



## God's Work in Sierra Leone

North Park Church has been partnering with Memorial Park Church and other Presbytery of the Alleghenies churches in supporting the ministry of EduNations and new EPC churches in 6 villages of Sierra Leone, helping to change the landscape in this predominately Muslim country.

In-Country Director, Samuel Sesay, attended the first ever Christian Camping International conference in Ghana this past summer. (NPC supports another missionary – Lisa Anderson-Umaña – who is a leader in CCI.)

One of the things that Samuel learned is that kids ages 4 to 14 years-old comprise some of the most unreached people groups in the world. Out of that new understanding has come a strong desire to witness to the kids in his communities and beyond in a new way.

So, this December, for the first time ever, EduNations and the EPC churches will be sponsoring a youth camp! To date, there are about 200 kids from all 6 of our church communities signed up to come. Some of these children come from Muslim homes. What a great opportunity to introduce them - and by extension their families - to Jesus. Praise God!

Camp will be held in one of our villages, Rokassa, from December 14-18 this year. The theme for the camp is 1 Peter 2:9 ***"we are a chosen generation."***

### Below is a message from Samuel:

*We are holding bible studies daily to cover the whole of 1 Peter and the kids will be led in these bible students by the EPC pastors. There will be a bible quiz for youths with questions coming from the whole of 1 Peter and we plan to give out encouraging prizes to winners. We have also asked each youth group to prepare a song contribution based on the theme and we plan to give out prizes to the winners as well. There will be times for early morning devotions and exercises and evening revival meetings.*

*Our goal is to continue to both evangelize and disciple these youths whom we know will **take over in the leadership of these communities as this generation of Muslim elders passes away.***

*Our budget increases daily with the bulk amount going towards transporting the youths to and from their communities to Rokassa as well as feeding them all and the volunteer camp officials 3 meals a day. We have asked the youths to pay a small registration fee and although we are encouraging them to pay, we know most of them cannot afford that, especially during this post-Ebola period. **That is why we are appealing for support between \$3,500 - \$4,000.** This amount will cover the transport cost of all the campers and whatever we are raising here will go towards the feeding.*

*On our own, myself, the pastors and the EduNations teachers are making monthly contributions through the month of November. We have also asked the local churches to help provide food items. We intend to buy floor mats on which we will sleep in the classrooms at Rokassa.*

*We trust that the Lord will provide this and maybe more, through you and your churches. Please know that **you will be investing into the lives of these youths in powerful ways. Not too long from now, these youths will be the village chiefs, paramount chiefs and elders in the communities. What a community transformation it will be to have these leaders all bowing to Christ!***

*Thanking you for your partnership in the gospel.*

*Samuel*



**Because of your faithful giving, NPC is able to provide financial support from the missions budget to promote the gospel among the youth.**

***Please be in prayer for God to transform these young people.***



Women's  
Connection

# Mentor Program

By Amber Stites

## Bling Bling: Divine or Ovine?

By Brooke Hopkins

Those of us who survived the 90's—which, I suppose, would include all of us, excepting those who didn't need to survive it since they weren't born yet—remember that great campaign tool of evangelicalism, the “What Would Jesus Do?” (WWJD) bracelet. No need to ‘fess up as to whether you wore one (or still do); it's not a bad thing to try to encourage people to think of their Lord while making decisions in sticky situations. Somehow, though, these marketing attempts at outreach don't quite bring about the desired and anticipated sweeping cultural change (as an aside, I remember when *The Passion of the Christ* was released, the film was hyped as “the greatest evangelistic tool in 2000 years.” Guess they forgot about the Bible, as being, um, better, maybe??).

So, back to these bracelets; unique to Christianity, right? Can you imagine if the religion of Islam had such a thing? What Would Mohammed Do? WWMD? Rumor has it that Saddam Hussein had one of these when he was captured, though that one may have stood for “*What Weapons of Mass Destruction?*” (innocent smile, blinking puppy-dog eyes).

When I think about what our WWJD infers when considered literally and logically, I excuse myself from the challenge by pointing out, “Okay, let's think about what Jesus *has* done—and *is doing*—to this point. Created the world, kept the Law perfectly, saved His people by assuming their punishment for sin and dying on the cross, defeated Death by rising again, sits at the right hand of God, holds all creation together with His power, commands the Lord's armies, and is preparing to return and judge the earth.” A bit out of my league, all that, right there.

