WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
International Committee

Executive Committee

Chairperson
Joyce Larko Steiner
P.O. BOX GP 919
Accra, 233
GHANA
joylarks@gmail.com

Treasurer
Deanne Newland

Africa
Rosalie Akoue ep Adze
Queen Bridget Chisha

Asia
Jyoti Singh Pillai
Devika Ukwatte

Caribbean / North America
Stephanie McClellan
Ruth Valentine Ermeta Phillips

Europe
Edith Toth
Senka Sestak Peterlin

Latin America
Maria Laura Tolu
Reeba Imola Webster Bennett

Middle East
Maral Barzkian Haidostian
Emel Susin

Pacific
Vicki Marney
Maselina Tuioti

Executive Director

Katie Reimer
475 Riverside Drive, Room 729
New York, NY 10115, USA
Telephone:+1 212 870 3049
Email: wdpic@worlddayofprayer.net
Skype ID: wdpic.ed
Website: www.worlddayofprayer.net

WDPIC Stands With WDP Palestine - Jan 31, 2024

The World Day of Prayer (WDP) believes that "Prayer is rooted in listening to God and to each other" (Guiding Principle #2). The listening that we seek is an active and demanding listening. It requires a stillness that can allow another to speak, as we hear and feel with another's pains and joys. Our listening is both personal and in community. Our conviction is that WDP opens a window to the voices of women in a different part of the world each year—sometimes near, sometimes far away. Always, we join our prayer with theirs.

We are committed to honoring the prayers offered by women who develop our liturgy each year for a common day of prayer on the first Friday of March. The women who write are selected at an International Meeting held every 5 years, which includes voting delegates from every country in our movement. At the 2017 International Meeting in Brazil, WDP Palestine was selected to write the 2024 program, followed by WDP Cook Islands in 2025 and WDP Nigeria in 2026. The liturgy is developed through a rigorous writing process that starts 4 years before the day when the world will gather to pray that liturgy. This liturgy is developed with our Executive Committee, a group of women elected to represent each region of our movement.

On March 1, 2024, our global ecumenical movement will pray a liturgy developed by our sisters from WDP Palestine. World Day of Prayer has a strong and vibrant history in the Middle East, especially in Palestine. Women from various denominations in Palestine have faithfully prayed together every year for decades. Several women from WDP Palestine have been elected by the Middle East region to serve as Regional Representatives for our WDPIC Executive Committee. We are grateful for the dedication of our Palestinian sisters over the years to strengthen connections between Christians around the world.

Our WDPIC office has been approached in the past year, particularly since the Israel Gaza war has brought devastation to the region following the violent attack on October 7, 2023. We have been asked if there will be any changes made to the liturgy in light of the current situation. Our response has been consistent with our practices as a movement for many years. We believe that the liturgy offered each year is a profound gift, and one that we receive in its fullness. We stand with the liturgy offered by our sisters from WDP Palestine, and we encourage all local celebrations around the world to honor those voices as they are offered.

Our sisters from WDP Palestine are currently working on an additional prayer that can be added to the original liturgy, in light of the recent violence they are experiencing. We hope to have that available by February 15, 2024.