



Thank you Heather!

Determined, consistent, devoted, energetic, cheerful, enthusiastic—all words that the Women's Connection team members shared when asked to describe Heather. She has been an encourager and often shares words of caution as we would dream and plan as a team.

Heather has decided to leave the current team, but will continue to be involved in leadership at her church, Bethany Baptist Church in Richmond, British Columbia. She is adjusting to life without Harry, her husband of 59 years, who passed away July 2024. She is grateful for the times with her 2 daughters, grandchildren and many friends.

Reflections from Heather:

In 2010, a group of 5 ladies met in Chicago to restart a ministry to women in NAB. And so began a new work of the WMLT. I was privileged to be one of those women. We met with the NAB leadership and were greatly encouraged by their support. And so begin my delightful service with these teams.

And it has been my joy and privilege to work with many gifted and committed women over the last 14 years - women from all over the US and Canada; women of all ages and stages of life; but all women who wanted other women to grow in Jesus and use their gifts in the world around them.

We met annually in many locations - in Chicago, Texas, California, Mexico. And we planned Triennial Luncheons all over North America - but always with the same desire to help women.

It was a joy to see how women responded to the needs of many special projects; how they were willing to spend a weekend studying God's word; how they gathered in friendship at regional luncheons; and how they were anxious to encourage younger women and girls to grow in Jesus.

All this - the activities and the friendships I made - will remain in my heart forever. I treasure the years I was privileged to serve on the WCLT of NAB, and thank God for giving me this opportunity.

- Heather Senges

Perhaps the word that summarizes all of the description is faithful. Heather used her time, talents, and treasure diligently in order to serve God completely in whatever she did. Thank you, Heather. Your words of encouragement, caution and wisdom will long be remembered.



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WOMEN IN NAB LEADERSHIP



Lyndell and Paulo



Marci Jones

In this issue of TouchPoint we are featuring 2 women who are serving in ministry leadership in the country of Brazil. Lyndell Campbell-Requia and Marci Jones are North American Baptist Missionaries finding their home in Rio Grande do Sul, the southernmost state in Brazil.

Lyndell is the field director of the team in Brazil, teaches in the seminary established by the Brazilian Baptist Convention, and serves with her husband, Paulo, who is pastor of a church in the region.

Marci handles promotions and media for the mission's work at the seminary and with Kairos.

She is working towards toward a Master of Divinity from Kairos University. She and her husband, Brandon, have 3 children.

Enjoy their answers to our questions about life and ministry in Brazil.

Share some facts that will help us to know you better.

Lyndell

I was very blessed to have two sets of grandparents and a great-aunt who invested in my walk with Jesus from the day I was born. I have always been very aware that one of the biggest reasons I am in ministry today is because of their prayers for me.

I actually never wanted to be a teacher. Both my father and aunt were, and I decided early on that it wasn't for me.

However, when I started working at our denominational college and was asked to assistant teach a class, I found my calling!

I married later in life and on the mission field. I met my husband, Paulo, when we were both 40 years old. He was a widower at the time. We married when I was 42. We could not have children, but we have Stella, our rescue dog, and 4 birds, two rescues and two store-bought.

I am an amateur photographer. I would want to be a real estate photographer if I wasn't a missionary. I love how it combines both art and technology.

Marci

My name is Marci Jones. I am a TCK (third culture kid). I was born and raised in Eldoret, Kenya, East Africa, where my parents served as missionaries for 42 years. The experience of being raised in Kenya shaped me and gave me a perspective of the global church that I have carried with me my whole life.

After graduating from high school I returned to the United States and attended Mission University in Springfield, Missouri. I graduated with a BS in Intercultural Studies and Bible. Currently, I am a student at Kairos University working toward a Master of Divinity. I just started my third year this fall.

Brandon and I met at Mission University. We have been married for 21 years. We have 3 children. Our son Daniel is 20 and is a sophomore at the University of Missouri in Kansas City. Our daughters Monica (17) and Olivia (14) are on the mission field with us. They are in 11th and 9th grades.

Why Brazil? How did God make it clear that He wanted you to minister in this country? What is your current role?

