



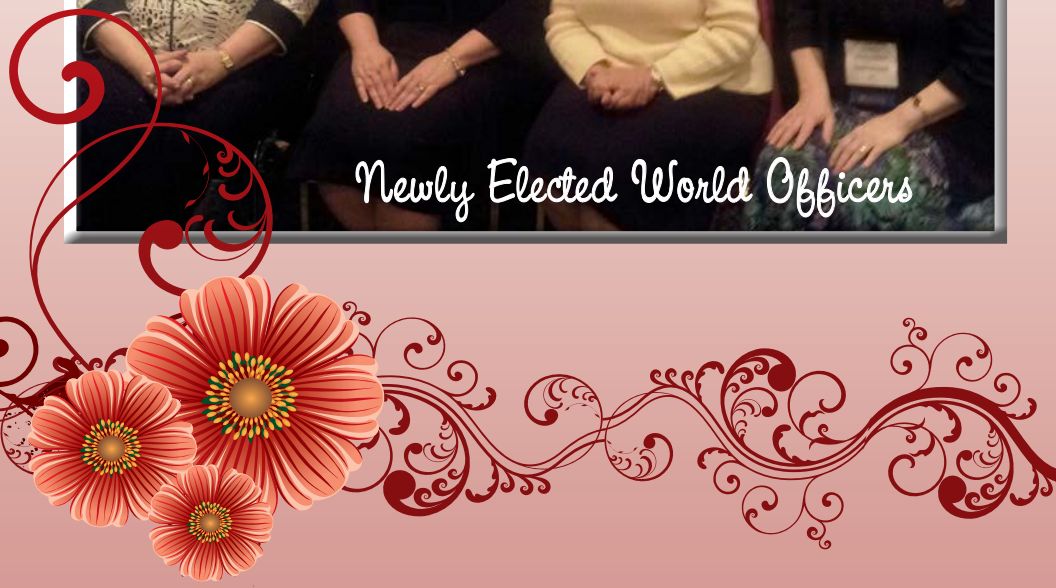
White Ribbon Bulletin

World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union

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Newly Elected World Officers





Dear Reader,



Sarah F. Ward

I am sure you will like the new look of the Bulletin. It is still in transition and is a product of our new World President's artistic ability. Our aim in this issue of the Bulletin is to offer you a commemorative picture album of the recent World Convention. We hope it will be enjoyable for those who were able to attend the Convention as well as for those who were remembering us in prayer. We had a wonderful Convention and your new World officers and Directors (some are continuing) are ready and able to lead us forward in our goal to have a drug-free world!

We offer a special thanks to Joan Van Loh (USA) who served as Assistant World Treasurer for the past nine years, mainly taking care of monetary gifts from the District of Toronto. We appreciate the efforts of Lois I. Helm (USA) who served as Circulation Manager of the White Ribbon Bulletin for the past nine years and made sure subscribers received their copy. We also thank Frances Wood (USA) for screening the numerous United Nations bulletins and information during the past six years when we had no one available to attend sessions in New York City.

During the Convention, besides time to have rich fellowship and look for solutions to challenging problems, many learning opportunities were provided. The Great Australian Challenge offered an opportunity for much activity and expanded our knowledge into the areas of balloon ministry, pregnancy support, mocktails, Fair Trade, the World Federation Against Drugs, and information about Australia. The World Department Directors also provided activities in support of their departments. On another day workshops on alcohol and other drugs, steps to organizing new unions, tips for leaders, basic computer information, and public speaking were well attended and the participants were responsive. Morning tea at Parliament House, hosted by Frances Bedford, Member of Parliament was a special treat.

Sarah



Noontide prayer - Matthew 11:28

Prayer changes not only situations, but also those who pray.

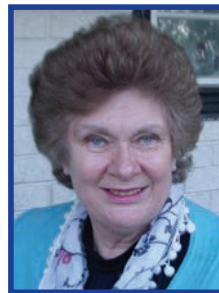
Front cover photo

Front row (left to right): Margaret Ostenstad (Norway), World President; Desiree Lanigan (Canada), World Organization Secretary; Dorothy Russell (USA), World Treasurer; and Susanne Curry (USA) World Recording Secretary.

