

Be One That The World May Believe

**REMEMBERING THE STORY OF
FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN
AS A STORY OF PEACEMAKING**

(may ask someone to share this story of how the FLC started)

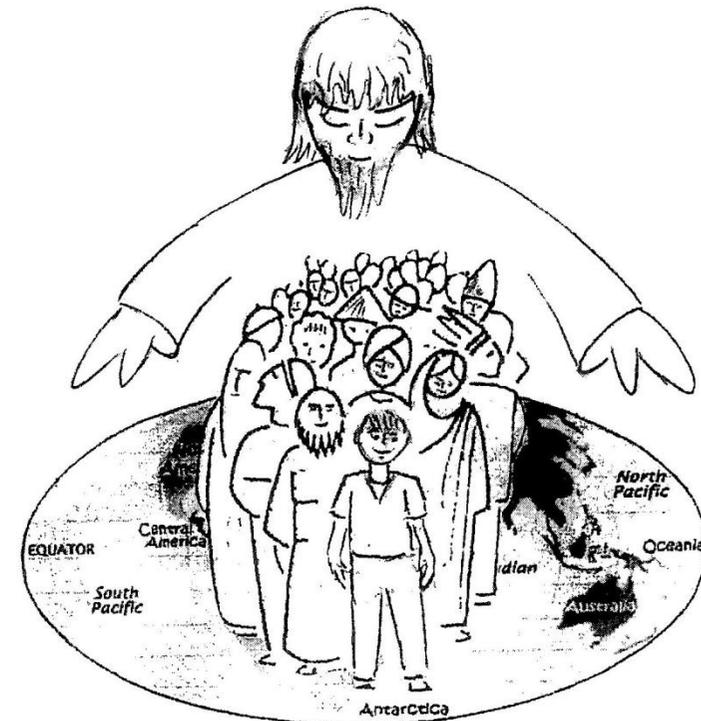
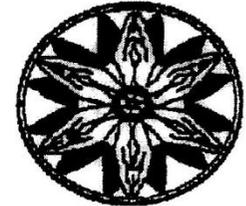
'The idea for the Fellowship of the Least Coin emerged as a vision from God to Mrs. Shanti Solomon of India. She was part of the Pacific Mission Team of seven women from different countries that travelled in Asian countries after World War II, in September 1956. It was organized by Margaret Shannon on behalf of the women of the Presbyterian Church of the United States.

Shanti, who was refused a visa to Korea, went to Manila, Philippines while the other members of the team proceeded to Korea. She reflected on the experiences of their travel in the war torn countries of Asia and was inspired to promote reconciliation, justice and peace.

On the return of the team, she suggested that prayer could transcend every national boundary. She challenged the Christian women of Asia and the women from the Presbyterian Church of the United State to combine their efforts and resources to launch a project of justice, peace and reconciliation on an international basis. It was to be a project of Christian prayer and positive action in which every Christian woman could participate, no matter what her economic position.

Every time a woman prayed she was to set aside a 'least coin' of her currency. It was an encouragement to the women of the team to demonstrate their unity in Christian faith, regardless of their country or economic circumstances. They all accepted it as their sincere desire to express their solidarity with suffering humanity and with women of every nation'.

(FLC Moves and Touches March 2004)



WORLD COMMUNITY DAY 2004

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

Australian Church Women came into being in 1965 when Women's Inter-Church Councils from all States and Territories came together to form Australian Church Women, fostering ecumenism and undertaking action on behalf of Church women. Australian Church Women forms a network of committed Christian women, dedicated to encourage fellowship and service across denominational, national and international boundaries.

Fellowship of the Least Coin monies which have been collected with prayer for peace and reconciliation during the past year are brought to World Community Day Services by groups and individuals, and are dedicated. These funds are then sent to State/Territory Treasurers who forward them to the National Treasurer of Australian Church Women.

The *General Offering* from this Service is to be divided between Asian Church Women's Conference, with which Australian Church Women is affiliated, and which it supports annually, and the 2004 Special Day Project.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Kairos Prison Ministry – This ministry aims to bring Christ's love and forgiveness to prisoners, their families, and those who work with them.

Urban Seed Credo Café Women's Program – This Christian ministry based in Melbourne aims to provide and connect women at the margins of our society with a range of services in a holistic manner.

Today's Order of Service has been prepared by the South Australian Unit of Australian Church Women. Cover design is by Major John McKeand.

PLEASE NOTE: This Order of Service is copyright, and may not be rewritten or otherwise altered, except for the substitution of hymns that are considered to be more suitable, or available in the local situation.

Thank you for your continued support of World Community Day and Fellowship of the Least Coin.

Any further offerings may be sent to the State Treasurer, Australian Church Women in your State/Territory, with a return address included. Please do not write 'Treasurer' on your envelope if posting a donation.

Be One That The World May Believe

ORDER OF SERVICE

WELCOME:

As we gather on this World Community Day we pause to acknowledge the original inhabitants of this land, and welcome you to this Service.

HYMN: In Christ there is no east or west
(AHB 391ii, TiS 459)

PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION:

Leader: Holy God,
Giver of hope and Encourager of life,
we come to you in awe.

You call us to be your people.
May our adoration and praise
give glory and honour to you
this day and always.

Response: AMEN

Leader: Compassionate One, who made us in your image,
we know that so often we ignore your call.

Response: *Forgive us, and open our ears to hear your words in those we meet along life's way.*

Leader: We fail to see you in the people around us — friends,
family and strangers.

Response: *Forgive us, and open our eyes to see your love in those we meet along life's way.*

Leader: Too often we choose our own way, rather than the
way you would have us go, and so miss
opportunities to lend a helping hand.

