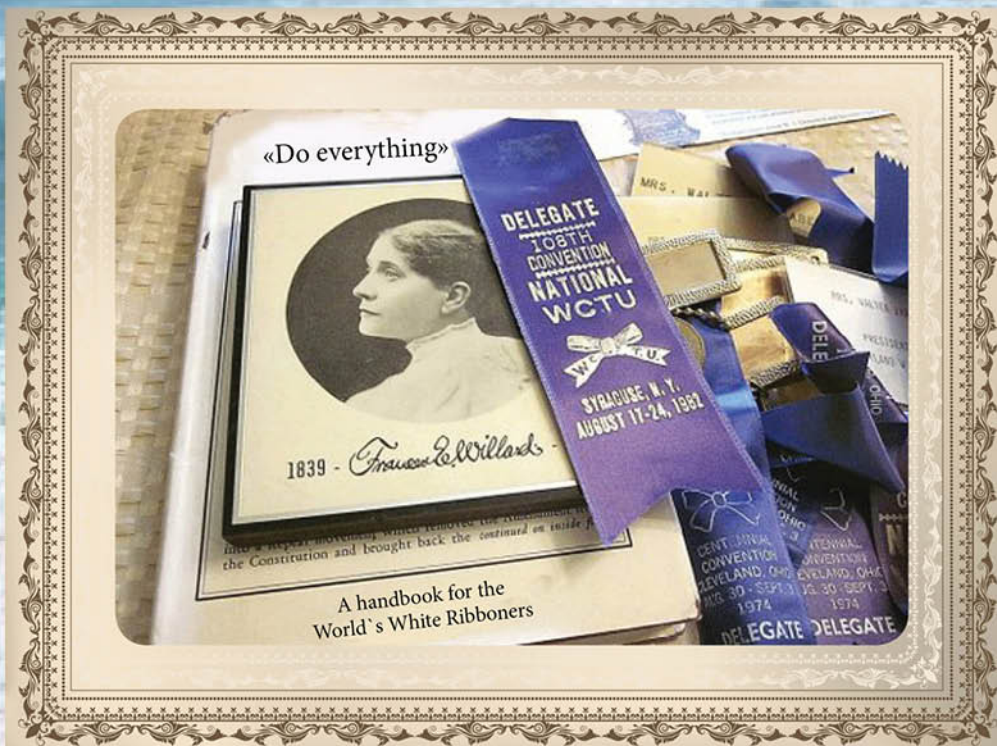




# White Ribbon Bulletin

World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union

Volume 109 • Number 3  
July • August • September 2014



175th Anniversary  
September 28th



## Editorial



Sarah F. Ward

Hello,

In 1883 Frances Willard, accompanied by her private secretary, Anna Gordon, visited opium dens in San Francisco, California. Afterward, as she looked out over the Pacific Ocean, she envisioned a worldwide temperance organization of women.

Frances Willard then made this statement:

*But for the intervention of the sea, the shores of China and the Far East would be part and parcel of our fair land. We are one world of tempted humanity; the mission of the white ribbon women is to organize the motherhood of the world for the peace and purity, the protection and exaltation of its homes. We must send forth a clear call to our sisters yonder across all seas, and to our brothers none the less. We must be no longer hedged about by the artificial boundaries of states and nations; we must utter as women what good and great men long ago declared as their watchword: 'the whole world is my parish and to do good my religion.'*

The area where Willard had the vision is now known as Inspiration Point and is marked by a WCTU plaque (see back cover).

In 1884 Mary Clement Leavitt of Boston, Massachusetts, was invited to visit Honolulu, Hawaii, to organize the WCTU. When Willard learned of this plan, she saw the opportunity to make her dream of a worldwide organization a reality by encouraging Leavitt to go even farther. At the 1884 National WCTU Convention, Leavitt was appointed to make the journey around the world. For almost eight years, Leavitt travelled 100,000 miles, visited 246 towns in 43 countries, and formed 130 temperance societies.

Frances Willard wrote the **Polyglot Petition**, the first worldwide request to world leaders to take a stand against the liquor traffic and the opium trade. Mary Clement Leavitt carried the petition on her journey around the world. Men and women from 50 countries and in almost 50 languages signed the petition totaling over 7,500,000 signatures. The petition is housed at the Willard House in Evanston, Illinois.

Frances Willard was the second World President. She was elected in 1891 at the first World Convention and served until her death in 1898.

