



White Ribbon Bulletin

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World Woman's Christian Temperance Union

About us

Mission Statement
The WCTU promotes a drug-free lifestyle and Christian values for the home and the community.

Definition
The WCTU is a non-partisan, nondenominational, nonprofit organization. (Woman's in the organization name means each individual woman makes a commitment to total abstinence.)

Founded
The WCTU in the United States was founded in 1874. The vision of Frances Willard led her to form the World WCTU in 1883. The first world convention was held in Boston (USA) in 1891.
The WCTU is the oldest continuing, nonsectarian woman's organization in the world. Go to our [History](#) page for more information.

Memberships
Little White Ribboners - birth to 6 years of age
Children - 6 to 12 years old
Youth - teens and young adults
Women - WCTU
Men - Honorary/associates

Membership requirements
Sign a pledge of total abstinence and pay annual dues.

Pledge
"I promise, with God's help, to abstain from alcohol, tobacco, and all other harmful drugs."

Emblem
Our white ribbon bow symbolizes purity. Members are often known as "white ribboners." The membership pin is worn over the heart.

Motto
For God and Home and Every Land.

Noontide Prayer
Members pray each day during their noontime, which means a continuous circle of prayer occurs daily around the world.

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*International Code

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The President's Page . . .

Sarah F. Ward

Dear White Ribboner,

Please join with me in making this a significant year of achievement for our White Ribbon cause. We hope all our members will have access to the web and will appreciate our website - www.wwctu.org. We will be adding information on a regular basis.

Program Kit # 4 has been mailed to those who indicated they are using the material. Again we commend you who have the extra task of translating the material. Each country is encouraged to copy and forward the information and projects in a timely fashion. Please be sure it reaches your local Unions. If your Union does not receive the material, check with your national leader.

Last year I announced a **World President's Honor Roll**. It required getting the three Program Kits copied and distributed to the Unions, appointing National Department Directors, and returning an evaluation of the Program Kits. There was a deadline to be observed.

I am pleased to announce that the following countries achieved this recognition and are being given a special certificate: **Canada, Egypt, Finland, Ghana, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, and Solomon Islands**. The following are recognized for completing some of the requirements: Kiribati, Korea, Sierra Leone, Tuvalu, and United States. A new challenge will be issued later this year since I believe we need goals to motivate us.

May 31 is designated **World No Tobacco Day**. Our new project for this three-year period was to provide information about tobacco and encourage abstinence from it. This day offers a special opportunity to do something under the sponsorship of the WCTU.

The World Officers have decided that we will not sponsor any contests at the 2010 World Convention due to the small number of countries who have been participating. Ideas for conducting contests in your country are provided on page 9 under the Education Department.

As reported in the last issue of the Bulletin, Christina Naylor of Australia was presented the Champion Campaigner of the Year (2007) Award. It was awarded by Greg Bloomfield, founder of Voterlobby, which assists people to lobby effectively.

Vivia Dickerson (USA), World Treasurer 1983 -1992, passed away November 8, 2008.

Sarah F. Ward

38th World Convention
May 12-17, 2010 - Stavanger, NORWAY



1st Vice President

Dr. Jung Joo Kim

“Behold, I Will Do New Things!”

Today young and old alike, people in every land, are exposed to the temptation of using drugs, such as alcohol and tobacco. How can we protect them from these harms? According to His wonderful plan, the Lord has raised the White Ribbon Sisters around the world as His mighty soldiers to fight against such temptations. We White Ribbon Sisters need to inform our neighbors, especially the youth, of the harm of alcohol and tobacco before they start to use them because the WWCTU, in its over 126 year history, has rightly emphasized that the best policy is prevention. The temperance movement should keep its good work until our Lord returns, being faithful to the precious call given to us, “for God, for Home, and for Every Land.”

For a no-smoking campaign, KWCTU published a book, “No Smoking Special Force.” It is a cartoon book with interesting characters: the good ones are those who fight against smoking, while the bad ones are those who entice people to smoke and be harmed by addictive nicotine and poisonous tar.

A biography of Frances Willard, written by Ruth Bordin, has been translated into Korean and published. The FAS Prevention Center of KWCTU sponsored Professor Kyung Il Park and other professors of Ewha Women’s University to do research on FAS knowledge among young people in Korea. Each month, more high school teachers participate in the monthly meetings of KWCTU to learn how to inform the youth of the harm of alcohol and nicotine. KWCTU also plans to make an on-line lecture series regarding these subjects to train the teachers in schools of all levels, so that they may educate their students more effectively.

