



PAGES *Women's Ministries*

Dear All,

We are so happy to let you know that Manual 2 for Girls for Christ is now finished.

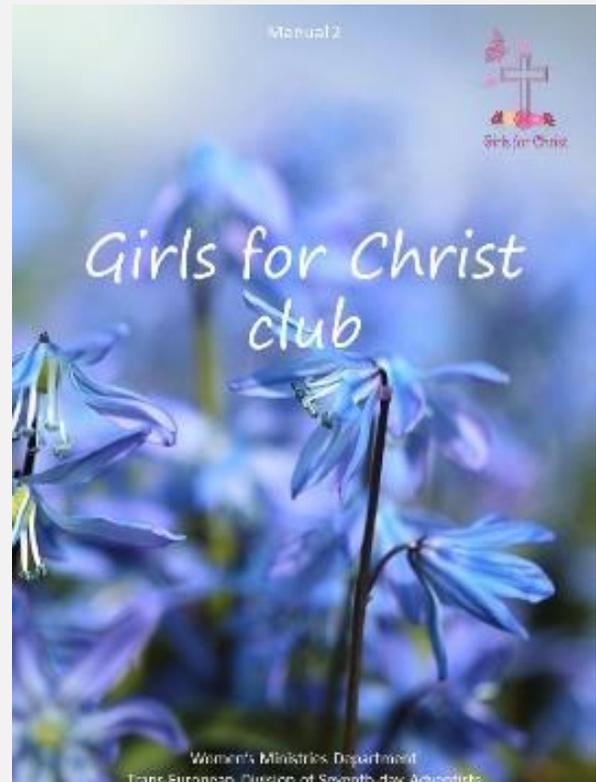
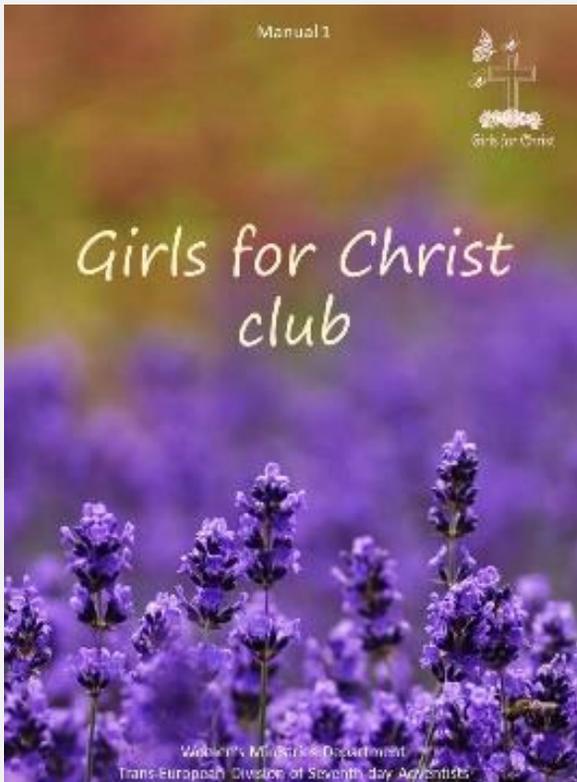
We have been hearing wonderful stories of how it is changing lives of not only the girls but also the mentors.

If you would like to know more get in touch with us.

Blessings,

Clair

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



News from the Hungarian Union

Zsóka Bodnár, Women's Ministries director

Mary and Martha Club – a special club for women

Why did we choose especially these two Bible characters? Because our world needs both of them: Mary's humble, teachable spirit, and Martha's diligence. We, the staff of the Hope Centre in Debrecen, would like to focus on these two characteristics, when from month to month we meet the interested women; believing that in this way we can form a community, which binds us together. We organize lectures, prayer suppers, evenings when we make some creative crafts, discuss interesting topics, but we are planning to go hiking and cycling. The first time we organised a prayer supper, for which we invited Teca, who enjoyed this meeting very much. Here is her account of this evening.

A special evening in the Hope Centre

On this October evening, the room in the Hope Centre was more friendly and homelike than ever. The table was loaded with special food, radiating a warm, homely atmosphere. We arrived for this first occasion, to a prayer supper, of the Mary and Martha Women's Club, hosted by Szöllősyné Ani.

"Come as you are" [this is the motto of the Hungarian mission] – for these inviting words I came, as an elderly, hearing-impaired woman, but I entirely enjoyed being there in this warm, accepting women's assembly.



Thanks to the perfect planning, nobody was left out as a passive outsider, everybody joined the discussion.

One of the most waited part of our meeting was the well-prepared supper, which consisted of an arsenal of delicious vegan food. And the crown of the evening... was a surprise. Suddenly a Happy Birthday song was intoned, and a beautiful, white cake was given to me. I was in awe, when they said, that this is all for me. My birthday was on 16th of October 2018.

