



December, 2019



Message from the Directors

Christmas is very close and 2019 is nearly over. Time to reflect and see where the Lord is taking us.

As we go through the year, we often wonder what we are achieving but when we take time to reflect we can see His hand in all that has been achieved.

A number of good things have happened this year which are highlighted in this Newsletter. There would be many more.

It is such a joy to be a part of this global family of Billings Ovulation Method® teachers who continue to give of themselves to share this good news to the world.

A big thank you to all of you! Congratulations on all the achievements of 2019.

May you and your families take some time to stop, reflect and pray over the coming days and prepare for the coming of the Christ child who brings with him hope for the future.

Happy Christmas full of joy to all.

Gillian Barker,
Kerry Bourke,
Marian Corkill
Marie Marshall

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Credidimus Caritati
We have put our faith in love

Christmas Blessings

My dear fellow workers in and with the Billings Method™ of NFP.

Christmas is a time of giving motivated by our gratitude to God the Father for the incredible gift of His divine Son to us.

Over the centuries many have donated time, talent and treasure to help give this gift to others. Doing so is a holy and noble work of mercy.

Many who know the story of how God has given the great gift of the Billings Method™ of NFP to the world, have, out of gratitude, given time, talent and treasure to help give this gift to others, especially the poor. This giving has also been a holy and noble work of love.

This Christmas I would encourage a contribution to giving the gift of the Billings Ovulation Method® to the poor in Africa, via an International Conference and teacher training program to be held in the country of Benin, Africa, in early March, 2020. The goal is to train teachers of the Method, so that they can give this great gift to others in Africa.

May you all have a Happy and Grace-Filled Christmas, with the Infant Jesus.

Love & prayers,

Fr. Joseph Hattie, OMI
Spiritual Advisor for WOOMB International.



Rest in Peace

During 2019 some significant people, who, for many years have worked hard to share knowledge of the patterns of fertility and infertility, through the Billings Ovulation Method® have returned home to the Creator.

Professor Erik Odeblad

The collaboration between the Drs Billings, Professors Jim Brown and Erik Odeblad has meant that the knowledge of the science of fertility and the recognisable signs of the patterns of fertility and infertility, have been shared with the world through the Billings Ovulation Method®.

Professor Erik Odeblad's contribution was huge. His gift of unlocking the significance of cervical mucus and its importance to fertility added one of the last pieces of the jigsaw puzzle to John Billings original search to offer couples a natural method based on sound science.

We are grateful to him for his knowledge but also his humility which meant that whenever he was with Billings Ovulation Method® teachers, he generously shared this knowledge simply, ensuring that teachers were given the opportunity to understand complicated scientific truths.

We were privileged to have known him. Deo Gratias.

WOOMB International Conference, Benin March, 2020

A group of very dedicated people is working hard to ensure that the WOOMB International Conference organized by WOOMB Benin will be an outstanding success.

At this stage of Conference planning there is always the concern of whether people will register and whether there will be sufficient funds to cover all the expenses.

Those who have organised previous WOOMB Conferences know these concerns only too well.

Of course the success of a Conference really depends on the people who attend. An exciting program has been planned and we know the speakers will put a lot of effort into their presentations, so that part of the Conference is already well covered. What is now needed is for our global Billings family to seriously consider whether it is possible to attend.

We would love to have you with us! Please give it careful consideration and if it is possible, register today! You can register as well as find out more about the Conference details at <https://woombconferencebenin2020.com/fr/>

Money cannot be forwarded through the website, however once you register please then send an email to service@woombconference2020.com and you will be informed of how to make the payment.

The official languages of the Conference will be French and English as will the Teacher Training Programs. We encourage those teachers and trainees who are coming to the Conference to also stay for the Teacher Training Programs.

Already we have a number of delegates from various African countries who are registering. As many of our African teachers and trainees need financial support to attend the Directors have set up an African Sponsorship Fund to offer this opportunity to gain increased knowledge to our African family. If you are unable to come to the Conference yourself, would you consider giving a donation? Any amount of money, large or small will assist us to realise our dream of bringing the legacy of Drs John and Lyn Billings to every woman in Africa.

You can send your donation through our online donation site:

<https://www.givenow.com.au/billingslife> or our crowdfraiser site: <https://www.givenow.com.au/crowdraiser/public/africanbillingsovulationmethodsponsorshipfundbenin>

PayPal: payee manager@thebillingsovulationmethod.org

Or through bank transfer. Please email manager@thebillingsovulationmethod.org for details.