Sarah

President's Message 

Dear All,

I do hope you are inspired by the fact that the vision Frances Willard had all those years ago still is actual today! There will always be evil/(hatefulness) around us and it is important to guard that, in fighting that which will do us harm, we do not become "evil/ (unloving)" ourselves. What you do matters to other people. Use every opportunity that comes your way to show that you care!



Margaret Ostenstad

Thanks to the United States and its National Board of Education and the World Department Directors under the mentorship of Sarah Ward we do have the knowledge. The World Bulletin (and the World website [www.wwctu.org](http://www.wwctu.org)) are also great resources and very useful in giving people an insight into the temperance work.

Be open to making changes when what you are doing is not bringing results. Nothing is more discouraging than to feel that you are making no headway. Use missionaries in your country. Dr. Jung Joo Kim, Field Worker for Korean Missionaries, continues to make wonderful connections all over the world. Truly a gift from God! But are you as active as you could be? Need some help getting started on something new? Please do not hesitate to get in touch! I look forward to hearing from you.

The World Officers join me in praying for new inspiration and leadership in our beloved organization.

I recently read a story about a man who dreamed that God asked him to place his hands on a huge rock. The man was obedient and each day he went out and pushed on this rock. After a long time, he was so discouraged that he cried out to God - "You asked me to push this huge rock but I CAN'T! I am so sorry for being such a failure."

God replied: "My son, look how healthy you are from doing what I asked of you. I asked you to place your hands on the rock! I did not ask YOU to move the rock; I WILL MOVE THE ROCK! Let us do what we can in the place where we are AND GOD WILL GIVE US THE BLESSING. Amen! YOU ARE VALUABLE! BELIEVE IN YOURSELF, FOLLOW YOUR PASSIONS AND NEVER GIVE UP!

Psalm 146!



Love and prayers,

Margaret  
16th World President





*Young Joo Kim*

### **Obedience of Faith**

Romans 1:5; 15:18

By the grace of the Lord, the remodeling of the KWCTU Hall was completed. The new hall shines with beauty to the glory of the Lord. At the opening ceremony on June 24, CEO of Daesung Group, Mr. Young Hoon David Kim, who had preached during the 34th world convention of the WWCTU in Seoul, shared his meditation on "Abraham, friend of God." It was so inspiring that I would like to share the message with all our White Ribbon sisters worldwide.

In Genesis 15:6, Abram was called out to see the beautiful stars in the sky. The LORD spoke to him that He would make his descendants as many as the stars he observed. According to astronomy today, there are one hundred and fifty million stars in our galaxy. There are many galaxies. Abram believed that the LORD was trustworthy, able to keep His promise. Trusting in the righteousness of the LORD, a new name was later given to him - Abraham (Genesis 17:5). He was regarded to be righteous and was called even as "my friend" by the LORD (2 Chronicle 20:7; Isaiah 41:8; James 2:23).

Jesus said that whoever would obey His Commandment would be His friend (John 15:12-14). Is it possible for us to love our neighbors as ourselves? The answer is in the parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-24). When the prodigal son was returning home with repentance, having wasted all he had, his father saw him from afar and ran to him, embracing him and giving him a great feast for his return. It was the love of the father which made the restoration of the son possible. Likewise, Jesus calls us to obey His New Commandment of love. It is made possible by His grace, only if we turn to Him. Jesus commands us to love even our enemies who persecute us so we will be made perfect as our Father who is in heaven (Matt. 5:44, 48).

Dear White Ribbon sisters! Let us return to the Lord, and obey His Word with faith so that we may receive His grace to love one another, even our enemies. Then we also become "friends of Jesus." The temperance movement is His call to love God, Home, and Every Land.

Young Joo  
3rd Vice President

## Prayer & Praise



*Be joyful always, pray at all times, be thankful in all circumstances. 1Thes. 5:18*

WCTU is an organization that is upheld by prayer. We are in a spiritual battle and in our own strength we cannot make an impact on the problems caused by alcohol and other drugs in our communities. Noontide is the traditional time for prayer for WCTU but if that is not the best time for you to pray, make prayer for WCTU part of your daily devotional time. Cut out this page and put it with your Bible.



*Anne Bergen*

### Prayer suggestions:

Pray for wisdom, vision, energy, and good health for the WWCTU Officers, especially our President, Margaret Ostenstad; the Organization Secretary, Desiree Lanigan; and the Treasurer, Dorothy Russell.

