

WORLD'S WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION



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Flor and Fjaere - Location for Convention Luncheon

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*International Code

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The President's Page . . .

Sarah F. Ward

Dear White Ribbon Sister,

Excitement is growing in anticipation of the next World Convention in Norway. Travel plans need to be made soon.

For your convenience, you may register on-line on our website: www.wwctu.org/2010convention.html. Please do not register until you have all the information you need to complete the form. Receipt of your completed form will be acknowledged so, if you do not hear, please get in touch with World Organization Secretary, Margaret Ostenstad. Make sure you send your money by the due dates.

Recently a special effort was made in the United States to better acquaint out members with early national WCTU presidents. As a result, a series of five biographies were written. Three of them were written by me, the last one being about Frances Willard. Dr. Mrs. Masako Sato, President of the Japan WCTU, challenged her members to get it translated and to raise the money to print the booklet. It truly has been a labor of love. Dr. Christina Naylor of Australia has supervised the work. The translators are pictured here.



Translators (clockwise): Mr. Yasumasa Shinkai, Rev. Mrs. Masako Sato, Mrs. Julie Sadakata, Dr. Christina Naylor (center), Mrs. Makiko Kawana, and Miss Masako Tsuda.



"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light" Isaiah 9:2a (NIV)

May each of you share the story of Jesus, the light of the world, at this Christmastide and be blessed by His presence in your life.

WWCTU Officers



2nd Vice President

Dr. Mrs. Sheela Lall

“God may have chosen you for such a time as this”

We are living in a world where we see that Satan is using his effective arrows of doubt, depression, hopelessness, materialism, nationalism, hatred, jealousy, sorrow, entertainment of worldly pleasure, etc. We who are fighting for the cause of WCTU all over the world know how these arrows hurt and destroy people and their homes but if we remember three basic things we can always be victorious. First and foremost, Jesus is with us all the time. Second, God is at the bottom to catch us no matter how far and deep we have gone. Third, we have the faith and all the resources and power in Him to do anything good to glorify Him.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for praying for India and particularly for the Christians of India who are persecuted and go through constant harassment. I have personally experienced the brunt of this vicious surge as the head of one of the fastest growing Christian missions. It took us 4½ years to fight the legal battle to reconstruct our local extended church building. This happened through the amazing decision of the court while India has the highest number of pending court cases in the world! The battle is His.

The point I want to make through this is that our road is tough and can be full of hurts, heartaches and disappointment at times but the final battle is ours because God has promised to made us victorious. This is not about us. It's about God and his glory, which needs to shine through his creation – His people.

When we got the permission to construct our local church building a revival broke out as the congregation worked along side the construction laborers. Various prayer groups were held and tears were shed during the construction. This united the congregation like never before.

This is what we need today for our organization. The WCTU warriors not only have to keep the arrows of Satan at bay with the might of God but more then that they have to pull the lost and broken people from that dungeon, from that deep pit where in satisfying the desires of the flesh at Satan's coaxing, many of our loved ones and our hope of the future, youngsters, are suffering today. This is not the time to fight amongst ourselves for worldly possessions. It is the time to set forth all our energy and passionate effort to restore and redeem our “neighbor.” God is waiting to lead us in a victory procession for His eternal glory and for His desire to save humanity. For such a time as this God has chosen you and me so keep doing great work in your respective areas.



Elsa Masuku

Our WCTU Youth Club (as it is referred to) at the Solusi University in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, Africa, is budding since May-June 2008. We have twenty regular student members and six adult supporters. We hope to have more youth and the adults sign up before the end of this year.

In November 2008 we organized a Speech Contest on “The Effects of Substance Abuse.” There were six finalists from various Faculties and the programme was attended by the whole student body of 1,400 and about 100 Faculty members and close to 300 people from the University community. The message was loud and clear and impacted many people. We only pray people change their life styles for the better.

We gave awards as follows: 1st US \$20, 2nd US \$15 and 3rd US \$10. Because of the positive impact of this contest, school and church authorities at the varsity have given us another slot to present this programme on Saturday evening, 14th November 2009. Kindly help us pray for an even better approach that will have an even deeper impact on the lives of our young people as well as adults since our message is for everyone.

Following are written comments one of the judges offered after last year’s contest..

The speech contest was carried out wherein students from various faculties were represented and they took time to give their peers and colleagues concrete information about the ills of substance abuse. Suffice to say, all the speeches emphasized the abuse of alcohol. A few speakers addressed smoking although it was not in such great detail as was the case with alcohol.

All the speakers gave informative and well-researched speeches. Further they exhibited great levels of creativity as was the case with the “Twin Towers.” Generally most contestants addressed the audience with great command; they managed to capture the audience’s attention.

With regards to the speeches given, it is my opinion that all stratus of the academic sphere were covered, notably, the academics, the argumentative, the artists, the philosophers, and even those who needed uplifting because of their despair. Over and above all, the contest was an experience to be cherished and relived at any given moment with no qualms at all.



Organization Secretary

Margaret Ostenstad



South Africa - Joy Butler with school principal and children who had signed the pledge.

