



from the **Heart**

**Spring 2006**  
*A Publication of  
the Network of  
Evangelical  
Women in Ministry*

"...to strengthen women who minister to women..."

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**RETURN  
TO BE  
Encouraged**

Date: June 22-23, 2006  
Place: Riverlakes Community  
Church  
Bakersfield, California  
Featured speaker: Jill Briscoe

Join us for an exciting weekend of encouragement and inspiration!

The conference begins this year on Friday night. We will open the conference with a message from author and world renowned speaker Jill Briscoe and worship with songwriter and recording artist, Anne Barbour.

The conference will continue on Saturday with a powerful message from Jill Briscoe, breakout sessions, lunch and continued worship with Anne Barbour.

Jill Briscoe has an active speaking and writing ministry that has taken her to many countries. She has written more than 40 books, including study guides, devotional material, poetry and children's books. Jill is Executive Editor of *Just Between Us*, a magazine of encouragement for ministry wives and women in leadership. She serves on the board of World Relief and *Christianity Today*.

Anne Barbour leads worship and has been a guest artist at conferences with Anne Graham Lotz, Network of Evangelical Women in Ministry and other women's events. She is a guest speaker for the Billy Graham Association's School of Evangelism and teaches conferences that help women find and maintain their identity in the person of Jesus.

As a part of the Tommy Coomes Band, Anne has recorded 12 CDs of contemporary worship for the church. She and husband John also have five recordings of their own, the latest release entitled *Songs for the Journey*. In Fall of 2005 Anne released her first solo album *The Story of Perfect Love*.

For registration information, please visit [www.newim.com](http://www.newim.com).

## Paul's Sevenfold Blessing/Prayer

### Colossians 1:9-12

For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you:

1. Be filled with the knowledge of his will.
2. Have wisdom and spiritual understanding.
3. Have a walk worthy of the Lord.
4. Please the Lord.
5. Be fruitful in every good work.
6. Increase in the knowledge of God.
7. Be strengthened with all might, according to his power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy.

## Faith's Confession:

"I am a person of prayer—prayer rooted in the Word of God. I do have time to pray. I am earnest and unwearied and steadfast in my prayer life. I am alert and intent in praying with thanksgiving. I am an intercessor, a prayer warrior who is strong in the power of God's might. I refuse to turn coward, faint, lose heart and give up. My prayers avail much in the name of Jesus. I delight myself in you and your Word. Because of that, you put your desires in my heart. I commit my way to you and you bring it to pass. Your word is the final authority to settle all questions. I boldly and confidently say that my heart is fixed and established on the living word of God.

—Hebrews 4:12, Colossians 3:16, Joshua 1:8, 1 Peter 1:2-3, Psalm 91:4, Psalm 119:105, Psalm 37:23, Colossians 1:9, John 16:13, 1 Peter 3:12, Colossians 4:2, Ephesians 6:10, Luke 18:1, Philip-pians 2:13, Psalm 112:7, 8.

## The Authentic Leader's Creed

*By Dan Webster*

- I believe leadership begins on the inside of my life and moves out.
- I embrace the truth that leadership involves authentic self-expression.
- I will resist the shallowness of conformity by focusing upon my God-given sacred trust.
- I will never substitute persona for character and integrity.
- I determine to take no short cuts in my personal and spiritual preparation so that I will live with momentum.
- I affirm that God uses all the experiences of my life to prepare me for what's next.
- I will daily downshift my life so I can receive God's love before I attempt to share God's love.
- I will remember that surrender unleashes the power to fulfill the commitments I make to God.
- I pledge to be led by God before I attempt to lead others.
- I will face truth about myself and admit my vulnerabilities to temptation so I won't shipwreck my life.
- I will accept the pain life brings my way and allow it to make me a more understanding and able servant.
- I will quickly acknowledge and intercept any personal entropy so my fatal flaws will not prevent me from finishing well.
- I will surrender to the change process God is working in me so I can be an agent of change in this world.

I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and his incomparably great power for us who believe.

—Ephesians 1:18-19a, *NIV*

## From the Editor

### Knowing Jesus

By Tammy Tkach

We often talk about getting to know Jesus, but doing it can seem somewhat nebulous and difficult. After all, we can't see him or talk face to face. He's real, but he's not visible or touchable and we can't hear his voice, except maybe on rare occasions. So how do we go about getting to know him?

I've lately been directed, from more than one source, to the Gospels as a way of getting to know Jesus. Like you, I've read through them many times, and even took a college class called Harmony of the Gospels. But for some time I've been focused on other books, mostly Paul's letters. They've been wonderful guides out of legalism and into grace.

