

I Will Go Reach My World



NURTURE



EMPOWER



OUTREACH

"We have different gifts according to the grace given us..." —ROMANS 12:6, NIV

A MINISTRY FOR EVERY WOMAN



2023.04. February 27, 2023

News from Women's Ministries Inter-European Division

New Continuing Education Program in the German-speaking Countries



R.E.A.L.#1 IN FREUDENSTADT, FEBRUARY 23-26, 2023

R.E.A.L. - the Continuing Education Program of the German-speaking countries (DACH) – started the past weekend, with 28 participants, replacing the previous Leadership Certification Levels. What remains are the core concerns of Continuing Education for Women, which are thematically bundled and formatted in a new versatile way. This new structure not only creates more depth but also increases the motivation for implementation through more practical impulses. R.E.A.L. is the acronym for "reden, erleben, anleiten, leben" (talk, experience, instruct, live) and is intended to encourage and enable women (young and old) with topics as versatile as life itself. The first weekend was about women from Bible times until today, discovering and understanding needs, communication and conflicts, and a question of attitude (against violence in all its facets).

Despite much to learn and work out, there was also time for personal encounters and prayer. In the feedback round, those responsible were able to see that the idea was well received and that the new concept, although challenging for some, was appreciated and thought-provoking.

The session was filled to the brim with crowning moments, and the report could be much longer. Better yet, be there next time and see for yourself.

R.E.A.L. #2 will take place 19-22.10.2023 in the Allgäu.

We are looking forward to seeing you!

According to a report by the DACH WM directors Dany (D), Elida (A), Dagmar (CH), Dagmar (EUD)

International Women's Day of Prayer, March 4, 2023



TRANSFORMED BY PRAYER

The 2023 International Women's Day of Prayer resource packet "Transformed by Prayer" is written by Heather-Dawn Small, GC WM director. "Prayer is the key to an intimate relationship with God," she says. Through prayer God renews our minds and hears and re-creates us into people who are ready for heaven. The accompanying seminar "Transforming Prayer" is written by Nilde Itin, GC WM associate director. Her seminar overflows with practical ideas for igniting our personal prayer lives.

Resource packet in many languages available:

women.adventist.org/international-women-s-day-of-prayer

HISTORY or HERSTORY



WHY WOMEN'S HISTORY?

When we are taught history, we are mostly informed about what the great men of the world have done in the past. Women are seldom mentioned. In so many areas, women have been written out of history. Because they are not mentioned, they are doomed to oblivion. Women's contributions and accomplishments have largely been overlooked and consequently omitted from mainstream culture. After watching a documentary movie about women's stony path to political participation and relevance, a young woman remarked, "Why didn't we learn anything about this in school?" And even today, women are still not respected as they should be. They have always had to fight against masculine power, arrogance, and restrictions of all kinds.

Why do we need Women's History? The website of the (US) National Women's History Museum, founded in 1996, answers this question:

"The National Women's History Museum (NWHM) is an innovative online museum dedicated to uncovering, interpreting, and celebrating women's diverse contributions to society. A renowned leader in women's history education, the Museum brings to life the countless untold stories of women throughout history, and serves as a space for all to inspire, experience, collaborate, and amplify women's impact—past, present, and future. We strive to fundamentally change the way women and girls see their potential and power." [1]

Elizabeth Cady Stanton, one of the early leaders of the women's rights movement in the US said: "Social science affirms that a woman's place in society marks the level of civilization." Despite limited rights and lack of political participation, women have been driving forces in history. The dedicated women in the early days of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church made a great impact on the development of the denomination and they should not be forgotten. Maybe it would be a good idea to establish an online museum like the NWHM where information about all these women could be found.

In the US, March is Women's History Month. As EUD Adventist Women's Ministries, we want to share with you the stories of some forgotten Adventist pioneers during Women's History Month. They selflessly served as missionaries in difficult situations because they were convinced of the importance of the Gospel message. Their stories deserve to be told everywhere. About the woman who had anointed his feet, Jesus said, "She poured perfume on my body beforehand to prepare for my burial. Truly I tell you, wherever the gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her." [1] Jesus was aware of how important it would be to tell the stories of women. Join us in discovering these women in the weeks to come.

[1] Mark 14:8+9 NIV

[1] www.womenshistory.org

Shelter for Homeless Women in Leipzig, Germany



WELFARE ORGANIZATION PUBLISHES ANNUAL REPORT

The 2022 annual report of the overnight shelter for homeless women in Leipzig is available. According to the report, the number of women staying overnight there fell slightly last year, but has risen sharply over the past ten years. More and more women were no longer managing to live self-sufficiently, the operator of the overnight shelter, Advent-Wohlfahrtswerk e. V. (AWW) in Germany,

said in a press release.

