



White Ribbon Bulletin

World Woman's Christian Temperance Union

Volume 121 • Number 3 July • August • September – 2026



CHILDREN

Love them

Nurture then

Teach them well and early

And believe in them!

They are our future!

Editor's greeting!

Dear all,

World Woman's Temperance Union holds consultative status at the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations(UN ECOSOC). It has maintained a formal relationship with the UN framework for decades, allowing the non-governmental organization to participate in discussions and initiatives concerning social issues and the status of women.

The organization focuses on total abstinence from alcohol, tobacco, and drugs, alongside broader advocacy for women and children's welfare.

"A retired Norwegian Pastor Haakon F. Meyer, has been working tirelessly for many years to get "The International Temperance and Sobriety Movement" nominated for The Nobel Peace Prize." A great honour!

I will share with you the opening paragraph of the text of the nomination:

"In November 2015, 193 member states adopted the UN's new sustainability goals. These are benchmarks for success in global development towards 2030. In achieving sustainability we believe the world community will also find easier solutions towards world peace. Damage caused by alcohol and drug use adversely affect many of the sustainability goals. Putting in place preventive measures and effective drug policies globally will be important steps towards reaching these important goals."

Just being nominated lifts our profile and we all have reason to be proud of our loyalty to the stand taken by our early leaders. They had a wide basis for the temperance work and we need to do as they did and expand our horizons to include all manner of physical or psychological 'attack' which denigrates the dignity of women worldwide.



It is one year since the 42nd World WCTU Convention was successfully held in Chicago, IL, USA. This edition of the White Ribbon Bulletin focusses on the wonderful progress which has been made during this year. I hope you find it encouraging and inspires you to spread the word of the dangers with addiction.

Margaret 🍷

margaretostenstad45@gmail.com

World WCTU President

Dear precious sisters,
Greetings in the precious name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
I hope God has been gracious and kind to you and is guiding you in these difficult and challenging times.

We have some great news from around the world. Different countries have found different ways to widen their mindset of survival to one of enlarging their seams with God's forward-looking vision, as Isaiah 54 says: **"Enlarge your house; build an addition; spread out your home and spare no expense, for you will soon be bursting at the seams."**



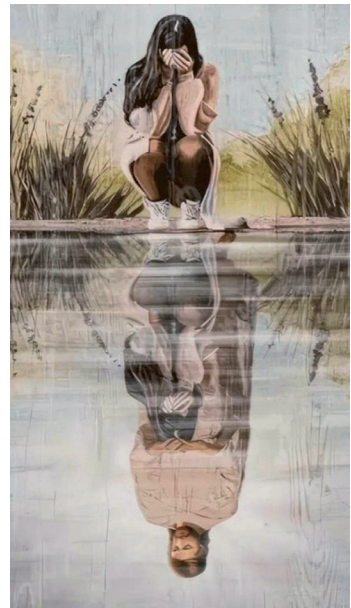
This instruction was given to the people of Israel when they were in the season of exile, feeling barren, discouraged, and dismissed. Yet God's intent was to look forward to the blessing of abundance that will be yours as you stretch out to restore His people. God wants you to invest time, energy, and joint resources into strangers and empty, barren, broken people. This true active faith growth is required long before the evidence of its fruits can be seen by others. This way we position ourselves to receive the grace and spiritual inheritance that God intends to pour out. Preparing for our divine calling requires our full commitment, not half-hearted efforts.

Remember the widow of 2nd Kings 4:1-7, the oil kept flowing only as long as she had vessels to catch it; when she ran out of jars, it stopped. When we stretch our faith, widen our vision, and deepen our discipline, we create the necessary infrastructure for a Kingdom harvest beyond our imagination. We limit our capacity and our outflowing blessing stops. Prepare for God's seam bursting blessings by intentionally outgrowing your small, restrictive mindset of the past season. Your circumstances will not change completely or as quickly as you wish, or before you begin developing the character, skills, and prayer life required for your next level. Actively clear out the clutter of doubt and complacency and start managing your current relationships, finances, and resources and you will experience growth and results.