In Isaiah 43:18-21, the LORD says, *“Forget what happened long ago! Don’t think about the past. I am creating something new. There it is! Do you see it? I have put roads in deserts, streams in thirsty lands. Every wild animal honors me, even jackals and owls. I provide water in deserts-- streams in thirsty lands for my chosen people. I made them my own nation, so they would praise me.”* (CEV)

In this passage, the Lord speaks that He will do new things for His people, asking us to forget our past. He truly forgives us all our sins by the precious blood that Jesus Christ shed on the cross. Jesus Christ also has become the way in the wilderness, quenching all our thirst by His Spirit. The Lord calls us thus to praise Him, who creates all things anew. Let us, the White Ribbon sisters around the world, humbly ask the Holy Spirit to anoint us so that we may participate in His renewing work of creation; always remembering that by faith in Jesus Christ alone, we will be able to have self-control, and bear the precious fruit of the Holy Spirit, that is, temperance.



Devotional

Jennifer Jun

The Jun Family Prayer Request for 2009

A friend of mine in Connecticut sent this Christmas greetings to me: I know that you and your family embody the best spirit of Christmas, of giving of yourselves in a way that helps repair the brokenness in the world.

What significant words for all of us to contemplate as we greet the New Year! To me, these words define a true responsibility of being a child of God: repairing the brokenness in the world. Isn't that the reason for the birth of Jesus on that night in a Bethlehem manger? He came to us on that day to repair the brokenness of the world. Moreover, for the next 33 years of His life, Jesus showed us the way to achieve this. He loved the widows and orphans. He preached peace to those who preferred the use of physical power. He healed the sick, in spirit and in body. He embraced the weak. He fed the hungry. He wept for all of us. He knew that this world was full of brokenness that needed repairing. He wanted especially those who were strong to take upon themselves to help the weak. Apostle Paul states it best in Romans 15: 1 We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. 2 We should all please our neighbors for their good, to build them up. 3 For even Christ did not please himself but, as it is written: "The insults of those who insult you have fallen on me." 4 For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.

These words pierced my heart more deeply than ever before. Our family's being here is and should always be to repair the brokenness of the people of Nicaragua. We were chosen for this task of repairing for, in many ways, we are strong. However, I must admit that there have been many times when I had forgotten about this essence of our purpose for our being here in this country. Seeing brokenness around me is easy; I am bombarded by them daily. However, to repair them is definitely a more grave responsibility. It takes a great effort to gather courage to plan, pray, fund, and more. Seeing brokenness and taking a step towards fixing it are two different things. Sometimes it becomes so overwhelming that it becomes just a "left-alone task", like a dirty sock under the bed.

However, I have concluded that my arrogance and impatience have led to such a state of mind. I demand an instantaneous repair. And when it is not brought forth, I somehow feel I have failed. It is because I think that I am in control. But, I am slowly but surely learning that in fact, God is in control. My job is simply to be aware of the brokenness around me and try my best, with God's help, to take a step towards repairing them. Some will take a lifetime; some will be mended in a minute. And some will never be repaired by me. However, most importantly, I am learning not to give up: The desire to repair the brokenness should not be abandoned.

Therefore, for 2009, I ask you to pray specifically for our family to repair the brokenness in Nicaragua. Pray that we do not lose the sight of our true purpose of being here. Help us not to be overwhelmed, but to know that God is in control. Make us realize that our job is to love the weak, heal the sick, feed the hungry, embrace the abandoned, cry with those in pain and preach the gospel. I will also pray that you too will be a part of this great endeavoring task of repairing the brokenness in you, your family, community, country and the world. Together we will repair one brokenness at a time.

God bless you and your family! Happy, blessed New Year! Love, Jennifer

NEWS FLASHES FROM



Organization Secretary

Margaret Ostenstad, NORWAY

PAPUA/NEW GUINEA

The Papua/New Guinea WCTU held their 1st National WCTU Convention at Okari Conference Centre in Lae from November 6-11, 2008. It was attended by 89 women and Dawn Giddings, 4th World Vice President



and Field Worker for Oceania and Glenda Amos, World Children's Director. Glenda presented a handbook for their use. Mitroy Sapul is National President. Congratulations to all concerned!