Then I remember this: it was Satan who initiated the idea that we could be like God in the first place (Genesis 3:5). “So, Self,” I says, “if I can't be like God and do like Jesus, what is it that I am *really* like?” Well, it's right there throughout

(cont. on page 8)

**W**omen's Connection has recently kicked off a mentoring program. Through this program, it is our hope that valuable connections will be made and meaningful relationships will form and grow between women in our church. All of us have had others pour into our lives in caring and practical ways, in ways that have helped us become who we are today. We learn so much from watching and listening to others.

For example, I remember the first meal I had to make for a friend who had a baby. She was the first of my friends to have a baby, and I had never taken a meal before, nor had I been the recipient of any meals.

**“We hope that ladies will grow to be more like Christ because of the example of an older woman in their lives.”**

Thinking back on this, I laugh at the meal I took. I didn't know any differently, so I took what Andy and I would typically eat for dinner: meat, potatoes, and a veggie. Looking back, I took a rather small portion. It was just the new mom and the new dad (the baby wasn't eating anything), so I took the amount that Andy and I would typically eat. I had no idea how hungry a nursing mama can get! I was proud that I did this good deed, until three years or so later when I had my second baby, Caleb, and received the gift of meals. Wow! It was then that I realized how skimpy the meal was that I delivered to those new parents. Each meal we received would feed us for a whole week and there was meat, side dish #1, side dish #2, side dish #3, perhaps even a side dish #4 and definitely enough dessert for the whole month. This is one small example of how others have mentored me, probably without even knowing it.

I continue to learn from these ladies, you ladies, as we do life together. In one way or another, many of you have taught me something or have helped me desire to grow and change to be more like you, more like Christ. This is what we hope to see happen in our mentoring program. We hope that ladies will grow to be more like Christ because of the example of an older woman in their lives.

And while we have already had our formal kick-off for this program, I invite you to become a part either as a mentee or mentor. You have something to learn and you have something to teach, no matter who you are! If you are interested in participating please speak with me, Amber Stites, or anyone else on the Women's Connection leadership team.





## Meal Ministry "Kneads" You!

by Beth Morley

Italian beef hoagies, macaroni and cheese, ravioli, and chicken parmesan were all some of the meals served to my family after the arrival of our newest addition, Joel. Words cannot express how grateful we were for these meals in the days after he arrived as we adjusted to being a family of four. These meals were coordinated and provided by our meal ministry team in order to serve my family and lighten our load. An additional blessing was that my daughter was able to experience being served and thus she learned and desired to serve. She would make me scrambled eggs and say, "Mommy, I'm serving you because you had a baby!" What a joy it will be for her the next time she helps me make a meal to serve another family in need.

Since January, our meal team has provided over 70 meals to families in need. That is a lot of meals and we are looking for more volunteers to join our team.


*Who we serve:* We serve the church attendees in our congregation that have experienced loss, illness, the birth of a new baby, or other difficult situations.

*How it works:* Once the meal ministry coordinator hears of a need, she creates a meal registry on [takethemameal.com](http://takethemameal.com) and e-mails volunteers the link to the registry. If a volunteer desires to serve, he or she views the online calendar and signs up for a date that works with his or her schedule and delivers a homemade or store-bought meal on that date.

*How often will I serve?:* We try to schedule volunteers every other month or once per month depending on need.

*How far will I have to drive?:* We try to coordinate volunteers who live the closest to the person in need to eliminate people having to drive long distances.

*How do I get involved?:* Sign up in the church lobby or e-mail the meal ministry coordinators (Bethany Mitchell, Beth Morley, and Alice LaBarre) at [npcmealministry@gmail.com](mailto:npcmealministry@gmail.com). We look forward to serving with you!




## Living In Liberty Is Looking for Help

Living in Liberty is a local organization that provides a safe house for women rescued from sex trafficking. There are unfortunately many women in Pittsburgh and in every city in the US who have been trafficked for sex, and there are rescues that take place. But after the rescue these women need a place where they can be safe and transition back to society. LIL provides such a safe house right here in the North Hills. They are in great need of more people to volunteer at the safe house, either with taking a shift at the home or with providing rides to and from places. If you are interested in helping with either of these needs, or if you know someone who might be, contact Elizabeth Echevarria, who is the Executive Director of LIL, at [Elizabeth@livinginliberty.org](mailto:Elizabeth@livinginliberty.org).

(cont. from page 7)

scripture: We are His people, the *sheep* of His pasture. He's the great Shepherd, we're the sheep. What a relief! Just a dumb sheep, I am!

I find this extremely helpful in many situations: to think not necessarily what Jesus would do, but what a sheep would do. I jes' ain't clever enough to Jason Bourne my way out of dire situations, but remembering my station, I bleat out a desperate cry of help to my Shepherd. And, "Baa-Baa" sounds very much like "Abba" (Father) when you say it over and over...

