

## World Day of Prayer • March 6, 2009

*In Christ there are many members, yet one body.*

### Bulletin Insert

The women of Papua New Guinea welcome us to a land of many languages, cultures, traditions and beliefs. Within this context, the Christian community draws deeply upon the New Testament assurance,

“In Christ, there are many members, yet one body.” Though many of its communities experience isolation due to rugged terrain, there is unity in diversity. The women say, “By God’s grace we are able to be united.” They invite us to join them in celebrating their unity in Christ, where diverse communities are of one heart and soul, and where the Body of Christ unites to overcome evil with good. The women plainly name the violence that plagues their society. They name the differences that become divisions in their churches. They name personal selfishness as a bondage that traps us individually and diminishes our capacity for living in unity.

We know in our hearts how we, too, are a troubled society, a repentant church and prodigal children. As we observe WDP 2009, millions of God’s people are suffering from violence, exploitation, poverty, hunger and disease.

WDP’s motto, “Informed prayer leads to powerful action,” affirms that prayer and action are inseparable and that both have immeasurable influence. We encourage you to begin thinking about actions that you can take to further support the 2009 theme, which calls us to bring our gifts together for the good of all. We are called to unite as the body of Christ to fulfill his mission on earth, to partner with each other so that we can overcome evil with good and bring about reconciliation in our families, countries and the world.

Suggestions are included in the leader’s guide. Also go to [www.wdpusa.org](http://www.wdpusa.org).

For more information about time and place of service in our community, please contact:

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Name

Phone

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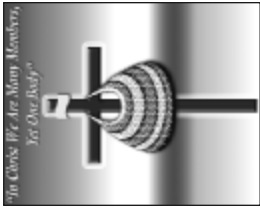
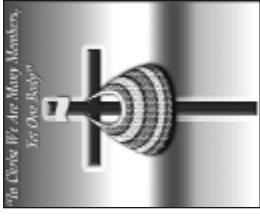
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## About World Day of Prayer

Since the 19th century, Christian women in the United States and Canada have initiated cooperative activities in many areas of concern for women and children, the role of prayer in mission work and the promotion of world peace through involvement in mission work worldwide.

The first organized day of prayer held nationally was in Canada on January 9, 1920. In the United States, the first organized day of prayer held nationally was on February 20, 1920.

Now, hundreds of thousands of women (and men, youth and children) from around the world and in every region gather to collectively worship on the first Friday in March. World Day of Prayer is supported by sacrificial and benevolent mission offerings given by individuals through these annual services. Each of the 170 countries celebrating World Day of Prayer has an organized country committee of ecumenical women representing many cultures, races and faith traditions. Each country's committee is responsible for determining the use of the offering as it relates to the theme for each year. Offering grants are made to women's and children's groups in each country.

Each year, a different country serves as the writer of the World Day of Prayer worship service.

For additional information, visit the World Day of Prayer USA Web site at [www.wdpusa.org](http://www.wdpusa.org).

- View WDP 2009 pages, where you will learn about the women of Papua New Guinea, the writer country for the 2009 worship service.
- View grants from WDP 2008.
- Download resources for 2009.

### Contact information

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