Sharing each other's work and life experiences is a great way to stay encouraged and positive in this negative world. If you have stories of transformation to share, don't hesitate to share them. Trust in God as you stretch your capacity through bold obedience, and let God use you mightily to make a positive difference in this world through

WCTU It gives you a channel and a platform, a purpose and a focus to impact the world for His glory.

Sincerely,
Sheela Lall



What Does The Bible Say About Addiction?

Actually the bible does not even mention the English word addiction at all!

But the bible certainly addresses the root cause of addiction, which is slavery to sin.

The Hebrew root word for addiction is Makar, and translated it means to sell or sell oneself. In Latin addiction comes from the word addictus, meaning 'slave'.

While we all need to guard ourselves from different forms of slavery, the Lord has called us to the work of the WCTU, to bring hope to those who are enslaved.

It is now 153 years since the foundation of the WCTU, and we see sin enslaving people more than ever! Not only alcohol and drugs, but pornography, sexual perversion, gambling, social media and gaming addictions etc, often all overlapping and luring our young.

But praise the Lord there is an answer! The scripture that supports the hope in this devotion is John 8:36 - So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

This is such a powerful scripture...where Jesus tells us Himself, words written in **RED**, rock solid, that there is an answer and a hope for those enslaved to sin.

The scriptures should be our number one tool in the WCTU tool box, as with prayer.

The Lord does not tell us these things if they were not possible.

We witnessed this firsthand at our WCTU men's accommodation a few years ago. One of our guests had been addicted to the heaviest of drugs most of his life, and was in a very dark place while staying at our WCTU guest house.

Through this time though, he gave his life to the Lord and was totally set free! No rehab, no counselling, but by the Power of Jesus. Even just one life the whole of Heaven rejoices over.



May the WCTU motto 'For God Home and Every Land' or, as some say, 'For God Home and Humanity', be at the centre of all we do.

Prayer - Dear Heavenly Father, as we come together as your daughters, we look to You for wisdom, boldness, direction and strength, so we can be part of a new resurgence of this wonderful organisation. May we expand our departments where we see a need, and help us bring freedom, joy, and purpose to a lost and hurting world. Thank you Father, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Karen Edwards, 4th VP.



Noontide prayer

Around the world, someone is always praying

Strange but true...

A recent study from researchers at the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation at the University of Washington analyzed data from hundreds of previous investigations and found that consuming even one alcoholic drink per day elevates the risk of developing ten different types of cancer.

These include cancers of the lip and oral cavity, pharynx, larynx, esophagus, colorectal area, breast, liver, pancreas, and prostate. The risk begins to rise with very low levels of intake, under ten grams of alcohol daily, which is less than a standard drink.

Alcohol contributes to cancer through several biological mechanisms. When the body metabolizes ethanol, it produces acetaldehyde, a toxic compound that damages DNA and prevents cells from repairing themselves effectively.

This process can lead to mutations over time. Additionally, alcohol generates reactive oxygen species that cause oxidative stress, inflaming tissues and promoting abnormal cell growth.

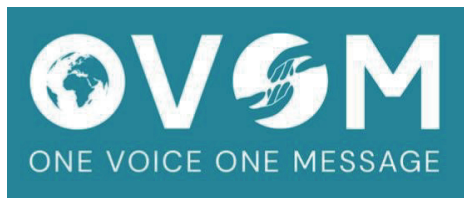
It also disrupts hormone levels, particularly estrogen, which heightens breast cancer susceptibility in women, and impairs nutrient absorption, weakening the body's natural defenses.

Importantly, there is no completely safe threshold for alcohol consumption when it comes to cancer. While light drinking may carry smaller absolute risks for individuals, population-level impacts are significant because so many people drink regularly.

Experts emphasize that reducing or eliminating alcohol intake can meaningfully lower these dangers, alongside other healthy habits like maintaining weight and avoiding smoking. This underscores growing calls for public awareness about alcohol's carcinogenic properties, similar to tobacco.



One Voice One Message (OVOM) joins the rest of the international community to commemorate the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking – a day the international community sets aside to reiterate the resolve and commitment towards addressing the scourge of substance abuse and its multifaceted adverse effects on society.