Response: *Forgive us, and help us to be your hands in a world that needs to know you.*

Leader: We often do things that cause divisions, rather than seeking ways to bring people together in unity.

Response: *Forgive us, and so strengthen us in love, that we may indeed be One that the world may believe. AMEN*

Leader: Friends, Christ has set us free to be His people: Hear then the word of grace and assurance of pardon: Our sins are forgiven.

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Psalm 8

HYMN: Help us, O Lord, to learn (AHB 340 - tune AHB 487)
or Filled with the Spirit's Power (AHB 328 TiS 411)

GOSPEL READING: John 17: 20 - 26

MESSAGE

MUSICAL ITEM or HYMN:

Peace with the Father (AHB 402 TiS 466)

OFFERING FOR FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN
(Music played as gifts are brought forward)

DEDICATION OF OFFERING:

All: O loving Creator, we come into your presence to thank You for all the bountiful gifts of life. We are especially grateful for the Fellowship of the Least Coin which binds us together in love and forgiveness around the globe. Free us from all doubts and prejudices, we pray. Inspire us to live in solidarity with humankind, that we may know the joy of giving and receiving. Dear God, accept these Least Coins as our 'Tokens of Love'. Make us mindful of the miracles of these coins. Let us honour Your creation with love as shown through the life and resurrection of Your Son, Jesus the Christ. AMEN.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:

Leader: Lord God forgive us when we allow divisions to break the bonds of unity of your Church, and cause separation from you.

Response: *We want to be one in the body of Christ.*

Leader: May peace on this earth for which we all so long and pray, begin in the hearts of each one of us.

Response: *So that the world may believe we are one.*

Leader: Lord, renew and stabilize Christian families. Keep them strong in faith, affection and forgiveness towards each other. Protect them from the infiltration of the world's standards towards family life, and help them to put you in the centre of their family unit.

Response: *So that the world may believe we are one.*

Leader: Lord God, empower your Church to be united in warfare against poverty, disease and racial discrimination.

Response: *So that the world may believe we are one.*

Leader: Help us to love as Jesus loved. To follow His example and love without prejudice the unlovable, rejected and misunderstood in our society.

Response: *So that the world may believe we are one.*

Leader: Let your Church be intentional in love and service for no other purpose than to bring glory and honour to Your name.

Response: *So that the world may believe we are one.*

Leader: May your Church rely upon the powerful influence of the Holy Spirit to touch the lives of those who have no hope, no stability, no dreams, and no future on earth or in heaven.

Response: *So that the world will believe that your Church is one.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread, forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. AMEN.

GENERAL OFFERING:

This offering will be collected and shared between Asian Church Women's Conference and our Special Project (Music will be played)

DEDICATION OF OFFERING:

HYMN: Make Us One (Tune AHB 85 or TiS 149)
The will of the Father, the prayer of the Son,
Hear Him, all you people: 'Now let them be one!'
Be done with divisions and folly and pride,
In witness and worship let nothing divide.
Refrain: *Make us one, make us one, as Christ prayed we should be;*
Make us one, make us one, Lord, together yet free;
In worship, in service, in spreading the word,
O let us be one in the name of the Lord!
Made one in our service and one in our care,
Wherever there's need, let your people be there -
The poor and the hungry, the sick and alone,
Come, join in the task that God gives to His own.
We are not our own; we are bought with a price,
And all are redeemed by the one sacrifice,
For Jesus the Shepherd calls now as of old:
'I have other sheep who are not of this fold'.

Then let us reach out, open heart, open mind,
Who knows what new truth a true seeker may find?
So humble and hopeful and loving and strong
We follow the Shepherd to whom we belong.

— Margaret Knauerhase
Uniting Church Adult Fellowships Synod of South Australia

BENEDICTION:

Leader: Go from this place, strong in the knowledge that you are beloved of God.
Go into the world to be His people.
Take His love and light to share with those you meet
Be one, that the World may believe.

The blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with us now, and remain with us always.
AMEN.

BIND US TOGETHER (Songs of Praise 187)

Bind us together Lord, bind us together
with cords that cannot be broken,
Bind us together Lord, bind us together
Bind us together with love.

There is only one God, there is only one King
There is only one Body, that is why I sing.

Bind us together Lord, bind us together,
with cords that cannot be broken
Bind us together Lord, bind us together,
Bind us together with love.

— Copyright unknown

The Congregation may wish to pass the peace as they leave the service.

World Community Day 2004

Hymn Sheet



Hymn One

In Christ there is no east or west,
In Him no north or south,
But one great fellowship of love,
Throughout the whole wide earth.

In Him shall true hearts everywhere
Their high communion find,
His service is the golden cord
Close-binding all mankind.

Join hands then, people of the faith
Whate'er your race may be,
Who serve my Father as a son
Is surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west
In Him meet south and north,
All Christlike souls are one in Him
Throughout the whole wide earth.

Hymn Two

Filled with the Spirit's power, with one accord
The infant church confesses its risen Lord.
O Holy Spirit, in the church today,
No less Your power of fellowship display.

Now with the mind of Christ set us on fire,
That unity may be our great desire;
Give joy and peace, give faith to hear Your call,
And readiness in each to work for all.

Widen our love, good Spirit to embrace
In Your strong care the folk of every race;
Like wind and fire with life among us move
Till we are known as Christ's, and Christians prove

Hymn Three

Peace with the Father, peace with Christ His Son,
Peace with the Spirit, keep us ever one.

Love of the Father, love of Christ His Son,
Love of the Spirit, make all Christians one.

Sin has divided those whom Christ made one,
Father, forgive us through Your loving Son.

Send forth Your Spirit, Father, from above,
On us, Your children, one with Christ in love.

Christians, forgive each other from your heart,
Christ be among us, never more to part.