

# W O M E N

Women's Orthodox Ministries and Education Network

[www.OrthodoxWomensNetwork.org](http://www.OrthodoxWomensNetwork.org)

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## REGISTER NOW FOR ORTHODOX WOMEN'S CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 10TH

*(Ligonier, PA)* A wealth of experience and encouragement in ministry will be shared at the pan-Orthodox conference, "Women, Where Are You in the Life of the Church? – Called to God's Purpose in Ministry" Friday through Sunday, Sept. 10-12, 2004 at Antiochian Village Heritage and Learning Center east of Pittsburgh in Ligonier, Pennsylvania. Open to all Orthodox women, the conference offers an opportunity to pray and explore together both traditional ministries and emerging ones, such as health care chaplaincy and deaconess. Early registration is encouraged.

Over twenty Orthodox women from six Orthodox jurisdictions - Antiochian, Greek, OCA, Romanian, Serbian and Ukrainian – are coming together as presenters for a series of nine workshops about new and existing parish ministries, community ministries, and liturgical life and arts. In addition, several projects will be announced as the group's focus for the next two years.

Keynote speaker, Dr. Helen Creticos Theodoropoulos of Chicago will address "Called to God's Purpose: Faith, Transformation, and Service." Dr. Theodoropoulos presently teaches Patristic theology at St. Sava Serbian Orthodox School of Theology in Libertyville, Illinois. Dr. Anthony Bashir, Boston, co-chair of the Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese Department of Lay Ministries, will lead an interactive session "Discover Your Spiritual Gifts," and Demetra Velisarios Jaquet, M.Div., Denver, a pastoral counselor and hospice chaplain, will speak on "Courage to Minister."

Saturday afternoon workshop presenters will explain how to prepare for or begin ministry in a variety of areas, including: Chaplaincy, Fr. Steven Voytovich; Pastoral

Counseling, Megan Brightwell; Crisis Ministries, Paula Kappos, “Zoe For Life”; Parish Pastoral Care, Aleksandra Gopsill; Parish Ministries to Women, Khourye Joanne Abdalah; Monastic Life, Sr. Nonna Verna Harrison; Deaconess, Anne Marie Mecera; Chanter, Choir Director, Reader, Preacher, and Altar Server, Pani Matka Christine Holet.

“Tips and Tales” from women in ministry on Saturday evening will feature storytelling and suggestions from experience in these areas: Pastoral Listening, Khourye Joanne Abdalah and Demetra Velisarios Jaquet; Chaplaincy, Presbyter Mary Cowles and Sarah Byrne Francis; Crisis Ministries, Alexandra Kemrer and Paula Kappos; Parish Ministries to Women, Alina Buzdugan and Alexandra Gopsill; Deaconess, Teva Regule; and Missions, Maria Gallos and Doreen Anna Hoskins.

The conference is co-sponsored by Antiochian Village Heritage and Learning Center and the Women’s Orthodox Ministries and Education Network (WOMEN), a network for women interested in spiritual growth, theology, lay ministry, and the restoration of the deaconess. Co-Chairs are Fr. Michael Massouh, Executive Director of Antiochian Village, and Demetra Velisarios Jaquet, WOMEN Chair.

On Sunday afternoon at the conference conclusion, the WOMEN Network will elect new board members to two year terms at its Annual Meeting, open to all. Each woman elected by consensus will identify her own project focus, process, and outcomes, and WOMEN will support her with print and Internet publicity, networking, peer encouragement and accountability, mentoring, and grant writing resources. Projects may range from establishing a functioning planning committee over the next two years, to creating and implementing an outcome-oriented program at the parish, diocesan, or archdiocesan level, or in the ecumenical community. To propose a project area, contact [womenusa@aol.com](mailto:womenusa@aol.com) before the conference.

Conference registration includes all meals, lodging, and conference materials, and ranges from \$167 per person for four people per room to \$253 for a private room.

Commuter rates are available, and late registration fee after August 15th is \$50. Visit [www.OrthodoxWomensNetwork.org](http://www.OrthodoxWomensNetwork.org) on the Internet to download and print the registration form; phone Antiochian Village at 724-238-3677 to receive a registration form by U.S. Mail; or E-Mail: [avcenter@antiochian.org](mailto:avcenter@antiochian.org) or [womenusa@aol.com](mailto:womenusa@aol.com).

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