



WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT
OF THE CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

ALLIANCEWOMEN

Connecting Women for Kingdom Impact, both locally & globally

WINTER 2024

Hello friends –

Watching a flock of sheep placidly munch their way around a pasture is a peaceful picture of Spring. But a friend described an odd sight -- sheep who weren't grazing but staring! They were standing still, eyes locked onto something at the far end of the field. My friend followed their gaze and found that they were staring at their shepherd, waiting to be told which way to go, or what was coming next.



I want to be like those sheep. I want to fix my eyes on my Shepherd, Jesus. The problem is, I can't see Him naturally, which means I must learn to see Him spiritually. I must learn His ways by studying His Word, practicing listening for His voice in prayer, and resting in His presence by fixing my thoughts on things above.

When Paul wrote to the Corinthian church, it was a community in crisis. There were troubles from within and from without. But when it came to dealing with trials and difficulties, he told them to shift their gaze from the temporary to the eternal.

So, let's learn from those sheep and keep our eyes fixed on our Good Shepherd, knowing that He sees us from eternity and loves us more than we know.

"I am the good shepherd; I know my own sheep, and they know me."

- John 10:14 (NLT)

That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day. For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.

- 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 (NLT)

With love –
Elizabeth

WPA DISTRICT ALLIANCE WOMEN COMMITTEE

Elizabeth Daigle, District Director
Hilary Nelson, Assistant Director
Annie Polka, Secretary
Steve Schall, District Treasurer

Marcia Nagel, District Representative
Julie Federer, Communications Coordinator
Stacey Ailes, Retreat Chairperson
Contact Us: alliancewomen@cmawpa.org

Helen Jackson, Member at Large
Michelle Mahan, Member at Large
Debi Varner, Member at Large

TRANSFORMED

Western PA District ALLIANCEWOMEN'S

Retreat

June 7-8, 2024



GETAWAY TO

UNIVERSITY OF PITT JOHNSTOWN

REGISTRATION

This retreat is for women ages 16+

Overnight

(includes lodging and meals)

- Double – \$135 per person
- Single – \$161 per person

C&MA

- Pastors' wives – \$125 per person
- Licensed workers – \$125 per person
- International workers – Free

Daytime

(no lodging; meals optional)

- Meals* – \$99 per person
- No meals – \$60 per person

[Retreat Brochure](#)
[Register Online](#)



[Pre-Order Retreat Tshirts and Bags](#)

Speaker: [Mary Schaeffer](#)

Click the photo or link above for a special introduction and invitation from our speaker.

International Worker: Ruth Davis

Ruth served for 24 years in Brazil before moving to Portugal to serve. This year's offering project is for a field project in Portugal.

OFFERING PROJECT

A smile is transformation! Smile–Dental Ministry Portugal is a field project aiming to raise \$30,000 to provide a dental clinic in Portugal. Silvio and Simone Albuquerque have been in Portugal nearly three years with the goal of planting a church. Silvio and Simone graduated from the Alliance Seminary in Porto Alegre, Brazil and studied under US International Workers.



Someone is a dentist who had a practice in Brazil prior to moving to Portugal as an International Worker. Funding for this project would cover the costs of having her Brazilian dentistry credentials approved by the Portuguese system, as well as the costs of purchasing the initial equipment needed to set up a clinic.



The offering will be collected at the retreat. Please make checks payable to WPA Alliance Women.

FOR MORE INFO:



[WPA Alliance Women's Retreat](#)



alliancewomenretreat.com



WPAretreat@gmail.com



[Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#)

[Sign up for retreat news & the latest updates](#)



Each summer during their annual Family Camp, Mahaffey hosts Alliance Women’s Day. This year will be no exception, so be sure to mark your calendars for Thursday, July 25 and plan to join in the celebration!

The Grove



The day begins in The Grove where your church may join with other Alliance churches throughout the WPA District in setting up tents and tables filled with a wide variety of items to bless the International Workers (IW)s who come to “Shop The Grove” for various items they may need for their home or ministry. This is a yearly tradition begun over 80 years ago.



Items in the past have included things like: handmade quilts, toiletries, Tupperware, dishware, silverware, tools and tool boxes, linens, towels, children’s items, holiday decorations, dried goods, detergents, storage totes of varying sizes, gas and gift cards.



