



Who? Brenda Halk serves as Canadian Baptist Ministries' Senior Associate for Strategic Projects. She has extensive experience as an educator and entrepreneur, and has served as the president of Canadian Baptist Women and the Canadian Baptist Women of Ontario and Quebec. Brenda has also served as an executive member of the North American Baptist Women's Union, and was president of the board of directors (2009–2012) of Canadian Baptist Ministries.

Brenda lives in Waterloo, Ontario, where she and her husband, Dennis, are members of Glen Acres Baptist Church. They have three adult children and six grandchildren.

When? In April 2014, Brenda began as CBM's Strategic Associate with a focus on women's initiatives. Her role as senior associate began in January of 2016.

Where? Brenda's work encompasses not only Canada but the world, in the areas where field staff for Canadian Baptist Ministries are located.

What? Brenda works with CBM's global church partners to train and equip women to be effective agents of change at home, in the church, and within the wider community. Brenda employs her skills and knowledge gained from the workplace and in her volunteer leadership capacities to provide strategic direction to a global network of women that will mentor and support emerging female leaders in their local contexts. In this role, she oversees gender-based initiatives, Marketplace Ministry-related programs, other strategic activities, and has oversight for the Groups of Hope program.

Groups of Hope Program: The eight sessions in the Groups of Hope program encourages small groups of women to find renewed hope and healing through Bible stories as the participants relate God's truths and his hope to their lives.

She Matters: The Canadian Baptist Ministries initiative, She Matters, supports programs which seek to equip, empower, and enrich women's lives. Literacy programs, support for indigenous children in India, and providing school fees and support for children orphaned or affected by HIV/AIDS are only a few of the areas that benefit from She Matters.



Women Mentoring Women: Seven female clergy gathered together in Mississauga, Ontario, in January of 2016, to learn about women pastors in Thika, Kenya, and planned for a mentoring program. The women will mutually benefit from shared prayer, devotions, support, and encouragement.

Bolivian Baptist Women: Women representing each of the different regions of Bolivia gathered together in January of 2016 to worship, encourage one another, and to plan for the coming year. Brenda had the privilege of attending the Bolivian conference.



Gender Initiatives in Aid of Women: In Eastleigh, which is a township in Nairobi, Kenya, several women's self-help groups have been working together, making beautiful scarves to sell, helping provide income for their families.



Why? Two-thirds of illiterate people are women. The needs among women, not only in Third World countries, but also in North America, are unique and many. Some have no education and no way of providing for the needs of their children. Women are often treated as less than human and are afraid for their safety. Pray that She Matters initiatives and other programs administered by Brenda Halk will enable these women to realize that they are valuable human beings, and that God, their Heavenly Father, loves and values them.

Helen Hopper
UBW/MU/ABW Corresponding Secretary

Sources: Brenda Halk 2016 CBM Update