

women's ministries



SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
INTER-EUROPEAN DIVISION



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News from Women's Ministries Inter-European Division

August 24 is ENDITNOW Day



God's Path to Resilience

Each year the Women's Ministries Department of the General Conference prepares material that can be presented on the annual ENDITNOW day on the fourth Sabbath in August. This year the material was written by Julian M. Melgosa, PhD, Associate Director of the Department of Education General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Considering all the pain that is caused by abuse and violence, we need resilience in order to survive and not be broken. God always provides a path to resilience. People need to feel hopeful and useful, and these God-given tendencies help them bounce back and navigate the new normal with flexibility and adaptability.

We live in a world full of pain and injustice. Not only do we witness suffering and death, we experience it. Yet, Jesus promises that such pain will become joy: "I tell you the truth, you will weep and mourn while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy" (John 16:20). Maybe this message is for a dear one who is suffering. Perhaps someone needs your presence. Perhaps your loved one's pain will guide you in learning how to effectively support others as the hands and feet of God. Perhaps the church community will gain many blessings by caring for your loved one. Good things can develop from painful experiences.

You may be going through difficult times in an area of your life—health, family, work, faith, relationships, church. Or perhaps you already went through a traumatic event with its various sequels of trauma and you are suffering mentally or emotionally for what happened in the past. Maybe the situation is serious enough that you should consider professional psychological/psychiatric help. Whatever, the case, you are not alone.

You can be blessed by the Lord, both directly and indirectly, through the support of other people. Allow God to work in your life. Keep the avenues of prayer and Scripture reading open. Tell Him how you feel. Then place your trust in God and praise Him. Share any blessings you receive with others. And participate in your church group of believers.

Even when you do not understand why the Lord is allowing painful things to happen, get help, lean on someone you trust, talk about what hurts you. You are not alone. Finally, be patient, for He will not allow pain to be greater than you can take.

In the meantime, hold onto promises like these: They confronted me in the day of my disaster, but the Lord was my support. He brought me out into a spacious place; he rescued me because he delighted in me. Psalm 18:18, 19

The sermon material is available through the link women.eud.adventist.org/en/resources/

Creating a Sisterhood to Fill the Gap



New website and community for millennial women

On August 15, 2019, Spectrum Magazine published an interview with Valerie Sigamani, founder and director of Wild Faith Co., and Judit Amparo Manchay, editor and podcast host of Wild Faith Co., talk about the online community they have created for Adventist and non-Adventist millennial women. With their community of sisters, they encourage and empower

women to capture faith, and do something as a result of it.

Wild Faith Co started because Valerie was blessed to have a community of women around her in college who were extremely empowering and faithful and who challenged her. But when she left undergrad she felt empty. And she realized she must not be the only person who felt that way. There must be a big group of women who felt abandoned by their churches and by the women's ministries that were available to them.

After conducting research and talking to the women in charge of women's ministries for the North American Division, it became clear to her that there was a gap in serving women from approximately age 21 to 45. That's a big gap. In fact, at that time the Adventist church had just recently started an initiative called Gorgeous2God that was directed at young women 18 and below. She was really happy to hear about that project, but there was nothing for young women over 21. This is a very critical gap in ministry at the conference level. So they stepped in and started Wild Faith Co.

At first the ministry was directed toward Adventist women but then they began seeing something a bit more evangelistic than what they had first imagined. Their new mission statement is: To reach millennial women with the gospel who may not be currently going to church but have a heart and spirit that cares for people.

Women's Ministries need to find ways to reach this generation and the initiative of these young women is an inspiration for all Women's Ministry leaders.

Read the whole interview at: https://spectrummagazine.org/interviews/2019/creating-sisterhood-fill-gap?fbclid=IwAR0uyRVR4KtC30T9L7RNBB5_3H5Vxz78z8GAbvqbQoXRKOoFgBAMrq9A7q4

Photo: Spectrum Magazine

New Women's Ministries Director for the Swiss-German Conference



Dagmar Latuski takes over from Heidi Albisser

At the end of July Heidi Albisser, who served as Women's Ministries Director in the Swiss-German Conference for the last eight and a half years will step down. During this period Heidi not only inspired the women in Switzerland but was also an important part of the leaders' network (DACH) in the German-speaking countries. She put her heart in her service and never counted the cost. Heidi's positive and enthusiastic character will be missed as well as her creativity as a speaker and trainer in the leadership seminars she introduced in Switzerland. May God bless her future path. We want to thank Heidi for her valuable ministry.