I am so inspired by the work of Joy Butler, Field worker for Africa, that I want to share with you a composite of some of her letters. Use this information to inspire others or may be just for you!

South Africa recently had their convention and it was very satisfying to see what they have done and where they are heading. I have just returned from Cape Town where I spent

a week promoting WCTU. We had a wonderful time going to schools and a couple of churches and speaking to a big gathering of women on the final Saturday there. We had many children sign the pledge and are looking forward to Beverley Ramages starting up another branch in Cape Town. Please pray for this venture in faith. Alice Rajuli is the new National president for South Africa and we must encourage her. One of their resolutions was to observe November as Temperance month and they would encourage churches to set aside preaching total abstinence from alcohol and drugs on the 3rd Sunday each month. I would urge everyone – to do the same – on Saturday or Sunday. Speak to your pastors and ministers about this important topic and urge them to preach at every opportunity but especially so in November.



South Africa - Students signing the pledge with Beverley Ramages

AROUND THE WORLD

In **Kenya** we recently set up the first official Union group here in Nairobi West. We had 8 very enthusiastic women attend our first meeting and we are off to a good start. We will enroll more in the near future. We have some good contacts and people who want to know more. A good website that is helpful in Kenya is: www.nacada.go.ke I would encourage you to take a look. We will be working with other groups as much as possible.

In **Sierra Leone**, Flora Clarkson tells us they are working in the schools and Sunday schools encouraging children to avoid these evil substances. They are also praying every day at noon.

Elsie Masuku in Zimbabwe continues to promote and teach the students at her university about the dangers of DAT (Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco).

Just last week I returned from Nigeria where I spoke to 5,000+ women from 26 countries in West Africa (including 3 countries from East Africa). It was an excellent opportunity to promote WCTU and we enlisted many new members. These are some of the countries who want to begin Unions: Benin, Cameroon, Mali, Nigeria, Togo and more in Ghana, Sierra Leone, and Kenya. Please pray for a good outcome for the faithful women in these countries. These are the highlights I told them:

- The history of WCTU and other churches' involvement
- DAT poisons (Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco) and all the dangers involved
- FASD and how they should ring bells every Sept 9 at 9 am and why
- What we can do in our communities and nations and how to set up unions
- Sign a pledge to abstain from DAT and we prayed together
- We must love our children unconditionally as well as those in our neighbourhood, churches and communities - for this will help safeguard the children when the temptations come
- Go to schools and pray for teachers, students and walk around the school praying for a hedge of safety for the children
- Join 100s of other women and pray every day at noon for the growth and success of WCTU in every land - set cell phones to ring at 12 noon as a reminder
- This a totally interdenominational Christian group and not restricted to any one church group



Home Protection

Maria Molvik

HEALTH and NUTRITION

When God created Adam and Eve, he didn't only provide them with a beautiful garden home but he also supplied the food best suited for them, namely grains, nuts, vegetables and fruits. It is still the ideal diet, but it took a long time before our scholars and dieticians discovered this. More than two hundred documented reports from health studies done among groups of vegetarian people show that they live from six to ten years longer than others. But that's not all! They also avoid many of the lifestyle diseases rampant today, especially among Western people. Evidently there is a close relationship between health and nutrition.

A woman in California who lived to be 104 was asked in a TV interview what the secret was to her excellent health. She answered "A vegetarian diet, walking three miles every day, total abstinence and faith in God.

We also need plenty of water, fresh air and sunshine. And a positive attitude is very beneficial. It even improves digestion and reduces stress!

The Bible tells us that "a cheerful heart is good medicine. But a crushed spirit dries up the bones." Proverbs 17:22. And Nehemiah says that "the joy of the Lord is your strength."

How privileged we are as God's children! We receive forgiveness, strength for each day and have the hope of a glorious future with our Saviour and the redeemed throughout eternity. What more could we ask for?

My wish for you, dear White Ribbon sister, is found in the third Epistle of John 3:2 "Beloved, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all things may go well with you, even as your soul prospers."



*"It is always noontime somewhere.
And across the awakening continents
From shore to shore, somewhere,
Our prayers are rising evermore."*



Social Service

Hyun Sook Lee

Recently I went to visit a prison in which they had only inmates that had been involved with narcotics. It was a tall building without any windows and it didn't give off a good vibe. I went through 5 small and big doors into a small church. It was a church that was built for Christian inmates. After waiting for a short time, men that were thin and with the same-color uniforms and short hair came and greeted us. They were men that had either used or dealt narcotics and were later caught and tried. They were serving their sentences in that prison. We sang praise songs together. When it was time for the speaker to preach, everyone listened attentively.

It looked like they were sincerely anticipating something. I could see in their eyes that they were hoping that their fears would disappear and that their worries about their parents and families that they had left behind would all be taken care of. I could also see in them the hope and sincerity of not wanting to return to their past and wanting to live new lives after they were released. They probably didn't mean to commit the sins and violate the law on purpose. Maybe it was because of their weaknesses and because their sins overpowered their faith and trust for God or because they couldn't adjust well to a society that was so cold to those that are poor and weak or maybe there wasn't any community or leader that could guide them. My heart was heavy and I worried that they would be discouraged the moment we left.

