



# PAGES *Women's Ministries*

Dear Friends,

Before you are the news pages from the Polish Union. Halina Jankovska is the leader there.

She is doing an amazing job considering she is doing it outside of her normal job outside the church. She is in essence a volunteer.

Poland had an absence of 10 years but has recently started up Women's Ministries again.

Many churches are finding that spreading the gospel in the way only a woman can do has brought many to want to have a closer relationship with God.

We have also included a few ideas which have come out of the Inter-European Division.

I am always amazed at the number of ideas that are out there. Such creativity to spread the gospel.

Maybe they will appeal to you and your Women's Ministries group.

May God open your heart and mind to new possibilities. Follow His lead and we can't go wrong.

*Clair*

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



## News from the Polish Union Conference

Halina Jankovska, Women's and Children's Ministries director

### Women's Ministries in Poland

Five years ago, we started working with women after a ten-year break. We began with small things: prayer groups, sharing our experiences, establishing relationships and publicly sharing God's work in women's lives and recognising his calling to serve others.

This type of service for many women was a fulfilment of their dreams, an opportunity to share experiences, thoughts, doubts and building a true picture of womanhood. Some of them needed more time to recognise its amazing results. Others completely ignored the opportunity to connect, not seeing a need and meaning behind participating in those types of meetings.

Today in the Polish church we have a lot of clubs working within the Women's Ministries. The meetings usually take place once a month in local churches. There are also regional meetings organised by women from a few churches together. The number of participants is between 25-60 and it depends a lot on the support of the local pastor, leadership skills and church size and connections. Those meetings help women grow spiritually and recognise their own worth in God's eyes. Women also appreciate the social aspect of those events.



During this time, we noticed a creation of multiple local missions like: work with homeless, in hospice and in local families with challenges. New Health Clubs are established regularly that are led by women.

Also, the aim for Women's Ministry is to encourage women to represent God in every environment and career they are in.

In our meetings a lot of women have been moved and encouraged to start a new life with Christ. Many of them started attending the local church.

Looking after physical health of women no matter the age, we have as well engaged medical professionals to lead some of the programmes like: Family planning, Women's body, menopause. In the beginning, the attendees were very shy, but during individual conversations with presenters they would open up more and would share their doubts and questions.

I understand that women have a critical role in the overall atmosphere in society. The importance of personal fulfilment and enjoyment in womanhood are very important.

I'm praying that God will call many more women, so that they can help other people in our country and invite them to personal relationship with God.

### News from other divisions

## BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING

Women's Ministries Emphasis Day material 2018

Women's Ministries Emphasis Day is on the 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. We are delighted to announce the forthcoming 2018 WM Emphasis Day program packet titled "Blessed to Be a Blessing" by Dinorah Rivera. We encourage you to use it in your church's WM Emphasis Day program on June 9, 2018



## WOMEN'S MINISTRIES CONGRESS ON HOPE CHANNEL GERMAN

Encounter becomes enthusiasm

Hope Channel Deutsch is broadcasting a four-part series of talks recorded at the Women's Ministries Congress in Friedensau, Germany, starting on Sabbath, February 3 at 20:15. The program will also be available on demand in the media centre. A woman goes to fetch water at a well and meets Jesus. This encounter changes her life. Presented by Sonja Kalmbach, a pastor in Sweden, the program will touch many hearts. Four episodes throughout February.

*(Taken from the EUD WM January newsletter)*

## OCTOPUSES FOR PREEMIES

A new project for women's groups in Germany

In the exhibition hall of the Women's Ministries Congress in Friedensau in September 2017 many women were attracted to a small exhibit of colourful crocheted octopuses. Hanna Wagner was one of the women who picked up the idea and presented it to her sewing circle in her local church in Mühlheim/Main. She visited two hospitals in the vicinity and showed them the little octopuses. With the help of the women of her sewing circle these hospitals can now give a small octopus to the preemies for keeps. The babies grab a tentacle and this reminds them of the umbilical cord and helps stabilize their heartbeat. The idea originally came from Denmark in 2013 and has since spread around Europe. The octopuses are not only good for premature babies but can also be used for bedridden patients of any age to keep them occupied so that they do not pull out drips. The hospital Leadership was so impressed with the idea that they informed the local press and several newspapers published the story under the title "Good Deeds".

Look up more information about what this women's group is doing:

<http://Muehlheim.adventist.eu/herzkissen>

*(Taken from the EUD WM March newsletter)*





## Transforming a Painful Childhood into a Purposeful Adulthood, by Sharon Jaynes



"The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to...bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair" (Isaiah 61:1,3a, NIV 1985 edition).

While we don't know much about Esther's parents, we do know that she was an orphan who was raised by her cousin, Mordecai.

As far as we can tell, she had no feminine influence in her life, and yet she grew to be a gracious lovely woman who won the favour of everyone she encountered.

Perhaps your childhood was less than ideal. Perhaps you had an alcoholic father, an absent father, an abusive mother, or an aloof mother. Perhaps you lived in poverty, grew up in an orphanage, a foster home, or with parents who felt you were a bother instead of a blessing. Even if you had a wonderful childhood, I bet you know someone who didn't.

Let me assure you of this, no matter what your childhood memories hold, God can and will use every bit of it for His purposes and for His glory...if we let Him. It doesn't matter how you started; what matters is how you finish.

Paul said, "This one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:13-14). Paul had to put his past behind him to accomplish what God had called him to do in the present.

