

ARISE SHINE



WHEN WE RISE UP
HE SHINES THROUGH

You are invited to
ARISE, SHINE
November 6, 2017

Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer

The Women's Department of the Baptist World Alliance (BWA) is composed of 7 Continental Unions representing 193 national Baptist women's organizations from 156 countries. The 2017 program has been prepared by the Baptist Women's Union of Africa (BWUA).



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ARISE, SHINE

When We Arise Communities Are Transformed



*Joina Dhlula,
president of the BWUA*

Shalom and greetings to all my dearly beloved Baptist women of the Lord! It is indeed an honour and wonderful privilege to be involved in prayer and intercession for the world as children of God. I hope and pray we are all going to experience the presence of the Lord as we humbly seek his face. God's call is for women to stand in the gap and cry to the Lord of the harvest who has answers for all challenges the world is facing today. The 2017 Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer program was prepared by the Baptist Women's Union of Africa (BWUA). The main thrust for this year's prayer will be on the women's call to service so we can witness transformation of lives by the Holy Spirit, and as a result of receiving the Lord Jesus as personal Savior. Jesus came to serve, illuminate, and transform the lives of people but also of whole communities. The same responsibility is the core business today of all children of God regardless of their personal backgrounds. It may not be emphasized, but the Bible calls all Christians to "... not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God" (Romans 12:1). Also, in Luke's Gospel 19:10, the Lord Jesus Christ plainly highlights his mission on earth which in turn becomes our core business and responsibility in the communities in which we live from day to day when he says: "...for the Son of Man has come to seek and to serve that which was lost". According to the dictionary, the word transformation means "a complete or major change." People who pray to receive Jesus Christ as their personal Savior are regenerated or born again by God's Spirit as they become a child of God. These people are reborn with the divine life of God from within. The Spirit in them yearns to transform Christians into the image of Christ for the purposes of God.

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To remain in the transformed state, one has to feed daily on the Word of God and be brave enough to stand up and do what the Spirit urges one to do and to change according to the image of His Son. The transformation that thus happens does not only end with one transformed individual. We are witnesses that when women are brave enough to listen to God's Spirit of transformation, families change and whole communities are transformed to better reflect God's life. The Spirit of God is the Spirit of true and deep change that is so much needed in our world. Therefore, sisters, let us arise, because, when we arise, God shines through us and transforms communities.

*Your sister in Christ,
Jaina Dhlula,
president of the BWUA*



A Greeting From the Women's Department President



*Ksenija Magda
President (2015-2020)
BWA Women's Department*

Let us face it: It is anything but easy for women to rise and shine. Never mind the context. UN research shows that by 2020 the world could earn additional 28 trillion dollars if it included women equally. But according to the rate at which this inclusion is going at the moment – it will more likely take 140 years to reach that goal.

It seems to me that the world is functioning on only half of its potential because involving women equally seems a cursed mission! More often than not, girls are brought up as weak, uneducated individuals whose sole purpose in life is to marry and have children. It should not be so in the Christian church in general, and among Baptist women in particular, because we believe that Christ came to take the curse of our bodies to the cross, crucified the curse there, and revived

women as well as men to a new life through his mighty Spirit (Romans 8: 3-4)! There is nothing wrong with being a wife and a mother, of course. And there is certainly a thorough biblical call for Christians to be subject to one another out of love for Christ. The first – motherhood – is a wonderful gift of adding and nurturing a new life full of potential to the human community. God made women partakers in the job of creation – but not only through motherhood. He wants to involve all our gifts and experiences for the benefit of the world! Submission is a wonderful fruit of godliness which makes a community possible. But – it is required of all Christ followers regardless of gender! So, submission because of Christ (Ephesians 5:21) is different from the violent spiritual, emotional, social, and physical abuse experienced by many Christian women from the men in their lives. Unfortunately young women also often experience pain of abuse from their own mothers, grandmothers, and peers! They sometimes argue: This was done to us, that's why you must endure it also. Such are the „structures of sin.“ They are a tightly-knit net created to keep women down so they are unable to see their God-given gifts and the potential for the good that God has placed in them. Thus often women quietly surrender to violence. They learn to survive, but they never get to taste the abundant living water which Jesus offers. And they never become fountains of living water for the benefit of the transformation of the world (John 4)!

This should not be so. Jesus calls women to be transformed and become transformers of communities. The Christian church will never fulfil the Great Commission on just half of its potential. So, there is a mission here for women to understand that the Bible is full of stories of women who have used their God-given gifts and changed nations. These women are just rarely mentioned from the pulpit, partially, because they so do not fit the roles the world ascribes to women! Just read the amazing list of Paul's co-workers and counter-cultural world changers in Romans 16! There would not have been a victory for Israel without Deborah (Judges 4:4ff)); no church in Philippi without Lydia and no Jesus without Mary! There would not have been a gospel for the Samaritans had there not been the Samaritan woman who arose leaving her water jug behind and ran to tell the city about what Jesus told her.

