

Rev. Robyn M. Anderson

**World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women
CSW65 International Convention
“Girls On Fire”**

The conference was Fabulous! What a great experience. It was so great to get to see and share in worship, workshops and panel discussions with my Sisters from all over the world.

I began the conference by being in attendance for the

Ecumenical Women CSW Orientation Session. What an inspiring and invigorating opening.

Each of the different organizations lifted up prayers identifying the high points, the struggles and advocacy efforts that will be addressed during the conference.

This orientation really connected me with my need to be in solidarity with all of my sisters all over the World! It left me with this expression “Sisters all Over the World Matter...their lives, dignity and Rights”!

For most of the church services I was blessed to be in attendance. It was so great to experience women Of all denomination leading us in devotion, prayer and Worship. Very powerful messages were shared by women all over the world.

It was so powerful to see so many women dressed in black on Thursday in concern, and to raise our voices against the senseless violence that is taking place all over the world.

Each morning with inspiration from Rev. Dionne. Rev. Dionne's excitement in praise and adoration was contagious. I left every morning empowered and feeling the connection to my sisters from all over the world.

I attended the workshop sessions entitled “Generation Equality Forum”. It was so dynamic to have dialogue with my Sisters all over the world on Health Equity, ways of advocating for Policy changes needed to achieve health equity all over the world.

The workshop I attended was Girls On Fire - End Gender Based Violence Pt. 1 & 2

Presenter: Claire Jackson, an 18 year old senior at Brum High School in Brum, NJ. She is President of her chapter of Girls International, an international organization working to empower and educate middle and high school students to advocate for human rights, its equality and universal education in the us and around the world. She told a story of a classmate/friend who was a survival of domestic violence. Realizing that girls ae being abused and not talking about it and no one is doing anything about it. This caused her to do something. With the stay at home mandate resulting from the pandemic, many of those who are abused are forced to stay at home with their abuser. She started a chapter in her school that can be a safe haven for girls to come, talk about what’s happening to them and receive help. Girls all over the world are suffering from Gender Based violence and chapters like this are opening the door to end the silence.

There were other workshops that I attended as well. My attendance at the CSW 65 was such a great experience. It is my prayer that the 2022 CSW conference will allow us to be experienced in person. I thank God for the virtually experience as well.

Peace and Blessings!

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Robyn M. Anderson

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