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# White Ribbon Bulletin

World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union

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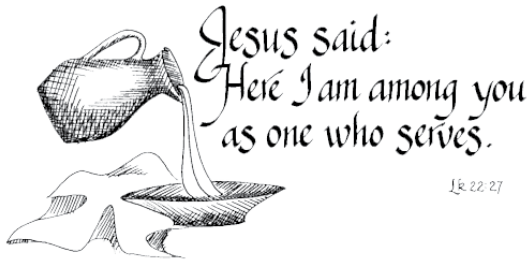
No one sets out  
to become addicted



**Make plans to attend WWCTU Convention  
Helsinki Finland 10.-15. July 2019!**

Look at your hand. It tells a great deal about you. Just think if this was all that told everything about you. What you like, who you care about, and who will miss you when you are no longer here. The choices you make today are very important. They can have consequences for the rest of your life. No one starts out with a goal to be an alcoholic or a drug addict.

**You can do something to help make a difference TODAY!**



## ***The Attitude of a Faithful Servant***

- Philippians 2:5-11 tells us that our attitude should be like the attitude of Jesus, who humbled Himself and took on the nature of a servant.
- Romans 14:17-19 teaches that the Kingdom of God is a matter of “righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit, because anyone who serves Christ in this way is pleasing to God” (NIV).

## ***The Motivation of a Faithful Servant***

- First Corinthians 10:31 tells us that no matter what we do, we are to do everything to the glory of God. )
- The Apostle Paul wrote that his supreme motivation was to know Christ and to be found in Him. See Philippians 3:2-11.
- The Work of a Faithful Servant
- Jesus taught that the greatest commandment is to “love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind,” and the second-greatest is to “love your neighbor as yourself” (Matthew 22:37, 39, NIV).
- In the Great Commission of Matthew 28:18-20, Jesus instructed His followers to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them and teaching them to obey everything Jesus commanded.
- The Reward of a Faithful Servant
- Luke 12:37-38 tells us, amazingly, that for those servants who are found watching and ready when the Master returns, He will come, seat them at the table and wait on them.
- The New Testament speaks again and again about the reward of those who follow Jesus. In the final chapter of the Bible, Jesus says, “Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done” (Revelation 22:22, NIV).



Dear all,

Greetings to you in the New Year! It is incredible that two months of 2018 are already over. In spite of our financial constraints, the World Officers are delighted to accept the invitation of the Finnish WCTU to host the 41st World Convention 10-15 July, 2019 in Helsinki, Finland. The Convention venue and restaurant are pictured on the back cover.

In October, 2017, my term as National President in Norway was completed and I can now focus entirely on World White Ribbon (while mentoring my successor). One of our lead speakers, Lise Karlsen was an inspiration to me, both personally and spiritually. Lise

and Ludvig Karlsen founded a Gospel-based rehabilitation centre in 1983 with only 20 kroner (US\$4.00) in their pockets. Their lives up until this time were marked with alcoholism and many forms of devastation. All was transformed when they were saved and committed their lives to Jesus. Today there are seven institutions and thousands have given their lives to Christ and been transformed at their centres. Ludvig passed away in 2004 but Lise is still active and is an inspirator. "Do not be afraid, just believe" Mk.5:36 is a promise which I have always held dear.

A Norwegian newspaper quoted the famous Icelandic woman, Olafia Johannsdottir (who gave her life to the impoverished and down-trodden) and said: "A great deal can be done with money but the most important things can be done without money. What people who have fallen under the addiction of drugs and alcohol need most is another human being." Olafia emphasized that there should be no difference when talking to a person of high standing or to one who lives on the streets. Jesus said the same in Matthew 25:35-46. This was a point of focus at the 2016 Convention in Canada.

The time has come to further adjust our direction. In addition to giving academic validation of the importance of the warnings we give on the harm caused by all addictive drugs, alcohol and tobacco, we need to see the PERSON with God's eyes and heart. We walk by faith, according to His word and are His outstretched hands. He will give the blessing. In this edition, there are guidance articles which will help you make your own plan of action. Anne and I look forward to hearing from you.

*Dear God, Thank you for your great gift of love and sacrifice so that we can live free. Help us to free others. Thank you for the power of the Cross and the Resurrection. We ask that the truth of Easter sinks deeply into our hearts and changes us forever Fill us with your Holy Spirit today, in Jesus' name, Amen.*



A Blessed Easter Remembering the Noontide Prayer!