It is when God's women arise, that God transforms communities.

How to Plan Your Day of Prayer Celebrations

By Olivia B. Hill, Editor of the Organ of News, Baptist Women Union of Africa

How to Conduct a Day of Prayer Meeting (an example)

(90-120 minutes)

- Play the Arise and Shine theme song (available as MP3 from the WD website)
- Greetings and explanations about the program by the organizing team
- Read Greetings from the African President (and the WD President)
- Read one Bible Study or have a speaker expound on the suggested Bible readings (give opportunity to women to think and discuss (in small groups or around the tables) their experiences of their own transformation and how it impacted their families and environment (work place, school, friends etc.) Let them thank God for these transformations).
- Have two women read the Stories from Africa.
- Read the Prayer Requests from the African continent and have the women pray for Africa.
- Pray for the other continents and for the Women's Department and the BWA. You can do this in a variety of ways depending on how much time you have. For instance: divide the group into smaller units and have them move through prayer stations (or rooms) with the colors of the continental unions; Ideally, all women pray for all the continents. This can be as short as needed or can be extended to include information on the continents, pictures or video presentations and other materials to make the prayers even more informed and the experience of unity more intense.
- Take an offering. Again, there is more than one way of doing it, but make sure you explain that this offering supports the unity of Baptist women by supporting the national, continental and global ministries and projects. Encourage women to join FB or Twitter to follow up on the development projects and to become friends with Baptist women around the world.
- Conclude with a prayer and benediction.

The 2017 World Day of Prayer Program has been prepared by the Baptist Women Union of Africa but Baptist Women around the world will be using information found in this printed program (or the program found on the BWA Women's Department website) to plan for the Day of Prayer for their particular groups. The goal is for our global Baptist women's community to share some of the same thoughts and prayers. Let us take this seriously and put effort into preparing our communities for prayer. Here are some hints for a blessed and successful Day of Prayer.

NOVEMBER 6, 2017 IS OUR DAY OF PRAYER.

In order for it to be successful, each local church should appoint a Day of Prayer Team for the occasion. The team will both help sensitize the church about the ensuing event over the next four months and be in charge of setting up the event. (If your church never had a team for the DOP, but you are reading this material, just assemble your own team and offer the event to your church!) The team should start its work early on. Here is a time table with things that the team could do in preparation of the Day of Prayer in the local church.

In JULY 2017

Day of Prayer Team is formed and commits their work to God. They pray for direction as they take up this great challenge to prepare the local church for the Day of Prayer. If necessary they teach on the importance of prayer and how it can be done.

In AUGUST 2017

The Day of Prayer team encourages prayer in the local women's groups for the planning teams of the seven Continental Unions.

In SEPTEMBER 2017

Pray for individual local churches to see the need to participate in the Day of Prayer. Sensitize your church and women's group(s) by handing out information leaflets with details on Day of Prayer date and venue, and possibly also some highlights. Have pins ready to wear during this month to remember that the Day of Prayer is approaching. You can start collecting offerings towards the Day of Prayer and the Day of Prayer projects, as for some people this is the easier way to give.

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How to Plan Your Day of Prayer Celebrations

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Plan the details of the event:

- * Print (or make) invitations and promotional material for the Day of Prayer.
- * Invite Baptist women of all ages and ways of life to participate in the Day of Prayer. Prepare to personally invite women who are reluctant to participate, friends, young women and women organizations of your country. While we encourage an all age celebration because of unity, in some settings you may want to start with diverse groups of women. The main idea is to get as many women as possible to pray.
- * Encourage phone text message invitations to friends, family members or organizations.
- * Craft attractive envelopes and distribute them ahead of time to help boost your Day of Prayer Offering.
- * Where applicable, send invitations to the Day of Prayer celebration through post.
- * Also, place invitations in many visible places for women to take with them.
- * If you can afford it, print ARISE, SHINE T-shirts and use the profit from sales of T-shirts as a part of the Day of Prayer Offering.
- * Encourage individuals and groups to make book markers, key holders and match boxes and the like with information about the date, time and place of the Day of Prayer celebration and distribute them in church. This can also boost Day of Prayer attendance.
- * If possible use local Radio and other media for publicity – other Christian women may want to join our Day of Prayer.

In OCTOBER 2017

Organize prayer sessions for the Day of Prayer and attend to the preparation for

Decorations. Most women appreciate a tastefully arranged room.

