

PHASE 1 - To introduce the concept of faith community nurses to Christian nurses in Western Australia through ecumenical seminars in metropolitan & regional areas.

PHASE 2 - To conduct a five-day educational course in the theology & practice of faith community nursing within Western Australia to prepare nurses for the new role in the community. This course is planned for March 2002.

At the evening sessions, an explanation of FLC was given aided by a transparency of the logo and the question "What does the Faith Community nurse (FCN) do?" was answered.

The FCN's ministry focuses on 1) nurturing healthy relationships thus promoting health & well being and 2) community health. Faith communities allow people to be connected, to serve & to be served. They provide a common history & destiny for life's journey. They are safe places for growth of spirituality, for blessings, for prayer & to bring all before God's throne of Grace.

Some comments from Clergy:

"The Parish Nurses are indeed a manifest realisation of our parish vision.....reaching out to all in the name of Christ."

"The concept is magnificent! It provides holistic care....."

"It has opened up new dimensions of ministry and enhanced our caring ministry for people."

I found the whole report to be an exciting document and look forward to reading the final report to be presented in April. Ed.

"TOWARDS COMMUNITY"

People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going more quickly and easily because they are travelling on the thrust of one another.



AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN ACW NEWS

We aim:- to unite Christian women in their allegiance to their Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

November 2001 - February 2002

Contributions by March 20 2002 please.

Mrs P C Dolling, 36A Peel St., Mandurah WA 6210

FROM OUR NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Revd Lee Edwards

My dear Friends,

Greetings to all members in Units across the length and breadth of our big country from your new President and Committee. I had a holiday after the Conference in Adelaide, visiting some friends in 4 States - including one I had not seen since 1963! It was great to catch up and I count friendships across the country and around the world a real blessing and gift from God.

I trust the Advent Season was not too hectic and that the Christmas-Epiphany Seasons have been times of happiness and refreshment for all of you.

Those at Conference will remember I offered a 'Presidential visit' to two/three Units in February/ March and I was pleased to receive invitations from Tasmania, NSW and Victoria and we consulted on an itinerary. Imagine my horror when I learnt that from September 15 2001 Qantas Frequent Flyer system has been altered and now 30 000 points allows only one destination!!

As I have been East several times in the past decade, and had made plans to go to Broome with a friend, I'm now going north only for one week in March. I'm truly grateful to the 3 Unit Presidents who made initial plans but am sad at not being able to keep to the itinerary.

At our National Conference, the Bible Studies and the Worship/Devotions led by the Units were highlights and the theme 'Jesus our Living Hope' brought us many insights and a new song by Margaret Knauerhouse. The new theme '**Towards Community**' brings another challenge and builds on the fact of our living hope. In our discussions about the theme, the new National Executive talked about the aim of community with special reference to the ecumenical perspective and our ongoing journey **TOWARDS community**.

We have not arrived at true community while the church is divided and while there is serious injustice in the world. I spoke at Conference of the break-down of community in the Old Testament story - brother vs brother, nation vs nation, internal division within the nation called to be the people of God. The New Testament tells of the life of community that Jesus lived with his followers, of John's vision of a universal city where there will be no temple, sun or moon because God is the light of the community.

As we travel on our journey in community with one another, following Jesus, our goal is to make a commitment to
BE COMMUNITY

where we live
in our church families
within our ecumenical relationships
and in our ACW units.

The invitation to membership of a national government-funded Consortium, under leadership of the National Council of Women, seems to us to be in direct keeping with our theme and we have accepted the invitation to join.

I am to attend the first meeting in Canberra in February – travel being funded on the understanding that accommodation is not! My gratitude goes to the Canberra Unit for hospitality. We'll keep you up to date with news of this Consultative Committee in future ACW NEWS.

Every blessing for a great year of ecumenical fellowship, service and growth.

Grace, peace and love from

LEE.

PROFILE

Lee is a retired Minister of the Word, ordained within the Uniting Church in Australia in 1979, now a Minister in Association at Perth Wesley Mission in the city, after ministering in one rural and two metropolitan parishes in Western Australia and in a Methodist circuit in Yorkshire for 3 years.

Lee is an 'ecumaniac' (her words) enjoying involvement in groups and activities ecumenical since 1960.

Another passion is travelling and visiting friends worldwide.

ACWC NEWS

In Adelaide at the 18th National Conference, Barbara Lacy, Australian representative to Asian Church Women's Conference, read a letter from Ms Shunila Ruth from Pakistan, our Prayer Partners until 2002.

We are urged to pray for peace in that troubled country.

Barbara asked us to stimulate interest in the ACW Conference to be held in Korea in 2002 and its Signature Campaign.

Mrs Pat Walker (SA) is to be the new Australian Representative and will join Barbara and delegates Miss Lisa Jackson (NSW) and Mrs Jean Thomson (ACT) at the 2002 ACW Conference.

WKS NEWS

At the Conference, Margaret Greenslade, then National Convenor of Winifred Keik Scholarship, expressed thanks to Dorothy Ferrier, Chairman of the Winifred Keik Trust, and to Jess Horton, Treasurer of the Trust, for their terms of office.

Cate Clark and Christine Barber were appointed as new Trustees with Barbara Greal, Margaret Greenslade and Norma Bishop. We are asked to remember our scholars in our prayers, particularly 2002 scholar, Mrs Lai Mui Ching (April) from Hong Kong, not commencing her study until September 2002.

