

WORLD'S WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION

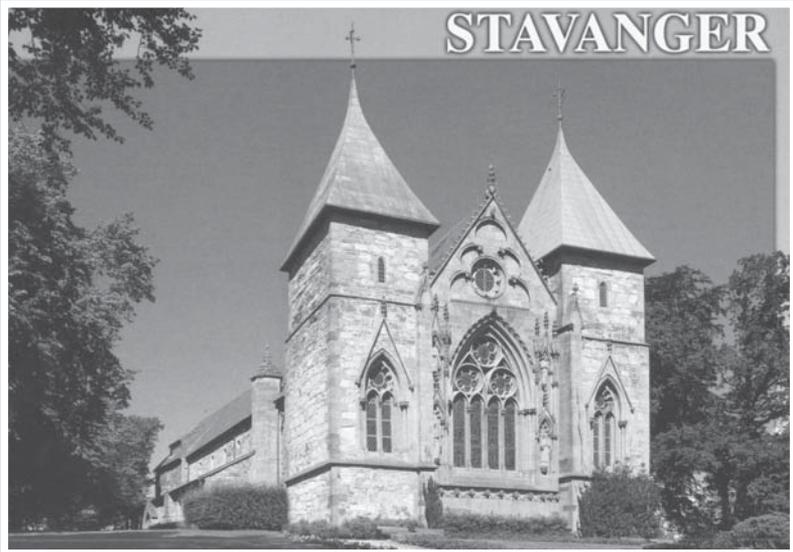


# *White Ribbon Bulletin*

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*Stavanger Domkirke - completed around 1125 A. D.  
Site of Convention service on Sunday afternoon*

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\*International Code

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## The President's Page . . .

*Sarah F. Ward*

Dear White Ribbon Sister,

Soon we will be meeting for the 38th World Convention of the WCTU. We ask for your daily prayers for all the participants and for all the proceedings. Travel and safety are shared concerns for everyone. It is our desire to inform, encourage, and proceed in more effective ways to live and proclaim the message of total abstinence!

In a visit to Norway in November to finalize remaining convention plans, Margaret Ostenstad, World Organization Secretary, accompanied me to a church service at the Stavanger Domkirke (pictured on the front cover). It is a beautiful edifice which has been in continual use since the 1100s. Our Sunday afternoon church service will be conducted there. It is a short walk from the convention hotel.

Each of our current World Officers and Department Directors are offering a message in this issue. I am grateful for their faithful service.



### Organization Secretary

*Margaret Ostenstad*

We in the WCTU form a unique organization around the world. There are very few other groups who take our stand of total abstinence. We define temperance from an old Greek philosopher, Xenophon, who lived about 400 B. C. He stated that temperance may be defined as: moderation in all things healthful; total abstinence from all things harmful.

During the last three years the focus has been on giving constructive, do-able information in program kits. At World Convention in May 2010, workshops will be held by the Department Directors to further underline this important venture. Did you know that YOU could make a change in someone's life by taking 10 minutes to figure out one thing in the Program Kits that your group could do? We need well-oiled wheels to get new ideas going. Form small groups and "brain-storm" while sharing light refreshments. You will be amazed at what you come up with! Lead the way! We've only just begun and God has already gone ahead of us!

"I will go before you and I will level the mountains; I will break down the gates of bronze and cut through the bars of iron. I will give you the treasures of darkness, riches stored in secret places, so that you may know that I am the Lord, the God of Israel, who summons you by name." Isaiah 45: 2-3



## **Treasurer**

*Dorothy Russell*

Wow! World Convention in Norway is almost here! I hope your travel plans are coming along well. It is time to look over your membership and ask God who you can invite to join your union. Sometimes a simple invitation is all a person is waiting for to become a WCTU member. As you visit with people, mention the WCTU. If they have favorable things to add to the conversation, ask them to come to a meeting. At the meeting ask them to become a member.

Remember that God is with us as we work in the WCTU. He will lead us where He wants us to go. He will lead us to increase our membership if we only ask. "Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them." (Mark 11:24) May God richly bless you as you work for the WCTU.