Second row (left to right): Anne Bergen (Australia), 1st World Vice President; Dr. Dora de Barrientos (Guatemala), 2nd World Vice President; Young Joo Kim (Korea), 3rd World Vice President; and Joy Butler (New Zealand), 4th World Vice President.

Dear White Ribbon Sister,

Congratulations, **AUSTRALIA WCTU**, on a successful World Convention held in the beautiful city of Adelaide 3-8 May – “our hope . . . our vision - a drug-free world.” Thanks to all who worked so hard to make the visit for delegates from many countries so enjoyable.



Margaret Ostenstad

When speaking of the **World WCTU** in October 1893, Frances Willard said: There is a heart-language that they are learning in every nation, and nothing can stand before the sisterhood of WOMAN that is now growing up around the world. . . . He fashioned their hearts alike! It is still true today!

If we are to move forward to accomplish that which the Lord expects of us, we must walk by faith. We can see only so far ahead, and our vision beyond this point must be a vision of faith. And so, to the women who are new to the organization, I say these great words **“Be not afraid, only believe.” Mark 5:36.**

In our temperance work, we pray for the children of today. Many are suffering. It is a terrifying thought! The world’s children are our greatest resource! They are our leaders of tomorrow. Let them have a drug-free upbringing and let us work even harder toward making this happen!

Believe that you can do it, whatever it is that you set your heart on. Opportunities will unfold and open before you. We all live in a world where we must work together.

In 2004, President Sarah Ward gave us the challenge of **TEAM** work. “Together everyone achieves more!” Building on that in 2013, I say **“WE ARE ONE – in Christ’s love!” Accept every responsibility that you are given, and execute it with faith and diligence. The Lord will bless you.**

In closing, a very special thank you to World President Emeritus, Sarah Ward, whose service and devotion to the temperance cause has been an inspiration to us all! We are so pleased that she has consented to continue as Convenor for the World Department Directors and Editor of the World White Ribbon Bulletin.

Started 130 years ago, and we are still HERE! The oldest continuous woman’s organization in the world!

God bless us all! Love and prayers,

Margaret



HOPE - for a drug-free world

Dr. Elisa Masuku

[The following devotional thoughts are taken from the presentations made at the church service held during the World Convention.]

Our world is characterized by one problem after another and a world filled with drugs is one of the problems. Our “hope for a drug-free world” cannot be realized in a vacuum. It is based on our hope in Christ for the Bible says without Him we can do nothing.

Let us look at a few crises experiences recorded in the Bible and learn how they coped with them. Moses led the children of Israel out of Egypt and then faced the Red Sea with the Egyptian army coming from behind. Moses’ hope was in the Lord so he told the people, “Fear not, stand still and see the salvation the Lord will show you today.” (Exodus 14:13-14) The Israelites were saved. Jehoshaphat was threatened by three nations; the first thing he did was to turn to God and proclaim a fast. The Lord fought the battle for them. (II Chron. 20) When Esther received word that all Israel was scheduled to be killed, she asked the nation of Israel to pray and fast as she risked her life to go to the king. Israel was saved. (Esther 4)

A drug-free world is what we are seeking! Let us intensify our prayers and fast for families, communities, our countries, and the world.

Vision - for a drug-free world

Desiree Lanigan

According to Business dictionary.com the definition of a vision statement is an aspirational description of what an organization would like to achieve or accomplish in the mid-term or long-term future. A vision statement defines an organization’s purpose. The Lord said, “Where there is no vision, the people perish.” (Proverbs 29:18)

The World Woman’s Christian Temperance Union has a vision - a drug-free world. We have a clear understanding of what we want to achieve, we know the purpose of the WWCTU, and we see the need for the vision.



No one questions the severity of the drug problem in the world today and its devastating impact on society - homes, families, and individual lives - all broken. According to the United Nations 2008 World Drug Report, an estimated 208 million people internationally consume illegal drugs.