Break your local church space into seven zones (or use separate rooms if your church is large), representing the seven Continental Unions. Have that area decorated with balloons representing Continental Union's color. Have a table set with a bible in the center. It too can have a table cloth in the color of the represented Continental Union or have the color displayed in another creative way.

You could also have people in each zone wear Day of Prayer T-shirts featuring the colors of each Continental Union. Continental Union Colors are:

Africa	Royal Purple
Asia	Light Blue
Caribbean	Green
Europe	Dark Blue
Latin America	Yellow
North America	Orange
South West Pacific	Red

Print in large prints the Verse for the Day of Prayer 2017: Romans 12:2 and have it placed on exhibition for easy reading.

If you have rooms assigned to a Continent, you can set up music and play documentaries and display pictures of this continent. The room or hall should also have a special prayer corner fitted with chairs and prayer requests for the continent.

Check the BWA WD website and this program for specific prayer needs of Continental Unions.

Display pictures on the wall and table depicting transformed lives.

Offering

Over the years the Day of Prayer Offering has assisted many projects in our various Continental Unions as well as the BWA Women's Department in its many worldwide ministries. Please note that the both the Continental Unions and the Women's Department's work depend highly on this offering to be able to minister to women and bring women together for fellowship, encouragement and training.

Women are to be aware that the funds raised by your local church will be joined with funds from other unions to assist women's work all over your own continent and also throughout the world. So give more and be blessed.

How to Enhance Your World Day of Prayer Experience

There are many ways in which Baptist women around the world celebrate the Day of Prayer. It can be an afternoon tea party and prayer, a solemn church meeting, or a whole day conference! There is no one way of doing it right – as long as Baptist women come together in Christ to reflect on their existence in Christ and hold each other up in prayer! When planning your Day of Prayer, think about your event as “an experience”. The word “experience” throws open the doors to creativity, allowing you to think outside the box when planning and promoting the Day of Prayer. Because of the diversity of women, consider offering a choice of different Day of Prayer events at various times throughout the day. This will allow more women to be involved in a variety of ways.

Baptist Women’s Global Day of Prayer is a blessed demonstration of the community shared by Baptist women across the world. There are two essential active ingredients to every Day of Prayer experience: praying and giving. Prayer is the lifeblood that courses through the veins of the believer in Christ. Through it, we receive hope, guidance, assurance, and peace as we communicate with God. We are dependent upon prayer. As we unite with our Baptist

sisters across the world, we are committing to uphold and support one another in prayer, for we know that nothing is accomplished without it, and great and mighty things come into being because of it.

The offerings during the Day of Prayer are essential because they provide the much needed funds for the ministries and partnerships of the BWA Women’s Department and the Continental Unions, including the Day of Prayer projects. When we share with our sisters, we are partnering with them by giving them the tools they need to make a difference for God’s Kingdom in their own areas. We belong together, that is why we make the effort to care for one another and stay connected.

Then, there is also the “Prayer & Praise Vigil” on the BWA Women’s Department Facebook page. This is a 24-hour Day of Prayer event from midnight on Sunday, November 5th to midnight on Monday, November 6th The Day of Prayer message is shared through prayer, music, and devotions. Testimonies, messages and photos from groups around the world are posted as they happen – all right online!

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Distribution of the Day of Prayer Offering

50% BWA Women’s Department Day of Prayer Projects Publication (printing & mailing): Baptist Women’s World Day of Prayer program (annually) Special projects to help meet the needs of women around the world Leadership Conference, including scholarships Maintaining a website and e-news Travel for Officers and Executive Director to encourage and support the Continental Unions Maintaining the world office (administrative cost).

50% Continental Union Funds to help Continental Union officers form new organizations of Baptist Women Special programs: evangelism, young women’s conferences, Continental Union Day of Prayer projects, and other special meetings to help meet the needs of the women Continental Union meetings held once every five years Scholarships to attend Continental Union meetings Travel for Continental Union officers to encourage national Baptist women’s groups Operational costs for the continental union administration work.

Please note that all work of the WD is done by volunteers. The only paid positions are that of the Executive Director (currently an interim person due to the transition the Women’s Department is going through) and of a part time bookkeeper. These positions require daily involvement. A special fund has been set up for gifts towards the Director’s salary. We ask you as individuals and groups to prayerfully consider supporting WD Director’s salary fund throughout the year with special donations.

John 4:39-42

"They said to the woman, 'We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Saviour of the world,'"

Introduction

The key to have Christ change your world is to pattern your life after Christ, not after the world's system. Paul urged Christians in Rome to live holy lives, increase in faith and demonstrate their love to God. He charged them not to conform to the world's way of living but to be transformed by doing away with ungodliness (Romans 12:2). This would make them please the Lord and shine for Him.