Love and prayers,  
*Margaret*



*Margaret Ostenstad  
World President*



## **NORWAY'S PLAN OF ACTION FOR 2017-2019**

### **Our Purpose:**

The White Ribbon is a Christian women's temperance organization working to prevent all kinds of drugs, protect the family, engage women in temperance work, promote gender equality and interpersonal peace and understanding.

### **Our Vision:**

Our vision is to support everyone to choose an alcohol and drug-free lifestyle to avoid health problems and strain on the families and society as a whole.

### **Our Mission: Inspire, Inform and Activate.**

- Inspire an alcohol and drug-free life
- Inform about the harmful effects of alcohol and other drugs for the users themselves, their relatives and the community.
- Activate – the **WCTU in Norway – Det Hvite Bånd (the White Ribbon) -works to increase the availability of drug-free activities for anyone who wants it.**

### **Our Hope:**

Our hope is that the White Ribbon's work can make a difference in people's lives. We want to encourage and present ways to serve God and to build strong and responsible families, which in turn will affect the nation's values. In order for this to succeed, we must maintain our own commitment.

### **Plans for the next 2-year period incorporating the UN Sustainability Development Goals (see previous issue of WRB):**

1. Develop and implement alcohol and drug prevention projects and continue existing projects.
2. Make the White Ribbon an active organization within the drug prevention field.
3. Be informed and up-to-date on international research on drugs and drug abuse.
4. Focus on the connection between drugs and partner violence through campaigns, information and preventative measures.
5. Promote cooperation with other organizations.



6. Maintain work for clean drinking water and sanitation. (International project)
7. Maintain and strengthen our work with children and youth
8. Focus on the value of creating a drug-free zone when spending time with children and the family, especially during the holidays
9. Strengthen and develop work in the local branches
10. Taking good care of the members and continue membership recruitment.

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1. **Develop and implement alcohol and drug prevention projects and continue the existing ones**

Continuing and developing the work in line with signals from the Directorate of Health about increasing support to voluntary organization projects in the drug prevention field

- a) Emphasize **drug prevention work** among **children, young people and families**. School, sports and family activities are good arenas for drug prevention. It cannot be stressed strongly enough that only serious organizations should do this kind of work.
- b) **Social Work:**  
Flower mission, visiting service, regular open meetings, telephone contact, prison visits, etc.
- c) Emphasize the use of the **Bible and prayer**  
God's word is the foundation of all our work. We never know when we'll connect with people who are not saved. Therefore, it is important to bring God's message in words and action.
- d) **Children's meetings at home**
- e) Be bold! Invite children into the warmth of your home. The content must be in spirit of the WCTU and in agreement with the parents

2. **Make the White Ribbon an active organization within the drug prevention field**

Continue working through projects, campaigns and other measures, to promote a drug free lifestyle, strengthening the family, and women's



rights, Co-operate with the National Board, the National Office and the local branches.

3. **Be informed and up-to-date on international research in the field of drug and drug abuse:**

Follow development and change in the abuse field and in society as a whole, through professional articles, participation in conferences, seminars, lectures, the White Ribbon magazine, and so on.

4. **Focus on the connection between drugs and partner violence through campaigns, information and preventative measures:**

The White Ribbon's project group will initiate projects based on, among other things, the Norwegian Government's Action Plan Against Violence in Close Relations 2014-2017 and the Norwegian Research Center's Research Plan for Violence and Traumatic Stress 2014-2019.

a) **Prevention of violence:**

By increasing our efforts for a drug-free world, we are preventing violent acts. "In the Nordic countries, a majority of the violence is alcohol-related. The more one drinks and the more often one is drunk, the more likely one is both to practice violence and to be subjected to violence. "(Source-Sirus)

b) **Prevention of bullying:**

At least 40,000 children and young people in Norway are subjected to bullying weekly or more often. Being subjected to systematic bullying is the biggest risk factor for mental disorders among children and adolescents. In addition, these young people are more prone to end up in a stressful environment with alcohol and drug use.

5. **Promote cooperation with other organizations:**

By finding a common basis for collaboration, several organizations can benefit from each other

6. **Maintain the work for clean drinking water and sanitation**

Lack of clean water leads people to produce, sell and drink strong alcoholic beverages. The water that many people have access to is highly contaminated and leads to disease and death, especially among young children. Clean drinking water is a human right and is one of the goals of the UN.



**7. Maintain and strengthen our work with children and youth:**

- a) Childrens camps
- b) Inform and participate in rising awareness eg. schools, confirmation groups, high schools and various children and youth groups.
- c) Participate in youth festivals and other outward work among youth.

