



## DIAKONIA Prayer January 2018

What will happen in 2018? What might we do, and what will happen to us? What will we receive, and what will we give? These questions arise when we consider the present political and social situations; ecclesial developments; and our own lives. We think about it and search for ways to face these challenges. From the perspective of human understanding, global trends are worrying, but we trust that God knows our ways.

*I said to the angel  
who stood at the gate of the new year:  
Give me light,  
so that I go safely  
towards uncertainty!*

*But he answered:  
Just enter the dark  
and put your hand in the hand of God!  
That's better than a light  
and safer than a well-known way!*

from China

Almighty God,  
We have many reasons to give you thanks:  
Thanks for people on our side;  
Thanks for memories of the World Conference in Chicago;  
Thanks for beneficial encounters with people from around the world.

We pray for our sick sisters and brothers:  
give them necessary strength and hope.  
We pray for our brothers and sisters  
who are persecuted for their faith:  
protect them.  
We pray for people without shelter:  
call forth to others protect them.

God's blessings for 2018!

Sr. Traude Leitenberger, Secretary DIAKONIA World Federation