Let us consider a woman whose transformed life attracted many to Jesus. I am referring to the Samaritan woman in John 4. She had lived a wayward life, but Jesus Christ lifted her up from her despicable, helpless, and hopeless state. As a result, she renounced her old way of life and accepted a new and better life in Christ. She arose and began to shine: sharing the testimony of her encounter with the Lord; spreading the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Messiah, and showing the beautiful changes that had taken place in her life to the world (John 4:29). As she was shining, many Samaritans believed in Jesus Christ, drew nearer to Him and His words, and transformed their lives too. "They said to the woman, 'We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Saviour of the world'" (4:39-42).

Lessons From the

Samaritan Woman's Story:

1. An encounter with the Lord Jesus brings transformation. Transformation cannot happen in someone's life unless there is an encounter with the Lord. Jesus transformed the life of the Samaritan woman through a single encounter.

- Have you had an encounter with the risen Lord? If you have not, you cannot shine. Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near.
2. God responds to our questions (John 4:11-15). The woman found answers to questions that bothered her, when she asked Jesus. Likewise, today, we find answers to our questions when we search the Scriptures and ask God to help us. Paul charged Timothy to study the Scriptures to become an approved worker (2 Timothy 2:15).
 - How much of His Word do you know?
 - How often do you search the Scripture for solutions to your struggles?
 3. Accepting God's Word transforms. The Samaritan woman was willing to know more about the Messiah. Like the Bereans in Acts 17:10-12, she too received Christ's words with eagerness; She was ready to learn. She did not pretend to be a saint. She sincerely confessed her sins and her faith in the Lord.
 - For how long will you cover your sins? Can you hide from God? You may pretend before people, but you cannot pretend before God. God knows how it is with your soul. Run to the cleansing fountain today for healing, restoration, renewal of strength, and inspiration. He is willing to aid you.
 4. Proclaiming Christ saves others from hell. The Samaritan woman was so excited about her new life that she went about showing others the way to the Messiah. Many people listened to her testimony because they saw that her life had been really transformed. Proclaim Christ through evangelism; project and promote Him through godly behaviour and works. In the words of the apostle: "How, then can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? ... Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ" (Romans 10:14-17, NIV). You are saved to save others from hell. Tell

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- others about Jesus Christ. Let people see Christ through what you do, say and think. Let Jesus shine through you.
- Since you have been redeemed, how many unbelievers have you told about your faith in Christ? Find someone today and use the opportunity to introduce them to Christ.
 - How many people have been attracted to your Saviour because of your lifestyle? Arise and begin to shine.
5. Shine to transform lives. Every believer in Christ is a light. Jesus made the woman a light to save others too. When you receive the new life in Christ and you shine for Him, He will draw other people unto Himself through you. He needs you to show Him to the world so He can transform others. Jesus was able to transform the lives of many Samaritans because the woman invited them to come and see who changed her.
- Are you an instrument of honour or dishonour?
 - Are you a disciplined disciple and discipler of others? You cannot shine if you are not an honourable, disciplined disciple and a discipler.

Some Concrete Ways to Shine for Christ

Since you have been saved from the patterns of the world and renewed by the Word of Christ, you shine by living in such a way that people can see your new way of life, come to Christ, and be transformed too. ARISE and SHINE by living this TRANSFORMED LIFE in the following ways:

- Testify about the goodness of the Lord. Be Christ's witness (Romans 10:14-17). Tell of His great love, gift of salvation and goodness towards you. Show the world that Jesus Christ is real and sweet in your life.
- Respond positively to life's challenges. Face life's challenges with courage and confidence (Romans 8:26-28; Philippians 4:4-7). Do not settle for being a victim. Trust God and take action.
- Abide in the Lord through prayers. Pray without ceasing. Prayer unlocks anointing, grace and power to rise and shine in a depraved and perverse world (Colossians 4:2-4).

Nurture others in the pattern of Christ. Set proper and good examples (Romans 2:21-24).

Sacrifice your pleasures for the salvation of others. Make good use of every opportunity (Colossians 4:5-6).

Forgive those who hurt or offend you and stay faithful to God (Colossians 3:13).

Obey your Master, Jesus Christ, in every small detail (Colossians 3:22-25).

Respond to the needs of others. Love others sincerely without measure like your Saviour. Accept people for who they are (Romans 5:8; Colossians 3:23-25).

Mentor others (1 Timothy 4:12).

Evangelize and encourage believers to be better (Romans 10:14-17).

Discipline yourself and disciple others. Obey the Lord completely (2 Corinthians 10:6).

