

BREATH OF Life

2023 BAPTIST WOMEN'S WORLD DAY of PRAYER

A Global Prayer Initiative of **BAPTIST WORLD ALLIANCE WOMEN**

Our Mission:

NETWORKING
BAPTIST WOMEN
TO IMPACT THE WORLD
FOR CHRIST

Page 3
ABOUT BWA WOMEN

Page 4-5
BREATH OF LIFE BIBLE STUDY
WAYS TO CONNECT

Page 6-7
GLOBAL MINISTRY PROJECTS
WAYS TO GIVE

Page 8-9
ASIA BAPTIST WOMEN'S UNION
BAPTIST WOMEN OF NORTH AMERICA

Page 10-11
BAPTIST WOMEN OF THE PACIFIC
BAPTIST WOMEN'S UNION OF AFRICA

Page 12-13
BAPTIST WOMEN'S UNION OF LATIN AMERICA
CARIBBEAN BAPTIST WOMEN'S UNION

Page 14-15
EUROPEAN BAPTIST WOMEN UNITED
BAPTIST WORLD ALLIANCE WOMEN

Page 16
GLOBAL WORSHIP SERVICE

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Dear Sisters Across the Globe,

For more than 70 years, sisters in Christ have united in prayer for the Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer. What a legacy to build upon as we commit once again to pray this year in homes, churches, and communities around the world!

The 2023 theme is "Breath of Life," drawn from Job 33:4: ***"The Spirit of God has made me; the breath of the Almighty gives me life."***

As we pray this year, may you breathe deeply the presence of God as you experience the power of collective prayers being lifted in more than 100 nations! We are confident you will be blessed and encouraged as we gather for the reading of God's Word, hear stories of how the Spirit is moving, and seek the Lord with open hearts in prayer.

In addition, Day of Prayer gives Baptist women an opportunity to give generously in support of the global initiatives of Baptist World Alliance Women (BWAW) at work across our seven Continental Unions. These financial gifts continue to make an eternal difference, providing practical help for women in need and equipping Baptist women to impact their communities for Christ. Thank you for being a vital part of this event which propels world-changing ministry throughout the entire year!

This guide includes information to help you plan and participate in Day of Prayer, including specific prayer requests from each Continental Union as well as details about this year's ministry projects. I also want to invite you to take advantage of additional resources outlined below:

Networking: Join our virtual platform to network with women's ministry leaders around the world, discover how others are celebrating Day of Prayer, and collaborate to further our shared mission.

Resourcing: Visit our website (BWAWomen.org) to find a variety of Day of Prayer resources – including testimonies, Bible studies, prayers from women around the world, and a 40-day prayer calendar.

Worshiping: You are invited to our annual Day of Prayer Worldwide Worship Celebration! Make plans to join us online Saturday, October 14, for a powerful time of prayer and praise to kick off the 2023 Day of Prayer observances.

I look forward to all the Lord has in store as we gather this year to intercede for our world. Thank you again for being an integral member of our global sisterhood and a vital part of God's global mission! I count it an honor to serve with you.



Together in Prayer,

Merritt

J. Merritt Johnston
BWA Women Executive Director

About BWA Women

In 1950, the establishment of a Women's Committee was formally approved by the Baptist World Alliance (BWA) and heartily endorsed by the 10,000 women from 21 nations in attendance at the Baptist World Congress that year. Through God's faithfulness, the ministry has grown significantly over the years in both scope and depth.

BAPTIST WORLD ALLIANCE WOMEN

Comprised of seven Continental Unions that encompass more than 175 women's unions and organizations, BWA Women is now a worldwide community of women in over 150 countries impacting the world for Christ. With a vision to see women everywhere thriving and serving, BWA Women facilitates connections for global engagement and develops resources for global impact, including the mobilization of the annual Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer. Together we are part of the Baptist World Alliance, a network of 51 million Baptists and 176,000 churches.

Our logo is a reflection of the diversity of Baptist women across the globe, with each union recognized by one of seven colors. Each Continental Union is not a pillar standing alone, but rather a community unified around our shared love for Jesus Christ – represented by the white cord that unites us.

Core Ministry Areas | To further God's global mission, we focus on the five ministry areas outlined below.

