



SID Women's Ministries Newsletter



ABUNDANT LIFE - NO 2 SEPTEMBER 2022

NURTURE

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- Visit of the GC Director in SID
- Fields' activities

EMPOWER

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- Congress

OUTREACH

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New creation

I thank Sr Margery Herinirina, our Division Women & Children Ministries Director for inviting me to write this article for our 2nd Women Ministries Newsletter WM ZOE. I am reliably informed that Zoe is from the Greek word for life. What a befitting title. Women are not only a symbol of life but wellspring and essence of life. They not only bring humanity to life, they nurture life. Therefore, may this Newsletter nurture the spiritual lives of our mothers in the SID and all those whose physical and spiritual well-being depend upon them.

The theme Text chosen for this edition of WM ZOE is 2 Cor 5:17: *“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”* Coincidentally, this verse happens to be one of the verses that I loved so much in my early and formative days of my Christian journey. I was therefore, very glad when I was informed it was our key text. So, what can we take away from this scripture which can help us be true children of God; a people whom God will not be ashamed to call His children?

As if by divine arrangement, 2 Corinthians talks about Zoe the new life in Christ! Paul has argued from the beginning of this chapter that whereas we groan while we are in these tabernacles (alive in our physical bodies), because Jesus died for us, we died with him and can now live new lives in Jesus. And since we have each one died with Him and come back to life through Him through His resurrection, we are now new creatures in Jesus. Since God has reconciled us to Himself through Christ's death and resurrection, as new creatures in Christ we are now Ambassadors of Christ to continue the work of reconciling the world to God.

Ambassadors are polished diplomats whose work is to bring their countries in the most winning light and advance the interests of their home countries. How about us Christians? The expectations are even higher. As new creatures in Christ, ambassadors of Christ we ought to live our lives in such a manner that those who see us will be drawn to Christ. We should live lives that are completely different from wordings. And Apostle Paul is loud and clear: regarding this matter.

“Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envying, murders, drunkenness, revelling, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God” (Galatians 5:19-21).

Can people who have been set free from these be among those who are still found to be culprits of Gender based Violence (GBV)? Judge for yourselves Beloved. May God help us as new creatures in Christ to be different from the world as we allow His Spirit to dwell in us, renewing the image of Christ in us on a daily basis!



Dr Harrington S Akombwa
SID President

Therefore,
if anyone is in
Christ,
the new creation
has come:
The old has gone,
the new is here!



Enditnow

King Solomon writes in Proverbs 30:28 of how a lizard or a spider (translations differ) is so pervasive that it can make a home anywhere, even in the King's palace. "A lizard can be caught with the hand, yet it is found in kings' palaces. (Pr 30:28 NIV)

As small as it is, easy to catch and crush, it is agile and intelligent enough to make its way to the king's palace and stay there. The lizard can find a home, even in the palace of a King. The royal boundaries and walls mean nothing to it. It settles wherever it wants, and wherever it finds a hole big enough to get through. Then, it plans how to capture any prey that comes its way.

When looking at the text, we can infer that violence and abuse can be compared to the spider or lizard mentioned by Agur or Solomon in Proverbs 30:28. Domestic violence or abuse knows no boundaries, it does not care about gender, race, class, location, or social status. It can pervade into the lives of everyone because it does not respect boundaries of age, gender, race, or social class.

Last month, August was the month when the Women's Ministry department globally raised awareness about domestic violence. Various activities took place in our churches as we lifted those abused to God through our campaign, Enditnow. The effects of domestic violence are devastating on individuals, their families, and society at large. We believe that with awareness, much community efforts, and the work of the Holy Spirit, our world can become a safer place for all.

The apostle Paul says in 2 Corinthians 5:17 that *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"*

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old should pass away: and everything should become new!" Bad temper, mental abuse and violent demeanour should go away and a new character full of love should be seen. Through Christ, a house can become a home and a home a refuge from despair.

We would like, through this message, to challenge our women and even men to stand with Christ to end this crisis within our community. To stand with Christ the transformer and to make their home a safe place that chases away any kind of spider or lizard. The home should always be a safe space. Home sweet home!



