



April 2021

# Baptist Nursing Fellowship Lamplighter



Bi-monthly Newsletter



## THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

By Debby Akerman, BNF President



One Sabbath Paul and his mission journey companions were in a synagogue in Antioch. They were told by the synagogue rulers, *"Brothers, if you have a message of*

*encouragement for the people, please speak."* Acts 13:15b

People have always needed a message of encouragement. This past year more than ever people have needed a message of encouragement. From the patient on a state-of-the-art respirator to the person huddled fearfully inside a crude hut, all have waited for a message of encouragement. Governments struggled to provide it; the CDC gave suggestions to mitigate the viral transmission; WHO informed us with statistics; and the medical community did their heroic best from behind their PPEs.

The only sure message of encouragement was from the assurance of God's word. Nurses in every medical setting heard similar pleas – "If you have any words of encouragement, please tell me." Thank you BNF nurses for faithfully giving God's message of encouragement from scripture to your patients; sharing the hope in Christ they can have; and praying over your patients.

You have lived out our emphasis.

***"Touch Twice  
in  
Jesus Name"***

***'Do not fear, for I am with you;  
Do not be afraid,  
for I am your God.  
I will strengthen you,  
I will also help you,  
I will also uphold you  
with My righteous right hand.'***  
Isaiah 41:10 NASB

## NATIONAL BNF PRAYER MEETING

**Where:** via Zoom

**When:** May 6, 2021

**Time:** 7pm CST/8pm EST

**Focus:** Praying for Student Nurses

**Theme:** *A Life of Perseverance*

**Scripture:** *"Therefore, we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,"* Hebrews 12:1



Join us in fellowship and prayer for the new graduating student as they begin their journey in health care. Pray for one another. To register please go to [baptistnursingfellowship.org](http://baptistnursingfellowship.org) For more information, please email Charlotte Wyckoff at [charlottedunnwyckoff@gmail.com](mailto:charlottedunnwyckoff@gmail.com)

## BNF Executive Director / Treasurer Search Committee

By Marilyn Graves

In January, the Search Committee, Debby Akerman, Kaye Miller, Charolette Rock, Marilyn Graves & Deborah Bolian (co-chairs), began the process in prayer, using a prayer guide written by Debby Akerman, with the focus verse of Hebrews 12:1b-2a. The writer of Hebrews talks of "running the race" and Debby uses "search race" to encourage us. Our first meeting was February 9<sup>th</sup> where responsibilities were assigned, and a time line was determined.

On Tuesday March 16, 2021, the committee met to draft a job description. Once the job description is finalized, a request for resume submission will be published on the BNF Facebook page. We will request that state WMU share this on social media and/or their websites. This information will be sent to all BNF members. The job description will be published at the same time. The deadline for resume submission will be June 1, 2021. The committee will begin reviewing resumes and planning for interviews. The committee hopes to be able to present a BNF Executive Director/Treasurer candidate at The Summit October 29-31, 2021.

We ask you to continue praying for this committee and the person that God will lead us to for our next BNF Executive Director/Treasurer.

**Happy Nurses Week!**

**May 6-12, 2021**

**New Date....  
Note the change!**



**November 5-7, 2021  
in  
Birmingham, AL**



## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES!

Pam Allsbrook, MSN, RN, NCSN  
BNF Educational Committee Chair

The definition of resiliency is "an ability to recover from or adjust easily to adversity or change" or "the ability of something to return to its original size and shape after being compressed or deformed" (Merriam-Webster, n.d.). When I think of resiliency, I think of a rubber band. A rubber band has the ability to stretch several times its length (not a scientific answer). It can contort and twist without breaking. Yet, when you are through using a rubber band, it will spring back into its original shape. It may perhaps be a little scarred or have some minuscule tears that may never mend; but it does return to the place it was before. The health care profession has endured much adversity and change during this last year. Many health care providers are finding it difficult to return to the place they were before. The Education Committee is excited to announce that Mark Whitworth will present a series of lectures on resiliency. This will be a three part series presented in May, July, and September. Make sure to mark your calendar for May 3, 2021 at 7PM EST for our first presentation. We will show each presentation using **ZOOM** and we will also record each presentation, so do not worry if you cannot watch in person. I hope to be able to show the recordings on May 4, 2021 and May 5, 2021 as well. The best part is that each presentation can earn you one Continuing Education Unit (CEU). Keep an eye out for the registration announcement coming soon.

