

## Upcoming Events

### MARCH 2020

-General Sessions Begin  
-Start Ordering Your  
Spring Flower Baskets!

### APRIL 2020

- Last chance to order your  
spring flower baskets!

### MAY 2020

- Flower basket pickup,  
May 5

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# Redirecting an Addicts Identity

*By Samantha Means*



UGM Orientation Day, February 27, 2020 ©  
EMBRACE

Most people who walk into addiction have no intention of becoming an addict. The reason many turn to drugs and alcohol, or any addiction, is often to numb or escape the pain of a loss or trauma. Every one of us was designed to be addicted to one thing and one thing only—our Savior Jesus Christ. When we turn to something less than our heavenly Father to meet our

needs, we end up dependent on what will only disappoint us. The drug works momentarily, so we turn to it again and again hoping *this time* it will work to bring us complete fulfillment. Yet any addict knows, this never happens.

We are, for the fifth consecutive year, partnering with the Union Gospel Mission Center for Women and Children in Coeur d'Alene to serve the women starting phase one of their recovery program.

see IDENTITY, page 2

IDENTITY, cont'd...

We're also joining Daybreak Youth Services of Spokane for the third year in a row, serving youth in varying stages of their addiction recovery program.

At EMBRACE, our aim is to redirect our participants to Jesus Christ. The one who existed before all things and the one in whom all things are held together (Colossians 1:17). The one who brings to completion every good work (Philippians 1:6) and the one who meets our every need and fulfills our desires (Matthew 6:33; Psalm 37:4).

We do this by demonstrating his love in word and deed. We respect boundaries, we express empathy and compassion, we meet the needs we can and pray for those that are outside of our control. We speak truth, we have fun, and we share everything we have at our disposal. We share our personal horses, home cooked snacks, crafts, our knowledge, our mistakes, our stories and our hearts. In every session we invite our participants to receive, to rest and, if they desire, to reciprocate and share whatever they feel they'd like to share. In turn, they meet the heart and hands of Jesus Christ.

We are not limited to serving people in addiction recovery, but it is definitely where the Lord has led us thus far. Later in the season we'll connect with Children's Village of Coeur d'Alene and serve children in foster care. We are also always open to connecting with families and individuals seeking Christ and the restoration of relationships He provides. If you're interested in getting involved with us and serving, we'd love to meet you. Learn more about how you can contribute on our website, [www.embraceequineministry.org](http://www.embraceequineministry.org)

## DID YOU KNOW?

Shopping on Amazon is another way you can donate to EMBRACE!

When you visit [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) you can choose to donate a percentage of your purchase to a nonprofit of your choice, and EMBRACE is one of your choices!

Every penny matters to our ministry, so when you make those orders on Amazon, just type [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and choose EMBRACE Equine Ministry as your nonprofit of choice to donate those pennies to!

#### WHEN do we need you:

- Thursdays, March—November 2020  
*Serving women from UGM*  
12pm—4:00pm
- Tuesdays, March—November 2020  
*Serving youth in substance abuse recovery*  
12pm—4:00pm
- One Saturday per month, June—August, 2020  
*Serving Children's Village*  
2pm—4pm

#### WHO we are looking for:

Horse Session Leaders, Childcare, & Craft Leaders (supplies & projects provided)

Call our volunteer coordinator, Becca Ward: 208-920-3422  
or fill out a Volunteer Application on our website!

*Volunteers Make the Difference*

## WE NEED YOU



# CURRENT NEEDS

- Riding boots for participants; sizes 5-7 and 9-11
- Child saddle; regular horse tree, 13” seat (leather)
- PA system for fundraisers & events; \$750.00 | funds toward system
- Prayers: continued unity within our ministry, protection over our horses, families and supporters, precision during ministry sessions.



## *Proud Partners*

Colleen and Shea, February 2020 © EMBRACE



# GOLDEN MOMENT

*Each month we'll feature a photo that stood out from one of our sessions*

## “Sharing the Love”

Shea shares a little bit of love with Colleen during our UGM Orientation last week. Shea is an 11-year-old APHA buckskin mare that belongs to Renae. She's been with the ministry since it's inception and is a favorite among our participants.