## **Recording Secretary**

*Anne Bergen*

WCTU work in Australia focuses strongly on education of both adults and children about the dangers of alcohol and other drugs through our literature, websites and, in the State of Victoria, through drug education programs in schools.

In 2009 the two Victorian Drug Ed teams of Anne and Roger Bergen and Jan Shattock and Rhona Theodore presented their interesting and informative programs to over 2000 primary and secondary school students in 28 schools as well as to several other church and WCTU groups. Students and teachers all appreciated and enjoyed these programs and we pray that they will have made a lasting impression on the children. A pack of well-presented, up-to-date information for each student was left with teachers to help with follow-up discussions with their pupils.

The Directors of the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Australia, Limited met in Melbourne in October to consider ways of making our work more effective. As a result we have changed our name to the shorter, catchier, "WCTU Australia Ltd." and we are setting up a nation-wide prayer chain that will enable members to be contacted quickly by email or phone with needs of the organisation that need to be prayed for. This will be in place for the start of 2010. We realise that prayer must underpin all that we do if it is to succeed. The World Convention in Stavanger in May will be one of the issues for which we will mobilise our members to pray.



*Rev. Henrietta M. Griffith*

## THE SHINING LIGHT

Prov. 4:18: "But the path of the just is as a shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day."

There are two spheres in which life may be lived. To live in sin is to abide in darkness (1 John 2:1-6). The god of this world blinds the wicked until they are enveloped in darkness . . . they know not at what they stumble" (Proverbs 4:19).

Jesus' parable of the Tares shows us a contrast. Two types of people and two destinies are evident. Christians are the fruit of Christ's labors. He toiled and died that His followers might shine brightly (Matt 13:43). He perhaps had in mind Daniel 12:3: "And they that be WISE shall SHINE as the BRIGHTNESS of the firmament and they that turn many to righteousness as the STARS forever."

There is no light that exceeds the brilliance of the sky on a dark night. Shining lights GLOW with radiance of truth, purity, joy, and holy gladness. Moses' countenance was radiant with the glory of the Lord. Jesus said of John the Baptist, "He was a burning and shining light and ye . . . rejoiced in his light" (John 5:35).

Stars have a **diversity of splendor**. They all differ. God made us with gifts differing. Stars have a **distinguishing separateness**. Yet they cluster in glory **having unity** in power with **growing, glowing radiance**.

Annie Wittenmyer, Frances E. Willard, Anna Gordon, Lillian Stevens each had gifts differing. Each had a distinguishing glory. They were stars with diverse splendor. Separate, outstanding, yet united in one purpose shining.

It was said of Samuel that he grew "on more and more." The Hebrew idiom used literally states, the shining Light grows in increasing brightness and intensity. God does not intend that His people or organizations should diminish in power and influence. The shining Light is going on to the perfect day. Every Christian is traveling toward high noon forever. "And the light shines on . . . for the darkness has never overpowered it" (John 1:5 Amp). Our message of total abstinence is as vital today as it was in 1874. The power of God is still effective. The SHINING LIGHT leads to meridian splendor.



## 1st Vice President

Jung Joo Kim

**Why, How, and What** of the Temperance Movement in 2010? **Why** must we help all humans to believe in Jesus Christ and quit smoking and drinking, thus to lead holy lives? **How** can we, the White Ribbon Sisters, live “For God, for Home, and for Every Land” today? **What** is the best way for us to spread the Gospel with the knowledge of the harm of alcohol and nicotine in this internet age?

**Why?** It is because God did not spare His only Son, Jesus Christ, to be a sin-offering to redeem us from our sins (Romans 8:3). It is because only by faith in Jesus that we are justified by God (Romans 3:24). **How?** It is by His grace alone that we are able to seek His Kingdom and His righteousness. Then everything shall be added unto us (Matt. 6:33). **What?** It is by the very power of the Holy Spirit that we are able to become His competent witnesses to the end of the earth (Acts 1:8), being set free from the power of sin and death (Romans 8:2).