Love God and serve him wholeheartedly (Deuteronomy 6:5-9; Romans 6:16-18).

Increase in your faith and knowledge of God. Study the Word of God daily to understand his standard.

Meditate on it day and night (Colossians 3:16).

Fight the good fight of faith. Live to please God daily (Philippians 1:21).

Empathize with others (Hebrews 13:1-3).

Conclusion

Jesus said, "You are the light of the world ...let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:14-16, NIV). Light radiates. Its presence brings guidance, protection, and safety. As a light, make a great difference for Christ in your neighbourhood, family, and place of work, marketplace and community.

Rev. Dr. R. A. Lateju

is the Executive Director of the Baptist Women's Missionary Union of Nigeria

I Prayed That My Faith Would Not Fail in Face of Trouble

I, Esther Sandra Grant of Umodzi Wa Amayi Central East Region Baptist in Malawi, would like to share my testimony with my fellow Baptist Women to never ever lose your faith when troubled.

My story is about me becoming a widow. I lost my husband who died from a heart attack on the 11th October 2007. I thought that was the end of my world. Having five children, four of which were still in school in the USA, and a Company with a staff of 105 people to run, I prayed to my God, the Most High, my Saviour, that that my faith will not fail me in all this.

My late husband Stuart M. Grant was English and also a Malawi resident. Both of us knew that he had a heart problem. The doctor told us that Stuart needed an urgent surgery and that could only be performed in South Africa. The surgery expenses were enormous. Stuart told our doctor that he was not prepared to spend a lot of money on the surgery because of his age – he had already turned 70 years old. It was sad and painful for me and my family to see that my husband sacrificed his life on earth, so his children could finish their education. After that discussion the doctor told Stuart that he had three weeks to live. As a man who had faith, Stuart was not afraid of death. He organized all important issues and put the documentation in place. On 11th October, 2007 in the early hours, Stuart died in my arms after blessing me as his wife, and telling me that his life was over on earth. At the time I also thought that it was the end of my world. But then, God's grace reached out to me.

The first thing I did was to pray thanking God that he gave me Stuart as a husband in the first place, and if he decided to take him to heaven now, my faith will not die. There were many people who came to the funeral, not all of them genuine mourners. Some came to celebrate that my privileged life was over. But they did not know that I had faith in God. One of our friends gave a talk, where he said that Stuart's demise was the end of an era. Fortunately, another one confirmed that it was not just an end of an era but the beginning of a new era. That correction was God's word to me and it restored my faith immediately and made

it stronger. I was determined to create an era where God's love would shine through.

Today my faith is stronger than ever. Also, God has placed me in these positions to encourage and help women: I am the Executive member in Umodzi Wa Amayi National Committee, treasurer of the Central East Region Umodzi Wa Amayi, a national executive Committee member of Women's Day of Prayer, a national executive member of Women In Faith, a peace building network, Public Affairs Committee, PAC. I have helped my fellow widows to be strong, my women's ministry is doing very well. I have a full primary school in the Mackenzie Village that is doing very well.

I have kept my faith and I have even succeeded in business. My two sons, both graduates from business schools, have taken over the business and that is doing well. By the grace of God my four children are university graduates and my youngest has graduated this year with a degree in engineering.

My fellow Baptist Women, I urge you to pray the same: that your faith may not fail when you encounter trouble. Rather, step out in faith and believe that God take care of you and use you in his kingdom.
(Luke 22:24-32).



Stories From Africa

Transforming Through Those Faithful in Small Things

My name is Gazani Thipe, and I am from Sebina, in Botswana. I was born again in 2001. There was a Crusade by the Tent of Hope Ministry, which is a Brazilian Mission. During the day, the missionaries went around the village inviting people to the crusade. A young lady called Othilia came to my house and invited me to the crusade. That evening I went to the evening service. The preacher was Pastor Sejour. The sermon touched my heart, I was moved by the proclaimed good news. I felt peace within me and I was thirsty for the word of God.

During the day the Tent of Hope missionaries also offered skills such as needle work and cooking, in addition to the Bible studies. I started going there every day, but I always chose to learn from the Word of God. When the Baptist Church was started in Sebina, I was one of the first Church members there. I was baptized in 2002. The church used to rent a room at the Village Development Committee Houses. After a while, when we were unable to pay the rent, we were told to leave. Most church members left the church when this happened. There were just a few of us who stayed. At times we would be just 3 ladies who

came together for worship. So I decided to offer my home for the church services. I led the church as there was no pastor. In 2004 the Brazilian Mission built a church for Sebina. By that time, I had two committed boys who assisted me in pastoring our church: Goitseone and Logan. They were students and could only help during the school holidays.