# Flower Basket Fundraiser!

100% of the proceeds go directly to EMBRACE Equine Ministry! Order them before they're gone at [www.embraceequineministry.org](http://www.embraceequineministry.org)

Pick up is Tuesday, May 5th at 3114 E Sable Ct. Athol Idaho 83801

**\$35 each**

**YOU PICK your hanging basket!**

Make your order and pay online at [www.embraceequineministry.org](http://www.embraceequineministry.org)



## It's Time for Flowers!

Join us for our annual hanging flower basket fundraiser! These baskets are enormous and guaranteed to last the entire season with the proper care! Bigger than anything you'll find at the store and the price is impossible to beat. 100% of the proceeds of your purchase go right back into EMBRACE to serve our community.

Baskets are \$35 each and can be purchased on our website by clicking "Shop Flowers." Follow the prompts and make a secure donation through PayPal—it's that easy! You can also send a check or money order, made payable to Embrace Equine Ministry, to: PO Box 313 Hayden, ID. 83835.

Arrive early on pick-up day and you get to choose whatever colors and arrangements you like!

### EMBRACE BOARD & STAFF

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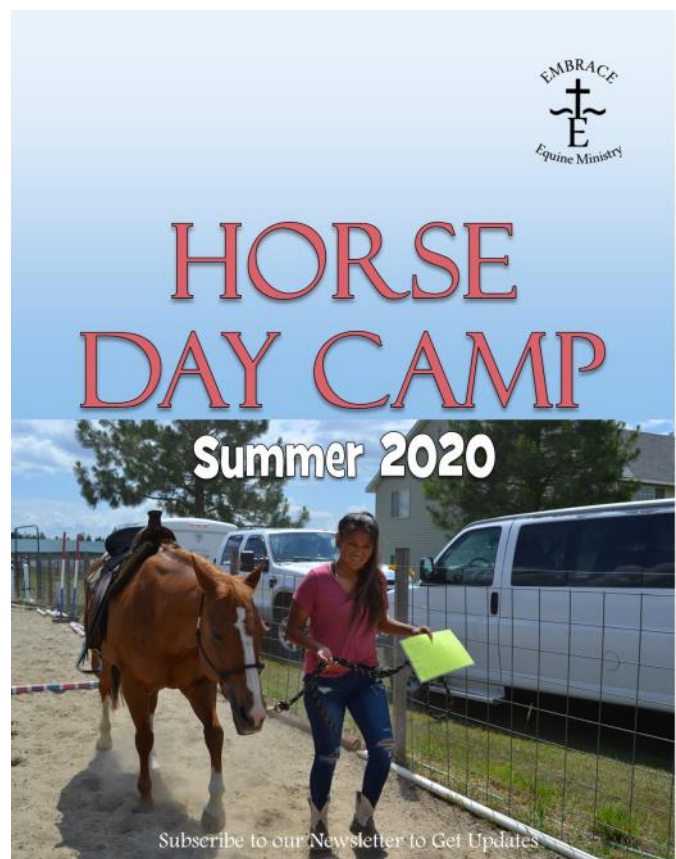
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# BECOMING PARTNERS

*Each month one of our staff will provide a horse training tip and reflection.*

## *The Value of a Break* | By Colleen Ripatti

Our equine ministry takes a much-needed break every year from around Thanksgiving to the end of February. This break is mostly deemed necessary for us to spend time with our families for the holidays, and it keeps everyone safe from hauling horses on snowy, icy roads. The break is also valuable for us to have time to decompress, to press into the Lord, rest and prepare for the next season with a positive outlook (Exodus 20:8-11).

During our 2019 break it became abundantly clear just how much our equine partners need and benefit from these times of rest as well. My main ministry horse, Abe, was definitely showing signs of burnout by the end of the season this last year. He is a very quiet, relaxed, and happy gelding by nature. He loves to connect and love on people, and he's even playful at times. But when he needs a break he shuts down, becomes disinterested and struggles to engage with our participants. He appears lazier and more stubborn in an effort to just get through another day.

This year during the break I pulled Abe off of lessons and only rode him once every couple of weeks. I did this in an effort to really let him be a horse and by giving him space I hoped it would help him to look forward to human contact again. It worked. I saddled him up last week multiple times to prepare him for this ministry season, and I noticed a huge change. He was eager to be caught, and he seems very happy to go to work. Once closed off, he's back to his happy-go-lucky self again.

### Training Tip:

Do not underestimate the value of a break for our equine partners. Be aware of the emotional, behavioral and physical changes in your horse indicating that they may need a break. Some time to de-stress from all the junk that putting up with us humans may cause them.

Look, ministry and lessons are emotionally challenging for horses and humans alike. We must all know when to work hard and press in, and when to unplug and rest and restore (Matthew 11:28). After all—it is a biblical concept!



Abe and Mark, 2018 © EMBRACE