

Together, We are Stronger!



The Tie

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST WOMEN'S UNION



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Two Sides of the Same Coin

"A compassionate lifestyle is active involvement in another's pain, either directly or indirectly." - David Crocker
"Let me see this world, dear Lord, as though I were looking through your eyes..."

The Samaritan Way: A COMPASSIONATE LIFESTYLE

"Let me see this world, dear Lord, as though I were looking through your eyes..."

Moreen Sharp, NABWU President

I heard the song above years ago and it still challenges me. We can have Christianity all "down pat" as the lawyer thought he did in Luke 10, and know we are to love the Lord with all our heart, soul, mind and strength and love our neighbor as ourselves. But Jesus still challenges us with the question "who is my neighbor?"



We use the term today "compassion fatigue." With so many hurts in the world, it's easy to think, "I can't make a dent in these situations" and even in our sadness, we slowly protect our hearts by hardening them because it's too much for us to carry. It's just too easy to become like the priest and the Levite.

When the Samaritan saw the beaten man he had compassion. No compassion fatigue here. Instead, what did he do with that compassion? He took action.

God places people and situations in our path, too. Will we be a good neighbor? We cannot solve all the problems of the world, but when we are loving God with heart, soul and mind, we see with His eyes and His heart flows through us. This compassion isn't something we just put on or do out of duty. It stirs in our souls because it is His compassion, a compassion that empowers us to do something.

God gives each of us His compassion in the areas He has gifted and prepared us for. For me, I have a compassion for helping hurting churches. This results in my husband and I moving every 3-18 months. This isn't a sacrifice for me. It inspires me because God has given me compassion for these hurting brothers and sisters. He has also given me deep compassion for victims of human trafficking. He has led me to this role as president of NABWU where I find I am able to encourage those women who are already working with the vulnerable and victimized. These amazing leaders are not just putting a pillow under the heads of those who have a foot on their necks. They are giving of themselves to bring these women to wholeness physically, spiritually and emotionally.

What passions has God placed in your heart? In what ways has He called you to share His heart with those in need? Jesus said, "Which of these three proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" [The lawyer] said, "The one who showed him mercy." And Jesus said to him, "You go, and do likewise."

*"If just once I would see the world the way you see, I just know,
I'd serve You more faithfully." (From song by Mike Otto)*

OUR MISSION: To encourage women to live out Kingdom life, especially in the area of helping the vulnerable.

A photograph of two women with blonde hair standing on a beach, looking out at the ocean. One woman is placing her hand on the other's shoulder. The image has a soft, blue-tinted background.

SHOULD Helping Hurt?

Ruby Fulbright

NABWU Vice-President of Networking, Leadership, Mentoring

Surely not, we say! Helping is meant to bring relief from pain, to bring happiness from sorrow, to bring satisfaction to empty stomachs, to bring release for the captive, to find shelter for the homeless, to speak words of hope into the lives of the hopeless.

That's why we volunteer at a soup kitchen, donate to a food pantry, go on a short-term mission trip or, at the very least, put money in the offering plate at church. Just saying that; however, makes my 'helping' seem more about me and what I need or want than about those I want to help.

'The reality is that we may have done considerable harm to people in the very process of trying to help them. The federal government made mistakes for decades, when trying to help poor people. Well-intentioned welfare programs penalized work, undermined families and created dependence. Unfortunately, many Christian ministries have done the same. By focusing on symptoms rather than on the underlying disease, we are often hurting the very people we are trying to help. Surprisingly, we are also hurting ourselves in the process. As followers of Jesus Christ, we simply must do better.' (Taken from When Helping Hurts by Steve Corbett and Brian Fikkert.)

We find in Jesus' ministry a model of compassion and unconditional love. His attitudes and standards of treatment for others established new ways of treating people - and

His actions often presented a problem for the religious leaders of the day. But, His kind of love possessed the power to transform the lives of those He served. He has given those of us who claim to be His followers the same power.

Shadowing a 20-year old college student as she interacted with people suffering from HIV/Aids, offering love and acceptance when no other tangible help was available, it was obvious she knew God was with her; she felt His presence within and through her as she worked in an amazingly compassionate way - giving to others what they needed, not necessarily what anyone else thought they deserved.

