

Northeastern District Great Commission Women

March 2018



Inside this issue:

Article by Betty Arnold	2
Celebrate 2018	3
Spring Refresh	4-5
Stamp Ministry Guidelines	6
National Project Update	7

NED GCW Officers

- * **Director: Terri Groh**
PO Box 224
New Haven NY 13121
315-963-2044
terrigroh@yahoo.com
- * **Asst. Director: Jill Gies**
660 Fordsbush Rd.
Ft. Plain, NY 13339
518-568-5322
giespasture@frontiernet.net
- * **Secretary: Darlene Mason**
4277 Tannery Road
Campbell NY 14821
607-527-8765
darlene4277@gmail.com
- * **Treasurer: Jill Gregory**
1995 New Scotland Road
Slingerlands NY 12159
518-439-6234
jilly122@aol.com

The Small Postage Stamp with a Huge Impact

In this day and age of technology, letter writing seems to be a lost art. We pay our bills online, we send emails and we do many things online. Yet, there probably are still things that you do via the United States Postal Service.

Do you know there is something small on that correspondence you send and receive that is valuable? That is the postage stamp.

Fifty years ago, Bob and Marge Searing began a stamp ministry that has impacted so many people. I've never thought too much about this ministry and I had no idea how big of an impact it had until recently.

This summer will mark the fifty year anniversary of this ministry and if the stamp ministry receives \$25,000 this year, it will have raised 1 million dollars over the span of those 50 years.

One million dollars! Who would have thought that a tiny postage stamp would have so much power. All it takes is people cutting out their stamps and mailing them to Shell Pointe Village in Florida.

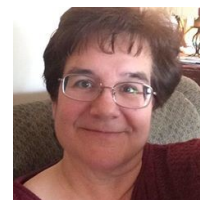
The income from their sale goes to support preparation, publishing, and distribution of a Spanish language curriculum for Sunday Schools. More than 50 lesson series have been published and are being used in churches in 40 different denominations in 19 different Spanish-speaking countries in South America, Central America, and even in the USA.

I want to provide an opportunity for you to contribute since they are so close to achieving their goals. Start saving your stamps (and yes, metered postage now counts) and bring them to Spring Refresh with you. We have a woman willing to take care of the mailing of the stamps and I will make sure she gets them.

Attached are guidelines on what to do with them and let's work together as a district to meet the \$1,000,000 mark for this ministry.

Serving Him with You,

Terri



Is Burkina Faso Safe? Are You? By Betty Arnold

Ouagadougou was in the news this week due to an organized terrorist attack on the French Embassy, French Cultural Center and on the French Military. This happened after the French President confirmed his resolve to stand behind the defense of Burkina and Mali against Islamic terrorism. This was the terrorists efforts to instill fear, use intimidation and to stop those fighting against them. Fear can be debilitating.

People naturally ask us after an attack like this if it is safe to come to Burkina. My answer is that there is nowhere in the world safe against any kind of isolated, organized attack whether by a terrorist, a madman, or simply someone with murder in their heart.

The most important thing for us all is that we all are in tune and obedient to whatever God calls us to do. We will all die one day of disease, accident, injury, or attack. No one will escape earthly death.

We all need to be prudent and most of all, prayerful, but we are not to be fearful. We are not to stop living, ministering and making a difference due to our desire to "feel" safe.

In our ministry in Burkina we are careful. We keep our eyes and ears open. We have sources for information and we won't take any teams/visitors any place where we don't "feel" is safe. We pray for each and every one of our teams and our ministries. When we "feel" it is not safe for teams we will not host them. When we feel we can no longer remain in Burkina we will leave (as soon as the Lord releases us).

The most important thing for me is that when God calls me "home" I want to leave doing the will of the Lord and have him say to me when I stand in front of him, "Well done my faithful servant."

What about you? Will you go where God is calling? In all things, pray, seek and follow what God tells you to do. This is how we live too.

And as always we cannot thank you enough for your prayers.

