

Dear Friends,

I would like to tell you about a great opportunity. I have been invited to be a part of a team that International Association for Refugees (IAFR) and First Covenant Church in Minneapolis are sending to Dzaleka Refugee Camp in Malawi, Africa. Among other things, I will be participating in a Women's Ministry Conference that the refugee churches are planning during our visit.

Refugee camps are dangerous places – especially for women and children. A trip to get water, fire wood or simply to go to the bathroom can expose them to sexual violence. Where do they go with that kind of pain? Where can they go with their shame? Who will listen?

The body of Christ is meant to be a safe community that shelters, loves, covers shame with grace and restores dignity in His name. We are eager to share some of the biblically based principles of the *Journey Group* ministry we work with at First Covenant with refugee women.

I began working with the Journey Group ministry while serving refugees in Austria back in 1995. Tom and I felt this would be a powerful resource for those who have suffered so much loss, upheaval, violence and abuse during their refugee experience. This has great potential to be an encouragement to these refugee churches.

Would you be willing to join me on this trip through your prayers and support?

Trip dates: 12-25 October 2011.

Supported Needed: \$4,125

If you are willing to step into this adventure with me, please let me know either by phone: 763-229-5224 or e-mail: donna@iafr.org. Financial contributions can be sent to IAFR at the address below.

I value your faith, your prayers and your standing with me in this journey. Thank you for considering being a part of this opportunity.

Blessings,

It is a humbling and inspiring opportunity to meet these refugee women at a heart level, listen to their stories, learn about their circumstances and hear their hopes and fears.

Please pray:

That God will prepare my heart with humility and openness to be an encouragement to the refugee women.

For wisdom and insight as we prepare to share some of the principles from the *Journey Group* ministry.

For the financial needs of the trip. We each need to raise \$4, 125. Please pray that in these difficult financial times, God would provide what is needed.

IAFR, P.O. Box 47047, Minneapolis, MN 55447

Please designate your donation for the support of Donna Albinson.