Dagmar Latuski has been appointed as the new Women's Ministries Director. She is a certified health instructor. She joined the Women's Ministries team of the conference this spring and has gained insight into the work of the department at previous events. She is

married and has one daughter. Her training makes Dagmar a perfect replacement for Heidi. She sees her new responsibility as a call from God.

Heidi expressed her good wishes in the following words:

Dear Dagmar, may these words accompany you in your ministry.

May God give you what you need as His collaborator on the way to reach people. May He give you eyes that see the concerns of others. May He empower your hands to do good for others. May He accompany your feet on the paths you traverse with others. May His Spirit move you and through you, so that faith, love and hope will grow and you will produce abiding fruit. May His peace enshrine your feelings and thoughts and protect your days and nights. The Lord has promised: "I am with you always." I wish you joy and God's blessings in abundance for your important ministry.

We are sure that the women in Switzerland are looking forward to getting to know Dagmar in a personal way soon.

Welcome in the Women's Ministries team serving the women of Europe.

Dagmar Dorn, EUD Women's Ministries Director Photo: Dagmar Latuski private

First Female Conference President visits Germany



Sandra Roberts in Stuttgart

From July 7 to 15, 2019, the first woman who has been elected president of an American conference of the Seventh-Day-Adventist church visited various Adventist institutions in Germany. Sandra Roberts is an ordained minister of the Southeastern California Conference in Riverside. During her visit Sandra Roberts established ties, preached and encouraged women in leadership positions.

The visit of Dr. Roberts to Germany came as a result of an invitation of the local congregation in Stuttgart. During this time she met leaders of the church in Germany, visited the Theological University Friedensau in Magdeburg and the Hope Media Centre in Alsbach-Hähnlein as well as historical sites in Berlin and Wittenberg. Dr. Roberts also had a tight speaking schedule and participated in a panel discussion on the role of women in leadership within the Seventh-Day-Adventist church.

“In our Division (NAD) gender equality is a prerequisite for being socially relevant”, Roberts said in the discussion. The Southeastern California Conference has a long tradition of promoting equality in ministry and she herself has profited from this stance. As president she has always experienced full support in her conference although not all members agree. She takes pride in standing up for equality of men and women in the church and defending her women pastors. “I do not want my church to split because of this...I believe that we belong together,” she confirmed. Before her call to serve as president of the Southeastern California Conference Sandra Roberts served as its executive secretary for nine years. She is now serving her second period as conference president, having been re-elected with a great majority last year.

According to a report by Stephan G. Brass, APD

Photo: Stephan G. Brass

Business Donates Promotion Proceeds to Women's Group



Donation for the "Sewing Circle of Hearts" in Kaltenkirchen, Germany

On May 18, 2019, the family business Frommer celebrated its 40th anniversary with many friends and customers, starting a month-long promotion action. Stephan and Sabine Frommer recently donated part of the proceeds to the "Sewing Circle of Hearts", which sews heart-shaped pillows for women suffering from breast cancer. The "pillow corners" are designed to be longer so that it can be pushed particularly well under the armpit and relieves the wound pain after surgery. In addition, the pillow shape developed by the "Sewing Circle of Hearts" protects against the pressure of the seat belt during driving and serves as a neck or side support if required.

The volunteers produce around 150 of these heart pillows per month. In addition, they make 50 knitted caps and socks for preemies and newborns, as well as blankets for stillborn babies.

"I've already seen such a pillow in so many customers' homes," said owner Stephan Frommer at the handover of the donation check.

Stefanie Hansen and Karin Schmidt from the "Sewing Circle of Hearts" were delighted about the donation amount of 801 Euro. "We will buy fabrics and stuffing with it," they said, adding that the donation covers the running costs for the next seven months." Many thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Frommer for their great support."

According to a report in: "Umschau" - Zeitung für den Bereich Henstedt-Ulsburg - Kaltenkirchen - Quickborn - Bad Bramstedt

Photo: "Umschau" - Zeitung für den Bereich Henstedt-Ulsburg - Kaltenkirchen - Quickborn - Bad Bramstedt

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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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