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

Transforming Your Life and Organization Through Prayer



Cathy Schmidt
 —President,
 Stahl Construction

As President of Stahl Construction, Cathy is responsible for an annual construction volume of over \$60 million. Cathy has over 11 years of experience as both a sales and marketing professional in both the construction and retail industries.

Mark Crea
 —Executive
 Director/CEO,
 Feed My Starving
 Children (FMSC)

Don't Miss FCBPW's Next Luncheon, July 13, 2005, 11:30 a.m.

“If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.”—Matthew 21:22

Speakers Cathy Schmidt and Mark Crea will discuss how FMSC transformed its organization through prayer and a Christian-focused mission. They will also discuss ways you can integrate faith into your work-life by activities such as becoming a Board

member of a Christian organization. Mark brings to Feed My Starving Children a wealth of experience managing nonprofit organizations, raising funds and as a Christian he has always been passionate about assisting those who suffer most in this world. Mark just returned from Haiti where he was working to develop additional feeding partners.

March Luncheon Recap

The March FCBPW meeting began with a challenge from Sandy Hagen, FCBPW Board member, to pour out your love to someone by openly sharing Jesus and helping them to grow in Christ.

Our featured speaker, Cheri Pierson Yecke, Ph.D., Distinguished Senior Fellow for Education and Social Policy at the Center of the

American Experiment, shared her thoughts on how the actions of one person can have a huge impact.

Cheri shared her belief that Christians today face “cultural destruction” and should strive to be the heroes of the culture war. Ms. Yecke gave several examples of heroes in the Bible that had used

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LETTER FROM THE FCBPW CHAIR



Ephesians 6:19 – 20
 “Pray also for one another, that whenever you open your mouths, words may be given each of you so that you each will fearlessly make known the mystery of the Gospel, for which you are all ambassadors in chains. Pray that you each may declare it fearlessly, as you should.”

The Board of Directors held its Annual Strategic Planning Session in May, in which we began setting goals for the remainder of 2005 and upcoming years. We plan to meet again and continue working on this plan. We ask that you be in prayer for FCBPW and our leaders during these next few months, as we strive to finalize the plans that God has called this organization to fulfill for His purpose.

Goals established to date are the following:

- I. Board Development—** Weekly Monday morning prayer conference calls; Monthly bible studies before each board meeting; Spiritual Gifts and Leadership Training.
- II. Increase Outreach—** Align with other Christian organiza-

tions and churches; Equip speakers with speaking expectations “Sharing their personal testimony and leading people to Christ in the Workplace”; Develop a prayer support structure for Members; Mentorship Program (future).

- III. Increase Participation—** Increase attendance at luncheons, increase number of small group bible studies; increase membership; increase participation of volunteers.

Thank you for your continued support to FCBPW. We welcome your prayer requests. Please feel free to call any of us on the Board or email your prayer requests to fcbpw@bcmn.com. God Bless You.

—Gina Dingman
 Vice President Investment Services,
 Colliers Turley Martin Tucker

FCBPW CALENDAR

Bi-Monthly Luncheon Meetings:
July 13, Cathy Schmidt/
 Mark Crea

September 14,
 Senator Michelle Bachman

Small Group Meetings:

Downtown Mpls—RSM
 McGladrey, Inc.—July 19, August
 16, September 20, October 18

Minneapolis—The Woman’s
 Club of Minneapolis—July 28,
 August 25, September 22, October
 27, November 17

St Louis Park—Westwood
 Lutheran Church—every
 Wednesday at 7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

St. Paul—Frauenshuh
 Companies—July 25, August 29,
 September 26, October 31

What a Small Group Bible Study Means to Me

While attending a FCBPW luncheon, I was inspired by one of the speakers who talked about forgiveness and referred to the Bible quite often. Being curious about her references to the bible, I felt a nudge in my heart to learn more. At the same luncheon we were encouraged to get involved in one of the small group Bible Studies established by FCBPW. I signed up, bought my very first Bible and went to the first study. At first I was a bit nervous, feeling there was so much I did not know and how much others did. But soon I real-

ized that we were all there together to grow in God’s word and love for one another. While in our small group Bible study, I decided to share a prayer request I had. The prayer request was for healing my sister-in-law’s breast cancer. Our Small Group prayed for my sister-in-law and our family. When I decided to organize a benefit to raise money for my sister-in-law’s medical expenses, not only did the small group members encourage me along the way, they helped at the fundraising event. To date, my

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When the Going Gets Tough, the Tough Get...*Friends*

Developing and maintaining a personal community of support is especially vital when times are difficult.

