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**“I Made You Wonderful”**

**Prepared by WDP Cook Islands**

**March 7, 2025**

To National/Regional Committees:

Dear WDP Sisters,

I am thrilled to share that the materials written by WDP Cook Islands for our 2025 program are ready! Our sisters from the Cook Islands have spent the last few years deepening into the theme: “I Made You Wonderful,” based on Psalm 139:1-18. This program invites us into the knowledge that each one of us was made with care and love by God. When we can receive this profound truth, everything in our life changes and we begin to radiate and shine from within. We also learn how to treat every other person as made wonderful by God.

Our first Guiding Principle in the World Day of Prayer articulates that our starting point is Christian women. This has been an essential conviction of our movement over the last century. Too often, women and girls have been silenced and oppressed, making this upcoming theme from WDP Cook Islands particularly relevant. The message that we, as women and girls, are “fearfully and wonderfully” made in the image of God reinforces our movement’s support of women in expressing their faith and speaking about their lives in prayer and worship before God and in community.

The Worship Service invites us to notice aspects of our divinely created bodies that we often take for granted. The scripture reading from Psalms 139:1-18 is woven together with stories of three women from the Cook Islands. We come to understand that God knows us, is always with us, and made us unique and special. The service leads us to offer prayers of adoration and thanksgiving to our Creator, followed by prayers of confession and longing. Finally, the prayers of intercession guide us to ask God for wisdom, courage and healing, that our world would come to treat all people as “fearfully and wonderfully made.”

The Bible Study prompts dialogue around Psalm 139, particularly focusing on the relationship between God and each one of us. The study looks at 3 sections of Psalm 139, each with a different focus: verses 1-6 (God knows us), verses 7-12 (God is with us), and 13-18 (God made us wonderful).

The Children’s Program includes a song that is popular among children in the Cook Islands, as well as several activities for coloring and creating neck garlands and flower head crowns. Children are encouraged to learn how their bodies were made wonderful by God.

The Country Background gives an abundance of information about the history of the Cook Islands, with a particular emphasis on the achievements of women.

Taking on the responsibility of being a writer country is always a rigorous journey, and we are grateful to our Cook Islands sisters for their hard work and patience.

Included in these preliminary materials are the Worship Service, Bible Study, Country Background, Children’s Program, Artwork and Artist Statement. In coming weeks and months, we will also provide music sheets and photographs to accompany the program.

If your WDP Committee would like information about projects and initiatives recommended by women leaders in Cook Islands, please contact us.

May God continue to bless the world through our commitment to praying and acting together as a global sisterhood of ecumenical Christian women.

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Katie Reimer
Executive Director, WDPIC