STRENGTHENING *Worship, Fellowship & Unity*

Centered in Jesus Christ and rooted in deep spiritual life, we strengthen our worldwide family through ongoing gatherings; pastoral presence; mutual friendships; and the cultivation of worship, fellowship, and unity.

LEADING *Mission & Evangelism*

Compelled by the Great Commission, we lead with a passionate commitment to Gospel witness in every context and people group; foster multidirectional partnerships that connect individuals and churches; and encourage global mission and evangelism.

RESPONDING *through Aid, Relief & Community Development*

Challenged to generously love our neighbor, we respond to people in need; collaborate in times of crisis; network agencies; support sustainability and creation care; build capacity; empower local church engagement; and resource aid, relief, and community development.

DEFENDING *Religious Freedom, Human Rights & Justice*

Committed to a biblical understanding of the image of God in every person, we defend an ethic of life; support religious freedom for all; stand in solidarity with the marginalized; advocate at every level; train and network proactively; and mobilize for religious freedom, human rights, and justice.

ADVANCING *Theological Reflection & Transformational Leadership*

Called to discipleship, we advance multicultural and multilingual training; empower next generation leaders; encourage meaningful dialogue and praxis; and engage in relevant theological reflection and transformational leadership.

BREATH OF Life

A Bible Study

from BWA Women President Karen Wilson



It has been the desire of humanity since creation to breathe deeply and fill our lungs with air. You know that feeling coming to the top of a mountaintop and stopping to fill your lungs with fresh air – to breathe deeply and to be replenished. We need oxygen to survive. Oxygen helps us grow, reproduce, and it gives our cells the ability to break down food to get the energy we need to survive. It is vital. It is necessary. Our first breath came when God breathed his life into us.

"Then the Lord God made man from the dust of the ground. And He breathed into his nose the breath of life. Man became a living being." (Genesis 2:7)

The very breath of God is that which sustains us and that which fills our lungs to bring forth life. In our day to day, we are normally not even conscious of breathing. It's just something we do. However, when we are starved of this life-giving oxygen, there is a desperation that follows.

My son, Daniel, rang us at 6 am to let us know he was in the hospital. He had been there all night with Zoe, his little 2-year-old daughter. He told us he awoke suddenly at midnight to the sound of her gasping for breath. She was having a severe asthma attack and was in a life-threatening situation. Grabbing her from her bed, he put her in the car and drove quickly to the hospital – leaving his wife at home with their new baby.

With Zoe getting worse every minute, he arrived at the hospital and parked where he could. He thought he had her inhaler with him, but in that moment, he could not find it. He just scooped her up in his arms and ran through the street holding his precious little girl. The Emergency Department doors flung open, and seeing the situation, the medical staff immediately took her from him and began working on her. With tubes attached, doctors and nurses were working overtime. They were in for a long night.

Only minutes after the conversation, our daughter-in-law sent a message. She had also gone to the hospital. It was one of those desperate messages. The ones that come from a deep place within: "Mum," she said, "You know people all over the world! Please get them to pray. We need help!"

Without hesitation I began to send messages to the multiple global teams I serve alongside. We were asking for the breath of our Father to fill this little child's lungs once again. People prayed. Messages started coming in almost every minute from every continent of the world.

"We stand with you and lift precious Zoe before the Lord. Lord, we pray for the cells in her lungs and pray for them to be filled with breath and new life. Thank you, Lord, for your miracle-healing power in Zoe's life! Give her family your peace!"

"Praying with you all for this precious little one. Praying wisdom for her healthcare team and great peace for her and all those who love her so much. Asking the Great Physician for his perfect, healing hand to touch her body."

"We prayed for precious Zoe in our international prayer time today. Lord, you hear our prayers. May you show your healing power on his precious little one whom you love. Amen."

These prayers were sent and read over Zoe. They brought great comfort to all of us, and more importantly, healing to her. By the end of the day, she was sitting up and her color was returning. The doctors were pleased to say she was out of the critical condition.

We read the following in 2 Corinthians 1:

"All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort (life). He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us." (vs. 3-4)

When we reach out to others, we are literally carriers of the breath of God to those who are perishing. When we come together and pray, we are bringing life to others. We do so in many ways and by many acts of obedience. Which of the following ways do you identify with the most?