Pray that efforts by WCTU around the world on FAS Day, September 9th, to publicise the dangers of drinking during pregnancy, will be creative and effective.

Pray for the wonderful work being done by our 2nd Vice President, Dr Dora de Barrientos through Fundacion Debora in Guatemala City. Pray that this work of providing Christian training for some of the most needy women to lift them out of poverty and despair, and providing health care and education for their children, will receive sufficient funding, and find favour with the government of Guatemala.

Glenda Amos will be travelling from September 2nd – 15th doing a Field Work trip to encourage the WCTU members in Fiji, Vanuatu, and the Solomon Islands. Pray for safe travel and good health for Glenda and that her visit will inspire the women in these Pacific Island nations to work more effectively and enthusiastically.



**Heavenly Father, we thank and praise you for your great love and power.**

**We thank you that we can bring the needs of WWCTU before you and that you hear and answer. In Jesus' name we pray.**

**Amen**

**Remember to pray at 12 noon**

Anne  
1st Vice President

**September 28 (Frances Willard's Birthday) - WCTU World Day of Prayer**



## Organization Secretary



*Desiree Lanigan*

The July 1st deadline for submitting your 2014 Program Kit evaluation has come and gone. I want to thank the National Presidents who took the time to respond to this questionnaire. By gathering this information and evaluating the use of the materials written and compiled by the World Department Directors, it will give direction for future Program Kit preparations.

A big THANK YOU to the eleven countries who responded on time: Australia, Canada, Finland, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Sierra Leone and the USA. I would still be interested in hearing from countries who have not yet responded to the questionnaire. Your questionnaire information and any highlights/photos of your recent activities would be much appreciated.

Did you celebrate and do something special on May 31, World No Tobacco Day? Wikipedia's definition of World No Tobacco Day states:

"World No Tobacco Day (WNTD) is observed around the world every year on May 31. It is intended to encourage a 24-hour period of abstinence from all forms of tobacco consumption across the globe. The day is further intended to draw global attention to the widespread prevalence of tobacco use and to negative health effects, which currently lead to 5.4 million deaths worldwide annually. The member states of the World Health Organization (WHO) created World No Tobacco Day in 1987. In the past twenty years, the day has been met with both enthusiasm and resistance across the globe from governments, public health organizations, smokers, growers, and the tobacco industry."

Countries where World No Tobacco Day is observed should be commended for implementing this awareness day. Letters of commendation could be written individually or by your union to thank your country's officials. Did your WCTU promote this day? Let me know what activities your union did. Photos would be great.

Field worker Joy Butler reports that in Papua New Guinea the women in the capital district of this country organised a big day of teaching and coming together with leaders of the community. The theme was "Kill the Tobacco before it Kills you". They found posters, booklets and other aids to share and promote from various health entities. They performed dramas and gave speeches in the market and public places. This is their report. The general public was amazed and could see the real message. The people left with hope and also with understanding of what tobacco can do.



Mrs. Laurentine Mbe Ndala Kitenge, National WCTU president of the Democratic Republic of Congo, Africa, sent in a report of their recent activities including a presentation given on International Women's Day at a Christian School and also activities held on May 31, World No Tobacco Day.

God's blessings to you.  
Desiree



## Christian Outreach



Irja Eskelinen

The entire Spiritual text is based on 2.Cor. 9: 6-15. Please read all of it from your Bible.

*Remember this: Whosoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.*

This text opens up the principles of generosity in examples and terms used in farming. The seed sown by a farmer is God-given and the future harvest relies on growth given by God. Material wealth is a gift we should be ready to share with those in need. Paul firmly believes that when we give, we receive in return. This does not by any means imply speculating with an input-output reasoning – God’s reasoning is quite different from ours. Speculation would ruin our gifts and base them on selfishness instead of love.

Today’s needy ones are those who help others tomorrow! This is what happens when lives go according to God’s will. Those who have been helped are more sensitive to others’ needs. We all face situations in which we need help. In life, we often receive as abundantly as we have given. Jesus has taught us the principle of mutual help and sharing compassion in the Golden Rule, which is also what the White Ribbon movement is based on (Matt. 7:12).

Paul uses the term “autarkeia” to describe an approach to life where we gladly give of our beings to others, understanding not to demand too much for ourselves. (αὐτάρκεια: positive self-sufficiency, a mind contented with its lot). Helping should be voluntary – we are not to be pressured to help. No one should give more than she finds reasonable. Rightful, plentiful giving is based on our trust in God’s provision for His own and in making the best use of our earthly gifts by passing them on to good use.

