

women's ministries



SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
INTER-EUROPEAN DIVISION



2019.06–April 15, 2019

News from Women's Ministries Inter-European Division

Women's Retreat in Varna, Bulgaria



God is Able

Around 90 women and a few men gathered for the Bulgarian Women's Forum with the topic "God is Able" from April 12-14, 2019 in Varna, Bulgaria. The women arrived from all parts of the country to spend the weekend together, in order to experience God and His enriching power as well as communion with others.

The guest speaker was Dagmar Dorn, Women's Ministries Director at the Inter-European Division. Using various Bible stories as illustrations she led in a detailed study of God's boundless possibilities. If God was able to do the impossible in Bible times, eg. give women a son in their old age, he is just as able to use his power in our lives today, doing the impossible. Do we trust him implicitly? On Sabbath morning she showed how God leads us even when our dreams burst like bubbles and things turn up the opposite from our wishes. Even then we can share God's faithfulness with others and tell our personal story.



On the Sabbath afternoon some women shared their experiences with God. One lady told about the "Women's Club" they had started in her church, which has become very popular with church members as well as unchurched women. Another lady shared the story of her conversion, how she had found God in a "Center of Influence". She will be baptized in June. The impressive testimony of a blind sister who has published a book of poems was moving. She read some of her poems using braille.

Saturday night is always reserved for a social, folksy, program. On Sunday morning the women participated in a special project. All participants had been asked to bring along a small gift and other useful articles like towels, slippers and other things that could be useful in an old people's home. The idea behind the project was that we do not only want to be recipients but also givers of gifts. These articles were packed and presented to the residents of an old people's home who were overjoyed and moved by the action. They sang a song for the women as a sign of their gratitude.

All participants of the retreat will look back at the time with good memories and they returned to their homes enriched and empowered and motivated to share what they had experienced.

Reported by EUD WM Photos: WM Bulgaria

Women's Ministries Retreat in Freudenstadt, Germany



Hold on to your Joy

The venue was decorated with spring flowers to welcome the women to the retreat on the topic of Joy from March 10 to 12. Surrounded by flowers Ingrid Naumann, retired Women's Ministries director, spoke about interesting topics like forgiveness, letting go and many more. The workshops on the Saturday night were special highlights. 40 ladies from 20 to 80 years of age enjoyed the days filled with prayer, sharing, laughing and learning and many were sad to part so that they already preregistered for the next retreat in September with Gerd-Laila Walter on the topic P.A.L.S. (Prayer and Love save). Photo: WM BW

Malawi Women's Ministries Director visits Bern



Networking

During her visit in Bern, Emily Banda Egolet, Women's and Children's Ministries Union leader from Malawi, stopped by at the EUD Office to meet with Dagmar Dorn and Elsa Cozzi. They shared their experiences, joys and challenges in working for the women and children in their territories. It's been good to pray with and for each other. Photo: WM EUD

Spanish Women's Ministries Create Video on Household Chores



Men and Women are Equal and Should be Partners

Spanish Union Women's Director Amalia Reta has created this video to promote the equality of men and women.

Most of the housework is left on women's shoulders. A good husband tends to think that his wife needs help in the home. Well, no, not really. She doesn't need help, she needs a partner, a companion. He will be a partner in all the chores, not just a helper who lends a hand now and then. He participates in cleaning the home because he lives there. He will participate in cooking because he needs to eat. He will wash dishes because he uses them. He will do ironing because he wears clothes. He will change the baby's diapers because it is his child. He will clean windows because it is his home. Sharing the work is loving. He is not just helping!

To see the video go to EUD Women's Ministries on Facebook.

Women's Meeting in Timisoara, Romania



Encouraged through Prayer

On March 31, 2019, women from Timisoara and nearby areas had the possibility to meet with Janet Page, Shepherdess and Prayer Ministries co-ordinator at the GC. Janet spoke with great power about prayer, confession, thankfulness towards God in all

situations and mission. The women were greatly encouraged and blessed. Mariana, the local Women' Ministries director, invited all the other colleagues and most of them came for the Sabbath with their husbands. Then, from Sunday to Tuesday they were able to go on a trip together to visit Prague and Vienna.

According to a report by Teodora Goran



Women's Ministries in the Muntenia Conference of Romania



"Hope for the new-born" Project

Not only do the Women's Ministries groups in almost all churches of the conference observe the special Women's Ministries days in March and November, presenting special programs for the churches, including seminars and meals and small surprises in the program, but the groups are also active in various projects intended to reach out to others. Many Projects are directed at reaching women outside of the church.