- *Carry each other's burdens and so you will fulfill the law of Christ.* (Galatians 6:2)
- *Don't forget to do good and to share what you have because God is pleased with these kinds of sacrifices.* (Hebrews 13:16)
- *This is my commandment: love each other just as I have loved you.* (John 15:12)
- *Give to those who ask, and don't refuse those who wish to borrow from you.* (Matthew 5:42)
- *Contribute to the needs of God's people, and welcome strangers into your home.* (Romans 12:13)
- *Don't withhold good from someone who deserves it, when it is in your power to do so.* (Proverbs 3:27)
- *Instead of each person watching out for their own good, watch out for what is better for others.* (Philippians 2:4)

As the prayers flooded in for my precious granddaughter, I sensed hope return and life flowing once again. As they were read over her little body, air returned to her starved lungs. Perhaps some would have thought it a strange thing to ask the world to pray. For my family, it seemed the most natural thing. And God reached out in a supernatural way.

"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'" (Matthew 25:37-40)

God first breathed life into us, and he asks us to be carriers of the breath of heaven to others. We do this not for ourselves, but for our Lord.

Who is the Lord calling you to share the breath of life with today?

WAYS *to* CONNECT *this* YEAR



Online Platform

This year we are excited to offer a virtual platform for Day of Prayer! With both web and app access, this resource provides a global networking experience for women around the world to learn how others are celebrating Day of Prayer and connect around our shared calling. Visit **BWAWomen.org/dayofprayer** to sign up.



Global Worship Experience

On October 14, we will host our virtual Day of Prayer Worldwide Worship Celebration. Featuring worship, prayer, and ministry updates from our seven Continental Unions, this virtual event will encourage and inspire as we celebrate how God is at work through women around the world and share how we can make a difference together in the coming year.



Local Gatherings

Whether you are meeting virtually or in-person, with your church family or in a small group, on the first Monday of November or another convenient time, the heartbeat of Day of Prayer is women gathering in communities across the globe to unite in prayer for the world. This year we have created a 40-Day Prayer Calendar that you can utilize leading up to your Day of Prayer event or as an action step after you meet. The calendar and other resources to support your community Day of Prayer experience are available at **BWAWomen.org/dayofprayer**.

2023 BAPTIST WOMEN'S WORLD DAY of PRAYER

GLOBAL MINISTRY PROJECTS



STRENGTHENING *Worship, Fellowship & Unity*

GLOBAL: Through the annual Day of Prayer initiative and other global and continental events, we unite women in worship, fellowship, and shared mission – a global sisterhood committed to impact our homes, churches, communities, and the world for Christ. Upcoming events include our Annual Gathering in Lagos, Nigeria, in July 2024, and the Baptist Women's Summit and Baptist World Congress in Brisbane, Australia, in July 2025.

RESPONDING *through Aid, Relief & Community Development*

FIJI: *Planting Seeds of Hope*
> Developing community gardens as a means of outreach, income, and a sustainable food source

NEPAL: *Opening the Door to a Brighter Future*
> Partnering with Rise and Shine Nepal to create sustainable livelihood training and resources for women and their children

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO: *Feeding the Hungry*
> Assisting underprivileged families – many which are single-parent homes – with monthly food baskets

LEADING *Mission & Evangelism*

LEBANON: *Opening Doors for Holistic Gospel Witness*
> Hosting outreach events for women to connect in a safe, loving environment and receive mental health support

USA: *Sharing the Gospel through Art*
> Supporting the Art Without Walls initiative, a weekly time of fellowship and training for young women to learn about God through the art of liturgical dance

DEFENDING *Religious Freedom, Human Rights & Justice*

AFRICA: *Standing Against Domestic Violence*
> Partnering with leaders across the continent to develop strategies for expanded advocacy, training for local churches, and support for victims of domestic violence

ADVANCING *Theological Reflection & Transformational Leadership*

AFRICA: *Equipping Leaders for Effective Ministry*
> Equipping churches to reach the next generation with the development of a continent-wide children's ministry network

LATIN AMERICA: *Raising Up the Next Generation*
> Providing mentorship and ministry training for young women

In addition to these projects, BWA Women continues to stand in prayer for the global refugee crisis. More than 100 million individuals have been forcibly displaced worldwide as a result of persecution, conflict, violence, or human rights violations – the highest level of displacement on record. Your generosity will further efforts to provide support and care for the many women and children worldwide who are impacted.

