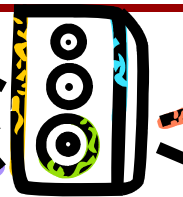




Disciples Women's Voices



Volume 3
Issue 2
May 2009

Click & Learn

Usually this newsletter reflects the Voices of Disciples Women around the country. However, this issue will be answering some of the questions raised by these voices.

Welcome to the wonderful online world of Disciples Women! This issue is focused on introducing you to the online world of Disciples Women and the free resources for programs and projects to be found at www.discipleswomen.org. Once you have accessed our home page click on the links (in red on your screen and as shown on this page) to learn more about each item.

Programs:

Woman-to-Woman Worldwide (WWW) is a mission / study experience which enables women to personally meet with and begin to understand the needs and issues of people in other countries with an emphasis on women and their lives.



The biennial **Women's Action Web (WAW)** is a mission experience based in the United States. The program is designed to help women look at their own communities with new eyes through a week-long journey through a region which exposes them to a wide variety of service ministries.

Leader Apprentice Program is a two-year program which has been providing leadership training for the women of our constituency groups since the early '90s. Graduates of the program have gone on to become leaders throughout the church from the national to the local level.

Resources:

Leadership Materials are varied.

Just Women magazine is the new official study resource provided by International Disciples Women's Ministries (IDWM) and the

Office of Disciples Women. This magazine is published quarterly and includes study guides and a nine-part Bible study.

Called, Gifted and Sent is an annual resource designed for women interested in finding ways for women in your community to be involved in ministries of study, service, spiritual growth, social action, and worship.

General Program are offered for use at the general meetings of your Disciples Women's group. There are Blessing Boxes dedications and program focused on seasonal, mission, social action and special days.

Tools for Leadership was written to assist your continuing journey of boldly seeing new ways of ministry.

Retreat Modules covering a variety of topics are available for purchase.

Social Action opportunities and information abound. This page contains flyers and links for the following topics as well as many charity, development, and advocacy opportunities:

Social Action Emphasis for 2009-2010 is breaking the chains of human trafficking. Your results will be lifted up at Quadrennial 2010.

WWW Service Project from the 2007 Bosnia and Croatia journey is WWW.Build-A-Village.

Environmental Study contains six-parts and a leader's guide.

Newsletters both this one and the African American Disciples Women

Quadrennial Assembly:

Quadrennial Assembly (QA) is held every four years and is an opportunity for networking, fellowship, worship, and leadership training for all women. The theme for the 2010 event is "Awake! Awake!" based on Judges 5:12a. The dates are June 23 to 27 and will be hosted in Greensboro, North Carolina. July 23, 2009, will be the first opportunity to register at the QA booth in the Exhibit Hall at General Assembly (more information on pages 2 & 4).



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It's Gd 2 B Grn

Are you wondering why you need to buy that canvas bag at the grocery store and remember to take it each time you go instead of using a plastic bag? Visit <http://www.poconorecord.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080506/MULTIMEDIA02/80505016> for a pictorial to use for education and motivation.





Disciples Women at General Assembly 2009



GA activities for and by Disciples Women

Daily

- Visit the Exhibit Hall and stop by the QA 2010 booth to be among the first to register for QA 2010 and shop for exclusive QA items. This will be your opportunity to purchase the beautiful blue water bottles. You might even catch a sunrise or two while you are there.
- Step next door to the IDWM booth to relax, visit with friends, peruse logo products available for purchase, and learn about all of the resources available for your church.
- After Session are in the Well, located in the Santé Fe meeting room in the Marriott, at the top of the escalators leading from the Convention Center to the Marriott.

