

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES



NEWSLETTER

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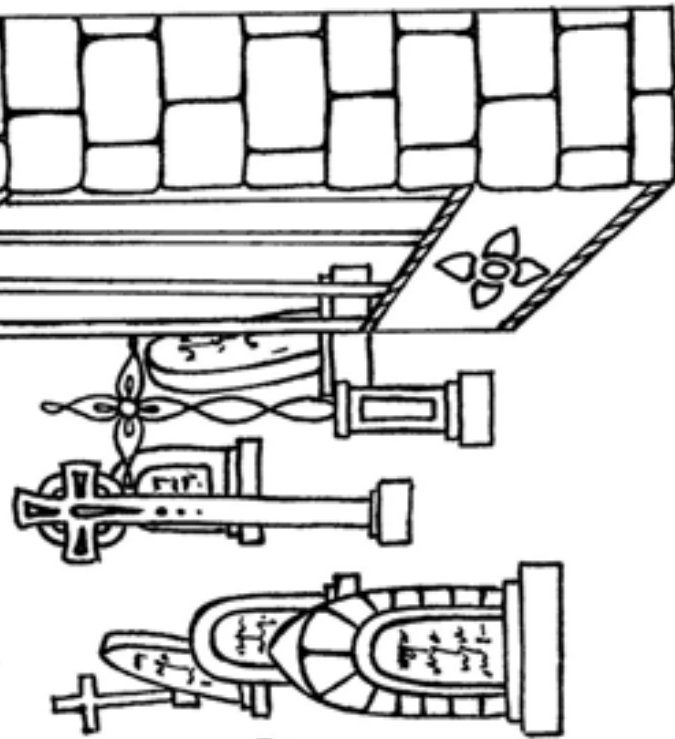
JESUS IS ALIVE

Very early on Sunday morning, after Jesus had been crucified, a group of women went to his tomb.

They found the stone rolled away from the tomb's entrance, but they did not find the body of Jesus.

For if we have been
united with Him
in a death like this,
we will certainly
also be united with
Him in a resurrection
like this.

Romans 6:5



FOR THE
DEATH OF
OUR
SIN
BUT
GLORY OF
GOD
IN
OUR
ROMANS 6:23

Easter is the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus from the tomb on the third day after his crucifixion. Easter is the fulfilled prophecy of the Messiah who would be persecuted to die for our sins and rise on the third day (Isaiah 53).

Remembering the resurrection of Jesus is a way to renew the daily hope that we have victory over sin.

By laying down his life, Jesus paid the full penalty for sin, a perfect, spotless sacrifice. Subsequently, by raising from the dead, Jesus defeated the power of sin and death and purchased, for all who believe in him.



WOMEN'S MINISTRIES POLAND

The pandemic has changed our world in many areas of life and we have worked hard to plan and implement new programs online.

We serve a great God who can turn any difficult experience into good. As a result of the pandemic, we have started up numerous prayer groups and zoom Bible study groups in the district and at the conferences.

This has helped us sustain relationships with believers and help continue building their trust and faith in the Lord. Especially for those who live alone and need the added support, companion and encouragement.

We are proud of our initiative (Sisters' Training of discipleship group) that helps to prepare women for ministry in the church and community.

The Conference Women's Mission Coordinators have been doing much of the work by calling members and providing counselling, prayers and encouragement in this difficult time.

Halina Jankowska
WM Director

*Empowered
Women
Empower
Women*



**BE STRONG
BE FEARLESS
BE YOU**

"FREE FROM FEAR" AUC SEMINAR

On Sunday 7th March 2021 we held a video seminar for women called "Free from Fear". The online seminar was organised by the Women's Ministry Department at the Adriatic Union Conference, attended by over 150 believers, friends and guests from Slovenia, Albania and Croatia.

Our guest speakers were Dragana Kovačević and Ana Đuver. Dragana Kovačević is a lay pastor from Kotor in Montenegro. Her interesting lecture was based on 2 Kings 4: 1-7, where she talked about a wonderful experience and journey through moments when God manifested himself in her life. At the end of her presentation, Dragana asked us two questions. 1. How do you react when you find yourself in hopeless situations? and 2. Do you believe that God will take care of your needs as he'd done before?

Our second speaker Ana Džuver, vice dean at ATVU in Maruševac and head of AUC Department of Education. When we asked her for a few words about herself to be introduced, her response was that she "considers it her greatest honor to be able to work in shaping young minds at ATVU in Maruševac and that she finds her greatest joy in studying and sharing God's word with anyone who wants to hear it." Ana spoke about the text, Luke 13: 10-17. We were so encouraged by her message and moved to think about the following thoughts.

"Do you know of a woman who reminds you of the cramped woman in the bible?"

It can be a little girl or a woman who has low self-esteem and low self-confidence, living in fear, anxiety, living to please others and feeling ashamed. Put yourself in her shoes and look at how she may view the world, how she feels, how she reacts to different situations. Try to come up with ways to befriend such a person and help her begin to live in the freedom in which Jesus calls her."

The message was followed by workshops and a break-out room where we were divided into small groups to talk and pray for each other. We were also called to remember the women in our lives who encouraged us and helped bring us closer to Jesus.

Dear sisters and readers, these are questions you can ask yourself after reading this article! We look forward to meeting again soon, so we can rejoice together!