Our pastor suggested we read the book of John as a way to start the new year. I began reading it and was struck anew by the events of Jesus' life as chronicled by John. I made a list of who Jesus said he is throughout the first 18 chapters. The list is longer than I thought it would be.

Then I went ahead and ordered a book I had wanted to read for some time—*Just Give Me Jesus* by Anne Graham Lotz. It was inspired by the book of John. I'm only part way through and have already gained insight.

And in a devotional I receive daily, the author mentioned a couple of times that reading through the Gospels is a great way "to keep falling in love with the life of Christ" (John Fischer, *The Purpose Driven Life Daily Devotional*).

It seems as if someone is trying to tell me something!

When Philip (John 14:8) asked him to show them the Father, Jesus said to his disciples, if you've seen me you've seen the Father. He is the image of God, revealing and reflecting his glory. So if we, 2,000 years or so later, can get to know Jesus, we are also

getting to know the Father, the Creator and Sustainer of life and the universe.

It's mind-boggling to think we human beings, finite, made of dust and destined to die, can get to know, intimately and personally, an infinite, all-powerful God. But we can. Through the Gospels, we listen in on his conversations, watch him interact with paupers and nobles, Jews and gentiles, sinners and self-righteous, men, women and children. We see Jesus the man—his emotions, thoughts and feelings. We see his tenderness as he welcomes and teaches little children. We see his indignation at the moneychangers and his disgust at the hypocrisy of the Pharisees.

The Gospels show us both sides of Jesus—God and man. They show us baby and adult, son and brother, teacher and healer, living sacrifice and resurrected victor. Don't be afraid to get to know Jesus. Don't wonder and doubt if it's really possible. Just read the Gospels. And keep falling in love with the life of Christ.



Tammy is the president of the NEWIM Inland Empire chapter.

### We'd love to hear from you!

If you would like to contribute to *From the Heart*, we'd love to hear from you. To share news, encouragement and testimonies, please e-mail Ginger Bertoni at [hartcol110@aol.com](mailto:hartcol110@aol.com).

If you have workshop ideas, opportunities, resources or knowledge to share, please e-mail Sue Haston at [suehaston@att.net](mailto:suehaston@att.net).

You may also e-mail Tammy Tkach at [tammy\\_tkach@wgc.org](mailto:tammy_tkach@wgc.org) with chapter news or any other item of interest.

It's all about connecting and sharing!

Visit NEWIM on the Internet at:  
[www.newim.com](http://www.newim.com)

# Chapter Reports

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**Chapter meetings**—make a small investment of your time (two hours, a few times a year), and you will leave enriched, encouraged and invigorated as a woman and as a ministry leader.

## San Fernando Valley/ Ventura Counties Chapter

The San Fernando Valley/Ventura Counties Chapter of NEWIM met on January 13 in Westlake Village. The meeting was a continuation of dialog defining the chapter. Topics under discussion included meeting format, speakers/topics, meeting agendas, future meeting locations and topics.

The Friday, March 10 meeting was held at 3:00 p.m. at the Cornerstone Church, Simi Valley.

Scheduled meeting dates for 2006 are May 12, July 14, September 15 and November 3.

For more information on chapter events, see [www.localendar.com/public/NewimVSF](http://www.localendar.com/public/NewimVSF). Area churches are encouraged to submit their events for publishing.

For more information about this chapter, contact Jan Lackey, Director of Women's Ministries, The Church at Rocky Peak. Phone 818-709-0113 or 805-522-5100 (usual office hours on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday).

## Inland Empire Chapter

The Inland Empire Chapter held a member appreciation brunch on March 18 at Sue Haston's home. Our goal is to get the members together for networking, support and brainstorming for our chapter.

Our next regular meeting will be on Saturday, May 20 at 10:00 a.m. at Corona Bible Fellowship.

E-mail Tammy at [tammy\\_tkach@wgc.org](mailto:tammy_tkach@wgc.org) for information on this and future meetings.

## How the Lord is using NEWIM around the state

### San Joaquin Valley Chapter

“Effective leaders are constantly growing.” This was the encouragement and challenge given by guest speaker Betty Willis at our last chapter meeting. Sharing from her well-spring of experience and 50 years in ministry, she emphasized a key foundation for life and ministry—our personal ongoing growth. “We are not meant to be just a human being, but a human becoming.” With her beautiful illustration of the chambered nautilus and how it constantly grows, building ever-increasing chambers, never going back, and with no stopping point, we were given both encouragement and practical applications.

We enjoyed networking after the message, and gleaned ideas during the table talk time, with the topics of mentoring programs, retreat ideas and ways to integrate older and younger women.

