



Merry Christmas

As we wrap up 2021, we are reminded that God is still in control. As Christians, we know that God is using the trials of this life to conform us to the image of Christ (Romans 8:28-30). It is during times like these that we often come more quickly to the end of ourselves and realize there must be something more.

We have had the privilege again this year to have “a front-row seat” as couples look to find hope and healing in their marriages. It is such a privilege to walk with them no matter how dark their life story has been and point them to the light of Christ.

We hope that as you navigate the noise and distraction of this holiday season you will take time to slow down.



LET'S STAY CONNECTED

Fill out the enclosed card and return it to us. Tell us how you would like us to communicate with you and if God is leading you to support SOS Marriage Care.

As we move into the New Year, join us in prayer as we continue to seek God's leading for the following:

- Successful launch of new content for pre-engagement/engaged couples.
- Connections with more pastors and church leaders about Heart Care.
- More training opportunities to train mentors and support local churches.
- Planning and funding for an **SOS Marriage Care Ministry & Equipping Center** to be built at the Hobby Farm.
- Funding for us to be able to step into ministry full-time in 2022.
- Funding for much-needed admin support.

Jesus lived a life that we couldn't live and died the death we should have died. In His resurrection from the grave, He defeated Satan. He alone is our Hope and our Salvation! May you be drawn into an even closer relationship with King Jesus in 2022.

Serving Our Savior,

Roger + Denise

Roger & Denise Friesen

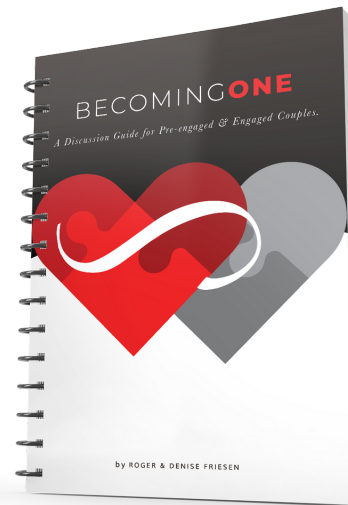


Resources

We are excited to announce a new resource designed to guide couples in the pre-engagement/engagement phase of their relationship will be available in 2022.

This guide covers topics like:

- Principles designed by the Creator of marriage that become the foundation of two lives becoming one.
- Moving from a decision based on compatibility, entertainment, emotions, fun, and romance to a decision based on principles found in the Bible.
- Making a biblical decision to enter a lifelong covenant of marriage.



SPRING 2022

Join us for Heart Care Training
March 18-19, 2022. Special emphasis will be
given to the new Becoming One guide.



A God Story

Heart Care through dating, engagement & marriage

Much of this year has been spent writing new material for pre-engagement/engaged couples to add to the SOS Marriage Care resources. So, when this testimony came to us we were so encouraged! We thank God for his perfect timing and want to share with you how Heart Care helped guide one couple, Ashley and Dan, through dating, engagement, and marriage.

I want to let you know that I'm grateful for your ministry. My boyfriend and I met with the Heart Care leaders at Love Church a couple of weeks ago and they walked us through what Heart Care would be like. And oh my goodness, it's an answer to prayers. We've led a Christ-centered relationship together void of any crazy red flags or issues... but we have these deep-seated fears we need to surrender before we get engaged and married. And YOUR ministry is absolutely the prayer to what we've been needing. So thank you, Denise. So very much. ♥Ashley





Hi Denise! Heart Care was an UNBELIEVABLE blessing in our life and every single couple (especially those getting married after divorce) should use Heart Care for pre-marital. I can't even put into words what a gift it was, but I just want to say thank you. We're so grateful. The ministering we got through Heart Care and how the Holy Spirit worked in us individually and as a couple was truly a gift we could never truly put into words how it's changed us. It has helped us understand each other better, love each other better, be better servants to each other, and grow closer together to our Lord and with each other. ♥THANK YOU from the bottom of our hearts. ♥Ashley

Lord God, thank You for the gift of the Friesens. Thank You for SOS marriage Care, that is only possible through the gifts You have given them. God, marriage is hard. Relationships are hard. But staying focused on You and Your promises can keep us grounded and strengthened in a way only You can provide to love our spouses through YOU. God, in Proverbs 11:14 you say that "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety" and I pray for the wise 'counsel' by the Friesens, our Heart Care Leaders from Love Church and SOS Marriage Care. May You continue to bless their marriage tenfold for their work in so many lives. In Jesus' name, Amen. ♥♥♥

Our story is truly a God-story through-and-through, and your ministry was a part of that healing and restoration. We have no doubt Heart Care gave us the tools we needed as we entered into covenant with each other and Him. Thank you. ♥



A really cool part of this story is that we don't even know the couple that did their Heart Care. That means Love Church has taken the training they received and is continuing to teach more of their own couples and have done well with it. Secondly, it tells us that the Heart Care process and material works!

What encouragement!

Our goal for the next decade or so in ministry is to equip as many churches and couples as we can to do the ministry of caring for couples. We pray we would finish well and leave this earth with more people pointing others to Jesus for life change and marriage restoration.