**8. Focus on the value of creating a drug free zone when spending time with children and the family, especially during the holidays:**

Positive, drug and alcohol free activities with children and adolescents are simple and do-able measures that make a difference.

**9. Strengthen and develop work in the local branches**

The national White Ribbom Bulletin is the link to the central office. It has 40 pages and has four issues a year.

- a) Attend relevant courses and seminars to keep up-to-date on the development within the field of substance abuse.
- b) Encourage and support each other and pray for the work we do. Remember the 12-o`clock (noontide) prayer.

**10. Membership and recruitment**

- a) It is important for us to take good care of all our members. Maturing members of the organization for a long time should always have a sense of belonging and being needed.
- b) Each White ribbon circuit is encouraged to have designated contact. All members are encouraged to attend meetings etc., to experience fellowship, gain professional knowledge and inspiration.
- c) For the future of the White Ribbon it is important to actively recruit new members.
- d) The White Ribbons National Office, in co-operation with the National Board, inform members about development and research related to substance abuse and drug prevention. Flyers may be used for distribution, as well as updated brochures.
- e) The White Ribbons National Office encourages and support members to receive organizational training and assistance.



Anne Bergen  
Organization Secretary

Greetings to our WCTU members around the world as we begin a new year of work in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. I trust that you will find the stories of work that was done last year in Guatemala, South Africa, and the Democratic Republic of Congo will inspire you to reach out too. You can see pictures in color on our website. Anne

**DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO**

The President of WCTU in the DRC, Laurentine Mbe Ndala Kitenge asked for assistance to provide toys for the WCTU children's Christmas party. Members from USA, Korea, Australia and Norway gladly responded and the picture, left, shows some of the 120 happy children who attended the party and received our gifts.



Right, the message was presented in drama. Below, food is always an important part of a party. 30 adults also attended.



Laurentine gives praise to God for the success of this outreach event and sincerely thanks those who helped her.





**SOUTH AFRICA** The Johannesburg Union visits Primary Schools quarterly. In July, a member spoke on gambling, smoking, alcohol and drugs at a Girls' Brigade camp and in August a mother and daughter breakfast, attended by about 70 ladies was held for the grade 11 girls at the local high school. It focussed on drug abuse awareness. (right)



In September a Children's Day Camp was held using WWCTU Program kit about the fruit of the Spirit. (left)

In September, the Johannesburg Union visited a local clinic where they spoke to pregnant women about the dangers of drug use.

**GUATEMALA** Dr. Dora de Barrientos wrote: "In 2017, with some volunteers, we supported more than 305 women and young victims of violence and addiction through programs of health, education and training." Over the past 20 years 70,305 people who have been victims of

addiction, poverty, extreme poverty, violence, exploitation, discrimination, pregnancies in adolescence, malnutrition, among other problems have benefitted from Fundacion Debora programs. Dora plans to continue this work in 2018 to prevent alcohol and drug use, feed children and train women in technical skills that allow them to live a life free of violence and addiction, but they do not have the necessary funds. Perhaps your country could help.





Glenda Amos  
Children's Director

## The Power of Faithful Grandparents

***Proverbs 17:6 (ESV) - "Grandchildren are the crown of the aged, and the glory of children is their fathers."***

Grandparents have a huge role to play in passing on faith to their grandchildren. I recently read a small resource booklet on the role of Faithful Grandparents, written by Pr Daron Pratt (The Balloon Man) who presented at the World Convention in South Australia in 2013.

He outlines some key findings from research:

- Grandparents are key faith influencers after the parents.
- Grandparents are a bit like God - unconditional love and a non-judgemental attitude towards the parents and grandchildren is crucial.
- The quality of the relationship with grandparents/grandchild is extremely important, providing emotional closeness, regular contact and a source of support. A strong connection reduces depression in both.
- Grandparents influence the values and behaviour of their grandchildren with a special role in teaching family history.
- Stories told convey beliefs that are more likely to stick and give children an identity stretching back 100 years.

Grandparents can be used by God to make a difference in the lives of their grandchildren.

