



Empower

INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES

2018

Kudos to You— and an Urgent Request

by Carrie Miles, President

Requests for Empower's *New Man, New Woman, New Life* program are exploding, especially in Kenya. Leaders there (not just Christian, but Muslim as well) are desperate to do something about growing family dysfunction. Not unrelated is interest in a new style of leadership to combat the all-too-common abuses of the "Big Man" mentality. And everywhere, *Created to Belong* and *Healing from Trauma* help hurting people understand their and their children's worth in God's eyes.

This vital movement toward a Christian understanding of relationships and self happens only because of your personal vision. Your interest, ideas, encouragement, prayers, volunteer efforts, and financial gifts are the fuel that keeps Empower going.

As you might imagine, I am delighted in this surge of interest in our programs. However, as we rejoice with every new request, I also wonder how we are going to pay for it. Read on to see how you can help.



Our most exciting new opportunity is with the Presbyterian Church of East Africa. See page 3 for this exciting opportunity and to learn who the gentlemen in this photo with Pam Frohreich and Carrie Miles are).

My Journey with Empower

by Frank Twebeyo, African Program Director



Although I am from Uganda, I first met the Empower team in Burundi, in 2007. I had been invited there to translate for the Empower team. When I arrived, however, I found that the Anglican clergy had studied in Uganda and could translate well. So I sat to listen to the message of biblical equality.

I was hit by the truths being delivered by Dr. Carrie Miles and team, truths like men and women are equal before God, woman was not cursed, the first man was with the woman in the garden when the serpent was tempting humanity, and many other things. I had been trained and tuned to believe the contrary, mostly due to the cultural inclination with which we tend to read the Bible.

I was liberated, and I immediately started treating my wife Phobice with dignity. Phobice and I had been married many years without children. Where I come from, childless women are called "worthless", and although I would never send my wife away, even as a pastor I had been infected by this cultural attitude.

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Frank continued

My wife and I began to be involved with Empower, and have never looked back. I have seen hundreds, probably thousands, of the people we trained over the years transformed with the message of what I love calling "biblical redemption." In Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda, Congo, Nigeria, and Malawi, clergymen repented for teaching the incorrect doctrine that women are inferior to men. I have seen men immediately begin to treat their wives better.

In Kenya recently, a participant called his wife to come forward and gave her the PIN to his ATM card. Come to Africa to understand how radical a transformation this represents! In Rwanda, we saw a businessman leaving the training to go and apologize to and pay his workers whom he was marginalizing. In Congo, one of our trainees from Bishop Barham University College helped reunite a couple who had been separated for 15 years!



I am myself "Exhibit A" of the Bible-based teachings' impact. As I came to understand that children are a blessing not a commandment, I found that God gave me and my wife peace, patience, and joy in each other. Then, on November 10th of last year, after about 24 years of waiting, he gave us miracle

twins. Samalie and Samuel just made one year!

Glory to God for Empower and for Dr. Carrie Miles who ably 'steers the ship' and for all of you who support Empower. Your efforts are never in vain!

Missions21

In June, we hosted our first international conference, called **Missions 21**, in Tustin, CA. This gathering drew people from U.S.- resident ministries/missions that work internationally on family, child welfare, mental health, and gender issues. THIS IS THE FIRST OF WHAT WE HOPE TO MAKE AN ANNUAL EVENT.

There are many of us working independently on these issues or running orphan projects, schools, or health initiatives. But while we may have the support of our local churches, we rarely have a chance to meet each other, network, and share resources and experiences.

At the conference Sarah Nutter, board member, eloquently described the work of Empower (and many of the other ministries at the conference) when she said: **"We go to help people teach themselves, and in so doing, help the world."** (Visit our Facebook Page to hear some of her remarks).

Created to Belong



by Linda Ikeda, Director

Created to Belong, *Healing from Trauma*, and *Women's Health* continue to be in high demand wherever they are taught. Returning to Rwanda in August 2018 for the fourth time, our team went to a new area at the invitation of Anglican Bishop Emmanuel Ngendahayo, a wonderful man with a huge heart for all those under his care. As a nation, Rwanda still suffers from the trauma of the 1994 genocide because so few have the skills to deal with such grave trauma. Empower's model of "training the trainer" is designed to empower local leaders with knowledge and skill, not only to train others, but to inculcate the very skills they are learning into their own lives and the lives of those under their care.

In *Healing from Trauma*, we compare carrying around



unresolved trauma to carrying a huge bucket of bricks. We have a volunteer hold a bucket while bricks are placed in it to represent some of the emotions and symptoms that come with trauma. And as we teach different tools to aid the trauma survivor, we remove the bricks, one at a time.

Empower's goal is to "work ourselves out of a job" by equipping local leaders to be the "difference that makes a difference" in helping their own countries heal and thrive.

BE EVEN MORE OF AN ANGEL FOR EMPOWER

You are already an Empower Angel, but due to the success of our ministry, we need you even more! If you can help financially, here is how to do it:

For Paypal or credit card donations, go to www.EmpowerInternational.org, and click on "support us."

