

## Upcoming Events

### SEPTEMBER 2020

- EMBRACE equine retreat
- Sessions Resume

### NOVEMBER 2020

- Sessions End Around Thanksgiving

## In this Issue

Golden Moment, p. 3

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH, p. 4

Ministry Highlight, p. 4

# Laying a Solid Foundation

*By Samantha Means*



Chris doctoring up Oscar on the trail, Cedar Creek, MT © EMBRACE, 2020

Our team just returned from a trip to Montana for our annual equine retreat. We worship, we ride, and we worship some more. Like our sessions, our retreat is not about the horse. It's about Jesus.

The time we get at what we lovingly call "Tom's Cabin" on the lake is immersed in the Word of God, in worship and at the feet of Jesus. It's private, intimate, and refreshes our bodies and souls, filling us to overflowing with Jesus so we can pour out more effectively when we return. Each of us is learning to do this on a daily basis so it becomes our foundation.

On one particularly technical and difficult trail ride, one of our Embrace horses got a cut on his leg. When Chris dismounted to wrap the wound, we got to witness the foundation this exceptional trail horse had. Oscar had to stand still or risk slipping or accidentally pushing Chris off the edge of the trail. He had pay attention and trust her.

see SOLID FOUNDATION, page 2

SOLID FOUNDATION, cont'd...

Without the foundation of many miles of trails and moments of trust, Oscar may not have been so steady. For him to become the rock solid trail horse we saw in bear country, it required years of trails when no one was there to witness his training and growth.

Jesus spent 90% of his life in quiet obscurity before we meet him in his thirtieth year. We read very brief glimpses into his birth, his dedication, and his adolescence before the greatest man who ever lived slips into complete anonymity only to emerge a couple of decades later to change the course of history, and eternity.

Sometimes when we have big plans to do things for God, or plans to pursue the purpose we know God created us to fulfill, we can get discouraged by the waiting. Why not now? Why not in this season? Why not this trail? Sometimes our efforts are met with very firm closed doors and we wonder if we heard God at all.

Imagine being Jesus, the Savior of the world, capable of healing and saving thousands and facing the starving faces of a neighboring family at the age of twenty-two. With the power to help he chooses obedience to the Father who says, "Not yet, my son." Jesus submitted to the Father's will in all things, even His will to wait when he had the power to act.

Quiet seasons aren't recognized, much less applauded. And yet, they're necessary in order to set the foundation for what's required in later seasons. Trust the process. Watch God lay the perfect foundation for the trails you'll blaze when the time is right. Intimacy is key in the waiting.

## DONATION OPPORTUNITY

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!

## EMBRACE BOARD & STAFF

PRESIDENT | Renae Buck  
 embraceequineministries@gmail.com  
 VICE PRESIDENT | Colleen Ripatti  
 contact@embraceequineministry.org  
 SECRETARY | Buffy Rennie  
 embraceequineministries@gmail.com  
 TREASURER | Julie Behnke  
 contact@embraceequineministry.org  
 BOARD MEMBER | Elizabeth Comfort  
 embraceequineministries@gmail.com  
 VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR | Becca Ward  
 embraceequineministries@gmail.com  
 OUTREACH COORDINATOR | Julie Behnke  
 embraceequineministries@gmail.com  
 MEDIA/MARKETING | Samantha Means  
 media.embraceequineministry@gmail.com

# CURRENT NEEDS

- Wisdom for future plans as we prepare for how the Lord wants us to steward the donations given.
- 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.

**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



EmbraceEquineMinistry  



# GOLDEN MOMENT

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

**“Praying Him Away”**

Praying over Tom at his cabin on Ashley Lake during the equine retreat, 2020 © EMBRACE





Buffy Rennie and Poneeh, 2019 © EMBRACE

# BUFFY RENNIE

## *Volunteer of the Month*

A warm-hearted welcome to our new board member and acting Secretary! Buffy has been a member of EMBRACE for almost two years faithfully serving as a horse session leader. When she lost her beloved ministry horse Lil' Joe in December 2019, Buffy continued to share the love of Jesus to those in EMBRACE and many others.

Buffy's attention to detail, her playful heart, and her faithfulness to the Lord is a reminder to us all that the name of Jesus is above every other name. She reminds us all that the life of a disciple is fun and fierce, and the fight of faith is always one worth fighting for.

Thank you for all you do Buffy!

# MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT



A group of exceptional women in the UGM program. These ladies brought light and life to our lives in the short time we got to serve them and we are so thankful an end to our sessions is not a goodbye to our relationships. EMBRACE exists to bring relationships alive through a Christ-centered experience and it was such a joy to witness this with these ladies.

2020 © EMBRACE