

REPORT TO DOTAC: February 2005
WORLD FEDERATION MEETING JUNE 30-JULY 5, 2004

First Meeting of World Federation to meet outside of Europe for an Executive meeting unattached to a World Conference.

Met with UMC Deacons who hosted us to lunch and conversation about World Federation and local Diaconal work. Also had an evening reception with local deaconesses and others related to Diaconal work in the area of Valparaiso.

Presidents Report:

advisor to ELC in America at the World Lutheran Meeting in Winnipeg, Canada
-attended WCC in Geneva and was impressed by the youth voices speaking about faith and the future
-attended DRAAE conference held in Beni Suef, Egypt, hosted by the Daughters of St. Mary, new group to DIAKONIA
-attended assembly of Deaconess Community of ELCIA in Chicago, and noted that Sr. Anne Keffer is the new Directing Deaconess
-led us through SWOT analysis of DIAKONIA's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats. (point 9.1 of DIAKONIA Minutes)
- Asked us what award we would receive from the World Council of Churches about our work in DIAKONIA

Minutes: English reader reviews the minutes and two weeks later the rest of DIAKONIA Executive reviews and gives feedback and by October the minutes have approval.
Regional Reports:

DAP: making connections with the many Diaconal groups in the area
Methodist and Anglicans of New Zealand moving towards membership in DIAKONIA
UMC Women's Desk in New York helped finance the in-service training for Methodist Deaconesses in Fiji, this Order celebrates 37 years this year

DOTAC: reported that our meetings are taking place outside of the US
Attended prayer meeting for election candidates in Antigua
Shared dates and theme for next DOTAC conference
Noted we welcomed new member group ELCAIA to DOTAC
Invited World Federation to have their next conference in DOTAC region, invitation was accepted.

DRAE: highlight was conference in Beni Surf. Seven African and eight European countries attended the conference
Revised DRAAE constitution regarding associate members, have looked at the DOTAC constitution and By Laws as a resource for their work
Archives: are held now officially in Kaiserswerth
Finances: Contributions are down, fewer members in member groups, some member groups have not paid for several years, will need to have follow up to see if they are still wanting to be members.

DIAKAID Projects:

Currently Funded

-Korean Sisterhood; washer and dryer for retreat house
-IKADIWA: Indonesia; funding for translations of books for Deaconess training
-Methodist: Caribbean; funding for Vacation Bible School in Haiti with Sr. Janetta James
-ECLB: Brazil; funding for Marcia Leindecker to aid her in her Master's degree, now teaching and

coordinating Diaconal Training

-Methodists: Philippines; Lemon Tree self help Project to purchase land and grow trees and sell the fruit

New Projects:

- IECLB: Brazil; using hip hop music to overcome violence in a favela

-Daughters of St. Mary: Egypt; support for computer equipment in a new school

-Hibberdene: South Africa; bridge building project between those with resources and the poor to develop a daycare and restore community

-Rwanda: Orphanage is developing a dairy farm for their own resources and to sell produce

Emergency Funds: used in South East Asia and sent through the World Council Fund called ACT

Durham Conference:

-Regions will all stay in same college, able to hold two meetings while in Durham, meals together
-no large conference meal together, will have large Fair Trade Market with world foods and crafts to purchase

-Former DIAKAID recipients will be presenting workshops related to the Durham theme

-Small groups will use the Theology paper as their resource guide

-Justice workshop will be held in the conference area and be part of the worship theme at the end, focus is on the Decade To Overcome Violence

Deficit is expected to be about 6,000 (pounds) and will be covered by World Federation reserve funds, members are encouraged to contribute to transportation and registration costs as they are able

Translation equipment has been offered but at this time no word about its use has been clarified

Presentations are to be made using power point 2003, the conference hall is theater style seating

President Nomination: only one nomination has been received and that is DOTAC nomination for Louise Williams. Voting regulations have been established and voting would have happened in small booths outside the conference hall if we needed to have a Presidential vote

Resource Paks will be made available for all voting delegates, including: theology paper, voting style with flag, bible study and resource information on the theme

Three World Focus Meetings in the conference and each region will have a focus time, beginning with DRAE, then DAP and then DOTAC: focus of regions are to be on DIAKAID projects and other diaconal work DOTAC is doing. Also include invitation to DOTAC region for World event in 2009 or 2010

DIAKONIA News: is to be published in the spring and fall, no recent publications, not sure why, will also be on line

Website Purpose: communications for members and those interested in DIAKONIA, resource for members, prayer items

DIAKONIA Brochure: is still in production

Letter to church Leaders: Louise to write to all member group church leaders explaining about the work of DIAKONIA.

Submitted by Linda M. Ervin, Representative from DOTAC to World Federation DIAKONIA