Many of the things we do 'in the church', the world can do. The church can feed the hungry; the world can feed the hungry. The church can build houses for the homeless; the world can do that. The church can heal the sick; the world can do that. There's only one thing that only the church can do and that is offer grace, a gift of God.

So, will helping hurt? Not if we are aware of our own brokenness; not if our desire and compassionate heart comes from God; not when we recognize that God has called His Church to preach the good news of the kingdom of God - in both word and deed - to the poor, the lonely, the vulnerable, the homeless, the sick, the outcast, the stranger - a diversity of people groups who, in some sense, is each of us.



PRESIDENT: Moreen Sharp
Calgary, Alberta
(403) 632-5022 / president@nabwu.org

VICE-PRESIDENTS:
Ruby Fulbright
Networking, Leadership, Mentoring
Newton, North Carolina
(919) 395-2351 / networking@nabwu.org

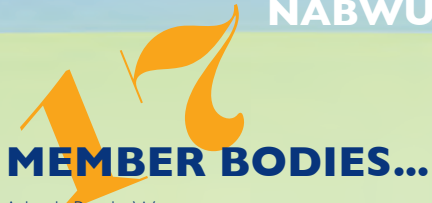
Lisa Lohnes
Day of Prayer, Prayer Grants, Prayer Partners
Fredericton, New Brunswick
(506) 454-9377 / prayer@nabwu.org

Angelita Clifton
Communications and Promotion
Summit, New Jersey
(973) 897-2386 / communications@nabwu.org

SECRETARY: Stacey L. Benn
Parkville, Maryland
(443) 278-6023 / secretary@nabwu.org

TREASURER: Darlene McGilberry
Bordentown, New Jersey
(609) 306-8961 / treasurer@nabwu.org

**YOU are a part of
NABWU!**



Atlantic Baptist Women
American Baptist Women's Ministries
Baptist Women in Ministry
Canadian Baptist Women of Ontario and Quebec
Converge Worldwide Women's Ministries
General Baptist Women's Ministries, Inc.
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National Baptist Convention of America, Inc.
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Convention, USA, Inc.
Women's Department, Progressive National
Baptist Convention, Inc.
Women's Division, Russian-Ukrainian
Evangelical Baptist Union
Women's Ministries, Union of Latvian Baptists
in America
Women's Ministry, North American Baptist
Conference
Women's Board, Seventh Day Baptist General
Conference

Where is GOD When Helping Hurts?

Lisa Lohnes
NABWU Vice-President of Prayer

Mary was very new in her faith but she felt very alone. Although she was surrounded by many “mature” believers, she really longed for Christian fellowship with others of her own generation. When she relocated due to her job, Mary chose a congregation based on this desire. Throughout the year, she developed friendships with others who shared similar challenges in their walk with Christ. They laughed, cried and prayed together and Mary was uplifted and inspired. Wanting to give others the same kind of experience, she began a ministry to newcomers. Mary’s intention was to welcome and help others, but she soon became overzealous. The ministry consumed her time, so she distanced herself from her close friendships. Eventually, her mission became more about meeting her need to help rather than meeting the needs of others. She saw people as a means to fulfill her project. She even developed a romantic relationship which ended disastrously for them both. Ultimately, Mary alienated many newcomers from developing a relationship with Christ and she felt unloved. Each “failure” triggered her deep-seated feelings of low self-esteem and people-pleasing behavior, and she became disheartened.

As followers of Christ, we are to be mirrors of God’s unconditional love. Our interactions with others should help mould their understanding of God’s presence in their lives. It is difficult, however, to give a good reflection when our own understanding of the love of God is fragmented. When we fail to personally understand God’s love as a gift one receives rather than a return one earns, our focus in ministry is on our own agenda rather than the purpose and plan of God. This misguided focus causes us to present a flawed image of God which can create confusion and hurt to the very individuals we are trying to help.

If we truly desire to make a difference for God and in His Kingdom, we must first ensure that we ourselves have a firm grip on the true image of God’s unconditional love for us.

As followers of Christ, we are to be mirrors of God's unconditional love



What would Jesus do?

Darlene McGilberry
NABWU Treasurer

When we are asked to what church do we belong, our natural tendency is to answer “I belong to ____Church.” But the truth is, membership is much more than the physical building where we worship. As Christians, we are members of the “Church of Christ.” When we minister to those in need, they should envision more than a building. They should envision that what we are doing for them comes from a love for them and not from a mechanical sense of duty.

