

women's ministries



SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
INTER-EUROPEAN DIVISION



2020.10. June 04, 2020

News from Women's Ministries Inter-European Division

Women's Ministries 25th Anniversary



Women's Ministries 1995-2020

This year Women's Ministries celebrates 25 years as a full department of the Seventh-Day Adventist World church. In order to celebrate this anniversary we will be posting short information snippets under the title "Did you know?" #SDAwomensministries-25 on social media and on our homepage

Reminder: Women's Ministries Emphasis Day is on June 13, 2020



Christ's Amazing Love Moves me

Women's Ministries Emphasis Day is on the Seventh-day Adventist Church's Calendar of Days and Events and falls on the second Sabbath each June. It is an opportunity for women to lead out in a worship service and a chance to educate the church regarding the purposes of Women's Ministries. It is an ideal time to introduce your leaders and committee to the church family and to invite women who have not been involved to join.

Laying on of Hands in the Bavarian Conference



MARJUKKA OSTROVLJANOVIC COMMISSIONED TO THE GOSPEL MINISTRY

Marjukka Ostrovljanovic serves as pastor of the Seventh-Day Adventist church in Regensburg, Germany. In a consecration service on May 30, 2020, through the laying on of hands, the Bavarian Conference affirmed her calling to the Gospel Ministry. We are so grateful for her willing service wherever she is needed. And indeed, we have heard her as a speaker for all kinds of events: Youth congresses as well as Women's Ministries and Family Ministries summits and Conference meetings. She is an Old Testament scholar who loves to discover treasures in her Hebrew Bible, as she shows in her programs on Hope Channel "Treasure Hunt" and her participation in Bible Study programs. God has given her so many talents and she is using them for the glory of His Name. Thank you, Marjukka, and thanks be to God. In Marjukka we have the proof that God calls women to the ministry not only if they are single, but also needs them when they are married and have children. We are so grateful that her family supports her in her calling, making it possible for her to serve as a pastor. May God continue to bless her and her family.

Giving Hope



CREATIVE MISSIONARY IDEAS FROM WOMEN DURING THE CORONA CRISIS

This is a report from the Women's Ministries leader in Baden-Württemberg, Germany, about what girls and women are doing to give hope to others. In order to encourage her neighbors during the Corona contact ban, a young girl designed a "Hope to Go" poster that she wanted to put up in her neighborhood. This idea gave rise to the "Hope2go" project - namely, the idea of encouraging, giving joy to and encouraging others in many ways at a time when personal contact was forbidden.

In the meantime, reports have come in from many churches that we would like to present here as an inspiration for others.

Never have people been more open to the truth than now. So many uncertainties, fears and questions. It is precisely in such a situation that we, who know Jesus and his good plan for every person, may show others where we find joy, peace and security in stormy and confusing times. We can all let our light shine even more clearly now than before. May the ideas presented here inspire you to start your own project of hope in your surroundings.



Women from the Heidelberg congregation hung up a string several meters long directly in front of the Adventist church. They attached self-designed Bible cards to it, inviting passers-by to help themselves to a card. In addition to the Bible cards and other encouraging texts, Glow flyers and Girls4Christ cards were also hung on this "Rope of Encouragement". What a good idea for a church to bring joy to their immediate neighbours!



In order to keep her children busy during the time of the contact ban and to bring a little joy to her discouraged, frustrated and frightened neighbours, a mother from the Baden-Baden congregation packed missionary surprise bags for all neighbours in their residential area. These contained, for example, a relaxing tea, a small candy and an encouraging Bible verse. Full of joy, her daughters then distributed the bags and learned: Mission can be such fun and not at all embarrassing!



A young girl wanted to reach her neighborhood with encouraging words and started to paint a poster with the motto "Hope to go". Here you could take Bible verses on tear-off notes. Meanwhile, the digitalized version hangs in many places (of course only where permission was obtained before hanging it up): at bus stops, train stations, fences, bakeries, etc. Never before has it been so easy to give hope.

For many weeks the pastor's wife of the Adventist Church in Baden-Baden has been conducting a weekly cooking course for children on Zoom. They have been busy cooking and baking. Several times guests have joined in. How wonderful when someone uses her hobby to give others such great pleasure!



Heidrun B. enjoyed being active as what she calls „a sewing missionary.“ After a short survey among church members and her neighbours, 45 orders for masks came together, which she sewed and gave away at no cost. What a great blessing when sisters are active for the people around them!

