

# ECUMENICALLY SPEAKING

Newsletter for Church Women United of the Barrington Area

## Bookfriends International, NFP

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*Information Provided by Bookfriends International, NFP*

The mission of Bookfriends International, NFP is to gather textbooks, library reference and reading materials from schools, libraries and individuals in the U.S. and provide them to secondary schools in developing countries at no charge to them. Begun in '04 by Steve and Paulie Kutschat, during and following a trip to Tanzania, East Africa, Bookfriends became a 501[c][3] public foundation in 2005, and continues to grow as people discover the mission to share our books with those who have so few, or none at all. Through the gifting of the thousands of books, hundreds of hours of volunteer time and energy, and monetary donations for shipping costs, 43 secondary schools now have books for their 20,000+ students' use. Volunteers over this '08 summer have nearly completed the packing for the next container-shipment. Bookfriends proceeds with faith that there will be funding to cover at least part of this next shipment. The funding for current and future shipments is always the greatest challenge, and Bookfriends does not like to keep the eager African kids waiting for their books which provide for them HOPE in their future.

For more information, we invite you to visit our website [www.bookfriends.org](http://www.bookfriends.org)