2023 BAPTIST WOMEN'S WORLD
DAY of PRAYER

ANNUAL OFFERING INFORMATION

Thank you for your support – together we are impacting lives around the world!

The Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer is a vital part of our global mission. Through this annual observance, Baptist women from every continent stand together in prayer and giving – a network of sisters impacting the world for Christ. Offerings taken on this day support the ministry of BWA Women throughout the year on a continental and global scale, including the ministry projects highlighted in this guide. We give thanks for your generous financial support. Truly every gift makes a difference.

Gifts can be sent directly to your Continental Union using the instructions below or give securely online at **BWAWomen.org/give**.

ASIA BAPTIST WOMEN'S UNION

Receiving Bank: DBS Bank Ltd
Beneficiary Name: Asia Pacific Baptist Fellowship Limited
Beneficiary Address: 7 Pang Seng Rd, Sennett Estate, Singapore 348309
Account Number: 027-907825-1
SWIFT Code: DBSSSGSG
Bank Code: 7171 | ***Branch Code:*** 027
Bank Address: 12 Marina Boulevard, DBS Asia Central | Marina Bay Financial Centre Tower 3 | Singapore 018982

BAPTIST WOMEN'S UNION OF AFRICA

Receiving Bank: UBA Bank Kenya Ltd
Beneficiary Name: Baptist Women Union of Africa c/o Baptist Convention of Kenya
Account Number: 55020130002088
SWIFT Code: UNAFKENA
Bank Code: 076
Branch Code: 76002
Bank Address: 14907 Shauri Moyo, Jogoo Rd, Nairobi, Kenya 00800

BAPTIST WOMEN'S UNION OF LATIN AMERICA

Banco Receptor: Banco Wells Fargo
Beneficiario: UFBAL, Inc
Numero de Cuenta: 1582644942
ABA: 121000248
Código SWIFT: WFBIUS6S
Dirección: 10781 West Flagler Street | Miami, FL 33174 USA
Teléfonos: 305-229-1252

BAPTIST WOMEN OF NORTH AMERICA

Give online at bwna.today or mail checks to:
PMB # 845 | 6333 E Mockingbird Ln 147 | Dallas, TX 75214 USA
Canadians can give through your denominational Women's Department.

BAPTIST WOMEN OF THE PACIFIC

Receiving Bank: Westpac Bank
Lake Street, Cairns, Queensland 4870, Australia
Beneficiary Name: Baptist Women of the Pacific
BSB and Account Number: 034 167 184 644
SWIFT Code: WPACAU2S

CARIBBEAN BAPTIST WOMEN'S UNION

Receiving Bank: National Commercial Bank Jamaica Limited
6 Perth Road, Mandeville, Jamaica
Beneficiary Name: Caribbean Baptist Women's Union
c/o Yvonne Pitter, 4 Piccadilly Road, Caledonia Meadows
Mandeville, Manchester Jamaica
Account Number: 504351505
NCB SWIFT Code/BIC: JNCBJMKX
USA Corresponding Bank: Bank of New York - Mellon, New York
1 Wall Street | New York, NY 10286 USA
Corresponding Bank SWIFT BIC Code: IRVTUS3N

EUROPEAN BAPTIST WOMEN UNITED

Receiving Bank: Spar- und Kreditbank
Postfach 1262 | 61282 Bad Homburg, Germany
Beneficiary: Bapt. Theol. Hochschule, EBWU
Account Number: 272728
IBAN: DE45 5009 2100 0000 2727 28
BIC/SWIFT: GENODE51BH2



Together We Pray for

ASIA BAPTIST WOMEN'S UNION (ABWU)

36 *Member Bodies in* 20 *Countries*

National Elections

Pray for the countries conducting their national elections. Pray for candidates who will serve their people with integrity and be free from corruption. Pray that God will raise up governance councils in each nation in Asia that will be faithful and responsible in providing a good standard of living for their citizens.

Natural Disasters and Environmental Care

Knowing the devastation of natural disasters such as wildfires, earthquakes, volcano eruptions, and typhoons, pray the people of Asia are spared the effects of climate change and global warming. Pray for a sense of awareness about environmental care so we can collectively take steps to help save the Earth God created for us and gave us to steward.

