

## Testimony From Jean Young

This Testimonies' intent is to testify how our merciful **God** spared, healed and restored my life after three failed and destructive suicide attempts. I now pray that *Jesus* will be glorified in this witness. I would also like to lift up and thank Pastor Herb Desjardins of the CFC. I never did thank him for his commitment and

life.

Immediately after the hospital discharge, I had planned to "kill" myself again. I was "empowered" and "driven" to cut my wrists with a carpenter's single edged razor blade. I'd cut my wrists in my cellar. My sister, Nancy found out and called an ambulance to my home. Again, I was rushed to a hospital. At St.

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**A TESTIMONY**

*Jean Young*

**THANKS & APPRECIATION**

*American Savings Foundation*

*Bob's Discount Furniture*

*Main Street Community Foundation*

*Foodshare of Greater Hartford*

*Supporters of the 2nd Annual Women's Conference*

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**BE HEALED**

*By S. Van Leer*

**Jesus  
Loves  
You**

faithfulness to The Kingdom of God. Because of Pastor Herb's right-standing with **Jesus**, he was able to deliver me from a demon of suicide. *Mark 16:17 says, "And these signs will accompany those who believe" In my name they will drive out demons;..."*

In 1983 I had everything going for me; I had a prosperous nursing career and my own lovely home and a wonderful three year old son. After a work-related back injury, I became depressed. While on back-related bed rest, I began to have

suicidal thoughts. While contemplating suicide, I heard a "voice" in my thoughts (disguised as my own thinking) tell me, "just do it." Suddenly, I had an "unnatural surge of power" enabling me to overdose on pills. I was found on the floor and brought to Torrington Hospital E.R. I had my stomach pumped and ended up in Intensive Care. My family was told that I would die due to the high levels of medication, but **God** spared my



*Jean Young*

Mary's E.R. in Waterbury; I was given intravenous saline and blood transfusions to replace the blood loss. St. Mary's, however, wasn't equipped to do reconstructive hand surgery because my wrists were cut too deeply. St. Mary's then sent me to Yale New Haven Hospital via ambulance. At Yale Hospital, I was to have emergency hand surgery

*Continued on page 4...*



*American Savings Foundation Grants \$7500*

DEUTERONOMY 10:18

“HE DOTHT EXECUTE

THE JUDGMENT OF

THE FATHERLESS AND

WIDOW, AND LOVETH

THE STRANGER, IN

GIVING HIM FOOD AND

RAIMENT.”

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the American Savings Foundation for a grant awarded to the Christian Fellowship Center in the amount of \$7,500.00 to benefit its Food Distribution Program. This grant will help tremendously with food purchases necessary to accommodate every individual and family that receives food from our food pantry and soup kitchen every week. Thank you so much, American Savings Foundation for your support in feeding those in need in our communities.

*Bob’s Discount Furniture Delivers a Check to the CFC!*



Sharon Valley (right) presented a check from Bob’s Discount Furniture to Pastor Dean Desjardins (left) and Michelle Palmer (middle) of the Christian Fellowship Center in January in the amount of \$1,500.00 from its “Random Acts of Kindness” Program to benefit the CFC Storehouse Soup Kitchen, Food Pantry and Clothing Ministry. The money received came at a time when it was much needed, and we were so blessed by their Random Act of Kindness! We would like to thank everyone at Bob’s Discount Furniture for their support, and for helping to feed and clothe our neighbors in need. God bless you all.

*Main Street Community Foundation*



We would like to thank the Main Street Community Foundation for awarding a grant in the amount of \$500.00 from the Winter '09 Fund for the purchase of food supplies for our Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry. Monetary donations have been very low so we truly appreciate the timing of this grant. Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness and for all that you do for our communities.



*Foodshare of Greater Hartford Awards Matching Grant*

We would like to thank Foodshare for awarding a matching grant in the amount of \$200.00 to help pay for the delivery cost of the food received from Foodshare at the CFC Storehouse. It is a tremendous help to us, and we can't thank Foodshare enough for being there to help to feed so many in need of food assistance in our communities. If it were not for all of the food we receive from Foodshare every week, many individuals and families would be hungry. In 2009, the Christian Fellowship Center Storehouse received over 730,000 pounds of food from Foodshare. What a blessing! God bless you all for your faithfulness.

