

women's ministries



SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
INTER-EUROPEAN DIVISION



2019.17 October 15, 2019

News from Women's Ministries Inter-European Division

2019 Woman of the Year Award of the General Conference Women's Ministries Department

Five Women Recognized for their Service to the Church



On October 14, 2019, Women's Ministries of the General Conference honored five women who have rendered outstanding service to women's ministries as Women of the Year 2019 in a small ceremony at the world headquarters of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church. The recipients are Andrea Luxton, President of Andrews University, Carla Baker, NAD WM Director, Helen Gulfan, SSD WM Director, Iris Kitching and Hannele Ottschofski from Germany.

A laudation written by Denise Hochstrasser, former EUD Women's Ministries director expresses our deep appreciation for Hanneles service:

Hannele Ottschofski, a woman from the second row, always worked in the background, as a volunteer, except for the short time when she was far more than my left hand, acting as my assistant and worked with me in organizing the first WM EUD congress in 2014. For that, she was remunerated as only women can be, with a far too small salary for a great task, Anybody else would feel degraded but not Hannele. She is a real servant, always ready to jump in where there is a need, whether it is for an advice, for information (she is always up to date), to jump in for a speaker, to encourage and support, to accompany at the piano or organize a choir (she is a great musician), she always tunes in where needed. In her biography 'Das Hemd meines Vaters' (My Father's Shirt) she describes herself as a helper, first at the side of her husband who was a pastor, for the churches he served in the mission field and later in Europe, on different levels of the church organization. For many additional years, she served Women's Ministries in Germany, in the DACH setting (the four German speaking Unions) and EUD (Inter-European Division). Whatever she did, it was always a service for others, especially women, including her own four daughters.

She is most interesting to listen to, whether preaching, speaking, teaching, discussing, in big gatherings or meetings in a small setting. Besides being the author/compiler for four devotional books, she has written articles, devotions, sermons and training seminars. She acted as teacher, speaker at seminars, preacher, translator, etc.

In her latest book 'Mit am Tisch' (At the Table) which just came out, she took up the difficult topic of the history and life of women in politics and especially in the church setting of the Adventist church. She is clear, but not demanding, she is not afraid to say what is needed, but she always remains polite. Her wish is clear: Women should be seated at the same table as men, interacting side by side, each with their own gifts but with the same value and respect and also with the same charge for responsibility.

There is a saying: 'Recognizing strong women is easy. It is the ones who lift up instead of destroy each other.' Hannele Ottschofski is a very strong woman, always supportive, always encouraging. Many a woman would not be what they are if it was not for her.

Hannele, a strong woman from the second row, today gets a seat in the first row, as she is honoured as one of the Women of the Year 2019 by Women's Ministries GC. Congratulations Hannele, you deserve it!

Photo: WM GC

Prayer and Love Save



Women's Weekend Retreat in Baden-Württemberg

Prayer and Love Save

Women's Weekend Retreat in Baden-Württemberg



From September 27 to 29, 2019, about 50 women of all ages met for the fall women's retreat under the motto "Prayer and Love Save" in Freudenstadt. Gerd-Laila Walter, our speaker, touched the hearts of the participants from the very first second. Lovingly and at the same time with humor, she guided us through the weekend. Time and time again she brightened the sometimes very emotional topics with personal stories from her life, constantly encouraging us to cling to God's promises given to us in the Bible and also through Ellen G. White. During her lectures she gave the participants the opportunity to participate with questions or personal testimonies. I was particularly touched by the openness of a participant who was there for the first time. She talked about the difficult relationship with her own mother, which brought tears to many eyes. It always touches me how open even strangers can be in a protected environment and how we can grow together and strengthen and encourage each other. On

Sabbath evening, the women could choose between various workshops, including a movement workshop, a creative lab and a fun game with surprising and interesting questions. These possibilities attracted participation as well as personal conversations. The exchanges and laughter at the snack buffet could be heard until well into the night. On the day of departure, a non-Adventist woman attending for the first time told me how Gerd-Laila had hit the subject that was currently on her mind smack in the middle. She asked me to reserve her a place for the next year's women's weekend. No need to mention that at that moment my heart jumped in joy.

Reported by Jasmin Stanoschefsky, Women's Ministries, Baden-Württemberg Conference, Germany Photos: WM BW

Self-esteem for Girls



Girls4Christ Resume Activities after the Summer Break

Six girls between 13 and 17 years of age came together in the church of Cadempino, Ticino, Switzerland, to resume Girls4Christ activities after the summer break.

Stefania Sermattei who studied psychology held a 2-hour conference addressing a very important topic for girls: self-esteem. The very intelligent and active girls followed the topic presented by Stefania with interest. All of them were already aware of the importance of having good self-esteem in order to not make serious mistakes in the future in choosing their life partners. At the end of the presentation all enjoyed a good and healthy snack with homemade cake and fresh seasonal fruit. Reported by Martha Santana director Girls4Christ

Join us on [facebook eudwomensministries](https://www.facebook.com/eudwomensministries/).
<https://www.facebook.com/eudwomensministries/>

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 Ottschofski, Editor

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

Mail: dagmar.dorn@eud.adventist.org