

women's ministries



SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
INTER-EUROPEAN DIVISION



2019.01–January 25, 2019

News from Women's Ministries Inter-European Division

January 25 is an Orange Day



Every 25th of a month is an invitation to take action to end violence against women

The initiative of UN WOMEN to proclaim each 25th of a month an Orange Day, with people wearing something in orange, is becoming more and more known around the world.

November 25th is the international day International Day for the Elimination of Abuse and Violence against Women, but we are invited to make an impact on every 25th of each month. 12 days to be creative in order to take action.

When confronted with the idea of wearing orange, some women said, "Orange is just not my color. Why orange?" Maybe orange is not your color and you do not look your best, but think of all the women in the world who are victims of all kinds of violence and abuse. They do not look their best either, with their battered faces. In general terms, abuse manifests itself in physical, sexual and psychological forms, encompassing:

- intimate partner violence (battering, psychological abuse, marital rape, femicide);
- sexual violence and harassment (rape, forced sexual acts, unwanted sexual advances, child sexual abuse, forced marriage, street harassment, stalking, cyber- harassment);
- human trafficking (slavery, sexual exploitation);
- female genital mutilation; and
- child marriage.

Out of solidarity we can wear a color we may otherwise not prefer! In many countries not only women are proud to wear orange today, but also men who take a stand to end violence against women.

Join the campaign! You can participate in person or on social media via the following hashtags: #OrangeUrWorld, #OrangeTheWorld, #HearMeToo, #EndVAW.

www.un.org/en/events/endviolenceday/

Surgeon speaks about Female Genital Mutilation



Help with a High Success rate

For more than 5 years the surgeon Cornelia Strunz of Berlin has been helping victims of genital mutilation with a high success rate. Almost all women can find help. Cornelia Strunz wants to people to revise their opinion.

The Desert Flower Foundation at Waldfriede Hospital in Berlin has been offering help to women since 2013. An interview of May 2017 with the doctor who does reconstructive surgery was rebroadcast on Deutschlandfunk Kultur on January 22, 2019 and can be heard as a podcast under the link:

https://www.deutschlandfunkkultur.de/chirurgin-ueber-genitalverstuemmung-hilfe-mit-hoher.970.de.html?dram%3Aarticle_id=438888&fbclid=IwAR1MN7nxAgITRPQx2RA_SkiNH9cH5kR2-bRJruvug2ldSajQbQaf_8kXOhMwww.deutschlandfunkkultur.de/chirurgin-ueber-genitalverstuemmung-hilfe-mit-hoher.970.de.html

Photo: Deutschlandfunk

Bags for Tubes, Socks for Premies: Women help Women



Tübingen University Hospital honors volunteers

Accompanied by applause, the volunteers receive roses and certificates. About 70 people gathered in the large auditorium of the Women's Clinic of the Tübingen University Hospital on Thursday, January 17, 2019. The volunteers were honored for their commitment to support the patients. Some women knit tiny bonnets and socks for premature babies, others sew heart-shaped cushions for women with breast cancer. These cushions are placed under the arm in order to alleviate pressure on the incisions. Women whose drainage tubes have not yet been removed when they are discharged receive bags to cover the tubes. Professor Sara Bruckner, medical Director of the Research Institute for Women's Health told the volunteering women, "You can't imagine how much the patients benefit." She also explained the various fields of the clinic. Professor Diethelm Wallwiener, medical director of the clinic also showed his appreciation: "We cannot esteem volunteer activities enough. Without this engagement humanity would not be human." He expressed his wish for continued cooperation. The event was livened by the choir of the students of midwife science and an ensemble of clinic personnel. The Women's Ministries Group of the Tübingen Adventist Church has donated hundreds of heart-shaped cushions during the last few years to the clinic, thus being part of the many volunteer groups.

Source: Schwaebisches Tagblatt, January 18, 2019 Photo: Marko Knab

International Women's Day



March 8 will be a public holiday in Berlin

Berlin is the first federal German Land to declare March 8, the International Women's Day, a public holiday. The Berlin Senate passed legislation to add a 10th public holiday to the annual calendar. The citizens of Berlin will thus join North Korea, Vietnam, China and Cambodia in celebrating the International Women's Day as a public holiday. The idea is to make an impact for Gender Equality.

