

Volume IV, Number I

PAGE 2
 LETTER FROM
 THE PRESIDENT

PAGE 3
 LESSONS FROM
 THE WELL

PAGE 4
 OPERATION
 DIGNITY

PAGE 5
 CHRISTMAS
 SPIRIT EVENT

PAGE 6
 MEMBER PROFILE:
 LAURA SCOTT

PAGE 7
 POEM BY R. DAVIS:
 AN INTRODUCTION

PAGE 8
 LUNCHEON
 RECAPS

10
 FALL

FCBPW **VOICE**
 A NEWSLETTER FOR CHRISTIAN WOMEN IN THE WORKPLACE

A Song in the Heart of Ghana



*Kathy Sullivan,
 Founder, Operation Dignity, and
 Rachel McDonough*

Operation Dignity is a nonprofit organization dedicated to developing human potential in Ghana, West Africa, for the goal of helping to alleviate poverty.

Don't Miss FCBPW's Next Luncheon, Nov. 10, 2010 11:30 a.m.

“When you find the song in your heart given to you by the Creator, you become part of an orchestra. When you share that song with others, introducing them to the music maker, it becomes a beautiful harmony. Operation Dignity found its song in the heart of Ghana, West Africa.” says Kathy Sullivan, founder of Operation Dignity, a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to developing human potential in Ghana, West Africa, for the goal of helping to alleviate poverty.

Kathy, together with Rachel McDonough, an avid supporter of Operation Dignity, will tell us of their recent missions trip to Adegya, Ghana, where their work of economic development translates to ministry opportunity. Kathy and Rachel and their families traveled to Adegya this past summer to work with local

leaders in building a fish farm. When completed, this business endeavor will create jobs, supplement the local food supply, and create a revenue source for this tiny village. Rachel will share her personal faith stories from the trip, and the thrill of saying “yes” to God—a major theme that seemed to emerge for her. The greatest adventure in our Christian lives is becoming a living sacrifice, fully yielded to the Lord.



Join us for lunch on Nov. 10th at the Woman's Club of Minneapolis as Kathy and Rachel share more about their recent work in Ghana. Contact Suzann for details, 763.536.8055.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



John 3:16 NIV

*“For God so loved the world
that he gave his one and
only Son, that whoever
believes in him shall not perish
but have eternal life.”*

FCBPW CALENDAR

2011

Quarterly Luncheon Meetings:
February 9, May 11, August 10,
and November 9

Small Group Bible Studies:

Downtown Mpls — McGrann
Shea Carnival Straughn & Lamb,
Ctd. — Noon, the third Thursday
of the month.

Call Carla at 612-752-1917

Northwest Metro —

Call Suzann at 763-536-8055

New Groups —

Call Suzann at 763-536-8055

Recently, I lost two close relatives in just over a two week period. One relative was a Christian and the other was not. For me, the services for these two relatives were strikingly different.

At the service for the non-Christian relative, earthly achievements and events were focused on as the person's life was remembered and celebrated. There was virtually no mention of the afterlife or such relative's final destiny. At the service for my Christian relative, the person's earthly achievements and events were also remembered and celebrated, but the security and comfort of knowing that such relative had been given the gift of eternal life and was in a better place was regularly mentioned.

After the service for the non-Christian relative, I left feeling sadden and discouraged. In contrast, after the service for

the Christian relative, I left feeling comforted and encouraged in the knowledge that such relative was in heaven with others who had gone before. I visualized my Christian relative sitting at the feet of Jesus and being whole and perfect.

Reflecting back now, a couple of weeks after the last service, I am struck by the thought of how anyone would willing go through their life without having the eternal security given to us by faith in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We, as Christians, are so blessed to have the promise of eternal life and the comfort of knowing that we will see our Christian brothers and sisters again in heaven.

I would encourage you to boldly share your Christian faith and the promise and security that are given to us through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

— Carla J. Pedersen
Shareholder, McGrann Shea
Carnival Straughn & Lamb, Ctd.

Call for Board Members!

FCBPW is seeking candidates to serve two-year terms on its Board of Directors. We are looking for individuals who support FCBPW's mission and vision, and have a passion for helping Christian women in the workplace become everything God intends them to be.

