

# MORE in 2024!



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 **CELEBRATION**



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# There is someone knocking at your door!

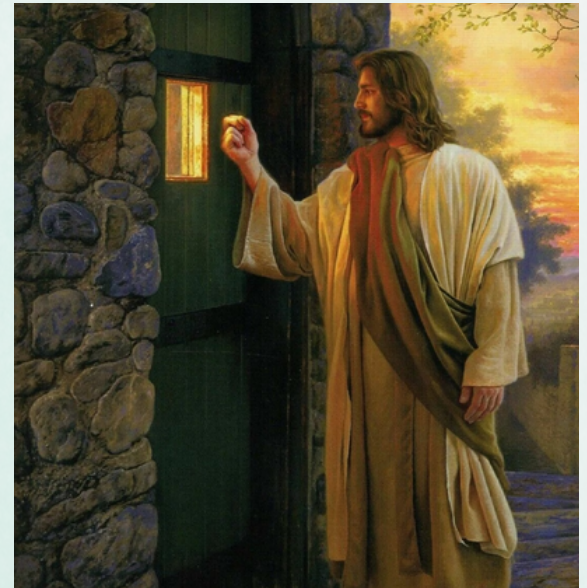


Judy Graham

President,  
Celebration Women's  
Ministry, Inc.

As the year 2023 ended, I always start praying for a word from the Lord about the upcoming year. I heard "More of Him in 2024!" More of His presence and more of His power. When we purpose to spend time with Him and read His Word, being in His presence brings more of His power to operate in and through our lives to fulfill His purposes.

This word brought to mind a picture my parents had in their home. It was Jesus standing at the door and knocking at a home. What a visual image for us. He had a gentle look on His face, dressed in his long robes and hand raised in preparation to knock on a door.



## **Benefits of dwelling with God:**

1. We lie down and sleep in peace because we are always in His presence.
2. When the Lord God Almighty is your dwelling place, you possess peace continually.
3. You have the guidance, protection, deliverance, spiritual blessings and eternal security promised.
4. You will never be separated from His love. We love Him because He first loved us.

Has Jesus been knocking on your door lately? It could be a thought, a sense of longing in your life or even a friend reaching out to you. There could be various reasons He is knocking on your door. One reason is to let you know He knows about you and wants you to accept Him as your savior. Another thought is that He wants a closer, deeper and more intimate walk with you on a daily basis. Jesus is so loving and caring, He is not going to break down the door to have a personal relationship with you and me. However, He has been showing you in many ways He is there for you and is waiting for you to open the door and let Him enter your life in new and exciting ways.

When I was single and working out of state, I would come home to visit my parents. The moment I entered the house my folks were there with arms opened wide to welcome me and show their love for me. Being in their presence always filled voids in my life. The same is true with being in the Lord's presence. There is peace, joy, love, acceptance, guidance, and a sense of well-being.

How do you enter His presence? Some people begin with singing a worship song, others experience His presence when reading the Word of God, or by finding a quiet place to be still and inviting Him to be with you. He makes His presence known to me by a feeling in my spirit/heart. We don't go by emotional feelings but it is really special when we have that experience with Him. Other times, it is just a knowing that His Word says He is always with us and we accept that by faith. You will have your own story to tell about being in God's presence and experiencing more of His power in 2024. We would love to hear your story. Happy New Year!

Love,

*Judy*



# Sign up today for National Conference 2024!

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



**Rachel Burchfield**  
Burchfield Ministries  
International



**Lee Andrews**  
Make Love Your Aim  
Ministries



**Rev. Dr. Leah Hidde-Gregory**  
President Pro-Tempore  
GMC - MidTexas Conference

You make known to me the  
path of life; in your  
presence there is fullness  
of joy; at your right hand  
are pleasures forevermore  
**Psalms 16:11**

**April 5-7, 2024**  
**Hyatt Regency Houston West**  
13210 Katy Fwy  
Houston, TX 77079



National Conference is for women between the ages of **15** and **115** and includes messages from our speakers, powerful praise & worship, a reflective prayer room, all Saturday meals and breakfast on Sunday

**Conference Registration Price: \$175**

(Four meals included! Payment plan option of two payments available)

For more info and to register visit:  
[celebrationministries.org/NC24](http://celebrationministries.org/NC24) or scan the QR Code



REGISTER ONLINE AT INFO ABOVE OR FILL OUT AND MAIL THE FORM BELOW



NAME

CHURCH/CHAPTER

STREET ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

EMAIL

DAYTIME PHONE

### YES, I WILL ATTEND NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2024

☐ Adult Registration (**\$175**)