So what do you do when everything seems to be falling apart? When life and work get tough, one of the most powerful resources you have is your personal community of support. These are the people who are “there for you.” With them you can be totally “real.” From them you will receive valuable challenges as well as deep encouragement. They are uniquely yours—hand-picked by God, appointed to bless you with strength and love.

The best time to identify your personal community of support is when things are going well. In what relationships do you experience an exchange of authenticity? Which are marked by give and take of true, reliable support? Consider friends, family, co-workers, churchmates, and small group members. Consider relationships old and new, near and far.

Do you need to develop your personal community of support? Pray to notice current relationships in which you can participate more fully. Ask the Lord to reveal potential new relationships. Take



action to initiate connections. For example, schedule coffee with someone you met at an FCBPW luncheon or join a FCBPW small group.

Finally, give time to your community. Celebrate, cry and pray together. Really listen. And do your part to create relationships in which it is safe to be authentic. The Lord uses this offering of time and self and returns great blessings. When times are difficult, openly share your needs and allow yourself to receive support. In these ways, experience the power of community in Christ—His blessings to us and through us, binding us together in love.

—Linda Dallaire
Certified Life Coach
Life Stories Coaching

What a Small Group...*continued from page 2*

sister-in-law has been healed of her cancer. What love, support and encouragement I feel from each member of my small group. We share our personal pray requests, joys, sorrows, concerns and work-

place challenges, and most of all we are growing spiritually. I encourage you to join a small group Bible study if you have not already, it will change your life.

—Pat Haggerty

Velveteen Vessels

Ever feel unusable? Take heart—consider our Bible models: Adam couldn’t control his household, Abraham was old, Sarah was childless, Moses stuttered and Thomas doubted. Jeremiah was depressed, Noah was eccentric, Jonah was reluctant and Peter, bad-tempered and impetuous. John was full of pride (Jesus loves me best), the Samaritan woman had several failed marriages, Martha worried a lot and David was a murderer and adulterer! Getting my point yet?



What was so remarkable about the disciples was that they were so unremarkable. They were low-class, uneducated, commoners. Nobodies. Yet, God used each one of them for His kingdom purposes! All He really required of them was availability and a heart to serve Him. He said, “They’re exactly what I’m looking for. My strength is made perfect in their weakness.” Because they had nothing of themselves to offer, their service had to be and was done in God’s power. God used those disciples to turn the world upside down. To this day, they still are influencing our lives.

God does His best work with ordinary, broken, “unusable” lives. Take heart!

—Sandy Hagen
On Bended Knee

BOOK REVIEWS

A Narrative

Frederick Douglass

Sometimes great life lessons come in small books; that is certainly the case here. A short narrative at 76 pages, it paints an incredible picture of human suffering and the grace of God to overcome some of the most horrendous obstacles imaginable. It gives a new window into the slave movement; both the tragedy and the triumphs that one man faced and God's grace in using him to help inspire many to work toward abolition. It also reveals how deceived we as Christians can become as we acquire the habit of accommodation to secular world views—placing us on dangerous moral ground.

Reading history, particularly American history or the history of the church, helps us gain insight into so many of the cultural norms of our day-to-day life and belief systems. Scripture tells us to pray for those in prison as if we were in prison; to weep with those that weep; rejoice with those that rejoice. It's difficult for most of us to relate to those in prison or those who are truly suffering without experience or insight gained from first hand accounts of others. This book will move you to pray for those being persecuted for the gospel's sake as well as wonder at God's providential hand in bring-

ing the gospel to so many through the slave movement.

The Great Evangelical Disaster

Francis Schaeffer

Dr. Francis Schaeffer describes moral relativism as the watershed issue in the church today, the basis of which he defines as a belief in the inerrancy of Scripture—noting that it's only recently that someone considers herself or himself a Christian and doesn't trust in the complete reliability of God's written Word. Explaining how this fundamental error leads to moral relativism and the many social and moral breakdowns we see today, Dr. Schaeffer draws parallels between the Roe vs. Wade decision and that of the slave movement. One hundred and fifty years ago the black man could be enslaved because he was not legally a person. In the last ten years, millions of unborn children have been killed because the Supreme Court decided that they are not persons. As abortion was reduced to a personal opinion (i.e., I'm personally against abortion, but...) it ushered in the beginning of a general lowering of the value of human life—just as the lie that a black man was not a person and could therefore be treated as a thing.

These books will challenge us to review our beliefs as Bible believing Christians.