We do not yet know which encounters in life will become essential for us. Only at the time of death, in our last moments, may we have the opportunity to find out. Not knowing is a part of God’s great mercy, so that we may receive every moment, every person sent our way as a gift from God.

Read Psalm 112 which describes giving in the Old Testament. The Prophet Micah (6:8) summarizes his guide for living: *He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.*

Irja



*"My people are destroyed because of the lack of knowledge" –Hosea 4:6*

Dear Friends,

How many times have we stumbled because we did not have complete information about a particular thing? Too many times we fumble and feel our way about in darkness, guessing our way through. In today's age of information, it's indeed a surprise that people still entertain so many myths and misconceptions about alcohol and other drugs.



*Reena Kumar*

For many, drug use begins as a recreational habit and later on becomes a tool for survival as the body can no longer function without it. Needless to say, the long term damage becomes irreversible.

One of the many things that we can continually do is to organize meetings and pay visits to schools, colleges, and places where we think that people would be susceptible to such situations.

Poster campaigns in school remain a popular means of spreading awareness. If we do meet somebody who is a drug user, through proper counseling as well as medical assistance, recovery can occur. This opportunity is sporadic as most families shy away from talking about this problem as it is a stigma. The first thing is to reach out with compassion so that they feel comfortable enough to share their problems.

I have particularly encountered this while talking to parents whose children were addicted to thinners and had just started smoking. It is important to educate people about the damage drugs do to their social, financial, and physical health. This can help them make right choices.

On special days, it would be good to organize group meetings where information leaflets may be given and a doctor or health worker be invited as a resource person to give a talk on what the actual damage is in terms of health if one indulges in drug use of any kind.

Doing a bit of research for oneself before going to a meeting can be helpful in sharing information and increasing one's knowledge. There are many government organizations that monitor the seizure of drugs from different parts of the country and have strict law enforcement agencies as well. It would be good to join hands with them to gather more information and be able to help people.

As we work for a drug-free world and a healthier planet each one of us has a part to play! God Bless you!

Reena

### VALUING CHILDREN



*Glenda Amos*

Much of the research that has been published in regard to helping children grow into responsible adults, without being involved in the drug culture, binge drinking and other anti-social behaviors, highlights the protective measures that parents and adults can adopt. These include:

1. Making conscious and intentional decisions to be involved in the lives of your children, no matter what their age. This helps to build your child's self-esteem through a range of activities, which can include recreational, spiritual and cultural avenues.
2. Creating opportunities where you can develop a relationship with your children. Having a loving, affirming and supportive environment assists you to build these relationships and helps the children to develop strong interpersonal skills as they know they come from a place of acceptance.
3. Learning to understand their challenges and needs, without being judgmental.
4. Being prepared to answer their difficult questions on drugs, sex and life in general and giving answers that are factual, reliable and true.

One way to help you value the precious gift that you have in your children is to consider their worth and importance in what is called Children365 statements. These statements are based on:

- 3 reasons I love my children
- 6 ways they make me smile
- 5 things we will do together in the year ahead.

This was an initiative which was promoted by the Alannah and Madeline Foundation in Australia following the tragic death of a 4-year-old girl - Darcey Freeman in 2009. The initiative recognizes that every day of the year is one in which you can cherish your children. You may like to add your Children365 statement to those on the Foundation website at: <http://www.amf.org.au/Children365Form>

Remember that you can make a difference in the life of children and that difference may enable them to live a happy and fulfilled life.

Glenda

References - Focus on the Family:

[http://www.families.org.au/article\\_files/resistingpeerpressure.pdf](http://www.families.org.au/article_files/resistingpeerpressure.pdf)

[http://www.families.org.au/article\\_files/overcomingfear.pdf](http://www.families.org.au/article_files/overcomingfear.pdf)

The Alannah and Madeline Foundation:

[http://www.amf.org.au/Assets/Files/Factsheet\\_Children365%5B3%5D.pdf](http://www.amf.org.au/Assets/Files/Factsheet_Children365%5B3%5D.pdf)

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*The needs change, but the vision continues...*



FASD  
September 9th



FRANCES E. WILLARD  
INSPIRED BY SAN FRANCISCO  
IN 1883  
BECAME THE FIRST WORLD  
ORGANIZER OF WOMEN.  
STANDING HERE SHE SAID  
*"WE ARE ONE WORLD OF TEMPTED HUMANITY"*