



FROM GALINA'S DESK

“LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE...”

(Matt 5:16)

The end of the year is special. Children and adults anticipate Christmas holidays, gifts, church programs, and a joyful time with family and friends. Sometimes, we are glad the year is over. At times, we want it to continue. What about you? Was it a good and successful year? Or was it filled with frustration and losses? Have you experienced God’s interventions? Answers to your prayers? Did you meet people who became God’s helping hands for you?

Jesus came to the world to restore us and reverse our reality. He wants to make His disciples “rivers of living water” that “will flow from within them” (John 7:38). Jesus needs you and me to feed the needy, to bring hope to the discouraged. Also, He needs our help to educate, train, and fulfill His plans for other people. Counting our blessings at the closing of 2023, let us ask God who these people are. Remember a saying: “A candle loses nothing by lighting another candle.” May it become a call and a promise.



SPECIAL GIFT *Wrapping*

‘Tis the season—for making lists, selecting just the right bike helmet, ordering the blue slippers, and then wrapping and wrapping and....

It’s also a season for wrapping a **very special gift**—for your sister in Malawi, Serbia, Trinidad or Fiji; the woman who needs your gift for tuition or books or a laptop; your sister who will multiply your gift many times over as she teaches children, offers community health classes, leads prison ministry, or videotapes sermons to reach hundreds.

WRAPPED IN BLESSINGS

That is what our sisters do with their education, they bless, they demonstrate His love! As we wrap our gifts for them, yes, our gifts to Scholarshipping Our Sisters, we can wrap these gifts, not just in envelopes, but in prayers, in love, in blessings.



BRILLIANT, TALENTED, NEEDED
Sombiniaina, our sister in Madagascar, is a brilliant student. She motivates the other students and helps them succeed. Because she has no computer, she must study in the library. And although she graduates this year, she may not receive her diploma because of school debt. Can we bless her with a special gift?

Can you speak English, Spanish and Turkish? And lead the church choir? Your sister **Diana** does. A student in Romania, she says her goal is “to change the world by being a loving Christian teacher.” But she can’t do it without tuition help. Will we wrap her gift with love and encouragement?



This Christmas, let’s add some special names to our gift list—and wrap these gifts with love.

If possible, be sure your gifts reach us by Dec. 20. It’s easy to give online at women.adventist.org/give

[NEWS BITES]



YOUR GENEROUS GIFT OF \$1,000 PROVIDES TUITION FOR A WOMAN IN TURKEY

“She is diligent, studious, and caring. Her ability to set priorities guarantees her success.”

Her teachers say of Sekhina in Madagascar



COUNTRIES RECEIVED YOUR HELP THIS YEAR



WOMEN WERE HELPED THIS YEAR BY YOU AND SOS

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”
Nelson Mandela





➔ MEET OUR SISTERS



POSSIBILITIES IS A MINISTRY

"I am motivated to help people with special needs." That's how Veronika explains why she is studying Mental Health at Adventist Theological College in Hungary. Possibilities Ministries, which creates programs for those with special needs, is in her heart.

Currently she is the Possibilities Ministries Director at the Hungarian Union

Conference. At church she is the Special Needs Services Coordinator, and for several years she served at the Regional Foster Care Office.

SEEING POSSIBILITIES

Although she is married, with two sons, family responsibilities, and a part time job, she is an excellent student. As a pastor's wife, she is attentive to the needs of church members, "ready to help whenever

needed." As a mother, she is sensitive to the needs of young people, organizing events and leading evangelistic programs for church youth.

By helping Veronika, we support those, often forgotten, with special needs and untapped potential. Let's give generously. Imagine the possibilities!

WELCOME, GALINA!

We welcome Galina Stele as the new Associate Director for GC Women's Ministries and as our new liaison for SOS. She assumed her new position on November 1 as her predecessor, Nilde Itin, moved down the hall to join GC Children's Ministries.

We regret our loss of Nilde, an outstanding leader and supporter of SOS, but wish her much happiness and success in her new responsibilities. (And she is still an honorary member of SOS.)

We are happy to welcome Galina to the SOS team. Though born in Russia, Galina grew up in Kazakhstan. A quick mind and excellent education prepared her for outstanding leadership. She was a professor of Theology at Zaosky Adventist University



in Russia, Shepherdess Coordinator, and Director of the Euro-Asia Division Institute of Missiology. Galina worked as a Research and Program Evaluation Manager at the General Conference prior to her election.

