



PAGES *Women's Ministries*

Dear Friends,

Instead of writing a little note to you I wanted to present to you something which I think is worth bringing to your attention.

ADRA-Bosnia's director, Božidar Mihaljolić shared a project with us at Women's Ministries. The ADRA country office prepared a project to help socialization and economical strengthening of the unemployed and disabled women. More than 10 women went through the sewing course and the best three individuals (Vesna, Maya and Ivona) were employed in ADRA's sewing workshop.

For more than a year they have been making handbags and shopping bags from used clothes. But they are in need of a market to sell their products and make this project self-supporting. They managed to provide 20% of their

salaries from selling bags in the Adventist second hand shops and the rest they try to provide from other resources. We would like to make an appeal for this worthwhile project.

Could everyone reading this consider how to help this project go forward. Could you, for example, buy bags from them when you are holding meetings, could you sell bags at retreats and conferences. Do you know of shops that would be willing to take some of the bags on board?

If you need more information, please contact us women@ted.adventist.org

Blessings to you all,

Clair

Clair Sanches-Schutte
Women's and Children's
Ministries director
Trans-European Division



News from the Swedish Union of churches Conference

Sonja Kalmbach, Women's Ministries director

International women's day of prayer

Sweden's biggest church, Stockholm, is a forerunner when it comes to adapting the international women's day of prayer material. With the talented and enthusiastic Lydia Kulaba as leader they make sure that the women have the support they need of pastor Berny Carlsson and the church board.

Lydia's special mission is to make new people feel at home in their church. Thus she uses women's ministries as a platform for integration. A quick glimpse at the pictures show the variety of nationalities and age groups represented by the women involved at the International women's day of prayer programme.

I'm very grateful for the good work Lydia is doing in Stockholm and pray for rich blessings upon her and her team.



This year we even had Ekebyholm church participating in the international women's day of prayer. Pastor Liane Edlund took the day literally – so after the worship service she invited the women of the church home to a community of prayer in the afternoon. All who participated felt a special blessing. I was invited to a church plant and used the afternoon to inform about women's ministries and as a result we have a new contact person who is interested in doing women's ministries there.

In 2018 we have a special topic within the Swedish Union of Churches. It's called "With Jesus in your heart". Every first Sabbath each month the churches who want to participate get an outline for a sermon, a children's story and a children's activity book.

Having good pastor colleagues preparing this material, they made sure that for the first Sabbath in March there was a woman at the centre of the action. So even though there are not many churches officially participating in the International women's day of prayer, all Swedish churches had a sermon about the woman at the well this day.

Women in the Bible and me

Some months ago the Gothenburg church started a "Women in the Bible and me" bible study group. They meet once a month on Sabbath afternoon.

For leader Tina Laketa this has been a big success. The work she puts into preparing each session (so far we haven't translated the material into Swedish, so she has to do this in addition to preparing the Bible study!) is blessed by about 20 happy participants of which there are 2-4 visitors.

I hope that soon there will be an official translation of the material so that more churches can follow Gothenburg's good example.



Walking in His Footsteps

National Women's Ministries Conference in Hungary

TED news

For the second time we had the blessing to organize a national Women's Ministries Conference in Budapest on the 20-22nd of April 2018. The venue of the Conference was the main church in Székely Bertalan Street. During this weekend from Friday evening to Sunday lunch time women have been blessed to have Raquel Arrais as guest speaker, Associate Director from the General Conference Women's Ministries Department. Her great enthusiasm, deep faith and love for Christ was shown in each sermon and seminar presented. The aim of the Conference was to nurture our sisters, equip them and empower them in their personal mission activities. Thus revive them to work for Christ.

On Friday evening Raquel presented us Jesus and His intercessory work in an outstanding way, but also very personal and close to our heart. It is encouraging to know that we can go to the sanctuary at any time because access is simply granted and nothing should keep us back.

On Sabbath morning first we heard about the mission service done for the ladies in Cuba and later on Raquel drew our attention to the work of the Holy Spirit. "We cannot be half filled with the Holy Spirit, but completely. The Holy Spirit can only fill a completely empty heart," Raquel emphasized.



We continued our day by nurturing the souls of our sisters with interactive silent stations based on Psalm 23.

“What can we do for those who are lost?”- was the question on Sabbath afternoon. We learned about the way we should serve, love and pray for those who are not present in the church any more.

On Sunday Raquel lifted up the vision and mission of Women's Ministries Department and helped those present to understand the importance of this wonderful service we can do for the ladies around us.



We thank God for strengthening Raquel to bring us these important messages. Each presentation was vibrant and spectacular. She was able to sprinkle from that love that burns in her heart for Christ on all the ladies who were present. We pray that God would bless her and her ministry in a special way.



Women have been encouraged to go home with new strength, new decisions, and equipped to continue walking on Jesus' footprints and work with enthusiasm for those in their environment.



250 ladies registered for this conference from 31 congregations.

This department has great responsibilities: working as a woman with the good news of Jesus for other women in our environment, as long as the time of grace lasts. This work can only be done through the help of the Holy Spirit and by walking daily in the footprints of Jesus. Let's go and start today!

The Hungarian Union's WM's team

