

DIAKONIA Prayer Letter, August 2017



The 22nd World Assembly has ended!

Inspired by speakers....

Touched by encounters...

Moved by music...

We participants were then scattered by the wind in all directions.

We returned home. Most Sisters and Brothers will meet again in only four years' time.

The monthly prayer is a special means of connection for us; across borders, we pray for one another.

And because of our different time zones, our praying continually takes place.

This relationship is expressed in the words of the hymn below which, although written by Pastor John Ellerton in 1870, is still relevant. The hymn's theme is the growing worldwide fellowship of the Christian churches and their unbroken, unceasing offering of praise and prayers to God.

1. *The day Thou gavest, Lord, is ended,
The darkness falls at Thy behest;
To Thee our morning hymns ascended,
Thy praise shall sanctify our rest.*
2. *We thank Thee that Thy church, unsleeping,
While earth rolls onward into light,
Through all the world her watch is keeping,
And rests not now by day or night.*
3. *As o'er each continent and island
The dawn leads on another day,
The voice of prayer is never silent,
Nor dies the strain of praise away.*
4. *The sun that bids us rest is waking
Our brethren 'neath the western sky,
And hour by hour fresh lips are making
Thy wondrous doings heard on high.*
5. *So be it, Lord; Thy throne shall never,
Like earth's proud empires, pass away:
Thy kingdom stands, and grows forever,
Till all Thy creatures own Thy sway.*

In August, we especially pray for the following DIAKONIA member groups:

In Norway: Bergen Diakonissehjem; Diakonifelleskapet Diakonissehuset Lovisenberg; Stiftelsen DIAKNOVA; and

In the Philippines: Commission on Deaconess Service of the United Methodist Church; Deaconess Association of Iglesia Evangelica en las Islas Filipinas; and Deaconess Association of the United Church of Christ in the Philippines.

Mighty God, your word is opening the horizon of our lives. We thank you for the hope you offer us. Give us eyes and ears attentive for the future that you show us. Amen.

Sr. Traude Leitenberger, Deacon

More information about DIAKONIA World Assembly in Chicago is available at:

http://www.diakonia-world.org/2017/Chicago2017_Presentations-d.shtml