At our next meeting on April 7th at People's Church (9:30 to 11:30 a.m.), we will continue with the theme of learning from mature women who have a wealth of wisdom to share. We are blessed to have Colleen Townsend Evans, author and gifted speaker, sharing “Lessons I've Learned in Ministry.” Please join us!

Scheduled chapter meetings for 2006 are April 7, June 2, September 1 and November 3.

If you have questions, comments or ideas, please contact Shirley Barber at 559-298-8001, extension 273, or e-mail Elaine at [elaine-marie2@sbcglobal.net](mailto:elaine-marie2@sbcglobal.net).



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## Chapter Reports

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### San Diego Chapter

The San Diego Chapter met on Friday, February 17, to share how to create in women a global mindset and a heart for the world.

Author and speaker Pam Farrel led an exciting meeting with women sharing their experiences of how God is using them to share their gifts for outreach in and beyond their comfort borders.

Taking a dream as a child and allowing God to take her to the other side of the world and meeting the President of the Ivory Coast was just one story.

An 82-year-old shared about preparing to go on her third trip to Romania to hold babies in an orphanage.

A new type of missionary circle, BOWS—Blessing Our World Servants—is being set up by a group of younger women who care for missionary women on home assignments. Services include preparing a place for them to stay, taking them shopping and helping them get around town. They also help the children of the missionaries connect to kids their own age. This group loves being able to support missionary work without going to other countries.

A church is ready to send a team of 15 to Holland to put on a retreat for AWM women who reach out to Muslim women. These women often have no spiritual encouragement or fellowship while making friends with Muslims.

All were encouraged to think outside the borders of their comfort level to see what and how God can use the women in their churches.

Contact Bev Amsbary at [wmdir@efcc.org](mailto:wmdir@efcc.org) for more information.

For more information on NEWIM chapters, check the link on our website at:

**[www.newim.com](http://www.newim.com)**

### Orange County Chapter

Monica Brislawn has served as president of the OC Chapter for the last two years. God has recently redirected her life to take a consulting position with Purpose Driven Life. She will be terribly missed. Our prayers go with her as she embarks on this new path.

We are grateful to Monica for arranging a competent replacement and are very pleased to announce that Lynell Brooks will now be wearing the mantle of leadership and heading up the OC Chapter as president. Lynell also serves as Director of Women's Ministries at Newport-Mesa Church in Costa Mesa and is Director of Event Relations at Vanguard University.

Our chapter meetings are normally held the last Friday of each month, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. at Vanguard University, located at 55 Fair Drive, in Costa Mesa, in the Heath Academic Center in the Great Commission Hall, 2nd floor. A campus map to find Heath Academic Center is available at: [www.vanguard.edu](http://www.vanguard.edu).

Twice a year, we hold a special event and invite other chapters to join us. On March 18th we went "Speed Dating..Ministry Style!" After discussing our topics, attendees had a chance to meet several women in ministry through a series of brief face-to-face encounters. They discussed helpful and effective ministry strategies: Reaching the Next Generation, Recruiting Volunteers and Retaining Volunteers. The panel included: Melissa Brosch, Associate Pastor, Junior High Ministry, Calvary Church of Santa Ana; Margie Buster, Precepts Bible Study Teacher and Trainer of Women Who Serve, Voyagers Bible Church, Irvine; and Shelly Juskiewicz, Pastor to Women, New Believers, Assimilation and member of the Executive Ministry Team, Mariners Church, Irvine.

The event was provided free of charge and light refreshments were served.

For information on future events, please call Nancy Burchell, Outreach Coordinator, at 949-642-4484.

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## Chapter Reports

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### South Bay Women/ Los Angeles Chapter

The South Bay/Los Angeles Chapter met on a beautiful Saturday morning, September 17, 2005. The women and ministry teams kicked off the new ministry year with a wonderful time of refreshing.

Worship and the Word were brought to us by an amazing woman of God, Annie Barbour. She is a vocalist and songwriter from the Tommy Coomes Praise Team which travels globally with the Billy and Franklin Graham Crusades. Kings Harbor Church in Torrance hosted us. Their facility and team provided a great venue.

The SB/LA Chapter has great news for the new year! We welcome a new president, Cinda Herring. Cinda and her husband, Dr. Milton Herring, co-pastor at Living Word Christian Church International. In addition to her pastoral duties, she is an anointed teacher and worship leader.

Pastor Cinda also serves the City of Torrance as a Civil Service Commissioner and Chairman of the Community Advisory Council for Family Preservation. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration and a Master of Arts degree in Organizational Management.

Cinda and Milton have been married for 34 years and have three adult sons, three daughters-in-law and six grandchildren. Contact her at [word-cc@cfaith.com](mailto:word-cc@cfaith.com) for chapter information.