War and Conflicts

Civil War in Myanmar: Pray for God's peace and justice to pour over Myanmar and its people. Pray that the millions of refugees and displaced people will be able to return home and rebuild their lives.
China & Taiwan Conflicts: Pray for the tension between China and Taiwan to deescalate. Pray for fruitful negotiations that avert another war in the region.
South Korea & North Korea Reunification: Pray for peace and reunification between North and South Korea.

Poverty and Hardship Amid Economic Crisis

Many countries in Asia are facing economic crises, causing poverty and hardship to rise. Women and children, the most vulnerable groups, are often neglected. Pray that local churches will have the resources to share the compassion of Christ in their communities through "Women Helping Women" projects. Pray for continued giving so that more grants can be distributed to those in need during this difficult time.

Freedom of Religion and Belief

Pray for the expansion and preservation of freedom of religion and belief across every government, ensuring open doors for God's Word in all Asian countries. Pray for the Gospel to be preached to the lost so that people from all walks of life will receive Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. We especially pray for Gospel-centered initiatives in Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Pakistan, and Vietnam.

A BREATH OF LIFE: Praising God for Working Among Us

We praise and thank God for ABWU officers who have served faithfully from 2018-2023. We thank God for our 14th General Assembly in Jakarta, Indonesia, in September – a powerful gathering of more than 1,000 sisters and brothers with the theme "Soar to Greater Heights." Pray for God's blessings and wisdom for the newly-elected ABWU Executive Committee that will serve from 2023-2028.



Together We Pray for

BAPTIST WOMEN OF NORTH AMERICA (BWNA)

15 *Member Bodies in* **2** *Countries*

Gender-Based Violence

Women across North America face gender-based violence in increasing numbers. Pray that women and girls are protected in their homes, workplaces, and churches. Ask God to equip us to be the advocates they need and create in us hearts of understanding and compassion as we strive to be the community our sisters long for. Pray predators are filled with remorse, repentance, and the drive to seek the help they need to stop their abuse.

Environmental Justice

Clean water is scarce in many communities from Flint, Michigan (USA), to the First Nation indigenous communities of Canada. Pray that our hearts will be burdened to take care of the Earth as God commanded. Pray for conviction when our silence leaves others in unsanitary, dangerous, and fatal positions due to the lack of environmental justice. Pray policymakers will fight for all to have the comfort of living in clean environments.

Healthcare

Pray for women who are suffering from breast cancer across our continent and the over 70,000 women who will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year. Pray for healing for their minds, bodies, and souls. Pray for the women who are experiencing mental health challenges. Help them find your peace and find a community of Christian women who can encourage, support, and help them find resources to assist in their journey to health.

Women and Poverty

According to the Low Income Measure, 10% of women in Canada live on low incomes. In the United States, women face a gender pay gap, earning 84 cents for every dollar earned by men. Pray for greater economic opportunities for women who struggle to lead and support their families. Pray for opportunities to advocate on behalf of impoverished women and children and for generous hearts to give freely to the least of these.

Human Trafficking

Pray for girls and women who are victims of sex trafficking schemes across North America. Pray for people to intervene before these crimes are committed and to prosecute perpetrators strongly. Pray for ways to create safe places for healing and community for those who have escaped these atrocities.

A BREATH OF LIFE: Praising God for Working Among Us

We praise God for the amazing team God is putting together to lead Baptist Women of North America. We are blessed beyond measure by their talents, vision, and calling to this ministry. We also give thanks for our time at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in March. God planted a renewed vision for equipping and encouraging younger women and calling leaders to come alongside and champion these efforts. We give God all the glory!



Together We Pray for

BAPTIST WOMEN OF THE PACIFIC (BWP)

7 Member Bodies in 7 Countries

Literacy Skills of Women in Papua New Guinea

The Baptist women of Papua New Guinea are developing programs to increase the literacy skills of their women with a vision that all will be literate within five years. With many motivated by a desire to be able to read the Bible, pray for God's blessings over this initiative and for resources to ensure women across the country can experience the joy of reading and studying Scripture.

Recovery from Cyclone Devastation

Within 48 hours, two cyclones hit the small nation of Vanuatu in March 2023. Baptist church members reported devastating damage to their homes and churches. Please pray for continued recovery and restoration efforts. Pacific Island nations are among the most vulnerable to our changing climate, with many already experiencing higher temperatures, changing rainfall patterns, rising sea levels, and more frequent extreme climate events. Pray for creation care advocacy across the region.

