

# connect

*Women close to God, close to one another*

Women's E-news

May 26th 2010 Issue 4.07

## LET'S LISTEN

Last e-news I asked you to consider sending in your stories to encourage each other and give testimony to the good things God does in our lives...from the smallest to the largest! I have been greatly encouraged by the response and have dedicated this e-news to sharing some of those with you. Please continue to let us know the journey that you are on as we seek to connect more with each other.

**Karen Wilson**  
Baptist Women's President WA



*Karen is the WA President for Baptist women. She is currently working for Willow Creek, USA as an Executive Director for GLS Asia. She has a husband and two children [21 and 18] and has a strong desire to see people live and minister out of a place health and passion.*

Edna Peterson writes:

In 2008, through a routine check up, I was found to have an ulceration in the right colon. It was caused by intestinal tuberculosis. I was put on medication to eradicate the organism.

After a week I had a bad allergic reaction, extreme headache, vomiting, skin rash, red face and eyes. I was put on a lower dose, again with the same effect. We tried for a month but without success, from 58 kilos I am now reduced to 52 kilos in weight. I begged the doctor just to stop it as it was killing me. I rang my sister in the USA and my family in the Philippines to see if there is other alternatives for those prescribe drugs but unfortunately there is none.

It is at this point that I just put all my trust to our Lord. I requested prayers from the ministries I have been supporting internationally, requested prayer from my family and friends and I grabbed all the biblical verses I could find.

Six months passed and I had a call from my specialist to undergo another colonoscopy. I did and this time their finding is 'no active ulceration' and TB appears inactive. Hallelujah. They said to me that sometimes they cannot understand why this type of illness can be toppled by one's own immune system....but I know better....Only God can Heal.

It's ironic that sometime we put our trust in money.....yes, we can buy the drugs...but if you are allergic to it, no doctors, no new technology can help you....only God can.

Edna



## Prayer for today

Lord, Your power at work in me is the strongest testimony of who you are. Continue to change me and re-create me into your image day by day. Amen



## WHAT'S YOUR TREASURE?



**GUEST WRITER:**  
**Carolyn Craggs** is currently living in Mysore, South India with her husband Colin and 4 children (7, 5, 2, 8 months) where they have been learning Kannada language and doing leadership development for the past 12 months. From an Anglo-Indian Anglican background, her home church is *Inglewood Community Church*.

WINTER  
WARMER

JUNE 25-27  
2010

For all women who are the wives of pastors, pastors or ministers, or in ministry roles...we have a retreat just for you.

The *Winter Warmer* seeks to connect women in a small and intimate setting... giving you time to reflect and network and have time to face some of the pressing issues of ministry life.

Reply to this email for more information or to register.

In a country where living is relatively cheap and the cost of a life sometimes even cheaper, the concept of "value" gets rather out of whack. Where else but India would you see a satellite TV dish on top of a one-room mud slum hut, or lavish mansions whose inhabitants still have their clothes beaten on a rock to wash them?

Having started to think in Rupees lately (40 Rupees to 1 Aussie dollar), I'm finding the subjective value of things is changing. Handing over an otherwise fair amount on certain Western items is becoming unattractive when I can buy a months' vegetables for the same price. And I knew I was thinking local when I argued with an Auto-Rickshaw (tuk-tuk) driver over a fare difference of 10 cents.

A strange thing is happening to my possessions too the longer I'm here...the precious relics from Australia are sorting themselves out into 2 groups. Many of the things that I brought to **use** are losing value since they're just not relevant here, while the things that were brought to **enjoy and remind** me are gaining value as they fulfil that function on an ever-increasing basis. An example is the much-prized hair-straightener that was my daily companion in Perth, has now gathered dust for a year as humidity and a different aesthetic norm have moved it from "must have" to "back-of-wardrobe lump". On the other hand, photos of family and friends are regularly pored over by adoring kids wanting to know the tale behind the face, and by myself when I need to take a walk through other times.

When moving house and living with small children, things from that collection of treasures sometimes gets lost or broken. It's been quite a journey for me to retain composure when a gifted gold necklace was broken by an impatient princess, and Colin's cappuccino cup was bumped out of his hand during afternoon crazy time. Enjoying my sentimental treasures adds quality to my life, but the Lord reminded me recently that: "where (my) treasure is, there (my) heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21) (though I do think He should have added "boisterous progeny" to the list of destructive forces in the preceding verses!). The things I want to hold tightly to may be getting in the way of the true "treasures" God wants to place in my hands – character, relationships, souls.

Will you join me in taking up the challenge from Jesus to weigh up the things that give us comfort on Earth against the things that will bring us joy for eternity?

Carolyn



Don't forget to send in YOUR STORIES to share with others. The simplest testimony can bring great encouragement to others. Just write in 250 words or less something of what God is doing in your life. Then, email it back to us to share in future editions of e-news Connect.



# Thanks Mum

This last week my mum sent me the following poetry and I couldn't help but share it with you. Such a good reminder of our daily blessings....

## PLEASE PRAY

This coming weekend we are holding the event:

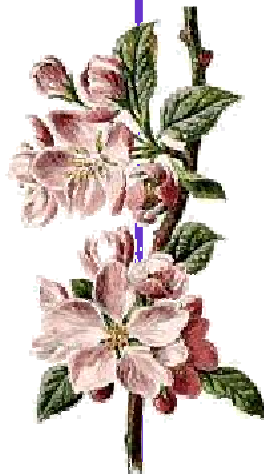
### INSPIRE Down South.

Just over 200 women will be gathering in Busselton at the Abbey Beach Resort to share in a day of worship and teaching from Nancy Beach, USA. This will be a fantastic time of encouragement and we are really excited about what God is going to do in the lives of women.

We have over 65 churches involved and know that when there is that kind of unity...the blessing of God is already waiting for us.

Can I ask that you pray for this event and be part of seeing hearts challenges and lives changed.

- ◆ Pray for safe travels for women
- ◆ Pray for an amazing presence of God as women join together in worship
- ◆ Pray for Nancy Beach as she speaks from her heart
- ◆ Pray for hearts of compassion and encouragement amongst those who attend
- ◆ Pray for God's will to be done



If you woke up this morning with more health than illness, you are more blessed than the million who won't survive the week.

If you have never experienced the danger of battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture or the pangs of starvation, you are ahead of 20 million people around the world.

If you attend a church meeting without fear of harassment, arrest, torture, or death, you are more blessed than almost three billion people in the world.

If you have food in your refrigerator, clothes on your back, a roof over your head and a place to sleep, you are richer than 75% of this world.

If you have money in the bank, in your wallet, and spare change in a dish someplace, you are among the top 8% of the world's wealthy.

If your parents are still married and alive, this is very rare,

If you hold up your head with a smile on your face and are truly thankful, you are blessed because the majority can, but most do not.

If you can hold someone's hand, hug them or even touch them on the shoulder, you are blessed because you can offer God's healing touch.

If you can read this message, you are more blessed than over two billion people in the world that cannot read anything at all.

You are so blessed in many ways you may never even know.

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