



DIAKONIA Prayer Letter - September

In many parts of the world deacons and deaconesses are experiencing great summer heat even as the summer season draws to a close. Here, far down in the Southern Hemisphere, we are looking forward to Spring and excitedly watching for signs of new life in our gardens and fields. I am moved each year by the cycle of the seasons we experience here – a cycle which reminds us of the ever-present hope of resurrection new life.

As I listen to world news I grieve once again with those affected by acts of violence and hatred, and by disasters caused by human carelessness. The prayer that spoke to my pain this week is as follows.

**God, we commend to your faithful love
those who are crying from the depths;
help them to watch and pray
through their time of darkness,
in sure hope of the dawn of
your forgiveness and redemption,
your hope and peace,
your comfort and love. Amen.**

(The prayer was posted on the website of Martha's House (USA). Martha's House describes itself as an ecumenical Christian community.)

We continue in the August prayer led by the Rev. Sandy Boyce, President DIAKONIA World:

Please join with me in praying for: * The DIAKONIA Regions, and the DIAKONIA Associations, and offering thanks for the work of the planning committees of the three Regional Assemblies. * Those living with the impact of climate change - rising seas encroaching the land in the Pacific, chronic water shortages in India, droughts, floods, famines, and wildfires. * Those serving the needs of the most vulnerable including refugees, immigrants and children in detention, the poor and disadvantaged, and those living with mental illness. * For Deacons, Deaconesses and diaconal ministers as they serve faithfully, despite challenges such as limited finance, uncertainty, and political instability.

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