

Women's History Month

March 2024



Women's History Month is observed annually during March to coincide with International Women's Day on March 8th. The idea of Women's History Month began in 1978 when the schools of Sonoma county, California, designated March as Women's History Month as a means of examining women's history, issues, and contributions. In

1981, a U.S. congressional resolution proclaimed the week including March 8th to be National Women's History Week. After continued petitioning from the National Women's History Project, Congress expanded the holiday and designated March as Women's History Month in 1987.

Our past is filled with many amazing women who faced hardships, danger, and doubts, however, they believed in their mission. Today, women continue to break new ground, try new things, and stand up for what is right. Take a moment to think about women you know in your nation, city, community and church that are making a difference (large or small). Why not say thank you and we appreciate you. Find time this month to celebrate the women in your life!

What we are is God's gift to us. What we become is our gift to God.

— Eleanor Powell

During Women's History Month, ABWM-GRR President, Sharon Farral recognizes these courageous women.

Ann Hasseltine Judson (1789-1826)



Ann Hasseltine Judson was the beloved wife of America's first Baptist Missionary Adoniram Judson. Ann and her husband Adoniram

served in Burma 1813 to 1850. When her husband was falsely imprisoned Ann kept him alive for twenty—one months of persecution. Ann bribed the guards so she could take food to her husband who was starving. She arrange for him to be able to spend brief periods of time in the courtyard. Ann worked with children. Particular education for girls and women were high priorities for Ann. During a time that her husband was away for long periods of time Ann started a school. Her regular writing in missionary journals would inspire the next two generations of missionaries. Ann had a brilliant mind, spiritual depth, and linguistic aptitude. She left behind splendid translations and the foundation of women's education. Ann and Adoniram were the first to translate Scripture into Burmese. Ann translated into Siamese as well. She was a pioneer missionary, school teacher, and woman's evangelist. In the absence of her husband she frequently conducted worship services in Burmese.

If you wish to read more about Ann and her amazing life, an excellent book is: "The Extraordinary Story of Ann Hasseltine Judson, A Life Beyond Boundaries", by Rosalie Hall Hunt

Joanna P. Moore (1832-1916)



Joanna devoted herself sacrificially to the Baptist mission cause. Born in Pennsylvania she moved as a young person to Illinois where she became involved in a ministry to recently-freed slaves who lived on an island in the Mississippi River.

There her life's work was shaped as she taught basic reading and writing skills and sought opportunities for manual labor training for her students.

In 1877 Joanna Moore was the first person commissioned by the Women's Baptist Home Mission Society. Against stiff racist opposition, she founded a training school for black women in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Over the next three decades she established 'Fireside Schools' to educate freed women involved in Bible study, literacy work, and children's ministry. She wrote tracks and Sunday School literature which was used in an extensive network of informal education centers.



1. What state was the first place to grant women the right to vote?
2. International Women's Day was established in what year?
3. Women could not get credit cards until what year?
4. At the first winter Olympics in 1924, women were only allowed to compete in what sport?

Joanna & Susanna

“After this, Jesus traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. The Twelve were with him, and also some women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases: Mary (called Magdalene) from whom seven demons had come out; Joanna the wife of Chuza, the manager of Herod’s household; Susanna; and many others. These women were helping to support them out of their own means.” Luke 8:1-3, NIV

The Bible is filled with stories of strong women, setting the foundation for each of us. While we may not know a great deal about Joanna or Susanna the Bible shares these facts:

- both were followers of Jesus Christ, traveling with him
- They gave of their resources
- Joanna may have been at the burial of Jesus
- Joanna was the wife of Chuza, Herod’s steward
- Jesus healed both of evil spirits and sicknesses.

Keep in mind women never traveled alone and did not travel as much as men because of the difficulties and dangers as well as their responsibilities at home. They also gave of their own resources. How brave and faithful these women were.

ABWM National News Women’s History Month

During Women’s History Month, ABWM curates a virtual gathering every Monday at 12:00 PM Eastern Time during March 2024. We hope you’ll join us in celebrating Women’s History Month! Register at www.abwomensministries.org

Monday, March 4, 2024
12:00-12:30 PM ET
Special Guest: Rev. Dr. Cheryl Price

Monday, March 11, 2024
12:00-12:30 PM ET
Special Guest: Rev. Kathryn Choy-Wong

Monday, March 18, 2024
12:00-12:30 PM ET

Trivia Answers

1. Wyoming
2. 1911
3. Congress passed the Equal Credit Opportunity Act of 1974, which allowed women to get credit cards in their own names .
4. Figure skating

There is no pit so deep, that God's love is not deeper still.

— Corrie Ten Boom