

June 16, 2010

Dear Friends,

Pausing to write to you today is a lovely reminder of how exciting it will be to see you again in just a few short months. Our *Ladies Fall Connection* has always been an opportunity to join our hearts in a time of worship and growth as well as a time to honor our Georgia missionaries who are at home.

This September 17-18 will find us rejoicing together once again as we make our way to Christ Chapel @ Sportstowne, 170 Starcadia Circle, Macon, Georgia 31210 where Pastor John Wood and his staff have graciously opened their doors to our Georgia Women's Ministries for our fall retreat. With their facilities just off of Bass Road at I-75 Exit 172, the church will be easily located and surrounded by beautiful hotels and a delightful assortment of restaurants and enticing shopping. As you take note of the hotels listed for your information, please give special attention to the marked dates allowing the group rate for your reservations.

It is a joy to share that our guest speaker/soloist will be Candy Hemphill Christmas who many of you recognize as a recording artist of gospel music for many years. She has been one of gospel music's most respected musicians, and was honored along with the group "*Heirloom*" with six GMA DOVE awards. She was also nominated for Contemporary Album of the Year for her solo recording *Heart to Heart*. Candy and her husband of 23 years, Kent Christmas, reside in Nashville, Tennessee where she pastors The Bridge Ministry, a church and ministry to the homeless who live under the Jefferson Street Bridge. She also is co-pastor of The Resting Place Church in Nashville, TN with her husband and is founder of the Food for Kids program which supplies meals, snacks and various needs for needy children. After opening an orphanage for children in Haiti in October 2009 and seeing it destroyed in the recent earthquake, she is presently developing plans to rebuild The Candy House as a school/orphanage compound outside Port-au-Prince. In the past six years, God has given Candy a new and passionate purpose in caring for the needs of the poor and of those who cannot care for themselves. Her mission is to love people into the kingdom of God. You will not want to miss her contagious joy as she shares the Word and song.

Registration and payment options are available online at [www.gadistag.org](http://www.gadistag.org). Look under *Quick Links* and click on *Ladies Fall Connection*. Follow the directions to register and make your payment. You may also complete and return the enclosed forms to our office. Women's Ministries groups who are chartered for 2010 will save \$5.00 per person on registration. *Quick*

*Passes* will be sent to groups who have registered by September 10. Groups registering after that date will need to check in at the registration desk.

Our *RefresHer Mall* theme will be “*DOWN CANDY CANE LANE*” (in honor of our speaker). You won’t regret saving your dollars and coins and bringing your Christmas list so you can get your shopping done early this year. The tables will be set up in the gym for your convenience. If you or your group would like to reserve one or more tables for your sales, please complete and return the online RefresHer Mall form to our office by September 10.

Because my husband and I have many missionaries in our family and because we share their purpose, it thrills me to honor those of our Georgia missionaries who will be at home this fall. We will ask them once again to join us in our Friday evening service where we will greet them exuberantly and “noisily”, and we will then host them at a reception in the gym following the service. There you will be able to meet them and learn more about their missions focus and how you can partner with them to reach the world for Christ. Fund raising has become more and more difficult for our Missionaries. Would you join us in gathering your loose change and dollar bills and bringing them to the service on Friday evening where we will take a special offering for “Becky for LIFE” to help in meeting our goal for 2010? Please count and place these monies in an enclosed container for easy transporting.

How happy I will be to see you in September in Macon. We will follow our 2010 National Women’s Ministries theme, “THIRSTY?”, so I pray you will come with your cup held high to be filled to overflowing during our time together.

Richest blessings to you,

Jane Collins, Director

Georgia Women’s Ministries