Margery Herinirina
SID AWM/ACHM Director

We say No to abuse of any kind!

enditnow[®]
Adventists Say No to Violence

THANK YOU

all for your commitment and passion in tackling this painful issue.

*We pray that through our awareness programmes,
THE SILENCE SHALL BE BROKEN.*



Botswana Union Conference



Botswana Union Conference



East Zimbabwe Union Conference



Malawi Union Conference

VISIT OF GENERAL CONFERENCE DIRECTOR *Heather-Dawn Small*

The GC WM Director Sr Heather-Dawn Small visited the SID from the 4th to the 22nd of August. During her trip in SID, she visited 3 Conferences where she encouraged and nurtured the women. She also participated in some events done in the community. These are some of the highlights of her visit :

Cape Conference

The Cape Conference hosted its annual Women's Ministries Retreat during 5-8 August. The theme was "For such time as this - I will go".

We were privileged to have the directors of the General Conference, the Division and the Union as our guests and presenters. Their presentations, as well as those of others, were spiritually uplifting and encouraging. We were truly blessed and challenged to do as Christ commands – To go.

As part of the outreach program we encouraged each woman to bring along a hand bag filled with items that would benefit women in need, such as toiletries. We handed the hand bags, together with a Bible, over to the three institutions that we thought would benefit from the project. What a blessing to share with those less fortunate than ourselves.

The retreat afforded women the opportunity to reconnect with others after the difficulties of the past two years due to the Covid 19n pandemic. More than that, it gave us the opportunity to reconnect with God in a meaningful way. Many women left the retreat feeling encouraged and rejuvenated.



Mauritius Conference

In the Mauritius Conference, Sister Heather-Dawn and her husband Joseph Small, had the opportunity to participate in a breast cancer screening and cooking demonstration on healthy foods in the community. On this occasion, the WM department partnered with the government to conduct this activity. Over sixty women were diagnosed and information on breast cancer and other cancers was provided by specialized physicians from the cancer research centre. This program was honoured by the Mayor and deputy Mayor of the city. Sr. Heather applauded this event and saw it as an opportunity to encourage and support women in society and at the same time an opportunity to lead them to God.



Seychelles Mission

The Adventist Women's Ministries team: Heather-Dawn Small from the Seventh-day Adventist Church World Headquarters in Maryland, Margery Herinirina from the Seventh-day Adventist Women's Ministry in Southern Africa - Indian Ocean Division, Sabrina Watts, the Seventh-day Adventist Ministries Director for the Seychelles Mission paid a courtesy call on President Wavel Ramkalawan and First Lady Linda Ramkalawan at the State House. Seychelles Mission Finance Director Hugh Watts and Communications Director Nathalie Edmond accompanied the team.



This meeting was an opportunity to brief the President and the First Lady on the purpose of the GC Director's visit to Seychelles and the discussion with the president about women in society and the challenges they face was very informative and fruitful. The president was very concerned about the current situation and was eager to know what the Seventh-day Adventist Women's Ministry is doing to empower women and strengthen their commitment in their homes. The Seventh-day Adventist Church offered the President its assistance in working with the government to address these issues.



Zimbabwe Central Union



In Central Zimbabwe Conference, within the ZCUC, during the month of April 2022, more than 3 000 women attended a Women's Ministries Congress at a place called Azvihwa. The women were revived spiritually and motivated for the mission.



Music was the toast of the day, as music groups graced the closing day with their golden voices. A guest group presenting a special music item on Sabbath, brought the curtain down on the final closing day of the congress, giving the attendees a free concert.

Zambia Unions

We hosted the first Inter-union Women's Congress for the two Unions namely, (North Zambia Union Conference/South Zambia Union Conference) in Lusaka, Zambia under the Theme – I Will Go with God's Presence, from the 1st to the 5th of July 2022. The objective was to nurture and empower women for enhanced involvement in the Mission of the church. SID WM Director Sister Margery Herinirina was the Guest Speaker.



In attendance were more than 600 delegates, including Union and conference officers.



During the Inter-Union Congress, the book - Reason for Courage was launched and every delegate was given a copy. The SID Director challenged the delegates to make full use of the book to enhance their spiritual growth.

