



The
**DEACONESS
COMMUNITY**

Serving the ELCA / ELCIC

*Compelled by the love
of Christ and sustained
by community, we devote
our lives to proclaiming
the Gospel through
ministries of mercy and
servant leadership.*

August 31, 2011

Pastor Christof Naef
Dr. Christine-Ruth Mueller
Kaiserswerth General Conference

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Please convey to the members of the Kaiserswerth General Conference, warm greetings and sincere congratulations on this wonderful milestone from our Sisters and Board of Directors!

One hundred and fifty years is a long time for an organization to remain strong and healthy. The Deaconess Community of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is proud to be part of the long line of deaconess motherhouse communities, and to share a heritage with you that goes back to Pastor Theodor Fliedner and his wives, Frederike and Karoline, and even to the Acts of the Apostles and those who were assigned the tasks of being deacons.

The ministry of diakonia is a valid and vibrant ministry. Jesus showed us how to be the kinds of servants that care for one another in their needs. Thank you for the leadership and support that the Kaiserswerth General Conference has provided to us, to others, and to the world.

We have a saying here in the ELCA: It is God's work and our hands.

May you continue true and strong and may your celebrations be wonderful!

God is with you.

Sister Anne Keffer
Directing Deaconess

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