

Northeastern District ALLIANCEWOMEN

District Newsletter, August 2020

Who is Getting the Credit?

By Terri Groh, District Director

In 2 Samuel 24, David orders Joab and the commanders of his army to take a census of all the soldiers. His commanders argue with him and basically ask, "What's the point in this?," but David insists. However, in 2 Samuel 24:10 it says, *"But after he had taken the census, David's conscience began to bother him. And he said to the Lord, 'I have sinned greatly by taking this census. Please forgive my guilt, Lord, for doing this foolish thing.'"*

At first glance it's hard to tell why this is such a problem. After all, as Commander-in-Chief shouldn't he know the number of his men? I read a few commentaries on this passage and the consensus seems to be that David did it with pride in his heart. He began to take His eyes off the Lord and started to trust in his numbers and achievements.

It's so easy to do that, isn't it? We can very quickly take credit for our accomplishments, our ministry, and our success. As humans, prone to sinfulness, we are quick to forget that any success we have comes from the Lord working through us. Any credit should go to Him and all we do should be for His glory and not our own.

Generally, I find the sign that I've gotten it mixed up is when my nose gets bent out of shape if I don't get credit for something. Or if my feelings get hurt. Or if I'm clutching on to a ministry so tightly and not wanting to relinquish control because it's *mine!*

As we talk about being set free to live free this year, I want to
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SET FREE
live free

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encourage you to invite the Holy Spirit to begin to reveal those sinful attitudes and behaviors that you have. Ask Him to show you what things you need to relinquish control of and turn over to Him. Start to give Him the glory for all your success rather than keeping some of it for yourself.

As a result of David's sin the Lord gave him a choice of three punishments that He would inflict upon Israel. David chose a plague which lasted three days and killed 700,000 people. It was only after David made a sacrifice with repentance did the plague stop. Sometimes if we find our ministry stalled or unfruitful it could be that we have allowed the sin of pride into our hearts. We have started taking the credit for what is God's.

I'm praying that our Alliance Women will be humble women who desire to honor God in their ministry. My prayer in the coming year is that we would live free in Christ.

Fall Refocus

Fall Refocus has gone virtual this year and all church pastor's wives and Alliance Women ministry leaders have received the materials via email. We are encouraging churches to do a one day event with the videos using the Covid-19 protocols that are in place. If you have any further questions, please feel free to reach out to Terri Groh, District Director, at terrigroh@yahoo.com.

One suggestion for meals is that rather than serving food, have the ladies bring a bag lunch to eat and provide bottled beverages. Use your creativity!

National Project Goal for 2020-2021

National Goal—\$250,000

Northeastern District Goal—\$ 16,000

Ouagadougou Guest Home Goal—\$1,500

(Towards a new stove—\$500; 10 stand fans—\$500; Pots and pans and utensils.)



National Project

NED Alliance Women 2020-2021 Goal—\$16,000

YTD Total—\$140.50

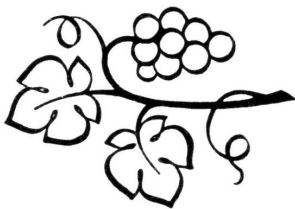
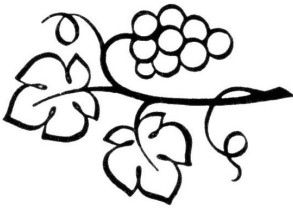
July 2020



\$140.50



I AM THE Vine,
YOU ARE THE BRANCHES.
APART FROM ME YOU CAN DO
Nothing
JOHN 15:5



**Alliance Women
Invites you to join us for a**

Virtual Fall Refocus

**September 26, 2020
8:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.
\$20 per person**

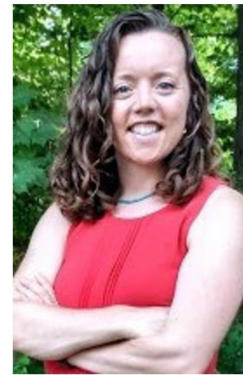


Miki Reaume

One Day Event



SET FREE
live free



Bonnie Koonsman
“The Truth that Sets Us Free”

IW Speaker Videos



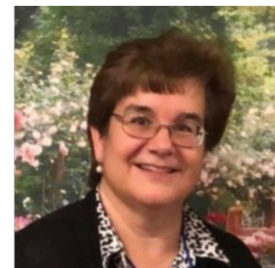
CAC IW, Doris



Kathy Eikost
Bosnia-Herzegovina



**Jen Vogel, National
Director**
“My Set Free Story”



Terri Groh, District Director
“Meeting Women in their
Time of Need”

Colossians 2:6 ~

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him

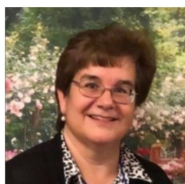
Virtual Fall Refocus on Missions Bios



Miki Reaume resides in Elmira, NY, where she is a Co-Founder, along with her husband, Tre Reaume, of Elmira Discipleship Ministries. She is also the Creative Arts and Social Media Director at City of Light Alliance Church, Elmira where her husband pastors. Miki has been a professional musical theatre performer and actress for 15 years, and has recently begun pursuing film acting. Miki has experienced anxiety since she was a young child and now speaks openly about her journey through social media and public speaking.