If you would like to serve on the Board or have ideas for how FCBPW can serve its membership better, we want to hear from you! Contact Suzann at 763.536.8055 or Suzann_Beck@email.com.

Lessons from the Well

Just the other day I happened to be watching one of today's new reality shows with my husband. It's called "Under-cover Boss" and each week shows an upper



management executive from a major corporation going "under-cover" in entry level positions in their own company. This particular episode followed a CEO from morning shave, to work, to flopping on a hotel bed at the end of a long day cleaning toilets.

Much to my amazement, the camera showed the CEO praying and dedicating his work day to the Lord, talking to his new co-workers about his faith over lunch, and asking God what he should read as he flopped onto that hotel bed, Bible in hand. I was a bit dumbstruck. I couldn't believe the producers didn't edit it out. I couldn't believe the CEO didn't edit himself for TV. I couldn't believe an unabashedly Christian person was hired in such a high position and not dismissed with a lame excuse when found out to be openly Christian. As I often do, I questioned myself, "Do I share my faith with courage and boldness at every opportunity? Do I self edit myself when I think my faith will be viewed as kooky?"

You've all probably heard at least three sermons about the story of Jesus and the woman at the well, but recently I felt like God was leading me to take a fresh look at this passage. It was like God was saying everything you need to be a Christian in the workplace is in this passage.

First of all, this story is a beautiful picture of Jesus meeting us as we are, where we're at, even in the workplace. Jesus meets us in everyday life, doing everyday things. And truly that's where he speaks to us best... honestly, simply, and powerfully. But even more, I feel this is a call for us to be like Jesus in everyday life and to learn from His example.

There are four distinct lessons we can learn from Jesus as we go about our daily life in the marketplace, specifically from John 4:4 – 30 where Jesus talks with the Samaritan woman. In brief, in asking her for a drink, Jesus spoke prophetically to her of His purpose, her life, and the future, and revealed that He was the Messiah.

Continued on page 9

FCBPW's Second Annual Feed My Starving Children Fellowship Event: A Big Success!

FCBPW hosted its second fellowship event at the Eagan Feed My Starving Children in July. We had a great turnout and thoroughly enjoyed each other's company as we packed nutritious meals bound for starving children in Haiti.

The Board of Directors of FCBPW would like to send a big thank you out to everyone who joined us!



Rosie Davis and Julie Jensen model their stunningly attractive headware.



Lisa Roden brought her two children, Samuel and Sitara, and niece Brianna for a purpose-filled family outing.

MINISTRY PROFILE

Operation Dignity—Destination Ghana

Providing tools and resources...Developing the human potential...Helping to alleviate poverty.



Ghana is calling...

Ghana, West Africa, is a current-day example of a young, growing, yet vulnerable democracy struggling to identify ways to develop its resources, expand its economy, and provide a greater standard of living for its people, while honoring its culture, traditions and history, all in the midst of a quickly changing and dynamic global economy. There is a desire to move away from traditional models of international aid which, in many cases, have only served to leave the country in a perpetual cycle of dependence on outside sources.

Operation Dignity International (ODI) is answering Ghana's call for a new approach to international aid with a commitment to socio-economic development to assist Ghanaians in supporting themselves through education, improved healthcare, and entre-

preneurism. ODI is partnering with leaders and communities in Ghana on projects and initiatives designed to bring about economic viability while promoting and strengthening the dignity and affirmation of Ghanaians. The overall objective is to help the people of Ghana move toward independence and self-support.

ODI is building relationships in Ghana, to invest in and increase the human potential through education and vocational training, to provide tools and resources to sustain the solution, and to develop leaders within the community to

*\$3 = 3 meals of rice a
 day for a family of 3.*

*Average wage in Ghana,
 maybe \$3 per day.*

accomplish this "moving forward" effort. Ghana is ripe for development and its greatest natural resource is the desire from within its own population to "want" to make a difference.