Thus, fully armed, let us wield the Sword of the Spirit, i.e., the Word of God. Then nothing can stand against us in our glorious fight against all the works of Satan in the New Year 2010.



## 2nd Vice President

*Dr. Mrs. Sheela Lall*

### **New Year— New Opportunities**

God has been gracious to all of us this past year and blessed us with the new year of 2010. This new year represents new hope, new opportunities, new ideas, and, of course, new and renewed zeal, determination, and dedication. These are required for us to reach out and touch those who are feeling rejected, dejected, lonely, and tired of trying unsuccessful ways of finding hope, joy, peace, and something to make life worth living. They don't find it because they are looking in the wrong places using the wrong means. We have the right answer to this problem with Christ and WCTU so let us make that much needed difference.

This year in India we are emphasizing two major projects. The first is “to make a tobacco-free world” and the second is to teach “basic education plus a trade” for the abused family members of alcoholics. People pay attention when they feel accepted and are not judged because of the mistakes committed by someone else in their family. Kindness, love, proper education, and empowerment are the keys to helping such people who have hit the bottom. They don't require much finances. They just need someone to show interest and give them time and dedication so they can change in a positive way. Let us strive to do what we can in our own little corner. This little light of hope, independence, and confidence will ignite many souls and lives for brighter futures. Join hands and do it for the glory of our Lord and to help achieve the purpose of WCTU in 2010.



## 3rd Vice President

*Dawn Giddings*

What can we do as individuals to help our Unions grow and prosper? When Moses sent out 12 spies to view the Promised Land, the report he received was mixed. Ten of the spies saw only difficulties and problems but Joshua and Caleb saw many possibilities and were willing to accept the challenge to go forward in faith and possess the land, relying on God to supply all that was necessary to succeed. I also see possibilities, challenges, and yes, difficulties as we go forward in 2010 to work with God for the good of our homes and communities, but in God's strength and wisdom and with prayer, much can be accomplished.

It is important that we each have a knowledge of the history and work of the WCTU for how can we share with someone something of which we know very little?

Be enthusiastic, set goals, look for prospective members, pray for them, inform them of work currently being undertaken, invite them to a meeting, and in time, involve them. We may not be able to do great things but God can through us.

Sister Theresa had a dream one day. She told her superiors, "I have 3 pennies and a dream from God to build an orphanage." "Sister Theresa," her superiors chided gently, "you cannot build an orphanage with 3 pennies. With 3 pennies you can't do anything." "I know," she said smiling, "but with God and 3 pennies, I can do anything."

"God at work in you will give you the will and the power to achieve His purpose." Phil. 1: 6



## 4th Vice President

*Rita K. Wert*

The US WCTU is currently working on a national project to give women's/children's shelters a supply of literature, bottled water, and juices. Many of the individuals in these shelters come from homes where alcohol (and other drugs) have been a major factor in abuse of all kinds. We want to share with them that there is a better way to live - DRUG-FREE. Each state is encouraged to reach as many shelters as possible during this WCTU year.

Our coloring, poster, essay, and oratorical contests continue to be popular. Each year thousands of students are reached with the message of total abstinence through this effort. We often use winning posters as ideas for our National Youth Temperance Education Week in April. This year our theme is "Stay 'Toad'ally Way from Drugs" and our poster features a large frog in full color.

We continue to be very concerned about states legalizing "medical marijuana." So far 14 of the 50 states have done so. In the coming months, we will be looking for a national project that will assist in stopping that trend. Please pray for our success.



## Christian Outreach

*Ira Estelinen*

The beginning of the year 2010 has shown us many kinds of suffering taking place among people - the victims of the earthquake in Haiti as well as many people needing help outside of international media coverage. Unemployment increases the value of having a job. After a serious illness, the small worries in life seem ridiculous. "Happy are those who seek and find a way to serve others," said the father of Indian independence, Mahatma Gandhi. This is the same principle as Jesus' Golden Rule, which lays a foundation for our Christian Outreach Department. "Do to others as you would have them do to you." A person who understands his mission to serve will never become tired of his work or his life. Focussing one's thoughts on others makes one's own worries seem smaller and it gives a purpose to our existence.