In the light of increasing efforts by some to support, increase or in any way normalise the use and or consumption of illicit drugs, the theme for the 2026 commemorations, “Break the cycle. #StopOrganisedCrime”, is most apt as it brings to the attention of all a salient and potent nexus between traffickers of drugs and those who in any manner, whatsoever, promote the demand and consumption of drugs. When it is realised that illicit trafficking of drugs exists to serve the demand for drugs, and that ordinarily, it is in the best interest of traffickers for drug use to be normalised, the need for a holistic approach to curb the menace of drug traffickers becomes apparent.

We are concerned that in addition to the menace of drug trafficking groups seeking out new “technological innovation to target new audiences and ensure that drugs increasingly reach their users and help boost their billion-dollar businesses”, the world is now faced with the reality of drug use groups seeking out advocacy and other innovation to target new audiences and ensure that drugs increasingly reach their users and help boost their billion-dollar businesses” at immeasurable costs to individual users, their families and the society at large.

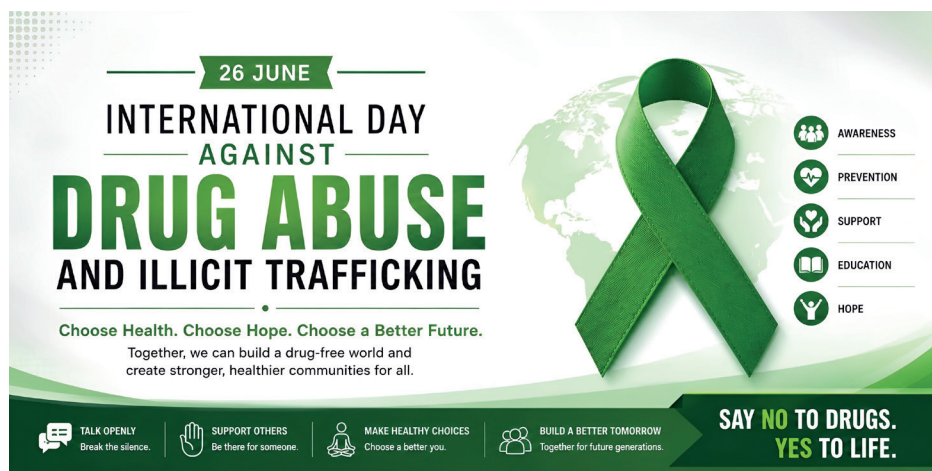
We are very much aware that entities that profit from illicit drug use (be they producers, traffickers and pro-drugs advocacy groups), always seek to exploit gaps in governance and regulatory measures. This is all the more reason why there must be increased vigilance and tightening of regulatory mechanisms, to avoid those gaps being exploited and thus ensure that as intended by internationally adopted instruments to which most countries have committed, society is protected from illicit drugs.

OVOM calls upon the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) and the United Nations system (particularly UNODC), countries across the world and relevant stakeholders in efforts at tackling the scourge of substance abuse, inclusive of communities and families, to recognize the nexus between drug traffickers, increased drug use and the activities of those who, under the guise of promoting 'harm reduction' or similar nomenclature, strive to normalize or promote drug use. There certainly is a relationship. Any meaningful effort at holistically addressing drug trafficking must involve the prevention of initiation of drug use, protection of the child from all facets of drug use [(as envisaged by Article 33 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC))].

A deft implementation of Article 33 CRC remains a veritable means for ensuring the protection of society from illicit drugs which will at the same time reduce both supply and demand for illicit drugs, strengthen prevention services whilst addressing the root causes that make communities vulnerable to organised crimes. The Eindhoven Declaration (www.ovom.org) represents a succinct and actionable means to achieving the globally desired objectives of protecting society (and the child in particular) from the scourge of drug abuse, and to 'Break the cycle. #StopOrganisedCrime".

ONE VOICE ONE MESSAGE (OVOM)

www.ovom.org e-mail: admim.ovom@protonmail.com 26TH JUNE 2026



26 JUNE

INTERNATIONAL DAY
AGAINST

**DRUG ABUSE
AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING**

Choose Health. Choose Hope. Choose a Better Future.
Together, we can build a drug-free world and
create stronger, healthier communities for all.

