# JULY 2019: A GATHERING OF WOMEN

By Pastor Tanya Lopez, Disciples Women Coordinating Minister

## **DW General Assembly Announcements and Happenings**

Sisters, the time has come! It is time to Abide in God together! We are the sisterhood of women who are committed to justice, compassion, mission, liberation, service, leadership and the empowerment of Disciples Women and all lives. We will have a variety of ways to connect with each other through worship, service projects, workshops and after sessions! We hope that those of you who will be attending the 2019 General Assembly will connect with your sisters and feel renewed and strengthened for the work we know we are called to do.

With so many of our sisters and children in agony across our country and in many different parts of the world, we know that we need to Abide in God's spirit and love but beyond that, we know that we need to share that with the most vulnerable through action!

We hope that you can help with this Assembly's service project which makes a powerful impact in the lives of so many.

#### **Disciples Women GA2019 Service Project**

Disciples Women will be supporting Dorothy's House of Des Moines, IA as our GA2019 service project. They provide a safe place for the practice of life for survivors of sex trafficking and sexual exploitation. It is a long term, residential home that provides survivors with the space, resources, and support needed to find their healing journey. Every survivor has a unique set of needs and personal goals. They strive to provide the resources that will most specifically fit her plan.

If you would like to support this project we are asking for grocery store gift cards preferably for Hy-Vee but all grocery stores in the area are good options. Others suggested are Aldi,

Fareway, and Price Chopper. You can drop them off at the Disciples Women booth by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 23.

I can't wait to connect with all of you soon at our General Assembly. We will have a wonderful opportunity to gather for our luncheon and celebrate the 145 years of ministry during our Disciples Women after-session.

Do not forget to purchase your tickets for the luncheon ahead of time as they will not be selling any on site. It promises to be an exciting gathering where we will connect, sing, dance and feast as sisters!

**Sunday, July 21** – Luncheon/Praise & Worship (11:45 – 1:15 pm)

**Sunday, July 21** – Leadership Training Workshop (3:00 – 4:30 pm)

**Monday, July 22** – Spotlight at DHM Booth (1:30 – 2:00 pm)

Monday, July 22 – After Session/145th Birthday Party (8:45 – 10:00 pm)

**Tuesday, July 23** – Participating in "Making a Difference with our Dollars" (1:30 – 2:50 pm)

See you all soon my sisters! Let us pray together, let us prepare together, and let us celebrate together the work we have been doing and the work we will continue to do! Let us abide in the Spirit of our living God and be reminded of our connection to each other always through prayer and intercession for one another and our church.

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Spirit of our living God and be reminded of the many ways we are able to love, liberate and protect one another.

Disciples Women, grab your calendars! We are planning our second ALL WOMEN Interregional event. If you are longing for the company of other women, desire to deepen your spiritual walk, and want to be connected to amazing Disciples women across the West, then mark down June 12-14, 2020 in your calendars. We will all descend on Las

Vegas for our Interregional event....we can't wait. The theme is "Seeking God's Grace in the Desert" with confirmed keynote speakers Rev. LaTaunya Bynum and Rev. Lori Tapia, who will enliven you with their passion for the Gospel. Come to the desert with us in 2020 and find the grace you are seeking. The best way to stay up to date is to come to our website and sign up for news about the event at <a href="http://bit.ly/2XGX52g">http://bit.ly/2XGX52g</a>

#### Other Announcements:

DISCIPLES WOMEN MISSION PROJECT 2019 Shelter Supplies for Women and Children We encourage Disciple Women's groups to adopt a local shelter. Reach out to the staff of the shelter. Ask them what they need and then commence to providing what was requested. Please share with the Disciples Women office what you are doing and if you post about it on social media don't forget the tag it with #DWConnect so we can all celebrate and support the work.

### Let's make 3,000 finger labyrinths for GA 2019!

Would you like to help make finger labyrinths to be given away at GA 2019?

All the details, patterns, and instructions are included on pdf files...just follow the links below.

GA19 Labyrinth Instructions
Labyrinth-Quilt-Instructions-Only
Labyrinth-Crochet-Instructions-Only

When you are finished, write your first name, your congregation, and your city and state on the tags and staple one to each labyrinth. This will provide an opportunity for GA attendees to feel the far-reaching witness of Disciples Women. Please send to: First Christian Church, 2500 University Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50311, Attention: Wende.

A Big Thank You to FCC, Des Moines for offering to hold the shipments at their church for us to pick up at General Assembly! (You can also ship them to: Disciples Women Labyrinths, 1099 N Meridian Street, Suite 700, Indianapolis, IN 46204) by June 1, 2019.

In Love,

Pastor Tanya Lopez

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