Founded in a Passion for People

Operation Dignity International began with the dream of businessman Jim Sullivan, a retired

minister with a BA in education from Moody Bible Institute and a Master's in Divinity from Trinity Seminary. Inspired to make a difference in the lives of Ghanaians, Jim made a pilgrimage to Ghana in 2006 and saw first hand the desperate conditions in that country. He saw unimaginable poverty, a lack of education, and a dearth of jobs resulting in the daily struggle of families to put food on their table. Jim returned to the States intent on finding a way to help.

Operation Dignity International was founded by Jim and Kathy Sullivan in 2007, out of their combined passion for serving others—Jim with a passion for giving a voice to people, training them in Biblical teachings, and organizational reasoning in a volunteer society, while Kathy's passion was working with and advocating for cancer patients and their families as well as families at risk. Kathy, an active member of FCBPW, serves as ODI's executive director and has earned a BA in business from Trinity International University, and an Associate's degree in Music from Joliet College.

Farming: Fish Style

This last summer, ODI traveled to the little village of Adegya, Ghana, to evaluate the best plan to creating a revenue-generating resource. It quickly became apparent that the most natural place to begin was a fish farm. There is a large

Operation Dignity Cont...

demand for Tilapia in the region of Adegya, just not enough supply. Within one year of stocking fish in a fish farm, they can be sold at local markets, businesses, as well as in the village of Adegya. Plus, there was a natural running stream on the northern corner of Adegya, and right next to the stream, was



5.5 acres donated to ODI by the village Chief in 2007, a previous trip for Jim.

To make informed decisions, ODI solicited the advice and expertise of key local people including a civil engineer, a government Fishery Commission, and an owner of an existing fish farm.

Work immediately started on three fish ponds—when the project is finished there will be twelve ponds in all. The revenue

generated will help the village by supplementing startup costs for other revenue-generating projects including a vocational training center, and agrarian center, as well as maintaining the fish farm, and helping support the village projects like road and school maintenance.

Access to Medical Care

In addition to a lack of educational and vocational opportunities, access to medical care in Ghana, especially in the rural areas, is severely limited. ODI has established relationships in Treda, a region comprising 100 communities, and a population of 200,000, in great need of a hospital. Currently, the nearest medical facility is located several hours away. There are no nearby maternity resources, no support for emergencies. All of this contributes to a frustratingly high mortality rate.

ODI is working to establish a hospital in this region as well as mobile clinics to provide basic health information, immunizations, wound care, and pre- and post-natal care, along with treatment for malaria, typhoid, and dysentery. One hundred acres of land has been made available for a medical center and the first medical clinic outreach is March 3 – 11, 2011. This trip, and future trips, will help establish a master plan for this hospital project.

Continued on page 7

Enjoy the Christmas Spirit!

*Join us for a Christmas Spirit Event, Dec. 7, 2010
6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.*

Enjoy the fellowship of other Christian businesswomen and celebrate the Christmas holiday with the FCBPW! In a time where Christmas is becoming “the holidays,” “winter break,” or “winter solstice,” isn’t it refreshing when we can come together and celebrate the true meaning of Christmas?

Join us for an evening of celebration and fun, and take advantage of our “open mic” to share what Christmas means to you, reflections on the meaning of Christmas, or even your favorite Christmas story, memory, recipe or tip.

Do a little shopping with our gift vendors, make wine glass charms, and enjoy some delicious appetizers.

**Join us at 6:30 p.m.
December 7th in the Centennial Room at the Woman’s Club of Minneapolis,
410 Oak Grove Street.
Watch for the flyer or contact Suzann for details, 763.536.8055,
and to RSVP by December 3.
If you would like to be a gift item vendor, please contact Suzann as soon as possible.**



MEMBER PROFILE

Laura Scott

Realtor, New Home Store Realty
Re/Max Advantage Plus

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your path.” Proverbs 3:5 – 6

God’s promise to guide my path has been central to my life in Christ. As I think about how my professional life has evolved over the years, I am grateful for God’s guiding presence and the people and opportunities I have encountered along the way.

I didn’t take a direct route to arrive where I am today. After 19 years as a hair stylist and owner of I View, a hair salon in downtown Minneapolis, I felt called to explore a new career path. Though I enjoyed the client contact of salon work, I was tired of the commute and wanted to find something new and perhaps more fulfilling.