Likewise, when we put our painful pasts behind us and obey what God is calling us to do in the present we will experience a fruitful, fulfilling, fascinating adulthood. He can take those miseries of the past and turn them into ministries in the present. He can take our messes in life and turn them into messages of hope. God took a frightened orphan girl and used her to accomplish a great mission. He did it for Queen Esther. He wants to do it for you.

<https://www.crosswalk.com/devotionals/girlfriends/>

*(Taken from the NAD Women's Ministries Winter Edition)*

### MARCH

Start a new journaling book today. Try these texts out for a month and see how spending time with God will make a difference in your life. Each of the scriptures below takes ten minutes or less to copy out...just reading is not enough...let the Holy Spirit speak to you.



Day 1 – Joel 2:12-14	Day 15 – Galatians 6:1-6
Day 2 – Joshua 1:5-9	Day 16 – Galatians 6:7-10
Day 3 – James 1:2-8	Day 17 – Psalm 62:1-5
Day 4 – James 1:9-21	Day 18 – Psalm 67:5-10
Day 5 – James 1:19-34	Day 19 – Psalm 20:1-5
Day 6 – Ephesians 2:4-10	Day 20 – Psalm 61:1-5
Day 7 – Ephesians 4:27-28	Day 21 – Isaiah 43:1-7
Day 8 – Ephesians 4:29-32	Day 22 – Hebrews 6:13-16
Day 9 – Romans 15:1-6	Day 23 – Hebrews 6:17-20
Day 10 – Psalm 91:1-4	Day 24 – Matthew 5:13-16
Day 11 – Psalm 91:5-8	Day 25 – 1 Thessalonians 2:12-13
Day 12 – Psalm 91:9-13	Day 26 – 1 Thessalonians 5:14-22
Day 13 – Psalm 91:14-16	Day 27 – 1 Thessalonians 5:22-24
Day 14 – Galatians 5:13-15	Day 28 – Matthew 21:21-22
Day 29 – James 3:13-15	Day 29 – James 3:13-15
Day 30 – James 3:16-18	Day 30 – James 3:16-18
Day 31 – Choose your own verse	Day 31 – Choose your own verse



### APRIL

Start a new journaling book today. Try these texts out for a month and see how spending time with God will make a difference in your life. Each of the scriptures below takes ten minutes or less to copy out...just reading is not enough...let the Holy Spirit speak to you.



Day 1 – Matthew 16:26-28	Day 15 – Romans 2:1-4
Day 2 – John 11:25-26	Day 16 – Isaiah 66:12-14
Day 3 – Matthew 21:1-11	Day 17 – James 9:7-14
Day 4 – Luke 23:26-30	Day 18 – Isaiah 63:1-3
Day 5 – Luke 23:31-38	Day 19 – Psalm 66:8-12
Day 6 – Luke 24:36-49	Day 20 – Hebrews 4:15-16
Day 7 – Psalm 75:1-6	Day 21 – 1 John 5:5-9
Day 8 – Psalm 75:7-14	Day 22 – 1 John 5:16-17
Day 9 – Psalm 25:1-22	Day 23 – Psalm 105:1-5
Day 10 – Proverbs 3:9-13	Day 24 – Psalm 106:1-5
Day 11 – Colossians 3:22-25	Day 25 – Colossians 3:1-3
Day 12 – Romans 3:21-26	Day 26 – Hebrews 7:2-3
Day 13 – Psalm 35:1-5	Day 27 – Matthew 6:25-27
Day 14 – Psalm 16:6-11	Day 28 – Matthew 6:28-34
Day 15 – Romans 2:1-4	Day 29 – John 14:1-4
Day 16 – Isaiah 66:12-14	Day 30 – Choose your own verse
Day 17 – James 9:7-14	Day 31 – Choose your own verse
Day 18 – Isaiah 63:1-3	
Day 19 – Psalm 66:8-12	
Day 20 – Hebrews 4:15-16	
Day 21 – 1 John 5:5-9	
Day 22 – 1 John 5:16-17	
Day 23 – Psalm 105:1-5	
Day 24 – Psalm 106:1-5	
Day 25 – Colossians 3:1-3	
Day 26 – Hebrews 7:2-3	
Day 27 – Matthew 6:25-27	
Day 28 – Matthew 6:28-34	
Day 29 – John 14:1-4	
Day 30 – Choose your own verse	
Day 31 – Choose your own verse	



## MONTHLY BIBLE VERSES ON THE TED WEBSITE

Start a new journaling book today. Try these texts out for a month and see how spending time with God will make a difference in your life. Each of the scriptures takes ten minutes or less to copy out. Just reading is not enough. Allow the Holy Spirit to speak to you. Visit the TED website to download the Bible verses:

<https://ted.adventist.org/women-s-ministries>

Enjoy your time with God!

## REACHING HEARTS THROUGH MUSIC

Women use their musical talents in North-Eastern Italy

Although the Women's Ministries Department has not yet been officially organized in Udine, the women are working in spite of this. Just to begin, a nice group of sisters (and some men) have created a choir that is available for



News from other divisions

celebrations and events in churches. Thus our sisters share their gift of singing and reach the hearts of many people.

According to a report by Franca Zucca (Taken from the EUD January newsletter)

## GORGEOUS2GOD

Life is tough but you're not alone. Join the community of young Christian women tackling real issues from a godly perspective. New content posted weekly.

<https://www.gorgeous2god.org/>



This blog is dedicated to connecting teen girls to God and tackling tough issues that challenge them every day. Find them on Facebook, follow them on Instagram and Pinterest: **@Gorgeous2God**

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