Gifts by check can be made payable to "Empower" and sent to:

Empower International Ministries
14032 Enderle Center Dr, Ste 201
Tustin, CA 92780



The Presbyterian Church of East Africa (PCEA)

A chance meeting in Tustin, California, between Empower team members and Rev. Rob Ngugi, Director of Missions for the PCEA, turned out to be a divine appointment. Intrigued by what he heard, Rev. Rob met with Carrie Miles and Pam Frohreich when he returned in July with the moderator and secretary-general of the PCEA (that's all of us in the picture on the first page). As leaders of this denomination of 4 million people, they are concerned about the family deterioration that is moving at high speed throughout East Africa. They are excited by the biblical solutions to these problems contained in *New Man, New Woman, New Life*.

Pam Frohreich, Carrie Miles, Donell Peck, and Frank Tweheyo will conduct two seminars in Nairobi for 70 of the PCEA's top leaders in February. We will follow up with our advanced training in the fall. Then those trained will take the program to their congregations themselves.



A new, SURPRISE project like this is a total delight, but as a SURPRISE is not in the budget. Empower agreed to contribute toward accommodation and meals for the participants,

materials, and of course, travel for the facilitators. This will cost over \$20,000 — exactly \$20,000 more than we anticipated for 2019. But we just could not turn down an opportunity like this to impact potentially millions of people, and we are sure you would not want us to.

St. Paul's University

At the same time, our partnership with Dr. Zablon Bundi at St. Paul's University in Limuru, Kenya, is also blossoming. We have been running two programs a year there, but the demand for the program has grown so great that Dr. Bundi asked to add a third. Again, very exciting, but again, not in the budget. One program at St. Paul's costs \$4,000. All three would run \$12,000 annually.

I don't even have space to tell you about Pwani University

Can you be even more of an angel for Empower? No need to fund all of a program yourself, but please consider helping in any way you can. We need you!

Highlights from 2018

In March, Empower Minister Pam Frohreich and Africa Program Director Frank Tweheyo led two seminars for Teen Challenge in Kenya and conducted a master class at St. Paul's University.



In May, Frank and Empower Minister Donell Peck led a NMNW seminar at the Kampala Evangelical School of Theology (KEST) in Uganda. The seminar comprised many influential leaders, including television personalities, mega-church pastors, students and clergy.



“My colleagues at KEST were excited and impressed with how the Empower program dovetails with some of our programs, especially the Christian worldview,” declared Emmanuel Akatukunda, teacher of theology and long-time friend of Empower. We will conduct a master class at KEST in February 2019.



Empower Minister Rev. Dr. Sally Bryant took her ninth trip to Malawi in July accompanied by reading specialist Suzy Powers on her first trip to Africa. They conducted two train-the-teacher workshops — which blend NMNW material with instruction on teaching techniques — workshops in Mulanje, Malawi.

Sally reports that because of their training last year, seven new schools were started.

Sally also returned to the Southern Africa Conference of Independent Evangelical Churches in early August to present an abridged version of *New Man, New Woman, New Life*.

Empower Ministers Francine and Dan Thomas traveled in July to rural Tanzania, where they have taught Empower seminars for many years in conjunction with the Anglican diocese and Bible college in Kondoa.



In August, Linda Ikeda and Sue Kerrigan, RN traveled to Rwanda and Malawi. In Byumba, Rwanda they worked with new partners through Bishop Emmauel Ngendehayo of the Anglican church, and presenting *Created to Belong* and *Healing from Trauma*, along with *Women’s Health*.

Also in August, Empower Minister Wayne Pelly traveled to Uganda and Malawi. Wayne joined with Frank Tweheyo to conduct another NMNW seminar at KEST. While in Kampala, both Frank and Wayne were plenary speakers at a conference sponsored by Kenyan Ekklesia Foundation for Gender Education (EFOGE).

Following the conference, Wayne spent two weeks in Mzuzu, Malawi, teaming with Pastor Arnold



Phiri, Empower’s Coordinator for Malawi. They conducted two NMNW seminars, one with the local synod of the Central Church of Africa, Presbyterian, continuing the partnership we formed last year, and one with a new partner, an African Independent Church.

In October, Frank traveled to Pwani University in Kilifi, Kenya, another new partner, to teach a NMNW seminar. It was received with much excitement, and they requested that we train more people in the future. He also facilitated a powerful NMNW seminar at St. Paul’s.



THANK YOU

So many people contribute to Empower’s success that I cannot thank you all by name. Great thanks to our board (Linda Ikeda, Sarah and David Nutter, William Stefan) and Tustin advisory team members (Susan Elliott, Mary Dee Foft, Pam Frohreich, Donell Peck); to Susan Elliott for handling our books; to Keri Wyatt Kent for the social media posts and the website; to the Empower missionary/ministers mentioned here and others, who literally risk their lives every time they travel for us; to our international partners; and most especially to you, our wonderful supporter, without whose vision and compassion we could not function. ~ Carrie Miles



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