Betty Arnold

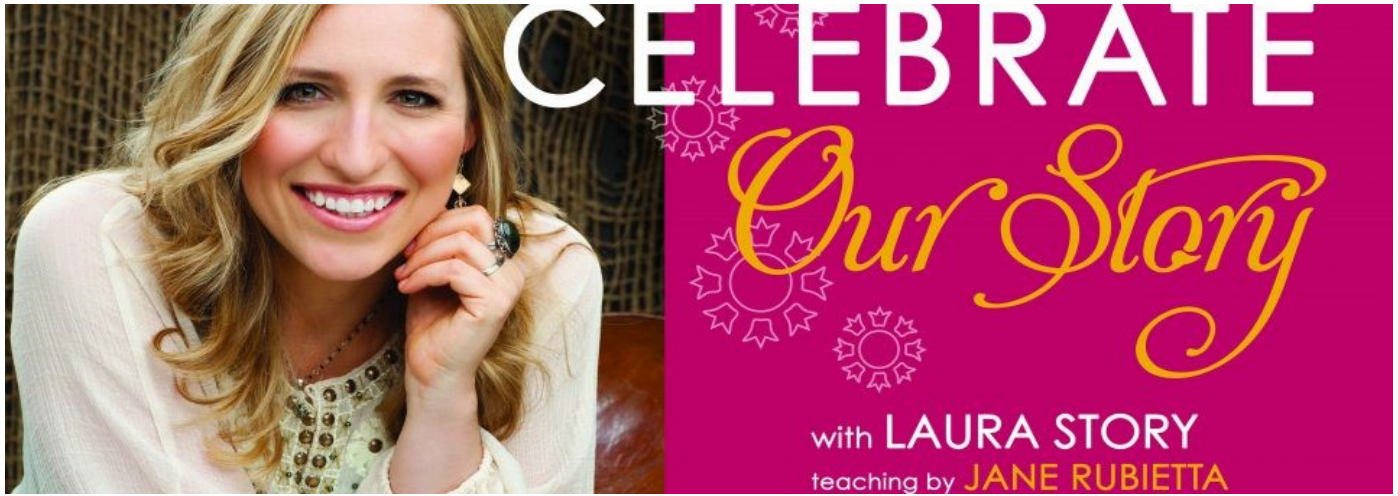
Serving with Envision C&MA and Engage Burkina
Ouagadougou Guest House Coordinator



Don't forget to like us on Facebook:

[Great Commission Women of the Northeastern District](#)

Check out our new website: www.gcwned.org



Celebrate 2018 – Our Story
It's not too late to register.

[Click here for more information or go to www.greatcommissionwomen.org](http://www.greatcommissionwomen.org)

**2018 Northeastern District Great Commission Women
Nominating Committee Report**

The nominating committee of the Northeastern District (NED) Great Commission Women (GCW) has met and presents **Darlene Mason** for the nomination as **GCW Secretary** for a second term of 4 years.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie VanAlstine, Chair

Committee members include: Bonnie VanAlstine– Chair; Janet Gerhardt; Judith Button; Ruth Oesch; Diane Smith

Notice: If you have further nominations for the above offices, please send them to Bonnie VanAlstine, Chair of the NED GCW Nominating Committee (jbvan51@yahoo.com) before **March 20** in order that the nominating committee get a recommendation for that person and she be approved by our District Superintendent.

No names can be entertained from the floor unless they have been recommended and approved.
Thank you!

Spring Refresh

Keynote Speakers
Converge Speakers
Global Impact Moments
Teen Breakout Session
Worship in Music
Fellowship
Fun

April 27-28, 2018

Holiday Inn, Auburn



Keynote Speaker
Heather Smith

Speaker & Author
Women's Ministry Leader
Board Member, CAMA Services

Converge Speakers

Lisa Vogan
District Disciplemaking
Ministries Director
More Hope



Katie Wells Barrera
Author, "Reckless
Design: WildSurrender"
More Victory



International Worker Speakers



Sue Stern



Wendy (East Asia)

Online registration is available at [EventBrite.com/Spring Refresh 2018](https://www.EventBrite.com/SpringRefresh2018), as well as mail in forms.

Worship Leaders



Scott & Lori Suckling

Teen Leader

Jessica Sears
"Do You Have
Room for More?"



2018 Spring Refresh Women's Conference
Earlybird deadline coming up, April 6. Hotel reservation deadline April 16.
Final registration deadline April 16 — Meet our speakers and participants!



Keynote Speaker: Heather Smith is the Director of Women's Ministry at CrossPoint Alliance Church in Lewiston, ID. She is a board member of CAMA Services, and was a certified Christian conciliator for Peacemakers Ministries. She graduated from Trinity Seminary with an MA in Biblical Counseling and also holds a BA in Speech and Broadcast Communications from Geneva College. Her husband, Paul, is pastor of CrossPoint Alliance Church and they have two children.



Friday Afternoon Converge Session #1:

Lisa Vogan is the licensed Disciplemaking Specialist for the Northeastern District, specializing in Children's ministry, Lisa spends her time coaching, consulting, equipping, speaking and facilitating leadership growth across the District and the United States. She serves small alliance kids as a Regional Connector for the Northeastern District and as a Coach for the Children's Disciplemaking Leadership Certificate Course (CDLC). Lisa is a certified Administrator and Trainer for Plan to Protect™. With a Bachelor's degree from Houghton College, completing Consecration in the C&MA in 2006, and over 30 years of ministry experience within discipleship and leadership contexts, Lisa resides in Buffalo, NY with her husband.

