# NED Alliance Women Newsletter

# HIS MASTERPIECE

## *A Unique Design*

**July 2026**

It's hard to believe that another Alliance Women year has come and gone. It's been an eventful one with all kinds of fun things happening. I just came from Delta Lake Bible Conference Center where we celebrated Summer Renew during family camp. It was a wonderful afternoon of learning about our new project, *His Masterpiece: A Unique Design*, as well as hearing from an international worker from the Canadian Alliance. The women in attendence got to sample different international desserts, shop the Mercy Market tables and visit different stations featuring different aspects of Alliance Women.

One exciting thing that our district leadership team has decided to implement is a scholarship fund for women attending a short-term missions trip. There will be more information about this in in the coming months with information on how to apply. I'm not sure if everyone realizes that you have the capability to donate to the different funds of Alliance Women through our online link. Click on the link, and then put in the amount you want to donate and then click on the arrow in the box and select which fund you would like to donate to and then pay. It's very easy! You can use this link: https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=M7X8H9BE65YJ2

Fall Refocus is coming up the weekend of September 25-27, 2026 and will take place at Delta Lake Bible Conference Center. Samantha Whelsky will be our main speaker and we will also hear from one of our district creative access workers, Abby. More information will be sent out soon.

There are some new and exciting things happening as well which you will hear more about in the coming months. My prayer is more of our district churches will engage with our Alliance Women's events and activities.  Our desire is to connect women for kingdom impact on both the local level and the global level. Won't you connect with us?

*Like us on Facebook or check out our website by clicking on the icons above*

More Info to Come

ALLIANCE WOMEN

# FALL REFOCUS

FRIDAY - SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 25-27, 2026

## His Masterpiece: A Unique Design



Samantha Whelsky
Main Speaker

DELTA LAKE BIBLE CONFERENCE CENTER
ROME, NY

# HIS MASTERPIECE

## *A Unique Design*

"For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago."

***—EPHESIANS 2:10***

The Northeastern District Alliance Women have set a goal of $12,000 for the 2026-2027 Year.

Please turn in all money to our district Alliance Women's treasurer, Peg Kelwaski by June 15, 2027.

Alliance Women invites you to join us in prayer and consider extending your generous financial support to the His Masterpiece: A Unique Design projects for 2026–2027.

## *AFRICA: CONGO*

Goal: $20,000

Pray that God would equip Congolese believers to share His Word holistically—through story, song, and community development outreach—so that the Vili people may hear and respond to the gospel.

## *UNITED STATES*

### *MulticulturalMinistries*

Goal: $20,000

Pray for non-majority, next-generation leaders being trained through spiritual formation retreats.

### *AW Scholarships*

Goal: $5,000

Pray for the AW Leadership Scholarship recipients participating in leadership development opportunities.

### *IWCandidates*

Goal: $5,000

Pray for the financial needs of our international worker candidates as they prepare to go where the Lord has called them and serve in different regions of the world.

## *EUROPE: FRANCE*

Goal: $20,000

Pray for families affected by autism who often feel isolated and are under great pressure. Pray for this project as it creates a place of community and access to resources, and that the gospel would be clearly lived out through its members, volunteers, and staff.

## *MCA: RIVERSIDE*

Goal: $20,000

Pray for the provision of quality Christian education for underprivileged and special needs students in an unreached Muslim community, and that God would use this work to demonstrate His love and truth.

## *CAMA: KOSOVO*

Goal: $20,000

Pray for The Bridge, a life skills and community development center that builds bridges to hope—that it continues to provide a welcoming environment where people can grow through training, activities, and meaningful relationships. Ask that those who come would discover, develop, and use their gifts to serve their community and walk in their God-given purpose.

# Pompidou Guest House
# Libreville, Gabon

Our district Alliance Women support the Pompidou Guest House in Libreville, Gabon, Africa as our overseas project.  Wee are raising money for ongoing repairs and updates to the home.

This house is used for ministry for International Workers and visitors flying into the city of Libreville on their way to Bongolo Hospital and other parts of the country.

Thank you for your continued support to help these projects happen. All money should be sent to our district Alliance Women treasurer, Peg Kelwaski, earmarked “Pompidou”.

Peg’s information: 3601 Pelton Road, Sherman, NY 14781
(716) 720-0589  mlkelwaski@yahoo.com)

Our district Alliance Women leadership team voted to raise $1,500 in 2026-2027 for ongoing repairs and updates to the home.



**His Masterpiece: A Unique Design**

**Introduction**

Do you ever feel like a misfit and as if you just don't fit in anywhere? I have felt that way during different times in my life. There have been moments in my life when I wish I had different abilities or a different personality. Yet, as I've grown in my understanding of the Lord, I've learned to love who I am and the unique gifts God has given me.

