



Dear friends

Greetings from Mitroy and myself here in Lae, Papua Guinea where we meet every Tuesday to pray and discuss how we can best help WCTU grow. Today we prayed for you all, for the leaders of WCTU, for our nations and we praised God for the privilege of prayer and being free to come together each week.

WCTU World Prayer Day

September 28, Thursday, is just 2 days away as I write this and that day is of supreme importance in the WCTU calendar. It is our **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER for WCTU**. It is the day we remember Frances Willard, the most famous of all our WCTU leaders. September 28 was her birthday. It is appropriate that we use this day as a special day of prayer. "Prayer is the Key in the hand of faith that unlocks Heaven's storehouse", one writer says. Mitroy and I urge you to spend time in prayer on Thursday.

Urgency to PRAY

The world is in a mess with threatenings of war, volcanoes erupting, earthquakes, disasters, hunger, violence of every kind and horror at every turn. Amidst all this we are called to carry on the work of temperance and tell young people everywhere to keep themselves pure and sober and live to honour God. We have a solemn and sober responsibility. Let's keep at it but not without PRAYER. Indeed we cannot do the work without PRAYER.

Noontide prayer

And remember the **NOONTIDE prayer time** for WCTU all around the world. This is along established tradition and we must maintain it - for without it, we are nothing.

Pray - for the leaders of WCTU at world and national levels

Pray - that we will all reach more children and youth

Pray - for opportunities to speak at schools and more youth groups

Pray - that nothing will stop the influence of the WCTU

More about prayer

And look at the WWCTU website for more information about this day - <http://www.wwctu.org/wrb/201703.pdf>

World No Alcohol Day

This is the next date to be mindful of - **October 2 - World No Alcohol Day**. It is a chance to speak up, write about and promote NO ALCOHOL. The drinking of alcohol is ruining our young people all over the world and it is our chance to help do something about it. Teach, show, demonstrate to youth that it is 'cool' not to drink. Invite youth you know who are abstinent, to share their testimonies at your youth group or church or community. Find a school you can go to and share the NO ALCOHOL message.

WWCTU Resolutions

Let me remind you that the World WCTU makes **RESOLUTIONS** at their triennial conventions. At the last convention in Canada in 2016 there were resolutions made about - Alcohol, Cyberbullying, Domestic Violence, FASD, Human Trafficking and Peace.

http://www.wwctu.org/resources_pdf/convention_2016/2016_resolutions.pdf

Please read these carefully and consider how you might promote those important issues in your area of influence. And note that ALCOHOL is the first resolution. We are resolved that the members of the WWCTU continue to vigorously and publicly advocate for a life of total abstinence.

Postponement of PNG Convention

The **national convention** planned for October 16-19, 2017 in Port Moresby, has been postponed until early next year, 2018. We will send you more details before the end of the year. In the meantime - save and plan to attend. For all interested persons in PNG - please contact Beatrice (+675 716 32210), Mitroy (+675 722 60 386) or myself by email.

Remember - you are not alone in your beautiful work for temperance. Others, just like you, are doing their best to share the good message of Jesus Christ and the freedom He offers to all. He has promised never to leave us.

 and *Mitroy*

Joy Butler (2nd Vice President - World WCTU & Field Officer for Africa)

Mitroy Sapul (Field Officer - South Pacific Region)

Websites: www.wwctu.org www.drug-freeyouth.com

Facebook: WOW Unlimited; I'm Worth It - WCTU Teens

The most commonly used drug in the world today is neither aspirin nor marijuana or tranquilliser pills, but

ALCOHOL

Alcohol is fast becoming known as the 'in' drug as young people, who are beginning to realise the harmful effects of marijuana, LSD, and the hard

drugs are rediscovering alcohol. Alcohol, they find removes worry, relaxes their inhibitions, calms their fears, and besides it is socially approved.

In recent years widespread drug addiction among teenagers has made many young people dependent on drugs for fun and pleasure. Because it is an addictive drug, but also legal, alcohol is the 'perfect' answer for those who need a replacement for former drug habits.

The alcohol industry has not been slow to encourage this trend. The recent production of the 'pop wines' - fruit flavoured wines such as apple, currant and strawberry - is making it big with teenagers and college kids. They taste good, are fairly cheap and will ensure the user's popularity, their producers continually declare through television, radio and magazines.

Since the beginning of written history we have evidence that the four basic ingredients for alcohol (sugar, water, yeast and mild warmth) were available and used to make fermented drinks. Bacchus, god of wine, is credited with bringing it to the Greeks. The side of alcohol which Bacchus presented pictured it is a source of relaxation and pleasure, nourishing the body, restoring and preserving health, and ennobling festivals and rituals.