Drugs have become part of our culture; they invade all aspects of society. Why? Why do people take drugs? All around the world people are looking for purpose, value, meaning, identity, and belonging, and so many are looking in the wrong places. People take drugs because they want to change something about themselves and their lives. Some want to fit in; others want to escape. Some just want to relax while others take drugs because they are bored or want to experiment or rebel. They think drugs are a solution but eventually the drugs become the problem.

So how do we promote our vision - a drug-free world? The plan of action of the WWCTU to achieve our vision is laid out for us in the work of our departments. Christian Outreach supports us in our Christian walk, in living lives to glorify God and a lifestyle that honors Him and reaches out to others in love promoting the abstinence message. Education is a great solution to the drug problem as we make the facts about alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drugs known to everyone to enable them to make the right choices. Home Protection works to protect the family by strengthening Christian family values and encouraging a lifetime commitment to total abstinence for the whole family. It may be the entry point for many to the WCTU when parents pledge to teach their children about the danger of drugs. Social Service is the department that encourages us to reach out to the community and individuals who are neglected, suffering or in need by sharing our resources and the temperance message.

When believers in Christ work together in unity, their fellowship of faith provides spiritual light in this world's darkness. Jesus said: "You are the light of the world . . . Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." We need to lift up Christ for light in this world's darkness where many think taking drugs is the solution for life's problems. Christ is the answer. The Bible tells of many whose faith in God produced great results. Are you willing to be His servant and serve?

With our vision, the WWCTU is attempting a great thing for God and because of God's power and faithfulness, we can expect great things from God. "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (Jeremiah 29:11)



The Convention church service was held on Sunday afternoon at St. Andrew's by the Sea Uniting Church. The participants were: (front row - left to right) Anne Bergen (communion service); Reena Kumar (Scripture reading); Desiree Lanigan (devotional - see page 4); Dr. Elisa Masuku (devotional - see page 4). (Back row - left to right) Margaret Ostenstad (song leader); Sarah F. Ward, (presiding); and Pastor Irja Eskelinen (prayer). Not pictured is Dawn Giddings who read Scripture.



Norwegians love to sing to honour God. Talent Night was no exception as the 16 representatives lifted their voices in a medley of songs.



Not one, not two but 3 lovely White Ribbon sisters 92-year-olds graced us with their presence at convention this year. Despite all the changes through the years that they have seen in our society, they continue to hold high the torch of the temperance message. What an encouragement for all of us to see and hear their testimonies. May we, too, be torch bearers to the next generations. Left to right: Elma Coombe (New South Wales), Maria Molvik (Norway), and Margaret Adamson (Victoria) - Together they represent about 200 years of membership in the WCTU.



Susanne Curry selected our popular convention theme song, Show Me Your Ways, and blessed us with wonderful music throughout the convention.



POP! POP! POP! We all sat in suspense watching the balloon man. We even had a lesson or two with balloons. God uses all kinds of talent to share the gospel - even balloons. We were all kids at heart that day as we listened to the testimony of the Balloon man.



Children are God's blessing to us to nurture, love and train in the ways of the Lord. What a joy it was to have several Korean children from New Zealand as part of our World Convention 2013. We enjoyed the talents that they shared with us and the energy they displayed. They are our hope and future of the WCTU. God bless them every one.



The World President's Honor Role was awarded to the National President of the following countries: Australia, Canada, East Timor, Egypt (absent), Finland, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya, Korea, Norway, USA, and Zimbabwe. Also recognized for initial efforts were Sierra Leone and Solomon Islands. The award covered the 2011 and 2012 years of WCTU activity. Observance of the special WCTU days and completion of projects in each department were the qualifying requirements.



It is always a joy to see old friends again and such a blessing to make new ones too. World convention brings us together from around the world with a common thread - the temperance message. Getting acquainted with others from different countries is one of the many privileges experienced at world convention. Praise the Lord for each and every one.



Faithfully serving our Lord and the temperance cause, the colourful Korean contingent are pictured on Opening Night.



Hyun Sook Lee, World Social Service Director, participated in the Great Australian Challenge, asking each one to have the heart of Jesus by naming one person to visit, one to pray for, and one to help. The names were written on a heart as a reminder.

Dorothy Russell, World Treasurer, won the grand prize for earning the most points in the activities of the Great Australian Challenge!

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