EPHESIANS 5:20  
"GIVING THANKS  
ALWAYS FOR ALL  
THINGS UNTO GOD  
AND THE FATHER IN  
THE NAME OF OUR  
LORD JESUS  
CHRIST;"

*CFC Participates In Home Show*

The Christian Fellowship Center participated in Bristol Eastern Home Show in February to promote the ministries of the Christian Fellowship Center.

We sold home made baked goods and raised \$230.00 from this event, but more importantly, the Lord provided opportunities for us to share about the ministry, and share our testimony of what the Lord had done in our lives to others. It's all about Him! Pictured at right, Volunteer and CFC/Carehouse resident, David Nadeau and Michelle Palmer, CFC Promotional Director.



*Supporters of the Women's Conference*

We would like to express our thanks to Shop Rite Supermarket of Bristol, and Harvest Bakery of Bristol for their support in helping to make our 2nd Annual "Open The Eyes of My Heart" Women's Conference a big success. Thank you so much for lending a helping hand and for all that you do for our community. You have truly been a blessing.

We would like to thank the following businesses for their donation of door prizes for our 2nd Annual "Open The Eyes of My Heart" Women's Conference: Hair I Am, Montage Hair Design, LA Fitness, Gold's Gym, Stop & Shop Supermarket in Bristol, and The Hair Spa in Plainville. Thank you so much for your support and generosity! You were such a blessing to all of us.



*Jean Young's Testimony Continued...*

PHILIPPIANS 4:7

"AND THE PEACE OF  
GOD, WHICH PASSETH  
ALL UNDERSTANDING,  
SHALL KEEP YOUR  
HEARTS AND MINDS  
THROUGH CHRIST  
JESUS."

with Dr. Salomon, a rebound hand-specialist. Dr. Salomon was a blessing from **God**. People were praying for me, *1 Chon. 5:20....."He answered their prayers because they trusted in him."*

At this point I realize my left wrist was cut almost to the bone. All the nerves and tendons on the left hand had been completely severed. With the right wrist; fewer nerves and tendons had been severed. Dr. Moynihan, a renown plastic surgeon at St. Mary's had told my family (she didn't tell me) that my left hand might have to be amputated. The left amputation depended on whether or not Dr. Salomon could graft and repair the severed artery and blood vessels. My left hand was lifeless, blue and blood-drained. I was a mess. I was covered in blood and I kept going in and out of consciousness due to the blood loss.

When I arrived at Yale New Haven Hospital E.R. intake area, I remember lying all alone, outside on a stretcher. I remember thinking I could lie outside on this stretcher all alone, all night, and no one would even know I was here. But **Jesus** knew! **Thank God!** "*Hebrew 13:5 ....because God has said, "never will I leave you nor forsake you."*

Finally, I was brought to the operating room, and I'll never forget looking into Dr. Salomon's eyes. As I waited for surgery, Dr. Salomon gazed intently into my eyes. His eyes were beautiful, full of comfort and

compassion. Later, I realized that it was the eyes of the **Lord Jesus**, because suddenly I felt "*the peace of God which transcends all understanding*", *Phil. 4:7*.

There is so much to say, but due to length I'll limit the detail. After a successful 12 hour microsurgery, I had full casts from my finger-tips to my elbows for 1 month. Dr. Salomon had grafted the artery and veins, but we didn't know if the grafts would take. So I wasn't "out of the woods yet." Little did I know then of the difficult road ahead of me. I was also told by some doctors that I would be too depressed to have the stamina to do the year-long upcoming physical therapy. The therapy would be to restore function to the hands. Post-op, Dr. Salomon put me on a 24/7 suicide watch. I do remember that I was still planning to kill myself, but I had no way to do it. I was committed to a locked psychiatric ward at Yale. One night in my room, I broke down and called out to **God**, I cried and cried. I didn't understand why I had done such a gory & horrific thing to myself. I wasn't aware of **God's** presence then, but he answered my cries. *Psalm. 34:17 says....."He delivers them from all their troubles"*. I believed in **God**, I was Catholic although I didn't attend church nor was I taught to read the bible. However, I didn't have a saving personal relationship with **Jesus** yet.

