# PRESENCE

**Celebration National Conference 2024** 

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

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April 5-7, 2024

**Hyatt Regency Houston West** 

13210 Katy Fwy Houston, TX 77079



## Change - How to walk through it!



Judy Graham

President, Celebration Women's Ministry, Inc.

#### **KEY POINTS TO REMEMBER:**

- God gives us the strength and courage to handle change, so there is no need to try to fight it or avoid it.
- Remember, God does not change because life changes. He will continue to be with us and see us through. Allow yourself some time to grieve those things that you have left behind to fully embrace the new transitions. Keep looking ahead.
- Change can be a lot and very overwhelming. Rest in God's peace anyway. No need to get ourselves worked up. Be aware of how we perceive the change. Focus on believing in God's promises, not in fear, weakness, and possible failures.
- Be honest regarding the things about your changes/transitions that you don't like. Then ask God to help you accept the things you cannot change. Process with someone who knows you well and with whom you can trust your transitional feelings and emotions as you adjust to your "new."

Change is a part of life. Currently, we are experiencing a change in seasons from Summer to Fall. There are also many other types of changes life brings us...job changes, relationship changes, the deaths of loved ones, location changes...the only thing consistent in earthly terms is change. However, the only thing that is unchanging is God Himself and His Word..

At Celebration's Conference last spring, I received a Partner gift that was a blanket with Proverbs 3:4-6..."Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct your paths." I have always loved that scripture and pray it a lot over circumstances in my life. Recently, I was faced with a major change in my life. We sold our home of 38 years and have moved to a new city...all within the last 10 months. This proverb was one I prayed daily as decisions were needed to be made.

Here are some scriptures and thoughts I want to share with you:

"For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven." Ecclesiastes 3:1 NLT

"Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7 NLT

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. So do not be attracted by strange, new ideas."Hebrews 13:8-9 NLT

#### **HOW TO HANDLE CHANGE?**

#### 1. Embrace What Is

We have heard it said that life is ten percent what happens to you and ninety percent your response to it. You can choose to resist and fight change or respond to it positively, embracing it. I have purposed to live each day one day at a time. Asking the Holy Spirit to guide me through every decision I need to make in this day.

#### 2. Let Go of What Was

In order to embrace something, you need to release whatever else is in your hands. We think we have a right to hold onto things of this earth as if they are rightfully ours. Corrie Ten Boom's statement is very helpful. She said: "Hold everything in your hands lightly, otherwise it hurts when God pries your fingers open." But we have a hard time letting go, don't we? We cling to the past, the comfortable, and the familiar. Rather, we should seek to live in the moment, expecting and receiving the opportunities that God wants us to experience.

### 3. Anticipate What Will Be

During times of transition, the things which stir up feelings of fear and anxiety are the same things that create excitement, freshness, and anticipation. We mustn't forget that our God is a God of new beginnings. Jesus has a hope and future for you.

Why wouldn't a God of new beginnings want to do something new in each of our lives?

We can never go wrong with putting our hope in God! Trust Him with our life. (Jeremiah 29:11)

With prayer and love through your changes,



"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing: Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."



Mail form to:

Susan Monroe

2320 Gracy Farms Ln 914 Austin, TX 78758

# Sign up today for National Conference 2024!

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



**Burchfield Ministries** International



Lee Andrews Make Love Your Aim Ministries



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

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.

\$150 Early Bird price ends January 31, 2024 \$175 Regular (Payment plan option of two payments available)

Contact our VP of Conference, Sheila Davis

For more info and to register visit: celebrationministries.org/NC24 or scan the QR Code



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STREET ADDRESS	CITY STATE ZIP
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WILL ATTEND NATIONAL C	ONFERENCE 2024
ult Registration (\$150 early bird,	ends Jan. 31, 2024, <b>\$175</b> regular)
ult T-Shirt ( <b>\$20</b> ) Size	Any Dietary Restrictions? (Please list here)
make check payable to: ration" (Memo: Ntl Conf 2024)	QUESTIONS?
# Amount enclosed \$	

# MEET OUR NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2024 KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



### RACHEL BURCHFIELD

Rachel has a contagious joy that will inspire you to greatness. Since 1991, she has served as President of Texas Bible Institute in Columbus, Texas, with thousands of alumni representing thirty-nine states and forty-two nations. She and her husband, Pastor Tommy, are cofounders of a large camp, a Bible school, and a local church.

Stories from her fifty-plus years in Christian leadership will inspire you to trust Jesus Christ with your life and prepare for His adventures ahead. Rachel remains utterly devoted to her husband of 40+ years, three adult children, their wonderful spouses, and six grandchildren, all of whom are followers of Jesus Christ.

### LEE ANDREWS

Lee founded Make Love Your Aim Ministries (MLYA) in 2004 to awaken and equip believers to reach the harvest Jesus died to save. With a heart to see all believers from all denominations equipped with the supernatural, world-winning gifts of the Spirit, Lee held MLYA's first monthly Bible-teaching meetings in March of 2004. She still loves to train believers in the prophetic by teaching faith to hear God's voice, speak His word of power, and show His heart of love to people everywhere.