It is essential that we let the light of Christ shine to the world. Each person needs personal lighthouses on his way. We will lose our way and be stranded unless we hear the warning sound of the foghorn and see the light guiding us to a safe passage. It is sad to see a person who sees the price of all things but is blind to their value. The great and important things in life hold no monetary value. The most valuable things are simple, though often burdensome. What takes away our strength, also gives us strength back.

Wisdom comes from the heart. It always does. Our personal worth is not diminished, even if we wrinkle, age, and break in some areas. If you are feeling distrust in God, if you see no way out, or if you falter under an unreasonably heavy burden, remember that you are of great value, even if you do break down. Let Your will be done, not mine. Thank you, God, for walking beside us every step of the way. Life will bring us forward. God's hands will bless us again this year!



## Education

*Sarah Ward*

Learning the basic facts about alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs is an important task to which each WCTU member should commit herself. To have credibility, it is also essential to stay up-to-date as new research becomes available and new drugs appear on the scene. In each of the Program Kits sent to the National Presidents for the past three years, a large amount of educational material was included. I hope and trust it has been copied and shared with the local WCTUs who in turn need to make it available to the members. A short 10 - 15 minute lesson could be presented by a qualified person at each meeting. Learning can be fun and it can save a life.

Please go to our website: [www.wwctu.org/resources.html](http://www.wwctu.org/resources.html) for information. Also, the National Institute on Drugs Abuse (USA) has useful material: [www.drugabuse.gov/ResearchReports](http://www.drugabuse.gov/ResearchReports).



## Home Protection

*Margaret Ostenstad*

This department has been at the core of the World Woman's Christian Temperance Union since its inception.

It includes the following:

- Nutrition - Fruit, vegetables, drinking water, exercise, regular meals, especially breakfast
- Little White Ribboners (birth to 6 years of age)
- Alcohol-free hospitality
- Concern about all things detrimental to the home such as:
  - Lack of contact with parents or care givers
  - Too much focus on monetary things and not giving time to kids
  - Internet addiction
  - Games with violent content
  - Pornography
  - Gambling
  - Teen suicides



## Social Service

*Hyun Sook Lee*

At times we misunderstand each other and think of our differences as something that is irreconcilable. When our thoughts, opinions, and beliefs are different from that of others, those things can split and divide us. We also consider our different skin colors, languages, and religions as a basis to divide.

But how was Jesus different from us? His identity, character, and thoughts were different from us. However, Jesus became human in order to come closer to us. He came in order to save lost souls. This was because of His love for us. He didn't consider religions, identities, academic abilities, appearances, and wealth. Yet he took pity on our souls and he joined us in our hardships. He took our sufferings instead and filled our loneliness with His love. He is the one who created us and because He loves us, He is the one who will save us from our sins. He desperately wants to bless us.

We were created in His image and we are the subjects of His love. Therefore we must live according to His will as righteous people. The gospel of Jesus Christ and salvation is delivered when we go beyond the worldly reasons and serve those in need. Our Social Service Department serves with this mindset. This is the reason we serve.



## Children's Director

Glenda Amos

**“Whoever welcomes a little child like this in my name welcomes me.” Matt. 18:5**

In planning for the future of our organization, let's place children

**Faith** – develop a strong foundation of belief in God and salvation through Jesus Christ, through worship and relationships.

**Involvement** – use children in worship, small groups, service and outreach ministries, drug education, puppet plays and dramas.

**Reach out** to community children – use kids clubs, play groups, rallies, Bible schools to attract children to God.

**Support parents** – help parents to realize that they have the biggest impact on their children, empowering them with resources and helping them to be disciple-makers.

**Treasure** – let children know they are loved by God, your church, the family, and you. Help them to have a personal relationship with Jesus through prayer and Bible study.