Thanksgiving morning 1983, Dr. Salomon took off the heavy casts, and he was pleasantly surprised! **Jesus**



(Jean Young's casts on hands and wrists after reconstructive surgery)



*Jean Young's Testimony Continued...*

had unexpectedly healed my right hand about 90%. Dr. Salomon hadn't expected me to have the use of my right thumb! The left hand "was another story". Although **Jesus** had put some healing into the left hand it, was still useless. The left hand was ugly, swollen, stiff, and hard like a seal's flipper. I also needed two more additional reconstructive surgeries, but thanks to **God's** healing power I ended up with only one more surgery. This surgery was to regain use of the thumb, Ex. 15:26. .... "for I am the Lord who heals you."

Due to length, I'll condense what happened in the following months and years, which brings me to CFC today. Here, I'm a grateful member of a church with a dedicated, **Godly** Pastor and his equally dedicated wife, Jessie Desjardins.

I had said that I had a "hard long road" ahead of me. I was discharged after four months in the psychiatric ward. It was now March, 1984. To regain use of my hand I had exercises, splints, hot wax treatments, ultrasound and electrical stimulation. I spent a lot of time watching TV while I exercised. While watching the 700 Club with Pat Robinson, a Christian Broadcasting Show, I prayed the "Sinner's Prayer" and got saved/born again. I immediately started praying in 'tongues', a **holy spirit** prayer language. My Aunt Dot gave me a bible and I also started to go to healing services, like Grace & Vessels. I fi-

nally started to have some hope and purpose in my life again. One night when I awoke from sleep, I had a vision of **Jesus** standing by my bed. **Jesus** was brilliant and surrounded by light! I looked at **Jesus** and screamed! I later learned that it was the demon inside of me screaming at **Jesus** .... "there was a person possessed by a demon. He cried out at the top of his voice, *Ha what do you want with us Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us?*".....Luke 4:33 & 34.

It was now summer 1984; despite psychiatrist counseling appointments, I still struggled with killing myself although I was saved. I even talked to **Jesus** about killing myself. I tried hanging myself and drowning myself, but "I chickened out." Well, I ended up drinking a tall glass of antifreeze (engine coolant) one night. Again, **God** saved my life. I was found and was taken to St. Mary's E.R. Medical experts report that a tiny amount of antifreeze can cause kidney failure, blindness, seizures, convulsions and death. I had drunk a huge glassful. Once again, **Jesus** saved my life! In the E.R. and I.C.U., they pumped my stomach and gave me alcohol intravenously as an antidote. I was unconscious, then awoke to hallucinations. I had some hair loss, but no permanent damage. This was a miracle. **God** protected and healed me. "No weapon that is formed against me shall prosper.... This is the heritage of the servant of the Lord, and this is their vindication from me," de-

EXODUS 15:26:

"AND SAID, IF THOU WILT DILIGENTLY HEarken TO THE VOICE OF THE LORD THY GOD, AND WILT DO THAT WHICH IS RIGHT IN HIS SIGHT, AND WILT GIVE EAR TO HIS COMMANDMENTS, AND KEEP ALL HIS STATUTES, I WILL PUT NONE OF THESE DISEASES UPON THEE, WHICH I HAVE BROUGHT UPON THE EGYPTIANS: FOR I AM THE LORD THAT HEALETH THEE."



ROMANS 8:14:

“FOR AS MANY AS  
ARE LED BY THE SPIRIT  
OF GOD, THEY ARE  
THE SONS OF GOD.”

Jean Young's Testimony Continued...

*clares the Lord.”, Isaiah 54:17.*

After discharge from the third failed suicide attempt, the psychiatrist put me back on the 24/7 suicide watch. All this time (about one year) I had been actively seeking **Jesus**. I read the bible, went to a weekly prayer group, and also local healing services. The time spent with **God** gave me peace and satisfaction *to be found no where else*. I had lost my career, son, house and lifestyle. I was now disabled, but I had found **Jesus - the greatest treasure of all!** Also, by then I had worked hard to regain 70% use of the left hand so I could drive. In 1985, I wandered into the CFC and met Pastor Herb Desjardins, ....” *because those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God”, Romans 8:14.* Pastor Herb then prayed for me after the evening service and proceeded to deliver me from a “demon of suicide.” The demon didn’t want to come out of me. I (the demon) started yelling loudly and swearing at Pastor Herb. Jessie Desjardins was there and also other eye-witnesses. They were shocked at my (the demon) yelling and name-calling. I was shocked also at the verbal abuse!! The demon, however, had to come out at the name of **Jesus!** *Luke 10:17.*

...”*Lord Jesus even the demons submit to us in Your name*”. Now, not only was the suicidal demon gone, but my mind was refreshed! My actual “physical head” felt much lighter!

