

UNIT NEWS

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Events for 2009

Faith in the Future

Dedication Day for NSW State Unit Monday 18th May 2009

Fellowship Day *Our God is ever faithful* July 2009

World Community Day October 2009

Faith - Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

National Conference of Australian Church Women - Canberra

to be held at

Heritage Hotel

Goyder Street Narrabundah

21-25 September, 2009

Thank you for your continued support of World Community Day.

Please send all offerings to your State/Territory Treasurer.



Great is Your Faithfulness



Australian Church Women

World Community Day 2008



AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

ACW 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 sent to State/Territory Treasurers who forward them to the National Treasurer.

GENERAL OFFERTORY

The general offertory from this service is to be divided equally between **Asian Church Women's Conference**, with which Australian Church Women is affiliated and supports annually and the **2008 Special Community Day Project**.

WORLD COMMUNITY DAY PROJECT

The Project for 2008, submitted by the Queensland Unit, is a program conducted by the Girls Brigade Queensland. It is a Leadership Development Course which is about personal challenge and providing opportunities for participants to develop/improve skills and practices that enhance their ability to be effective Christian leaders in the Brigade and their community.

TODAY'S ORDER OF SERVICE

This order of service was prepared by the Queensland Unit of Australian Church Women.

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 and available in the local situation.

Australian Church Women

World Community Day 2008

Great is Your Faithfulness

Welcome

As we gather on this World Community Day let us pause to acknowledge the original inhabitants of this land.

Today has been set aside to celebrate our unity in Christ. A day on which we remember, and pray for our sisters around the world.

Welcome to this service of worship.

Call to Worship

Leader By grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing. It is the gift of God.

Response For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Leader Let us worship God.

Hymn 'Praise to the Lord.....' AHB 28 TIS 111

Litany of Praise

Leader We give you thanks, O God, for revealing your love in creation,

Response great is your faithfulness.

Leader For human beings made in your image and called to live in your communion,

Response great is your faithfulness

Leader For the promise of your reign in justice and peace, in holiness and charity,

Response great is your faithfulness.

Leader For the revelation of your Kingdom in our midst through your Son, Jesus Christ,

Response great is your faithfulness.

Leader For his humble birth and his holy life, for his words and his miracles.

Response great is your faithfulness.

Leader For his sufferings and his death, for his resurrection and his entry into glory,

Response great is your faithfulness.

Leader For your Church, called to be a place of communion for every human being,

Response great is your faithfulness.

Leader For the coming of your Kingdom within us by the gift of the Holy Spirit,

Response. great is your faithfulness our God..

Hymn 'Have Faith in God my Heart' AHB 552 TiS 619

Reading Luke 7:36-50

Prayer 'That We May Increase in Faith'

Loving God,

We thank you for the opportunity and capacity we have to trust you—to have faith in you.

We thank you for the positive effect faith has had in our lives when we have been able to exercise it.

We thank you that we can see in the lives of others that their faith in you

has helped to keep them from despair, depression, cynicism, paranoia, and a sense of futility.

Lord, it is hard to trust in someone who we can't see, hear and touch, but we admit that often being able to see, hear and touch people does not help us to trust them.

Lord, it is hard to understand how you can be an almighty God when there is still injury, sickness, accident, suffering; yet we sense that to blame you for the problems is not to face our own responsibility for the difficulties of life.

We thank you that you forgive us for not trusting; you encourage us to keep going; you do not reject us, and that helps us trust you further.

May we not be so egotistical as to think that we know best.

May our expectations of you in prayer and in all of our living take account of your wisdom, not only for us, but for this whole world as its history unfolds.

Thank you that through faith we can catch a glimpse of what you are leading us towards—being thankful, caring, faithful servants of you.

For we pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Hymn 'All My Hope on God is Founded' AHB 465 TiS 560

Reading Galatians 2:15-21

Address

Fellowship of the Least Coin Offering.

Those who have F.L.C. gifts come forward and make their individual remain standing together for the prayer and dedication.



then

F.L.C. Prayer (All together)

O Loving Creator, we present ourselves in your Divine 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 this least coin 'token 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

Loving and ever faithful God,

We pray for those who are poor in spirit, because at whatever age, they see no end to the daily grind of caring for those unable to care for themselves. God give them patience.

We pray for those who are poor in spirit, because, at whatever age, they suffer from abuse, in their homes, physical, mental or sexual. God give them deliverance.

We pray for those who are poor in spirit, because, at whatever age, they suffer through the misuse of drugs or alcohol. God give them counsel.

We pray for those who are poor in spirit, because they have no roof over their heads or have no bed to sleep in. God give them comfort.

We pray for those who do not have enough to eat or drink, or money to purchase daily needs, especially where there is famine or drought. God give them seeds and rain.

We pray for those who are poor in spirit because they are infirm in body or mind, at home or in hospital. God give them healing.

We pray for those who are poor in spirit, because they feel alone and think nobody cares. God give them friendship.

We pray for those who are poor in spirit, because they have no education, even more for those who have no right to be taught. God give them legislation that will meet their need.

We pray for the refugee in a strange land; remind us that Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus took refuge in Egypt all those years ago. Teach us to treat strangers with dignity and kindness.

We pray for those who do not know Jesus Christ as their Saviour and for those who cannot worship, as they would like to; for those who do not know that God the Father loves us as his children and forgives us as only our Father can; for those who do not know that the Holy Spirit surrounds us at all times with love and care.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Solo / Item (optional)

General Offering This offering will be collected and shared between Asian Church Women's Conference and our Special Days Project

Prayer of Dedication

We bring our gifts to you, Lord God, in gratitude and hope. In dedicating them, we dedicate ourselves again, to be your people in the world, in the strength and enabling power of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Hymn 'May the Mind of Christ My Saviour' AHB 537 TIS 609

Benediction

Go and speak as God has spoken to you.

Go and speak as God has forgiven you.

Go and reform as God has directed you.

Go and live as God has commanded you

Go in faith and God will meet you in every turn. Amen.

Optional:-

As October 24th is United Nations Day, prayers may be included for the UN where appropriate.