

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY
110TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
and COUNCIL
MAY 6 - 8, 2024

INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION

INTRODUCTION

The Women's Missionary Society (WMS) is celebrating! For over 110 years, the WMS has been involved in mission and has much to rejoice! The WMS gives thanks to God for the timeless purpose "to be involved in local and world mission through prayer, study, service, and fellowship." God has been good! And there are many, many reasons to celebrate!

The year 2024 is an important milestone in the history of the WMS. On May 15th, 1914, in Knox Presbyterian Church, Toronto, three organizations which had evolved from specific missions united to form the Women's Missionary Society, Western Division, of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. It involved women from Quebec to British Columbia. In 2004, "Western Division" was dropped from the name.

Much is being organized to make the few days of celebrations a time of rejoicing, reflecting and giving thanks! As the theme reflects, this will be a time to "Celebrate God's Goodness" thinking of the theme scripture passage from Philippians 1:6 where it says, "I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ." (NRSV)

On May 6th and 7th, 2024, the 110th Anniversary Celebrations will take place at the Queen of Apostles Renewal Centre in Mississauga, Ontario. Then on May 8th, the WMS Council will meet, where delegates from across the country will prayerfully brainstorm and envision the way forward.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Worship with guest preachers: the Rev. Mary Fontaine (Moderator of General Assembly) and the Rev. Dr. Dorcas Gordon (former principal of Knox College)
- A time of looking at the history of the WMS through slide presentations, skits, storytelling, and speeches.
- Guests from India: Dr. Priya John, Director of the Christian Medical Association of India (CMAI) and Ms. Shimy Mathew, Secretary, Nurses League, CMAI.
- Susan Aglukark (Inuit singer)
- Panel on Women and Mission, facilitated by the Rev. Dr. Dorcas Gordon. Panelists are Ms. Cathy Reid (WMS President, Malawi), the Rev. Marion Barclay (AMS Editor, Ghana), and the Rev. Mary Fontaine (Minister of Hummingbird Ministries, B.C.)
- Mission Speakers on Ukraine – Ms. Elena Risnyk and Ms. Thea van Dixhoorn

EVENT AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY MAY 5, 2024:

- Registration at 3:00 pm
- Dinner at 5:30 pm

MONDAY MAY 6, 2024:

- Opening Worship with Communion
Guest Preacher: The Rev. Mary Fontaine, Moderator of General Assembly
- Anniversary Celebrations - presentations of skits, storytelling, speeches
- Mission Speakers from India
Dr. Priya John, Director CMAI (Christian Medical Association of India)
Ms. Shimy Mathew (Secretary, Nurses League, CMAI)
- Entertainment and Testimonial time with Susan Aglukark (Inuit singer)

TUESDAY MAY 7, 2024:

- Opening Worship
Guest Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Dorcas Gordon (former Principal, Knox College)
- Panel on Women and Mission
Panelists: Cathy Reid (WMS President, Malawi); the Rev. Marion Barclay (AMS Editor, Ghana); the Rev. Mary Fontaine (Indigenous, Minister of Hummingbird Ministries)
Facilitator – the Rev. Dr. Dorcas Gordon
- Mission Speakers on Ukraine – Ms. Elena Risnyk and Ms. Thea van Dixhoorn

WEDNESDAY MAY 8, 2024:

- Council Meeting (Delegates and Council Executive only)

VENUE:

Our event will take place at the Queen of Apostles Renewal Centre in Mississauga, Ontario. We have booked the whole venue. Accommodation, meals, and conference will all be at this one location which is on one floor and wheelchair accessible. As the name suggests, it is a retreat centre with hiking trails and lovely gardens.

The bedrooms are single occupancy only.

THERE ARE A LIMITED NUMBER OF ROOMS AVAILABLE AT THE RETREAT CENTRE.

ALSO, SPACE IS LIMITED IN THE DINING HALLS AND CONFERENCE ROOM.

SO, REGISTER EARLY.

Check out their website for pictures and more information.

Queen of Apostles Renewal Centre

1617 Blythe Rd.

Mississauga, ON, L5H 2C3

Phone: (905) 278-5229

Fax: (905) 278-7513

Email: office@qoa.ca

NO SCENTS :

Exposure to fragrances or scented products can trigger serious health reactions for individuals who suffer with asthma, allergies, and migraine or chemical sensitivities. Therefore, we encourage all attendees to avoid the use of scented products.

TRAVEL:

You are responsible for your own travel to the QOA retreat centre. There will be no shuttles or pick-up service from the airport or the GO train station. The closest GO train station is Port Credit. Pearson International Airport is a 15-minute car ride to QOA.

REGISTRATION:

Registration deadline is February 28, 2024. Send in the form to Sarah Kim (skim@presbyterian.ca) by **email only**. Send in the registration fee by **cheque only** to: WMS, 50 Wynford Drive, Toronto, Ontario, M3C 1J7.

The Registration form is a separate document for your convenience.

If you have any questions, contact Sarah Kim at skim@presbyterian.ca.