I love this year's Alliance Women theme, *His Masterpiece: A Unique Design*, Our Father has lovingly and carefully crafted each one of you. He has given you just the personality, gifts, talents and abilities you have. He has placed you where He wants you and where only your unique person can reach someone else.

So often we waste time wishing we were different or wishing we could have the gifts and talents someone else has. Can you imagine how our lives would change if we would begin to embrace how God made us? Can you imagine how He could use us to encourage those around us?

Our prayer as the National Alliance Women Executive Team is that each woman would begin to see how God has uniquely designed them and to serve Him with joy. You are unique. You were lovingly and beautifully designed and God has a wonderful purpose for your life.

We hope the devotionals in this booklet will encourage the women in your church. Each devotional begins with an opening question and ends with discussion questions and a closing prayer. This year we have added in group activities to give you more time to soak in each devotional.

I would like to thank our writers this year (names and bios are on each devotionals) and also Amy Cox and Jennifer DiAndreth for helping me come up with the discussion and group questions.

May God bless each one as you work through these.

Terri Groh and the 2026-2027 Writing Team

These devotionals can also be found on the National Alliance Women's website: www.alliancewomen.org

**The Wonder of His Handiwork**
**Liz Blancke**



**What sparks your sense of wonder when you observe something in nature?**

*"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." -- Ephesians 2:10*

This morning's news reported that butterflies have returned to Minnesota—a quiet but sure sign that spring is on its way. In ancient Japan, the year wasn't measured only by seasons, but by 72 micro-seasons: moments marked by subtle shifts in nature—cicadas beginning to hum, warblers singing in the mountains, cherry blossoms opening for the first time. What would it be like to slow down enough to notice those small transitions—to observe closely the intricate handiwork of God?

Lately, wonder has been catching my attention. I see it in the vastness of the sky, in the slow and steady thawing of Minnesota's long winter, and in the miracle of a seed becoming a shoot, then a flower or vegetable. Wonder, at its heart, is a blend of surprise and admiration stirred by something beautiful, unexpected, or mysterious. It awakens curiosity and invites us to pause and pay attention.

As I watch tiny shoots push through the soil, I am overcome with awe—and sometimes relief—especially when one lags behind the others. Even in something so small, God's careful timing is on display. His handiwork speaks of beauty, patience, and purpose.

Scripture reminds us that nature is not the only place where God's handiwork is revealed. *You* are His handiwork—His masterpiece. Created intentionally, lovingly, and with good works already prepared for you.

Yet before rushing to *do* for God, we are invited first to *be* with Him. Just as each plant blooms in its own season, the good works God has prepared for us are meant to flow naturally from who He has shaped us to be. They are not forced or frantic, but diverse and beautiful—like a garden planted with intention. Bee balm drawing butterflies and hummingbirds. Sunflowers turning toward the sun. All reflecting the glory of their Creator.

God's preparation also includes timing and shaping. Along the way, hardship may have refined you, redirected your path, or reshaped dreams you once held tightly. Sitting with God allows space to reflect on those seasons—to notice where growth occurred and where His grace carried you through. The Apostle Paul, writing Ephesians from a prison cell, saw God's goodness even in confinement. His struggles did not diminish his calling; they deepened his faith.

God has carried you through many seasons, and He will remain faithful in the ones ahead. Wonder helps us remember—not only what He has done in the world around us, but what He has been doing within us all along.

**Closing Prayer:**

*Creator God, slow my heart enough to notice Your handiwork in the world and in my life. Help me release striving and trust Your timing. Remind me that I am lovingly created, carefully shaped, and deeply known. Teach me to sit with You, to reflect with gratitude, and to respond with faith when new growth begins to emerge. Amen.*

**Discussion Questions:**

1. Where are you noticing the wonder of God in your life right now?
2. What have you been striving for that God might be inviting you to release?
3. What ideas or longings feel like they are just beginning to take root in your heart?
4. As you look back on your life, what themes or seasons of growth do you see?
5. What gentle risk might God be asking you to take as this season unfolds?

**Extra Group Activities:**

1. Take a nature walk together and invite participants to share something that sparks wonder in them along the way.
2. Host a creative journaling or art session where each person illustrates or writes about a season of growth or change in their life. Encourage sharing and reflection on how God has shaped and guided each journey.
3. Set up a gratitude circle: each person shares one thing they are thankful for and one area where they are learning to release striving. Close the activity with a short prayer for trust and new beginnings.

**Author Bio:**



Liz delights in the intersection of art and faith. She lives in Minnesota with her husband and their youngest son, who daily teaches their family about simplicity and resilience through his lived experience with autism and developmental delay.

Liz and her husband have lived in five different states while participating in various church plants throughout the Mid-America district. For the past 20 years, Minnesota has been their home, where they are grateful to be part of Parkside Church in Waconia, MN.