

MWA Vice President's Letter for July/August 2013

FOLLOWING IN CHRIST'S FOOTPRINTS

Dear Sisters

This is the first of my two letters to you this year which always cover two months at a time, this one July/August. This time I refer to as the 'silly season' as we go into holiday mode.

A few weeks ago I went into holiday mode as I prepared for the European Women's conference in Albania. I started packing my summer clothing and sun protection cream and kept saying to myself at last I will have some sun on my face; and increase in Vitamin D. This came about, having checked the weather report in Albania and it reported being hot – really hot. I breathed the sigh of relief 'some sun at last'. However when I arrived that was not to be, guess what, the rain poured and the thunder rolled, but we did see a bit of sun, maybe not as much as I wanted. As the sun came out a number of us would run to the beach or near the pool on the sun bed just to get a bit of colour!!!

This did not dampen the spirit of the 80 plus women that invaded Albania and when I say invaded, we did. Just picture a large coach with a group of 'singing Moravian Women'. You know the score, we sang at breakfast, on the coach and even in the Catholic Cathedral in Tirana. It made people stop and stare. The men looked puzzled as it is not the norm, so many women at one time.

Our Albanian Sisters were so happy to have us so they took us to see their projects around Albania, spreading the gospel in a Muslim Country. To use their terminology 'spreading the God word' so we covered the miles and up in the hills. All the projects are worthwhile but for me two projects stood out, the work done in Burreli a very poor village in Albania and the work done with women in Elbasan. I am certain that you would hear more about these and perhaps have the opportunity of assisting. But please keep them in your prayers.

I felt so proud to be a woman but more importantly a 'Moravian Woman' when I see the work that two women in Albania started and continue to build, the tenacity, the commitment and most importantly the belief that they could make a difference.

Sisters for this type of important work to continue they need our help; we need new members especially the young ones to carry on the good work and also sisters taking up committee positions to help the organisation to continue to do such good work. I know that you do good work already but we do need your assistance on the committees as we cannot survive without leadership.

During this relaxation time please pray for our organisation and ask God for his guidance so that we could continue spreading 'The God Word'

Stay Blessed

Norma