Logan grew up to become a preacher. I am thankful and praise God, Logan is ordained a pastor for Sebina Baptist Church since June 25, 2016. The church too has grown to more than 50 members. It has been my prayer that Logan would be ordained as pastor in our church and I thank God I was able to hold on to my faith and see it happen. I will continue to support him as much as I can.

God is faithful and uses women to grow and support his church. Be encouraged to stay faithful in what looks like an impossible task. Praise God, he is faithful.

Day of Prayer Projects 2017: Emphasis Africa

- Project name: Help Our Rural Girls Learn**
Country: Liberia
Organisation: F. C. Barnes Industrial Academy (of the Liberian Baptist WMU)
Person responsible: Olivia B. Hill

The project aims at helping girls in the Western Region of Liberia (Bomi and Rural Montserrado) to stay in school past the early teen years to help them alleviate poverty, ignorance and poor health in their future life. We help rural women through basic skills in homecare, agriculture and small industries; we foster education, development, unity, and love through fellowship—regardless of creed and ethnic background.

Recent surveys indicate that 68% of female students dropped out of school supported by their parents for initiation into the Sande Society (Female Genital Mutilation - FGM). When initiates are relieved from the Sande, they lag behind the schoolmates and then leave school altogether. Many parents send their girls into Sande to prepare them for motherhood. The girls are then lured into early marriage often because their parents prefer having grandchildren to their girls having an education.

The work is two-fold:

1. Involvement in discussions regarding FGM so that girls included in Sande would not also miss school.

Day of Prayer Projects 2017: Emphasis Africa

- Care for girls by providing tuition, clothes and books, and by counselling so they can continue school if they
Escaped from FGM and left home
If they were forced to FGM but want to continue school
If they want to continue school after reaching the highest level of education available in their community
If parents are unable to pay for their daughter's school
If teenage mothers express the wish to continue their training

2. Name of Project: **Against Child Labour**

Country: Malawi

Organization: Tisule Foundation

Person responsible: Patricia Annie Mzumara

One in six children in Malawi is a victim of violence, abuse, exploitation, or neglect and is at risk of contracting HIV and AIDS. The situation is dire for many Malawian children in the Katonga district, situated 45 Kilometres from the border of Tanzania and 90 Kilometres from the border of Zambia. The district is along the lakeshore where the fishing business is growing. This results in significant problems in child welfare: primarily child labour, but also early marriages and child trafficking.



Tisule Foundation as a Baptist organization is concerned with the wellbeing of vulnerable children. We believe that children are the future leaders of the country and helping them helps our country. If not seriously addressed, child labour will eventually lead to an increase in poverty, high population rates, and school dropout rates, preventing thus our country from having a future.

3. Project name: **Alabaster Jars**

Country: South Africa

Organisation: First City Baptist Church

Person responsible: Donnae Thomas

Alabaster Jars is currently working with unemployed, disadvantaged and homeless men and women who attend our Tuesday morning program. It also cares for a group of commercial sex workers whom we visit at a local park. They join us in the church bus and we spend time talking with them.

Our main focus for both groups is sharing the Gospel and giving all the opportunity to hear God's Word. They also receive a sandwich and tea or juice and may make an appointment to speak with our social worker, if they so choose. We assist with grocery items, food parcels, I.D. books and clothing, which are "earned" on a points system. We are currently working through "The Word of God is like..." with them and encourage everyone who can to read the Bible.

4. Project name: **Setting up Bhutanese Baptist Women's Fellowship**

Country: Bhutan

Organisation: Asian Baptist Women's Union

Person responsible: Precy Caranongan; Zirsangliana Ralte

The project is set up to help a first time attempt to organise a Bhutanese Baptist Women's Fellowship. The conference planned will provide one training and equipping module to help the women see why and how Baptist women need to come together and how they can connect to women around the world

Send Offering Receipts to the Appropriate Continental Union

North American Baptist Women's Union

NABWU
P.O. Box 282
Bordentown, NJ 08505-0282 USA
The checks need to be made out to
NABWU.

Note: Canadians can give through
their member body. Please see
www.nabwu.org for the address.

Baptist Women's Union of Africa

Name of Bank:
First Bank Corporation (FBC)
Account Number: 1025150550117
Swift code: FBCPZHWA
Branch: Zvishavane
Branch code: 8508
98 Robert Mugabe Way
Zvishavane, Zimbabwe

Asian Baptist Women's Union

Account Name:
CECILLIA MELANIE PALANDENG
US\$ Savings Account Number:
026-221-142-6
Name of Bank: Bank Central Asia
Bank Address: BCA Cabang Manado
JL. Sam Ratulangi Kav 17-19
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Baptist Women's Union of Latin America

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President at:
saradebarrios@hotmail.com for
information on how and where
to wire your offering.

