



GENERAL CONFERENCE | WOMEN'S MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT

Touch a Heart, Tell the World



Nurture



Empower



Outreach

"The Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, and provide for those who grieve in Zion—to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair" (*Isaiah 61:1-3*).



SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

EVERY WOMAN IS CALLED TO KNOW JESUS
PASSIONATELY AND TO USE HER GIFTS TO SERVE AS A
DISCIPLE IN THE CHURCH AND IN THE COMMUNITY.



www.adventistwomensministries.org

OUR MISSION

The Department of Women's Ministries exists to uphold, encourage, and challenge Adventist women in their pilgrimage as disciples of Jesus Christ and members of His world church.



Nurture

- *elevate women as persons of inestimable worth because they have been created and redeemed*
- *enable women to deepen their faith and experience spiritual growth and renewal*
- *build networks among women in the world church to encourage bonds of friendship and mutual support and the creative exchange of ideas and information*
- *mentor young Adventist women, encouraging their involvement, and creating paths for them as they reach for their potential in Christ*

Empower

- *seek expanding avenues of dynamic Christian service for women*
- *challenge each Adventist woman with her potential to complement the gifts given to other women and men as they work side by side to further the global mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church*
- *bring women's unique perspectives to the issues facing the world church*

Outreach

- *seek expanding avenues of dynamic Christian service for women that out of the fullness we as women have personally found in Jesus Christ, we may be empowered to share the good news within our families, among our fellow believers, and in ever expanding circles in the unsaved world.*

OUR CALL

“The Lord has a work for women as well as for men. They may take their places in His work at this crisis, and He will work through them. If they are imbued with a sense of their duty, and labor under the influence of the Holy Spirit, they will have just the self-possession required for this time. The Savior will reflect upon these self-sacrificing women the light of His countenance, and will give them a power that exceeds that of men. They can do in families a work that men cannot do, a work that reaches the inner life. They can come close to the hearts of those whom men cannot reach. Their labor is needed.”

—Ellen G White, *Review and Herald*, Aug. 26, 1902.

OUR METHOD

“Christ’s method ALONE will give true success in reaching people. The Savior mingled with [people] as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. THEN He bade them, ‘follow Me’.”

—Ellen G White, *Ministry of Healing*, p. 143.

OUR CHALLENGES

In Women's Ministries we have identified six primary challenge issues facing women, obstacles to being all that the Creator God made them to be. These issues affect women in and out of the Church, in all countries of the world, although often to varying degrees.

Challenges can be opportunities for outreach and witness—to address the needs women face.

We present these six challenges to you and suggest some possible ministries you can develop to help address these needs. Be creative. What can you do in your church and community to minister to these needs?



1. Threats to Health—Women's health includes her emotional, social, and physical well-being and is directly affected by social, political and economic factors.

Ministry Ideas: Seminars and classes on topics such as Breathe Free for Women, Osteoporosis prevention, Exercise, Weight control, Stress reduction, Mental health, Vegetarian cooking, Nutrition, Cancer screening/awareness, and Reproductive health, as well as Blood pressure/cholesterol programs, Grief and loss support groups.



2. A Woman's Workload—Women around the world and in all cultures face the problem of work overload. Women are faced with the challenge of doing 90% of the world's agricultural work, which includes long work days, small salaries, and then additional hours of housework and childcare, with limited rest and recreation and little time with God.

Ministry Ideas: Classes on Devotional life, Self-esteem, Time management, Organization, Management, Small business development, Working mothers' seminar.



3. Poverty—The UNIFEM report "Progress of the World's Women 2005" presents important information about women and poverty. Progress for women is improving but very slowly. The report notes that "despite parity in primary education, disparities are still wide in secondary and tertiary education—both increasingly key to new employment opportunities."

Ministry Ideas: Classes or seminars on Small business development, Money management, Preparing for retirement, Time management, Budgeting, and Debt reduction, as well as Widow support groups, and Professional mentoring.



4. Lack of Training, Mentoring, and Leadership Opportunities—

Education for all is a basic human right. For women to achieve better health, nutrition, and quality of life for themselves and their families they need equal access to education.

Ministry Ideas: Leadership training, Mentoring programs, Communication classes, Parliamentary Procedures seminars, Women's Ministries committees, Spiritual Gifts seminars, Methods of Bible study.



5. **Abuse**—Domestic violence, incest, rape, and battering are all too common burdens that women carry. Physical, sexual, and psychological battering happens to small girls, adolescents, single, and married adult women,

and elderly women. No stratum of society is immune from the epidemic of violence, and as a church we believe that tolerance of abuse is a denial of Christ.

Ministry Ideas: **enditnow** Abuse education seminars, Women's shelters, Support groups, Healing seminars.



6. **Illiteracy**—Nearly one billion people in the world are illiterate, one-fifth of the world's population. One out of every three women in the world cannot read and write.

Ministry Ideas: Basic literacy training, Computer literacy, Second Language classes.

Our desire, by God's grace, is to provide ministry ideas that encourage women today to take up their mission as disciples of Jesus Christ to alleviate the burdens facing women around the world.

HOW WE SERVE

“What is Women’s Ministries, and what does it do for the women of the church?”

To answer this question in three words, we would say, “Nurture, Empower, Outreach.”