In 1996 Galina was the first woman to earn a doctorate of ministry at Andrews University. A widely published author, she is much in demand as speaker for evangelistic series and Women's and Youth Congresses.

Her experience, organizational and leadership skills are a welcome addition to GCWM and the SOS team.

GIFTS OF REMEMBRANCE



IN HONOR

Raquel Arrais
Nilde Itin
Bobby Ravenell
Galina Stele

IN MEMORY

Isabel Afanador
May Ellen Colon
Rosaria Escalante
William Muller Isaac



Read page 3 of the newsletter online at women.adventist.org/scholarship

Please make checks payable to **General Conference of SDA**, write in the memo line: **WM Scholarship Fund.**

Mail to:
Women's Ministries Department
General Conference of
Seventh-day Adventists
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, MD 20904

Donate online at
women.adventist.org
[Give-Scholarship fund]

Or call to charge to credit card:
301-680-6608

Yes, I want to support the WM Scholarship program with . . .

My pledge of _____ per (year/month) My gift of _____ (Please print all information)

Name _____

Address _____

Charge to my MasterCard VISA Card number _____ / _____ / _____

a monthly gift of \$ _____ on the 10th of each month beginning (month/year) _____ / _____

a one time gift of \$ _____ Signature _____

(Optional) This gift is in honor/memory of _____

WHAT YOUR GIFT CAN DO

\$30/month: room & board, 1 semester THAILAND	\$25/month: 1 semester tuition BANGLADESH	\$1,050: scholarship - JAMAICA	\$1,000: 1 semester tuition RUSSIA
\$160: 1 month tuition ARGENTINA			



This newsletter is published quarterly by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Women's Ministries Department to share news about the women's scholarship program.

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TO SERVE THE CHILDREN

In Mongolia, Zoljargal's paramount motivation is to improve her pediatric skills in order to better serve families, especially children. A medical doctor, she has already completed a two-year post-graduate program in Pediatrics at the National Center for Maternal and Child Health in Ulaanbaatar City. Now she continues her specialty with additional in-depth training.

LOWER SALARY; HIGHER MORTALITY RATE

While we might think of medicine as a well-paying field, in Mongolia this

is not the case. Zoljargal says, "A doctor has a lower salary than most people in this area; he carries a lot of burden and is not appreciated...There is a lot of disease in remote areas. Doctors must drive for hours to provide life-saving care." She also notes that her home area, Khusgol Province, has a higher child mortality rate than the national average. She is studying in order to better care for children and also to teach a healthy lifestyle. But because her salary is so low, she needs our help to reach her goal, to better serve the children.

HER PASTOR SAYS...

Her pastor recommends Zoljargal highly, noting that she was an active church member even while in medical school, involved in small groups as well as leading children's Sabbath School and church health programs. "She is very bright, well-disciplined and friendly," he adds.

We—you and I—can quietly share Christ in Mongolia. For just \$750 we can support a caring Christian pediatrician who wants to better serve the children.



A student at Lowry Adventist College of Nursing, Elwin is commended by teachers for her diligence, integrity and leadership potential.

APPRECIATION FROM INDIA

Thank you for the Women's Ministries Scholarship. This will be of great help with my educational expenses, allowing me to concentrate on my B.Sc. Nursing studies and providing a huge monetary relief to my parents and me.

I finished my first year with 1st class grades, and I promise to work very hard and eventually give back to others.

Thank you to GC and my Division Women's Ministries departments for this scholarship. Please pray for me that I may shine in future. Sincerely,

Elwin Halder



THANKS FROM BANGLADESH

Greetings.

I send my deepest appreciation for the financial assistance you provided. Your generosity and support have made a significant impact on me and my family, and I am incredibly grateful.

This scholarship not only eases the financial burden but also serves as tremendous motivation and encouragement. It reaffirms my commitment to excel academically. Thank you for your generosity. I am truly grateful.

Wishing you God's abundant blessings.

Tanima

Tanima, from Bangladesh, is earning a B.Sc. in Biotech at Spicer Adventist University. While maintaining a 3.0 GPA, she is also active at church, especially with the Pathfinders.