South-Western Angola Union



The Women's Ministries Department is working hard to help each woman develop a daily communion with God to grow in faith, doctrine, the fruit of the Spirit and the Spiritual gifts through Prayer and the study of the Word.

**“GOD IS
within her
she will
not fall”**

Psalm 46:5

A woman in a red dress stands in a park, reaching up towards a large tree with purple blossoms. The sun is setting behind the tree, casting a warm glow. The ground is covered in fallen purple petals.

I will send down
SHOWERS IN SEASON
there will be
SHOWERS OF BLESSING.

Ezekiel 34:26^b

Southern Africa Union

Rivers in the Desert Retreat

From the 25th to the 27th of March 2022, the Trans-Orange Conference (TOC) Women's Ministries Department hosted the 'Rivers in the Desert Retreat' at Birchwood Hotel & OR Tambo Conference Centre in Boksburg, Johannesburg, in South Africa. Women came from all corners of the TOC, Cape Conference, Kwa-Zulu Natal Free-State Conference, Eswatini formerly Swaziland, Botswana and New York.

On the final day of the retreat, 6 new souls were brought to Christ through Baptism. We praise the Lord for the spirit-filled weekend that was an opportunity to worship together after 5 years of not meeting as a conference, partly because of the Covid 19 pandemic and economic hardship.



Prayer Breakfast

The annual Prayer Breakfast was held on Sunday, the 10th of April 2022. Sister Margery Herinirina (Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division Women & Children's Ministries Director) addressed the theme, "Will Your Anchor Hold". One hundred and eighty members attended, including 13 shepherdesses. The morning was blessed with music by Jolene Louw and Mercy Shibalabala. Women prayed together in groups at their respective tables and time was allocated for personal prayer and reflection throughout the morning. A special prayer room was accessible to women throughout the morning, where Prayer Warriors prayed with women as needed.



Feedback from one of the attendees was: "I wish to extend my sincere gratitude to you and your team of hard-working ladies for the prayerful time we enjoyed on Sunday. May the God of love and mercy continue to bless the AWM Ministry and enrich our prayer lives." Maggie Sekoto, Brixton SDA



Southern Africa Union



The Women's Ministries Department was buzzing on Emphasis Day, in many Churches during the weekend of June 11 under the theme HEROINES OF FAITH. Some churches and conferences honored their HEROINES in the department. South Namibia organized a week-long Emphasis program which attracted 3 540 delegates virtually and in person. Mrs. Beauty Kotela was the guest speaker. Churches continued the following day with Let us Move Program and later on organized a Prayer Breakfasts for the participants.

Indian Ocean Union

They say Beauty lies in the eyes of the Beholder. True to this old adage. On the 30th of July 2022, a Seminar on "Real Beauty" was held in the South of Madagascar in Fort-Dauphin. More than seventy young girls participated in this prestigious event and had the Opportunity to enroll in Bible study. The young girls had a chance to appreciate that true beauty lies in their hearts and that they were all beautiful in their own standard, because they were all created in God's image.



Mozambique Union



Taking a leaf from Matthew 28:19-20 the Great Commission, Women in the Mozambique Union Mission are on fire for Jesus. As a result of their initiative on Women Evangelism, more than 10 new souls have been won to God's Kingdom.

Dozens of Women from the Central Mission of Mozambique, held a four-day Congress for women. The participants were drawn from the region and were trained, equipped and empowered for the mission of the church



"Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes has eternal life"

John 6:47

Camp Meeting for teens and Young ladies

“My Sister, My Friend” MSMF Camp

In March 2022, 30 girls between the ages of 10-18 years attended a weeklong camp at Mopani Bush Camp in Dundee. The theme for the camp was, “For such a time as this”.

Each day started with personal devotion time in the beautiful and tranquil setting of the campgrounds. Throughout the week the girls were challenged to reflect on their personal walk with God.

Outreach activities took place in the local town where literature was shared with the public. On the final night, a special foot washing service was held, and a special dinner was prepared for all the participants.



Northern Conference



Lesotho Conference

From the 8th to the 10th July, 2022, Lesotho Conference also conducted MSMF CAMP at Maluti SDA Campus. 64 girls and 2 boys camped while 6-day visitors were catered for. Different topics like Prayer, self-esteem, peer pressure, hygiene, and gratitude were addressed.

