

Northeastern District ALLIANCEWOMEN

District Newsletter, February 2020

Rock Polishers

By Terri Groh, District Director

I stooped to pick up a rock at the beach and felt the smooth warmth in my hand. It's amazing to me that the water pounding over and over onto the rocks will smooth out the rough edges and polish them to the point where they are almost like glass.



It made me think of the rough waves in my own life. Each one not welcomed at the moment and yet, as I reflect back, have been used to make the same polished result on my character and life. I am thankful for the experiences I've had in my life, no matter how painful. At the time, each of those experiences alone felt like a wave, pushing me down and causing discomfort. Some were larger and more turbulent than others.

As the waves crashed over me, it often seemed as if I were drowning in troubles. But as I look back, I can see how each of those experiences was used for a specific purpose. They were being used to smooth out my rough edges and mold my character to become more like Christ. When I reflect back on those experiences now, I see the beauty and the polished edges that have occurred.

I can see that they were actually being used by the Lord to direct my steps. He has used those events to shape me in to the woman I am today and I am thankful for that.

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NED AW

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SET FREE

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When I am in a period of time where I have a wave crashing over me repeatedly, and when I feel like I can't get a breath, when I'm tempted to give up and give way to despair, I remember those rocks. I remember the smooth feel and the polished look. I remember that God is bigger than any trials that I face or my family goes through. And I keep treading water and taking a deep breath before the wave breaks over my head again.

I may be tumbled around. I may be bruised and battered. But I'm not broken and those rough edges are getting smoothed out. And that makes the wave worth enduring.

Psalm 46:1-3 ~

**God is our refuge and strength,
a helper who is always found
in times of trouble.**

**Therefore we will not be afraid,
though the earth trembles
and the mountains topple
into the depths of the seas,
though its waters roar and foam
and the mountains quake with its turmoil.**



**Join us for a
live-stream time of prayer for
our NED International Workers**

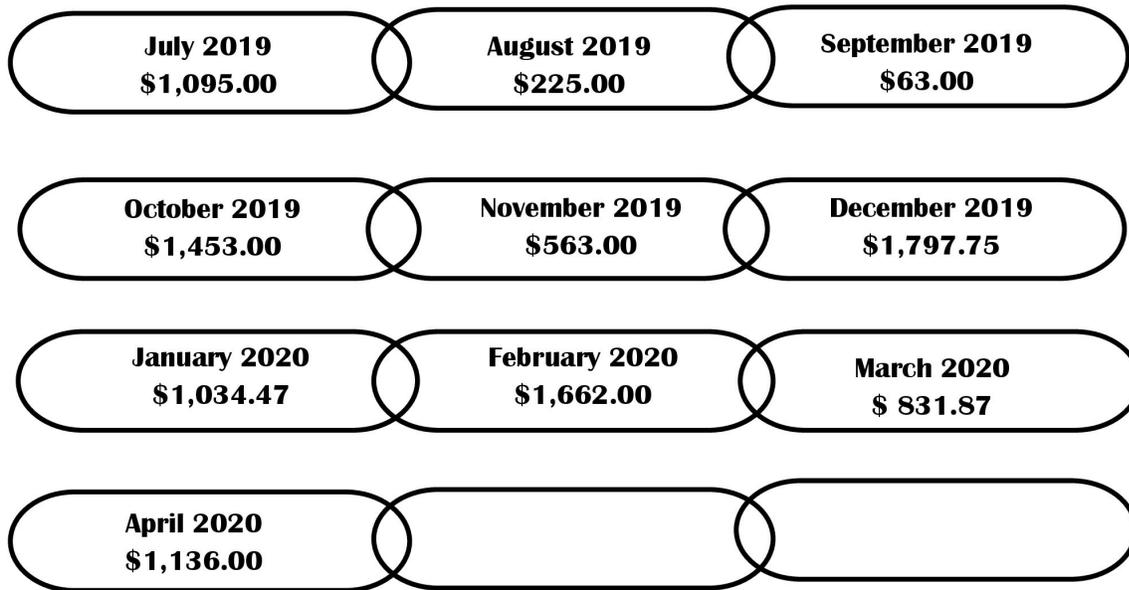
**Tuesday, May 5th @ 1 p.m.
Here on the
Northeastern District Alliance Women
Facebook Page**



National Goal—\$250,000
Northeastern District Goal—\$16,000

Year-to-date Amount— \$9,861.29

Help break their chains so they can be SET FREE!



2019-2020 National Project

Bosnia-Herzegovina

Roma people and women coming out of prison to be set free from heroin addiction

Cambodia

Help and a home for those seeking to be set free from drug and alcohol addiction

Paraguay

Reaching youth through camp ministry to be set free to follow Jesus

Uruguay

Encounter retreats for well-educated women in a spiritually-resistant culture to be set free from emptiness

Pray for our International Workers

Eikosts:

Pray for Jela ("Yell-a") and Dragica ("DRAH-geets-uh") who just received Bibles. Jela is a brand new Christian and Dragica is her good friend. Pray that the Lord would continue to draw these ladies to himself and his word.

Please pray during this month of Ramadan for our neighbors who are truly seeking to know God. Pray that Jesus would reveal himself to them in dreams and visions, that His name would come to their lips when they pray.

Creative Access Workers, P&C:

Please pray for **security** for our area of service. Pray against evil forces and for God's protection over people including our team especially as borders are closed. **Peace**, stopping the war, ending fear. For covid-19 to end, and that God would be their **Provider** amidst worsening poverty.

Pray for **open hearts to Jesus** during Ramadan. Many mosques remain open while churches have stopped for covid. Pray that people will share Bible stories while respecting social distancing. For **creativity in discipleship** of new believers.

Pray for a good **balance of family and professional responsibilities** while we are isolated in the US. (for instance medical education courses vs homeschooling).

Baby #3: I've had a little extra amniotic fluid which increases the chances of a premature baby, but otherwise is not a big deal. Pray **baby will wait** until the time which God has ordained. He is due July 8. (Ten weeks to go). Our second child was 6 weeks early so pray we would fully trust God for the unknowns.

Dr. Renee Valach:

Covid 19 is not yet at Bongolo, but is now in 4 of the 9 provinces of Gabon. There are 176 cases in the country with 3 deaths. One of the deaths was in a doctor who was a friend our Assistant Medical Director. We are preparing. I have reviewed with the nurses how to wear personal protective equipment. We did an exercise where nurses suited up in PPE, and I spattered green paint on them to simulate respiratory droplets. Then the nurses had to remove the PPE without contaminating themselves. We don't have the ability to do testing for Covid 19, and we don't have any of the medicines like hydroxychloroquine. We also don't have the ability to treat patients on ventilators.

Pray for us as with the eventual arrival of Covid 19.

Pray that Gabon and Bongolo would be spared the full force of the disease as in the United States and Europe. The health system here is fragile.

Pray for our health and protection. (I am writing on Sunday, April 26, and there is a child at the hospital with high fever and bleeding from her mouth, eyes and skin around her eyes. Those are possible signs of hemorrhagic fever- like Ebola. I don't really think so, but the situation is worrisome enough that I called the appropriate authorities to investigate.) We need God to protect us from a lot more than just Covid.

Pray that we would shine God's light to fearful people.

Zoggs:

Please pray for the families effected here in the DR. We are at 35 days without work and income for most. We are helping with food and the church is shining.

Pray for a bountiful harvest as we are planting seeds with this food in ground we have already tilled through years of evangelism.

Thank you for keeping our International Workers before the throne!



SET FREE