

N.S.W. STATE UNIT OFFICE BEARERS.

PRESIDENT.

Miss Phyl McKinnirey.
8 Fletcher St,
NORTHMEAD. 2152.
(02) 630-3536.

SECRETARY.

Mrs Edith Ridge.
54 New Line Rd,
WEST PENNANT HILLS. 2125.
(02) 875-1200.

TREASURER.

Mrs Dorothy Lumb.
69 Myall St,
CONCORD WEST. 2138.
(02) 743-3360.

SPECIAL DAYS CONVENOR. (PROMOTIONS).

Mrs Peg Blake.
22 Parkview St,
MIRANDA. 2228.
(02) 524-9397.

NEWSETTE SECRETARY.

Mrs Marie Majoor.
521 Mowbray Rd,
LANE COVE. 2066.
(02) 428-2384. (Evenings and weekends
only.)

Fellowship Day



Christ
our Example.



John 13:15a

Australian
Church Women

1992

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN
FELLOWSHIP DAY 1992

Theme: "Christ Our Example."

CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Opening Prayer

LEADER: People of God - arise.
Arise and lift your hearts
Arise and lift your eyes
Arise and lift your voices.

The living God,
The living, moving Spirit of God has called us together -
in witness, in celebration, in struggle.

Reach out towards each other,
for God reaches out towards us!

Let us praise God!

HYMN: AHB No. 25 "Sing Praise and Thanksgiving"

LEADER: Glory to you, Almighty God!
You spoke, and light came out of darkness,
order from confusion.
You breathed into the dust of the earth,
and we were formed in your image.
You looked on the work of your hands,
and declared that it was good.

ALL: AND STILL YOU SPEAK, BREATHE AND LOOK FOR US.
WE PRAISE YOU!

LEADER: Glory to you, Jesus Christ!
You met us as a refugee, a threatened child,
the word made flesh, born in a forgotten place.
You called us by name, to leave what was comfortable,
to be your disciples, companions and friends.
You saved us by kneeling at our feet, stretching your arms
wide to take away our sins, walking through death to
life again.

ALL: AND STILL YOU MEET, CALL AND SAVE US.
WE PRAISE YOU!

.2.

LEADER: Glory to you, Holy Spirit.
You brooded over chaos,
mothering and shaping God's new creation.
You inspired prophets and evangelists
to discover the right word for the right season,
You liberated the early church for missions,
claiming all of life for the Lord of all.

ALL: AND STILL YOU BROOD OVER, INSPIRE AND LIBERATE US.
WE PRAISE YOU!

LEADER: Glory to you, God, Three-in-one!
In prayers, relationships and service, we seek
to follow the example of Christ.

ALL: LORD, HELP US TO SEE LIFE AS JESUS SAW IT.
GRANT US THE MIND THAT WAS IN HIM.
OPEN OUR HEARTS TO THE LIFE YOU MAKE POSSIBLE.
AMEN.

CHRIST IS OUR EXAMPLE IN PRAYER

LEADER: He knew the need to spend time alone with His Father,
the source of His inner strength.

HYMN: AHB No. 165 "What a Friend we have in Jesus".

BIBLE READING: Mark 1: 32 - 35

ALL: O SPIRIT OF GOD, SET AT REST THE CROWDED, HURRYING,
ANXIOUS THOUGHTS OF OUR HEARTS AND MINDS.
LET THE PEACE AND QUIET OF YOUR PRESENCE TAKE
POSSESSION OF US.
HELP US TO RELAX, TO BECOME OPEN AND RECEPTIVE TO YOU.
YOU KNOW OUR INMOST THOUGHT, THE HIDDEN UNCONSCIOUS LIFE
WITHIN US, THE FORGOTTEN MEMORIES OF FEAR AND HURTS,
THE FRUSTRATED DESIRES, THE UNRESOLVED TENSIONS.
CLEANSE AND SWEETEN THE SPRINGS OF OUR BEING, THAT
FREEDOM, LIFE AND LOVE MAY FLOW INTO BOTH OUR CONSCIOUS
AND HIDDEN LIFE.
LORD, WE ARE OPEN BEFORE YOU, WAITING FOR YOUR PEACE,
YOUR HEALING, AND YOUR WORD.
AMEN.

Silence

BIBLE READING: John 17: 9 - 11

.3.

LEADER: As Christ prayed for His friends, so we too pray for others in our prayers of intercession.

Glory to You, Father God, for your love and compassion for us, and for all people.

Hear us as we pray - for justice and peace in our society, for the overcoming of barriers of fear, resentment and distrust.

ALL: LORD, WE PRAY.

LEADER: For those who suffer want and anxiety, through lack of work.

ALL: LORD, WE PRAY.

LEADER: For those who are separated from their families, and those who have no home or family.