Honoring Marriage Mentors



Nancy and I, Gary, met at Iowa State, while both being involved in a campus ministry. Though we never dated as students, our spiritual training in college guided us to seek a like-hearted life partner. After college, God brought us together through mutual friends and involvement in college student ministries. We came to Gretna in 1973 where I taught for 35 years and Nancy taught after our children were in school. Through almost 50 years of marriage now, God has faithfully led us in raising three children and teaching many students. Our faith has been the glue that has held us together and made us best friends through the challenges in life over the years.

During most of our married years, we have regularly strived in different capacities to minister to people. We have benefitted from that in our lives and hopefully, others have, also. To us, this has been most fulfilling in life and in our marriage. One of the highlights in ministry for Nancy and I was mentoring newlywed couples as part of SOS Marriage Care with Roger and Denise. Helping new marriages get a godly start is a satisfying thing for us to do. We have found that as partners grow closer to God, they will usually grow closer together as marriage partners and have a greater married life. Though we are not involved now mentoring with SOS Marriage Care, we are thankful to be able to continue helping by financially supporting and praying for the life-changing ministry Roger and Denise lead.

Gary & Nancy Zessin

IN HONOR OF MY FATHER

In March 2021 we lost my 89-year-old Dad to cardiac arrest. I've wanted to thank all of you that have prayed for our family as we have transitioned to helping my widowed Mom. I'd also like to publicly thank all of you that made financial donations in honor of my Father to SOS Marriage Care, Inc. We were so touched by those special donations.

Eleven days after Dad passed would have been my parents, Vince & Louise Bazemore, 69th wedding anniversary. They were recognized by the Nebraska Family Alliance and received an 'Honorable Mention,' in this year's Nebraska Marriage Hall of Fame honoring the institution of marriage and the men and women who have faithfully committed to each other.

I was blessed with a very loving caring Father. He loved well. I feel I have a very grounded understanding of my Heavenly Father's love, partially because of my earthly father's love for me.



My Dad always said: "You take the good with the bad in life, marriage, and suffering." and "Everyone has the right to raise their kids the way they want."

While these may not be Biblical principles to live by, both statements allowed me to know that my choices in life were always going to have the good with the bad. And the outcome of raising my kids was based on my choices of how I raised them as well.

I'm all around thankful for my Father's advice.

Denise Bazemore Friesen





The Cerone Family

SOS MARRIAGE CARE

Fall AT THE FARM

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us for the annual Fall at the Farm event. This event helps raise funds through the Farmer's Market and silent auction but also allows families we serve to experience a relaxing day at the farm.

A few stories to share...

First, a young man came up to us separately and thanked us for working with his Mom and Dad. You could tell from the smile that he was happy they were together. WOW—that impacted our hearts.

Then, dear friends, Cole & Jeanne Carpenter (who got remarried to EACH OTHER in the Hobby Farm backyard), handmade (even hammered out the handles) and gave charcuterie boards to the ministry to use for silent bid auction. This raised over \$400 for the three boards! Thanks to the Carpenters and the ultimate 'Carpenter' we serve that restored their marriage!

Lastly, we are super grateful to Jason and Laura Cerone, specifically Jason Cerone for smoking 150 POUNDS of pulled pork for the event. We think it was the BEST EVER food we have had a Fall Event. Laura shared, "Heart Care gave us the sure foundation of Christ's great love for us, which levels all playing grounds, put us on the same team, and encourages us forward in unity with Him and one another. God is using this to change the trajectory of our family for His glory. What a gift Heart Care has been to our marriage and family. Thank you, Jesus!"

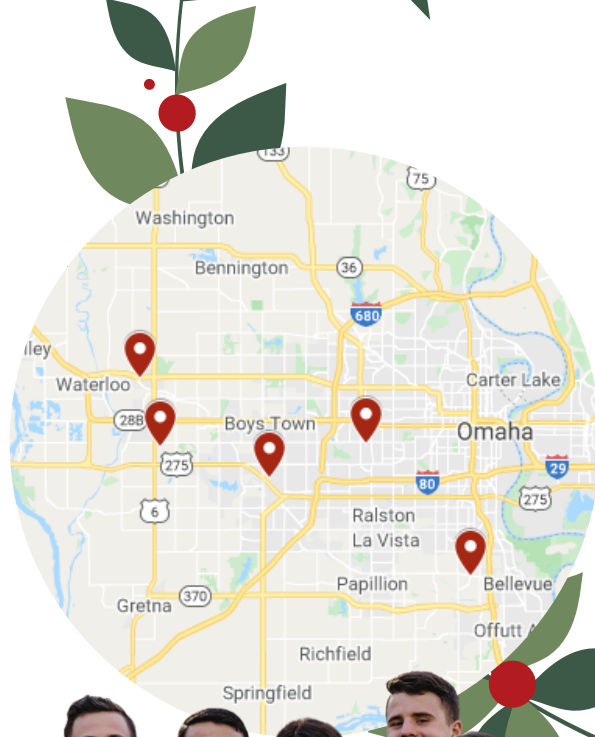
Your support of SOS Marriage Care financially and through prayers is making an impact on marriages and families.



