



Calendar 2019

- 24/6-27/9
Long Service
Leave
- 24 August
enditnow
Emphasis Day
- 1-3 November
New Caledonia
Women's Retreat

Discipleship Ministries
Women

women.
adventistchurch.com

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Walking Kokoda

by Danijela Schubert

In July, please keep our Adventist women and men who are walking the Kokoda Track in your prayers so they can safely accomplish that task, and so they can spread the health message desperately needed in the Pacific. To see who they are and help sponsor the 10,000 Toes campaign, visit <https://www.10000toes.com/home/kokoda/>

July is also a time to prepare for the EndItNow campaign on August 24. In case you have not received the resource pack, you will find it at <http://women.adventistchurch.com/events>. This year's pack is based on a topic we have not had before – "Resilience." How do we rebound from life's major challenges? Abuse, whether experienced as a child or through a violent act, or within the home, leaves scars that can last a lifetime. God is our Healer and our Helper in all trials. He has given us doctors, counsellors, friends and family members who will walk with us through the healing process.

Dr Julian Melgosa is a Chartered Psychologist and an Associate Fellow of the British Psycho-

logical Society. He works in the General Conference Education department and is the author of the sermon and seminar this year.

Dr Melgosa is a familiar name to Women's Ministries leaders as

he has assisted with the writing of a number of resources in the area of mental health.

In this edition I am also sharing with you some insights from the Church Planting Conference held in Avondale earlier this year. You can listen to presentations and check out PowerPoint presentations on the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/churchplantingconference-slides>



Prayer Request

The month of July is designated as Pentecost Harvest for Trans-Pacific Union Mission. This year the goal is that women will have a special opportunity to preach and be actively involved in the major evangelistic campaigns throughout the Mission.

Pentecost serves as an annual reminder that our Creator still works miracles, granting His Spirit to those called to be the firstfruits of His spiritual harvest, empowering all to carry out His work in this world.

Please pray for the harvest, and pray for women to respond to this opportunity, to prepare well, and to speak with courage and conviction. May their words find fertile soil in the hearts of the listeners.



Blossom Project

by Lara Hawkins



My name is Lara Hawkins. I am 14 years old and I am in Year 9 at Avondale School in New South Wales, Australia.

This year I participated in Ride for Rescue, which was a 390-kilometre ride from Canberra, the capital city of Australia, to the highest mountain peak in Australia – Mount Kosciuszko.

Ride for Rescue is a challenging 5-day mountain biking event to raise money for “Blossom”, an Adventist Development and Relief Agency project in Vanuatu. I was attracted to raise money for the Blossom project because it is for girls my age living in Vanuatu who are at risk of being sexually abused, becoming pregnant and then losing the opportunity to gain an education as a result. Often this life-changing pregnancy leads to lifelong poverty for these women and children.

Blossom is addressing the issues of sexual abuse in young girls and women in Vanuatu. Blossom is about education and changing a male-dominated culture and freeing women.

Blossom is a very new project that officially kicked off in September 2016 with a first-ever training of trainers’

course hosted by Dr Brian Craig and Dr Trafford Fischer from the South Pacific Division. It trained up 21 young people in counselling skills.

At the beginning of 2017 Blossom hosted the first ever in-service for the primary teachers of our four Adventist schools in Vanuatu. The focus: sex education.

As a result of this initiative the government for the first time partnered with Blossom and decided to put this program into all government primary schools across Vanuatu.

A real win for the Blossom project!

Blossom hosts daily family life radio talkback shows, which can be listened to across all of Vanuatu through Hope Channel radio.

Blossom is hosting and running many family life programs in our Adventist churches, discussing many sensitive topics that have never been spoken about and addressed.

These programs are breaking down barriers and changing many lives.

Most recently, Blossom was given permission to go into one of the correc-

tional centres and run a rehabilitation program for the inmates.

Blossom is about whole cultural change, one that is about educating and empowering the people of Vanuatu on what defines a happy, healthy relationship; one where both partners are treated equally with respect and love. It doesn’t matter how young we are, our small contributions when combined with others can make a big difference to the lives of young girls like me and create cultural changes in countries like Vanuatu.

To learn more about this project and to donate, contact Louise Ginn on the following email address Riding4rescue@gmail.com or visit <https://www.adra.org.au/project/blossom-project/>



Why Plant Churches?

