

# I Will Go Reach My World



NURTURE



EMPOWER



OUTREACH

"We have different gifts according to the grace given us..." —ROMANS 12:6, NIV

A MINISTRY FOR EVERY WOMAN



2022.04. March 10, 2022

## News from Women's Ministries Inter-European Division

### International Women's Day of Prayer 2022



#### IMAGES FROM EUD

We have received the first images of church services and programs organized by women on International Women's Day of Prayer on March 5, 2022, in various countries of the Inter-European Division territory. You can see them on a short video under the link:

<https://cloud.eud.adventist.org/index.php/s/RGWpe96LjicQgnZ>

We are looking forward to more reports as time goes by. Thanks to all the women around the EUD who make an impact with their joy and enthusiasm in promoting Women's Ministries.

### Happy Women's Day from South America



#### SPECIAL PROGRAM ON WOMEN'S DAY

The South American TV Nuevo Tiempo (HopeTV) celebrated International Women's Day with a live broadcast of their family program Entre Familia, wishing their audience a Happy Women's Day. It is a program with live moderators discussing topics of interest to families. On March 8, the discussion included an interview with Sary Hernandez, a member of the Women's Ministries leadership team in Spain, who informed why International Women's Day is celebrated all around the world.

Included in the program were short information clips about the achievements of women in past times like Marie Curie, Nobel prize-winning physicist and chemist; Actress Hedy Lamarr, who developed a radio guidance system for torpedoes; Benazir Bhutto, Prime Minister of Pakistan; Amelia Earhart, first woman pilot to cross the Atlantic; Valentina Tereshkova, first woman cosmonaut; Elizabeth Blackwell, the first woman doctor and Irena Sendler, the Polish nurse who saved up to 2,500 Jewish children from the Warsaw ghetto.

Viewers were able to send greetings to loved ones who are far away on International Women's Day. For the large Spanish-speaking population of the world, the program was a real and delightful highlight.

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## Women's Study Weekend in Collonges-sous-Salève, France



### THE POWER OF PRAYER

80 women from the North France Conference gathered in Collonges to study the Power of Prayer. The importance of prayer in our personal lives to accomplish our mission was demonstrated by several speakers from the Theological Faculty of the Adventist University where the meeting was being held. Among the speakers were Gabriel Monet, dean of the Theological

Faculty, Roland Lehmann, lecturer in Systematic Theology, Daniela Gelbrich, vice-dean of the Theological Faculty Rivan dos Santos, history teacher and Jean-Philippe Lehmann, President of the University.

The participants had the opportunity to see how our institutions function and experience the positive attitude of the personnel towards women.

Gabriel Monet introduced this atmosphere on Sabbath morning by quoting Ephesians 3:14-19. "Prayer is the acknowledgment of what we have received," he said.

A visit to the Adventist museum was organized by J-P Lehman and our sisters had the opportunity to find the answers to their questions. Rivan de Santos showed the importance of women in the history of the Bible and our church since the beginning of the organization. Roland Meyer removed the fog from many preconceived ideas about Paul and his position concerning the role of women in the church and society.

The evening was dedicated to the experiences of our sisters, and their testimonies were moving. On Sunday, an early morning walk around the campus began with a short meditation by Gabriel Samperio followed by songs accompanied by a young guitarist. Then Daniela Gelbrich presented a summary of a Bible book bearing the name of its principal character, Ruth. With her extensive knowledge of Hebrew, she was able to give insights into the text and show the dedication of Ruth to her family and how she left her country to start a new life, which finally made her an ancestor of Jesus.

This weekend had so many spiritual riches that I am sure that as we return to our daily activities, our sisters will want to pass on what they learned and adapt it to their specific situations. God wants women to have a part in His mission of reaching the world and we thank Him for the privilege to be His collaborators.

According to a report by Corina Timofte, Women's Ministries Director, Franco-Belgian Union

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## International Women's Day 2022



### SPIRITUAL MEDITATION

The idea of the equality of man and woman is expressed beginning with the first chapter of the Bible. We can read in Genesis 1,26 "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness". The man was indeed created first and generally, the woman is seen as a helper for man, a term that gives

the impression of man's superiority, some even see domination, of man over woman.

"When the author uses the word Ezer here, he suggests the idea of help. To say that the woman is the help of the man means that the man is nothing without her. Equality is existential. Human deviances have pushed the man to become the dominator of woman, whereas God makes the woman the help of man." R. MEYER

The theme chosen by the UN for this year's International Women's Day on March 8, 2022, is Gender Equality Today for a Sustainable Future.

We express our full solidarity with the millions of women, men, and children who are now thrust on the road by wars or lack of life resources around the world.

Through our actions, individually, in churches, in communities, our active participation gives meaning to our faith and alleviates the suffering to move calmly forward.

May God bless each person and grant them the enlightenment to understand the reason for their existence.

