



# So glad you are joining us!

Dear Friends,

We are looking forward to seeing you at the Why Water Matters Summit, November 16-18, 2017 in Minneapolis. We currently have about 90 persons registered to attend, representing a variety of traditions and geographic areas. This promises to be an inspirational event which hope will also empower each of you to make a difference for water health in your own area.

Our event is being held at the Embassy Suites at 7901 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, Bloomington MN. This is near the Minneapolis airport, and the hotel provides a free shuttle service to and from the airport. You can call the hotel for a shuttle upon arriving: 952-854-1000. For those driving, parking is free.

Enclosed is an agenda for our time together. You will note that there are some optional ceremonial events to be held in an outdoor tent at the hotel. Although a heater will be in the tent, we encourage you to wear warm clothes and a jacket. These ceremonial times are a unique opportunity to pray with our American Indian traditional leaders, and will deeply enrich our interfaith experience together. We invite our Native American attendees who are pipe carriers to bring their pipes with them for the sunrise prayer times with Lionel Little Eagle.

The worship planning team invites all participants to bring a small vial or bottle of water from your area to be poured into a water bowl during worship. Remember to stay within the guidelines of your airline which will restrict it to small amounts. You will return home with unified water in your bottle.

The worship team also invites musicians and singers who would like to be part of worship leadership to meet on Thursday at 4pm in the Palm Ballroom. We are looking forward to the sharing of your musical gifts!

If you are still around on Saturday afternoon, there are some brave folks who plan to journey by car to the river for prayers at 12:30. (why brave? the weather forecast is a range of 20-30 degrees for our dates). If you would like to participate, please sign up at the on-site registration table, and indicate if you have a vehicle to help us transport people to the river.

We especially welcome our youth and young adult participants, knowing that you have the potential to lead our movement to protect water into the future. Note the Thursday night talking circle. At that time you may wish to schedule an additional meeting for late Friday.

We hope all of you come with the intent to make a difference for water safety after you return home. We will be having a time for geographic groups to meet and formulate a plan for action. If you know of water concerns in your area, bring information about those along with you. John Hill will be facilitating our groups as we make plans for action, and our "Moving Forward" Team, led by Sarah Lawton, will be staying in touch with you beyond this event.

We embrace the power of our joined minds and hearts in prayer, and look forward to seeing you in Minneapolis.

Mitakuye Oyasin,  
We are all related

The Water Summit Team