The Grove shopping event begins at 9am for active IWs and then at 10am for retired IWs. The Grove ends at noon or whenever all of the tables are empty.



This year’s list of IW guests so far includes:

Active—Laura, Mike & Ruth, Stuart & Rebecca, Sean & Becky, B & M are unable to

attend—but will send designated shoppers in their stead.

Retired—Jim & Sharon

All churches are welcome to participate as a group in The Grove. For those planning to set up a table—here are some reminders from the camp:

- Please bring your own tent and table(s).
- Remember that no canopy or table is permitted to be setup in The Grove until after the conclusion of the Wednesday evening service—during Family Camp. Also, all canopies and tables must be removed no later than 1:15pm on Thursday afternoon.
- Please be sure not to block any of the handicap parking spots—use the parking lot to unload only and then move your vehicle to park in the west parking lot.

Mission Celebration

In the afternoon, following lunch, everyone will gather in the Main Tabernacle at 1:15pm for a parade of nations as we celebrate our IWs. We’ll learn about the work of The Alliance around the world from our keynote speaker, Stuart Guild. He and his wife, Rebecca serve in Indonesia with their two children, Malaya (5) and Silas (3) where they teach in the Bible School.



Speaker: Stuart Guild

EUROPE

Pray for the leadership development and support of a new ministry couple in NE Germany.

For over a decade, the Waren team has sought to lead the next generation of east Germans closer to Christ. This desire led us to develop good relationships with teens who are now young adults. We hope and pray that those in this next generation are inspired to share their faith with others. Additionally, we recognize the need for local leadership within the local German church.

Years ago, the Waren team met Salome. Salome has been actively involved in the lives of the Waren team now for over a decade. She and her husband, Tommy, have served alongside the Waren team in various capacities—as interns, translators during English camps, small group leaders, and worship leaders. They have a clear calling on their lives to pastoral ministry and church leadership. This project seeks to train and equip Tommy and Salome, help them move to the town of Waren, and provide for living necessities, such as housing.

We desire to support the development of German believers who have recognized a call to ministry and church leadership. The pursuit of this call requires significant time in practical ministry training and discipleship.

Funds raised for the support of Tommy and Salome will help fund their participation in the LEAD Program, which will provide them with some of the required formal, educational components necessary in their development. Tommy has worked as an architect for over 10 years, and Salome runs her own photography business. They are both incredibly gifted in their current jobs, but the reroute to ministry will require time invested in education.

We desire to see Tommy and Salome return to where she grew up, Waren, Germany. Once in Waren, they will work alongside the church planting team, learning through practical application and active discipleship. Funds directed towards this project will help support Tommy and Salome practically through housing. Their hope is to be bi-vocational ministers in the future. In this season of transition, they will need both prayer and financial support.

Alliance Women has set a goal to raise \$25,000 for the leadership development and support of this new ministry couple.

Visit www.alliancewomen.org/give to participate.



How to Pray for This Project:

- Pray specifically for Tommy and Salome. Pray that God would continue to sanctify them, that their relationship with the Lord would continue to grow deeper.
- Pray for Tommy in his work on a start-up in renewable construction materials that will allow him to eventually be bi-vocational.
- Pray for Tommy and Salome's marriage, that Jesus would remain at the center, leading those around them closer to Jesus.
- Pray for wisdom for the Waren team as they continue discipleship with Tommy and Salome.
- Pray not only for Tommy and Salome, but for those NEXT believers in northeast Germany who will have an impact on those around them for Jesus.

LATIN AMERICA

Pray for the six Alliance Churches of the Impact Church Project to bring greater Kingdom impact to the Central American Alliance.

STAGNATION OR EXCITEMENT?

Have you ever seen a bumper sticker that reads “I ♥ MY CHURCH”? It is someone’s way of conveying a feeling that they like their church and find joy in participating in it. This feeling produces in them an excitement that they then transmit to their unchurched families and friends. When that kind of excitement is part of a church’s atmosphere, the church grows and brings people to know Jesus.

However, many churches fail to express that excitement because they have become trapped in tradition and routine with little changing from one week to the next. This leads to boredom, stagnation, and a lack of inspiration. Such churches usually lack the ability to attract unchurched people and fail to bring people to discover the lifegiving message of Jesus’ salvation.