Check out these 10 Promises for Our Children for working with the spiritual needs of children: <http://www.10promisesforourchildren.org/Welcome.html>.



## Youth Director

*Dr. Mrs. Sheela Lall*

Youth - the word itself paints a picture of vitality, strength, power, and a mind which can take this world to a higher level or stoop down to destruction and disaster. Youth represent the future.

In my own life time I have seen the CEO's of emerging companies and leaders of important organizations become younger so they are now in their twenties rather than in their forties. I have seen young computer-savvy people rule the cyber world, creating new standards and making unimaginable things possible. However with all this competition and excellence in technology, they spend more time with their machines and tend to become anti-social, easily bored, lonely, and deprived of truly good values. They tend to have a lot of money but are usually stressed out and work far away from their homes. Pressure and depression are becoming a rampant problem leading them to drinking, pornography, drug abuse and living together without the commitment of marriage.

For these reasons the youth department work of WCTU is more important today than ever before. We need to sharpen our own brains and become adept with the technology on hand to better relate to youth in order to influence them and win their hearts. They are looking for guidance. Learn to be a good listener without judging. Many of them have missed out in learning life's most important values because of a lack of guidance due to busy parents. This leaves them vulnerable at a critical point in their lives. We need to be there when they need us. Start some kind of youth program; help shape and influence today's youth.

# World Convention Program

(concluded from the last issue)

Friday, May 14, 2010

- 7:00 - 8:30 am Breakfast  
8:15 am Prayer and Praise Service - Korea WCTU presiding - Atlantic Hall
- 8:55 am Morning Session  
Roll Call, Reading of Minutes, Reading of Bylaw  
Changes Reports from Canada, United States, Guatemala  
Memorial Service
- Break  
Reports from Australia, Fiji, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, New Zealand, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu
- 12:00 noon Lunch
- 1:30 pm Keynote address:Tobacco or Health; Alcohol or Cancer  
Dr. Tore Sanner, Norwegian Radium Hospital and University of Oslo
- Reports from India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Philippines, and Myanmar
- Break  
International Market
- 5:30 pm Dinner
- 7:00 pm Children and Youth presentations  
Glenda Amos, Children's Director  
Dr. Sheela Lall, Youth Director

Saturday, May 15, 2010

- 7:00 - 8:30 am Breakfast  
8:30 am Worship Service - Joy Butler presiding Atlantic Hall
- 9:30 am Reports from England, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Latvia, Norway
- Break  
Reports from Egypt, Kenya, South Africa, Zimbabwe (others are pending depending on attendance)
- 12:00 noon Lunch  
(concluded on next page)

World Convention Program concluded

1:30 pm Norway's Presentation:  
Riisby Treatment Center, "Gutta Boys" (men's choir),  
Children's Camp, Grieg Concert, Norwegian treat

5:30 pm Dinner

7:00 pm Rune Larsen and Helge Nilsen, concert with  
temperance message

Sunday, May 16, 2010

7:00 - 8:30 am Breakfast

8:15 am Prayer and Praise Service - Norway WCTU presiding -  
Atlantic Hall

8:55 am Business session  
Election  
Resolutions  
Bylaws  
President's Awards

Break

Reports from Field Workers: Dr. Dora Judith Colomba  
de Barrientos, Joy Butler, Dawn Giddings, Samira  
Asham Girgis, Ursula Kraemer, Dr. Kyung Il Park  
Convention Choir  
Official Board meeting

12:00 noon Lunch

2:00 pm Church service at Stavanger Domkirke  
Communion, Installation of World Officers and  
Department Directors, and Candle Lighting Ceremony

5:30 pm Dinner

7:00 pm Talent Program - Susanne Curry presiding

Monday, May 17, 2010

7:00 - 8:30 am Breakfast

8:30 am Prayer and Praise Service - Pacific islands WCTUers  
presiding

Morning Fjord boat ride to Flor and Fjaere for Convention Banquet

Afternoon Norway's National Day parade - WCTU participation  
Dinner  
Closing service