

What is the benefit of being part of DWF

- Being part of a community outside of our own reference
- Diversity broadening our vision
- Source for funding
- Networking
 - Same ministries can connect
- Assemblies – fellowship – worshiping – singing – togetherness
 - Moving from isolation to a sense of community
 - Different experiences but commonalities; ability to share wisdom
 - Chance to learn, grow, be challenged, nurtured
 - Value of retreat
 - Get a broader vision of DIAKONIA
 - Exposure to unfamiliar issues, awakening, encounter
 - Why you bother to go - testimonies
- Don't have to explain "diakonia"
- Transcend denominational borders
- Fees -> Assembly
- List of what we have/do
 - News
 - Website
 - Monthly prayer
 - Assembly
 - Ecumenical partners
- Brings the world to me in the faces of other people, expanded the world
- Benefit of Community in a world of individualism (part of Gospel)
 - Can be a risk to be in community
- Countering pragmatic financial decisions
- DIAKONIA cares for people doing ministry as opposed to organizations getting \$\$ from outside sources who are now trying to restore what they've lost in the lack of caring.
 - Pendulum may be swinging back and DIAKONIA can be a part of restoration
- Value of community, networking, exchange
- Read about activities of people all over the world, praying with and for people
- Dreaming – continue to grow and continuity of those who understand the vision
 - Reach younger people
- Just world – those who have share with those who do not – how to walk together, reciprocal
 - Growing awareness and working together for a better world
- What is the gift I bring? What is the gift I receive?
 - Listening to the other
 - Mutual understanding, mutual respect – being part of something that is bigger and better than what is around
 - Friendships

- Reframe in theological lens – what does it mean to be body of Christ, diversity, etc.
 - Different theologies but can lay that outside and be with each other as we're called to do
- Re-member body of Christ
- The work of the Spirit – pneumological
- In a world that's polarized, we're focusing on how we bring people together, transcends division
- In a world that's us and them, we model a world where everyone is us

What are we not?

- Church – structure, dogmatics, constraints (don't have to believe "this")
- Cash cow
- Not a direct-service organization
- Structured organization with paid staff, voluntary
- Not landed (no property)
- Not fixed on one country or continent
- Not a pastor bashing organization
- Don't say "poor us" – positive sense of who we are
- Not an organization of one gender
- Not in positions of power, offering hope
 - Values are powerful

In what way might it be possible for us to help the church develop a diaconal sense?

- Power structures that diminish the work
- Liturgy, proclamation, and **diakonia** to fulfill God's mission in the world
- Communicate what we already have – how to make it fresh
- Churches best-kept secret – instead of telling our own story we just want to get the ministry done
- Creating diaconal space
- Acknowledgement and affirmation from World to Member
- Pathfinders, Pioneers

Responses

Seek a response from others about who we are

DNA

In a world of division and extremes, diakonia provides community within the massive variety; uniqueness

Long tradition and history to where we are now – strength

Base we are building on, new relationships, community

Met people I never would have met otherwise

Our gaze goes to the wider world of God instead of navel gazing

Story and testimony; Brisbane assembly experience; have to talk about it

Local context broadening out to global

Rekindling enthusiasm – to remember how special assemblies are

More words, deepening understanding, confirmed thoughts, look for new words

It's a big scared world but DIAKONIA makes it smaller and filled with friends

Singing communities

Collect stories from members on phone

I'm a Deacon because ...