In 2022, 145 women used the overnight shelter for homeless women in Leipzig at least once, a facility with 24 beds. Although there were eight fewer women than in 2021, the number of overnight stays increased by about 77 percent over the ten years, it said. Many women stayed for just one night, others for up to several months. On average 50 days a year. Some women have been staying there for years, however, the AWW said.

From all age groups and social classes

Homelessness affects women of all ages, with the 26- to 45-year-old group being the most represented, it said. "The women come from all social classes, not only from Leipzig but from all over Germany. Many are just passing through. About 15 percent of the women came from the EU and third countries. A total of 16 nations were represented, with about one in five having a migration background," according to the press release. 38 percent of the women received a social security allowance, about 22 percent earned their living through income such as disability and old-age pensions or through gainful employment, and more than 40 percent had no regular income at all. This trend is on the rise.

A variety of reasons for admission to the overnight shelter

Reasons for admission to the overnight shelter include an increase in terminations of rental contracts without notice due to behavior in violation of the contract (from 8 percent to 19 percent in 2022). Similarly, separation from a partner or conflicts with family or friends and acquaintances and the subsequent expulsion from the apartment (the woman's name not being included in the lease) are reasons for homelessness. Other reasons are longer inpatient hospital stays, no accommodation in specialized emergency shelters for drug addicts, release from prison, transients, temporary homelessness due to apartment fire or water damage, loss of keys, and such.

Nearly 80 percent of the women also have health problems, he said. "Many of them exhibit behavioral problems or are mentally ill. In most cases, these women are neither in medical treatment nor do they have the necessary insight into illness and treatment. Addictive disorders (alcohol and drugs) also play a role in about a quarter of the women. Disabilities or pregnancies play a rather minor role," the press release states.

Further support

Even though the provision of a clean and safe place to sleep, and the opportunity to rest and secure a financial livelihood have priority at first, the employees also want to support the women on their way back to a self-determined life with gainful employment and their own apartment. This also includes arranging suitable support structures, therapies, or treatments.

The work in the overnight shelter is extremely challenging and emotionally stressful for the staff. For this reason, appropriate work structures and offers or measures of self-care are indispensable. In any case, all employees deserve full recognition for their service in the facility for women in need, according to the AWW.

www.apd.media/news/archiv/15498.html

Motivation Workshop in Hamburg, Germany



PRACTICAL HOMILETICS FOR WOMEN

The Motivation Workshop is an initiative of the Hanse Conference Women's Ministries Department, where women are given different tools for their service to the Lord and the church.

This year it had been requested to offer a workshop with the topic: Writing sermons and devotions. So I set out to find a speaker. I wanted to hear the topic from a woman's perspective. And so, I was very happy to be able to win Dagmar Janssen for this. She is the pastor of the Adventist churches in Rostock. I was very curious about Dagmar because we only knew each other from a phone call. On Sunday, February 12, the time had come and we met at the TAZ in Hamburg.

With a devotion based on 1Peter 2, 4-10 Dagmar took us on a journey into our homiletics seminar. From the text to the sermon. A blank page in front of us... how do we bring it to life? How do we go about it? How can we talk about God today?

The eight women who participated had different experiences of what it is like to preach. Some preach the Word now and then and others were total greenhorns. Very excitedly, we got involved.

Using the text from Mark 4:35-41, we began our study and research for the sermon/devotional. Why do I want to preach a sermon? What motivates me to do so? What effect should my sermon have? What is my goal?

In the afternoon, we were given a practical task to solve with the help of methodical hints. We worked with great concentration on a text we had chosen. Dagmar also used the silence to work on her next sermon. Each of us received new motivation to dare to preach the Word.

Dagmar inspired us with her lively manner and professionalism and we are looking forward to seeing her again in Hannover in September. You are cordially invited and we would be happy if you register via the HANSE website/events. Until then, stay safe and blessed.

According to a report by Nancy Duske, Women's Ministries, Hanse Conference, Germany

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Homepage Women's Ministries:
eudwomen.org

Dagmar Dorn
Hannele Ottsofski, Editor

Women's Ministries
General Conference SDA
Inter-European Division (EUD)
Schosshaldenstr. 17
CH - 3006 Bern

Mail: dagmar.dorn@eud.adventist.org