

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

Australian Church Women came into being in 1965, bringing together the existing State Women's Inter-Church Councils, prepared to share common tasks and undertake united action. Through Australian Church Women, we are linked with Asian Church Women and send representatives to their Assembly, held every four years.

Australian Church Women form a network of committed Christian women dedicated to encouraging fellowship and service across denominational and national boundaries.

SPECIAL PROJECTS:

FELLOWSHIP DAY: 'The Winifred Kiek Scholarship'

- Observed during the last week in July.

WORLD COMMUNITY DAY - offerings assist a service project

- Observed during the last week in October.

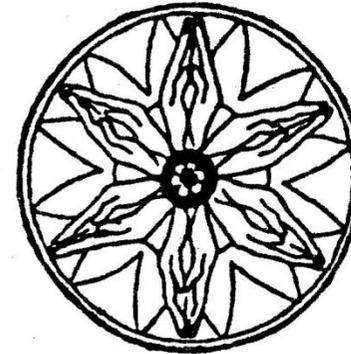
FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN

An ecumenical movement of prayer for peace and reconciliation which brings together all Christian women regardless of race, colour, culture or denomination, rich or poor as they put aside the least coin of their realm and offer a prayer. Australia is one of sixty countries linked in this fellowship.

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All offerings and donations to Australian Church Women should be forwarded through your State Treasurer.

**AUSTRALIAN CHURCH
WOMEN**



**WORLD
COMMUNITY
DAY
1982**



CALL TO CELEBRATE

LEADER: This is the day that the Lord has made,
let us rejoice and be glad in it!

PEOPLE: LET US REJOICE TOGETHER!

LEADER: In Christian love and concern, with women of Asia,
we come together!

PEOPLE: AS ONE IN CHRIST WE COME TOGETHER!

LEADER: Let us support one another and acknowledge our need
to be a vital part of the World Community.
Coming together let us accept God's love for us
and for the whole of His World.
Let us seek, through God's grace, to understand our
similarities and differences, our unity and
diversity, our hopes and struggles, our tears and
laughter, and through the power of the Holy Spirit
to enhance Christian influence and involvement in
the Asian Church and Society.
Coming together today let us pray that through
trust in each other we determine to build a more
responsible community.

PEOPLE: WE COME TOGETHER IN YOUR NAME AND BY YOUR GRACE,
O GOD.

HYMN: (Tunes: One-fifty or Vienna 77.77) A.H.B. 108

*Praise the Lord with joyful cry;
let the mood of praise run high.
Praise him who with mighty deeds
human greatness far exceeds.*

*Praise him with the sound that swings
with percussion, brass and strings.
Let the world at every chance
praise him with a song and dance.*

*Praise with life and voice the Lord,
him who speaks in deed and word,
who to life the world ordained;
let our praise be unrestrained!*

Frederik Herman Kaan, 1929-
Words from Pilgrim Praise - used by permission of Stainer
and Bell.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS - LEADER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Proverbs 3:3-10

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON John 14:4-17

HYMN: (Tune Tallis Ordinal - 86.86) A.H.B. 312

*O Holy Spirit, Lord of grace,
eternal fount of love,
inflame, we pray, our inmost hearts
with fire from heaven above.*

*As thou in bond of love dost join
the Father and the Son,
so fill us all with mutual love
and knit our hearts in one.*

ADDRESS

HYMN: (Tunes: Song 1 or Unde et Memores 10 10.10 10.10 10)
A.H.B. 513

*Eternal ruler of the ceaseless round
of circling planets singing on their way,
Guide of the nations from the night profound
into the glory of the perfect day:
rule in our hearts, that we may ever be
guided and strengthened and upheld by thee.*

*We would be one in hatred of all wrong,
one in our love of all things sweet and fair,
one with the joy that breaks forth into song,
one with the grief that trembles into prayer,
one in the power that makes the children free
to follow truth and thus to follow thee.*

*O clothe us with thy heavenly armour, Lord,
thy trusty shield, thy sword of love divine;
our inspiration be thy constant word;
we ask no victories that are not thine;
give or withhold, let pain or pleasure be;
enough to know that we are serving thee.*

John White Chadwick 1840-1904

OFFERING FOR THE ABORIGINAL AND ISLANDER DEVELOPMENT FUND
(see page 7)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION - LEADER.

LEADER: Let us now thank God for the strength and blessings he has given his pilgrim people. Living God, we thank you for every servant of yours who has spoken out truly and courageously, and ventured into dangerous places and difficult situations, to open up truth and to create peace and justice.

PEOPLE: WE GIVE THANKS FOR ALL WHO, THROUGH THE CENTURIES, HAVE SHARED CHRIST'S LOVE AND SUFFERING, AND HAVE TRIUMPHED THROUGH THEIR TRIALS.