Learning to be a leader is very important; learning to follow God as a sheep follows a shepherd is vital. The world is full of leadership training seminars; our Lord and His church could use some devoted *followers*. So, I've come up with this wonderful investment opportunity. We'll need venture capital, marketing strategies, R&D. It's the next greatest campaign for Kingdom-building since the last greatest one, whatever *that* was. Ready? WWSD bracelets. 100% wool, of course. Okay, who's on board?



Presents...



**February 19-21, 2016**  
at the Sheraton in Station Square,  
Pittsburgh, PA

*Cultivate romance, practice healthy communication, and enhance spiritual connection with your loved one. Gain the resources to refuel, reconnect, and recommit to a great marriage. Meet National Speaker Dan Seaborn, from Winning At Home, and experience teaching from marriage and family experts at Christian Counseling Associates.*

*Whether you have a fantastic marriage, or your relationship is in need of a serious tune-up, this weekend will offer tools to grow your marriage and strengthen your faith.*

**Call (724) 396-1510 for more details  
or see information below!**

### Event Schedule

- *Dan Seaborn: Main event speaker, internationally-known marriage and family expert*
- *Worship Experience: Start each teaching session with a time of worship*
- *Enrichment Sessions: Presented by Christian Counseling Associates, and guest speakers*
- *Couples Dance: Have some fun together after your Saturday night date*
- *Prayer Room Experience: Rediscover a deeper connection during this weekend event*

### Register Now:

#### Super Early Bird Rate Ends November 30

Stay at the Sheraton Station Square.  
Sign up and then reserve your room today  
to lock in a special event hotel room rate!  
Call the Sheraton at (412) 261-2000.  
Hotel Event rate expires January 30, 2016!

#### Cost per couple (does not include hotel)

- \$ 179.00 – super-early-bird rate through November 30
- \$ 199.00 – early-bird rate through December 30
- \$ 249.00 – full price after December 30

Additional fee for Prepare/Enrich (if chosen)  
--online assessment and consultation - \$ 100.00

### Enrichment Sessions

*Please note:* Choose one for each session.  
There is an additional fee for Prepare/Enrich also  
choose this option at check-out. Financial Peace is  
a double session.

#### Enrichment Session #1

- Constructive Conflict (Part 1): Blue print for successfully navigating conflict
- Building Intimacy and Friendship: Easy tools to enhance your relationship
- Prepare/Enrich: Online assessment and consultation (additional fee--choose option at check-out)
- Financial Peace: A two-session model that provides education about finances with your spouse
- Forgiveness: Identify where forgiveness can help strengthen your relationship

#### Enrichment Session #2

- Constructive Conflict (Part 2): Navigating the aftermath of a regrettable incident or argument
- Building Intimacy and Friendship: Easy tools to enhance your relationship.
- Prepare/Enrich: Online assessment and consultation (additional fee--choose option at check-out)
- Financial Peace: A two-session model that provides education about finances with your spouse
- Forgiveness: Identify where forgiveness can help strengthen your relationship





# November

*This is the day the lord has made,  
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.*

Psalm 118:34

## November Birthdays

November 1	Beth Hendley
November 2	Mike Safreed
November 3	Hank Lish, Matt Shipley
November 5	Laura Osmond
November 6	Grace Wu
November 7	Chris Forcey
November 8	Elizabeth Haytock, Colin Longmore, Jim Gregory
November 10	Charly Klenk, Davey Pinkerton
November 13	Nellie Luther
November 14	Susann Pinkerton
November 15	Daniel Brunner, Andrea Gingrich, Chad Morley
November 19	Austin Dzadovsky, Rich Sprunk
November 21	Kathy Schadel
November 22	Josh Laird, Mark Altmeyer
November 24	Kirby Morris
November 25	Jeff Buirge

November 26	Carl Shoemaker, Anna Warmbrodt
November 27	Ed Muzyn, Pat Hargest, Diane Glancy
November 28	Linda Graner
November 29	Rachel Sharpnack, Marge Stauffer, Autumn Glancy
November 30	Alex Lochner, Carol Dupee, Naomi Heistand, Holly Murphy

## November Anniversaries

November 3	Al and Pat Schaefer
November 5	Kevin and Alison Sanders
November 13	Steve and Natalie Karr
November 14	Jeff and Lisa Langford
November 17	Dan and Beth Hendley
November 19	Matt and Jessica Zenner
November 20	Mike and Jeanne Safreed
November 27	Brandon and Shelly McGlothlin

If you would like your name included on the birthday/anniversary list (in each month's FYI), please make sure you have filled out a card with your family's information. These are available at the Information Counter. Human error does occur, so please let us know if we misprint your information.