A client at the salon encouraged me to join her in the real estate business. The idea was intriguing, particularly since working in real estate would complement my role as co-owner of a construction company with my husband Brad. After prayerful consideration, I took a leap of faith and began studying for my real estate license.

As a realtor, I have the privilege of helping individuals, couples and families find the right home for their needs. Because buying and selling a home is one of the most stressful and emotionally charged financial decisions you can make, my goal is to bring an understanding of the process and a

sense of calm to each sale. At times I have prayed with clients who are open to doing so, to seek the Lord’s wisdom in the home selection process.

While I enjoy working on a range of real estate transactions, I find it especially rewarding to help first homebuyers navigate the market and find a home they can call their own. I strive to build relationships and become a “realtor for life” so that when my clients outgrow their current home or decide to downsize, they’ll come back for my help in the next stage of their lives.

Just recently I’ve added a new responsibility to my plate. Along with helping clients buy or sell according to their needs, I mentor and manage new agents on the New Home Store team. It’s energizing to share my knowledge of the business with an enthusiastic, hardworking group of people and see them find success.

My transition to real estate came at just the right time in my life and has helped me to grow in my confidence as a businesswoman and entrepreneur. It hasn’t always been easy to trust with all my heart—especially since my natural tendency is to meet challenges with an “I can fix this” attitude—but when I ask for God’s help, the impossible becomes possible. There have been highs and lows, but along the way I have found the support and strength I need to face new challenges through prayer and the encouragement of my loving husband, my son Kyle, role models in my field

and my friends in faith.

While real estate may seem far removed from the beauty industry, it

was truly a natural progression for me, and I’m grateful for God’s hand in it. As a realtor, I focus on helping my clients feel special and cared for just as I did for customers who came to my salon. The real estate field also allows me to share my home improvement knowledge. Most importantly, real estate has given me more control over my schedule, making it possible to spend a generous amount of time with Kyle, now a sophomore at the University of Minnesota, and continue to help Brad in our construction company.

In addition to working and spending time with my family, I’ve served in a leadership role in women’s ministries at my church. I also enjoy yoga, gardening and reading and joining Brad and Kyle on hunting and fishing trips.

I feel blessed to have the opportunity each day to make a difference in the lives of those I encounter through my real estate business, and I look forward to the people and circumstances that lie ahead. With a grateful heart, I thank the Lord for leading me to the career I enjoy now, which in some ways seems miles away from where I started, yet now feels so much closer to “home.”



Operation Dignity Cont...
continued from page 5

Meeting the Needs of Ghana

Each ODI project is structured to meet the needs of a particular community and designed to become self-sustaining and to generate revenue to be re-invested into the community.

The plan is to start small with phased development in one community at a time. While meeting the needs of a community, ODI is sensitive to the traditional and cultural systems of the community and builds the human potential in each community using culturally sensitive material and processes. ODI's desire is to build a trusting and lasting relationship as they partner with the communities.

ODI is dedicated to producing measurable results in the process of alleviating systemic poverty while building the human potential within the communities.

— SB



An Introduction

By Rosemary Davis

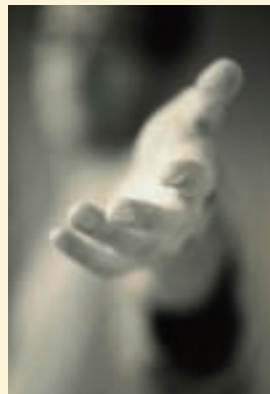
*Let me introduce you to the one who'll change your life.
He'll meet you where you are and walk your bitter road of strife.
When others fail and disappoint, He'll be the one who's true;
Forgiving every lie we've lived so we can start anew.*

*Let me introduce you to the best friend you will find.
He sees our faults and loves us still 'cause He's the faithful kind.
Through stupidity, adversity, our fellowship he savors;
His wisdom we can seek and find—His mercy never waivers.*

*Let me introduce you to God's perfect son in Jesus,
Who braved the cross and rose again, from sin and death to save us.
God looks on him, the spotless lamb; the sacrifice complete.
If we but call on Jesus name, He'll be our paraclete.*