Lyndell

Brazil chose me more than I chose Brazil. I had known about my calling to missions from a young age. It was all about waiting for the right opportunity that fit with who I am and the experience I had. I had visited Brazil on a short-term mission trip in 1996 and the missionaries remembered me. So, when a teaching position opened at the seminary (due to Dick Rabenhorst's retirement) the field director got in touch with me and asked me to consider coming to fill that role. It was the right time and position for my gifting and experience, so I accepted. In the 21+ years I have been in Brazil, I continue in the same role, teaching at the Baptist seminary.

Marci

Since the beginning of our marriage Brandon and I have felt a calling toward missions. However, the opportunity to go had not presented itself. In 2011 we moved to Herried, South Dakota, where Brandon accepted the pastorate of Herreid Baptist Church. Together we served the church and ministered in the town. It was during our fifth year serving there that we came across a post on the NAB Missions page. They were looking for a Theology professor to teach at the Baptist seminary in southern Brazil. In April 2016 we took a trip down to the seminary and we both realized that this was God's next step for us. In December 2016 we told our church. In October 2017 we moved from Herreid to Aurora, Missouri, and did full-time fundraising, and in November 2018 we moved to Brazil.

Our team here is small. Our field director Lyndell and my husband Brandon both teach at the seminary. My role is as the director of communications and marketing. I work to build and manage the websites for both our mission and Kairos Brasil. (Kairos Brasil is a program that offers Master and Doctoral degrees to our seminary students). I create marketing materials for Kairos Brasil. I also offer pastoral care support to those whom God brings into my path.

...continued on page 3

How has your role in Brazil missions helped you grow or brought you joy?

Lyndell

My biggest joy is seeing my students find their places of ministry. At the end of August, I was privileged to participate in the service where my former student was appointed Chaplain at Chain of Love. Before this, he had been one of the drivers. He decided to study at the seminary because as he was driving the kids around, he was giving them spiritual counselling. In a lot of ways, he was the unofficial Chaplain. What a joy to see him step into that role formally!

Marci

The journey to Brazil itself was an opportunity to grow as we had to say goodbye to all the stability we had in North America and exchange it for all the uncertainty that moving to a new country brings. Culture shock is a real thing. But on the other side of that shock was a beautiful opportunity to see how God is at work on the other side of the world and accept his invitation to be a part of it. In recent months, I have received a lot of joy acting as a conduit of blessings as I have been able to identify needs in our area after historic flooding displaced so many people. It's been a blessing to be able to arrive at a home with needed items like cookware, microwaves, or even food and water. And I have loved seeing my family join in to help too as we've put together cleaning kits and backpack kits to give out to those who were displaced by the floods.

Who did you look up to when you were beginning your leadership journey?

Lyndell

My lifelong mentor is Carol Potratz. So much of what I value and practice in ministry is because of her investment in my life. In the area of missions, I have always looked up to Annemarie Hattenhauer. She has been an inspiration, and I was so privileged that she took me under her wing before I came to the mission field. I identified a lot with her when I first came to Brazil. Like me, she went to Cameroon as a single woman to teach at the seminary and had to create her own curriculum.

Marci

In the past two years while working on a Master's Degree in Divinity, I have been introduced to a world of great scholarship done by sharp, godly women. Among those to whom I have looked up to are authors like Kristin Kobes Du Mez, Lucy Peppiat, Sandra Glahn, and Cynthia Long Westfall. And I have to include the strongest woman I know, my mom. My mom would laugh at me were I to say this because she never saw herself as a leader. But growing up I saw how she followed her passions to invest in Kenyan women who were suffering from AIDS, as well as the families of pastors who had died young.

How do you feel that you are impacting the lives of the next generation in your current role? What encouragement would you share with the young women on this journey?

Lyndell

I love that I get to work with people at the grass-roots level. It is all about formation. I help prepare men and women for what I pray will be lifelong vocational ministry. For me, it is about guiding people to become the approved workers Paul speaks about in 2 Timothy 2:15. It is not only about the formal education taking place in the classroom but the informal relationships formed outside the classroom. Over the years, I have specifically sought to mentor the young women at the seminary. My biggest word of encouragement to these women and the way I have always lived my life is to make God's calling a priority. My number one responsibility is to be obedient to the Lord. Not following his calling is an act of disobedience. Women typically face barriers in vocational ministry, but if we remain faithful to what the Lord has for us, he will give us opportunities we never imagined possible!

Marci

Now that my kids are teens, I have been able to influence not only them but their group of friends as well. I often like to ask about their dreams, plans, and aspirations. And I notice that sometimes they need encouragement to pursue all of them. They do not have to choose between raising a family and having their own ministry. They can do both, and do them well!