LATVIA

Field Worker for the Baltic, Ursula Kraemer from Germany, has visited Latvia and has almost finalized the registering of the WCTU there. Sanita Veinberga is National President. **Congratulations!**

KIRIBATI - see picture on page 11.

Many of those who attended our last World Convention in Indianapolis will remember the delightful lady from Kiribati, Kaue Titau. Together with a friend, she continues to spread the temperance message among the neighboring islands. Men, women and children were recently told of the dangers of smoking and the Primary School children are taught about the dangers of alcohol, drugs and tobacco in their health classes. The ladies also teach by using songs. They teach the women about food preparation, baking and sewing. Here is an excerpt of her report: *"It's very challenging for us. That night me and my friend Rutia knelt down and prayed to our Heavenly father to open up the way so that we can teach and help these ladies. So on the first day we started up with 16 young mothers. The message that they told us is that even though they are catholic, they will attend this workshop and their husbands are happy to send them to attend it. Praise God for that!"*

It is so encouraging to hear of our sisters' dedication and fortitude.

AROUND THE WORLD

AFRICA

News from Field Worker for Africa, Joy Butler, butlerj@ecd.adventist.org, who now lives in Nairobi, Kenya. She has contacted six countries in Africa and is excited about the possibilities for the growth of the WCTU there. Ever-diligent, Joy is already in the process of compiling a WCTU Handbook for Africa. Please pray for her work.



FINLAND

The Finnish WCTU recently held “Open House” at their headquarters. A member of parliament, Raket Hiltuen, (insert) who is a good friend of the WCTU work, also attended and spoke.



NORWAY – see pictures on page 11.

The White Ribbon arranged a Children’s Camp 8-15 July, 2008 for 15 Russian children and 9 Norwegian children from the north of Norway. Many of the Russian children are from alcohol-abused homes. They had a wonderful week filled with fun activities, as well as learning the importance of saying “no” to addictive substances and hearing testimonies of salvation and the love of Jesus Christ. At the camp, it was natural for the young people to “join hands across the borders” – Norway and Russia. In spite of the language barrier, there were some from each country who spoke a little English. When it became too difficult, the grandchild of Tamara Aristova came to their assistance.

Tamara is responsible for a **project** funded by the Norwegian WCTU, with assistance from our WCTU Sisters in **Korea, helps between 30-50 women and children in Nikel, Russia.** The project is Drug- free environmental work for women and children and is aimed at helping addicted women, many of whom are unemployed, and children whose lives are affected by alcohol in the home where their emotional and economical needs are not being met. An apartment has been rented establishing a meeting place where education about addictive drugs and other basic needs is given. There is also opportunity to consult according to personal needs. Please pray for their work.



Christian Outreach

Pastor Irja Eskelinen

Dear White Ribbon Sisters,

Almighty God, merciful Father. *Thank you for giving us your Holy Spirit so that, blessed by you, we may live in peace. Preserve our bodies and souls. Help us by your grace that we may fight the good fight of faith and that we may in the end come to our eternal home. Hear us for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

The devotions that were sent in the recent Program Kit focus on the fruit of the Spirit recorded in Galatians 5:22 -23. **“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control, against such there is no law.”** Awareness of the fruit of the spirit, brings about spiritual maturity. As each one grows in her Christian life with Jesus Christ, these fruit are developed.

The hymnbook of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland contains a very popular new hymn by the Finnish hymn writer, Anna-Maija Raittila, which tells of a longing of the church members. Many pastors use this hymn in their worship service. It contains a prayer:

*Under the pressure of too great expectations and demands,
Let me find freedom and rest, O God.*

In order to find freedom and rest we need God’s Word to be living in us - not solely for the sake of rest but also for the sake of our work. The hymn continues:

*Give me, O Christ, courage to enter unfamiliar terrain
Where I don’t recognize the signposts, and find no ready-made answers.*

The New Year is a time of repentance and confession. When and if we are willing to look at the past, at the year that has drawn to a close, inevitably we have many reasons to ask for forgiveness. “Answer me when I call to you, O my righteous God. Give me relief from my distress, be merciful and hear my prayer.” (Ps. 4) The church of Christ is the house of fallen and sinful people, a hospital full of sick and weak people. How grateful we are that our Lord God is always ready to extend His loving mercy, grace and forgiveness.