*Let me introduce you to the deepest love you'll know.
Its boundless peace surrounds you anywhere you choose to go.
No night can be so dark, even when your hope is waning,
That Jesus' love can't find you there with tenderness sustaining.*

*An introduction's well and good, a place to make a start.
But Jesus would be part of all your life, your soul, your heart.
Don't wait another moment—now's the time to ask Him in.
Eternal life, His peace and strength, are waiting to begin.*



Luncheon Recaps

May 2010

The FCBPW May luncheon gave us the opportunity to hear Rachel McDonough of Make Your Money Count, LLC, and her message of “Faith and Finances.” Rachel’s message was thought provoking as well as entertaining, replete with stories of her upbringing as a missionary kid in Africa and her professional experience as a financial advisor.

Two stories Rachel told stand out in particular. The first was when an African family invited Rachel’s family to dinner, and in doing so, served up their only goat, effectively slashing their financial balance sheet in half. The second story was about a very wealthy woman who, being so controlled by her wealth, couldn’t bring herself to spend a dime before she died.

Following are some of the points Rachel asked us to ponder.

— Am I being a good steward of my relationships?

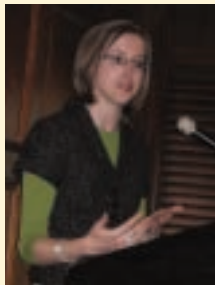
— Am I living in true abundance today? (not material abundance)

— If we are conquerors, why do we feel poor, especially when God can multiply our loaves and fishes? Matt. 6:21

— Trustworthiness equals competence plus integrity

— With God as our “source” we can be a “resource” to others

— SB



August 2010

The August meeting of FCBPW featured Catherine Byers Breet, founder of Arbez,™ Inc. Catherine began by sharing her personal story about fear and faith and how the

two have been intertwined in her life. Growing up in a large family who was discouraged from attending church by parents professing atheism, finding her way into a relationship with Jesus Christ was filled with doubt and uncertainty. Along the way, Catherine met people whose faith and openness about Christ inspired, supported and encouraged her in her faith journey over the years. Their open love of the Lord intrigued and enticed her to learn more about the person of Jesus Christ, ultimately leading her to let Him into her life.

Catherine started her career working as a youth counselor for troubled teens, and her passion for helping people led her to the recruiting industry where she became hooked on helping people make the right career moves and helping companies hire the right employees. Catherine went from a 6-figure income to a toxic job with a boss who had it in for her, and then through a difficult job hunt that forced her to take a hard look at her life, her gifts, and recreate her career. Catherine faced her fears head on, opening herself up to the love and life of Christ, and letting a handful of significant



people into the most private places in her heart. She found the strength and determination to leave the perceived security of corporate America to launch a company to help others change their stripes and do what they love for a living.

Catherine shared an experience at a local amusement park with her two sons that spoke accurately of her feelings. Convincing her two young sons to go on a roller coaster, one loved it, one did not. It took considerable persuasion to convince her son who had not enjoyed the first trip that a second trip would be more fun, but he was finally persuaded. After completing the second trip, her son summed up his experience in conquering his fear as “being scared can be good sometimes.”

Catherine’s roller coaster trip is living in a world where faith is private; where it was never discussed in her work life—ever. Now she is learning how to quietly and gracefully weave her faith into her work life and trust God to prosper the work God has led her to as she leads others to finding jobs they love.

— RD

Lessons from the Well...

continued from page 3

The first lesson we learn from Jesus in how to be like Him is:

1) Be available to the people around you... Jesus could have rushed off to the market to get food with the disciples and busied himself with the chores of the day, but instead, He chose to wait by the well for the Samaritan woman to come along. The workplace application—if you see people going for lunch or coffee, ask to go with them.

Or maybe you hang back from your lunch errands to talk to that person who stays alone at their desk. Maybe it means spending time with coworkers in places they think a Christian is too good for. Religious Jews didn't want to dine with Gentiles to keep from becoming ceremonially unclean. But Jesus had no problem going to the Tax collector's house for dinner or talking to a despised Samaritan at a well. The Samaritan woman knew Jesus was a Jew and was surprised He would take a drink from her.

