

# A Healing Touch Clinic in Maryland

by Margaret Fowles, HTCP, CR

**W**e have had a Healing Touch clinic in Bethesda, Maryland for over nine years. It began when six of us were working toward certification and has continued all this time -- because it allows us to “just do the work” and it fosters a sense of community among students and practitioners.

One of the original members of the group arranged for us to meet at her church where the pastor, a woman, who is also a social worker, is very supportive of our work.

We meet on the first and third Saturdays of each month from 10:00 AM to noon. We can have anywhere from two to nine Healing Touch Practitioners who provide 40-60 minute sessions.

At first we were on a “first come, first serve” basis, but decided it would be more professional and less chaotic if people scheduled appointments. I coordinate the clinic and have done so for several years. I am the third coordinator and have had the longest tenure. I love talking to new people who call me or e-mail me about HT and it doesn't really take too much of my time.

I bring an appointment book to each clinic so we know who is scheduled for the current session. This also allows clients to schedule an appointment for a future session. Also, I call everybody the night before the clinic to remind them of their appointment.

When we decided to make appointments, we also decided to ask clients to give a donation of whatever amount they choose. We collect about \$6000 a year for the church.

We are listed on the HT websites, and have mostly gotten clients by word of mouth and through the church. I'm not sure what the number is now, but probably over 200 different people

have received treatments. Some come once, some a few times, and we have quite a few regulars.

We also decided at the beginning that only students who have completed Level 4 could work on clients. Lower level students are invited to come and work on each other, the other students and practitioners, or to just hold the light.

One final comment -- the clinic is actually held in the church sanctuary which has proven to be very powerful.