A large green ribbon is draped over a faint world map in the background.

- AWARENESS
- PREVENTION
- SUPPORT
- EDUCATION
- HOPE

TALK OPENLY
Break the silence.

SUPPORT OTHERS
Be there for someone.

MAKE HEALTHY CHOICES
Choose a better you.

BUILD A BETTER TOMORROW
Together for future generations.

**SAY NO TO DRUGS.
YES TO LIFE.**



Joy Marie Butler,
World Organization Secretary
pres.wctuaustralia@gmail.com

DEAR SISTERS

- It is always exciting to see what WCTU is doing around the world. We are delighted to receive reports from India, the Philippines, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, the United Kingdom and Australia. We know there is more great work happening in other countries and we look forward to your news next time. Be strong, be faithful and continue the important and beautiful work of speaking up for truth and temperance.

Bless you each one. Joy Butler.

NEWS FROM INDIA

Reena Kumar in India tells us of a recent program conducted in Delhi in which students took the pledge to abstain from alcohol, drugs, tobacco and related products. The Delhi police joined us in this endeavour. This is excellent news and we will pray that the promises made will be strong in the minds of the students and they will keep them, by God's grace.



The work in India continues and at every opportunity to spread the temperance message Reena is there to see it happen. Some of her students have been involved in an awareness campaign as well as making posters about saying NO to drugs, alcohol, and tobacco. Home protection is another theme. They are working aggressively to promote awareness and knowledge using social media, conducting seminars as well as visits to places where such practices are rampant. Reena says "It is a huge task however we soldier on with our commitment."



NEWS FROM THE PHILIPPINES *(see back cover)*

A new Board of Trustees and Officers of Philippine Woman's Christian Temperance Union, Inc. (PWCTUI) has recently been set up. They have a representative group of fine women ready to uphold the mission, values and programs they share with the WWCTU. They look forward to working together with all of us as we share the vision of WCTU. The President is Dr Florita Villanueva Miranda, the Secretary is Marian Tiambeng and the Treasurer is Arma Valentin. There are 8 other members on the team and they will do a great work in their beautiful country.



NEWS FROM CAMBODIA

Mihae Lee, President of Cambodia WCTU shares an encouraging update. A successful temperance lecture for 80 students at a middle school on the outskirts of Phnom Penh was conducted recently. Particularly exciting was the inclusion of 13 young people, which included nurses from the Hebron Medical Center and nursing students who are about to graduate. They are new Christians who showed a deep interest in the temperance movement and volunteer work. The leaders are hopeful that these young passionate youth will become the driving force for WCTU in Cambodia.



NEWS FROM WALES, UNITED KINGDOM

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to KWCTU President Young Joo Kim and Vice President Dr. Jung Joo Kim, Fieldworkers for Korean Missionaries, who have been called to serve alongside us as partners in mission in the Lord.

Strengthened by your precious dedication and fervent prayers, we continue to serve faithfully on the mission field and witness God at work. A quiet revival is beginning to take place at Hanover Church, located in a small village in Wales.

We love and bless you in the name of the Lord. As we share the following news, we sincerely ask for your continued encouragement, support, and earnest prayers.



Women's Temperance Prayer

Christian woman's temperance movements around the world pray for healing and restoration from the widespread problems of drug, alcohol, and tobacco addiction that affect individuals, families, and society.

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union in Wales gathers at Hanover Church each month to pray that the darkness of drug, alcohol, and tobacco addiction throughout Wales will be healed and driven away through the precious blood of Jesus.

The prayer gathering is led by my wife, Missionary Young-sook Jeon, at 2:00 p.m. on the last Saturday of every month.



Our Prayer Topics

*"For I will pour water on the thirsty land,
and streams on the dry ground;
I will pour out my Spirit on your offspring,
and my blessing on your descendants.
They will spring up like grass in a meadow,
like poplar trees by flowing streams."
- Isaiah 44:3-4*

Please pray that:

- The spiritually thirsty people of Wales, a land that has become dry, will humbly long for God's revival.
- Hanover Church will become a spiritual wellspring of revival in Wales through the grace of the Holy Spirit.
- The anointing of the Holy Spirit will rest upon the Women's Temperance Prayer meetings.
- We will be filled with the Holy Spirit and serve Hanover Church faithfully.