—GMD

March Recap...continued from page 1

their political or other influence to effect change, such as Esther whose actions saved the nation of Israel. She also pointed to Biblical examples of civil disobedience, such as Daniel's refusal to worship any

god other than the one true God. Cheri concluded by urging us to pray and use our God-given gifts to effect change and "send a message of morality by our behavior."

MEMBER PROFILE

Suzann Beck



BeckHaus Design, Inc. Suzann is founder and principal of BeckHaus Design—a design firm dedicated to the synergy of mar-

keting strategy and creative interpretation in the belief that thoughtful graphic design is a business imperative. Since fall of 2000, BeckHaus Design has provided its clients with corporate and marketing communications that combine their objectives with fresh, relevant content and creative. Suzann volunteers with the St. Paul Chamber of Commerce and the Woman's Club of Minneapolis.

Recently, Suzann has realized the importance of Christians considering themselves ministers in the marketplace and has joined "His Church at Work," a ministry out of Atlanta, GA empowering churches for worklife discipleship & outreach, as a prayer intercessor.

Suzann also has a passion for facilitating and helping other women reach their full potential, calling and maturity in their Christian walk.

Suzann and Tim Angstman, her husband of 18 years, make their home in Crystal, MN.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT FCBPW:

Contact: Jaime Nolan, 952-252-3573 or e-mail fcbpw@bcmn.com

Website: www.intrinxec.com/fcbpw.htm

Address: FCBPW, 5945 Maplewood Lane, Suite 101, Minnetonka, MN 55345-6427

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Barb Sheldon, Bank Cherokee
Suzann Beck, Beckhaus Design Inc.
Pauline Olson, Davisco Foods
International Inc.
Kim Jeffries, Tell Them I Love
Them Ministries
Linda Cross, Title One Commercial

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Suzann Beck, Beckhaus Design Inc.
Linda Dallaire, Life Stories Coaching
Sherry Hastings, Frauenshuh Companies

BOARD MEMBERS

Gina Dingman, Colliers Turley
Martin Tucker
Sherry Hastings, Frauenshuh Companies
Julie Kimble, Opus Corporation
Kim Lende, Minnesota Teen Challenge
Sharon Meyer, McGladrey & Pullen
Jaime Nolan, IntrinXec Management Inc.
Carla Pedersen, McGrann Shea et al

Any member who would like to submit an article for the newsletter may contact Sherry Hastings at 651-291-3576 or sherry.hastings@frauenshuh.com

FCBPW MEMBERSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The Fellowship of Christian Business & Professional Women (FCBPW) is excited to announce the launch of our new membership initiative. This membership will begin on the date we receive payment and will continue for 12 months. The annual membership fee will enable FCBPW to more effectively reach out to business and professional women in the Twin Cities area. Please review the benefits listed below that are included with your membership.

Benefits of Membership

- Opportunity to be featured in FCBPW's quarterly newsletter.
- Be included in and receive the annual FCBPW Membership Directory.
- Be eligible to volunteer for FCBPW committee opportunities and Board positions.

Criteria for Membership

- Agreement and acceptance of FCBPW's mission, vision, values and statement of faith.
- Successful completion of the Application for Membership.

Membership Expectations and Fees

- Help promote FCBPW to business and professional women.
- Encourage and support one another.
- Annual Membership Fee is \$75.00. A portion of your membership dues may be tax deductible. Consult your tax advisor for more information.

We hope you will prayerfully consider becoming a member of FCBPW and help to support our mission.

For more information contact Jaime Nolan at **952-252-3573** or e-mail fcbpw@bcmn.com or visit the website at www.intrinxec.com/fcbpw.htm to download a membership application.

PRAYER REQUESTS

If you have a prayer request that you would like the Board to pray for, please call Jaime Nolan at 952-252-3573 or e-mail fcbpw@bcmn.com

MISSION STATEMENT

Provide opportunities for business and professional women to come together for fellowship, discipleship and encouragement.

VISION STATEMENT

Provide a forum for fellowship, spiritual growth and networking among women of faith and a place for non-Christians to get a glimpse of today's Christian women in action; inspiring each other to boldly share the gospel.

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, not of works, lest anyone should boast.
- We believe that 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

The Fellowship of Christian Business & Professional Women is committed to:

Outreach—Encouraging women to share their faith.

Worship—Glorifying and honoring God through our example and actions.

Spiritual Growth—Equipping others to follow Christ and grow in grace.

Community—Expressing love and commitment to others.

Networking—Supporting and promoting Christian women in the workplace.