Friday Afternoon Converge Session #2:



Katie Wells Barrera grew up in LaFayette Alliance Church and went to college at the University of Northwestern in St. Paul, MN. She was an International Worker with South America Mission In Bolivia for 8 years. She lives in Houston with her husband and they minister in Iglesia Bautista Del Redentor. They also have a community center through Urban Outreach INC and she works as a counselor at Lantrip Elementary School with The organization Communities In Schools. Katie is the author of Reckless Design: Wild Surrender. She and her husband have two "children" - a prairie dog and a bulldog.



International worker, Sue Stern, felt God calling her overseas in 1973 and took classes at Houghton and Nyack College, as well as Alliance Theological Seminary. She has served in Argentina since 1980.

She met her husband Bob there in 1982 and they worked with The Alliance as church planters until the field closed in 2010. They continued to serve in the city of Buenos Aries from 2013-2017 with International Teams. They now attend CrossTown Alliance in Wells-ville, where Sue grew up and are looking forward to what their next chapter will be!



International Worker, Wendy has been serving in East Asia for the past 5 years. She and her family live and work on a University campus, teaching English and sharing His hope with students.

She, her husband, and their 3 amazing kiddos (ages 11, 8 & 4) are enjoying their first furlough, soaking up the blue skies and eating too much ice cream!



Saturday AM Teen Breakout: Jessica Sears is the Northeastern District GCW Church Planter's Kid (CPK) chair, the Children's Ministry Director at the Alliance Church of Cheektowaga, and serves on the District Disciplemaking Team. Jessica lives in Springville,

NY and works as a nanny. She is looking forward to spending time with the teens at Spring Refresh!



Worship: Spring Refresh Worship Leaders are Scott & Lori Suckling. Lori and Scott Suckling received their undergrad degrees in music from Nyack College and currently live in Cornwall on Hudson, NY where they work as graphic designers. They have two college-age children: Matthew (Eastman School of Music) and Kayleigh (Full Sail University). The Northeastern district is very special to both of them. Lori grew up attending the Horseheads Alliance Church and both she and Scott enjoy spending time at their cottage at Delta Lake.

April 27-28 — Join us for spiritual "refresh"ment!
Auburn Holiday Inn—details on www.gcwned.org, click on "Spring Refresh"

Registration Forms and other materials can be found on our website: www.gcwned.org

Registration is also available online at EventBrite.com/Spring Refresh 2018

Great Commission Women Stamp Ministry Guidelines: March 2016

Thank you for your help in following these guidelines:

1. Carefully trim the stamps. When possible, leave a border around the stamp of 1/4 to 1/3 inch. Please do not remove any stamps from paper, BUT, if stamps are already off of the paper, we do have a buyer for them.
2. Sort the stamps and place in plastic bags. Do not use paper clips, rubber bands, or plastic wrap around the stamps.
3. Unless specified, the categories below refer to United States stamps and should be sorted as follows:
 - Small common together, ½ cent through current rate including Hanukkah, Kwanza, EID, and Purple Heart
 - Christmas
 - High Value - anything over current postal rate
 - Presorted, pre-cancelled and bulk rate – all sorted together
 - Large Commemoratives
 - Express Stamps \$2.90, \$8.75, \$9.95, \$10.95 and up
 - Priority Stamps \$2.40, \$2.90 and up
 - Love Stamps
 - Large and Small Foreign Stamps including Canadian Stamps
 - Un-cancelled Stamps
 - Computer Generated Postage (with an illustration or a photograph)
 - Stamps that are preprinted on envelopes
 - Damaged Stamps
 - Metered Postage is now accepted

A few special for recent stamps:

- Preprinted magazine postage is not accepted in the Pre-sorted category. It must a stamp affixed to an envelope.
- The series of 4 Rudolph stamps including a purple monster named Bumble are considered Christmas stamps, not common stamps.
- The series of 4 Winter Fun stamps including ice skaters, snow man, and a cardinal are considered Christmas stamps, not common stamps.

Important: Enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope with your name and address inside the top of the packages so we can acknowledge receipt of the stamps. An email address or phone number will enable us to contact you if the need arises.

Thank you!

Questions: Evening Phone Number is 239-466-9792

Treva Crump

Alliance Stamp Ministry



The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the **brokenhearted**, to proclaim freedom for the **captives** and release from darkness for the **prisoners** (Isaiah 61:1).

Let's fill the pitcher to overflowing!



The 2017-2018 National Project Covers 4 Key Ministries

At Risk Girls ~ West Africa ~ Pregnant Teens ~ Ecuador;
Human Trafficking Survivors - Cambodia; Female Prisoners - Philippines

National Goal - \$250,000
NED District Goal - \$16,000

Total-to-date: \$ 8,134,80

Ouagadougou Guest House goal for 2017-2018—\$1,400.00

Year to Date received—\$ 1,466.62