Wednesday, July 29

- After Session - Leader Apprentices and Enablers current participants and alumni

Thursday, July 30

- Noon - Disciples Women's Luncheon. Tickets are to be purchased prior to the beginning of General Assembly. See page 4 for more details

- After Session - Clergy Women & Women Seminarians

Friday, July 31

- 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. - Resource Group: "Grace Under Fire" led by Shirley Cannon, IDWM Executive Committee member, in Convention Center room 202
- After Session - Women's Action Web & Women-to-Woman Worldwide participants

Saturday, August 1

- 7:00 to 8:00 a.m. - Daughter of Clara's Breakfast, with guest speakers Adonna R. Bowman, Executive Director of Office of Disciples Women and Barbara E. Jones, Regional Minister of Great River Region.
- 2:15 to 3:30 p.m. - Learning Track-It isn't easy being green: "And God saw that it was good. Is it still?!" led by Judy Row and Ev Penzel, IDWM President and At-Large executive committee member respectively.
- After Session - Former IDWF/IDWM Executive Committee & ODW Staff

Visit <http://www.disciples.org/GeneralAssembly/tabid/59/Default.aspx> to register for all things GA.

Staying Connected with Disciples Women

Constant Contact Updates

- From DHM: To receive the latest updates on items of interest to Disciples and especially for Disciples Women please sign up at www.discipleshomeissions.org. The sign up is on the right hand side in a box labeled "Receive e-mail updates from DHM". The Updates is delivered to your e-mail address about every two weeks.
- From Your Region: Please be sure that your Christian Church regional office has your current e-mail information. Regional web sites may be found at www.discipleswomen.org / click on International Disciples Women's Ministries. In the Resource box is a link to these web sites "Regional Disciples Women's Web pages".

Newsletters

The Office of Disciples Women is responsible for two quarterly newsletters, this one and the African American Disciples Women. These newsletters are available for download at www.discipleswomen.org and click on Newsletters or via delivery to your e-mail address. To subscribe, e-mail your name and e-mail address to odw@dhm.disciples.org. Please include the name of the newsletter(s) in the subject line. We are also interested in hearing your comments. This would be a good time to share your thoughts with us.

Facebook

On your Facebook page enter "Disciples Women" in the Search box and click to join us. We will post items of interest and invite comments on what is happening in your group.



Special Section for Study & Retreat Leaders -

Calling all Disciples Women's Program Leaders -

Are you in charge of programs or retreats for your Disciples Women's group? Do you want to know what options are available for you?

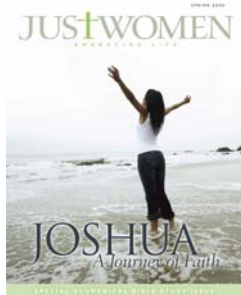
Just Women magazine

Just Women magazine is the newly released study resource for Disciples Women provided by International Disciples Women's Ministries and the Office of Disciples Women. This quarterly magazine for Christian women is published by DisciplesWorld, Inc.

- Did you know there is a Study Guide for the Winter 2009 issue of *Just Women* It contains three sessions, plus additional meeting ideas and reading list. It is a free download from www.justwomenmagazine.org under the RESOURCES tab found at the top of the page.

This issue's theme is "starting over. . .new beginnings: facing life's transitions with grace". It also covers the Woman-to-Woman Worldwide 2007 trip to Bosnia with a map, writings, and service project information.

- *Just Women* magazine includes a nine-session Bible study as the Spring issue. The Study Guides for the Spring 2009 issue are printed in the issue itself, including study plans for each lesson, additional suggestions for leaders and a supplemental reading and information list.



- The Summer 2009 issue will focus on "women and body image: learning to love ourselves, body and soul". There will also be a study guide and more information on Bosnia.

- The Fall 2009 issue will focus on "filling your spiritual space beyond consumerism and busyness, how can we fill our lives with God's grace?" This issue will begin the study of the 2008 WWW journey to Israel and Palestine.

To be sure you receive your issue please, subscribe soon at www.justwomenmagazine.org and click on the "subscribe" icon on the right hand side of the page. The annual subscription price is \$19. Discounted rate of \$17 applies to order of 15 or more going to the same address.

General Programs

General Programs are a series of special purpose programs i.e. Blessing Box dedications, missions, seasonal programs, installations, and more. While you are planning programs, please visit the Disciples Women's Web page section on General Programs at www.discipleswomen.org and in the gray bar on the right hand side of the screen click on "General Programs". All titles in red on this page are a link to a free downloadable program. Adobe Reader is required for all downloads.

Environment

Is your group environmentally focused? That's great! As a special bonus under General Programs, there is a six-part environmental study just for you. To make it even easier, a leader's guide is online.

