

women's ministries



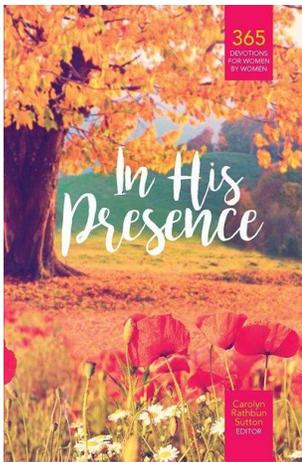
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
INTER-EUROPEAN DIVISION



2018.15– September 5, 2018

News from Women's Ministries Inter-European Division

In His Presence



2019 Women's Devotional Book

In His Presence, the 2019 women's devotional, is written by women for women.

About the book: When life's uncertainties overwhelm us, we may momentarily forget that an unshakeable refuge is always close by. From it flows only good things. That refuge is Jesus. When we keep our eyes on Him, He will guide us through life's darkest days and nights. He, who is head-over-heels in love with us, wants us to understand that He is always by our side and constantly provides for our needs.

Furthermore, Jesus promises never to abandon us as He leads us toward brighter days ahead. Along the journey, He will teach us how to live like He did. Then, as with the apostles of old, others around us will be able to tell

where we have been spending our time—with Him.

So be blessed as you walk through these inspirational stories written by women who have rediscovered an ever-present Friend—and love like they've never known. Experience their joy and unspeakable delight as they're surprised by the evidence that the One who loves them best is always near. In 365 different ways, the confident voices of God's daughters around the world declare, "I will not be shaken for I am living in His presence.

"This year, for the first time, all proceeds will support Adventist higher education for women in the North American Division. So take advantage of the special pricing available through January 31, 2018. The book will bless your own walk with Christ AND help a young woman finish her education. Available through all bookstores as well as online bookstores or order at adventistbookcenter.com

Trans-European Division Pastoral Council



#EPC 2018 affirms the importance of women pastors

Pastors and spouses of the Trans-European Division met for an inspiring 5-day meeting in Belgrade, Serbia from August 28 to September 1 under the motto: Connect – Change – Inspire. Every five years the division organizes as pastoral council and this year's meetings were a special blessing and motivation for Adventist clergy as they strive to reach today's secular world.



Not only the choice of speakers showed how supportive the Division is of women pastors, but also the words of Division President Rafaat Kamal at the closing service uplifted the value of women pastors: "I connected this afternoon with our women pastors. I thought I was asked to come in to affirm, to inspire and to pray with them... I walked out of that room connected, inspired and changed again. I had tears in my eyes. It was a humbling experience. I thought I will go in and encourage and pray for them. They encouraged me and prayed for me! And I always marvel, when I meet with our women pastors – I marvel at their humility, I marvel at

their Christ-like characteristics. And this has to do with the cross, friends. Jesus Christ at the cross changes hearts and minds. What a beautiful connection that they have. And I ask you to keep them in your prayers. How we treat them is important. The children, the young people, the community, are watching how we treat our women pastors. Keep them in your prayers. They are very, very precious, very valuable to our ministry."

The Sabbath sermon was presented by Elizabeth Talbot, who emphasized how important it is that Christ is the centre of our ministry. Elizabeth Talbot is the Speaker/Director for the Jesus 101 Biblical Institute, a media ministry of the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists (www.jesus101.tv). Reflecting on her own motivation for this ministry, she declares that sharing the good news of Jesus Christ is "like fire in my bones."

As one participant wrote on returning home, "I just want to say a 1,000 times thank you for an amazing time at EPC! I was so blessed by the whole programme, so well put together, with timely messages that anchored my heart in the love of Jesus, that lifted my spirit via the music and singing and gave me hope to continue on the road forward!"

Her words fully represent the pastors, spouses, other workers and volunteers, who are now armed with new connections and renewed inspiration. With Christ confirmed at the centre, and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, change is inevitable. This kind of inspiration is what the church needs.

Watch all the plenary sessions on youtube:

www.youtube.com/playlist

[photo credit: Elsie and Tor Tjeransen/ADAMS]

Salvation Army Celebrates 125 Years of Women Preaching



Have you heard the good news?

Women will be preaching all throughout The Salvation Army to celebrate 125 years of suffrage in Aotearoa!

Corps have been asked on either Sunday 16th or Sunday 23rd (or both!) to have women preaching, to honour the legacy of our foremothers. Imagine how strong our voice in New Zealand will be those days!

The Salvation Army's co-founder Catherine Booth began her preaching career in Victorian England, against all odds and with much opposition. Her tract 'Female Ministry; Or, Woman's Right to Preach the Gospel' stands today as an open door to women from the pulpit of The Salvation Army internationally.

According to a report of Salvation Army Women's Ministries on Facebook Photo: Salvation Army

enditnow® Emphasis Day in Hamburg



Women's Ministries Group of International Church is active

The Women's Ministries Group of the international church in Hamburg, Germany, is very active. This year they organized the program of the enditnow emphasis day intended to prevent violence.

The sermon addressed how words can kill and cause psychological trauma. As the new school year had already begun the children's story touched on the topic of bullying. "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen" Ephesians 4:29 NIV). Loving companionship was demonstrated with a potluck meal as always on Sabbath. It is so important to create a loving and trustworthy atmosphere in our churches so that it can be a safe place for all.

According to a report by Nancy Duske, Hansa Conference WM director Photos: WM Hansa

Conference

enditnow® Emphasis Day 2018



Words that Wound

In spite of the fact that the Adventist church calendar has many special days, most of these days pass without notice. That probably also applies to the Enditnow Emphasis Day, although we are sure that many churches around the world actually do something to raise awareness against abuse and violence on that day. We just don't hear much about it.

This year's topic "Words that wound" was addressed in a church service organized by Bettina Omar in Tübingen, Germany, on August 25. A powerpoint presentation showing that demeaning words we hear as children can hurt us a whole lifetime showed how important it is to watch what we say. Even if the words are not meant to hurt, they can destroy self-esteem. The sermon was presented by Abishek Thavamani, a native of India, who was impressed by the material prepared by the Women's Ministries Department of the General Conference. Realizing that some aspects of his own culture that were considered as normal were, in fact, abusive, he opened our minds to the possibility that things we say might be psychologically traumatic for our partners. Words from the Bible about our use of words recapped the message.

Although no spectacular activities were organized, people were invited to sign a pledge to engage in stopping abuse. It is good that this topic is no longer just an idea of the Women's Ministries department, but many other departments of the church are joining in to stop abuse – not just against women, but also against children and men, in fact anyone who is at risk. We are thankful that there are men as well as women who realize that it is time to end all kinds of abuse now.

Reported by H.Ottschofski Photo: WMEU

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Further Links:

Events: Calendar Women's Ministries EUD

<http://women.euroafrica.org/calendar>

Homepage Women's Ministries:

www.women.eud.adventist.org

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