Three churches in Câmpina hold monthly meetings for women and also invite their friends to come. A lot of guests have been attending regularly in the past years. The women have started



a project to help mothers with new-born babies.

There are 20 women involved and working for this project. They are preparing gift-packages for the new mothers and bring them to the hospital for the new-born babies. They knit the products themselves and then travel to the hospital by bus, 3-4 times a week, having 5-10 packages prepared. Each gift package contains a little baby-blanket, a changing towel, a pair of knitted pants, a little bonnet and a pair of knitted socks, a jacket and the missionary book of the year. The oldest woman who is helping with the project is 90 years old. The project started 15 months ago and up to now the ladies have given away 850 gift-packages! Needy mothers in difficult social conditions also get additional help. The project was initiated by the Mărășești Church in Câmpina, but since there are 3 churches in the town, there are women from the two other churches that contribute and are involved in this project. One of the greatest challenges is to find the funds for the material, but God is helping!

Reported by Women's Ministries Romania Photos: WM Romania

Women's Bible Breakfast Meeting in Luebeck, Germany

Prayer and Miracles



Women's Bible Breakfast Meeting in Luebeck, Germany Meditation about Prayer The Women's Ministries Team of the Luebeck church led by Petra Lolk prepared a delicious breakfast for women on Sunday, March 24, 2019. Kirsi Mueller, a young pastor from the northernmost part of Germany, spoke about Hannah's prayer and helped the women review the prayers and miracles in their lives. Some of the answered prayers may have been long forgotten and so it is good to remember what God has done.

Photos: WM Hansa



Baptism as a Result of g4christ Program



March 23, in Lugano, Ticino, Switzerland

Luz Maria grew up in a Christian family. When she was little she didn't understand so much about God, but had a special relationship with him. She always felt his presence close to her especially since as a child she had been run over by her father's Jeep while he backed up and miraculously survived this accident without a harm. Nobody could believe that. Now with 16 years she wanted to put God first. She wanted to be baptized and wanted to give her life to Jesus. Luz Maria studies at a commercial high school in Bellinzona, has three siblings and is the daughter of Martha, the WM leader and g4ch leader in the church in Lugano /Ticino Switzerland. Martha is incredibly happy because her daughter is the first girl of the g4ch programme which has been running for two years now who has asked for baptism.

Nayana, a team member of the g4ch programme was baptized the same day. Nayana's mother Noemia and Martha used to be friends in a church of another denomination. Years later Martha met Nayana again and invited her to church. Since then she came regularly and became a big help at women's ministries and g4ch. Martha says, "God has fully repaid all my efforts and has given me great blessings through girls for g4ch both, with Luz Maria and Nayana.

According to a report by Martha Santana, SDA Church Lugano, Switzerland



God loves you as you are



Women's International Prayer Day in Hamburg, Germany

The Seventh-Day Adventist church in Hamburg Barmbek observed the Women's International Day of Prayer on March 2, 2019. The church was decorated to express the multiple facets of flowers in various colors, symbolizing that each woman is unique and shines according to her "color" and that God loves each one. The sermon was preached by Darja Schneider who spoke about the apostle Paul's journey to Philippi, where he met Lydia. God wanted her to hear the message and she was baptized. After a delicious potluck meal the afternoon program involved movement, peace and creativity. The women's Sabbath was a relaxed and blessed day that should be repeated. The many women who were involved in helping and organizing deserve a big thankyou.

According to a report by Corina Dierfeld, Women's Ministries leader, Hamburg-Barmbek



On March 9, 2019, the Hamburg International church also observed the Women's International Day of Prayer. In her sermon, Nancy Duske, Women's Ministries director for the Hansa Conference challenged all to follow Jesus according to God's will. It is important to give God

first place in our lives. After a plentiful potluck meal the afternoon program concentrated on how to hear God's voice calling us to be his disciples even when we tend to see things differently. The workshop helped us switch off from our daily routine as the women interacted in good conversations. Many thanks to all servants of God who made this pleasant Women's Sabbath possible.

According to a report by Petra Lolk, Luebeck SDA church

Photos: WM Hansa Conference

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Events: Calendar Women's Ministries EUD
<http://women.euroafrica.org/calendar>

Homepage Women's Ministries:
www.women.eud.adventist.org

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