In order for us to serve others, we must first get to know the one who sends us out to serve. Others will not be able to see Christ in us if we do not have a personal relationship

with him. The more we strive to know and have a closer walk with Him, the more He will be evident in our lives. The evidence will be seen in how we treat one another. Our ministry is viewed beyond the giving that everyone can see. When we are seen serving food to the homeless, it could be said that we are showing compassion. But what about when we sit next to a person on a pew in worship and never open our mouths to speak a word of kindness to them? That person could have been one of many to pass through the food line.

When we call one another “sister” or “brother,” is it because that’s what protocol tells us we should

do? We should do it because we feel the spiritual connection to the individual. Rather than seeing our services at church as programs, we should use them as opportunities to strengthen others as well as ourselves to be able to become effective witnesses for God. When responding to people or making decisions, we should ask ourselves what Christ would do in that circumstance. When we begin seeing ourselves as “being the church” instead of just doing church, others will see Christ in us and may be drawn to Him. Let us not forget “When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself”.

Helping the Hurting...

Stacey L. Benn
NABWU Secretary

The world often says hurt people hurt people. In ministry for Christ, however, we aim to please God by helping people, even if we are hurting. What ultimate example of love Christ showed us as He suffered, bled and died.

Life in Christ never promises to be void of circumstance or concern. Our response to such shows what we believe about our Heavenly Father. Do we believe that “all things work together for good to those who love God?” Do we believe that God is omniscient? Do we believe that He uses every part of our lives for His glory, when we are His; the blessings and the burdens?

An influential preacher in my life once said, “God prepares us for what He has prepared for us.” Hurt people can most assuredly help people, and be beacons of light and hope. Whatever He has allowed in the process of our lives is also that which He may allow us to use as part of someone’s healing. We will be able to draw from the before and after actions of those experiences and be pivotal agents of help to others. What a blessing to be a blessing.

Your story may not be my story. Their story may not be our story. But we are all human, with more commonalities than not. Let us all take heed to Paul’s admonishing on the behavior of Christians in Romans 12:15, “Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.”

Helping the hurting may range from a distant prayer, to a quick embrace, to a more significant sharing of time and resources. By whatever measure, helping helps.



**BAPTIST WORLD ALLIANCE WOMEN'S
DEPARTMENT**

2015 BAPTIST WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

“Arise, Shine!”

This will be an incredible conference as we join 1000 other Baptist women from around the world to sing, pray and rejoice together! We'll hear choirs and musical groups from various countries, and will be hearing how God is working through them in their context. This conference is open to anyone, not just leaders! Join us for an inspirational experience! See www.bwawd.org for more information and to register before the deadline of April 17, 2015.



July 18-21, 2015
FOURWAYS JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA!
Indaba Hotel & Conference Centre

Baptist World Alliance Congress
July 22-26, 2015
DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA!

THE LARGEST INTERNATIONAL GATHERING OF BAPTIST CHRISTIANS.

- MISSIONS TRIP OPPORTUNITY -

There is a Pre-Leadership Conference Missions trip opportunity leaving the US on July 15th. Please contact Carol Causey at CCausey@wmu.org for more information. For more mission trip opportunities, see www.bwanet.org/congress.

*Thank you
for making a difference by
your prayers and gifts!*

Half of every dollar given in North America to the Baptist Women's Day of Prayer offering supports NABWU and selected projects in North America. You'll find more information on who received grants in 2014 at www.nabwu.org.

The other half of your Day of Prayer offering dollar supports the Women's Department of the Baptist World Alliance and international projects listed in the Day of Prayer program.

WHERE DO YOU SEND YOUR OFFERINGS?

Send your check payable to the North American Baptist Women's Union to P.O. Box 282, Bordentown, NJ 08505-0282, USA or as directed by your NABWU member body in Canada, clearly marked "Day of Prayer".

WHO CAN APPLY FOR A GRANT?

Do you know of a Baptist women's project that could use a NABWU Day of Prayer Offering grant in 2016? See the application guidelines and information posted at www.nabwu.org, or contact Lisa Lohnes at prayer@nabwu.org. The deadline for application is November 9, 2015

WHAT IS THE DAY OF PRAYER?