I’ve never been suicidal since that deliverance. I’m grateful to **Jesus** for leading me to Pastor Herb for deliverance. I’m also grateful to Pastor Herb for his personal sacrifice and commitment to the **Kingdom of God**. He needs to be in right standing with **God** to function within his deliverance and counseling ministry to help people who go to the CFC from the streets like me.

I won’t go into anything additional at this time. I have 30% permanent damage in the left hand, and about 10% permanent damage to the right. In conclusion, **God** has blessed my obedience. I now have a relationship with my wonderful son, Eric, a gift from **God**. **God** has blessed me with a free, Pell-grant college degree. College was a lot of work! I have a BSW; I’m now able to work again. What Satan meant for my destruction, **God** turned it around and used it for my good, “*and we know that in all things God works for the good to those who love him*”.....*Romans 8:28.* It was a “long haul” but I have few regrets, **Jesus** has healed the memories. I now have **JESUS**, ETERNAL SALVATION and all of my family is now saved! After seeing “firsthand” **Gods** mercy, and awesome power to save, heal, deliver and restore me; most of my relatives are “**believers**”. I like to say that my scars are stars for the **Lord!** “*They overcame Satan by the blood of the Lamb, Jesus, and the word of their testimony*”.....*Revelation 12:11.*



*Open The Eyes Of Our Heart Women's Conference*



We would like to thank our guest speaker, Elder Laurie Desjardins, for the wonderful job she did in sharing and being such an encouragement to the ladies who attended our 2nd Annual "Open The Eyes Of My Heart" Women's Conference. We would also like to thank Pastor Sarah Renker, Marisol Wilk, Ginette LeFrancois, and Helen D'Agostino for sharing their hearts as well. Thank you Sharon Cadrain for all of your dedication and time in preparing and cooking the delicious food, and to everyone that helped to make the Conference a big success. Thank you to CFC Worship Ministry for the wonderful worship! Join us again, ladies, in 2011!



Special thanks to Pastor Sarah Renker for sharing and the Women's Conference Ministry Leader, Marisol Wilk



Thank you Guest Speaker, Elder Laurie Desjardins



Marisol Wilk and her mother, Maria



Thank you worshipers, Elder Robert Wilk, Elder Billy Ruiz and pianist, Marco DeGregorio.



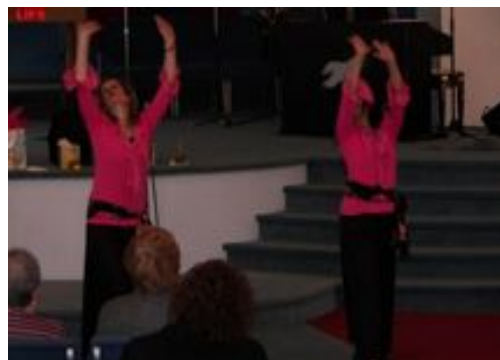
Thank you to teachers Ginette LeFrancois and Helen D'Agostino



Thank you Camille LeFrancois for managing the sound booth.



Thank you to helpers Kiley Michaud, Marisol Wilk, Janet Sanders, MaryAnn Meccariello, and Michelle Palmer.



Marisol Wilk and Janet Sanders, two of CFC's Grace & Glory Dancers

*Upcoming Events***Healing Service:**

First Sunday of Every Month

**Prayer Nights at the CFC:**

Every 1st & 3rd Friday, 7:00 pm

**MEN'S FELLOWSHIP:**

Every third Saturday Monthly, 8:00am

**Women's Fellowship:**

**Will be going to Gateway Christian Fellowship, 129 Bull Hill Lane, West Haven, Ct 06516—April 24, Saturday—10:00 a.m.—4:00 pm—Speaker will be Beth Moore.**

Every 2nd Saturday Monthly, 9:00 am at the CFC

**Night Time Support Group:**

Women's Group meets every Thursday, 6:30 p.m. starting April 15th. Call church office for location.

No Men's Support Group this Quarter.

