

Fellowship of the Least Coin 2006

The Fellowship of the Least Coin (FLC), an ecumenical women's movement of prayer for peace and reconciliation, grew out of the belief that prayer could transcend every national boundary. In 1956, Christian women in Asia and Presbyterian women from the United States combined their efforts and resources to launch the Fellowship of the Least Coin, a project of Christian prayer and action in which every woman could participate, no matter what her economic position.

Today, in more than 80 countries around the world, women who support the FLC movement and pray for justice, peace and reconciliation set aside the "least coin" of their currency as a symbol of solidarity with peoples of every nation.

The worth of the least coin is greater than its monetary value. Esther Byu, executive secretary of the International Committee of the Fellowship of the Least Coin (ICFLC), describes the value of the least coin. "The Least Coin teaches us to be humble, to value the least and to trust that nothing is impossible for God who can do great things out of the least and the unexpected. Our concern and yearning for peace in the wounded and broken world, which moves us to spontaneously pray and give, becomes a powerful healing source for our own pain as well as for the pain of those whose lives have been touched by our prayers and gifts" (*Fellowship of the Least Coin, Messages and Reports 2004*, p. 89).

Least coins add up. An international committee of women from ecumenical organizations and the Asian Church Women's Conference determines grants and administers the collected funds. In allocating the grants, the committee supports opportunities for

- awareness-raising and/or education for women on gender issues;
- programs on literacy, health, social concerns and leadership development;
- promoting justice, peace and reconciliation in families, communities and the environment; and
- gathering women to meet ecumenically, regionally, nationally and worldwide.

Each year, grants support ecumenical projects and organizations, emergency situations, emerging opportunities, natural disaster assistance and administration. Church Women United in New York receives contributions from individuals and organizations in the United States and forwards them to the Fellowship of the Least Coin in Geneva, Switzerland.



Lascahobas, Haiti



Insein, Myanmar



Nairobi, Kenya



East Timor

2006 Project Grants

Africa—\$24,500

1. Njelo Self Help Group, Vihiga District, Kenya, \$3,500
2. Kiragati Water Project, Central Province, KM North of Nairobi, Kenya, \$4,000
3. Methodist Women's Fellowship, Kenema, Sierra Leone, \$3,500
4. Women's Empowerment Project (WEP), Lumley Freetown, Sierra Leone, \$3,500
5. Lusite Labomama Community Project, Alberton City, Johannesburg, South Africa, \$3,000
6. Thari Women's Organization, Tamboville Benoni, South Africa, \$3,500
7. Mwambashi Women's Club, Chongwe, Zambia, \$3,500

Asia—\$21,500

1. Women's Pre-Assembly Forum, UCCP, Davao City, Davao Del Sur, Philippines, \$4,000
2. Lutheran Community Sewing Group, Albert Park, South Australia, Australia, \$4,500
3. Delhi Street Children's Village, New Delhi, India, \$5,000
4. World Student Christian Federation Asia-Pacific-Student Christian Movement, Joint Women's Program, \$3,000
5. The Asian Church Women's Conference 13th Assembly, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, \$5,000

Caribbean—\$4,000

1. The Tamarind Tree Project, Montserrat, Eastern Caribbean, \$4,000

Europe—\$12,500

1. THEKLA, training course for women, Athens, Greece, \$3,500
2. Ecumenical Forum European Christian Women, Lowenberg bei Murten, Switzerland, \$3,000
3. Ecumenical Forum of Romanian Christian Women, Stejeris, Romania, \$3,000
4. "Telling Our Story" (DVD), Geneva, Switzerland, \$3,000

Latin America—\$20,000

1. Say "No" to Trafficking of Women and Children in

- Argentina and Latin America, Buenos Aires, Argentina, \$4,000
2. "Woman Alive," San Gabriel Da Palha, Espirito Santo, Brazil, \$3,500
3. Christian Women Working Toward Empowerment, La Paz, Bolivia, \$2,500
4. Gender and Faith for Wholeness in Social Action, Santiago de Chile, \$2,500
5. Weaving Networks of Hope in the Middle of Pain, Bosa, Bogota, Columbia, \$2,500
6. Empowerment of Women in the Community of Faith, Four Municipalities of Honduras, \$2,000
7. Pro-Women, Quetzaltenango, Guatemala, \$3,000

Middle East—\$21,000

1. Leadership Training Conferences for Young Women, Egypt, \$3,000
2. Middle East Council of Churches regional workshop, "Overcoming Violence Against Women," Cairo, Egypt, \$3,000
3. National seminar, "Women, Education and Gender," Beirut, Lebanon, \$3,000
4. Catering to Support Living program, Bsalim, Above Jal El Dib, \$3,000
5. Young mothers' seminar, "Be Equipped," Dhour el-Shoueir, Lebanon, \$3,000
6. A Woman's Resource Room, Near East School of Theology, Beirut, Lebanon, \$3,000
7. Healthy Hearts project, Dar Al-Kalima Health and Wellness Center, Bethlehem, Palestine, \$3,000

Pacific—\$12,000

1. Gender and Economic Empowerment Development Training for the Advancement of Women, Niue, South Pacific, \$3,000
2. Women and HIV/AIDS program, The Pacific Conference of Churches, Suva, Fiji, \$5,000
3. Christian Leadership workshop, Garoka, Eastern Highlands Province, Papua, New Guinea, \$4,000

Women's Program, World Council of Churches—\$2,000

1. Workshop, "Streams of Grace Transforming Churches into Places of Safety for Women," \$1,000
2. Workshop, "Violence and Abuse: Understanding the Sacredness of the Human Person," \$1,000

World Day of Prayer International Committee—\$8,500

1. In Faith Women of Central America and Caribbean Shape the Future, Panama, \$4,250
2. In Faith Caribbean Women Shape the Future, Guyana, \$4,250

2006 Block Grants

- All Africa Conference of Churches, \$8,000
- Asian Church Women's Conference, \$20,000
- Caribbean Conference of Churches, \$9,000
- Christian Conference of Asia, \$8,000
- Church Women United, USA, \$4,500
- Ecumenical Forum of European Christian Women, \$9,000
- Latin American Council of Churches, \$9,000
- Middle East Council of Churches, \$9,000
- Pacific Conference of Churches, \$5,000
- Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada, \$4,500
- World Council of Churches Women's Program, \$9,000
- World Day of Prayer International Committee, \$9,000

Total \$104,000

Budget for 2006

- Project Grants \$125,000
- Block Grants \$104,000
- Anniversary Celebrations \$25,000
- Annual Meeting \$20,000
- Program and Administration \$28,800
- Executive Secretary \$26,600
- Emergency Grants \$10,000
- Contingency \$2,000
- Treasurer \$7,000
- Total \$348,400