

**FELLOWSHIP OF THE  
LEAST COIN**



**GLOBAL MOVEMENT OF PRAYER  
FOR PEACE JUSTICE AND  
RECONCILIATION**

**1989**

# FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN

Fellowship of the Least Coin is a movement of faith in God's miraculous power, seeing God's love for small efforts and acts.

Fellowship of the Least Coin is a movement of prayer and expressing the love and concern for the peace of others.

It is a movement of peoples.

It is a movement of sharing.

It is a movement which has the character of continuity and growth.

It is a movement of trust in each other's prayers and concerns.

It is an expression of solidarity.

For it is a magnificent heritage, a blend of spirituality where prayer and giving of the Least Coins is offered for others, then the coins of least importance and value become potential resources to help comfort for the needy. This act starts the action of creating peace.

This movement is shared by people, breaking all the <sup>barriers</sup> ~~barrier~~ which exists on the basis of material, social intellect<sup>and</sup> and religious behaviours. It remains at grassroot not with the concept and feelings that is conquered on that level, but it's uniqueness has to be preserved to transmit the joy of practicing it with a very clear understanding that God likes our giving if made with humility and grace.

Dear Members of the Fellowship of the Least Coin.

Everyday we wake up to a world that appears more disturbed and disordered. The hatred is increasing resulting in killing more human lives. The fear of the use of nuclear arms is deep seated in the minds of people all around the world. Drug addiction is killing many lives while drug business is bringing incredible riches to some everyday. Many people, mostly children and women are dying of malnutrition a cruel death. Minorities are marginalized and oppressed, ethnic groups are fighting for their identity and rights. In spite of the fact that we live in this kind of world, I wish you peace in the name of the prince of peace.

God has given me the privilege of serving Fellowship of the Least Coin, a movement of prayer for peace, justice and reconciliation. I thank God that there are hosts of women who are working with me for the cause of promoting FLC. I take pleasure to bring greetings to you on behalf of all the members of FLC. These women are working as the 'Salt of the earth' They are also working like a woman who lost her coin. She started her search for the valuable coin and continued it till the time she found it. She included her community in her experience of joy of finding her coin. We the members of FLC search for peace justice and reconciliation.

Fellowship of the Least Coin is a movement of prayer born in the soil of Asia. It was a vision of Shanti Solomon, an Indian woman. Her vision for the Fellowship of the Least Coin was based on the symbol of the total giving of the woman who gave all that she had, the two mites. The experience grew in ever widening circles and is treasured by the women around the world. It has become a world wide movement that has deep meaning at the grass root in many parts of the world.

The Fellowship of the Least Coin has deepened world Christian Fellowship by enabling women to come together. The presence of participants of International committee for the Fellowship of the Least Coin in your midst is the symbol of world wide fellowship and solidarity. FLC is the most striking project in the ecumenical movement today. It is a modest way of manifesting international solidarity in the present world. It plays a very vital role for Christian unity for the women of different denominations in local setting of each country. It brings people together with each other. It is a timely movement to promote peace justice and reconciliation to create a civilization of love on our earth.

Fellowship of the Least Coin is a gift of prayer and love. Anyone who wishes to become the member promises to spend sometime with God in prayer emptying herself of all her grievances, prejudices in the presence of God and learning of God's reconciling love for humankind. After spending some time in prayer she puts aside the smallest coin of her country. The gift of prayer and coin are given in the secret presence in homes, humble or high, poor or prosperous but given with a concern for some one else. It becomes a way of participation in the fellowship of love.

FLC is an unique movement, the contribution which is collected is never announced. The identities of the givers are kept secret in relation to their gifts. The gifts collected represent the accumulation of prayers in remembrance of those who are in need around the world. The need may be spiritual as well as physical.

FLC has helped with temporary help to meet the challenge of the day. The love and concern of FLC members is demonstrated in various ways in which the fund has been used for the projects to alleviate human

suffering, to fight for the cause of the oppression and injustices, to help women to become aware of their worth and dignity. FLC contributes to the total uplifting of all persons so that they can take their rightful place in society.

Fellowship of the Least Coin has expressed its strong support to Ecumenical Decade - Churches in solidarity with women. It has always shown interest in the issues of women and improving conditions for women.

Promotional material of FLC - FLC brochure, prayer card, promotional brochure, container, FLC history containing the description of projects received FLC grant 1989 are available. FLC prayer card can be used each day, can also be incorporated in an act of 'dedication of gifts of coins. For the meaningful promotion of FLC, translation in regional or local languages of FLC material is expected from the members all around the world.