Do you have any books that have helped you in your spiritual journey that you would recommend to our readers?

Lyndell

Two books that have had an impact on my personal relationship with Jesus are:

- Manning, Brennan. *The Ragamuffin Gospel*. Multnomah Books, 2005.
- McKnight, Scot. *The Jesus Creed: Loving God, Loving Others*. Paraclete Press, 2004.

I am currently studying this next book with a former female student who is on leave for burnout, and it has been a great source of encouragement for my ministry:

- Eldredge, John. *Resilient*. Nelson Books, 2022.

Lastly, a book that speaks to one of my passions is:

- Pardue, Stephen T. *Why Evangelical Theology Needs the Global Church*. Baker Academic, 2023.

Marci

- *The Blue Parakeet: Rethinking How You Read the Bible* by Scot McKnight
- *Nobody's Mother* by Sandra Glahn
- *Tell Her Story: How Women Led, Taught and Ministered in the Early Church* by Nijay K Gupta
- *Where the Light Fell* by Philip Yancey

Thank you for the way you have shared your life and ministry with us. May you have great joy where you are serving and carrying out God's plan for the work in Brazil.

Purpose Statement

Women's Connection exists to connect women of the North American Baptist Conference, encouraging them in their desire to serve God. Our team is committed to providing resources to help women deepen their faith and equip them for ministry wherever God places them.

Our Core Values

CALLING AND WORTH

We value the essential role women play in ministry.

QUALITY RESOURCES

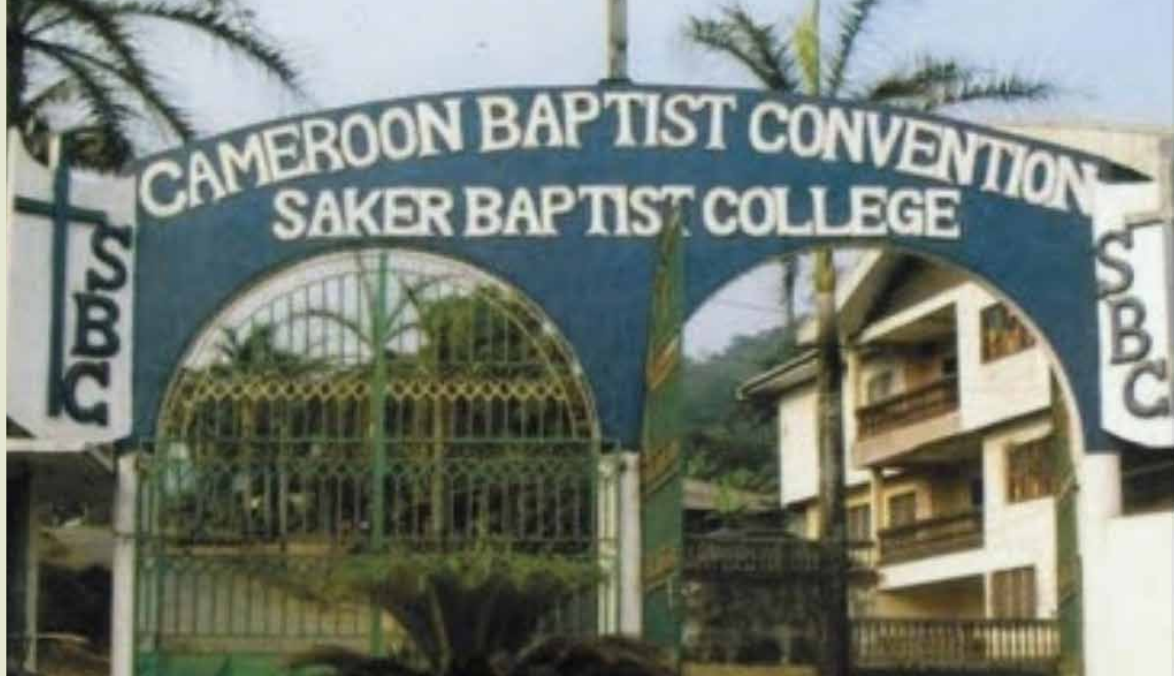
We value God's Word and seek resources that are Biblically sound, applicable and accessible.