Retreat Modules

Six retreat modules (including outlines, scripts, and for some a PowerPoint presentation) are offered for purchase. Session last from one to four hours. They include:

Balanced Diet: an introduction and four varying-length sessions;

Celebrating Diversity: This four-hour module encourage and enable participants to recognize and seek to understand and value their own history and culture as well as the history and culture of others;

Changing the Shape of the Circle: Gain practical tools for integrating all women, across generations, into the active life of Disciples women;

Leadership: Bring awareness of the characteristics of good leadership and the tools needed to move into servant and Christian leadership;

Made in the Image of God: Encourage women to explore different images of God and their personal image of and language around God; and

Wisdom Circle: Teach and allow participants how to experience another circle model for spiritual growth and development.

One retreat module is free via email only. **Celebrating Our Diversity** is a two-hour session to encourage discussion and exploration.

E-mail specific questions to odw@dhm.disciples.org.



Social Action Emphasis 2009-2010



Every Quadrennial Assembly has a special Social Action Emphasis associated with it. Each Disciples Woman's group is asked to participate in this emphasis project at a local level. Their activities are reported to their region. The region then reports to the Office of Disciples Women. The final report will be given in a special program at QA 2010 in Greensboro, NC.

The current Social Action Emphasis 2009-2010 is Human

Trafficking: Breaking the chains of modern-day slavery

Human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery in which people, mostly women, very young girls and children, are abducted and/or forced to labor for someone else against their wishes. Often they are deceived into believing the situations will improve their lives, when in reality they are being forced into servitude. Human trafficking includes buying, selling and moving people from one location to another against their will, and it constitutes a grave violation of human rights. This trafficking occurs in unregulated and unprotected areas all of the world, including the United States of America.

Disciples Women Should:

Set goals for participation (monetary and volunteer hours), educate themselves about human trafficking, notify their regional women's staff of their goals, efforts, successes and progress.

Disciples Women Can:

Write letters, volunteer at a local agency, become educated through books and movies, invite a speaker to your church,. And raise funds to support those who are attempting to break these chains of slavery.

Disciples Women Will:

Lift up this human tragedy during our 2010 QA and celebrate our progress in helping alleviate this human injustice.

Where to find more information:

Visit www.discipleswomen.org, scroll down in the gray bar on the right hand of the screen to the red link to Human Trafficking and click. This new page has a gray Resources box that contains links for more information, project ideas, and meeting activities. New information will be posted as it becomes available.

We would also like to include your ideas and activities. Please e-mail them to odw@dhm.disciples.org.

Important links & places to visit:

www.quadrennial.org - For all things Quadrennial 2010, "Awake! Awake!" Workshop list is now available!

www.justwomenmagazine.org -Just Women magazine subscription, resources, and promo materials.

www.mujiresdiscipulos.org -Information on Hispanic and Bilingual Disciples Women

www.facebook.com/home.php#/group.php?gid=46645139110&ref=ts -Disciples Women are now on Facebook at the above page. Come, joins us!

From your Facebook account search for Just Women Magazine and Awake to join these groups.

www.disciples.org -For all things Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Looking for graphics?

At www.discipleswomen.org, you may either "save as" the logo on the page or click on "Graphics" in the gray box on

the right hand side of the screen. Then click on "Program Graphics" in the middle of the screen – you will find various women's logos as you click through the pages.

QA graphics are under the "Downloads" option on the left-hand side of the Quadrennial web home page.

BIG Change for Disciples Women!!!!

The Women's Lunch has moved from the last day of the General Assembly to the first full day - Thursday, July 30, 2009.

When you complete your online registration for General Assembly at <http://www.disciples.org/> (look on the left hand side for the link to GA), you will be able to purchase your luncheon tickets with a credit card. For those who prefer to write a check for the luncheon ticket; you may purchase the ticket through the Office of Disciples Women for \$25 each.