Sadly, this latter description described most of our Alliance Churches in Central America where stagnation and routine were limiting our Kingdom impact.

REVITALIZING THE CHURCH

To revitalize our churches in Central America, we are developing the Impact Church Movement. This movement is taking a select group of pastoral couples and their churches through a process of evaluation, training, and coaching to create that same excitement in their churches that is expressed on the “I ♥ MY CHURCH” bumper sticker. Training that focuses on what makes a church attractive to newcomers, as well as established members, is leading to a change in the way people see their churches. These changes, although difficult, are necessary.

In June 2022, we selected a group of six churches from four Central America countries to participate in this new program and sent their pastoral couples and select leaders to attend the first Impact Church Conference in Guatemala. Twenty-two leaders gathered to saturate their thinking with new concepts and paradigms for considering what their church could become and the impact that is possible in their communities.

During the four-day retreat, they received intensive training in the concepts of an “attractive church” and



participated in breakout groups to evaluate what they would like to see change in their own churches. The training included sessions on effective communication styles, how to implement change in an established congregation, the assimilation of new members, and how to attract the family to the church. The leaders left the conference inspired to begin the transformation process in their own churches.

CONTINUING SUPPORT

This process continues as Alliance worker, Chuck Fanberg, has “cafecitos with pastors,” where he coaches the pastoral couples over a cup of coffee in their ministry location. This quarterly, on the-ground consulting provides for culturally appropriate changes to be implemented.

In Central America, we believe that women will be an integral part of revitalizing the Church. Unfortunately, in Latin America, women have often been limited in their formal influence in the Church. We believe that this is limiting Kingdom expansion because we have failed to empower half of the team God has given us for building the Church.

A key element of Impact Church training is to equally train men and women, including in vision casting and ministry implementation. A part of the Impact Church strategy is to increase the role and influence of women on pastoral teams and for them to share in ministry leadership within the church. It was exciting to see

that as pastors chose the leaders who would accompany them to the first Impact Church Conference, half of the leaders were women.

We are encouraging pastors to take advantage of the unique speaking styles that women bring to communication by inviting them to share in preaching the Word and to use their leadership passion for sharing the vision of the church. This emphasis is expanding our ministry teams in our churches and developing an atmosphere that is attracting to all. Women are being empowered to serve in the areas that God has gifted them to minister.

FRUIT IS BEGINNING TO SHOW

As our Impact churches begin to show the fruit of adopting new ways of seeing the Church, we hope to see those concepts transmitted throughout our churches in Central America. Through the influence of the Impact Church Movement, empowered men and women will revitalize the Church to become a force for God’s Kingdom in Central America.



The Alliance Women project goal for 2024 is \$14,000 and will provide a grant for the following:

1. We would like to see the number of participants in the conferences grow to 35. This will permit several additional women to participate in the advanced leadership training that makes them a vital part of ministry in our Impact churches. The grant will provide \$8,000 that will help cover partial costs for the conference.
2. Churches that are in transition and particularly new congregations must be able to adapt quickly to growth so that momentum is not lost. Of this project, \$6,000 will be used for ministry expansion needs when opportunity arises in our Impact churches.

Thank you for your participation in the AW project and for including the Impact churches and leaders of Central America in it.

Visit www.alliancewomen.org/give to participate.



The Gathering
ALLIANCE WOMEN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
JUNE 7-9, 2024
Embassy Suites, Dublin, OH

Visit cmalliance.org/the-gathering for more information.

This event is designed to provide training and soul care to all women who hold leadership position in the Christian and Missionary Alliance at the local and district level.

Where: Embassy Suites, Dublin, OH

Registration:

- ◆ by April 30—\$315
- ◆ by May 7—\$330

Registration fee is non-refundable but transferable
 Registration includes program, materials, and all meals from Friday dinner to Sunday lunch.

Hotel accommodations and transportation are not included. Hotel rates \$149+ tax per night (\$164 total)
 Transportation from airport provided for a fee.

Space is limited Registration will close after May 7.

Main Speakers:

Wanda Walborn, Anita Morrison

Session Speakers:

Candy Alcosiba, Anna Beatty, Sandy Kang, Kim Garcia, Amy Roedding, Kathy Sappia, Omee Thao.