BROADER CONNECTION

We value supporting the broader vision of the North American Baptist Conference and developing a connection among North American Baptist Conference women.

LEGACY AND THE FUTURE

We value the legacy of women who have gone before us and are committed to engaging the next generation.



Saker Baptist College Water Project

Since it was started in 1962 by NAB missionaries, Saker Baptist College has been providing an environment that encourages young women to learn, grow, and lead. With an enrollment of 1,131 students, the school is facing a challenge to provide water to them all. Due to an old and inadequate system, the girls stand in line for hours waiting to fill their buckets and get washed up before school. Due to the low tuition and boarding fees the school charges, Saker

is unable to independently fund big capital projects. An input of \$14,000 will provide an adequate source of water for the students and staff at the school, as well as provide clean water for the approximately 200 people in the surrounding community.

Our Women's Connection Triennial 2024 offering was designated for this project, and \$3,196 was given by the women who attended the luncheon. Thank you to so many who were so generous. We would love to help complete the project.

If you feel that God is challenging you to help please go to the North American Baptist Conference website <https://nabconference.org/give/special-projects/> Saker Baptist College Water Project

And the King will say, "I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and SISTERS, you were doing it to me." Matthew 25:40

Loving Christ Ministries

RESOURCES FOR CHRISTIAN
WOMEN'S RETREATS, MEETINGS,
BIBLE STUDIES, AND MORE

Women's Connection
Fall Website Choice

lovingchristministries.com

This website offers to help women's ministry leaders plan retreats and other events for women. There are tools to help women live intentionally for Christ. There are ready to use resources for ministry events throughout the year: Leadership, Retreat Planning, Bible Study and Daily Walk suggestions, Grief Support and Prayer Ideas

Advent Study Choices

The Marvel and Miracle of Advent



Jesus' arrival on earth changed the course of history forever. Not only for those who lived in the first century, but for those of us in

the twenty-first century as well. The miracle and marvel of the Advent season demonstrates that we are precious to Him. He's not a distant God. He is Emmanuel, God with us. That includes wherever you are, right now.

Throughout the Old Testament, we find descriptions, allusions,

prophecies, and even foreshadowing of the long-anticipated Messiah. The Messiah is Jesus, whose purpose and promise was not limited by His humanity. In this Bible study, you will learn that it's not your behavior that earns the kindness of a holy God; it's the presence of Jesus coming to Earth to be with you, always.

Join Christine Caine and Lisa Harper this Advent season for a four-session video Bible study like no other. Your hope and spirit will be revived as you recapture the wonder of Jesus' obvious love for you. You'll discover that Advent is not only a season of waiting and preparation, but also, it's a season of action to share the hope of Jesus with everyone.

Be of Good Cheer



Each entry in this 40-day devotional invites you to reflect on one word that embodies the true meaning

of Christmas. A corresponding Bible verse, a cheerful prayer, and beautiful Christmas photos guide your spirit, memories, and longings back to the heart of Christmas. Be of Good Cheer...

- Provides 40 days of readings for Advent
- Encourages you to rejoice in a God who cares for you and carries you

- Inspires you to recover gratitude during Christmas
- Offers a meaningful and beautiful addition to your bedside or coffee table
- Makes a thoughtful gift for anyone searching for deeper peace during the holidays

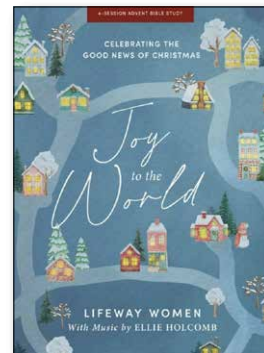
Whether you're busy planning for the church's nativity play or preparing for the whirlwind of Christmas events, Be of Good Cheer anchors you in the joy, peace, and hope of the holiday season. This is a great gift to share around your Thanksgiving table as you prepare for the Christmas season or an excellent stocking stuffer for a friend, family member, or colleague seeking inspiration as Christmas draws near.

www.faithgateway.com

Joy to the World Lifeway Women

Joy to the world, the Lord is come. The opening line of this classic Christmas carol captures the delight and awe that surrounded Jesus's birth. But how often does the Christmas season feel stressful rather than joyful? Why do we trade "all is calm" for all is chaos?

