

What are the doing?

January Highlights

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This issue’s staff:

- Shannon Pritchard

At a glance:

- **Ladies’ Lunch:**
March 4th
- **Celebration for Erma:**
March 11th
- **Monthly Meeting:**
March 25th

The theme for the Great Commission Women throughout the United States for 2018 is *MORE*. Keeping in conjunction with that theme, the goal for the Crossroads’ GCW is more for you and more from you.

We’ve decided to put this into action in three ways: asking more for each and every woman in the church in their spiritual growth, and asking more from the women when it comes to helping those in

their immediate community and globally. We’ll be focusing on each of these three areas during different times of the year.

If you missed the first couple meetings, don’t panic! Skip to page 3 for a brief recap and your challenge going forth. Keep reading below for ways to put those three areas to practice in March!

Upcoming Events

This month is jam-packed full of activities almost every Sunday. Come to one or all to experience the fellowship and community the GCW has to offer.

We’ll be starting the month off with Ladies’ Lunch on March 4th, heading right next door for a pancake breakfast. Come ready to stuff your face full of breakfast food!

Next will be a celebration lunch for Erma Hostetler and all of her dedication to the GCW throughout the years. Time and location TBA.

March 25th brings us our monthly meeting and our first laundromat trip of the year! Meet us at 12:15 pm for a brief meeting, then come with us as we spread the joy of free laundry!

International Worker Updates

by Shannon Pritchard

If you ever wonder if your coins and dollars add up to anything, look no further than the story of a girl in West Africa. As an International Worker points out, because of the regular giving of churches throughout the U.S., at-risk girls in West Africa have been able to take part in programs that give them the resources and training in beneficial trades, like that of a seamstress. The C&MA continues to help the Yazidi women and children to find healing and hope in Christ, while also giving them skills to survive in what can often be a brutal world.

Not convinced that you're making a difference yet? Just before Christmas, International Workers in Cambodia were able to use the resources provided them by the financial offerings of C&MA churches around the globe to help their

community thrive and access the gospel. Just before Christmas, the church welcomed a handful of new believers in the community and the surrounding area.

Your prayers and monetary gifts have helped disaster relief efforts in many areas struck by nature's worst, including a recent flooding of the Democratic Republic of Congo right after Christmas.

Please continue to give to the Great Commission Fund – though you may not see it, your efforts are making an impact. Above all, keep the areas mentioned here, and many more like them, in your prayers throughout the 2018 year.

To read more updates and learn more about how the C&MA is helping around the globe, visit www.cmalliance.org.

Points of Prayer:

- For theological education for the hundreds of institutions forming in Russia.
- The growing contribution of Korean missionaries in Japan.
- The continued lasting effects of the Chernobyl catastrophe in Belarus, including, "radiophobia."
- Growth for the Bible Society in Nicaragua.



What Does “MORE” mean?

The GCW has decided to ask for MORE this year, and have given four areas around the globe that need more from us, which you can see on the right of this page. Throughout the year, we will be spending time in prayer and raising money for these areas.

How do we apply this on a more personal level, though? Asking or giving more can look and feel different to each and every person. That’s why we’re leaving a lot of it in your hands to determine what “more” really means for each person. For the beginning of the year, our goal is to have an inward asking for more.

Our first meeting challenged the ladies to choose a goal for the year that encapsulated what they wanted more in – from courage to helping others and beyond. They were then encouraged to find tangible, applicable ways to reach that goal.

The second meeting extended from the first. Taking that goal, the ladies were then challenged to spend some time in introspection and determine which of two paths they would start off with to reach their goal: that of contemplation and time alone with God, or that of communion with others and asking for help from others. Both are avenues of growing, and neither path is wrong. Ideally, each woman will use both paths throughout the year to reach their goal.

This is where I leave you. It’s not too late to catch up and join in on the growth! Ask yourself:

1. What area in your life would you like to see growth?
2. How can you work towards making that growth a reality?
3. Which path should you focus on – alone time, or time with others?

Verses to Ponder:

- Ephesians 3:14 – 20
- 2 Peter 3:18
- Hebrews 13:1
- James 1:27
- Matthew 28:19

Areas Needing More:

- *At-risk girls in West Africa* – Hands of Honor provides literacy, health, and life-skills training to young women.
- *Pregnant teens in Ecuador* – Casa Elizabeth provides housing and resources for pregnant teens.
- *Human trafficking survivors in Cambodia* – Agape International Missions helps rescue, restore, and reintegrate survivors of sex trafficking.
- *Female prisoners in the Philippines* – Ina-Inakay Center, Inc., helps women released from prison find small apartments and temporary jobs.

The National Project

For the 2017-2018 year, the Great Commission Women are asking for MORE. More for the women of the church and more from the women of the church.

A part of this push, The National Project, is asking for more help and involvement in four areas: at-risk girls in West Africa, pregnant teens in Ecuador, human trafficking survivors in Cambodia, and female prisoners in the Philippines.

Throughout the upcoming year, look for our fundraisers and keep these groups in your prayers. To learn more, visit greatcommissionwomen.org.

How Can I Help?

Ann, Amy, and Shannon have monthly meetings that give the women of the church a chance to pray together, talk about the word together, learn from one another, and discover how we can make a difference in the world around us. Your participation is what keeps these meetings going!

Attending our events and gleanings something from it is the best gift you can give. If you can't make them, though, you can also help through prayer and monetary giving. The GCW are always accepting donations to the National Project and materials. If you have ideas for fundraising or ways to help, please let us know!

The GCW at the Crossroads

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The Great Commission women, an auxiliary ministry of The Christian and Missionary Alliance, exists to glorify God as devoted Christ followers of all generations, empowered by the Holy spirit to Live the Word, Do the Work, and Reach the World.

Shannon became the new leader of the Great Commission Women at the Crossroads Community Church in January of 2018.

Since then, her goal, along with Ann Green and Amy Foster who help lead the group, has been for the women of the church to grow together in order to help others.

They hope to achieve that goal through having the ladies meet regularly, share openly, and live spiritually. They believe in constant prayer and having God as their center.



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MATTHEW 28:18-20