The BWA Women's Department calls Baptist women around the world to gather in their churches and communities on (or near) the first Monday of November each year to pray for one another, give an offering, and engage in Bible study and reflections. Your "Day of Prayer" can be a full day, a weekend, or a couple of hours! The adaptable 2015 Day of Prayer program, prepared this year by the **BWA Women's Department** for worldwide use, continues the 2015-2019 theme, "Arise, Shine". The program is available from the BWA WD office or website (below) along with supplementary resources.

NABWU is one of seven Continental Unions that make up the Women's Department of the Baptist World Alliance. Together, we represent women in 137 countries and 239 national Baptist women's organizations.



BWA WOMEN'S DEPARTMENT
Attn: NABWU
405 North Washington Street
Falls Church, VA 22046 USA
womenbwa@bwawd.org
703-790-8980

www.bwawd.org

Executive Director: Patsy Davis
President: Raquel Contreras

BAPTIST WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER:



8 PRAYER GRANT RECIPIENTS!

Bethlehem Aboriginal Fellowship Children's Ministry **\$3500**

Women In Focus

Weekly Bible-based outreach program for neighborhood aboriginal children. This ministry provides aboriginal children with a welcoming and safe place to play with others while learning the Word of God, and discovering their value to God and His love for them. Good health and nutrition are also emphasized. (<http://www.bethlehem.ca>)

Breaking Barriers, Building Bridges Cultural Exchange Program **\$5000**

American Baptist Women's Ministry
Dialog event in Washington, DC bringing together Baptist & Muslim women from the US and Republic of Georgia that facilitates conversation between different cultures and Abrahamic religions. This ministry will facilitate understanding while inviting spiritual and emotional growth for all participants. Friendship and understanding are bridges to tolerance, respect, peace and reconciliation. The program will help empower women to reach out in friendship to their neighbors of other cultures and religious backgrounds. (<http://www.abwministries.org/page.aspx/contentId/15/Cross-Cultural-Relationships>)

Crossroads for Women – Columbia St. Baptist Church **\$2000**

American Baptist Women's Ministry
Bringing neighborhood women together to identify their needs and build their leadership capacity. This ministry seeks to empower women and improve their lives and the lives of their families by developing community programs that not only meet the needs of local women but also help those women develop the skills needed to lead those community programs. (<http://www.csbcbangor.org>)

**Your project has been selected to
receive a grant from
the NABWU 2015 Day of Prayer
offerings.**

Congratulations!



**Earn While You Learn -
Pregnancy Resource Centre of
Moncton \$2000**

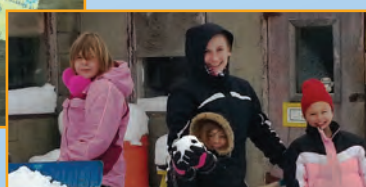
Atlantic Baptist Women
Prenatal and parenting programs for at risk women. These programs provide physical support and advancement, emotional encouragement with one on one mentoring and spiritual guidance through faith based materials. These programs also help build the confidence needed to improve educational and economic circumstances. (<http://www.pregnancysupport.ca/services.php>)

**eXpendable
Chameleon Jo Productions \$5000**

Atlantic Baptist Women
Musical theatre production focused on educating about the issue of human trafficking. The storyline is fictional, yet set in the real world of human trafficking in North America with the Super Bowl as a back drop. The performances will be done in conjunction with the "Buying Sex is Not a Sport" campaign to raise awareness of human trafficking in Canada prior to the Pan Am Games, July 2015. (<https://www.facebook.com/ChameleonJoProductions>)

**Farm Girls Rule – Farmtown
Canada's Funny Farm Ministries \$4500**

Canadian Baptist Women
of Ontario & Quebec
Counselling, animal therapy, life skills training & mentoring for at risk or under privileged girls. This ministry uses hands on interaction with horses and classroom instruction to explore areas such as positive body image, dealing with peer pressure, making empowered choices and establishing healthy boundaries, all based on biblical truths. Girls also develop life and work skills through volunteering and chores. (<http://farmtowncanada.ca>)



