "You know Charles Martin?! He was Derrick's best friend, but they lost touch and Derrick has been trying to find a way to reach him for years."

Now I had tears in my eyes. **Tekisha and I hugged like lifelong friends** who had been reunited ourselves. We joked that the rest of the conference could be cancelled—God had already done amazing things and before the **Wonder Woman Conference** had even started!



Tekisha and Michelle