Written by Corina Timofte, Director of the Women's Ministries Department of the Franco-Belgian Union

The original text in French: [adventiste.org/journee-de-la-femme-2022/](http://adventiste.org/journee-de-la-femme-2022/)

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## International Women's Day 2022



### THANK GOD FOR WOMEN!

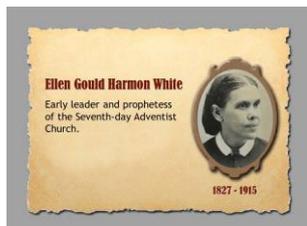
In many formerly communist European countries International Women's Day is an important event in the annual calendar of celebrations. As the religious festivals were suppressed, other events had to take their place. Thus the observance of International Women's Day has been much more important in eastern European countries than in the west. The Berlin Senate decided to remedy the lack of public holidays by declaring International Women's Day on March 8 a public holiday starting in 2019.

This year, though, International Women's Day will be different, not only in Berlin, where around 10,000 displaced persons from Ukraine are arriving each day on their way to a refuge. In countries like Romania and Poland, International Women's Day 2022 has become a veritable women's day, with the Ukrainian women and children crossing the border to safety, where they are received with much solidarity and assistance. There can be no celebrations in the war-torn country of Ukraine for the brave women who are taking their children to safety with the hope of securing the future of their beloved homeland. Let us celebrate these strong women with our prayers and practical help. Let us also celebrate the men and women who are volunteering to provide help at the Ukrainian frontiers. Let us celebrate the families that are providing a place to rest to the arriving families. The assistance they are giving is worth more than a card and a flower that is usually presented on International Women's Day. The response to this terrible war is huge in all our European countries, showing that humanity still has genuine empathy and decency.

This International Women's Day will be remembered as we take up the challenge to be God's arms and hands, eyes, mouth, and ears, to comfort the bereaved and frightened women and children of Ukraine. Let us encounter them with Christian love and deeds. Let us celebrate all women on this International Women's Day: their loving hearts, strength, courage, creativity and all other positive traits. Thank God for women!

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## Women's History Month (1/7)



### ELLEN WHITE

During Women's History Month we want to remind you of the impact women have made on the development of the Seventh-Day Adventist church in seven short reflections.

The Seventh-Day Adventist Church was founded in the middle of the 19th century as a result of the great revival of the Millerite movement. The founders of the church included Ellen Gould Harmon and her husband James White. Ellen White had a great influence because of the prophetic gift through which God delivered messages to His people, using her as a messenger. Before her, two men had refused to serve in this capacity.

Ellen was born in 1827 into a Methodist family. They were impressed by the message of William Miller, who preached that Christ would come again in 1843 or 1844. Although the Harmon family were disfellowshipped by their local church because of their Advent faith, they probably continued to adhere to many Methodist views and habits of worship.

After the great disappointment, a small group of young women gathered to study the Bible and pray. That was appropriate for evangelical women of the time. Ellen received her first vision during such a women's prayer group. She was only seventeen.

These young women and others encouraged Ellen to take up the surprising and overpowering call of speaking of her personal religious experience in public, even to mixed audiences. She initially shied away from it, partly because of her young age, but also because she was timid and in poor health. At that time, it was still a risk for a woman to pray or speak in public, even in church circles. After she had overcome her initial reticence toward public speaking, Ellen wrote that all who are capable of doing so should participate in reaching the world. Ellen married James White, whose help was of great value as she traveled to speak to groups in New England.

When Ellen White was criticized for her public service, senior leaders often referred to the text in Joel 2. As early as July 30, 1861, Uriah Smith, the editor of the Review, referring to Joel 2, wrote that the sisters have a right to actively participate in public services. The topic of the public role of women was often taken up in the church at that time. In 1879, J.N. Andrews and James White wrote articles supporting women. G. C. Tenney also did so in an editorial in 1892, which was published again in 1894.

At the time of her death, Ellen White's literary work comprised about 100,000 pages: 24 books that are still in print today; two print-ready book manuscripts; around 5,000 articles in Adventist magazines; more than 200 brochures; about 35,000 machine-written pages in the form of documents and letters; 2,000 handwritten letters and diary entries resulting in a further 15,000 typewritten pages. Many readers love the book *The Desire of Ages*, but the book with the largest circulation is *Steps to Christ*, which has been translated into more than 165 languages and has a circulation of tens of millions. Throughout literary history, no writer's work has been translated more frequently than Ellen White's. Her writings cover a broad range of topics: religion, education, health, interpersonal relationships, parenting, evangelism, prophecy, publishing, nutrition, and management.

"Brothers and sisters, I commend this book to you." These were the words that Ellen White expressed as part of her closing remarks at the last General Conference session she attended. She was referring to the word of God. 65 years before, at the age of 17, she had accepted a call as a messenger of the Lord. She had made it her lifelong mission to uphold the word of God and lead people to Jesus.

There is much to tell about this woman and her influence but that would go beyond the scope of this book. A woman like all others, she had accepted God's call and followed it her whole life. A woman of faith with a great mission, Ellen White was a down-to-earth woman with great common sense. She was a good and helpful neighbor, doing good wherever possible. Despite her weak health, she mastered an amazing workload through the power and grace of God. A loving mother and grandmother, she was loved and respected by all.

On July 26, 1915, Ellen White died at her home in Elmshaven, California. She was buried at Oak Hill Cemetery in Battle Creek, Michigan.

This is an extract from the Book *Tired of Waiting – Women in Church and Society* by Hannele Ottschofski, available on [amzn.to/3HSyP3e](https://amzn.to/3HSyP3e)

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