**Oasis Ministry
Savannah Baptist Center \$2500**

WMU/Southern Baptist Convention
Shower and laundry facilities for homeless and low income women. This ministry provides a safe place for women to attend to their personal hygiene, which reduces health issues, raises self-esteem and increases employment opportunities. Clients are also offered a bag lunch and an opportunity to select items from the clothes closet. (<http://savbaptistcenter.org/ministries/oasis>)



**Titus 2 Project – Women
Coming Together to Raise up
Women as Leaders \$2500**

American Baptist Women's Ministry
Leadership development project for women from all walks of life. This ministry celebrates the gifting of all women, whether clergy or lay, of diverse race, culture, age and ethnicity. Through one day events and activities throughout the year, this project is committed to providing a place for women's voices to be heard, stories shared, gifts honored and leadership capacities fully developed. (Patricia.Hernandez@abc-usa.org)

59th Commission on the Status of Women

at the United Nations in New York

Every year in March, the United Nations puts on the Commission on the Status of Women. This year, over three hundred sessions were presented on topics surrounding women's issues worldwide. Hundreds of women from around the globe were in attendance, including a good representation of NABWU women. We focused on the Beijing Platform for Action which was implemented twenty years ago. We looked at how far we have come in addressing solutions to topics such as women in poverty, health issues, violence against women, and human rights. All topics are aimed at empowering women to give them a hopeful future. And isn't that what God's desire has always been, a desire to give people a hope and future? Even though the presenters may not be believers in God, they are still practicing God's heart!

Have you ever said, "The needs are so great! What can I do about it?" This Commission brings great inspiration as you hear how women like you and me have seen a need and stepped up to the call with viable solutions.

BWA is a UN recognized NGO. With that being the case, we have twenty passes for the UN grounds. But you don't even have to attend the UN sessions as the majority of the sessions are held just off the UN grounds. These anyone can register for. All sessions are free of charge.



If you are interested in attending next year, please contact NABWU President, Moreen Sharp at president@nabwu.org

Seven Essential Ingredients for **TRAUMA-INFORMED** CONGREGATIONS

1. Trauma-informed congregations **acknowledge the vast scope of adverse experiences common in today's society**. Exposure to and difficulty adjusting to adverse experiences is far more common than previously understood.

2. Trauma-informed congregations **recognize the impact adverse experiences** have on people and target groups. Trauma occurs when persons perceive they or their sense of well-being (including family, income, housing and community) is threatened and their ability to cope is overwhelmed.

3. Trauma-informed **practice a perspective shift** from their previously uninformed organizational structure. This shift creates a new sense of reality or a new perspective on what is considered "normal." It is practiced by caregivers and faithful neighbors who change their inquiry of those they are serving from "what is wrong with you" and "why are you doing that" to "what happened?"

4. Trauma-informed congregations practice **self-regulation**. They incorporate simple practices for acknowledging that emotions exist and can be managed. Examples include: going around the room with each person naming in a word or phrase, one need they have presently and one hope they have for the remainder of the day.; or in a word naming how they are feeling presently, in a phrase naming a goal they have, and naming a resource they have; or going around the room and each person in a phrase sharing one need they have presently, one blessing they have received today, and one way they will be helpful today.

5. Trauma-informed congregations **actively build and sustain relationships**. Relationships are key to healing from trauma. Trauma-informed congregations practice being trustworthy, reliable people for one another and being hospitable to guests seeking temporary refuge or ongoing membership. Strong relationships help create and maintain resilience.

6. Trauma-informed congregations have a sense of purpose. **They make space to listen to one another and to grow in renewed understanding of what it means to be a life-giving body of Christ**, rather than trying to fix a person's problems for them.

7. Trauma-informed congregations recognize that practicing trauma-informed care means being personally impacted by another persons' traumatic experiences. This kind of congregation practices **ongoing self-care**.

The Networkers' Corner: Sacred Space

CALLED OUT AND ACCEPTING THE CHALLENGE!!

LOTT CAREY GLOBAL AMBASSADORS:

Advocates for Christian Missions

The Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention helps churches extend their Christian witness to the ends of the earth. We come alongside indigenous partners with financial support and technical assistance to help them do what God is calling for in their part of the world. Together, we are touching lives with the transforming love of Christ.