The Educational Committee is also working hard to line up some wonderful presenters for the **BNF Summit in the Fall of 2021, November 5<sup>th</sup> - 7th**. We will give you a sneak peak in the next several months so keep an eye on your inbox.

*"Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing" (James 1:2-5, ESV).*



Mark and Linda Whitworth served with the International Mission Board, SBC, from 1986 to 2016. They initially deployed to Japan where they served until 1997. From 1997 to 2016 Mark served as Director of Member Care for the IMB and Linda was the Director of Stateside Assignment Training. Prior to his service with the IMB Mark was a psychotherapist in a private clinical setting in the Kansas City area. He received a BA in Psychology from the University of Missouri and MS in Clinical Psychology from the

University of Central Missouri. Mark and Linda live a very active lifestyle in retirement and are deeply involved in a unique local church in the Kansas City area. Their only child, Brooke, is a tenured professor at Clemson University.

### References

Merriam-Webster. (n.d.). Resiliency. In Merriam-Webster.com dictionary. Retrieved March 30, 2021, from <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/resiliency>

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The membership committee is hard at work. Heather Barnes, Carol Sapp, Deborah Bolian and Barbara Goodman are meeting monthly to discuss membership goals and strategic plans.

As we have reviewed membership forms--- one standout is that people join BNF because of **CONNECTIONS**. They join because of one of you. We can easily double our membership just by each one of us asking one person to join us. We challenge you to:

- Forward the Lamplighter.
- Share your passion for BNF.
- Encourage one another.
- Reach out in Jesus name.
- Enlist a new member

## Westberg Institute For Faith Community Nursing Statement Regarding Faith Community Nurses and COVID-19 Vaccinations

As production of the COVID vaccine increases, faith community nurses (FCNs) should educate the public on the importance and safety of the vaccine to promote high participation. FCNs may also volunteer to administer the vaccine. FCNs who provide vaccinations must have the knowledge and skill, to administer vaccinations. It is highly recommended that FCNs who provide vaccinations attend training for administering the COVID-19 vaccine!

### Recommendations for all FCNs performing COVID-19 vaccine administration:

- Current unrestricted license
- Malpractice insurance
- Competence in the informed consent process, COVID-19 vaccine administration, vaccine reconstitution, storage requirements, side effects, emergency management of adverse reactions, record-keeping, waste and disposal and all other aspects of vaccine administration outlined in The COVID-19 Vaccination Program Interim Operational Guidance for Jurisdictions Playbook located at

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/covid19-vaccination-guidance.html>

Many rural areas of the country have a significant shortage of nurses, while highly populated areas may not have an adequate number of nurses necessary to accommodate the volume of vaccine recipients. FCNs can assist to fill in the gaps. FCNs may offer to host a vaccine clinic in their faith communities by contacting the State/Local Health Department. Research has shown that higher vaccination rates were achieved when onsite vaccinations were offered in communities of faith.

Visit CDC-INFO <https://www.cdc.gov/cdc-info/index.html> or CALL 18002324636.

### Additional Reference Information

*All nursing practices fall under the legal authority of each State's Nurse Practice Acts and State Board of Nursing Policies. Scope and Standards of Practice documents reflect the thinking of the nursing profession and provide guidance for nurses in the application of their professional skills and responsibilities. It is up to the FCN to assess one's skills, knowledge, and comfort in following any medical orders.*

*Additionally, an employer or setting of practice may limit the scope of practice for the FCN. It is recommended that every FCN have malpractice insurance. The Foundation of Faith Community Nursing Course (Legal and Documentation modules) offers information and recommendations regarding practice responsibilities in both the Legal and Documentation module.*

*(1) All nursing practice is guided by the Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice. Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice (American Nurses Association, 2015).*

*(2) Faith Community Nursing practice is also guided by the specialty scope and standards of practice: Faith Community Nursing Scope and Standards of Practice (American Nurses Association & Health Ministry Association, 2017).*

Daniels, N.A., Juarbe, T., et al (2007) Effectiveness of Adult Vaccination Programs in faith-based Organizations. Ethnicity and Disease, 17(1). S1.

Excerpt from Westberg Institute Position Paper: Faith Community Nursing (FCN): Direct Care or "Hands-on" Practice and Glucose Testing