The order form is posted on our website at www.discipleswomen.org



WWW 2007 Bosnia Trip Service Project



Since the Balkans War of the 1990s there have been many attempts at social and economic recovery throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina. (part of the former Yugoslavia.) Specifically, the area Canton Ten, suffering the most destruction from the war, has received much aid for its recovery

Build-A-Village is a program which uses a methodology moving from immediate relief to development work. The idea behind this program is to **“teach a person how to fish” rather than “giving a person a fish.”** Build-A-Village attempts to provide the tools so that people in the area may support themselves back into recovery.

In December 2006, Church World Service, in partnership with Week of Compassion, launched the multi-year "Build-A-Village" development program in the municipality of Bosansko Grahovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, in response to the desires of local people to strengthen their capabilities to lead their own development. Build-A-Village seeks to improve livelihoods in these struggling post-war rural communities in a sustainable, holistic and participatory manner. The goal is to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life through an integrated rural development strategy designed to gradually address local priority needs. The Build-A-Village approach concentrates on both short and long-term development objectives as Week of Compassion, Church World Service and local partners work alongside organized community groups to effectuate positive change. Returnees to Bosansko Grahovo play a key role in identifying and prioritizing their



own needs, as well as designing responses that leverage local and international resources.

To confront these harsh social and economic realities, the Build-A-Village program identified four specific, sustainable development projects. Disciples, through Week of Compassion, have been instrumental in providing support for all these projects:

- **Veterinary Service** so that the precious livestock remain healthy and are well cared for; establishing a
- **Milk Cooperative** so the returnees can begin to generate an income and regain their dignity. This project was the focus of the pre-trip service project for the WWW 2007 participants.;
- **Primary Health Care** so that those in the community receive basic health and medical attention; and the establishment of a
- **Community Entrepreneur Fund** so families participating in Build-A-Village are able to overcome the hardships of their daily struggle to survive. The flexible revolving structure of the Fund helps community members identify income opportunities, organize trainings, perform evaluations, and make investment decisions. The returns from the Fund are then re-invested into the community.

Gifts for these projects may be made payable to Week of Compassion, with **“WWW: Build-A-Village Service Project”** listed on the memo line. Checks are sent to:

Week of Compassion, PO Box 1986, Indianapolis, IN 46206



To invite one of the participants to speak to your group, see page 21 of *Called, Gifted and Sent 2009* for names and contact information





Office of Disciples Women

A ministry of
Disciples Home Missions

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International Disciples Women's Ministries 2006-2010 Executive Committee

Judy Row, Pacific Southwest Region	President
Ann Pickett-Parker, Great River Region	Vice President
Adonna Bowman, ODW Staff	Secretary
Ana Aquino, Southwest Region	Hispanic Women's Rep
Shirley Cannon, Indiana Region	National Convocation Rep
Young Lan Kim, Pacific Southwest Region	NAPAD Rep
Marilyn Kenley, Florida Region	Regional Presidents' Rep
Lonna Owens, DHM Staff	DHM Rep
Ev Penzel, So. Idaho Region	Member-at-Large
Marilyn Williams, North Carolina Region	Regional Staffs' Rep
Sheila Spencer,	ODW Program Staff and Merger Staff
Gloria Hernandez,	ODW Program Staff and QA Coordinator

**Grow as a Disciples Woman
at www.discipleswomen.org**

Do You . . . ?

- . . . want to let women all around the denomination know what is happening in your church or your region?
- . . . have an idea for an article or photos to share?
- . . . have something you would like to see in this newsletter? . .
- . . . have any thoughts or suggestions for the editor?

If you answered "yes" to any of the above, please e-mail us at odw@dhm.disciples.org. We would love to hear from you!!

Thank you for reading our newsletter. Please forward to your network. If not already on our e-mail list send us your name and e-mail address. Please put "Voices" in the subject line of your e-mail to odw@dhm.disciples.org.



www.JustWomenMagazine.org

Save These Dates !

July 10-14, 2009—Oregon WAW-call (503)226-7648 for more info.

July 29 to August 2, 2009—General Assembly, Indianapolis
July 30, 2009 **Disciples Women's Luncheon** - see page 4

November 8 to 23, 2009—Woman-to-Woman Worldwide Venezuela & Colombia

June 23 to 27, 2010—Quadrennial 2010, Greensboro, N.C.

www.discipleswomen.org