Janet Watts – National Convenor WKS.

FLC

Publications now available include Shanti Solomon's autobiography 'A Legend and a Legacy', FLC history 'Many prayer, One prayer' and a new Vol.15 'Circle of Prayer'.

One of the World Community Day Services in Western Australia was celebrated at St Josephs Church in Subiaco on October 26. Addressing the theme 'Living in Hope', the guest speaker, Sister Helen Connelly SJG from the Murdoch Hospice, spoke of her work with terminally ill patients and their families.

A bowl of multi-coloured roses was the focal point on the Altar and during the Prayers of Intercession, white roses were added to the bowl by the 3 readers participating in that part of the Service.

Major Olive Dell, FLC Convenor, gave an overview of the Fellowship of the Least Coin before the gifts from those present were received, representing the prayers of many women across Western Australia.

In 2001, \$373 000.00 was allocated for worldwide FLC projects. Thanks be to God.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2001

ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE CAMEO SPOTS

The President of ACWC, Mrs Nancy Lin, brought greetings to the Conference. She left Taiwan during a severe thunderstorm which flooded the whole island. Mrs Lin has been working on a translation of 'Word and Prayer', is an adviser to Women's Fellowships and speaks at many meetings.

The Executive Secretary of ICFLC, Dr Esther Byu from Thailand, spoke of her life since the 1999 Conference.

ACWC Executive Secretary, Revd Iluminada Acuna-Domingo, spoke about the way women of the Philippines are treated.

From SRI LANKA, Mrs Padma Ebenezer told of the terrorist attacks and suffering of the people through the drought in Sri Lanka. She thanked God for life and good health.

Ms Yasuko, Executive Treasurer, a traditional Japanese woman, told of how she has been liberated by being on ACWC and went on to speak about the high rate of suicide in Japan.

Ms Uma David from India talked about the burden of the dowry system in her country. Girls are unwanted so female infanticide is the highest cause of death in babies. Christians are being persecuted and more and more Hindu subjects are being introduced in schools.

Handpainted scarves, with the Desert Pea emblem on them, were given to each member of the ACWC Executive present. Mrs Lin expressed thanks to ACW members for their kind hospitality.

Congratulations to members of the 1999 – 2001 National Executive on a successful Conference Program. Devotions, Bible Studies and Cameo Spots from the visitors were highlights for the many attendees.

The reports from the National Executive, the State Units and the National Denominational Organisations were well received and gave insights into the work and activities of Christian women in Australia.

Fellowship is always rich and varied at conferences - at mealtimes, on outings and in Worship, giving opportunity to meet old friends and make new ones. I regret I was unable to enjoy such fellowship at the 2001 Conference due to the demise of Ansett Airlines but I look forward to receiving reports and articles for inclusion in ACW NEWS during the next two years.

I would be pleased to receive notification of alteration/deletion of names and/or addresses on the Mailing List. Thank you.

Phillis Dolling – Editor

NATIONAL CONFERENCE PRAYER 2001

JESUS, OUR LIVING HOPE

Acknowledging JESUS as our Living Hope,
We pray for tolerance, patience and courage.
We trust that we will support, rather than judge, those in need,
And that we will always be ready to promote the rights and responsibilities of all women in our Churches & our communities.

AMEN

NEW YEAR GREETINGS TO ACW NEWS READERS
FROM THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE IN PERTH WA –
PRESIDENT Lee, VICE-PRESIDENTS Leila & Barbara,
SECRETARY Leola, MIN.SEC. Margaret, TREASURER Sheila,
CONVENORS – FLC – Olive, WKS – Janet, SPECIAL DAYS –
Catherine, SJI – Laurel, EDITOR & PUBLICITY – Phillis.

UPDATE 2002

The National Executive of ACW met on Monday, JANUARY 18 and will meet on the third MONDAY of each month until further notice. All members were present.

Several matters of interest were received in Correspondence and I want to share some with you, the readers of ACW NEWS.

A Report from Barbara Lacy, National Representative to Asian Church Women's Conference.

1. Australia is preparing the ACWC Day Liturgy for 2002.
2. Barbara learnt first hand of the needs & yearning of Asian women to be empowered & to take their place beside men in Church & society by visits to Laos & Indonesia.
3. Many enquiries about ACW aims & programs have resulted from publicity in various Christian Newsletters and Barbara already has three speaking engagements booked for 2002.
4. Prayer Partnership with the women of Pakistan is greatly valued and appreciated, particularly as hardships due to the war of terrorism continue.

The generous financial assistance from World Community Day Services held last October, given to the Talitha Kumi Women's Centre in Pakistan, was thankfully received. Thanks be to God.

Barbara concluded her Report by commenting on the highlights of the Adelaide Conference & the contribution made by members of the ACWC Executive. 'God bless one and all!'

An Interim Report from Grant Recipient – FLC.
AUSTRALIAN FAITH COMMUNITY NURSES ASSOC. INC.
For the purpose of facilitating FAITH COMMUNITY (PARISH)
NURSING in the state of WESTERN AUSTRALIA in 2001.

Five introductory evenings were organised in –Albany and Bunbury Baptist Churches on May 31 & June 1 & in Perth – June 2-4 at St John of God Hospital & Claremont Baptist Church.