

PrayerList for the Unity Women's Desk

September 2018

Give thanks and praise for the celebration of women in South Africa in August. Back in 1956 the women took to the streets and called for the black pass for identity to be cancelled. There were 22,000 who marched and demanded the withdrawal of these passes. They celebrated this event on August 8, as Women's Day in South Africa this year remembering the role of women in their long walk to freedom. Many of our women's groups joined in this year's celebration. There were also public "marches" for the rights of women and against gender violence. As the women clearly stated to Parliament they still feel let down as there is still much discrimination regarding positions and salary gaps between men and women doing the same work and the violence continues with little or no recourse to justice. It is a continuing battle.

Please pray for the sisters and brothers of Suriname. Sr. Sylva Majana passed away unexpectedly on Tuesday, 7 August. Sr. Sylva was a congregational pastor and had been elected at Suriname Synod of last year as the 2nd Vice Praeses. She was also a Patroness of EBGVS Vrouwen Centraal—the national women's group of Suriname.

Pray for the All Africa Women's Conference being held in August 29th to September 2nd in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Pray for the safety of the women as they travel to participate in the conference. Pray that all might be blessed while attending the conference and that they may return home with renewed dedication to serving their Lord, their sisters, their churches, and their communities.

Pray for the Unity Women's Desk as we seek a new Coordinator for the Desk. We were very pleased with the high quality of applicants seeking the position. A recommendation will be made by the Advisory Board to the Unity Board, which will be meeting in September.

Pray for the Unity Women's Desk as we seek two new representatives on the Advisory Board for the Regions of Africa and America. Give thanks and praise for the dedicated service of Sr. Angelene Swart and Sr. Sallie Greenfield, who will retire from the Board at the end of 2018. May we be so fortunate to find two more such dedicated women to lead us forward. We will be seeking one woman from the Africa Region and one woman from the America Region. The qualifications and duties of the Advisory Board members can be found on the website (www.unitywomensdesk.org) under "Application Forms" as well as a nomination form. Sisters Erdmute Frank (Europe Region) and Muriel Held (Latin America/Caribbean Region) will remain on the Advisory Board for two more years.

Pray for the Unity Board that will be meeting in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, USA, September 10-15. During that time they will consider the recommendations for the Coordinator position and the two new Advisory Board members, in addition to many important issues of the church world-wide.

Pray for the critical situation in Nicaragua, that the spirit of the inhabitants of Nicaragua and the church will keep them united in faith to improve the situation. May peace be restored and may the rights of the people be protected.

Please continue to pray for the over 500 children of immigrants who remain separated from their parents in the USA because of immigration rules.

Pray for those who are still recovering from the effects of earthquakes and hurricanes from last year. Pray for those who are in the Caribbean helping with the clean-up and rebuilding efforts at our churches there.

Pray for peace in our world. Pray for those who are suffering under unjust regimes and from the ravages of those regimes on the economies of those countries. This has resulted in necessary items being in short supply and in the cost of such necessities being prohibitive for ordinary people. Pray for the people who need the everyday necessities of life such as food and clothing. Pray that their spiritual needs will be met as well.

Pray for girls and women who are still being denied access to education just because they are women. Pray that the efforts of the UWD and many other mission groups may help them achieve access to the education they so desire.

Pray for the women who are victims of abuse throughout the world. May the Lord comfort them and may each of us do our part in seeking remedies for this problem which exists worldwide. Pray for the provinces who are undertaking projects to educate others about the effects of abuse—physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual. Pray that all of our provinces will undertake programs to address this problem that plagues our women.

Pray for the planning committee of the American Women's Conference to be held next June 20-23, in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Additional information may be found on their website at www.moravianwomensconference.org.

Pray for the EMCM meeting in Zeist this month. It is a gathering of the mission boards of the Moravian Church worldwide for planning and visioning for the future of mission in the church.

Pray for the Mid-States women of the Northern Province in America as they plan their fall rally on October 5-6. Bishop Kay Ward will be their speaker and a presentation on the Unity Women's Desk will be made.

Pray for women everywhere that they may be blessed with the love and comfort of God as they seek their rightful places in the world and contribute the many gifts which God has given to them to make this a better world for all.

Please continue to pray for the
Unity Women's Desk: www.unitywomensdesk.org
Unitywomen2011@gmail.com

Phone: 336-725-6413 or
336-416-2337

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