ALL: LORD, WE PRAY.

LEADER: For the victims of drought and famine throughout the world, for the generous sharing of the world's resources.

ALL: LORD, WE PRAY.

LEADER: For all who suffer trials and afflictions, and who need kindness and help.

ALL: LORD, WE PRAY.

LEADER: May all who have found You, stay rooted in your love, may they grow in goodness and truth.

ALL: LORD, WE PRAY.

LEADER: We remember especially.....(something relevant to A.C.W. or A.C.W.C. or own area at this time) AMEN

SILENCE

LEADER: Jesus gave an example in the prayer He taught His disciples...

ALL: OUR FATHER... (Lord's Prayer)

AMEN.

.4.

CHRIST IS OUR EXAMPLE IN RELATIONSHIPS

HYMN: AHB No. 503 "O Brother Man". Please sing first line as "Children of God, fold to your heart each other".

BIBLE READING: John 4: 4 - 14

~~2x SOLOS CHOIR, DRAMA OR DANCE~~

ADDRESS: Speaker...

ALL: LORD, POUR YOUR LOVE INTO US, SO THAT WE MAY MEET PEOPLE WITH THE COMPASSION OF CHRIST, AND SO FOLLOW HIS EXAMPLE.

OFFERING - for Winifred Kiek Scholarship (collected during a musical interlude)

PRAYER: O LORD, OUR GOD, WE THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR GIFTS TO EVERY ONE OF US. WE THANK YOU FOR EACH ONE OF OUR WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARS, AND FOR ALL THE PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD WHOSE LIVES THEY HAVE TOUCHED.

WE THANK YOU FOR UNACCOUNTABLE BLESSINGS UPON SO MANY, THROUGH THIS MINISTRY.

WE ASK, FATHER, IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS, THAT YOU WILL BLESS THESE OFFERINGS AND BLESS THE WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLAR FOR 1992,

IN HER WORK AND STUDIES AND THROUGHOUT HER LIFE.

MAY SHE ALWAYS BE AWARE OF YOUR GUIDING HAND AND THE SUPPORT OF HER CHRISTIAN SISTERS IN AUSTRALIA.

AMEN.

CHRIST IS OUR EXAMPLE IN SERVICE

LEADER: Serving God means having the mind of Christ. Jesus washed the feet of His disciples.

He said, "I have set you an example, you are to do as I have done for you."

BIBLE READING: John 13: 3 - 17

HYMN: No. 14 in Sing Alleluia - "Servant Song"

1. Brother, Sister, let me serve you
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

2. We are pilgrims on a journey
And companions on the road;
We are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.
3. I will hold the Christ-light for you
In the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.
4. I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.
5. When we sing to God in heaven
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.
6. Brother, Sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

(Richard Gillard 1977
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ALL: MAY CHRIST BE WITH US,
CHRIST BEFORE US,
CHRIST IN US,
CHRIST OVER US,
MAY YOUR SALVATION, O LORD, BE ALWAYS OURS THIS DAY
AND EVERMORE.

LEADER: (BENEDICTION) The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God, and the fellowship of
the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. AMEN.

Permission granted - from Wild Goose Publications/Iona Community,
Glasgow, Scotland for part of prayer "Glory
to You".
Also for part of prayer page 3, from TAIZE,
"Praying Together".

N.S.W. STATE UNIT NEWS.

- * Plan to attend a World Community Day Service in a church near you, during October.
The special offering will go to the work of 1990 Winifred Kiek Scholar, Doreen Tie, in Kuching.
 - * Remember the Fellowship of the Least Coin collections for dedication at World Community Day Services.
 - * A list of recommended speakers for your services is now available. Please ask the State Promotions Convenor for a copy.
 - * World Day of Prayer Committee welcomes all helpers to the Packing Days held in Bible House each October. Rose Hunter, 569-8613, will give you more information. This year the dates are October 19 & 20, but check with Rose before you go on the second day.
 - * Partners with ACWC, a project of ACW. What is it? NSW gives \$500 each year to assist the Asian Church Women's Conference, of which we are a part. If 500 women gave \$1 each year, we would not need to take anything out of our general account. Sign up today. The State Treasurer, Dorothy Lumb, can receive this money.
 - * Have you seen our NSW Unit paper, "NEWSETTE"? At only \$4 per annum, posted, it is good value for all the news printed in each copy. Four issues a year. Send your name and address to Marie Majoor with the \$4 subscription.
 - * See the back cover of this service for NSW Unit office bearers and their addresses.
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- * This Order of Service has been prepared by the Western Australia Unit of Australian Church Women.
 - * WORLD COMMUNITY DAY, October 1992, will be prepared by the Victoria Unit. THEME: "Forgive us as we forgive"