Lott Carey Global Ambassadors are advocates for Christian Missions. They recruit donors to invest in the global Christian witness. Global Ambassadors invite people within their circles of influence - family, friends, and colleagues - to invest in Christian missions around the world in partnership with the Lott Carey Global Christian Missional Community. Global Ambassadors seek to generate resources to advance the work of our global network of partners engaged in ministries of evangelism, compassion, empowerment, and advocacy.

The Lott Carey's Women in Service Everywhere and Men on Mission Units lead this initiative by seeking to mobilize their circles of influence to engage in missions around the world. We use this ministry model because fund development research has shown that when members of a non-profit ask persons in their circle of influence they value us and respond.

Barbara Crump

Norfolk, VA

Women in Service Everywhere
Lott Carey Convention

THE LOTT CAREY

ANTI-TRAFFICKING INITIATIVE:

Trafficking In Our Backyards

Shortly after relocating to North Carolina I immediately began to research the human trafficking cases, statistics and resources that are available for those who have been trafficked. It is very important for me to have as much knowledge as possible about available local resources when I am presenting at churches, schools fraternities, sororities and community events. For almost a decade I have been serving on the Lott Carey Anti-Trafficking Initiative, which seeks to raise awareness mobilizing communities to act while encouraging advocacy. Intentionally focusing on putting an end to human trafficking, also known as modern day slavery.

While Lott Carey is an International missions based organization, it also works domestically, reaching into every community to teach people that human trafficking does not only occur overseas but also here, in the United States, in their own backyards. With every invitation that I receive to share the work of Lott Carey, I am compelled to offer the information from the churches perspective, which extends love and compassion to the victims of modern day slavery. Inside of each presentation is the message of hope for those held captive, for the restoration of those released and of compassion for those whom we encounter in slavery.

Lakeeyna Cooper

Raleigh, NC

Women in Service Everywhere
Lott Carey Convention



**MANY ARE CALLED, BUT FEW
ARE CHOSEN.**

THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION:

Justice & Compassion TWO SIDES OF THE SAME COIN

Angelita Clifton
NABWU Vice-President of Communications

*“Justice without compassion is uninformed and heartless.
And compassion without justice is anemic and eventually futile.”
- Cornel West*



In August of 2014, I was blessed to attend the 117th Annual Lott Carey Convention in Kentucky. During one of the mid-morning sessions an esteemed theologian preached a sermon that reframed the “Samaritan Way.” Using a very familiar story, he discussed the duality of justice and compassion using activism and altruism as the examples. The illustration unfolded with a man standing by the riverside as another man was drowning. Filled with compassion he leaped into the river and pulled the man ashore only to see two more men, drowning. Soon there were more men, women and children floating down the river and all of them were drowning. He continuously jumped in but soon tired. His compassion quickly turned to concern. He could not recruit enough people to pull all the bodies out of the river so he ran upstream to find the source of their demise. “This story challenges everyone to conceptualize justice and compassion as two sides of the same coin, with subtle but significant differences.” Upstream-justice fosters activism and downstream-compassion calls for altruism.

Ricocheting through the convention center the sermon was both timely and necessary, creating sacred space to reflect on the deeper issues. Applying the imagery to my own ministerial context while thinking about women and girls, young men and boys falling into the rivers of human trafficking, I was reminded running upstream and standing downstream are both important. But if I dare to be transparent, the notion of standing downstream pulling survivors from a never ending flood of exploitation disturbs me mentally, emotionally and spiritually. For many years I have served faithfully and fervently with the LCC Anti-Trafficking Initiative. I have facilitated numerous workshops to raise awareness, promoting advocacy while mobilizing congregations for action. Yet standing alongside the Ohio River, on a

hot and hazy day in August, I could not stop wondering if I had ever gone far enough upstream. Walking along the riverside, reflecting on the “Samaritan Way” with Micah 6:8 ringing in my ears, I wondered what the Lord required of me?