WCTU of Sri Lanka's Brief Report

By National President

Mrs. Ranjitham Rosina Anaraj



I consider it a great honour and privilege to have met our beloved and inspirational WWCTU President, Dr. Sheela Lall, early this year. Until then I had not heard about the WCTU. My husband, Pastor Lenin, and I are involved in kingdom ministry. We have a son who is in the 10th grade. Sister Sheela talked to me about the WCTU and its purpose, to strengthen women as Christian leaders and godly homemakers who shine like Christ's lighthouse and create a Bible based better world, free of drugs, alcohol, and discrimination. This touched a similar desire and chord in my heart. I was shown a way to make a difference despite our limited resources by involving the community, churches, and youth.

This has been an exciting journey. Now we have 7 unions in three different cities with a total of 225 members and 40 male honorary members. Many youth and children have pledged to be drug and alcohol free for life.

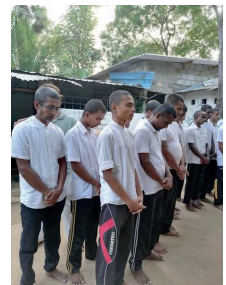
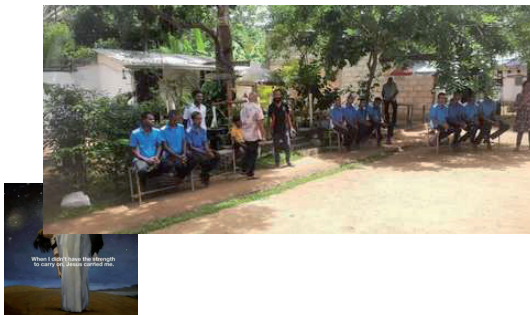
Some of our sisters went door to door to find ladies suffering from alcohol and drug abuse and helped them by counselling them to handle the situation and praying for them. We also provided groceries to the needy, which was much appreciated with tears of gratitude.

We visited drug addiction recovery centers and learned more about how to pray for them and better understand them.

We are still learning, but we have been blessed to find this new avenue to show the love of Jesus to the people who really need it.

It was a tremendous joy to see many of our world leaders during the last WWCTU executive Zoom meeting and to feel part of this amazing organisation. Please pray for us as we pray for you all.

Youth pledging; children learning through Bible stories about leading a holy and God pleasing life. Drug addicts being prayed over; ladies counselling and going door to door; also the distribution of grains and groceries, etc.



Australia & New Zealand Children's Department Revived

By Joy Butler and Courtney Langberg

For many years WCTU Australia has managed to maintain a strong Children's Department with our Drug Free Kids (DFK) but it came time to revamp and revive our style. A young mother and teacher, Courtney Langberg, joined us and she has committed herself to the beautiful ministry of reaching more children and parents with our message. She has revised and established a vibrant website - <https://www.wctu.org.au/drugfreekids>. She has designed an attractive bright poster which can be distributed to churches, youth groups, schools, community spaces and anywhere that it will reach children and parents. She produces our quarterly DFK newsletter which is very bright and interactive.

Courtney has introduced a vibrant superhero theme designed to bring great consistency, creativity and engagement. This is used on the website, on the poster and in the newsletters. Each superhero represents a godly quality grounded in Scripture, including Wisdom, Integrity, Self-Control and Courage, helping children connect Biblical truth with everyday choices.

Our first quarter focused on Wisdom, presented through bright and engaging content for children aged 4 to 12 years. The heart behind this is to empower children with confidence, character and practical skills equipping them before pressure ever arises. This framework will extend to our website and a developing school resource pack.

We want to reach and impact families, schools and communities with our Drug Free Kids message early in their lives. They are the future of WCTU. Many of our current members are here because of the Children's Department of WCTU when they were children. The ministry to children cannot be missed.

WCTU Australia also invites you to use our resources if you want to make an impact on the children in your part of the world. You are invited and don't hesitate to communicate with Courtney or Tanja Curcic (our Communications director) for more information about how you can tap into these excellent and modern resources.