Baptist Women's Union of the South West Pacific

For more information on how to
send in your offering please contact
BWUSWP Treasurer, Fran Benfell at
fran_benfell@xtra.co.nz
or admin@bwuswp.com.

Online Giving

Donations can now be made online
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will be sent with 50% designated to
the appropriate Continental Union
and 50% to the BWA WD.



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Baptist World Alliance Women's Department and the BWA

Please pray for the leadership of the BWA Women's Department: Ksenija Magda, President, Kathy James, Secretary Treasurer, and the Continental Presidents. In particular pray for the operational challenges that the Women's Department is facing at the moment.

Pray for the Interim Executive Director, Moreen Sharp, as she takes on the work in the Falls Church Women's Department office. May the Lord provide for all her needs and give her the wisdom and strength for the work. Also pray as we start the search process for new executive leaders.

Pray for the Women's Department Global Leadership Conference planned for Rio de Janeiro in 2020, as preparations begin and decisions must be made. In particular, pray that we can meet the goal of bringing together 2000 Baptist Women. Please also pray for the success of the BWA Celebration 2020 which will follow after our conference. Do you hear God calling you to participate in both?

Pray for the President of the BWA, Paul Misiza, and the General Secretary, Neville Callam, and for the entire BWA as they prepare to appoint a new General Secretary.



2017 Day of Prayer Prayer Requests



The Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer

Program is Published by:

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North America

Pray for an enduring spirit of commitment and generosity as Baptist women work daily to welcome and help re-settle the many refugees who arrive in North America.

Pray for the hundreds of murdered or missing indigenous women and their families throughout North America whose police cases have yet to be solved.

Pray for acts of unity and cooperation among North American Baptist women that seek to encourage one another and build up His kingdom.

Pray for protection of young girls from human traffickers.



Pray that both older and younger Baptist women may open their ears to hear from one another and that all will respond with hearts of compassion.

Pray that Baptist women will take seriously their responsibility to care for the environment and set an example of good stewardship towards God's creation.

Europe

The whole of Europe has very challenging years ahead. Looking at the map you may colour it with different colors for the prayers. Our very 'red' region is the Middle-East: Syria and the countries surrounding it live through a painful, sad, dark, and alarming times. Let us lift up our voices to the Lord for this region, asking for mercy, peace, and good leaders who will be able to stop the barbarity and useless killings. May the Lord step in to stop the senseless destruction, devastation, and death.

The colour 'black' represents the feeling of loss which many experienced. Let us pray to the Lord to comfort the wounded men, women and children, especially widows and orphans, in the lands devastated by war and conflict as they cope with injuries, pain and shock. May the Lord strengthen and comfort Christians who are under pressure from the devil and ready to be martyrs for the Lord. Let their blood and sacrifice be seeds for the kingdom of God.

Latin America

Pray for the women of the younger generation in our churches that as the Women's Union, we can attend to their integral growth (personal, emotional and spiritual). Pray that mature leaders of our Women's Unions will invest in young women, imparting tools for their development as servants of the Lord.

Pray that the Gospel can continue to spread in our countries and, at the same time, strengthen the Women's Union in each Baptist Church.

Pray for the life and ministry of our pastors and leaders in each of the countries that make up Latin American Women's Baptist Union (UFBAL).

Pray for God's provision of the necessary resources so that the missionary work of Spanish speaking women in each country of Latin America, and also in Texas, New York and New Jersey can flourish.



Pray for the children and youth in the congregations of Latin America.

Pray also that Baptist women are prepared to serve them in their emotional, physical and spiritual needs.

Pray for the necessary resources to assist the development and execution of the projects that UFBAL will support in the next 5 years.

Pray for the new leadership of UFBAL. May the Lord give us the strategies, resources, ideas, and strength which this ministry requires.

2017 Day of Prayer Prayer Requests

South-West pacific

Pray for people caught up in political turmoil, domestic violence, abuse of women and children in West Papua and Papua New Guinea.

Pray for unity and love among the church leaders in the Papuan Baptist churches which is affecting the Baptist women in their leadership and unity. Pray especially for the women leaders who should understand and speak up for the concerns of the women they represent.

Pray for the Australian Baptist Women as they motivate women of the younger generation to participate and be trained for leadership roles, in particular such that help women in domestic violence contexts and will be involved in visits to remote areas to encourage the women in the Outback communities.

Pray for the women of Fiji who are dealing with the aftermath of the recent cyclone Winston (the 2nd strongest cyclone on record), as they carry the burden of extra responsibility for the caring for the family and as they search for food, water, shelter and financial means.