2) Recognize people's needs, be observant... Jesus saw that the Samaritan woman was trying to avoid people, needed a change in her life and was in need of the gospel message. Sometimes just noticing someone's needs can be the beginnings of a relationship with a person that needs the change the Gospel can bring to his or her life.

3) Be open to the supernatural leading of the Holy Spirit... Don't

ignore that still small voice that tells you to go talk to someone or ask them how they really are. The Holy Spirit can lead us in gentle ways that can be easily usurped by daily tasks. God can even give you words of knowledge pertaining to someone that will make them pay attention to what you have to say. Be obedient to God's voice and be courageous to step out with what He tells you or tells you to do. The prophetic word of knowledge that Jesus gave to the Samaritan woman was enough to convince her to believe what Jesus said, and believe He was the Messiah.

4) Teach, don't preach... What I mean by "preach" here, is don't give people judgmental sermons about their sin. Jesus didn't keep scolding the Samaritan woman for how sinful she was for living with a man, but instead taught her about true worship of the Father, how true worship is not something done in a certain place, but truly knowing who God is and using your spirit and whole being to worship Him. Teach people what a true Christian is like. Do speak the word of God. Romans 10:14 says, "How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in?"



And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?" Mark 28:19 – 20 says, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." Do teach.

John 4:39 says, "Now numerous Samaritans from that town believed in and trusted in Him because of what the woman said when she declared and testified, He told me everything that I ever did." Now just imagine, if like Jesus at the well, numerous people from your workplace would believe and trust in Him because of what that coworker you spent time with at work had to say about you later.

— SB

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE FCBPW:

Contact:

Suzann Beck at 763.536.8055
or email
Suzann_Beck@email.com

Website:

www.intrinxec.com/fcbpw.htm

Mailing Address:

FCBPW
c/o IntrinXec Management Inc.
5353 Wayzata Blvd., Suite 207
Minneapolis, MN 55416

BOARD MEMBERS

Suzann Beck, BeckHaus Design, Inc.

Rosemary Davis, Venture Bank

Sherry Meyer, McGladrey & Pullen, LLP

Carla Pedersen, McGrann Shea Carnival Straughn & Lamb, Ctd.

Kimberly Waller, Emissus Group

PRAYER REQUESTS

If you have a prayer request that you would like the Board to pray for, please call Kim Waller at 218.624.0234 or email Kim@emissus.com

FCBPW MISSION AND VISION

MISSION STATEMENT

Providing opportunities for women in the workplace to come together for Bible-based worship, fellowship, discipleship and encouragement, and advancing the spread of the gospel for the glory of God.

VISION STATEMENT

Reaching and inspiring women in workplaces everywhere, to know the love of Christ and grow in grace and the knowledge of God. Bringing women together to build relationships; teaching, encouraging and equipping them for works of service for the building up of the body of Christ. (Ephesians 4:11)

STATEMENT OF FAITH

- We believe the Bible is the inspired and inerrant Word of God
- We believe in one God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
- We believe that we are saved by grace through faith and that it is not of ourselves; it is the gift of God
- We believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God, that he died for our sins and was raised from the dead, and that whoever believes in Him will have everlasting life

VALUES

- Inspiration** — Meeting the unique spiritual needs of women
- Worship** — Glorifying and honoring God through our example and actions
- Spiritual Growth and Discipleship** — Equipping each other to follow Christ
- Witness** — Standing firm in our faith and boldly sharing the Gospel
- Community** — Expressing love, support and commitment through accountability, encouragement, fellowship, love, relationships, counsel and prayer
- Servanthood** — Considering others first
- Networking** — Building relationships with Christian women in the workplace

FCBPW MEMBERSHIP

FCBPW is a nonprofit organization that provides venues for Christian women to come together to encourage and support one another. FCBPW offers 12-month memberships to help it more effectively reach out to business and professional women in the Twin Cities area and organize events.

We hope you will prayerfully consider becoming a member of FCBPW and helping to support our mission. For more information call Suzann Beck at 763.536.8055, or email Suzann_Beck@email.com

Watch for details about our new membership campaign coming soon!

