

Basket of Hope

AT MERCY

The Women of Hope Retreat, benefiting Basket of Hope – Iowa, sponsored by Mercy Medical Center, will be held Saturday, March 6, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., in Hallagan Education Center at Mercy Medical Center. The event includes lunch, speakers, musical entertainment, silent auction, vendors and more.

Basket of Hope, a national Christian ministry, was started to offer hope to children newly diagnosed with cancer by providing baskets filled with inspirational materials, like Bibles and CDs. Renee Smith, Marion, brought Basket of Hope to Iowa in 2004 when her daughter was diagnosed with leukemia.

Then in 2009, Renee (read more about her story on page 12) expanded the ministry to include women diagnosed with breast cancer. Mercy Medical Center is the first in the nation to pilot this program. Renee wanted to extend help to others at the hospital where she had received such great care during her cancer treatment. Now, every diagnosed breast cancer patient is offered a basket by breast health specialists at Mercy Women's Center.

You can make a difference in the lives of women and children in Iowa who have cancer by attending the Women of Hope Retreat at Mercy, featuring these special guest speakers from Proverbs 31 Ministries: **Micca Campbell**

After an explosion claimed the life of her

husband, Micca found herself alone, a new mother and a widow at the age of 21. Having faced every woman's greatest fears, Micca found ultimate peace by placing her concerns in the care of God.

Micca's book is titled "Untroubled Heart."

Lynn Cowell

Lynn Cowell's desire is for every person she encounters to understand the life-altering impact of living in relationship with Jesus. Her passion is mentoring young girls and she leads two Radical Revolution Gather & Grow groups through Proverbs 31.

Cheri Keaggy, musical talent

A classical pianist since age 7, Cheryl is recognized as a mainstay in contemporary worship music, having written and recorded songs like "There is Joy in the Lord" and "In Remembrance of Me." She recently released her seventh album.

Ticket information

Tickets are available for \$35 at Parable-Lemstone, Collins Road Square, Marion; by calling (319) 329-1794; or by e-mail at rsmith@basketofhope.org

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