**Women's Daytime Support Group**

**Starts April 1st from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the CFC.**

**SOULJAHZ 4 CHRIST & NEW BEGINNINGS****YOUTH MINISTRY:**

Every Friday Night  
7:00 pm @ the CFC

**HOME GROUP MEETINGS:**

Please Call Church office for times & locations

**CFC Storehouse Soup Kitchen:**

Every Friday, 4:30—5:30 p.m.  
Saturday & Sunday  
1:00 pm to 2:30 pm

**CFC Storehouse Food Pantry:**

Every Wednesday  
8:30 am till Noon.

**CFC Storehouse Clothing Ministry:**

Tuesday thru Thursday  
10:00 am to 4:00 pm

**Testimony Nights, 6:00 p.m. at CFC**

April 18th, May 16th & June 13th

*What Are You Waiting For? Be Healed!*

By Sidney Van Leer

My heart told me to believe and trust God to heal me when He felt the time was right. Then just like the little girl portrays in the TV commercial when she wanted her daddy to color his gray hair, I believe the Lord said to me, 'IT'S TIME!' So one Sunday a few weeks ago, Jesus got me up off my smug derriere and I struggled up to the altar to have Pastor Herb pray for me. I told him that I no longer wanted to use my cane or walker and needed to be healed. Pastor asked me if I was really sincere about being healed and I replied in the affirmative.

Faster than I could blink an eye, Pastor Herb snatched the cane out of my hand, threw it from the vicinity of the pulpit half-way across the front of the sanctuary, grabbed my hands and began praying that the Lord would heal me. My immediate unholy reaction was, "I wish Pastor would be a little more gentle with my personal property."

Supernaturally, the Holy Spirit took control of my mind and physical body and I was slain under the power of His Spirit. When I became responsive, the ushers helped me up and I was not only healed, but ready to run! I threw my arms around Pastor Herb with every ounce of love I could muster and thanked him for his prayer of healing and thanked my Jesus for healing me (*"by His stripes you have been healed."* 1 Peter 2:24 NIV).

Incidentally, what did it matter if I ever saw that crummy cane again. Forgive me Pastor Herb. When Jesus is ready to heal you, don't wait for Him to give you a holy shove. Just be obedient and submit to His will. If He can heal an 85 year old reprobate like me, He can surely do it for you. Simply trust, believe, and be healed in the name of Jesus!

S. Van Leer





### *Annual Resurrection Breakfast*

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We would like to extend an invitation to everyone to join us as we celebrate the Resurrection of Christ on Saturday, April 3rd at 8:30 a.m. at the Clarion Hotel, 42 Century Drive, Bristol. The cost is \$15.00 per person, and will include a buffet breakfast, fellowship, worship and testimonies shared about the goodness of God. We hope you can join us! Tickets are now available and can be purchased at the CFC. Buy yours today!



2 CORINTHIANS 3:17

“NOW THE LORD IS  
THE SPIRIT, AND  
WHERE THE SPIRIT OF  
THE LORD IS, THERE IS  
FREEDOM.”

### *All You Can Eat Pasta Supper*

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The Christian Fellowship Center will be having an “All U Can Eat Pasta Supper” on Thursday, April 29th & Friday, April 30th from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. All proceeds will benefit the CFC Soup Kitchen, Food Pantry, Clothing Ministry, CFC Care-houses, and Youth Center. Our goal is to raise \$10,000 from this event. Tickets are now available and can be purchased at the CFC or at the door. The cost is \$10.00 for adults, and children 6 and under are FREE. Join us for delicious food and fellowship, while helping those in need in our community!



### *Foodshare's Annual Walk Against Hunger*

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The Christian Fellowship Center Storehouse will be one of the benefiting agencies in Foodshare's 27th Annual Walk Against Hunger. It is a three mile walk, and will be held at the Hartford Insurance Company in Hartford on Sunday, May 2nd beginning at 2:00 p.m. You can go to the Foodshare website at [www.foodshare.org](http://www.foodshare.org) if you'd like to make a donation toward the Christian Fellowship Center Storehouse, or if you'd like to register to form your own team or join the Christian Fellowship Center Storehouse team. Our goal is to raise \$2,500.00 from this event to benefit our Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry. Many new individuals and families have been coming to our agency in need of food assistance due to the struggling economy, and agencies such as ours needs the support of the community to make all that we do possible.

Join us in this event to help us to provide food for the hungry.