Please add a reference when giving your donation: Benin Fund & your name

An African family will be forever grateful for your generosity. We know that this knowledge has the potential to change lives and bring hope to families.



Rest in Peace (cont.)

Armand de Malherbe - France

Armand, husband of Angela supported his wife's life-work of spreading the truth of love and life, especially to youth through TeenSTAR in France and elsewhere.

Dr Joseph Santamaria - Melbourne

Dr Joe (as he was known) was one of the key supporters of Drs John and Lyn Billings when they were developing the Billings Ovulation Method®. As Director of St Vincent's Hospital Community Medicine Clinic he opened the first hospital clinic to teach the Method to couples.

Dolores Clark - USA

Dolores was one of the key teachers in the USA and was for many years the Chair of the Education Committee. Dolores was a nurse practitioner and nursing trainer and knew the importance of ensuring that teachers were well trained. Dolores' contribution to BOM-USA is greatly appreciated by all who knew her.

Dr John Dunn - Scotland

Dr John Dunn, a General Practitioner and a tireless worker for Natural Fertility Regulation and Pro-life issues. He and his late wife Dr Maura taught natural fertility regulation to couples for over 50 years in Glasgow, Scotland.

Global Outreach

We have been delighted to hear of the global outreach to countries which are not yet affiliated with WOOMB International Ltd.



Portugal



A visit to Fatima in 2018 inspired Spanish teacher Alicia Pastor to seek the assistance of Brazilian trainer Heloisa Periera and together they presented a WOOMB approved Teacher Training Program in July to 6 trainee teachers. Alicia and Heloisa are now supervising the teaching of these new trainees both remotely through Fertility Pinpoint and with further visits. We hope to very soon offer accreditation to some of the new teachers and then Affiliation of a Portuguese organisation with WOOMB International. Our sincere gratitude to Alicia and Heloisa for this co-operative venture which encompassed two languages and two continents. Very well done!

WOOMB Latinoamerica

The benefits of the WOOMB International Conference in Costa Rica in 2018 are still bearing fruit. As a result of delegates attending this Conference from Guatemala and Panama, Teacher Training Programs and mentoring of a supervised clinical practicum have occurred this year.

Guatemala

WOOMB Mexico took responsibility for this country and Benjamin Zamudio and his wife Graciela presented Teacher Training Programs in Guatemala to 73 trainees and, with the help of other Mexican teachers, remotely supervised clinical practicums. The Directors were delighted to accredit 12 new teachers just last week and are looking forward to receiving Affiliation papers so that we will have a WOOMB Affiliate in Guatemala in the near future.

Panama

Cristian Calvo and his wife Grettel Mendoza have done similar work in Panama and it is expected that teachers will soon be accredited and a Panama organisation for the teaching of the Billings Ovulation Method® will then submit an application for Affiliation with WOOMB International.



These initiatives have come as a direct result of inspiration gained by attendance at a WOOMB International Conference and Teacher Training Program. We are still seeing the fruits of both Zagreb and Costa Rica as detailed above, and believe that a similar story will be apparent after the Benin Conference. We ask for your prayers that every woman on earth will be given this opportunity to learn the signs of her fertility through the Billings Ovulation Method®, so that couples can choose to live their lives according to natural law, as designed by God.



Rest in Peace (cont.)

David Pierson - England

Another wonderful husband supporter, David was husband to Veronica who led the Billings teachers in England for many years until her resignation to care for David. David died on 6th December.

Clare and Peter Charles - Trinidad & Tobago

Trinidad has lost two strong supporters this year. Peter and Clare Charles were active in promotion of the Billings Ovulation Method® in T&T since the 1980's. In December Clare died and joined her husband Peter, who died in January this year.

Rest in peace to these and all the other wonderful people who have returned to their Heavenly home after having selflessly supported the teachers and promoted the Method over many years.

There will be great rejoicing in Heaven this year with so many of our Billings Ovulation Method® pioneers and stalwarts celebrating the birth of the Saviour.



YouTube Videos

Have you checked out the Billings Ovulation Method® videos on YouTube?

Gillian has been busy throughout the year responding to requests for updated PowerPoints to meet individual needs as well as to produce YouTube videos to encourage women to look further into the Billings Ovulation Method®.

Not only has she developed great resources, with the help of our teachers she has been able to now put them up in a number of languages

English, Vietnamese, French, Russian, Spanish and Portuguese

About the Billings Ovulation Method®

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fETCn9DFzlc&t=132s>

Introduction to the Billings Ovulation Method®

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vq4hvrMvLUI&t=30s>

The Billings Ovulation Method® and the Phases of the Cycle

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kVOyKpfUSRU&t=183s>

If you would like to have any of the above videos translated into your language please get in touch with us and Gillian will be happy to work with you in 2020.