Pray for the Baptist women of the region, especially in Australia and New Zealand to reconnect to the global concerns of women through the Day of Prayer.

Pray for the financial needs of those women's groups visiting women in remote rural areas who are unable to visit meetings or conferences in the cities.



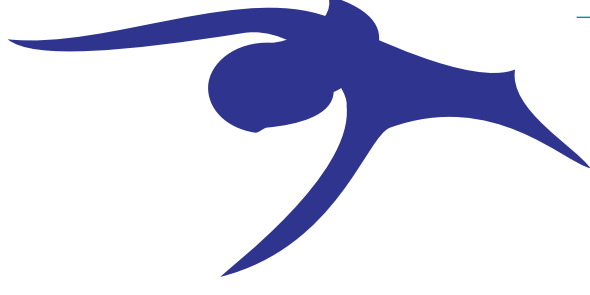
The old continent – the big and strong countries – are 'purple' because of fear. Bewilderment, confusion and misunderstanding are spread all around in the continent. There is a desire to help the refugees, to find the solution for the migrants' situation, to fight the challenge of xenophobia, and overcome the fear of terrorism. Pray for the Christians to find the right way of offering a helping hand to the people in need. Give thanks to the Lord for those who are in charge already, and doing their best for the glory of God.

There are other regions of Europe and we may think of these as the colour 'orange' with strife and nationalism and struggle between brother nations and even within one nation. Let us pray for reconciliation, so the communities are not destroyed, but instead reach out to each other. To make the strong weak is a weapon in the hand of the devil. Let us pray for Christian Europe to be enlightened through committed Christians so that the Lord kingdom be recognizable already here, on this Earth.

Pray also for the people who we connect with the colour of 'green' – which represents a false peace. In many lives we see indifference, carelessness, selfishness, and

abandonment of the values which were the strength of Christian nations. Let us pray for the Lord to bless Europe with the revival of these Christian values so that churches are strengthened, and congregations encouraged.

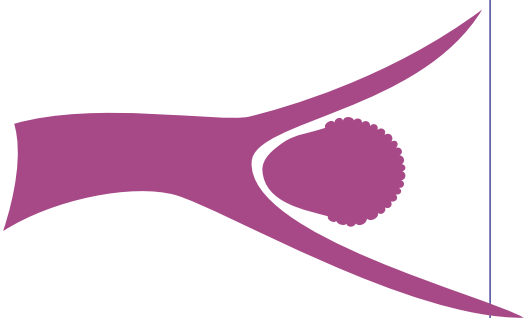
Let us see 'yellow' as a shining colour, which strengthens women in Europe to be active, smart with answers for the challenges of their daily life. We see much darkness, but God sent His Son to bring hope and life to this Earth as is in Heaven. Jesus Christ conquered the darkness and we should have no fear of death. Pray for each of us to be strong to share the message of love, to share the faith and the hope in the darkness.



Africa

Thank God for the outgoing Executive Committee of the Baptist Women's Union of Africa and pray for the new incoming Committee so they would have wisdom from God in their new roles.

Pray for African political leaders who pass laws, policies, and practices, so they would pass the much needed regulations to reduce high rates of corruption currently dominating the entire continent.



Pray for the All Africa Baptist Fellowship (AABF) Executive Committee and the General Secretary as they exercise their leadership roles.

Pray for the need for African business people to create industries that will generate jobs African workers need.

Pray for God's intervention on harsh economic conditions currently affecting most African countries

Pray for Baptist outreach in North Africa currently dominated by the Islamic religion.

The Caribbean

Pray that young people will find meaningful employment and be more committed to the Lord.

Pray that more women may experience a greater sense of calling and commitment to the Lord as they allow Him to shine through them.

Pray that more women, especially

those from the younger generations, will commit to leadership at local and national levels.

Pray for women who suffer sexual abuse as well as those in situations of domestic violence: May they find the strength to stand up to abusers and leave protecting their lives and their children.

Pray for the various Governments of the Caribbean region so that they would work in unity for the development of their peoples.

Pray for Christian women of the Caribbean to arise and shine and let the glory of the Lord shine through them to others, thus expanding the Kingdom of God.

Asia

Pray for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in Asia.

Pray for the unity of believers in Indonesia to make a stronger Christian witness in the government and in the society.

Pray for the believers in Sri Lanka that they can live in peace with other religions.

Pray that the Nepal Baptist Church Council will be able to build their own building.

Pray for the preparations for the 13th Assembly of the Asian Baptist Women's Union. Pray for the delegates' financial sufficiency to attend and participate in the programs of the Assembly, including the election of officers from 2018-2023.



Pray for the growth of believers and churches in Bhutan. Pray for their safety.