☐ Adult T-Shirt (**\$20**) Size \_\_\_\_\_  
(Optional)

Any Dietary Restrictions? (Please list here) \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to:  
"Celebration" (Memo: Ntl Conf 2024)

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail form to: Susan Monroe  
2320 Gracy Farms Ln 914  
Austin, TX 78758

### QUESTIONS?

Contact our VP of Conference, Sheila Davis  
409.363.2372 or [conference@celebrationministries.org](mailto:conference@celebrationministries.org)



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# SNEAK PEEK OF NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2024 MESSAGES

Our speakers have provided a glimpse of what awaits you at the Celebration National Conference scheduled for April 5-7, 2024, in Houston, TX! Join us for a refreshing weekend in God's PRESENCE!



## RACHEL BURCHFIELD

You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore. Ps. 16:11 NKJV

Great news is coming your way! God can do more in one moment than we can do in a natural lifetime. How? By His Presence. Presence. The Presence of God is the Holy Spirit, a Person, not a spooky "thing." He has a purpose and a personality. He knows everything, and He is always right. He is all-powerful, yet a Comforter. He is our Helper in our ordinary daily tasks, such as quitting bad habits or giving us the right words for a struggling loved one. He'll even help you to love yourself finally.

The Presence of the Lord appears in the first and last chapters of the Word of God, with frequent appearances throughout the Bible. Everywhere His Presence arrives, you will find transformed lives experiencing clarity, calmness of heart, and the ability to face their days with courage. I look forward to a joyful time together in His Presence. Let's expect miracles because His Presence brings presents.

## LEE ANDREWS

The HELPER, AKA the Holy Spirit, displays God's power through each of us as a way to help the Body of Christ express Christ to a lost world. Bring your ear to this practical teaching on the Gifts of the Spirit. Are we hearing Our Shepherd? Bring your voice! Learn how to ENCOURAGE, EXHORT OR COMFORT others by praying and speaking what you hear God saying. In this changing world, we all want to become more sensitive to the Holy Spirit! Come, let us teach you how to unwrap the nine Gifts of the Spirit (1 Corinthians 12 v.8-10) and how to recognize when the anointing is present or not present; prompting a response or not. Everyone will participate in our practice sessions and demos. The opportunity to practice the joy of flowing in the Spirit without fear or embarrassment awaits you!



Simply unwrapped: the Purpose of the gifts of the Spirit and the gift of prophecy is to help the church grow in holiness and happiness. (1 Corinthians 14:4, The Living Bible). The simple gift of prophecy is defined as edification, exhortation and comfort. Get wrapped up in what God loves for us to do: help others to find Him. Gain the confidence and skill to help a loved one, a friend, a co-worker, or your favorite cashier at the grocery find Jesus through your ability to edify, exhort or comfort when they need it most!





## REV. DR. LEAH HIDDE-GREGORY

My granddad would take me fishing down at the creek when I was a little girl. I never got to hold the pole. Instead, I would help him find forked sticks that he would drive into the ground and the poles would rest on them. After we had set up our fishing poles, my granddad and I would sit and watch for the bobbers to go under the water. While we waited, my granddad would sit next to me and whisper stuff about the forest to me, educating me about the trees and the plants. As a little girl, I would sometimes get a little nervous by the sounds of the wildlife and I would scoot up next to my granddad. As an adult, I do not remember catching one fish, although I have pictures of myself with really large catches from our fishing trips. What I remember is being in my Granddad's presence, the joy and the peace of sitting on that creek bed and our lingering conversations.

It's a joy and a peace that I find when I rest in the Lord... when I focus on God's presence in my life. Centering prayer, searching the scriptures, worshiping with a community of faith, and taking part in the sacraments of the church, these are all ways that I experience the presence of God. At this year's Celebration Conference, we are going to "scoot up next to God" and just enjoy His presence.

I hope you will make plans to attend as we focus in on what it means to be present with the Lord.



## NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2024 T-SHIRT

Don't forget to snag a cool T-shirt when you register! The Celebration Boutique will have a limited stock, so grab yours early to rock the weekend in style!

Book your hotel stay for only \$114 a night:  
<https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/group-booking/HOURO/G-CELE>



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# Prayer Focus for 2024



Christi Gardner

VP of Communication  
Celebration Women's  
Ministry, Inc.

Celebration is a ministry that is reliant on a solid foundation of prayer. We stand on John 14:13-14 that whatever we ask in Jesus' name will be done! We humbly ask that you pray over this Prayer Focus for 2024 with us as we seek the Father's face regarding Global, National, and Local needs for this ministry!

