YOU are a blessing! Since 1993, when the women’s scholarship program began, you—your gifts, telling friends about SOS, buying the women’s devotional book, sharing the SOS newsletter, and constant encouragement—have blessed 1,980 of our sisters, enabling them to attend college.

The SOS TEAM is a great blessing. Many thanks to you all for your gifts of treasure and of time, for addressing letters, sharing SOS newsletters with your church, supporting the Book Sale, and helping in many other ways.

Each of our sisters who receives a scholarship is a blessing. And these dedicated women will bless countless others as they reach out in loving service. For example…

Julia, attending college in Israel, is described as spiritual, brilliant, visionary, and diligent, with “a burning spirit of service.” Although in school from 8:30 to 4:30 daily, she works with Youth Ministry, helps children of new immigrants with homework, and is volunteer secretary for the Bible Correspondence School.

Luo Yi, from China, is studying in the Philippines to become a teacher. An excellent student, she is already serving others; she teaches Chinese to Korean students, helps Chinese church members learn English, and leads a Pathfinder group for community service.

Rindratiana’s mother died in 2000, leaving the father to raise five children. His salary is small, and without a scholarship, Rindra would have had to leave school. She makes excellent grades, and despite hardships, is described as “always smiling.” Active in church youth programs, choir, and the Sabbath school team, she attends Adventist University Zurcher, Madagascar.

It is impossible to count the lives blessed by these and all the women helped by the GCWM scholarships. May you be blessed as you bless them!

This Christmas bless those special to you with a special gift, Blessed, the 2013 women’s devotional book. In this book, 337 women share how God has blessed their lives. The writers are from 37 countries, and include a member of a bluegrass band, a deputy coroner, and 90 grandmothers.

Blessed is also special because the royalties provide scholarships for women in college around the world. Be blessed by reading and by giving others this beautiful book.
Who needs a new song? Spiritually many of us need a new song to sing, especially when we face obstacles and discouragement. Many of our sisters around the world do not have a song to sing. One important reason is lack of education. **Education is important for everyone, but especially vital for women**—not only because education opens the door to opportunities, but also because when women are educated this strengthens their whole family. **Helping women get an education is a gift of inestimable value.** It lifts burdens, brings hope, and gives women a song to sing.

During this Christmas season, we have the opportunity to give a marvelous gift to many women, the gift of a new song. **Add one special gift to your list—a gift to help a woman attend college.** Your gift will help her sing a new song.

The challenge is great. Our sisters need us. **But we believe that we can sing a new song—and also join in an old one—as together we bring “Joy to the World.”**

By Raquel Arrais
Associate Director GC Women’s Ministries

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**TO LET YOU KNOW**

What is “Scholarshipping Our Sisters”? It’s a volunteer team supporting GC Women’s Ministries Scholarships for Adventist women in college worldwide.

**How are Scholarship Funds Distributed?** Each Division receives the same amount of money. Clearly, in some areas more scholarships can be given because costs are lower.

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**Gifts of Remembrance**

**IN MEMORY OF**

Benedita Arrais
Rizalinha Faigao
E. Barton Hardin
Roger Ott
Violeta Rhoden
June Gleason Roys

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**What Your Gift Can Do**

- $100: 1 semester tuition in BANGLADESH or JAMAICA
- $1,000: 1 month tuition in RUSSIA
- $1,000: 1 semester tuition in THAILAND
- $1,050: Scholarship in JAMAICA
- $160: 1 month tuition in ARGENTINA

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**A New Song**

BY BUS TO JESUS

Bodigerel, from Mongolia, grew up under Communism, and says that when that system collapsed, people had no direction, no jobs, and she, along with the others, “felt the world had turned upside down.”

One day while waiting for the bus she was handed a small yellow brochure about Jesus. This was the first time she had heard about Jesus. Sometime later, while riding the bus she overheard two girls talking about a book they read called a Bible. Listening carefully, she determined to find this book and read it.

Excited, she told a friend, who said, “I know about that book. We read it at my church.” Soon Bodigerel visited the Adventist church and learned about God. She says, “I realized that step by step God lead me. He loves me.”

Now her goal is to spread God’s word in Mongolia.

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**Editorial**

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