'Circle of prayer Vol XI' basing on the theme Justice..... Peace..... Creation..... Let us act is ready for use. 'Circle of prayer a devotional booklet is published biennially. Each month's meditation is written by a woman of a different country. French and Spanish translations are done by ICFLC. Some countries take upon themselves to translate it in their own language. I would like to quote from a letter of a member from Uruguay. "The meditations are used in the local group meeting, where they are read aloud, giving rise to comments, information and explanations. The prayers and meditations are very much appreciated in the groups, as a means of fellowship with women all over the world. You certainly can imagine what it means for a small group of women in a rural area to listen to the voices of women from Egypt, Lebanon, Africa, India or your own country" I am sure this is the experience of many women.

Fellowship of the Least Coin is interested to continue as a prayer-movement not as a fund raising or a donor agency. FLC always appreciates the direct link with the women at grass root. It is very important that the members try their best to stress the prayerful action and that the emphasis is put on reconciliation. The members of FLC learn to live in faith that through our prayers and actions attitude of people will change and we will experience the miraculous power of God.

I would like to wish you God's blessings in your different tasks. My prayer is that you feel more close to God so you allow the creative energy of the universe to find its channels in you and you may feel moving in surer directions in your life with renewed hope and faith.

Shalom.  
Yours in Christ  
Shirin Samuel.  
Executive Secretary &  
FLC promoter.

The Fellowship of the Least Coin (FLC) is an ecumenical Movement of prayer for Peace, Justice and Reconciliation. Together in a fellowship of prayer, the women learn afresh to forgive and love their neighbours and to share the concern of God's people throughout the world.

The Fellowship of the Least Coin Movement is simple, yet significant and unique.

The offering is unique because all, whether rich or poor, educated or illiterate, women of the cities or rural women, give only the smallest coin of their currency. All are within the same discipline and share the common concerns of women around the world.

It brings Christian women together in a fellowship of prayer without any discrimination of race, nationality, colour, culture or denomination. The Christian women of the world have solidarity with each other through their common concern and love for humankind. Women throughout the world are bound together in both giving and receiving.

It is a stewardship, both of the idea as well as of the Fund. These least coins when put together, become a large amount in the same way individual prayers offered by many members throughout the world become a strong force in bringing about reconciliation, peace and justice.

#### GIFTS OF LOVE.

The Least Coin fund is used to give grants for projects all over the world. These grants are "Gifts of love" because the least coins are offered with a prayer for peace, justice and reconciliation.

#### HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER.

Anyone, who wishes to join the Fellowship of the Least Coin promises to spend some time with God in prayer, emptying herself of all her grievances, prejudices and in the presence of God, learning of God's reconciling love for humankind. At the same time she upholds in prayer, those for whom she is concerned in her home, her community, her country and in the world.

This prayer of reconciliation can be offered as many times as the need is felt, but at least once a month by every member. After spending some time in prayer, she puts aside the smallest coin in current use of her country as a tangible token of prayer of reconciliation, forgiveness and peace. Women collect these coins once a year through their women's organisations and have a special blessing on them in a service of dedication. The total amount is then sent to National Headquarters of the organisation. From there it is sent to the common fund which is administered by an International Committee for the Fellowship of the Least Coin. (ICFLC)

The Banker of the Fellowship of the Least Coin (FLC) fund - to whom contributions should be forwarded is:

Department of Finance  
World Council of Churches  
150 - Route de Ferney  
CH - 1211, Geneva, 20  
Switzerland.

The amount collected in each country is never announced. Only the total sum collected each year is mentioned. The FLC is primarily not a fund raising project, but a Movement of prayer for Peace, Justice and Reconciliation. Each local group decides what should be its smallest coin keeping in mind that the poorest woman in the group should be able to give without feeling the pinch of giving. These coins can be collected in symbolic containers, e.g. in India, they are collected in tiny clays pots, empty boxes are used in yugoslavia etc.

#### PROMOTIONAL LITERATURE.

1. The brochure of the "Fellowship of the Least Coin"
2. "Circle of prayer" a devotional booklet published by the ICFLC. Each month's meditation is by a woman of a different country.
3. "Fellowship of the Least Coin" a quadrennial report of projects which received grants from FLC funds.
4. Prayer card of the "Fellowship of the Least Coin"
5. Promotional brochure of the "Fellowship of the Least Coin"
6. Container of the "Fellowship of the Least Coin"
7. Sticker of the "Fellowship of the Least Coin"

Badges of the "fellowship of the Least Coin"

At present these publications and badges can be obtained from:

Mrs. Shirin Samue.  
Executive Secretary  
International Committee for  
Fellowship of the Least Coin,  
113 Qasim Road P.O. Box 204  
Multan Cantt, Pakistan.

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#### FLC GRANT FOR 1989 REGIONAL WOMEN'S PROGRAMMES.

Africa:	10,000.00 US \$	
Caribbean:	10,000.00 US \$	
Ecumenical Forum of European Christian women		10,000.00 US \$
Latin America:	10,000.00 US \$	
North America/ Canada:	10,000.00 US \$	
Pacific:	10,000.00 US \$	
World Day of Prayer:	10,000.00 US \$	
World Council of Churches sub unit on women:		15,000.00 US \$