Ani, Márta and Kati, thank you so much for this unforgettable evening! It's such a good feeling, that there's a place in the centre of our town, where faith, hope and love actually resides.

Anginé dr. Borsos Terézia, Debrecen Church

Women's Ministries in Baja, Hungary

We are happy to have launched „Girls for Christ” for almost a year. We have been so blessed through the programme. There are 6 teenage girls from the church and we have had 5 other guests as friends of the girls. It works really well, because the girls have personal experiences with God that they share each session. They equally enjoy all 3 parts of the programme. However, for mentors it is the most rewarding experience when you hear that while praying they ask the Lord to keep on helping the programme continue. Among the mentors we have some young ladies in their twenties. One of them struggled with depression and her mom told me she couldn't remember the last time when she saw her daughter smile and even laugh. That is why she was thrilled with joy when her daughter took part in the lifestyle section. She enjoyed it a lot. We are so thankful to God for the life-changing experiences we have through this wonderful programme. It means a lot to all of us.

After sharing our experiences there are some other churches who are thinking of starting „Girls for Christ” as well. There is another church in Budapest that has also started the programme.



Girls for Christ





After some break we decided to go on with the seminar „Praying couples”. It is meant to help married couples in their relationships with God and their spouses. We have some discussion in 2 groups with women and men about 2 different topics and we ask the couples to find each other and pray together after the event. During the talks we share our challenges and joy and we also pray together for each other, which strengthens the relationship among women.

We are planning to have a bible study group for women, mainly for mentors but we would not exclude anyone who is willing to join. We need to make some plan about the details in the near future.

When there is women's prayer day or women's special day we try to involve more and more ladies on these special Sabbaths. There is a children's story, the morning service and the seminar part in the afternoon which is divided among 3 women. They prepare from the given material and lead the discussion. We have been so blessed by them, because church members feel related to the topics. They open their hearts and feel free to speak. Thank God, they regard church as a safe place in this respect.

-Marta Mayor, Baja Church

New Initiative

Within the frame of the creative programme called 'Girls for Christ' the women of the Óbuda Church in Hungary launched the service of sewing washable, durable sanitary pads for women in need. This is a local and new initiative, however we want to expand it, make it known and find supporters. If you already have a similar initiative in your county, please share your thoughts and experiences with us. We created a Facebook group for this project with the name 'Blessed are You among Women', where you can reach us.



Nyirtura Church

We share with you our work and experiences with great love.

Our church in Nyirtura consists of mainly women, elderly sisters, altogether we have three male members. In earlier years, we used to have 15 kids in our church; we keep in contact with them regularly, we held Sabbath school lessons from Sabbath to Sabbath, teaching many Bible stories to them, learning songs and we were doing crafts together.

Unfortunately, they are not in our church anymore, they have moved or do not come. We all really miss them, together we pray for them every day, and we hold a prayer service with the whole church every Sabbath, because they are really important for us and we want them to be in God's kingdom, gaining everlasting life and salvation.

On the last day in the year, on New Year's Eve, we held a prayer service for our young people, we trust God's power and strength, and we are grateful to our Heavenly Father for listening to our prayers.

Every year, we organize a Kids' Bible Camp for young people in our village, and many children participate in that: we talk about Bible stories, play, go on excursions, do crafts. We do not only meet once a year, but every quarter of the year. We have conversations, we sing, share camp memories, brush up the Bible stories, play, eat delicious food together, and have conversations with the parents as well, when they bring or take their kids home. They bring the kids with joy and the kids enjoy these events very much. The church prays for them, too.

We participated in the training of Women Ministries from three villages, - Nyírpazony-Nyírbogdány-Nyirtura- , and we have agreed to meet once in a month, to pray for each other and for how we should minister to women in our territory. Later we will report how those meetings went.

We know that we can only do our work with the leadership and presence of our dear Jesus, and for that we always need a relationship with Him and continuous prayer. We've learnt many times how important kindness, empathy, attention, patience, humbleness, meekness, love is – and we know that we can only get them from dear Jesus, if we long for them, pray for them, because without Jesus we can't do anything good, but together with Him we can be partakers of wonders and mighty things!

We send our greetings with love:

-Hilda Décseiné from Nyirtura church

FOLLOWING HIS FOOTSTEPS!

NATIONAL WOMEN'S MINISTRIES CONFERENCE

The women's ministries conference was once again organized from 20-22 April 2018 in Székely Bertalan Church, Budapest.

From Friday evening to Sunday noon the participants had the opportunity to have a special experience.

Raquel Arrais, the associate director of the Women's Ministries Department of the General Conference delivered God's message with great zeal and deep conviction.

The objective of the conference was to care for the women's souls, training them, and strengthening their mission

Friday evening Raquel gave a very expressive picture of Christ's mediator service. It is very encouraging to know we are always welcome in front of the veil of the Holy of Holies.

