

# Christian Outreach Department

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## Aim of the Department

The purpose of the Christian Outreach Department is to encourage the Christian walk of the members, emphasizing “Ye are the salt of the earth... Ye are the light of the world” (Matthew 5:13a, 14a) and to reach out to the faith community with the WCTU total abstinence message. In accordance with the Sustainable development goals, the Christian outreach department focuses on various projects that cater to both environmental and spiritual Sustainability. Because the things of this world are uncertain, individual are always encouraged to nourish their spiritual well being by staying positive, following God’s words, and leaving a legacy for future generations. Individuals are also encouraged to pray with the family, read the word of God every day, and raise children who are concerned and sensitive about the problems of this world in order to not waste water or electricity, and love/respect their neighbors.

Dear all, let us start with a word of prayer, *Dear God, we praise you for the beautiful creation and friendly environment that is around us. Help us to take care of it as you have taken of us. Amen*

Our God is a merciful God. I thank God for His mercy, His presence made us strong in this time of Pestilence. Surely we all went through the hard times but Our God is faithful, He is ever faithful.....Amen. Thank you Lord for the way you always watch over us and always keep your promises.

With changing times, it has become important for us to maintain harmony in all ways of life. I thank God for our dear World President Margaret Ostenstad, for her dedication and hard work, for her love and concern.

- Through Christian Outreach for the year 2022 WWCTU, the department focuses on total abstinence message in accordance with the Sustainable Goals.

### *♣ What does SDG stand for in Christianity?*

The three words Soli Deo Gloria ( abbreviated S.D.G.) have meaning in Latin as follows: soil is the dative singular of the adjective “lone”, “sole”, and agrees with the dative singular Deo, meaning “to God” ; and Gloria is the nominated case of “glory”, “gloria” . Which means **ALONE TO GOD GLORY**

### *♣ What is Sustainability in Christianity?*

God gave human beings a special responsibility within creation to cultivate it, guard it and use it wisely. This is called stewardship. Man has to give his time, talent and treasure. Man has to work within creation and to look after it. God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.

### *♣ Why is Sustainability is important to Christians?*

We need to follow God’s command. We need to love and respect nature. God reveal himself in nature, making it all the more important for Christian to play a key role to be the stewards in protecting the beauty of creation. We can grow closer to God and preserve nature for generations to come by living sustainably

### *♣ How does Sustainable Development contributes to society ?*

Sustainable Development contributes to society, meeting the diverse needs of people in different communities , social cohesion, creating equal opportunity to ensure a strong and healthy society. Sustainable development also focuses on finding better ways of doing better things without affecting the quality of our life.

*The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to transform our world:*



As all the goals stated above are interlinked with each other. When we read them it makes us feel the promise of God’s Kingdom.

**THEME GOAL**



**Theme: GOAL 17: Partnership to achieve goal “From Nothing to Life.”**

- ❖ *God the planner and designer of our planet Earth.*
  - ❖ *We are put on Earth to make a contribution.*
  - ❖ *It’s not about me.*
- **Introduction :-** God does not like disorder and voidances and He planned to make a beautiful planet Earth. God does not like disorder and wants everything to be good and orderly. God is almighty and He is the creator of the World.

God saw the Earth and planned to create it in a beautiful shape. The book of Genesis is about the beginning of the World. It talks about the beginning of the World and the relationship of God with his creation. God the maker or creator who, establishes order within the universe. God the speaker, whose word after goodness as an integral part of the creation. God the name giver ,who gives name to the created. God the sanctifier, who blessed the created human species and everything created to grow and set aside to honour all that was created.

The purpose of our life is far greater than our own personal fulfillment, our peace of mind, or even our happiness. It is far greater than our family, our carrier, or even our wildest dreams and ambitions. If we

want to know why we were placed on this planet, we must begin with God. We are born **by** His purpose and **for** His purpose. **We were put on Earth to make a contribution.** We weren't created just to consume resources \_ to eat, to breathe, and take up space. God designed us to make a difference with our life. We were created to add to life on earth, not just take from it. **God wants us to give something back.**

## Questions / Answers

*Where were you when I laid the Earth's foundation?*

*Perfectly placed*

Scientist knows our planet is precisely the right distance from the sun to benefit from its heat. A little closer and all the water would evaporate, as on Venus. Only a bit farther and everything would freeze like it does on Mars. Earth is also just the right size to generate the right amount of gravity. Less would make everything weightlessly sterile like our moon, while more gravity would trap poisonous gases that suffocate life as on Jupiter.