[Click here for more details and to register online!](#)

ALLIANCEWOMEN

Home Assignment List

Name	Field	Home	Return
J & S **	CA	7-2022	LOA
Ben & Chelsea	Africa	5-2023	6-2024
Eric & Vicki	Africa	5-2023	6-2024
Mark & Kitiya	Thailand	5-2023	6-2024
Steve & Christy **	CA	5-2023	
David & Evangeline	Japan	6-2023	7-2024
John & Cathy	Mexico	6-2023	7-2024
Mike & Ruth	Portugal	5-2024	
B & M **	CA	5-2024	
Stuart & Rebecca	Indonesia	7-2024	
Laura **	CA	7-2024	

******For contact information reach out to [Marcia Nagel](#) at the District Office.

WPA District

A Prayer Calendar with up to date prayer requests from International Workers (IW's) in our WPA District is available upon request. It is distributed via email and is a terrific resource, providing an organized way to pray for them daily. To request this helpful resource—contact Carol at: office@pleasantviewcma.org

The Alliance

Current prayer requests for Alliance needs both domestic and international are available online. You can also sign up to receive them via email—go to: www.cmalliance.org/pray.

Recent Alliance Women Articles

Click on the photo below to go to the article.

Dave & Teresa Bill	Africa
congobilt@gmail.com	teresabill55@gmail.com
Betsy Blanchard	Spain
134 N Church St	betsybspain@gmail.com
Clifton Heights, PA 19018	
Bob & Joy Brougher	Paraguay
1952 W 54 th St	brougherbunch@gmail.com
Cleveland, OH 44102	
James & Sharon Kendall	Indonesia
278 Kendall Rd	jimsharonindo@gmail.com
Blairsville, PA 15717	724-840-2128 (Sharon)
	724-343-1213 (Jim)
David & LouAnn Woerner	Chile & Egypt
2304 Audley Avenue	724-674-9487
New Castle, PA 16105	dwoerner@post.com



by Lori Turner



by Dania Torres



by Miriam Lawson



by Vivi Flores







by Zahydee Guzman



by Breanna Lutolf

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Stay in the loop—[subscribe to receive our Alliance Women eNewsletter](#)

ALLIANCEWOMEN

2023-2024 Schedule for Outfit Gifts

- ◆ Outfit Gift #1 - \$25 due Jul 31, 2023
- ◆ Outfit Gift #2 - \$25 due Sep 30, 2023
- ◆ Outfit Gift #3 - \$25 due Nov 30, 2023
- ◆ Outfit Gift #4 - \$25 due Jan 31, 2024
- ◆ Outfit Gift #5 - \$25 due Mar 31, 2024
- ◆ Outfit Gift #6 - \$25 due May 31, 2024

2022-2023 Schedule for District Contributions

- ◆ District Contribution #1 - \$10 due Jul 31, 2023
- ◆ District Contribution #2 - \$10 due Sep 30, 2023
- ◆ District Contribution #3 - \$10 due Nov 30, 2023
- ◆ District Contribution #4 - \$10 due Jan 31, 2024
- ◆ District Contribution #5 - \$10 due Mar 31, 2024
- ◆ District Contribution #6 - \$10 due May 31, 2024

2023-2024 National Project - Rise Up

Invoice:

You may give bi-monthly, quarterly or yearly. Please fill in the blanks below to reflect your designations.

Outfit Gift #(s) _____ \$ _____

District Contribution \$ _____

National Project \$ _____

Other _____ \$ _____

Total: \$ _____

Make checks payable to:

Alliance Women

Send payments to:

WPA District Office

Alliance Women
341 N Chestnut St
Punxsutawney, PA 15767

(Please detach and mail the lower portion along with your payment.)

Date _____

Name of Church _____

(Full name--no abbreviations)

Outfit Gift #(s) _____ \$ _____

District Contribution \$ _____

National Project \$ _____

Other _____ \$ _____

Total: \$ _____

Please complete:

Treasurer: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____



Donate online:

[Alliance Women Online Donations](#)

Make checks payable to:

Alliance Women

Send payments to:

WPA District Office
Alliance Women
341 N Chestnut St
Punxsutawney, PA 15767