On the occasion of a Socialist Women's Congress in Copenhagen in 1910, at the initiative of Clara Zetkin, the International Women's Day was proclaimed starting in 1911. In the beginning women's suffrage was one element that was demanded at women's manifestations. In 1975,

in the Year of Women, the United Nations included March 8 as the International Women's Day in their list of special days. Meanwhile it is called the International Day for Women's Rights and World Peace. Many Women's Ministries groups especially in eastern European Countries organize special activities to honor women on March 8.

Source: AFP Photo: ZDF

Denia Hospital receives Heart-shaped Cushions



Women's Ministries Group in Denia, Spain, sew cushions for women with mastectomy

The Adventist Women's Ministries Group in Denia donated a score of heart-shaped cushions to the hospital in Denia. These cushions are designed to aid in the recovery of women after mastectomy. Mercedes Martínez, head of this Adventist group, delivered the cushions this week to the Oncology team at the Denia hospital. The group organizes weekly meetings and the women wanted to make these special cushions. They are used by women who have had to undergo a mastectomy, operation for the removal of the mammary gland or a part of it. This cushion, worn under the arm prevents chafing in the wound after surgery and because of the shape it is easy to keep in place. On the other hand, it prevents direct contact of the arm with the body, and offers support. In addition, it protects the muscles of the shoulder. The Adventist Women's Ministries group in Denia, and the Women's Ministries of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Spain, want this cushion, which is full of love, to contribute to the recovery of many women with breast cancer.

Reported by the Department of Health of Denia, MarinaSalud and Amalia Reta, Women's Ministries Director of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Spain. Photo: Department of Health, Denia

The Treasure Hunt



Digging deep into the Stories of the Bible

The Treasure Hunt is a journey into discovering the Bible - its stories, wisdom, poems, proverbs, prophecies, history and all the treasures that are inside it. Marjukka Ostrovljanovic explores the stories of the Bible, discovering fascinating details. The Treasure Hunt episodes are now also being broadcast in German and are available on Hope Channel German under the title "Wortschatz" in the Media Center. In the current Sabbath School programs "die BIBEL. das LEBEN" on Hope Channel German she is one of the four guests studying the book of Revelation this quarter. She will also be one of the presenters at the EUD congress (Interministries summit www.people7.net) in September 2019 in Italy. Marjukka was born in Finland, studied theology in England and is particularly fascinated by the Hebrew language of the Old Testament. She is married to Mike Ostrovljanovic and has two children and loves her work as a pastor in Regensburg, Germany. Photo: HopeChannel German

www.facebook.com/TheTreasureH/

www.hopechannel.de/tv/mediathek/episoden/ml/wortschatz/

Unvarnished – the Sequel



Four women discuss Life

In 'Unvarnished', a program produced by Hope Channel Germany, four women discuss life and what makes them tick personally, without a script. Authenticity, life experience, emotions and a positive attitude created by faith make this series of programs so attractive.

The new series begins with the topic of 'Change', broadcast on January 1, 2019. Other topics on the following Tuesdays will be 'Slowing down', 'It's up to me', 'You don't belong', and 'Appreciated'.

Gabi Pratz, Marion Gaffron, Dany Canedo and Heidi Albisser talk about the challenge of change. Is it a burden or an opportunity? What about slowing down? Timetables, to-do-lists, commitments – our days are full of duties. How can we find the right balance? Life is often a challenge and things are up to us. How do we treat others and the environment? Sometimes we feel as if life sets up barriers: you cannot enter here! You are not a mother, you are not an athlete, you are not an expert. You just don't belong. How do we deal with this situation? Everybody is a person of worth. But what is the role of appreciation in our life? Appreciation for others but also for ourselves.

The programs are broadcast on Tuesdays at 20:15 CET beginning on January 1, and they are also available in the media center of Hope Channel Germany

www.hopechannel.de/tv/mediathek/episode/ml/ungeschminkt/veraenderungen-1/

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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

Dagmar Dorn
Hannele Ottshofski, Editor

Women's Ministries
General Conference SDA
Inter-European Division (EUD)
Schosshaldenstr. 17
CH - 3006 Bern

Mail: dagmar.dorn@eud.adventist.org