Bonnie Koonsman is a dedicated follower of Jesus Christ who is passionate about equipping the body of Christ to know their gifts and callings, reaching the lost, and helping women break free so they can know God's love fully and serve Him completely. She is a speaker, teacher, and mentor. She currently serves as the committee chair for the District Evangelism Committee, facilitates the "Share Jesus" workshop, and leads women's Bible studies at her church. Professionally, she has worked as a parenting coach and child and family therapist. She is also the wife of Aaron Koonsman (lead pastor of Community Alliance Church in Ballston Spa, NY) and mother to Anna (3) and Ezra (1.5). She hopes to share her heart and help you grow in your



Terri Groh serves as Northeastern Alliance Women's Director. She is also the Disciplemaking Ministries Director at Jamestown C&MA Church and has been in full-time ministry, serving alongside her husband, Dan, for the past 30 years. Terri holds a BA in Psychology from Nyack College and a Master's of Professional Studies from Alliance Theological Seminary. She is consecrated with the Christian & Missionary Alliance. Terri is an author and has written four women's devotional books.



Jen Vogel accepted Christ at the age of 9 and attended Iowa State University, earning a bachelor's degree in elementary education. In 1986, Jen married her best friend and high-school sweetheart, Doug Vogel. They raised two boys, Adam and David, and have served in ministry together as lay volunteers. Currently, Jen and Doug are involved in the mid-week children's ministry at Dover Church in Orange City, Iowa. Jen has served in a variety of leadership positions with Stonecroft Ministries, Alliance Women Ministries, and Moms in Prayer International. Presently, she is the national director of Alliance Women of The Christian and Missionary Alliance and serves on The President's Cabinet at the National Office of The Alliance.



Doris felt God's call to missions as a graduate student and went with the Alliance to teach and disciple MKs at Dalat School (Penang, Malaysia). There, she met David who at the time was serving single in Cambodia with CAMA Services. David and Doris married in 1996 and served the marginalized for 16 years through Church Based Community Development in Cambodia. Then for the past 10 years they have served regionally -- consulting, equipping, and encouraging 20+ CAMA workers in 8 different Asian countries.



Kathy Eikost, and her husband, Mark are International Workers in Bosnia-Herzegovina. They have served overseas since 1998. Kathy and Mark are currently on tour this fall. Kathy studied economics at SUNY Albany and she has used her degree to start and organize the Bosnian Handcraft Project. Kathy also is a gifted musician.

Pray for our International Workers

Eikosts:

Our main prayer request is clarity as we prepare our tour presentations. We want to bring a message that reflects God's heart for the church and the people of Bosnia.

Stronges:

1. The local manager of CAMA Crafts, Mr. Et, has been serving in close partnership with CAMA for over 20 years. He is fighting colon cancer and was not able to seek additional treatment in neighboring Thailand due to covid travel restrictions between his country and Thailand. He is in a local hospital and is not doing well. Please pray for him and those ministering to him at this challenging time. Here is a recent blog on the CAMA website:

<http://camaservices.org/please-pray-for-our-brother/>

2. We, along with several other CAMA Staff members, are living in a "holding pattern" waiting for our countries of residence and service in Asia to open up to foreigners. There are challenges related to government quarantine regulations in these countries and many of us are living "week by week and month by month" waiting for countries to start opening their borders. Pray for patience, peace, and guidance as we serve our staff and partners via Zoom and as we coordinate COVID relief work with local partners in a number of countries.

Valach:

-Thanks for praying for me. I've had Covid, but I'm feeling much better. After the positive test, I must have two negative tests to return to work. I've had the first negative, and the second has been sent. We still have several personnel of the hospital who are sick. We've had two patient's who've died, and another patient who is likely to die at any moment. Continue to pray for the safety of the hospital staff.

-We were able to buy several cartons of gloves. We are currently trying to get more gloves, hand sanitizer and masks.

-In addition to the Covid situation, there was a problem in a vaccine clinic in a city several hours away in our province, and some "events" happened. While they are looking into the situation, the local health authorities have stopped supplying all vaccines. We had a confirmed case of Yellow Fever here at Bongolo here a few months ago, and several years we ago had a measles epidemic with hundreds of children. It would be devastating to have another epidemic at the same time as Covid. Pray that we can restart vaccines soon.

-Please pray for our medicine situation. We are out of many of the common medicines for problems such as high blood pressure. We are trying to purchase some medicines in the capital city, but they will be very expensive. We have been blocked from purchasing many of our normal medicines from our usual supplies and are hoping to be able to change this situation soon.

-Our container of supplies from the US has been in the port in the Libreville for several weeks. We are having trouble getting it released as the port workers have gone on strike.

Ellenbergers:**Praise:**

- our oldest son's wedding went very well last weekend. He and his wife are taking a year off of working overseas to working here in the US and concentrate on their marriage, with the idea that they will return to West Africa next summer.
- we have a wonderful landlord that has allowed us to stay in our apartment another month while we navigate this COVID problem
- both my oldest son and my wife and I were involved in 2 separate car accidents last week (neither were our fault) and God protected everyone

Prayer:

- God's blessing on our oldest son and his wife (Davin and Aubrey) as they start married life
- our country of ministry is still going through political turmoil; pray for peaceful, non-violent protests, wisdom for our government leaders to make the necessary resolutions to the problem
- protection against COVID and the opening up of our country of ministry's borders and airport

Zoggs:

- Pray for our hospital and prison ministries as we continue to seek new and creative ways to minister to these people during this difficult time.
- Pray for our continued good health.
- Pray that our monthly support would continue and even increase as people see all that God is doing here in the Dominican Republic.
- Pray for future travel to look at universities for our youngest daughter Krista.

Spronks:

- Please pray for wisdom in discerning the best time for us to go to Bongolo where COVID cases have recently been rapidly increasing. Pray for the health of our team on the field.
- Pray for travel details needing to be arranged to get Hosanna to boarding school in Senegal and for her adjustment there.
- Pray for peace in our hearts in the chaotic days of transition for our whole family going in 4 different directions.
- Pray for strength in difficult goodbyes and hopeful anticipation of what the Lord is going to do in the unpredictable days to come

Thank you for your prayers for our International Workers

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