On Instagram, she is known as Laura_Jana_V- the young Adventist from the church in Schopfheim. She has been regularly posting wonderful and aesthetic missionary inputs for her followers on the Internet. In this way she encourages people to follow and trust Jesus as their anchor and touches them again and again

with the love and devotion of Jesus. Among other things you can now download a PDF for Bible study, which Laura Jana designed herself. God bless you in your study of God's precious and life-giving Word!

May the example of these women and girls encourage you to use your own gifts to actively contribute to the people around you. It doesn't take much: maybe "only" a hobby of yours and your willingness to invest some time or a little money. Even in spite of social distancing we can get close to other people's hearts and maybe inspire them for a life with Jesus. Who knows what we will reap one day. But one thing we are allowed to do, even during this time of restrictions: be disciples, sow seeds - by telling others about the love of God in many different ways. God bless you!
Jasmin Stanoschefska, Women's Ministries Leader, Baden-Württemberg Conference

Giving Hope Part 2



MORE CREATIVE MISSIONARY IDEAS FROM WOMEN DURING THE CORONA CRISIS

Hope Flowers (Bad Wildbad)

Hannelore Wengert and two of her friends had a great idea. Hannelore is well known for her initiatives for senior citizens and did not want to let the Corona crisis pass without continuing to work with love for the elderly people in her environment. So the three friends visited about 30 senior citizens, naturally with the necessary safety distance in the stairwell, outside windows or in front of the balcony. They sang songs to the seniors and gave a flower arrangement to each. What a blessing when we find creative ways to express our passion to help in spite of Corona!



Hope Stones (Waiblingen)

On her last holiday in Greece, Hanna from Waiblingen left behind a stone on which she had written "Jesus loves you". Who knows who found it? Even during the Corona crisis, she uses her artistic talent and even follows a current trend all over social media. She lovingly writes encouraging little messages on stones. These can be given to friends as a gift or be left on officially marked paths. Who knows which person crosses the path of these stones? According to the Bible even the stones "speak" of God's power and His greatness.



Masks for Helpers (Schorndorf)

Helga K. diligently sewed masks for the staff at her daughter's nursing home. How nice that some people do not just "just" stand on the balcony to applaud the carers, but that they, like Helga and many other women in the Baden-Württemberg Conference who have carried out similar projects in the last few weeks, are very actively involved in ensuring that those who work for others every day and perhaps even risk their lives receive a really helpful and blessed gift. Helga is an example for many who do not use their hobby only for themselves and for their own purposes, but put it to the service of our heavenly Father and thus become a huge blessing for others.



Zoom- Bible- Kids Course (Baden- Baden)

In order that the children of the congregation, who already have to do without children's Sabbath school and Bible studies, do not suffer any spiritual disadvantage during the Corona social distancing time, the church pastor decided to start an online Bible course for kids on Daniel. How grateful these children can be - and their parents too - that the pastor does not want to lose contact with the "little ones" during Corona, but instead seeks contact and even helps them understand prophecy!



New Fashion Label (Filderstadt)

If you feel like telling about your faith through your clothes and at the same time do something good, you should definitely check out "Shirts with Message"! During the Corona crisis, Mona and Lothar launched the young fashion label from Baden-Württemberg. They sell their diverse Christian designs on www.shirts-withmessage.de (shirts, hoodies etc. in ladies, men and even children's sizes) at decent prices. 10% of the proceeds will go to ADRA. How nice that we can be witnesses of our hope even through our clothes - God knows many ways we can use for mission.



Understanding Children's Hearts (Burgstetten)

Marina and Anna, both studied social education and are mothers of 3 and 2 children respectively, have founded "Kinderherzen_verstehen" (https://www.instagram.com/kinderherzen_verstehen/), a wonderful channel on Instagram that every mother (and father!) should know! Over and over again they amaze us with their deep, genuine, loving truths about a peaceful family life and how to understand and accompany your child even better. Inspired by God's unconditional love, they accompany parents with the regular publication of educational impulses geared toward bonding. Especially during the Corona crisis, which presents many families with great challenges, they address topics such as parental anger, prevention against stress, love and respect, as well as an incredible number of other content and outwardly appealing topics for parents on their channel, which touch hearts and encourage them to draw their child even closer to their own heart - despite sometimes difficult circumstances and situations.

I hope that there was also something inspiring for you personally in this newsletter. Stay safe and secure in God! Sincerely, your Jasmin Stanoschefskey
Women's Ministries Director, Baden-Württemberg Conference, Germany
Photos: WM BW

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