



January 2012

of the Northeastern District



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JOY in the Storm!

By: Debra Martin
Assistant Director



Gracefully she meandered through the dense crowd. She was a woman of tall stature, slender body, elegantly poised, and attractively dressed in a subtle red jacket and black trousers. With each encounter, her presence offered joy and peace through her glistening eyes and the effortless smile she bestowed. When she spoke, her voice projected joyfully and her jovial laugh filled the air with a quiet sweetness as she left an alluring fragrance of contentment.

As a new acquaintance, one would be oblivious to the fact that "Joy" [not actual name], over the past few years, was riding the rapids through a raging storm of cancer within her body. As she articulated her story, the arduous details were veiled by a spirit of peace. "Joy" conveyed how she was determined the diagnosis was not going to define her exuberance for living life to the fullest. Still clinging to her contagious smile, she humbly diminished the magnitude of her own plight by indicating there are others who have suffered stronger waves of turmoil than she. Her sparkling eyes persist with every praise to our Gracious God for His faithfulness and upholding hand through this storm.

Facing each new day with its challenging waves, "Joy" sets out to bask in the Fragrance of Christ, dressing comfortably and stylish [as normal] and allows herself the opportunity to ride the waves of the storm with dignity, self-worth, and happiness because of her faith and trust in Jesus.

"Joy" is a beautiful model of II Corinthians 2: 14b-15 *God uses us to spread His knowledge everywhere like a sweet-smelling perfume. Our offering to God is this: We are the sweet smell of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are being lost.* NCV

Joy is a beautiful model of II Corinthians 2:14b-15

Pondering the refreshing opportunity to meet "Joy" and be blessed by the sweet fragrance of Christ that she so easily exuberates, I have considered the many mundane things that tend to "plague" our hearts and minds and even at times cause us to take our eyes off Jesus. I have also reflected on the past storms that God has carried many of us through. As God's children, are we determined to face each new day with all its new challenges, setting out to bask in the Fragrance of Christ, allowing ourselves the opportunity to ride the waves of the storm with dignity, self-worth, and happiness? May we endeavor to allow our eyes to sparkle persistently with every praise to our Gracious God for His faithful and upholding hand through the storms of life and to be used by God *to spread His knowledge everywhere like a sweet-smelling perfume!*

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Happy Valentine's Day



SPRING REFRESH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

APRIL 27-28—AUBURN HOLIDAY INN

HEAVEN SCENT

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: FAITH BOGDAN



Three sessions:

Friday p.m. -Calvary Take Me Away!

Saturday a.m.—Designer Perfume

Saturday afternoon:

Aroma Therapy—Becoming a Woman of Influence

FRIDAY AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSIONS: (2:30-4:25 p.m.)



International Worker, Becky Dyke
Dominican Republic
*The Alabaster Box – Dynamic,
Humble Prayer Life*



International Worker, Kathy Eikost
Bosnia/Herzegovina
*Captivated by His Love – Knowing
and Obeying God's Will*



International Worker, Krista Ellenberger
Mali, West Africa
Mission Moments



Teen Breakout Session – Saturday a.m.
Heather Wallace, Pastor's Wife
What is YOUR Signature Scent?



Refresh Worship Leader
Katie Bergsten, Worship Leader
Grace Point Alliance, Buffalo

Refresh packets have been sent to all Northeastern District Churches — check with your local women's ministry director or coordinator for details and registration sheets. Info also on our web site: <http://www.nedcma.org/658549.ihtml>. Be sure to reserve your own room at the Holiday Inn, Auburn, NY (315-253-4531, ask for "AWR" rate). **DON'T MISS THE DEADLINE DATES!**

CONGRATULATIONS!



The Ellenberger Family (L-R): Karlin, Loren and fiancé Maria, Karlin, Krista, Keith

In December, TCK Davin Ellenberger graduated from Southeastern University with a degree in Sports Management and a minor in Missions. In January, he went to Guinea, West Africa with Envision for 2 years to work with a youth soccer camp program that International Worker JD Dueck is starting. Please be praying for Davin as he serves overseas.



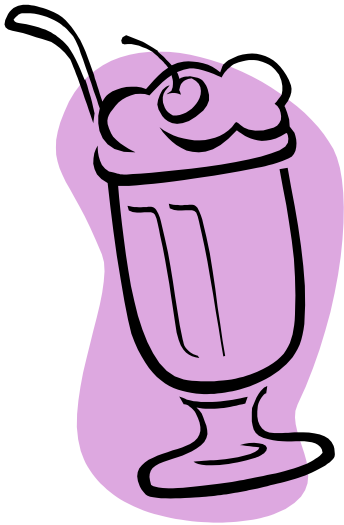
PRAYER REQUESTS

- **Dr. René Valach** will be having hip surgery during her six-month home assignment beginning in April. Please pray for quick recuperation after surgery to enable her to be able to connect with some of the District churches. **PRAISE** a car has been offered for her use on home assignment.
- **Becky Mindek's** father succumbed to brain cancer in on January 21 at his home in Auburn. His memorial service was held at the Auburn Alliance Church with Mark officiating and the family participating. We rejoice that he is with his Savior to suffer no more. **PRAISE** that Becky and family had the privilege of spending time with him the last seven months of his life and the hope they will spend eternity with him in heaven. Continue to pray for comfort and peace for the family.

IMPORTANT!

Don't forget your Third Culture Kid (TCK) for special times throughout the year.

SUNDAE SUNDAY



Some of our District Churches have already held their Sundae Sunday to raise money for the 2011-12 National Project helping to equip nationals to reach the nations.

Invite your entire church for a night of ice cream sundaes provided and served by the women.

This is a great way to raise support towards reaching the world with the gospel by helping to train, educate, and provide educational materials for overseas ministry.

Check out further details on:
www.alliancewomen.org



Ouagadougou Guest Home, Burkina Faso, W. Africa

Your love offerings for the Guest Home this year will go to replacing two beds and two sofas. The sofas are wooden framed with cushions on them. They have been repaired and repaired and now they have seen their day.

Karen Wolters sends the greeting — ***"Please tell the ladies that they are a blessing and we and the other international workers here appreciate their generosity."***

Have you registered for



Register online at
www.alliancewomen.org
 September 27-30, 2012
 Clearwater, Florida
 An outstanding program awaits you!

*Simply
Fragrant*



Be the sweet fragrance of Jesus and instill in others, through discipleship, a deep and abiding passion for Christ so that they become more like Him.

80 new souls for

Jesus is the challenge for our women's ministry of the Northeastern District. Tell others and be a Great Commission Woman of God.