Princess Banquet was attended by all in the evening. Girls went back home encouraged to have a healthy relationship with God.

The Gauteng West district hosted MSMF Camp from the 15th to the 17th July 2022, for 10 teens at Fourways lodge in Johannesburg under the theme “Finding Me “. Sarahina Mayoyo was the guest speaker and topics like identity, sexuality, relationship with God and parents and cyberbullying were addressed. Teens were challenged and encouraged to have time alone with God and trust Him in all things they do. The weekend ended with a prayer breakfast.



Gauteng West district

“Young girls, radiant, ready to face the future” is the theme that the WM Department of the Malagasy Central Conference chose for the Rally of Young Girls that they conducted in different areas of their territory. More than a thousand girls participated in these events. Different people with different skills offered trainings on many aspects : physical, spiritual, intellectual etc. It was also an opportunity for the girls to renew their commitment to the Lord



Malagasy Central Conference



Let us consider how we may

spur one another

on toward

love & good deed,

not giving up meeting together... but

encouraging one another.

Hebrew 10:24-25

Seminar



South-Western Angola Union

The South-Western Angola Union hosted a certification seminars in preparing leaders. The Mission Women Ministry department aim is to help each woman to play their role as leaders and to develop positive relationships as members in the Adventist community and the outside community.

Congress



A Women's Congress in South East of Madagascar, in the Indian Ocean Union Conference was held from 26th to the 30th of July, 2022. More than 600 women participated during this congress.

The theme for this congress was: "Woman armed with strength, God will make you victorious". The five day program included a Carnival in the town, Health Expo program, Food distribution in the prison of Manakara and recreational activity at the beach.



Indian Ocean Union



South-Western Angola Union

The Ministry of Women of the South-Western Angola Union has been involved in the community as a positive relationship, donating food. A donation of food was organised in hospitals and Homes for the Elderly.



“Do to others whatever you would like them to do to you.”

Matthew 7:12



Southern Africa Union

Love Pack Day

The SAU Annual outreach program conducted by local churches in all our 8 Conferences every first Sabbath of May has benefitted thousands of underprivileged women. Women were encouraged to distribute toiletries, sanitary pads, clothes even blankets and groceries to the needy within their communities. Some reached out to mental hospitals, old age homes, informal settlements, ordinary hospitals, schools, children’s orphanages, children’s hospitals and even the homeless in the streets. This year more than 1000 love packs were distributed compared to previous years. God opened His children’s hands to be givers.



Kwa-Zulu Natal flood relief

Kwa-Zulu Natal Province was severely affected by the landslide floods this year. The natural disaster struck while Women’s Ministries leaders were at the advisory. We praise God that all women were able to arrive safely at their homes from the advisory meeting. Women worked hard to contribute and distribute furniture, food, clothes, blankets etc. to the families that were affected by floods. They cooked meals and went to central feeding points and halls to feed those who had lost their homes and loved ones. Women are still continuing to offer these services even now as many families still live in temporary shelters.

Community services in South Namibia

Community service distribution of food and clothing worth Namibian \$14 000 to Mental Health Hospital, Homeless, Groot Aub , Old Age homes and Informal settlements. 65 Love packs distributed to old age homes Oponganda, AG, Tsumkwe, Walvisbay, Okahandja. More than twenty Health and Wellness books were distributed to non-SDA community members who attended the Emphasis weekend.

Southern Zambia Union



A two-week Public Evangelistic Campaign was conducted by the SZBU WM Director (Beatrice Bondo) from May 1-14 2022 in West Zambia Field resulting in 64 souls being baptized. This included 30 Prison Inmates who accepted Jesus as their personal Savior during Prison Ministry which ran side by side with the Public Evangelistic Campaign. A Community Service where assorted second-hand clothes were distributed to the men, women, and children in the community was also conducted. That included a donation of a wheelchair to a physically challenged church member. Crusaders also distributed Book of the Year – the Final Hope in the community.