King Solomon, of Bible fame, experienced another side of alcohol and wrote:

"Who has woe? Who has sorrows? Who has strife? Who has complaining? Who has wounds without cause? Who has redness of eyes? Those who tarry long over wine, those who go to try mixed wine. Do not look at wine when it is red, when it sparkles in the cup and goes down smoothly. At the last it bites like a serpent, and stings like an adder. Your eyes will see strange things, and your mind utter perverse things." Proverbs 23:29-33 RSV.

A million separate tragedies testify to the truth of Solomon's words. Every twenty minutes a drinking driver kills a person. More than 50 percent of all fatal automobile accidents involve an intoxicated driver. And although it is known that one out of ten social drinkers will become an alcoholic, social pressure to drink continues unchecked. The social drink today is so widespread and accepted that less than 5 percent of the hosts and hostesses interviewed in a recent survey said they provided an attractive alternate to alcohol for their guests who preferred not to drink.

SAY NO alcohol - it is the simplest and best way to go.

To be continued.....next month.

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FRANCES E WILLARD

Frances E Willard is considered to be the mother of the WCTU (Woman's Christian Temperance Union). She was the World WCTU President from 1891-1898 and led with passion. Some words describe her as - clear, determined, enthusiastic, firm, generous, honest, innovative, outspoken, peaceable, progressive, spiritual, sure, tender, unique, optimistic and well dressed. She was a charismatic leader. She believed the WCTU was 'a high and holy calling.'

Frances grew up in North America in a Christian family. As a teenager she, with her family, signed a pledge to abstain (keep away from) all alcohol and always drink 'cold water from the well or spring.' She became a teacher and taught in many schools. She wanted to see more of the world and she had an enquiring mind. For nearly two years she and a companion travelled to many countries and studied at various institutes. When she returned she became the first President of the brand new Evanston College for Ladies. She spoke to 1,000s of people about things that mattered to women, to families and the world.

Eventually she resigned from her teaching profession and gradually became involved with the growing Temperance movement. She was convicted that this was the place God wanted her to be. She became the leader and president of the WCTU in Chicago city (1874), Illinois State (1878), America National (1879), then World President in 1891. Along with the active temperance work, she campaigned for women's right to vote. 'The WCTU became the most broadly comprehensive organisation the world had ever known.' (Sarah F Ward)

Frances Willard was a magnetic personality and a brilliant speaker, not requiring written notes. She read, studied, prayed and delivered powerful speeches to thousands of people in Europe and America. Her influence spread throughout the world. 'From her thousands of women learned what to pray for, organise and work for, talk, write and publicly speak for. She inspired a world of women.' (Carrie Chapman Catt)

The National Council of Women was organised by Frances Willard, along with some other prominent women, in 1888. She was elected as the first president. This council saw the need for a 'clearing house' for women's activities in America and in other nations around the world. They also saw it as an opportunity to enhance and spread the work of the WCTU to other women's groups. Indeed the temperance message belonged to every woman for the sake of her family. Frances Willard maintained that the home and family were of topmost importance.

She met with many important people - Presidents, Queen Victoria, the Pope, the Kaiser, Sultan of Turkey and other world notables. She learned to ride a bicycle at 53, she set up a gym for women. She was always at the front of new ideas and technology and urged her helpers to keep up with telegraph, typewriter and telephone. (She is our example)

When she died on February 17, 1898, 30,000 people came to honour her at Chicago and Evanston (her home town) where the flags were at half mast. Thousands attended her funeral. She has been honoured and remembered in many ways throughout the United States of America and around the world. There are statues, plaques, pictures, fountains, schools, parks, stained glass windows, a train carriage and a postage stamp in honour of Frances Willard. Children bore her name. She is not forgotten and never will be.

Quotes from Frances E Willard -

- Sow an act and you reap a habit; sow a habit and you reap a character, sow a character and you reap a destiny.
- Mother-love works magic for humanity, but organised mother-love works miracles.
- The three requisites for success are ability, availability and responsibility.

We think that the very best way to make a woman of you is that you should begin just where you are to work for the Cause.

- Alone, we can do little. Separated, we are the units of weakness; but together we become batteries of power. Agitate, educate, organise - these are the deathless watchwords of success.

- The supreme duty of the hour is to convince the moderate drinker that he is doing himself harm.

- God grant that we may be so divinely led that history's verdict upon our work shall be: By God's blessing they helped to make the world wider for women and happier for humanity.

- Let us fling ourselves out into the thickening battle; let us live the life of action, which is the only true and happy life.

FRANCES WILLARD