From a Presentation by Jose Cortes

If you think that we have enough churches already and don't need to plant more, check these numbers. If we want to have one church for every 25,000 people in the community then we need at least another:

1. 965 churches, as the current number is 430 in the Australian Union.
2. 219 churches, as the current number is 146 in the New Zealand Pacific Union.
3. 339 churches, as the current number is 1059 in the Papua New Guinea Union.
4. 99 churches, as the current number is 531 in the Trans-Pacific Union.

But what if we want to have one church for every 10,000 people in the community? Then the number of new churches we need is much higher.

There are millions of people in the cities, towns and islands in the South Pacific who do not have access to the Gospel through an Adventist church. We are the heart, eyes, hands and feet of Jesus in our communities. That's why we need churches for the community.

New churches best position Adventism to reach new generations, new residents and new people groups.

New churches gain 60-80% of their new members from people who are not attending any church. That means that they will be reaching people who don't think like us, don't dress like us,

don't smell like us, don't speak like us and don't worship like us; those that Jesus came to save.

On the other hand, older churches gain 80-90% of their new members by transfers from other congregations. Think about this: When the church cares more about its message and structure than it cares about people, it becomes un-Christlike, absent and irrelevant. Church planting helps to revitalise existing churches and provides a natural environment for discipleship.

Some people say that they cannot plant a church because the churches we already have are not doing well. Here's an interesting thought about that. It is like saying that a family cannot have babies because grandma is sick.

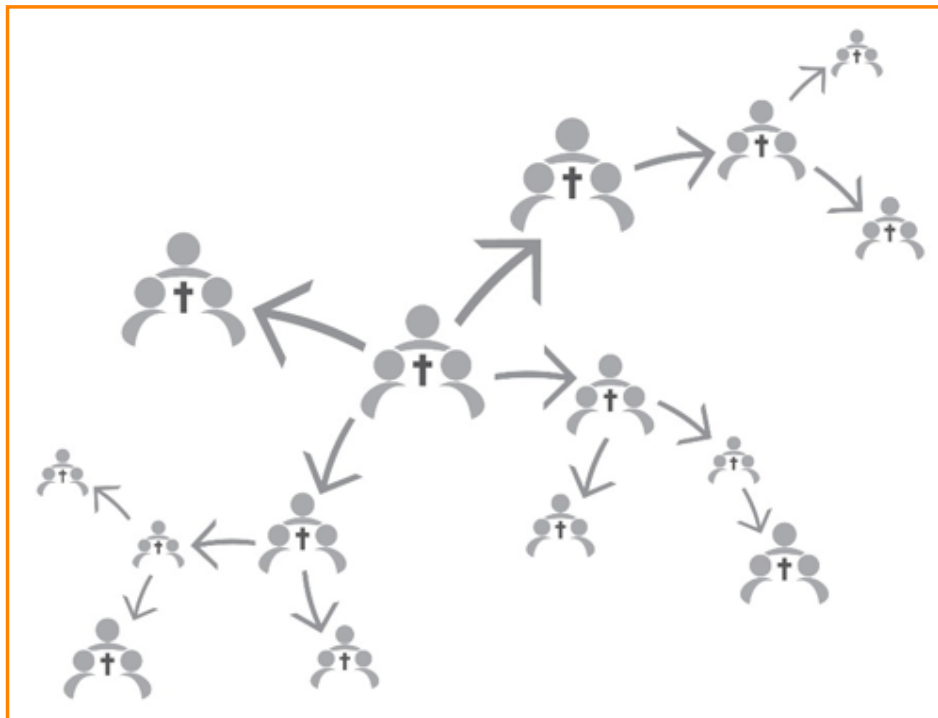
If you are going to plant a church that



transformation in the community, then don't plant one church – plant thousands of churches!

What can you do? If God has gifted you with church planting – please go and plant churches. If this is not your gift, there is much you can do:

1. Pray about it.
2. Talk to the church leadership about it.
3. Do prayer walks around the areas where your church will plant a new church.
4. Move your family to live in the area where a new church plant is needed to be the positive influence in that community.
5. Pray for those who are planting churches.
6. Help with other elements of work



doesn't love sinners, that doesn't care about what happens outside the walls of the building, and whose only purpose is to change the religion of people and judge their behaviour ... don't plant a church. But if you are going to plant a church that is centred on the salvation of God and the compassion of Jesus, a church that will be an agent of

in planting new churches, such as literature distribution, door knocking to find out the needs of the community, preparing community events, cooking, etc.

There is a place for each one in making disciples who make disciples.

"Upon all who believe, God has placed the burden of raising up churches."

Ellen G White, Medical Ministry, 315