The challenge comes: **How can I make a difference and enter into the lives of my children and grandchildren and in so doing leave a legacy that will be for eternity?**

Daron lists 40 ways that you can create a legacy for eternity. You may think of even more ways. Why not check them out in his booklet, which can be accessed online at: <https://cdn.disciple.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/31171048/The-Power-Of-Faithful-Grandparents.pdf>

***Psalm 145:4 (ESV) - "One generation shall commend Your works to another, and shall declare Your mighty acts."***



**Are you afraid to go home?  
Is someone's behaviour scaring you?**



Rhona Theodore  
World Home  
Protection Director

World President, Margaret Ostenstad has received specific guidelines from the UN regarding how they want the organization to report annually to them. There is an emphasis on just what we do – and how we can implement those projects. However, we are now asked to suggest to our membership some projects that will specifically meet some of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). The UN has listed 17 areas with goals and targets.

### **GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING:**

*“Ensuring healthy lives and promoting wellbeing for all at all ages is important to building prosperous societies. However, despite great strides in improving people’s health and wellbeing in recent years, inequalities in health care access still persist. More than six million children still die before their fifth birthday each year, and only half of all women in developing regions have access to the health care they need. Epidemics like HIV/ AIDS thrive where fear and discrimination limit people’s ability to receive the services they need to live healthy and productive lives.”*

### **Targets:**

*“Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol”.*

*“Strengthen the implementation of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in all countries, as appropriate”*

These two targets are complementary and are most relevant to fit in with WCTU values.

How we should apply these two targets

Adding these UN Goals and targets, will enable us to include the older children and the family, focusing on good health, which will in turn help bring about ‘well-being’.

### **Possible Projects:**

Take action and add your name to those petitions to councillors/government/companies requesting and demanding changes to laws regarding alcohol, gambling, smoking, advertising - we can make a difference.



WCTU Drug Free Lifestyles in Victoria, Australia, has been involved in a Drug Education Program in Schools for over 20+ years based on alcohol and smoking and uses the following demonstration that Home Protection may be able to use where appropriate:

**Caution: Please ensure that the bottles are well labeled and kept locked after demonstration.**

Have 4 small bottles :

Fill two with water and two with methylated spirits (mostly methyl alcohol)

Have two cubes sugar and 2 small pieces of bread.

Place one in each bottle – wait for a while (maybe about 15 minutes) and then take out the bread in the water which should be soggy and the bread in the meth spirits should be hard.

Similar with the sugar cubes.

This shows that methylated spirits (as in alcohol) dehydrates.

The human body is made up of 70% water – and needs @ 1.5 litres of water per day (average).

*(this demo has always proved a winner.)*

**If meeting with a group in your home:**

**Pray before each meeting (either before or with them).**

Get to know the families and their needs.

Encourage them to budget and purchase healthy food.

It would be fun to spend time making drinks and cooking nutritious food – and sharing ideas and recipes

Start up a cooking class with a few friends to help. Take recipes for simple, time-saving, inexpensive meals. Using staple, seasonal food.

**When visiting in others' homes**, especially with young children, I feel it would be more suitable to take snacks (or a meal).

and, fresh fruit and cream or ice cream is easier to carry.

Choose according to your time, either way, the visitor will benefit.

**Listening:** Be aware of needs, sometimes even unspoken.

Encourage mothers to take their children for their vaccinations. *Sometimes, this may not be easy – if they do not have transport, or have older children to look after. You may be able to assist them.*

Encourage reading to children.

Ask questions of the children and the parents – their pastimes, their likes.

Older children – what they hope to become.

Follow up – Keep in touch – a card, phone call advising of any activities that they could possibly be interested in.



## A Blessed Easter



*Rev. June Ballard  
World Christian  
Outreach Co-Director*

### He Lives!

He lives who once was dead!  
He lives, just as He said:  
"I will come back to life again!"  
And now, He lives!  
And now, He lives!

"He lives!" The angels said.  
The cloths that bound Him dead  
Lie scattered 'round the burial cave,  
But, "He is risen from the grave!"  
And now, He lives!  
And now, He lives!

"He lives!" the women cried,  
"And death is now denied  
It's sting! The victory is won!  
Redemption's work is done!"  
In Him, we live!  
In Him, we live!

### Alone

Alone, He knelt to pray;  
His disciples could not keep  
their eyes from closing,  
fast asleep  
they lay.  
But He, knelt alone to pray.

Alone no one to share  
with Him, this bitter cup;  
He knew that He  
once lifted up  
would spare  
all men the judgment  
they should bear.

Alone, the Lamb of God,  
Unblemished, without sin,  
sacrificed Himself to win  
with His blood,  
a way to bring men  
back to God.

"HE IS NOT HERE-  
FOR HE IS RISEN"



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