These three words express what Women’s Ministries is about and what we do.

Nurture

Reach Up

To help women in their devotional time and personal growth, enabling them to be nurturers in the church and community.

- Increase Bible study, prayer, and reading the Spirit of Prophecy writings
- Promote Revival and Reformation
- Promote Revived by the Word
- Value daily devotional time

→ For resources that cover these three areas, visit www.adventistwomensministries.org

Empower

Reach across

To equip women for their activities and projects for the women in the church and community.

- Implement the four levels of the Women's Ministries Leadership Certification Program
- Train our women in the areas of evangelism through the *Outreach is for Everyone: Women's Ministry Evangelism Training Manual*
- Promote physical, and mental health among women



→ For resources that cover these three areas, visit www.adventistwomensministries.org



Reach out

To help women use small group fellowship to reach others in their community.

- Implement Homes of Hope and Healing Ministry
 - Provide tools for Friendship Evangelism
- Encourage women to touch a heart through Plant a Seed Ministry

Outreach

→ For resources that cover these three areas, visit www.adventistwomensministries.org

OUR PROGRAMS/INITIATIVES

General Conference WM Scholarship Program

The General Conference Women's Ministries Scholarship Program is established to assist women who are committed to serving the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church who would otherwise be unable to afford a Christian education. Scholarship awards are based on academic achievement, financial need, and community outreach. Specific amounts of scholarship awards vary from year to year and are dependent on the amount of funds available. Scholarships may be obtained only through your home division.

For more information, please visit: www.adventistwomensministries.org



Women's Devotional Book

The women's devotional book, a daily devotional for women by women, is a project of the General Conference Department of Women's Ministries. This book provides spiritual growth and encouragement, and the royalties fund scholarships for women.

For more information, please visit:
www.adventistwomensministries.org

General Conference WM Leadership Certification Program

Developing and cultivating the abilities of women is one task of this department, and one to which we are committed. It is our desire to see women who are called of God for service empowered to lead. The Leadership Certification Program consists of 4 levels covering a total of 58 topics.

For more information, please visit: www.adventistwomensministries.org

enditnow™

Adventists Say No to Violence Against Women



The global initiative **enditnow** raises awareness of and advocates for the end of violence against women and girls around the world.

It aims to mobilize Adventists around the world and invites other community groups to join in to resolve this worldwide issue.

For more information go to: www.enditnow.org

For downloading the enditnow brochures go to: www.adventistwomensministries.org

Women's Ministries Special Days

1st Sabbath of March
International Day of Prayer

2nd Sabbath of June
Women's Ministries Emphasis Day

4th Sabbath of August
enditnow Day



To Start the Program:

1. In this ministry we open our homes to small groups of women in our community.
2. Invite the women to your home or other non-church location if possible.
3. You may choose to offer a light meal. (optional)
4. Share your testimony of what Jesus has done for you.
5. Invite them to join you in an 8-week Homes of Hope and Healing journey.
6. Explain that it's a flexible program, usually 8 weeks.

To Organize the Program:

1. Choose one topic for the 8 weeks.
2. If you wish, use DVDs, PowerPoint, printed lessons, or other media.
3. Invite guest speakers if you wish.
4. Limit presentations to 30 minutes.
5. Follow with discussion for about 30 minutes.
6. Limit meetings to one hour, and end with prayer.

To Keep it Going:

1. Take a break after 8 weeks; then start again. Encourage the group to select a topic.
2. You determine the number of 8-week sessions to hold.
3. When appropriate begin Bible studies.

For more information go to our website:
www.adventistwomensministries.org

OUR RESOURCES

Newsletters

MOSAIC: Bi-monthly newsletter

SOS: Quarterly newsletter



Web site

To download WM resources, visit our web site www.adventistwomensministries.org

Books

- *Pastor's and Elder's Handbook for Women's Ministries: a complete Guide for Local Church Leaders.*
- *Elder's Handbook for Women's Ministries*
 - *A Ministry for Every Woman: Touch a Heart, Tell the World Planning Guide*
 - *Outreach is for Everyone: Women's Ministries Evangelism Manual*
 - *Pray and Love Saves*



Bible Study

- The Women in the Bible and Me
- Bible Study for Busy Women

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

ECD - East-Central Africa Division

www.ecd.adventist.org

EUD - Inter-European Division

<http://women.euroafrica.org/>

ESD - Euro-Asia Division

www.adventist.ru

IAD - Inter-American Division

www.interamerica.org

NAD - North American Division

www.nadwm.org

NSD - Northern Asia-Pacific Division

www.nsdadventist.org

SAD - South American Division

www.portaladventista.org/ministeriosdamulher/

SID - Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division

www.sidadventist.org

SPD - South Pacific Division

<http://women.adventistconnect.org/>

SSD - Southern Asia-Pacific Division

<http://www.ssd.org/wmsi/index.html>

SUD - Southern Asia Division

www.adventist.org.in

TED - Trans-European Division

<http://www.ted-adventist.org/resources/departments/womens-ministries>

WAD - West-Central Africa Division

www.wad-adventist.org

Resources

www.adventist.org

www.adventistwomensministries.org

www.reviewandherald.com

www.adventsource.org

enditnow.org

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