The intricate physical, chemical, and biological, interactions that comprise our world bear the imprint of a sophisticated Designer. We catch a glimpse of this complex craftsmanship when God speaks to Job about things beyond our understanding. *"Where were you when I laid the Earth's foundation?"* God asks. " Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know ! Who stretched a measuring line across it? On what were its footings set, or who laid its cornerstone?" ( JOB 38 :4-6)

The glimpse of creation's magnitude causes us to wonder at Earth's mighty oceans blowing before the One who "shut up the see behind doors when it burst forth from the womb, ..... (who said ) "this far you may come and no farther" ( vv8-11). In wonder may we sing with the morning stars and shout for joy with the angels( v.7), **for this elaborate world was made for us that we might know and trust God.**

*How does God's amazing creation cause you to praise Him today?*

*What about its design reveals a Maker?*

***Friends let us start our journey with the story of creation. By saying .....***

Thank you, Creator God, for this elaborate world You designed for us.

We know that when God planned to bring order into the world he thought and brought order. Our God is a God of power and might. His words are powerful and life giving. He is a God who speaks and his words are an integral part of creation.

When God saw darkness he wanted to separate everything that was not good from good and bring existence of our earth as we see now. He wanted to decorate it and make it beautiful.

So God started the process of decorating the earth.

- ♣ God said " Let there be light" and he saw the light to be good. Then he separated darkness and light and called light ' day' and darkness ' night'. So the first task of the first day was complete.



- ♣ On the second day God said “ Let there be an expansion in the midst of water”. So a division was made that separated water and created a sky above us and water that remained under the sky. Thus the second task of creation of the heavens and under the heaven was complete and the second day was complete.



- ♣ On the third day God said, “Let the water under the heaven/ sky be gathered together into one place and let the dry land appear.” Thus God separated the land and water and gathered big water bodies were called sea by god and the dry place called land. Then god said let the earth sprout vegetation, plants, trees and shrubs, fruit bearing trees and seed bearing one all of their kinds And it was so. God saw it and it was good. Thus third day was complete



- ♣ On the fourth day God said “Let there be light in the heaven to separate day from night and let them be signs for seasons, day” this big light for day the sun and small light for night the moon and stars came into existence. God saw it and it was good. Thus the fourth day was complete.



- ♣ On the fifth day God said “Let the water swarm with swarms of living creatures of all kinds and winged birds of all kinds” and it was so then God blessed them and said “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the water in the sea and let the birds multiply on the earth” and the fifth day was complete.



- ♣ On the sixth day God said “Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to its kind, live stock, beast, creeping things” and it was so. God saw it and it was good.



Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, after our likeness and let them take care of all the creations and have dominion over it”. So God created humans in his own image, in the image of God he created them male and female. Then God said, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over all the creations.”

God saw all his creations and it was good.

- ♣ Thus God created the heaven and earth and its creation and human beings in the six days, on the seventh day after created everything He rested. So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy because god rested from all his work. Thus the whole creation was completed in the seven days.



### *Life application*

God loves and cares for all creations, plants, animals, and everything. And God created everything and placed human beings in it to take care and not to destroy it (ecological concerns can be shared here like not to waste water, dirty the place, garbage disposal etc.)

#### ➤ Reason to care~

The Bible gives three main reasons why we should care for the environment. First, God Himself says that His creation is very good. The material world matters to God; He sustains it all the time . Without Him it would fall apart into chaos. “ He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together” ( Colossians 1:16-17). So if we neglect, abuse and spoil the environment, we are damaging something that is precious to God.

The second and even more important reason why we should care for the environment is that in Genesis 1:28 and 2:15, God specifically commanded humankind to do so. He told us to take care of both the living and non-living creations. We are to work at ruling and ordering creation as good stewards without

abusing it for our selfish ends. *By caring for the earth properly, we enable it to be fruitful and to play its intended role in giving glory to God.* That is part of our proper worship of God.

The third reason is that one day the cosmos will be renewed and recreated as the “ new heaven and new earth”, to which both the Old and New Testament look forward (Isaiah 65, Revelation 21). That will bring the fullness of life that God intended and purposed for His creations : a place where people will truly be at home, where God dwell with His people, and both they and the whole of creation will worship Him and give Him glory.

### **ACTIVITIES TO BE DONE**

#### **ACTIVITY -1 Play Games: Doing the impossible:**

- ❖ Form groups of four. Give each group a bag of candies.
- ❖ Say: Your group can eat as many candies as you want- as long as you don't use your hands to unwrap them. Allow time. Would you say this was an impossible task? Why or why not?
- ❖ What happened when one took help from the other one?
- ❖ Could this have been possible without the faith of one in the other?
- ❖ What happen when we take help from God ? Is it possible without having faith in him.
- ❖ Can we make a change this world alone ????????

#### **ACTIVITY -2 Write words of thanks and love for God in the clouds of each day.**



#### **ACTIVITY -3 Organise Bicycle Rally ( Race for Goal)**



ACTIVITY -4 Bookmark Colour { You may make more with your own ideas}



***Closing Prayer***

Dear God, we thank you for loving each one of us. Help us to understand that your love consist of great plans for us. You have created all things beautiful and wonderful for us to enjoy. Help us to take care of plants, animals, birds and fishes. Help us to be mindful that you have created us and made us caretaker in this world. Amen.

**God bless us all**