I have heard it said, when we know better we must do better. Standing downstream must never become a pitstop for bandaids instead of a weigh station for blessings. Fostering dependence must never replace deliverance. If we are truthful, providing for the physical needs of those we serve without addressing their mental, emotional and spiritual wellbeing hurts more than it helps. Responding like the Priest or the Levite to anyone in need, allows ministry to overshadow God and undermine those searching for the Lord. Ministry must never be distorted to protect the powerful with no real concern for the powerless, when it does we need a new vision. When we care more about position than we do people and everyone becomes a means to an end, we need a new vision. When global missions become mission trips, we need a new vision. When the “Samaritan Way” no longer defines our lifestyle and merely becomes a series of disconnected events in our lives, we need a new vision. As believers when Christ is no longer the gauge and the guide that governs our fellowship, our focus is wrong. When we recognize our own broke-ness we glorify God as we serve others. Helping hurts when we fail to realize, there but for the grace of God go I. God’s grace is cheapened when His unconditional love is distorted. The “Samaritan Way” makes the “Kin-dom Vision” plain for all to see. I challenge you to create ministries grounded in justice that are filled with compassionate people. I encourage you to walk humbly with your God stemming the tide of exploitation, believing everyone is your neighbor!

CHAT & CHEW

The Networking Luncheon

Washington, D.C.
October, 2014



GOOD SAMARITAN

Advocates

The Lott Carey Anti-Trafficking Initiative is a trauma informed ministry model intentionally designed to increase public awareness of the signs and symptoms of trauma, while increasing advocacy efforts and mobilizing congregations for action. Under the leadership of Sister Debra Garner, the President of Women in Service Everywhere (WISE) Sister Barbara Crump coordinates this LCC initiative. Minister Lakeeyna Cooper, Reverend Dr. Angelita Clifton and Reverend Brenda McBorrough, serve as facilitators for the Lott Carey Anti-trafficking Initiative serving churches on the East Coast of the United States.

Sister Barbara Crump and Minister Lakeeyna Cooper were unable to attend the luncheon, therefore they are not in the photo."

We have networking opportunities for many different types of ministry. If you are involved in a ministry and would like to network with others in your area of ministry, please contact Ruby Fulbright at networking@nabwu.org. If you have a passion to be involved in a certain area of ministry and don't know how to go about it, you may also contact Ruby and she will connect you with others with similar interests.

To submit your photo and receive more information about networking or being mentored, contact Ruby Fulbright - networking@nabwu.org.

THE TIE is published annually by the North American Baptist Women's Union, a network of 17 organizations in the US and Canada affiliated with the Baptist World Alliance Women's Department. Copies are mailed free of charge to individuals and groups on the NABWU and BWAUD mailing lists. Bulk copies are sent to national and/or regional offices of NABWU member bodies and distributed through their organizations.

Please help us keep our mailing list up to date. Send updates, additions, and requests for copies to communications@nabwu.org. Please include the name of your member body. For changes and corrections, state your old and new name and/or address.

Find a wealth of resources for outreach and women's ministries, news, information about NABWU and the Day of Prayer, useful web links and coming events at www.nabwu.org.

Follow us on Twitter! - [@NABWU](https://twitter.com/NABWU)
Join our Facebook Page!

North American Baptist Women's Union

P.O. Box 282

Bordentown, NJ 08505-0282, USA

Share The Tie with women in your church.



Walking in the Samaritan's Way

THE LOTT CAREY ANTI-TRAFFICKING INITIATIVE

I wonder how Jesus would tell a parable of a woman trapped in the bondage of human trafficking somewhere in the world today? Maybe she is a victim exploited by gangs in Capetown, South Africa, or a college student from a Ethiopian village exploited simply because she desires a college education or young Liberian woman being sold when her only desire is to provide for her family or maybe a young child somewhere in the world made to work 18 hours a day for someone else's gain. How would Jesus challenge us to see their bondage in the midst of our busyness?

I wonder how Jesus would remind us to walk in the Samaritan's Way. Maybe He would use the same words God said to Moses, "I have seen their suffering and I have heard their cries and have come to see about them. Now, you go..." Walking in the Samaritan's way as Jesus describes it will always lead one to see and to hear and to move with compassion and action. The Lott Carey Anti Human-Trafficking Initiative coaches the membership to raise awareness so that others may see the plight of those who are victimized with eyes of compassion. We raise our voices as their advocates in places where they have no voice and we pray for justice as well as support the restorative work in South Africa and Ethiopia.

Brenda McBurrough

Centerville, VA
Women in Service Everywhere
Lott Carey Convention
(571) 216-4861
brenda.mcburrough@gmail.com

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