Church Support

We believe God provides hope through the local church. Ephesians 4:12 tells us that as Christians we are to be equipped “for the work of the ministry”. Our desire is to equip local churches with support, training, and resources for couples. We are grateful to our 2021 supporting churches:

- Calvary Christian Church, Bellevue, NE
- CityLight West, Omaha, NE
- Coram Deo Church, Omaha, NE
- LOVE Church, Omaha, NE
- Relevant Church, Elkhorn, NE



“God loves to pour out his grace where people are honest and truthful. The Heart Care process provides a safe context for couples to pursue radical honesty with God and one another.”

Robert H. Thune, Sr. Pastor
Coram Deo Church, Omaha, NE
cdomaha.com



“God has used Heart Care to transform numerous marriages and lives in our church. Our church is a healthier church with healthier marriages and families, because of Heart Care.”

Ronnie Rothe, Pastor
Relevant Church, Elkhorn, NE
relevantcommunity.org

“God is incredibly faithful and says in His word, He draws near to those who draw near to HIM. SOS Marriage Care cultivates an environment, for people that are willing and humble, to learn to bring to Jesus their heart issues. So they can begin the lifelong journey of drawing near, receiving Him and His unending healing.

Todd Doxzon, Lead Pastor
Love Church, Omaha, NE
lovechurch.org



EQUIP MARRIAGE MINISTRY LEADERS AT YOUR CHURCH

If your church wants to care for couples in need but is not equipped we can help. Request more information by calling (402) 235-2355 or emailing denise@sosmarriagecare.com.



Heart Care

2-DAY TRAINING for LEADERS AND MENTORS

- Be equipped to protect your marriage and stay connected with your spouse
- Be better prepared to help someone understand marriage as God designed it
- Understand what's blocking true emotional/spiritual/physical intimacy
- Practice Biblical resolutions

Special emphasis will be given to the **NEW! Becoming One Discussion Guide** written especially for pre-engaged/engaged couples.

WHEN Friday, March 18, 2022
6—9 p.m.

Saturday, March 19, 2022
9 a.m.—4 p.m.

WHERE Coram Deo Church
8787 Pacific Street
Omaha, NE 68114

COST \$150/couple
\$100 for a supporting church

*Includes materials (\$135 value)
and meals on Saturday*



RSVP

NEW! Becoming One Guide

Call (402) 235-2355
Email denise@sosmarriagecare.com
Detach and mail the following

NAME(S)

CHURCH NAME

PAYMENT OPTIONS:



Fill out credit or debit below and return.



CHECK PAYABLE TO:
SOS Marriage Care
PO BOX 11, Springfield, NE 68059

NAME ON CARD

BILLING ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

WORKSHOP COST \$ _____

CARD #

TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION \$ _____

EMAIL FOR RECEIPT

TOTAL \$ _____

Events

March 18-19, 2022

Heart Care 2-Day
Training Workshop

With special emphasis on the
New! Becoming One Discussion Guide

\$150/couple
\$100/couple for supporting church

Coram Deo Church
8787 Pacific St, Omaha, NE

Saturday, April 2, 2022

9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Spring Clean at the Hobby Farm

Gloves and lunch included.

Sunday, April 10, 2022

SOS Marriage Care
19th Annual Easter Egg Hunt
at the Hobby Farm

Sunday, April 17, 2022

Easter Celebration of the
Resurrection of Jesus Christ!



HOBBY FARM RECIPE

Chicken Salad

3 Cans of Kirkland (Costco) Brand 12.5 oz.
Premium Chunk Chicken Breast

Mix Together:

3/4 C Mayonnaise
1/2 C Sour Cream
2 Tbl Cherchies Lem'n Dill Seasoning
3-4 tsp Cherchies Garlic'n Herbs Seasoning
Mix with chicken just to moisten.

Add & Mix:

1/2—2/3 cup golden raisins
3/4—1 C chopped celery
3/4—1 C chopped Fuji apple
3/4—1 C diced grapes
3/4—1 C toasted pecans, small pieces or chopped
1—1 1/2 C shredded fancy cheddar cheese

Tastes best mixed a day ahead.

Serve on a bed of lettuce, as a sandwich, especially nice on Croissants. We feel this salad, if not served as a sandwich, must be served with a fruit-filled muffin!

For a nice brunch or event, chicken salad can be served as a pie. Pour mixed chicken salad into pre-baked pie crust. Top with 1/4 inch layer of a mixture of whipped heavy cream and mayonnaise to taste and then garnish around the edge of crust with finely shredded carrots 3/4 inch in at crust. Serve as pie wedge size piece.

To toast pecans, spread on a baking sheet and light brown in the oven at 350 degrees, turning over once. We store toasted nuts in the freezer and pull out the needed amount of the tops of salads and put in this chicken salad as well. The flavor is amazing when toasted.

Seasonings can be found at www.cherchies.com.