Epidemic of Domestic and Sexual Violence Against Women

Women in the Pacific Island nations suffer domestic and sexual violence at double the global rate despite having a high population of Christians. Please pray for victims to experience healing from trauma and for perpetrators to repent. Pray that the faith community can be a catalyst for cultural change.

Supporting Indigenous Voices

Late in 2023, Australian citizens will vote on proposed constitutional changes to better represent the country's First Nations peoples. Australia's First Nations peoples have suffered generational trauma due to evils perpetrated during colonization. Pray this is a time for healthy discussion rather than divisiveness. Pray this will open a door for healing and reconciliation.

Empowerment of Women in Fiji

The Fiji Baptist Convention has been conducting seminars to educate and equip women on topics such as counseling, psychological first aid, disaster mitigation procedures, and gender violence. This is in collaboration with other stakeholders. Pray this training will bear fruit and enable women across the country to better serve God and love others.

A BREATH OF LIFE: Praising God for Working Among Us

Join us in giving thanks to God for the rich time of learning and fellowship at the "No Limits: Empowering Women through Theology" Conference (pictured above) in February 2023. Christian women from across the Pacific gathered in Brisbane, Australia, to learn from theologians how to better understand the Scriptures and to encourage them in their calling to serve God in any and every capacity as he enables.



Together We Pray for

BAPTIST WOMEN'S UNION OF AFRICA (BWUA)

Connecting Women Across **37** *Countries*

Violence

Violence continues to wreak havoc across the continent, including terrorist attacks, kidnappings, and tribal warfare. We pray for the wounded families who mourn the deaths of loved ones. We pray for the survivors who seek healing from the physical and emotional trauma of these attacks. We also stand in prayer against all forms of gender-based violence as women continue to be disproportionately impacted in Africa and around the world. Ask God to bring peace to our nations, communities, and homes.

Educational Equity

Providing quality education is one of the most important factors in reducing poverty, yet the rate of illiteracy among young girls in Africa remains high. Pray against gender-based discrimination that hinders girls and women from having equal access to educational and vocational opportunities. Pray for opportunities to advocate for educational equity within national, regional, and local governments.

Health and Wellbeing

COVID-19 variants continue to impact African nations. Pray that this pandemic will come to an end. Pray that healthcare resources will be affordable and accessible to all in the fight against the continent's three most devastating diseases (malaria, tuberculosis, and HIV/AIDS). Pray for God to work through doctors, nurses, and other healthcare workers to be instruments of healing for the sick and sources of comfort for the suffering.

Climate Change

Many countries are in the path of natural disasters and have lost both lives and property. The rising frequency of these weather events also has longstanding effects on the economy in Africa. Pray for God's protection for those most vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Pray for strength for those in Malawi and other African nations who continue to recover and rebuild from recent disasters. Pray for people of faith to rise up with a unified commitment to care more intentionally for the planet.

Effectiveness of the Church

We pray for a Spirit-led spread of the Gospel across Africa. Pray for women to be committed to the work of God through service and giving. Pray for spiritual and economic growth throughout the body of Christ. Pray for the Church to have an understanding of the times and apply biblical wisdom in their lives and contexts.

A BREATH OF LIFE: Praising God for Working Among Us

We praise God for the regional women's conferences held across the continent this year. We are grateful for the opportunity to gather and connect for worship, fellowship, prayer, and service. We also give thanks for the delegates from Africa who were able to participate in the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in New York (USA) in March 2023 and those who participated in the Baptist World Alliance Annual Gathering in Norway in July 2023.



Together We Pray for
UNIÓN FEMENIL BAUTISTA DE AMÉRICA LATINA (UFBAL)

25 *Member Bodies in* 21 *Countries*

Spreading the Gospel
UFBAL has raised the resources to support a Latin American missionary to serve women in India. Pray that God will raise up a woman to answer this call and grant our leaders wisdom and discernment in the selection process. Pray for the Lord to prepare the soil for a bountiful harvest as Gospel witness is shared in the season to come.

Encouraging the Next Generation
Pray for UFBAL's ministry to young women, which is rooted in a passionate commitment to engage and equip the next generation. Pray for the Spirit to move in the hearts of all generations to seek the Lord together and to grow in community and Christlikeness. Pray for young leaders to have opportunities to utilize their gifts and experiences as they step into new roles and responsibilities within their churches and communities.

