

Report to DUCC Co-ordinating Committee, October 2014

DOTAC updates from DUCC representative, Sharilynn Upsdell

September DOTAC Central Committee – planning for Brazil, 2015.

Sharilynn Upsdell met with the DOTAC Central Committee September 21-27th in Ashland, Nebraska, as they continued planning details for the DOTAC 2015 event in Brazil, see details below.

DUCC represented at ELCA Diaconal Ministers Gather- Seattle

In October 2014, Sharilynn was an International Guest the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) Diaconal Ministers Gathering in Seattle. At this event, they were working on their response to the upcoming 2015 National proposal to combine three rosters (Deaconess Community, the Diaconal Ministers Community, and the Deacons Community), all into one Roster, to be hereafter called Deacons. Many believe this is a foregone conclusion by the wider church, and their response needs to be about how do they create a meaningful wider community, yet still retain their uniqueness and connections that already exist in the three streams.

DOTAC 2015 will take place in Porte Alegre, Brazil. **October 21-25, 2015.** Theme: **Jesus' Diakonia: From Crumbs to Full Communion.** Cost will be \$850 USD. Workshop leaders will be raised from those in attendance. Suggestions are requested asap. Registration should be available online before Christmas, with a deadline around March 31st, 2015, to enable those participating to receive adequate documentation for visas, vaccinations, and travel.

DUCC should begin to budget some bursary costs for those attending.

DOVE 2016: Early preparations for hosting an ecumenically based DOVE 2016 (Diakonia Overcoming Violence Experience) are now beginning with those **in Ontario**. The event is expected to involve 12 participants (with 3 each from Canada, United States, Caribbean, and Brazil). *DUCC should begin to consider who it will encourage to attend, and how they may be supported financially by DUCC.*

World Diakonia 2017: Due to the withdrawal of the Philippine invitation to host this event, 2017 World Diakonia will now be hosted in **Chicago**. **Theme: "Shaken by the Wind"**. A logo is needed for this event, and those submitting successful entries could earn a reduction in registration fees.

DUCC should consider if there are people who might be part of the planning team, particularly, but not exclusively, those who are nearest Chicago. As well, DUCC should consider ways to enhance attendance and financial support for those who may attend.

DOTAC 2019: Canada last hosted DOTAC in 2002, in Winnipeg. **It is Canada's turn to host in 2019.** Sharilynn has begun nurturing some ecumenical connections in the Vancouver, BC area with a hope to coordinate a team that could offer an invitation at the Brazil 2015 event to host DOTAC in the Vancouver area in 2019. Recently some key experienced DUCC members have moved to BC's southwest area, and initial contacts have been made with some interested diaconal folks in the Anglican, Presbyterian churches. There are a few Lutheran Diaconal Ministers/Deaconesses living just south of the border that have also expressed interest. This is an exciting development that has long been imagined, but previously not been realized.