Northern Zambia Union



30 face the water

30 souls gave themselves to Christ during the evangelistic campaign and were baptized in Kabile Mission District of Midlands West Zambia Conference in Northern Zambia Union Conference. Both the Young and Old were able to show it publicly that they have accepted Jesus as their personal Saviour.

Blindness not a barrier to evangelism

Jesus has called many of us to preach the gospel so that His coming may be hastened. Matthew 28:18-20 says we need to go ye therefore and preach to all the world the good news of Jesus Christ.

Mrs Mulenga, a blind Woman went flat out visiting many homes as she joined an evangelistic campaign proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ. Many heard her call and lined up for baptism where a good number of them got baptized after accepting Jesus Christ as their personal savior.



A village headman accepts Jesus

The Department conducted an evangelistic campaign in Kabile Mission district of Midlands West Zambia Conference of the Northern Zambia Union Conference. 30 People gave their lives to Christ including the Village Headman. A Branch of the Seventh-day Adventist Church was opened and People are now worshiping their God.

Zimbabwe East Union



The book of James, says true religion is to look after and take care of the elderly, the orphans and the under privileged in times of their need. This is exactly what the women from the Zimbabwe East Union Conference are doing in their community.

The ZEUC ladies from Glen-Eagles District Visited Simbaredenga Orphanage Home in Harare, where they donated food items. As part of their mission work and hospitality, the women went a step further and took time to do some housekeeping duties.

Botswana Union



School Visit

The department visited a secondary school in the Kgalagadi district to hand out sanitary pads, toiletries hand sanitizers to the students. They presented a motivational programme to the students



Caring for others

The Botswana Conference had a blessed time visiting the Khekhenye settlement and then their little church in Takatokwane. They distributed Bibles, clothing, toiletries, toys and snacks. Pastor Matwetwe preached a powerful sermon on the love of God. They were blessed and they pray that the seeds they planted will sprout. A big thank you to everyone who made this day possible.