New Spanish Resources

Understanding Couple Fertility and Some Clarifications concerning NaproTECHNOLOGY and the Billings Ovulation Method are now available in Spanish as hard copy and download. Downloads are available from the online shop: <https://billings.ecwid.com/> and hard copies are available from WOOMB Spain at woombsp@telefonica.net Another example of collaboration between the Spanish teachers and the WOOMB Latinoamerican team.

Teacher Training Correspondence Course (TTCC)

Currently Australian tutors are training people from 19 countries with 24 trainees from 7 African countries and 3 trainees from Russia/Belarus. These latter trainees are being spurred on by the one accredited teacher from Belarus and all 4 ladies are enthusiastic and ready to translate materials into Russian so that they can spread this good news. One of the new YouTube videos has been translated into Russian. In addition, a number of Affiliates have licences to offer the TTCC and are using this resource to train teachers.

The TTCC has been undergoing an extensive review - a much bigger job than anticipated. All the PowerPoint presentations for each session have been reviewed and updated and will be excellent resources for the upskilling of teachers as well as for the training of teachers. Each charting assessment is also being reviewed and is now more user friendly, with accompanying background material to assist learning. One new innovation has been some step by step demonstration charts as well as two new PowerPoints detailing how to draw the ovarian hormone levels by interpreting the charting patterns. As each session is being reviewed it is being trialled and further reviewed. We ask for patience as we continue during 2020 to improve and further develop this excellent resource for the training of teachers.



Dates for the Diary

WOOMB Vietnam is planning a National Conference in June, 2020.

WOOMB Latinoamerica Conference is being planned by WOOMB Colombia in Medellin in April, 2021.

The 10th World Meeting of Families is to be held in Rome in June 2021.

In January 2020 representatives from all the European Billings Affiliates and those working towards Affiliation will meet through a Whatsapp Meeting. This is another opportunity to share ideas and to offer support.

Please keep all these initiatives in your prayers.

Infertility Study

We were delighted to report that the Australian study on the Achievement of Pregnancy was published by Human Fertility in November. Currently it is available as open access so don't miss the opportunity to download a copy.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/14647273.2019.1671613>

Snapshot of Activities reported to the Directors

BOMA - USA

BOMA has been offering Webinars and during this year presented the Menarche to Menopause Doctors Seminar over 5 sessions. This proved to be successful and they are looking at offering this again in 2020.

Pakistan

The team from Pakistan continue to amaze us with their outreach in spreading the Billings Ovulation Method®. They have been offering a Teacher Training Program to trainee Catechists in Khushpur in the Diocese of Faisalabad and each catechists leaves this two year course with complete training in the Method. As these catechists work at grass roots level with the people in parishes, this has the potential to reach most of the Catholic couples throughout Pakistan. On this occasion they were able to meet up with a blind couple they had taught 13 years ago who are successfully using the Method and now have two children. Amongst their many other achievements for 2019 a Teacher Training Program was held for 3rd and 4th year's students of the nursing college of Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS) in Islamabad. As most of these students are Muslim this will assist in the spread of the Method to the Muslim population.

Italy

In September, about 50 current and past members of Associazione Metodo Billings Emilia-Romagna, AMBER celebrated the 30th anniversary of their association in the Pastoral Centre of Parma.

France WOOMB France Billings Life celebrated 10 years since their formation

Trinidad and Tobago

The Billings team in T&T have accepted many challenges this year and have adapted where necessary to ensure they can promote the Method wherever the opportunity arises. The Diocesan Marriage Education Program now concludes with a session on NFP and they are hopeful this will encourage young couples to seek the assistance of a Billings teacher to help them through the early stages of learning.

Brazil

350 delegates were expected at the National Congress of the Billings Ovulation Method® in Ribeirão Preto, Brazil in November.

In addition celebrations were held in Cancao Nova to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the opening of the Padre Pio Medical Centre which offers a clinic for the teaching of the Billings Ovulation Method®.

These are just snippets of some of what is reported to the Directors - there are many more. We thank you for informing us of your activities as these highlight the incredible dedication of so many teachers throughout the world who offer their time and energy to ensuring they are well trained to share the Method with others. Our grateful thanks to every Billings Ovulation Method® teacher, wherever you are in the world.



Christmas Worship

Merry Christmas!

Jesus is the best gift of all