Courtney - drugfreekidswctu@gmail.com – Tanja - getintouchwctu@gmail.com

INDIA

14th April children youth awareness
Counselling Program by WCTU Jabalpur
was held 200 participated. They all signed
the pledge card and kept it in their Bibles.



BE ENCOURAGED LIKE INDIA AND NORWAY!



WCTU
AUSTRALIA
Woman's Christian
Temperance Union
Drug-Free Life



DRUG FREE
Kids
AUSTRALIA &
NEW ZEALAND

AUSTRALIA & NZ ⚡⚡⚡⚡⚡🎁🎁 100% FREE

RAISING HERO KIDS

ONE FAMILY AT A TIME

COURAGE



INTEGRITY



WISDOM



SELF-CONTROL



 AGES 4-12 The critical window before adolescence	 DRUG-FREE Values that resist peer pressure	 HERO STORIES To instil values	 FREE POST Printed & delivered every quarter
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★ JOIN FREE – POSTED TO YOUR DOOR EVERY QUARTER

GET THE HERO CLUB NEWSLETTER FREE!



Hero stories on Courage,
Wisdom, Integrity & Self-Control



Fun activities & colouring
for ages 4-12



Family conversation starters
about healthy choices



Add birthday – get a
free birthday surprise
in the mail!



Scripture & devotionals
woven through every issue



100% free – printed &
posted, no strings attached

**SCAN TO
JOIN FREE!**



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<https://www.wctu.org.au/dfk>

⚡ COURAGE ★ INTEGRITY ◆ WISDOM ⚡ SELF-CONTROL ★ DRUG FREE KIDS

13

Meaningful sharing and fun in Sætervika, Norway

By: Rachel-Elise Erlingsson

The children's camp at Sætervika was held this year from 17–19 April and gathered 27 children from grades 3–8. It was a pleasant and calm group, with a good mix of familiar and new faces. Two capable youth leaders from Kvinnherad contributed this year by, among other things, leading activities in the Tarzan trail and organizing the nature trail.

On Saturday, we were visited by two wonderful ponies, and everyone who wanted to got the chance to ride. The children impressed us by showing great courage in trying something new. Some even managed to trot a little.

This year's camp song was "Alt på hode" by Pilestredet, which expresses how Jesus changed everything through his life and death. The theme for the Bible lessons was "Jesus – my rescuer," based on the Bible verse: "Do not be afraid; just believe!" (Mark 5:36).

In the common room, space was provided for creative expression, and many took the opportunity to make drawings, sculptures, bookmarks and small books. One participant even made a special trophy for the youth leaders as a thank-you for their efforts.

As usual, "Snusen" kept an eye on both tidiness and behavior. Although this was not the tidiest group we have had, one room stood out for both good order and excellent behavior – despite the fact that five girls shared the room. Who Snusen was remained a secret, which led to lively theories among the children.



BE ENCOURAGED LIKE INDIA AND NORWAY!

Through the “No to Drugs” program, the children received teaching about drugs, their effects and addiction, presented in a safe and non-judgmental way. The children took an active part in conversations about how to handle difficult choices when faced with alcohol.

One of the great highlights of the weekend was the talent show on Saturday evening, where the children had the opportunity to stand in front of an audience and entertain one another. There were 14 different acts, featuring dance, singing, cheerleading, piano playing and sign language. Particularly moving was the performance of “Ja, vi elsker” in sign language. The winners of the show were two of the youngest girls, who impressed everyone with their courage as they overcame their nerves and danced to “Elektrisk.” The

audience was exceptionally supportive and helped create a wonderful atmosphere with applause and cheering.

In the evenings, we gathered in the common room in pyjamas with duvets for a cosy ending with songs and encouraging words. This gave everyone a chance to settle down after eventful days – even though there was naturally also some laughter and activity in the rooms later in the evening.

The children's camp at Sætervika is a valuable arena where children can grow both in faith and fellowship, and where they become better equipped to make good choices in life. The children who took part bring with them new friendships, new knowledge and memories for life. **(“Ja, vi elsker” is Norway's National Song)*





PHILIPPINES WCTU



To God be the Glory!