Emphasis day and kindness Day

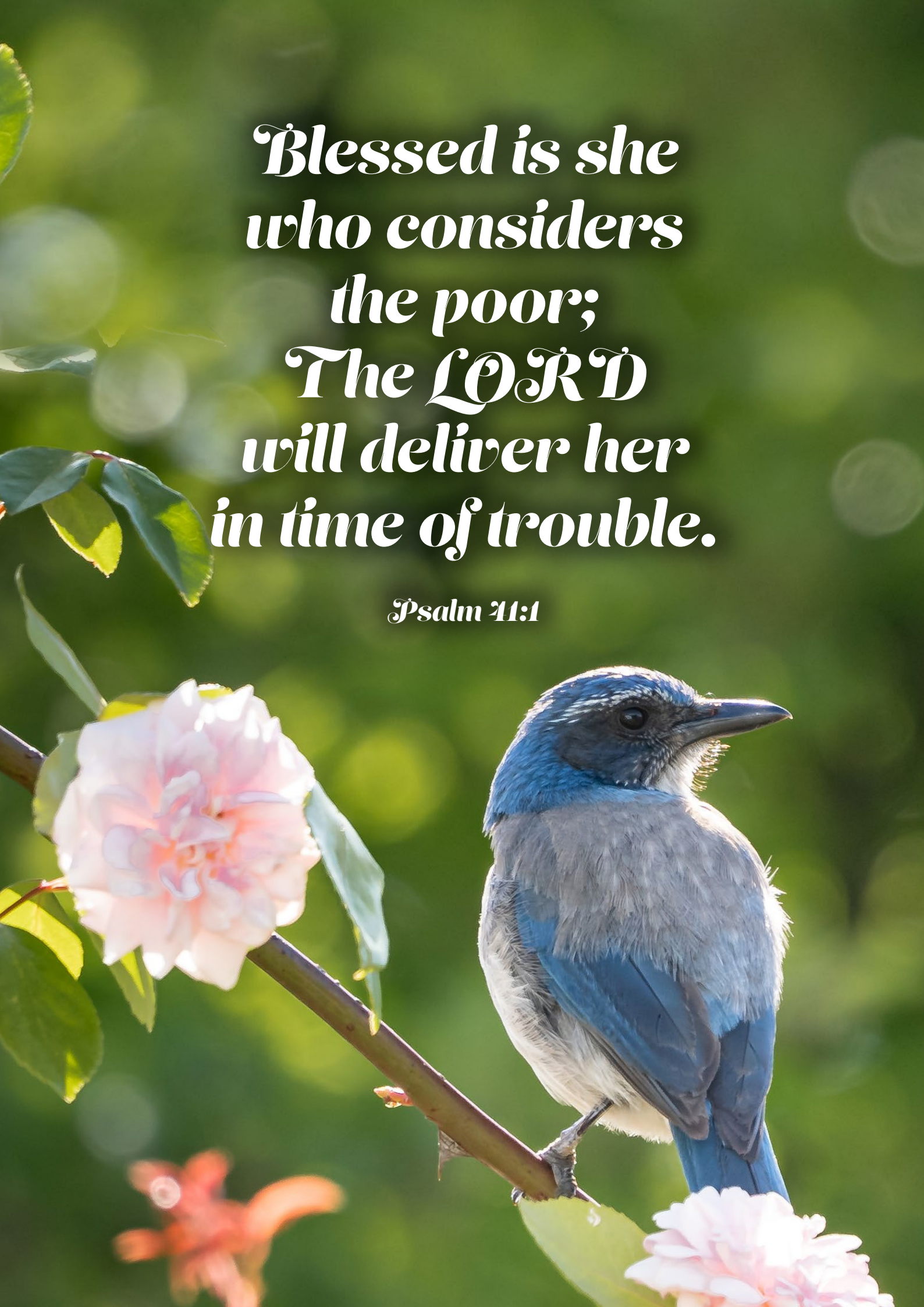
The Botswana Union conference found innovative ways to celebrate the Emphasis day. The women in Botswana held a “kindness day”, following the special program in the church. Various acts of kindness was done for the vulnerable, destitute and the elderly. The women handed out food parcels, clothing, blankets warm track suits for orphans. Toiletries were handed out to school children. In one village the women heard a sad story of a young lady who was kidnapped by 6 men and held captive for 2 weeks. During the two weeks the men abused and raped the young woman. The young lady was badly traumatized and needs medical and counseling attention . The WM collected food, clothing and toiletries for the young woman and her family. They also provided the girl and her family with enough money to go for medical treatment.

These acts of KINDNESS performed by the ladies across the country is truly a reflection of the “Jesus Method” and also in line with our slogan, “I Will Go” and reach my World.



*Blessed is she
who considers
the poor;
The LORD
will deliver her
in time of trouble.*

Psalm 41:1



New creation

Upon accepting Jesus as the Son of God
And receiving God as head of one's life
A person becomes a new creation.
Realizing that apart from God
You are nothing without Him
The mind and heart begins to open

In a whole new way.
One's way of reasoning begins to shine
In a way, as never before.

Old friends begin to see a change
And may begin to wonder what's going on.
This transformed person begins
to walk into God's likeness

As God intended from
the very foundations of the earth.
Old things are passed away
and behold all things have become new.
A new creation springs up comparatively
as a young plant

Bursting through a seed.
As do plants, daily nurturing ought to take place
For healthy and consistent
growth as time progresses.

That is, taking care of oneself in every aspect...
Spiritually, physically, and relationally,
intellectually, and relationally.
Becoming a new creation
certainly leads to wholeness.

Jeanette Telusma

PHOTO Highlights





OCTOBER
Breast
CANCER
AWARENESS MONTH



Women's Ministries Directors

DIVISION

Director : Margery Herinirina

Secretary : Caly Sibanda

FIELDS

Botswana Union Conference
Indian Ocean Union Conference
Malawi Union Conference
Northern Zambia Union Conference
South Africa Union Conference
Southern Zambia Union Conference
Zimbabwe Central Union Conference
Zimbabwe East Union Conference
Zimbabwe West Union Conference
Mozambique Union Mission
North-Eastern Angola Union Mission
South-Western Angola Union Mission
São Tomé and Príncipe Attached field

: Suzan Williams
: Haja Razanabololona
: Emily Banda Egolet
: Linda Sibanda
: Tshidi Nyama
: Earlymay Chibende
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