



THE MINISTRY OF
Alongside

Renewing and Equipping Christian Leaders

Alongside is a non-profit organization whose mission is to restore hope, purpose, passion, and relationships among Christian leaders, promoting personal wholeness and greater ministry effectiveness.

UPCOMING RETREATS

March 10-21

April 7-25

May 5-23

June 2-20

The Ministry of a Sherpa

In the Himalaya Mountains of Asia, on the border between Nepal and Tibet, stands a rugged peak named Mount Everest. Everest is the highest mountain on earth, measuring 29,028 feet above sea level. Over the years, the status of “world’s tallest mountain” has attracted many thrill seekers, each bent on putting their footprint on Everest’s peak.

The first person to scale the peak of Everest was Sir Edmund Hillary, who climbed Everest in 1953 with the aid of a native climber named Tenzing Norgay. Norgay belonged to an ethnic group of people who live in the Himalayas known as the Sherpa. The Sherpa have lived in the Himalayas for generations, and are highly regarded as elite mountaineers and experts in their local terrain. The Sherpa are ideal guides because they know the terrain, having lived at the foot of the mountain for generations.



Many pastors and missionaries face ‘mountains’ of one sort or another in their ministry. Rather than ‘Everest’, these mountains are known by the names ‘conflict’, ‘burnout’, ‘expectations’, ‘boundaries’, and a host of others. Some of these ministry-mountains look intimidating, even insurmountable, and the servants of the Lord need someone to guide them in their climb. The counseling staff of Alongside are not only professional counselors; each of our counselors also has years of experience in practical ministry, meaning that they understand what it takes to ‘climb the mountains’ that face many pastors and missionaries today. **We come alongside** those who are tired from the journey, giving them the direction and encouragement that they need to continue their climb.

Sometimes all any of us need to ascend the mountain is a Sherpa to guide us ...

Our ministry is in need of a good used minivan to serve as transportation for our guests while they are at Alongside. If you or someone you know could donate a minivan to the ministry, please contact us, and remember that all donations to Alongside are tax-deductible. Thank you!

**Ministry
Needs**

OUR STAFF

Jeanne Jensma

Steve Maybee

Mike Van Kampen

Susanne Johnston

Deb Flook

For more information on our ministry, please visit our website at www.alongsidecares.net!

Did You Know ...

... that 2007 was our busiest year of ministry to date, and that we served more pastors and missionaries last year than in any previous year of our ministry?

... that pastors and missionaries from 38 different countries participated in an Alongside retreat last year?

... that the staff of Alongside have ministered to over **1000** Christian leaders since 1996?

One of our goals at Alongside is to offer our guests a place where they can retreat from the rigors of ministry life and experience a time of rest and renewal. We would like to introduce you to one of our faithful volunteers who helps us accomplish that and who is especially gifted in making our guests feel at home. Her name is Mary Carol Wilkins, and Mary Carol uses her gift of hospitality to host group meals for our retreats. Mary Carol lives in a cottage on the lake near Alongside, and during our retreats she graciously opens up her home for an evening and prepares a home-cooked meal for our guests (believe me, Martha Stewart has met her match in Mary Carol!). After dinner, everyone gathers on the porch overlooking the lake to enjoy one of Mary Carol's world-class deserts. Please join us in saying "Thank you, Mary Carol!", for helping us make Alongside a place of rest and renewal.



Speakers - Members of Alongside's staff are available to speak at seminars, retreats, leadership events, and other functions. Please contact our office for more information.

Some of the pastors and missionaries who come to Alongside are unable to afford the full price of our program. Since our desire has always been to offer our ministry regardless of someone's ability to pay, we developed a scholarship fund years ago for those who demonstrate financial need. The testimony at right is from one of our recent program participants who needed help to attend our program; you can help future pastors and missionaries experience renewal by making a contribution to our scholarship fund!

"We knew we needed help, but finances were impossible so we applied for a scholarship. It is with a heart of deep gratitude that we thank those who made our time at Alongside possible. We have found the hope and courage to return to the field ..."

While Alongside charges a fee to those who attend our intensive counseling retreats, our fees do not cover the total cost of our services. We depend upon people just like you to partner with us in this vital ministry. All contributions are tax-deductible, and we thank you in advance for your generosity! Contributions can be sent directly to our Richland address or by giving online: www.alongsidecares.net.



*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*