



FLC UPDATES

September to December 2019

“THESE LITTLE COINS ARE SET ASIDE...



A corner at our ICFLC Office.

...not every time one empties one’s purse to do the accounts after returning from shopping, but only once a month! What a modest way of manifesting international solidarity in the middle of the 20th century – the century of gigantic, mutual help projects, great missionary societies and World Council of Churches, not to mention the vast inter-governmental programmes of technical assistance and those sponsored by the United Nations!”

Madeline Barot, then Executive Secretary, Department of Cooperation of Men and Women in the Church, Family and Society, World Council of Churches (in a *Preface* to U Kyaw Than, ed. *The Fellowship of the Least Coin*, 1962, p.5)

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THE AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN: 27TH National Conference

Held on September 09 to 11, 2019, in Brisbane, Australia, the Conference featured Bible Studies, memorial and worship services, fellowship, fun and food, business sessions, sharing of Unit reports, and special presentations. The Executive Secretary shared a brief presentation on the history of the FLC, and on the 2018 Project Grant reports. The Rev. Nita West is the newly appointed FLC Coordinator for ACW.

Prior to the Conference the Executive Secretary visited and met the members in New South Wales and Queensland Units. She was also able to meet Sr. Julie Adlawan of the Missionaries of God’s Love, a 2018 Project Grant (Women Rise Up – Gowrie Court) partner in Canberra, ACT, Australia. As well, she had conversations about the organizational life of the FLC



Guests at the Conference, with sisters from Aotearoa NZ

with the former ICFLC Chair (2002-2004), Rev. Valamotu Palu who is now pastoring Tonga Parish Uniting Church in Sydney.



ACWC Conference participants

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THE 39TH ICFLC ANNUAL MEETING IN GHANA

Hosted by the All-Africa Conference of Churches (AACC) together with the Christian Council of Ghana, the meeting was held at the Presbyterian Women’s Centre in Abokobi, Accra. Mercy Amba Oduyoye, the heralded Mother of African Feminist Theology was guest speaker at the

opening worship attended by more than a hundred local church women. Three local young women observers joined the meeting. We are thankful for their lively participation and important voice in helping make the FLC programs particularly the scholarship for young women more relevant. Thank you, Regina, Celestina and Susan!



The young women with Mercy Amba Oduyoye.

The Committee also visited the Talitha Cumi Centre in Legon, a local Project Grant partner in 2012, and the slave castles in the Cape Coast area as part of the cultural day tour. We are aiming for the 2020

AM to have all the regions represented. The Caribbean representative Rev. Marvia Lawes was not able to make it to this AM for some reasons.



Supaporn Yarnasarn of ACWC, liturgist. Lydia Mwaniki of AACC, welcoming the guests. (Right) The ICFLC and local women after the opening worship.

A total of 19 Project Grant applications were approved, and one Scholarship Award for Young Women was granted to Ackraraporn TAKAM from Thailand.

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The 2019 ECUMENICAL CWU PHILIPPINES ASSEMBLY

Held last November 16, the assembly was attended by more than a hundred church women where a new set of Board Members were elected. An FLC In-gathering service closed the assembly where the ICFLC Executive Secretary gave a brief reflection on the 2019 theme of the FLC In-gathering service.

ECWUP is very happy and proud that the ECWUP President, Dr. Gay Manodon was recently elected as Vice Chair for Women, at the 25th General Convention of the National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP), held on November 25 to 28, 2019.



The Ecumenical CWU Philippines Officers and leaders of member organizations.

ASIAN ECUMENICAL WOMEN'S ASSEMBLY IN TAIWAN

The Asian Ecumenical Women's Assembly (AEWA), organized by the Christian Conference of Asia (CCA), an ICFLC member, was held on November 22 to 27, 2019, at the Presbyterian Bible College in Shinchu, Taiwan. Hosted by the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan and attended by more around 250 ecumenical women and guests, the assembly featured Bible Studies and worship experiences, interest workshops and panel presentations.

The ICFLC Executive Secretary was a presenter for the FLC, together with the Asian Church Women's Conference (AWC), World YWCA, and the World Day of Prayer (WDP), on the Panel Discussion on the role of various ecumenical women's organisations in fully animating the Asian ecumenical movement.



Rev. Kyung In Kim (Moderator), Supaporn Yarnasarn (ACWC); Nirmala Gurong (World YWCA); Liza B. Lamis (ICFLC); and Moumita Biswas (WDP).

“The ecumenical movement and partnership of organisations must be strengthened without any fragmentation or duplication of activities in the same constituencies.” This was the common concern expressed by AEWA participants at a lively discussion after the panel presentations.

Journeying with you in prayer and with our Least Coins, and wishing you all a blissful celebration of the Christmas Season,

Liza (ICFLC Executive Secretary), & Lalaine (Office Assistant)