(We) need to learn to interpret our  
circumstances by (God's) love,  
not interpret His love  
by our circumstances!



—Anne Graham Lotz,  
*Just Give Me Jesus*

## Did You Know...

...you can update your e-mail address at the NEWIM website? That's just one of the features available to you. You can also check the calendar for upcoming events and find registration information. You can access chapter information in the bulletin board section, meet the board, read past Food for the Soul articles or find a speaker.

You can also go shopping! Look under the *Resources* link for "shopping" and browse through several helpful books, beautiful journals, a worship CD, some lovely gifts and conference tapes. Online ordering isn't available yet, but you can call the number displayed on the shopping pages to order.

Visit the website often and keep up with NEWIM as we grow and change into an even more effective resource for you. If you experience any difficulty using the website, please don't hesitate to contact us.

[www.newim.com](http://www.newim.com)

### Contented Living

There are nine requisites for contented living: health enough to make work a pleasure; wealth enough to support your needs; strength to battle with difficulties and overcome them; grace enough to confess your sins and forsake them; patience enough to toil until some good is accomplished; charity enough to see some good in your neighbor; love enough to move you to be useful and helpful to others; faith enough to make real the things of God; hope enough to remove all anxious fears concerning the future.



—Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

# THE SPRINGS

A THREE DAY PRAYER & REFLECTION RETREAT

APRIL 19-21, 2006, PASADENA, \$220  
NOVEMBER 9-11, 2006, REDLANDS, \$171

SUNNY SCHRIMSHER, (714) 964-7243  
sunny@integrity.com

If there is any focus the Christian leader of the future will need, it's the discipline of embracing the presence of God in our daily lives through prayer and solitude. The greatest question for leaders of the next century is: Are we people who have an ardent desire to dwell in God's presence, to listen to God's voice?" (Henri Nouwen).

Believing that the eternal impact of our temporal lives is directly related to the depth of our intimacy with Christ, NEWIM launched a unique retreat for women.

Since 1998 over 400 women have attended *The Springs*. Some are stay-at-home moms, others are retired or working full-time and struggling to balance work, home and ministry. Some are Bible study leaders, directors of women's ministries or family counselors. They come from all walks of life, all kinds of church backgrounds, from all over California. One thing they all have in common: a deep desire to connect with God and to be with a small group of women who will share their stories and challenge them to grow.

Here's what women have said about their *Springs* experience:

"If *The Springs* was meant for tired, weary women so that we could be refreshed, then the Springs truly accomplished its goal. The time of solitude allowed me to draw near to God in a way I have never done before!"

"My plea: 'Where can I meet with God?' He met me and spoke—convicting me of areas of needed change in my relationship with him and with my husband. I have never experienced such a rich time with the Lord."

"*The Springs* was one of the most positive experiences of my Christian walk—one of the most significant turning points in my life as a leader."

"God didn't meet me as I thought he would. But he met me more wonderfully than I ever could have imagined. I always had to be doing something (praying, studying, etc.). Never have I spent an entire afternoon just being with him. My quiet times will never be the same!"

"I spent all day alone with no one needing me and I was able to rest. In such beauty and quietness, I had clarity of thought about several areas of struggle that I had been ignoring and stuffing for quite a while."

"I've been told over and over again that I am truly loved by God. And now I really believe it."

Luann Budd will be leading Track 2: "Getting Real About Our Prayer—thoughts for those who feel less-than-great about their prayer life but don't know what to do about it."

We hope you will come join us, Wednesday through Friday, April 19-21, 2006 in Sierra Madre.

Visit [www.newim.com](http://www.newim.com). Click on "Retreats" to register.

We'll have lots of gorgeous journals and baskets from Thailand for sale.

—Marty Russell, Luann Budd  
NEWIM Board,  
*The Springs* Co-Directors

Tomb, thou shalt not hold Him longer;  
Death is strong, but Life is stronger;  
Stronger than the dark, the light;  
Stronger than the wrong, the right;  
Faith and Hope triumphant say  
Christ will rise on Easter Day.



—Phillips Brooks,  
*An Easter Carol*



# The Oaks

conference for directors  
of women's ministry

*The Oaks of Righteousness* is a 30-hour working conference for directors of women's ministries, which offers mentoring by seasoned directors. Attendance is limited to keep it personal and hands on.

THE NEXT OAKS  
TBD, 2006

**For more information:**

Bev Amsbary (760) 781-2166 [wmdir@efcc.org](mailto:wmdir@efcc.org)

*The Oasis*

Please visit [www.newim.com](http://www.newim.com) for information on the future of *The Oasis* retreats.

Address Service Requested

(714) 964-7236  
Fountain Valley, CA 92728  
P.O. Box 9200-395

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