



WOMEN IN  
CHURCH AND  
SOCIETY  
THE LUTHERAN  
WORLD FEDERATION

From the LWF Institutional Memory

## Women on the Move – Her Story:



**Name:** Dr Yvonne Anna Maria von Stedingk

**Country of origin:** Sweden

**Date of birth:** 28.10.1930

**Church:** Church of Sweden

**Period of mandate:** 01.11.1958-31.12.1966 with LWF/WS AUSTRIA  
09.01.1967-31.12.1972 Secretary, Liaison Officer for  
Internal Personnel, LWF Department of World Service  
01.01.1973-31.07.1973 Special Assignment, Emergencies,  
Department of World Service

**Short biography:** Born in Ludvika, Sweden, Dr von Stedingk was the director of the LWF's Vienna refugee settlement office from 1956 onwards before it was closed in

1965. Then jointly sponsored by LWF Commissions on World Service, World Mission and Latin America, a new unit was created within the LWF structure in Geneva to assist in recruiting personnel for LWF operated programs and projects, as well as for church and mission programs. Dr von Stedingk was transferred to head this new structure. Not only the unit received requests for personnel, but it also dealt with applicants who wish to put their own abilities to work in serving abroad. The service itself did not employ workers but supplied information about candidates to interested churches and agencies. Dr Von Stedingk, whose office was then at the LWF Headquarters had previously studied in Stockholm, Paris, London and Munich and had received a doctor's degree from the Vienna University for her thesis on the administration of refugee work in Austria since 1945. The establishment of the Volunteer and short-term workers Liaison Service was approved by the LWF Executive Committee in 1964. (LWI 02/1967).

*(Read article which bear witness of her extraordinary personality and competence with quotations from former General Secretary Carl Mau and former DWS director Eugene Ries).*