Sabbath morning she presented the mission for the women in Cuba, and called our attention to the work we must join in with the Holy Spirit. „You can't be partially filled by the Holy Spirit, only wholly. Only a completely emptied heart can be filled by the Spirit to the brim!” – Raquel emphasized.

In the afternoon we cared for the women's souls in silent contemplation as we visited five stations unfolding the 23rd psalm.

„What can we do for those who are lost?”- we were asked. How should we work for the women long not seen and cared for? Let's not let go of or give up on anyone! Let's pray for them persistently!

On Sunday we learned how we can organize the women's ministries in our own church.

The seminars were energetic and well illustrated.

The women left for home encouraged, filled with newly found strength and determination, ready to do the work following Jesus' footsteps.

250 women registered for the conference from 31 churches.

This ministry has a great mission to accomplish. Women must continue reaching out for other women in their surroundings with the gospel of Jesus, while the door of mercy is still open.

We can only accomplish this following the Holy Spirit and the footsteps of Christ.

We received a lot of inspiration and reinforcement to do this.

-Women's Ministries Department team



Using your gifts and talents to reach others

"New from old"

I believe that God has called us and empowered us to preach the Gospel and to increase His kingdom in accordance with our spiritual gifts that He has bestowed on us. When I discovered my own spiritual gifts I started looking for ways to connect the spiritual gift of preaching with the natural gift of creativity. With indescribable joy and great enthusiasm, I embraced the motto, born in my thoughts: "New from old", based on the verse from 2 Corinthians 5:17: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." That was the way to connect decoupage technique with the change God is able to make in someone's life.

So I started organizing decoupage workshops in the local community: in the town's library, Cultural centre, local prison, elementary schools and kindergartens. The regular non-Adventist attendees later joined us for the workshops held in the SDA church in the town of Čuprija and became part of the many humanitarian projects intended for the local community. Some of them were the preparations of Christmas, New Year's and Women's Day gifts that were given to the women in the local church, Maternity Hospital, Children's Ward of the Čuprija hospital, Town's Library and children and parents in the local kindergarten.

Besides decoupage workshops, in the last three years, I also organized cooking workshops, spa workshops, and a series of seminars under the common title "Be Creative – Be Happy!" and took part in the different town events.



Before

and after



Jelena Trajković



Before

and after

We also manage to establish a nice cooperation with the Public Library in the nearby town of Jagodina, Serbia and Cultural Centre in the nearby town of Paraćin, Serbia where the decoupage workshop attendees organized the selling exhibitions of their works. The cooperation with the Elementary School in the village of Busilovac, near Paraćin, became the traditional one since every year, for the School Day Festival, we organize special workshops for teachers, parents and pupils.

Three attending families, two of them non-Adventist, found fund raising opportunities in this creative work. One woman started selling her creative works to help support her family, one man specialized in providing repro material needed for workshops and one family is making patterns for the work crafts.

All these are opportunities to present a new, better, and more meaningful life in Christ using the gift of creativity. As something old and shabby can be turned into something new and elegant, people who get to know God can become better, healthier and happier people.

Thus four attendees of the decoupage workshops now joined the church Health Club seminars, two other persons are taking Bible studies in their preparation for baptism and ten persons delightedly attended spiritual concerts organized during Easter time and the Youth project "Mission of Humanity" time.

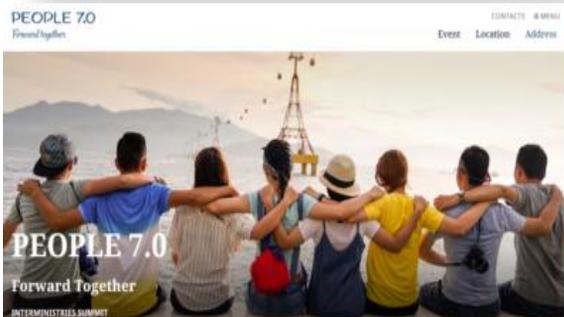
Jelena Trajković, WM leader in the district of Čuprija, Paraćin and Jagodina, Serbia

INTERMINISTRIES SUMMIT
Forward Together

Organised by the Inter-European Division

The congress planning team is busy working to provide information and programming. For more information and details please visit: <https://people7.net/>

You can also find information on Facebook: Adventist EUD Congress 2019 as well as on the Women's Ministries Website under women.eud.adventist.org/en/events/



INTERMINISTRIES SUMMIT
 Children's Ministries • Family Ministries • Women's Ministries

PEOPLE 7.0

Forward together

SAVE THE DATE

LIGNANO SABBADORO
 ITALY

**18-22
 SEPTEMBER
 2019**

Seventh-day Adventist Church
 INTER-EUROPEAN DIVISION

Registration Coming Soon
www.people7.net

More information: info@people7.net • T+39 339 15 160

International Women's Day 8th of March 2019