There are reasons to begin the New Year 2009 with a good and hopeful conscience, remembering the words of the psalm: “but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not be faint.”

This new year also offers us the opportunity to courageously seek new roads and to tread on terrain that lacks ready-made paths. It is time to try something new for the WCTU. Ask someone to join you in our cause. Spend more time in prayer for our work.



Education Dept

Sarah Ward

You are encouraged to conduct contests in your country. This is a wonderful way to give a message of total abstinence to children and youth and the information goes on to the parents and other adults. **Picture coloring contests** are popular for the lower grades. You may select a picture with a temperance message for each grade level or use one for all grades involved. (Samples were included last year in one of the Program Kits.) **Poster contests** offer a great way to attract older youth to our message. Plan to display the posters for the public to see. **Essay contests** present the greatest challenge to obtain participants but when a student researches the effects of drugs it can be a most valuable lesson. **Speech contests** develop poise and experience in public speaking and the audience benefits from the information presented.

Be sure that you develop well-thought-out rules before beginning. Also it is important to give prizes. When possible, give a participation ribbon or appropriate leaflet about drugs to each one who enters.

May 31 is **World No-Tobacco Day**. Plan a community outreach program for that day by presenting the facts about the harms of tobacco. Participate with other groups who want to ban advertising or declare no-smoking bans. A great resource is <http://tobaccofreecenter.org>.

Here are a few facts from this website:

- Tobacco kills almost 14,000 people every day. Unless urgent action is taken, tobacco will kill 10 million people a year by 2020, 70 percent of them in developing countries. The tobacco industry, under heightened pressure from a global tobacco control movement, is taking aim at developing countries unprepared to deal with its deadly products and deceptive marketing techniques.
- The result of tobacco use? Widespread health, economic, and even social problems. A sick workforce is a less productive one. When women and young people become ill from tobacco, it is even more challenging for these often-marginalized groups to lead productive lives.

If current trends continue, 650 million people alive today will eventually die from tobacco-related diseases.

- Worldwide, over 15 billion cigarettes are smoked every day.
- Some 80-100,000 young people around the world become addicted to tobacco daily. If current trends continue, 250 million children alive today will die from tobacco-related disease.



Working With Children

Glenda Amos

World Director for Children's Work

“Mankind owes to the child the best it has to give.”

United Nations Declaration

In Scripture we are told a number of things about children.

1. *Children are a gift from God, are desirable and bring joy and blessing.* (Psalm 127:3 Sons are a heritage from the Lord, children a reward from him. Deut. 28:4,11 The fruit of your womb will be blessed,.. The Lord will grant you abundant prosperity--in the fruit of your womb).
2. *Children need to be taught how to develop a relationship with God, and trained and disciplined rightly.* (Deut. 6:6-7 These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Proverbs 22:6 Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it. Proverbs 3:12 the Lord disciplines those he loves, as a father the son he delights in. Ephes. 6:4 Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord)
3. *God enjoys the nature and personality of children and asks adults to learn from them and not endanger their spiritual lives* (Matthew 18:3 And he said: "I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Matthew 19:14 Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.")

If children matter this much to God, then they should matter as much to us, too. It is vital that we take children seriously as the heritage of the Lord.

Instruction about the obvious harm of alcohol, drugs, teen pregnancy and other high-risk behaviours is essential. All children need it. But information alone will not prevent them from participating in these dangerous behaviours. If education is all we do, it probably won't work. We need to train them to develop resilience and a healthy self-esteem. Children who have these characteristics are less likely to engage in these counter culture activities.

Resilient individuals are those who, despite severe hardships and the presence of at-risk factors, develop coping skills that enable them to succeed in life. They also have a positive attitude toward their environment, hold a strong sense of purpose, and develop a strong internal strength that enables them to see life's obstacles as challenges that can be overcome. Resiliency is all about hope. Valuable, sincere and enduring relationships with individuals who provide care, warmth and unconditional love provide young people with a sense that the odds in life can be overcome.

For children to develop positive self-esteem, they need other positive people in their lives. Self-esteem develops from the feedback received from others and how they think of us. Parents are essential, but other significant adults are vitally important too.



Children's Camp in Norway

Families in Kiribati
being taught
to bake



Russian Children's Camp
Sponsored by Norway