In this 4-session Bible study, you'll spend the weeks of Advent learning to celebrate the good news of great joy found in the Christmas story. Jesus, the Son of God, came to earth to save us from our sins and sorrow and to make right our relationship with God. And He will return to finish setting everything right. With daily personal study, suggestions for family devotions, and engaging activities to transform your study experience, this beautiful resource will help you delight in Jesus's birth and joyfully anticipate His return this Christmas season and all year long.



Features:

- 4 weeks of personal study
- 4 Advent-themed videos
- Leader guide
- Family devotion suggestions
- Beautiful full-color interior
- Creative Advent activities

Benefits:

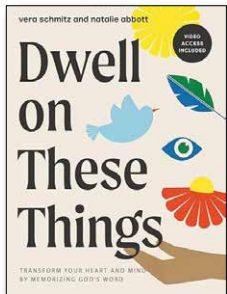
- Delight in the Christmas story as you prepare your heart for Advent.
- Trace the theme of joy throughout the Christmas story.
- Learn how to live joyfully while you wait for Jesus to return.
- Be inspired to share the good news of great joy with others.
- Worship the Lord through study, song, prayer, and creativity.

FALL STUDIES



Dwell on These Things

by Natalie Abbott and Vera Schmitz



How would your life change if you could call Scripture to mind at a moment's notice to bring comfort,

peace, and assurance? The good news is that God's Word can be accessible 24/7 as you hide it in your heart.

In this 8-session Bible study workbook, sisters Natalie Abbott and Vera Schmitz lead you through a study of Philippians 4:4-9 to teach you a simple method of memorizing God's Word. As you fix these beloved verses in your mind through beautiful and powerful images, you'll discover how to combat anxiety, experience the peace of God, and dwell on godly things. As you store up the deep truths and precious promises of this passage, you'll come to understand them in light of the greater context of the book of Philippians, and you'll be equipped for a lifetime of inscribing the transforming truth of Scripture in your heart and mind.

Features:

Tips to memorize Scripture.
8 video teaching sessions, encouraging you in your study and memorization.

7 weeks of personal study to be completed between the 8 group sessions.

Extras such as interactive prayer opportunities, introductory videos, and temporary tattoos provided to help with Scripture memory.

Leader helps to guide discussions within small groups.

Benefits:

Discover how dwelling on Scripture transforms how we think, see, and interact with the world.

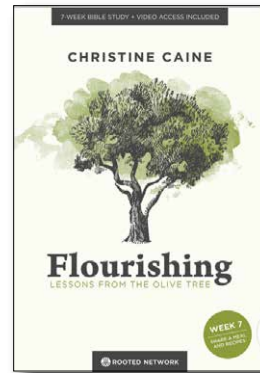
Learn a simple method of memorizing Scripture.

With the book of Philippians as the backdrop, take a slow walk through Philippians 4:4-9 to fix the truths of this passage in your heart and mind.

Experience the peace and presence of God as you practice Scripture.

Flourishing

by Christine Caine



We are called to remain steadfast in our faith, but that can be difficult when we are burdened with the challenges and struggles of life.

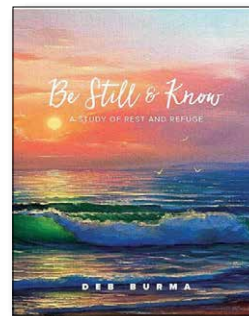
Flourishing: Lessons from the Olive Tree is a 7-week, group-discipleship resource designed to inspire women to remain steadfast in every

season of life through the rich thematic study of the olive tree.

In addition to daily study through the Flourishing Workbook, Christine Caine shares biblical insights and personal stories through engaging teaching videos, guiding participants to gain wisdom and encouragement from the olive tree.

Be Still and Know

by Deb Burma



When our Lord says, "Be still, and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10), what does He mean? God's Word promises that in whatever kind of storm we find ourselves in, Jesus always comes to us.

In Be Still and Know, unpack the promises found in Psalm 46 that are fulfilled in Christ. The first session looks at Psalm 46 in detail and examines storms of life. Then, in the following seven sessions, study narratives from the Gospels as Jesus meets various women who are experiencing their own storms and explore the perspective of each woman as He provides refuge, strength, help, and hope.

Looking to the biblical and cultural contexts will allow you to better grasp the depth of Christ's care, purpose, and attention to every need. In the midst of today's storms, may God reveal His refuge for us in Christ, the one who has overcome the world.

CONNECT
WITH US



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