

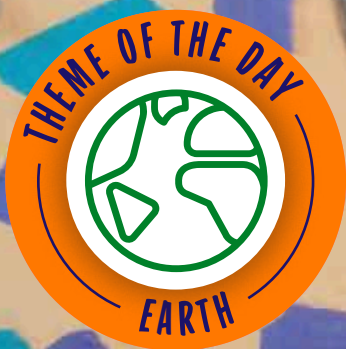


INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION ASSEMBLY

**DAILY** NEWSLETTER

**DAY ONE** | Earth Edition

# Bring the world...



# TOGETHER

Each Voice | Every Community

**IN THIS ISSUE:**

Theme of the day | Going for Gold

Meet our friends in Kenya & France | Behind the Scenes

# IFA 2023 | We are sailing !



**Jasper Keus**

**Coordinator**

**IFA2023**

## Dear Community members:

**We had prepared so many things for the IFA, but NOTHING prepares you to see all the diverse faces of L'Arche around the world.**

From Argentine to Zimbabwe and all the countries between, L'Arche is gathering to define the future together. Benediktus, who were welcomed as a probationary community said they are 'sailing into L'Arche.' And L'Arche as a Federation together is sailing into a new future.

## FEDERATION FRINGE

### #UnbeatableTogether

**While the Federation Assembly started today...**

... and most of us are connected online, we want to also highlight those members of L'Arche presently in Berlin, Germany, representing their country to the **Special Olympics!**

This year, Christian Gerro from L'Arche Antigonish in Canada is competing in three sporting events: 100m sprint, 400m relay and the Standing long jump event, for which **he already won the GOLD medal!**

Proudly representing Honduras, Gerson Alvarenga from Tegucigalpa is participating in the Boccia single and team events. Alejandra Gonzales, physiotherapist in the community, will be his teammate for the team competition.

**We wish them good luck!**



**Christian Gerro wins gold!**

## THEME OF THE DAY

**Every day, we highlight our Federation Assembly events as well as the glowing conversations and exchanges happening on our platforms.**

Today, our Federation Assembly officially started, with delegates meeting throughout the day and our Opening Celebration gathering hundreds of people, which reminded us that we are spread out across many countries and time zones.

**“ We are entering new territory... it's an adventure! And like every adventure, we have plans, and there is space for mistakes and discoveries along the way... ”**

**Stacy Cates-Carney**  
**DAY 1 | IFA**

Yet we all stand together in our mission and values to build a world where everyone belongs!

Did you see L'Arche Kenya's dance presented during the Opening Ceremony? Watch it again and warm congratulations to our friends in Kenya for preparing this recording! We all danced behind our screens!

**WATCH IT AGAIN:**  
**[vimeo.com/838068478](https://vimeo.com/838068478)**





## Michael and Caroline from Kenya

We've had fun trying out the different activities in the creative corner in the monthly newsletters, discussing the documents, watching the videos, decorating our meetings spaces ..

### Did you dance with us?

It was a great privilege to be asked to prepare a dance to welcome communities who've changed status. It was fun, we love dancing, and we are happy to share this gift.

During the assembly week we'll be meeting daily as a community from 10 am to 1pm to go videos again. We wish everyone a good time together.

**WE ARE SUPER EXCITED TO BE ATTENDING THE IFA 2023.**

## How was it FOR YOU at the opening celebrations?

### Paul:

It was great being there. The drama team did an excellent job introducing the theme of the assembly week: Earth, Water, Air and Fire. The dance from Kenya was lovely; I would have joined in if it were not for my back. It was nice that Stephan and Stacy could join from different parts of the world.

### Lisa:

I loved the music, seeing people's faces gathered from all over the world; some familiar. The program was thoughtfully put together, the idea of celebrating the new probationary and confirmed communities was nice.

“The program was thoughtfully put together...”

L'Arche  
Comox Valley,  
USA

## BEHIND the scenes @ THE IFA 2023



**ABOVE: The drama team practicing their moves and lines ahead of the opening ceremony.**

**The IFA is happening all over the world – including in Paris with the three IFA teams.**

**"Overwhelming – and fulfilling"**

Aurélien - Tech team

**"It's community together- and chocolate!"**

Ariane - Communications Team

**"It's a thumbs up- but some people speak too much – 'Eugene do this, do this, do this' – I was frantic. See you tomorrow."**

Eugene – Drama Team

### Video Production

Jarek is responsible for producing the video content for the IFA. He loves running in the hills near his home in Manchester, UK.