Meeting Needs through Ministry Projects
Many in Latin America are facing challenging circumstances due to economic instability and political corruption. Pray that the 50 ministry projects happening across the continent will effectively meet needs, bring about positive change, and point people to hope in Christ.

Uplifting Future Leadership
As new officers are elected and installed in November, pray that God will fill them with wisdom and unity as they serve the women of Latin America. Pray for the Lord's protection over their families and for strength to lead with integrity and intentionality.

Supporting Women Facing Unexpected Pregnancies
Pray for the ministry happening each day at our crisis call centers. Volunteers field hundreds of calls from women facing unexpected pregnancies and connect them with local resources. As a result of this initiative, countless women have received needed support and 1,300 healthy babies have been welcomed into the world. Pray for the financial resources to further expand this outreach to every Latin American country.

A BREATH OF LIFE: Praising God for Working Among Us
We praise the Lord for unity and shared purpose among women across Latin America. Through this extraordinary network, we enjoy meaningful fellowship and celebrate opportunities to collaborate in God's global mission. We give thanks to God for raising up young women to serve in leadership and for the fruitful ministry happening among refugees.



Together We Pray for

CARIBBEAN BAPTIST WOMEN'S UNION (CBWU)

17 *Member Bodies in* 17 *Countries*

Women

Pray for women's safety and protection from abuse of all kinds. Pray for women to rise up and serve, living Spirit-filled lives. Pray for financial breakthrough for those struggling in poverty. Ask God to help women be examples to unsaved family members and spouses. Pray for the older women to be encouragers and mentors of younger women.

Pastors, Leaders, and Missionaries

Pray for God's blessing and protection over their families. Pray for godliness among church leaders. Pray for all to be strengthened and to receive a vision for kingdom building. Pray for healing for pastors who are recovering from illness. Ask for the Lord's provision for those who are called to serve as missionaries.

Local Church

Pray for the men's ministries in all our churches to be strengthened, for growing spiritual leadership among the men, and intentional mentorship of the young men. Pray for creative ways for Sunday School teachers to reach their students. Ask God to bless ministries to children, women, and the elderly.

Nations and Governments

Pray for the citizens of countries across the Caribbean. Pray against corruption and criminal activities. Pray for leaders to give their lives to Christ and for governments to show fairness and justice in the distribution of resources. Lift a special prayer for the upcoming elections in Colombia, which affect religious freedom in San Andrés. Pray the elections will be conducted justly and peacefully.

Families and Youth

Pray for God's protection over families and youth. Pray for those who are marginalized and any who are victims of various types of abuse. Pray against school and gang violence and for the Gospel of Christ to illuminate the path to life. Pray for persons struggling with addiction. Lift up migrant families and all affected by natural disasters.

A BREATH OF LIFE: Praising God for Working Among Us

We give God thanks for bringing our countries through the difficult season of COVID-19, and we praise God that we can fellowship once again in person. We are seeing increasing numbers in our fellowship events and deeper commitment to service by our women. Praise be to God!



Together We Pray for EUROPEAN BAPTIST WOMEN UNITED (EBWU)

Connecting Women in **52** *Countries Across Europe and the Middle East*

Strengthening Unity

With the region deeply impacted by the war in Ukraine and its consequences, pray that animosity and bitterness would not take root. Pray that love and unity will always prevail among women.

Leading in Mission and Evangelism

More and more countries are approving laws that are far from the Christian ethic. Christian values are vanishing in society, and many are battling confusion and depression – particularly young people. Pray for wisdom and boldness to be good witnesses and salt and light in our lost world.

Responding to Needs

With millions of displaced people in Ukraine and the surrounding countries as well as refugees trying desperately to cross the Mediterranean Sea and the English Channel, we bear witness to how great the needs are. Pray for volunteers working faithfully at the borders or on rescue shifts. May God continue to bless the networks of women helping women at a critical time in their lives.

Defending Religious Freedom, Human Rights, and Justice

Across the continent, there are areas in which Christians are facing persecution. Pray for the Lord's peace and protection for those who are suffering and for grace with government authorities. EBWU is also involved in the fight against domestic violence which sadly exists in all communities and even within the church. Pray for the victims and also for those advocating for them to ensure this issue is addressed at every level.

