

DOTAC Assembly 2027

Information Webinar

August 31, 2026



2027 DOTAC
ASSEMBLY





Agenda

- DOTAC Assembly 2027-- dates, location, theme
 - Overview of a DOTAC Assembly
 - Registration cost, dates, etc
 - Thinking, Preparing and Deciding to Attend DOTAC 2027
- 



DOTAC Assembly 2027

- ASSEMBLY DATES: July 15-19, 2027
- Location: Marriott Allbrook, Panama City, Panama
- Theme: Where the Waters Meet



Dates: July 15-19, 2027

- **Book travel to arrive in Panama City (PTY) on July 14**
 - Transportation will be provided on July 14 from the airport to the hotel
 - If you choose to arrive before July 14th or through somewhere other than into PTY, transportation to the hotel is your responsibility
 - Copa Airlines is a local airline that flies to/from cities in the US and Canada
- **Assembly will begin in the MORNING on July 15**
- **Assembly will end in the EVENING on July 19**
- **Book travel to leave PTY on July 20**
 - Transportation to the airport on July 20th will be provided
 - If you choose to leave at a different time, transportation is your responsibility (there are rideshares, taxi, bus and metro from the Allbrook Mall)

Location: Panama City, Panama

- Marriott Hotel, Allbrook Mall
- Double queens, single kings, a very few rollout beds available
 - 1, 2 or 3 to a room
 - A few fully accessible rooms (please name accessibility needs at registration...and be honest!)
- Buffet breakfast included at hotel
- Registration cost will include most meals (2 meals on your own)
- Elevators, air conditioning inside
- Outdoor pool on the rooftop (not very deep)





- Bistro and seafood/cocktail restaurant on the main floor
- Café Met
- Allbrook Mall is VERY large – 4 food courts
- Walking distance to Starbucks and additional restaurants
- Laundry for a fee





- Language: Spanish (hotel front desk and most hotel restaurant staff understand English)
- Currency: USD
- Most dietary needs can be accommodated by the hotel
- Seafood, fried food (empanada, plantains, etc), chocolate, rum, coconut ice
- Supermarket in the mall (near the hotel) with a pharmacy
- Rideshare/taxi to local sites

Theme

Where the Waters Meet

Panama is the connecting point between East and West, North and South. It is the place where oceans, rivers, canals and streams intermingle. It is where people from all around the world cross paths for commerce, tourism and more.

It is a place where the waters of justice flow around issues of poverty, environmental care, indigenous justice, colonialism, youth/aging, and more



**2027 DOTAC
ASSEMBLY**





Overview of a DOTAC Assembly

- **Day of traveling**, check in to hotel, evening welcome reception. Breakfast provided daily in the hotel.
- **Day 1:** registration, opening worship, keynote speaker, workshop session 1, gathering/community building (lunch buffet, dinner on your own)
- **Day 2:** Site Visits, evening large group time and evening prayer service (lunch & dinner buffet)
- **Day 3:** free time (with options for guided tours at your own expense), afternoon keynote speaker, evening cultural presentation (lunch on your own, dinner buffet)
- **Day 4:** worship at a local congregation, afternoon workshop session 2 & 3, evening fellowship activities, (lunch & dinner buffet)
- **Day 5:** large group sessions, diaconal community time, closing worship, closing celebration--Taste of DOTAC (lunch & dinner buffet)
- **Day of traveling**, check out of hotel, departure, etc



Registration Information

- Registration cost: \$900 USD (cost goes up to \$950 after March 1, 2027)
 - INCLUDES: meeting rooms, speakers, most meals, transportation to/from airport, transportation to/from site visits, coffee/tea breaks every day
- DOES NOT include hotel, airfare from/to home, cost of guided tours, personal spending, 2 meals
- Registration will open the first week of October on the DOTAC web site: <https://dotac.diakonia-world.org>
- Hotel will provide link to reserve your own rooms (\$139/night per queen double room)
 - Name your roommate on your registration form so we can communicate rooming list to the hotel

Things to Consider as You Prepare

- **Accessibility/mobility needs**

- There is a lot of walking. The hotel has plenty of places to stop and rest.
- Dietary restrictions that are named in registration information can most likely be accommodated. If you are unsure, please contact the registrar with your specific needs.

- **Come early/stay late**

- The hotel will honor the room rate for DOTAC for 5 nights before and 5 nights after the dates of our Assembly.

- **Diaconal community connections**

- What small item might your diaconal community bring to share with others (buttons, pens, etc)?
- Taste of DOTAC: bring a snack from your country/region to share with others
- Does your community have a video that could be played during breaks to share about your ministry/identity?



Things to Consider as You Prepare

- **Vendor Tables**

- There will be a few tables set up for "vendors" outside the ballroom where we will be meeting. Working with the local diaconal community, some vendors from the area will be there to sell their items. Consider bringing some cash.
- If your diaconal community would like a table to display resources or to sell items, please have a leader in your community indicate on their registration form

- **Weather**

- Panama is a tropical rainforest. In July it will be hot & humid. We will spend most of our time in the hotel, but bring an umbrella/rain jacket for days outside.

- **Travel plans**

- Travel plans will be due to Ann Blain by April 1, 2027. In order to be included in the DOTAC-arranged transportation from/to the airport, we **MUST** receive accurate travel information from you.
- Consider the time in transit. From Winnipeg, it took 21 hours (with an overnight layover in either Atlanta or Minneapolis).



More Information Coming

- October 2026 – walking through the registration form, travel questions, etc., online ordering for SWAG
- February 2027 – information on workshops, site visits, keynote speaker
- May 2027 – packing list, logistics

Key Dates to Remember

- October (first week) – registration opens (link on DOTAC web site)
- March 1 – registration cost increases to \$950
- April 15 – registration closes



Pray for the local planning team,
board and all who are involved
in preparing for DOTAC
Assembly 2027. We can't wait
for you to join us in Panama!