LEADER: We thank you for the people of our times who still stand for the truth which Christ has brought us and who work for the future he has promised; who stand up to governments and choose hardship and pain rather than live a lie.

PEOPLE: FATHER MAKE US LIKE THEM, KEEP US TRUE TO THE TRUTH WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN, FAITHFUL AND COURAGEOUS, LOVING AND GENEROUS.

LEADER: We pray for people who hunger for justice and freedom, and those whose hunger is for food. For all who suffer from wars, past and present, that our compassion may reach out to our sisters and brothers.

PEOPLE: O FATHER, YOU GIVE FOOD TO ALL YOUR CREATURES, SATISFY OUR HUNGER NOT JUST FOR FOOD BUT FOR FREEDOM, TRUTH, JUSTICE AND LOVE. AMEN.

ACT OF COMMITMENT (in unison)

Lord, reveal to us Your purpose that we may confidently step into the future. Give us insight of what we might be and the grace to rise above our doubts, fears and failures so that we may attain full liberty and splendour as Your people.

Grant us the vision of what our world might become, cleansed of corruption, greed and selfishness - a just society where colour, creed and station no longer divide people from each other, where we are united as one in Christ.

Grant us the vision of a new society where hatred and prejudice no longer set people at variance with each other and where the instruments of war and death will be replaced with the tools of justice and peace.

Enable the Church, O Heavenly Father, and give wisdom and understanding to Christian people in the problems of politics, commerce, labour, unemployment, hunger, insecurity and narrow-mindedness.

We pray, O Lord, for peace and wisdom in the reality of Your power, through the Holy Spirit, as together we face today and the future.

Above all, keep us loyal to Jesus Christ and joyful in Him whose victory we celebrate and to whom we give all glory and praise as we dedicate ourselves to His Service.
Amen.

DEDICATION OF FELLOWSHIP OF LEAST COIN TOKENS.

Soft music as these are brought forward.

ALL: Dear Lord, grant that as we offer our least coins, our hearts may overflow with love. Humble our spirits to serve. Make us channels of love and justice, ready to serve You. Send us forth to do Your bidding. In Jesus's name. Amen.

HYMN: (Tune: Regent Square or Byrn Calfaria 87.87.47 extended)
A.H.B. 543

God of Grace and God of glory,
On thy people pour Thy power,
Crown thine ancient church's story,
Bring the bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
For the facing of each hour,
For the facing of each hour.

Lo, the clouds of evil round us
Hide thy brightness from our gaze
From the fears that long have bound us;
Free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
For the living of these days,
For the living of these days.

Cure thy children's warring madness,
Teach us good and peaceful goals.
Shame our proud and selfish gladness,
Rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
In our seeking to be whole,
In our seeking to be whole.

Fill us with a living vision
Heal our wounds that we may be
Bound as one beyond division
In the journey to be free.
Grant us wisdom, Grant us courage,
Ears to hear and eyes to see
Ears to hear and eyes to see.

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BENEDICTION:

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

WOMEN DARE WOMEN SHARE WOMEN ACT

This service was adapted from one prepared at the request of the National Working Committee by Rev. Beverley Bellingher, Uniting Church in Australia, who attended a consultation organised by the Christian Conference of Asia so that the Church might strengthen its programme for women.

In January, 1981, 26 theologically trained women, representing fourteen countries of Asia and various denominations met in Sukibumi, Indonesia to review the status and role of women, to examine the response of the church to issues relating to women, to explore biblical images of women and to increase our awareness of people's total struggle in the Asian context and foster unity in transforming sections through a living theology.

The challenge of the consultation was for us to take seriously the specific concerns and struggles of women in Asia as they, and we, seek for justice and freedom.

ABORIGINAL AND ISLANDER DEVELOPMENT FUND

The AIDF is a unique Fund operated by and for Aborigines, Torres Strait Islanders and South Sea Islanders in Australia. Established by the Australian Council of Churches in 1976, the Fund operates autonomously under the ACC Aboriginal Advisory Group.

The Fund aims to enable Aborigines and Islanders to develop their communities and their participation in the total Australian community by encouraging, sponsoring or funding:

- a) Community organisation, leadership and personnel training, development of special educational facilities and programmes to foster the development of culture.
- b) Projects and programmes of communities, associations or groups for which they accept full responsibility.
- c) Such other initiatives, action or activities as may assist or contribute to community development.

Grants have been given to:

Geraldton Regional Aboriginal Medical Service
North Coast Aboriginal Co-operative
South Eastern Land Council, Victoria
Gillawarra Medical Centre, Purfleet, N.S.W.
and many other projects.