I thought about what God would feel. He would think, "I love them and I gave birth to them and their pains are my pains as well." God wants them to receive His love. God is hope to all those that are hurt or poor or in pain. We were not much different from the inmates for we have all sinned but we were miraculously born again. Jesus is our only hope, too. Now we must go before Him to serve and witness.

We have started a ministry to take care of the families of the inmates because they are going through a tough time. They worry about how the men will adjust after they are released from prison. They will need help readjusting in society and overcoming changes in their emotions and way of thinking. Those that wanted to hide and families that were embarrassed about admitting that their child was an inmate first rejected our WCTU team. But now the families of the inmates and families of other religions welcome the WCTU team with thanks. It is the Lord's work to comfort even one soul and to give courage to prevent any more diseases or crimes. The inmates' pain is also their family's pain and it is our pain as well.



Light for a Season

Joyce Poeppelmeyer

I am one of those light-sensitive people. If the sun is shining, I seem to be able to accomplish nearly anything, overcoming great frustrations and displaying unlimited patience. Something about light brings energy and hope, creativity and anticipation, inspiration and revelation. The problems that march through our pillowed heads at midnight seem much less threatening as dawn creeps over the treetops with a warm glow that washes away the murky mist of our anxieties.

We talk a lot about light during the Advent season. Isaiah 60:1 says, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you...."

Yes, our light has come in the form of a babe in a manger. In John's gospel, Jesus says, "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." What a joy to have that Light arise and vanquish the darkness of our sins! As followers of Jesus Christ, it is our responsibility to share that Light with all with whom we come in contact. His Light dispels the darkness of sin, addictions, destructive habits, and all unrighteousness in our lives.

I saw a skit about Christmas lights the other day. Seems two men were outside putting up their Christmas lights while discussing their neighbor who left her lights on year-round. How ridiculous! She was either an eccentric or just too lazy to take them down. They scoffed and complained until one of them had a revelation about those lights. Those lights represented His Light! Their neighbor had been preaching a sermon in lights all year long.

Why should we celebrate the coming of His Great Light for only a season? His light is shed abroad in our hearts 365 days a year. Are you preparing for the "Season" of Lights or do you allow His light to shine through you every day of the year? "Let your light shine before men that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." Matt. 5:16

May WWCTU members proclaim the Light of His love for the lost, and their message of purity of lifestyle year around.

World Convention Program

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

12:00 noon Lunch

- 1:00 (13 hrs) Registration begins
- 3:30 pm Executive Committee - Stavanger Room
- 5:00 pm Dinner - Atlantic Hall
- 7:00 pm Opening Session - Atlantic Hall
Processional of World Officers, Norwegian Officers,
and Dignitaries
- Presentation of National Flags - Aud Karin Foerland,
Norway, National Board Member
- Ja, vi elsker dette landet (Yes, We Love This Country)
Norwegian national anthem
- Dr. Jung Joo Kim, WWCTU 1st Vice President, Presiding
- Welcomes by Dignitaries
- Welcome by Margaret Ostenstad, WWCTU Organization
Secretary and Norway National President
- Response by Rita Wert, WWCTU 4th Vice President,
and USA National President
- Give to the Winds Thy Fears - Audience
Prayer Brita Nilssen, Norway Children & Youth Director
Psalm 146 (Crusade Psalm) - Anne Bergen, WWCTU
Recording Secretary and Dorothy Russell, WWCTU
Treasurer
- State of the Organization Address - Margaret Ostenstad,
WWCTU Organization Secretary
- Amazing Grace
Go! Light Your World - Matthew 5:14a - Dr. Sheela Lall,
WWCTU 2nd Vice President
Go Light Your World (convention theme song) - Audience

(continued on next page)

World Convention Program continued

Address by Sarah F. Ward, WWCTU President

Announcements

Benediction by Dawn Giddings, 4th WWCTU

Vice President

Receiving Line and Reception

Thursday, May 13, 2009

- 7:00 - 8:30 am Breakfast
- 8:15 am Prayer and Praise Service - India WCTU presiding - Atlantic Hall
- 8:55 am Morning Session
- Roll Call - Anne Bergen, WWCTU Recording Secretary
Announcements
- 9:30 am Department Workshops
Christian Outreach - Pastor Irja Eskelinen - Atlantic Hall
Education - Sarah F. Ward - Stavanger Room
- 10:15 am Break
- 10:45 am Repeat of Workshops - Presenters change rooms
- 12:00 noon Lunch
- 1:30 pm Department Workshops
Home Protection - Margaret Ostenstad - Atlantic Hall
Social Service - Hyun Sook Lee - Stavanger Room
- 2:20 pm Repeat of Workshops - Presenters change rooms
- 3:05 pm Break
- 3:15 pm Puppet workshop - Glenda Amos - Stavanger Room
3:40 pm Visit Directors' Exhibits - Atlantic Hall
- 5:30 pm Dinner
- 7:00 pm Panel by World Department Directors - Audience Questions
- 8:00 pm Continent Meeting
- 8:30 pm International Market opens - until 10:30 pm - Stavanger Rm.

(program to be concluded in the next issue)