Advancing Education and Training

The International Baptist Theological Study Center (IBTSC) in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, has developed virtual training resources on various topics. Pray for awareness of these resources to increase. Pray that many women will be equipped for greater kingdom impact through these courses.

A BREATH OF LIFE: Praising God for Working Among Us

We give thanks to the Lord for his blessings on the EBWU Quinquennial Conference in Riga, Latvia, in October. We praise God for the election of new officers and the opportunity to gather despite the uncertain political context.



Together We Pray for BAPTIST WORLD ALLIANCE WOMEN (BWAW)

Connecting Women in More Than **150** *Countries*

Launching Global Action Teams

We are stronger together, so we are excited to launch a new volunteer network to further our global advocacy and deepen our missional impact. Pray for the Lord's grace to abound during the recruitment, formation, training, and deployment of the new BWA Women global action teams. Pray for vision, unity, and intentionality for the women leading the way in each of our five ministry areas.

Standing Against Domestic Violence

One in three women worldwide has experienced physical or sexual violence — mostly by an intimate partner. Pray for God to use our Stand Against Domestic Violence initiative to educate, equip, and lead to the eradication of this evil. Pray specifically for the utilization of our online resource hub (StandAgainstDV.net) to support individuals, congregations, and communities in their stand against domestic violence.

Investing in God's Global Mission

Pray for much fruit to grow through our ministry grant projects at work across each of our seven Continental Unions. With initiatives focused on issues ranging from illiteracy to sex trafficking, pray for God to multiply resources and to bless the work of women's hands across the globe.

Baptist Women's Summit

Plans are underway for this quinquennial event scheduled for July 7-8, 2025, in Brisbane, Australia. Pray for wisdom as we prepare and the Lord's provision as women make plans and register to attend. Ask God to anoint this special gathering as a springboard for renewal and revival for women worldwide.

Leadership

We are grateful for our BWA Women Executive Committee and the faithfulness with which they serve. Pray for strength, wisdom, grace, and the Spirit's anointing for our leaders – including President Karen Wilson, Secretary-Treasurer Sherrie Cherdak, Executive Director Merritt Johnston, and each of our seven Continental Union Presidents listed below.

2018-2023: Vernette Myint Myint San *(ABWU)*, Fabienne Seguin *(EBWU)*, Liliana Fernandez *(UFBAL)*

2019-2024: Elissa Macpherson *(BWP)*

2020-2025: Karen Wilson *(BWAW)*, Sherrie Cherdak *(BWAW)*, Karlene Edwards-Warrick *(CBWU)*

2022-2026: Jane Mwangi *(BWUA)*

2022-2027: Patty Lane *(BWNA)*

A BREATH OF LIFE: Praising God for Working Among Us

In March 2023, a delegation of 19 women participated in the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in New York City, New York (USA). This represented our first in-person delegation since 2020 with more than 30 additional women participating in the virtual delegation. We were able to collaborate with World Evangelical Alliance and FoRB Women's Alliance to offer two workshops during the event and are making plans for expanded advocacy opportunities in 2024.

Hosted by
BWA WOMEN



2023 BAPTIST WOMEN'S WORLD
DAY of PRAYER

GLOBAL **WORSHIP** SERVICE

Saturday, October 14, 2023

For more than 70 years, Baptist women around the world have united every November for Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer, and we are excited to continue that legacy. We invite you to join us as Baptist World Alliance Women kicks off the 2023 Day of Prayer with an online global worship experience on Saturday, October 14. Choose from one of three worship times listed below and be part of this worldwide prayer movement.

> **ASIA & PACIFIC • 12:00 PM AEDT** *(Sydney)*

> **AFRICA, EUROPE & THE MIDDLE EAST • 12:00 PM CEST** *(Paris)*

> **CARIBBEAN, LATIN AMERICA & NORTH AMERICA • 12:00 PM EDT** *(Washington, DC)*

Worship • Prayer • Giving • Ministry Updates

Join us for a powerful hour of worship and prayer as we share how God is at work around the world, celebrate the diversity of our seven Continental Unions, and learn how we can partner together for further kingdom impact in the year ahead.

SCAN THE CODE OR VISIT:
BWAWomen.org