On behalf of the Adriatic Union Women's Ministry Department, we would like to thank all those who contributed to the program. Special thanks to the Studio "Glas Nade", who helped in connecting us together. We thank the Albanian translator Ms. Ermini Lekaj and all the associates' efforts that enabled the program to run smoothly.

We look forward to a new encounter around God's word!

Svjetlana Veble



Let's Connect

LET'S CONNECT - THE NETHERLANDS

On Sabbath 6th March (International Women's Day) women were invited to an interactive webinar called, Let's connect! as many as 85 women registered from 45 different churches all over the Netherlands. We were thrilled to have Dutch speaking women from Belgium, England and Scotland, giving our program such a lovely international flavor.

PACKAGE SENT HOME

The women were sent a package in advance with materials for the webinar. Four mailbags were filled and sent from the union office in Huis ter Heide. from Madelon Comvalius, Head of the Youth & Families Department. "Colleague Heidi and I were really looking forward to the webinar and excited to be holding an online event with such a large group of women. The atmosphere was amazing from the start and went so fast because we were having such a fun time. It was great to see all the beautiful women again, even though it was online. "

ALTERNATE PROGRAM

The participants created a beautiful word cloud about what great things the corona period has given them (see photo). It was a nice mix of music, meditative moments, questions, alternated with games, crafts (see photo) and drawing. The highlight was the spoken word written by one of our sisters for Women's Day.

REACTIONS FROM PARTICIPANTS

The women were very happy with the webinar and were enthusiastic about taking part. We received a lot of feedback from the women, one said

"I felt sick and didn't really want to participate, but it was online so I could easily drop out if necessary. I am so grateful to have joined, it was so inspiring, I have completely recovered!

"A mother and daughter had doubts about online events but stated "It was just a lot of fun, with your creativity it was really a great webinar! Thank you, Madelon and Heidi, and everyone involved! "

"Thank you for organising the webinar Let's connect, I really felt the connection! Even though it was online. A very successful webinar, I look forward to seeing everyone again soon. Thank you for your efforts and thanks to our Heavenly Father. "

Madelon Comvalius, WM Director





SOS SCHOLARSHIP AWARD FOR BELGRADE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY STUDENTS

Three BTS students, Jelena Dokmić, Danijela Rajić and Marija Živković-Spaić, were presented with the official letters of SOS Scholarship Award on Sabbath, October 17th, 2020 at a small ceremony held at the Belgrade Theological Seminary in Belgrade, Serbia.

Marija Trajkovska, SEEUC WM Director, first spoke about the importance and role of the WM department and then introduced the WM devotional book, the sales from the book enabled GCWM SOS to help female students in Adventist education institutions. She encouraged women and girls to get involved in helping female students all over the world contributing in writing and sending topics for the Women's Ministry devotional books as well as buying and recommending them to others.

The SOS financial help was tremendous support for the three dedicated students helping them to fulfill their dreams and prepare them for service. Their thanksgiving letters fully testify about this.

Marija Trajkovska
SEEUC WM Director



STUDENTS THANKSGIVING NOTE



Dear members of General Conference Women's Ministries,

I wanted to thank you for the financial help you provided for my tuition. When I decided to study theology one of my fears was exactly that – paying the tuition. I promised God that I would study hard and give my best if He would take care of what I was not able to do. I am happy He answered my prayers and showed me that He is with me on this journey. It gives me the strength to continue with a smile on my face and joy in my heart. I am also convinced that God will take care of everything else when we accept His plan for our lives. He can move the mountains in our lives and calm the restless waters. This encouraged me to accept, with even greater faith, every call of God and to always allow Him to work through me. One of my favorite verses "You, whom I took from the ends of the earth and among her elect I called you, and I said to you: you are my servant, I have chosen you, and I have not rejected you; Fear not, for I am with you; do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you and help you, and I will uphold you with the right hand of my righteousness." (Isaiah 41: 9,10). I am thankful to God for choosing me and for fulfilling His promise to help me. And once again, I am extremely thankful to you for your help. May God bless you in everything you do for him.

Sincerely yours,
Marija (Živković) Spaić

Dear members of General Conference Women's Ministries,

Thank You for helping me continue my studies and providing financial support. It is wonderful how God can do miracles through prayers. My experience has been an answer to prayers and it has changed me for the better. We all know the Bible principle, those who give will receive. That is true! I truly believe that when someone seeks to do great things for God, He will always provide for you along the way. Thank You for helping me further understand that with God nothing is impossible. I believe that there are no limits to what we can do with God. For me to believe that everything is possible with God means to accept the fact that not everything is possible in my own strength. One of my favorite Bible verses in the context of giving and receiving is Matthew 6:33: "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Thank you once again for your donation you have put a smile on my face and that is priceless. God bless You!

Sincerely yours,
Danijela Rajić, Belgrade Theological Seminary student

Dear Raquel,

I remember when you visited Serbia and I am very pleased that I can thank you and everyone else who works in Woman's ministries for your help. Although you think your scholarship is small it is life changing for me. You have enabled me to continue studying theology and serving the Lord. I hope to work one day in the mission field in my country with my people. I've had an opportunity to experience working with them for a month this summer and I am thrilled. Thank you for giving me an opportunity to graduate next year and spread the gospel in my country.

Thank you all again and God bless you all!

With love,
Jelena Dokmić



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