## Global

- That the gospel will spread throughout the earth and that all would experience Salvation, Healing, and Equipping. | Luke 4:18-19
- That there would be peace among the nations. | Leviticus 26:6
- That there would be a hunger to plant women's ministries to the ends of the earth and that Celebration can be a gift to those women. | Acts 1:8

## National

- That the Lord would raise up leaders to serve on the Celebration National Board and Team. Women who are called and anointed to do the work of this ministry. | 1 Thessalonians 5:12
- That the Lord would provide abundantly and supernaturally for this ministry. | Malachi 3:10-12
- That the Holy Spirit would draw the hearts of the women who need to spend time in God's PRESENCE at National Conference 2024 and that He will make a way for them to be there and experience "His fullness of joy". | Psalm 16:11
- That the mission of Celebration would grow in other denominations so that more women can experience the freedom that comes from an intimate relationship with Jesus. Specifically favor with conferences and leadership of denominations. | Acts 2:47
- That the Lord would raise up new chapters across the Nation. | Matthew 9:36-38

## Local

- That the current Celebration Chapter Leadership would be strengthened and anointed. Also, that leaders would be raised up to continue the work of the ministry and have favor with their local church. | Hebrews 13:7
- That the former and dormant Celebration chapters will be resurrected and that leaders would be raised up. | Ezekiel 37:1-14

If you would like to be added to receive our Celebration Prayer List, please email [prayer@celebrationministries.org](mailto:prayer@celebrationministries.org).



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# CELEBRATION HIGHLIGHT

## Honoring Carol Kellum and Yvonne Hartman

If you've ever been to a National Celebration event, chances are you've run into Carol Kellum and Yvonne Hartman. Known for their servant hearts and friendly personality, these two ladies have set up and worked the Celebration Boutique for at least a decade. They have an eye for the layout, the merchandise, and their Celebration sisters! They've helped Margie Filer (Celebration Secretary/ Treasurer), trained newbies, and remained faithful to their calling through the years.



Both ladies came to Celebration as members of the Cypress Trails Chapter (Cypress Trails UMC is now Spring Community Church). They are a familiar face to all and the National Board can't say enough about them. Here are some of the comments:

**Yvonne and Carol are not only faithful...they are beacons of joy as they serve. O how we need more with their hearts to bless!** | JoNell Gerland

**Carol and Yvonne faithfully give up their break time so that other attendees can shop and mingle and visit... I love you both for your selfless ways!** | Jeanette Morrissey

**Yvonne and Carol, you started helping us at our Resource table years ago. You developed a ministry at that table by making it fun for the ladies who stopped by as well as making them feel loved and beautiful in the various things they tried on. Thank you for being on our Celebration Team. You are blessings to us. Love you.** | Judy Graham

**Yvonne and Carol are familiar faces at the boutique table each year and they are always so helpful! I love it when people compliment me on something I have gotten from them and then I get to brag on conference and the boutique! Win! Win! Love those girls!** | Catherine Hillsten

**I love it that Carol and Yvonne typically volunteer for the position before I even ask them! They are enthusiastic about their role, and I would definitely say their joy is contagious. Thank you both from the bottom of my heart!** | Sheila Davis

**What a wonderful gift you have both been to me personally and to Celebration! I can not imagine National Conference without you two!** | Christi Gardner

When you see them this year at National Conference 2024 PRESENCE in Houston, be sure to thank them and give them a hug. We love you, Carol and Yvonne!



### HONORING WOMEN

**Dolores "Lolita" Bahr**  
**Louise Auler**  
**Bertha Scheidt**  
**Louise Vordenberg**  
**Josephine Schuler**  
**Elfride Wallace**  
**Jan Evans**  
**Susie Turner**

Would you like to honor someone in our next issue?

Your donation to honor these women will pass along the opportunity to make a difference in other women's lives through Celebration. Donate \$25 to honor each woman who has made an impact on you!

Visit our website and click DONATE





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Houston, Texas 77056

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## CELEBRATION CALENDAR

### March

#### 12 **Trinity, TX Chapter Meeting**

6:00-8:00 PM | Trinity FMC  
Contact: Yvonne Hastings - yvllaw@hotmail.com

### April

#### 5-7 **National Conference 2024!**

Hyatt Regency Houston West  
Theme: Presence  
Contact: Sheila Davis -  
conference@celebrationministries.org

### May

If you want your Celebration meeting or event advertised, please send the information to [news@celebrationministries.org](mailto:news@celebrationministries.org)

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