Today Lee holds special events around a variety of God-breathed themes, sends out Lee's Word for Today and mentors younger women in ministry. A native Houstonian and an Ivy League graduate, Lee lived abroad for many years and joyously participated in the life of her London and Rome home churches.





### REV. DR. LEAH HIDDE-GREGORY

After 30 years in the United Methodist Church, Dr. Leah Hidde-Gregory became an elder in the Global Methodist Church in June of 2022. During her ministry, she served as a laywoman in the Oklahoma Conference and as a pastor in the North and Central Texas Conferences. Most recently, she served as District Superintendent in the Central Texas Conference.

Leah has a heart and passion for sharing the good news of Jesus Christ. She has spent much of her ministry in church revitalization, revival and church growth. She is excited about the Global Methodist Church and the orthodox witness which is being awakened within our congregations as they discern their next faithful step.

She holds a Doctorate in Ministry in Church Leadership Excellence from Wesley Theological in Washington, D.C.; a Masters of Divinity from Perkins School of Theology; and a Bachelors in Psychology and Sociology from Texas A&M Commerce. She is married to partner in ministry, Stan. They have two married daughters and a son who is still at home.

# OUR LOCATION: HYATT REGENCY HOUSTON WEST



National Conference 2024 will be held once more at the beautiful Hyatt Regency Houston West. This location allows us to get away to relax as an oasis in the middle of busy Houston. Not only is the hotel stunning but the conference also includes a quiet prayer room to find those times to get away with the Lord in His Presence.

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

### **WAYS TO SUPPORT CELEBRATION IN 2024!**



Jeanette Morrissey

VP of Administration Celebration Women's Ministry, Inc. Hope this finds you well into your plans for a joyous Christmas season. As you prepare, please consider making a charitable donation to Celebration Women's Ministry.

The goal of the ministry is to ensure that each woman knows Jesus on a more personal level every day. Together we can help more women come to know Jesus as their personal Lord and Savior.

To make this possible, we are asking that all avenues be explored to support the present and future growth of the ministry.

### Matthew 6:19-21 Amplified Bible

19 "Do not store up for yourselves [material] treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. 20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in and steal; 21 for where your treasure is, there your heart [your wishes, your desires; that on which your life centers] will be also.

Do you know a family foundation that could support this growing ministry? Perhaps your workplace offers matching donations to 501 (c) 3 charities to enhance your donation.

Upcoming expenses and opportunities for underwriting or sponsorship are as follows:

Worship - National Conference	\$3000
<b>Audio/Visual - National Conference</b>	\$2000
Speaker expenses	\$1000
Team member expenses	\$2000
Advertising expenses/costs	\$2000
Storage expense	\$940
Office space	\$6000

You may also feel led to support a particular area of interest. Any and all gifts will be greatly appreciated. Any sponsor or underwriter gifts will be welcomed so that increasing National Conference attendee costs can be minimized. If you know of a family or corporate foundation that supports earthly costs for heavenly purposes and goals, please contact: Jeanette Morrissey, jeanette.morrissey@gmail.com, Cell 281-705-4590.

Merry Christmas to all!



### **CELEBRATION HIGHLIGHT**

# CHARTERING CHRIST THE KING METHODIST & FIRST METHODIST TRINITY





"What a wonderful time we had with you ladies on the National Board at Christ the King Methodist Church on an exciting day as we became one of the first GMC churches chartered by Celebration Women's Ministries.

We thank you as each presentation was so well done and so meaningful to us. I have been to many 'Womens' meetings. The advice Is generally unrealistic. I was so impressed with the presentations. Delicate but really very wise.

All found the information relatable to our lives, and the practicing of praying and asking other women to give their lives to Christ was invaluable for those of us who hesitate.

I hope our chapter has the spirit moving and accomplishing great things for the Lord our God!" | **Kim Hamilton, Huntsville, Texas** 

If you would like more information on starting a chapter, reach out to our VP of Leadership Development JoNell Gerland at leadership@celebrationministries.org.









HONORING WOMEN

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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### CELEBRATION CALENDAR

# December 12 Trinity, TX Chapter Meeting 6:00-8:00 PM | Trinity FMC Contact:: Wonne Hastings-yvllaw@hotmail.com

### January

20 Omro, WI Chapter Meeting 9:00-11:00 AM | Rushford Town Hall Theme and speaker to be announced Contact:: Karen Neuman - neupine@gmail.com



### February

3 Nederland, TX Chapter Meeting 9:30-11:30 AM | Wesley Methodist Church Speaker: JoNell Gerland Contact:: Lynn Huckaby - clynnhuck@aol.com



If you want your Celebration meeting or event advertised, please send the information to news@celebrationministries.org

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