

get | connected!

LEADERSHIP LETTER

FALL 2004

President

Marilyn's Musings

Dear Sisters in Christ.

You may have heard me say many times that the greatest blessing of this office is the opportunity it gives me to meet women [and men] from many different places and from all walks of life as I travel across Canada. The diversity within our country and church community makes my heart sing as I become increasingly aware of what we have to offer each other in terms of knowledge that enables us to be more committed servants of the Lord.

Sometimes we can become 'stuck' in a manner of thinking that shapes and molds us in negative ways without realizing that fact! This can happen to individuals [been there and done that] and it can also happen to organizations.

The first 'order of business' for the women of LWMLC is to worship and praise the Lord God and to be involved in Bible study and prayer, not for the sake of piety, but for the direction we receive when we follow the urging of the Holy Spirit. His Word and our actions go hand in hand as we serve in our congregations and communities.

The second 'order of business' for the women of LWMLC is to embrace our differences as women! We come from a variety of cultures, ethnic backgrounds and yes, even from different faith communities. Our mutual goal is to work together to find ways to encourage women and to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with those whose lives we touch.

Working with the presidents of the five LWMLC districts I have come to admire and respect these dedicated women and look to them for guidance in many matters. Their wisdom contributes so much to our organizational growth as they bring regional information, concerns, problems and solutions to the General Council meetings.

It has been my experience that too often we find it easier to stay in comfortable, established groups only eventually to realize that comfort may not be beneficial to

our spiritual or organizational growth. I firmly believe those who have served and those who hope to serve both the young and those who are not as young, need to be challenged to face the opportunities before us! We have much to learn from each other. May God grant us the courage and wisdom to do so!

Peace and joy in Jesus.

Marilyn Schultz,

"A new command I give you, love one another. As I have loved you, so must you love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."
John 13: 34 - 35 NIV

An encouraging word about

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Tapestry is mailed out in July, October, January and April of any subscription year!

Did you know ...

that you may ADD to your subscriptions at any time? I, the Circulation Manager, would be delighted to increase your orders!

You cannot DECREASE subscriptions once they are paid! But...

Did you realize...

that you can pay for part of a year?

If people would like to give *Tapestry* as a Christmas gift - \$15 would deliver the Spring and Summer issues of the current subscription year as well as the entire next subscription year to the recipient of your choice!

Individual subscriptions cannot be on a different finish date than the group subscriptions. It is simply too difficult to track!

Laura Kihn
Circulation Manager

The Inside Story:

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Christian Growth and Program Resource

"He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing." 1 Thess. 5:10-11

The best way to be encouraged in our faith in the Lord is to encourage others in their faith. This is called the rebound effect, and everybody benefits.

Lately, I have been encouraged by the excitement surrounding one of LWMLC's newest publications, *Teen Speak*. It was thrilling to see so many teenagers - who often get a bad rap - willingly and enthusiastically taking part in this project. They used their God-given talents of writing and art to serve their Lord and encourage others in their walk with God.

Now the ball has been passed to us (remember the rebound effect?). It's our turn. The Bible exhorts us: *"Then they (the older women) can train the younger women..."* Titus 2:4 *"Similarly, encourage the young men..."* Titus 2:6

INVITE: Ask a teen to a church service or a church event. Make sure the teens in or out of your congregation, know their presence is required. They are important! God and you want them there! Make it personal. Call them, speak to them in person, or visit them.

INFORM: Let teens know they are each a special child of God. How? Tell them you are praying for them. Send a card to let them know God never forgets them. Take TIME for them. If they want to talk, LISTEN.

A good passage to remember (especially if they are your own children) is: *"Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry..."* James 1:19 Did you notice what we should do first?

INVOLVE: Let teens help. There are multitudes of church projects that can be blessed because of teenagers' ingenuity and/or muscle. Let them write articles or use artwork for the church newsletter. Visit nursing homes with teens who like to sing or play an instrument or read Scripture to the elderly. Let them put those young legs to work at garage sales, church dinners, or church clean-up. Many are looking for opportunities to fulfill their 40 hours of volunteer requirement for high school graduation. VBS or Sunday School can always benefit from helpful teens!

INSPIRE: Do all you can to let these young people grow in the grace of God. Have special youth retreats. At your church host a Christian concert for all ages. In your Zone, have someone lead one of the teen girl LWMLC programs

such as "If the Shoe Fits," or "The Perfect Match." Our Lord wants these children of His close to His heart especially with all the decisions facing them in this earthly life.

What do **you** get out of this? The Holy Spirit will build you up in your own faith as you "Get Connected" to the teens you know. *"...those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."* (Isaiah 40:31)

May it be so for you and the teens in your life!

Rosalie Schallhorn
Committee Member

Ideas that work

Everybody loves the annual Mother-Daughter Banquet. We all like to get together for the great food and each other's company. It's a given! But how do we vary the program?

The ladies of the Women's Ministry of Grace, Grace Lutheran Church in Oshawa, Ont. decided to donate some door prizes from LWML-Canada materials. They chose fun criteria to spread their gifts among the participants.

One lucky woman who happened to celebrate her birthday that day went home with a copy of "Renewed Day by Day". What an ideal resource this turned out to be for her especially at a time when her husband is dying of cancer. In the dark days ahead she will gain comfort from the wonderful collection of devotions written by LWMLC women all across the country.

The younger guests were asked 'skill testing questions' like: in which department store can one buy Hilary Duff's clothing? The young lady who answered correctly won *Teen Speak!*

A CD by Dr. Mary Manz; titled "Good Night Angel" was an appropriate gift for the youngest in the crowd, an eleven-month-old girl.

Finally, the woman who came the farthest distance, an invited guest from another LWMLC society, was the lucky recipient of a subscription to *Tapestry*. One generous donor gifts a different person each year with a subscription to *Tapestry!*

When you plan your next Mother-Daughter banquet or any other LWMLC gathering pick up on this great idea. It's bound to be a winner!

Anne Carson
Grace Lutheran, Oshawa, Ont.

Archivist

PROCESSING RECORDS

Remove metal paper clips and staples. The metal clips and staples often rust and cause deterioration of the paper. Newer staples and paper clips are coated and will not rust. You may leave them intact if the papers are in danger of separating. Watch to make sure they are not causing damage. If possible use a plastic clip. Place a folded paper under the clip to prevent indentations which tend to break down the paper over time.

Remove rubber bands as they become sticky and permanently attached to the paper.

Where a newspaper clipping is essential for future preservation, it is advisable to have it photocopied on acid free paper and preserve the copy rather than the original. When saving newspaper clippings be sure to date them and identify the [source] paper. If you wish to keep the clipping, place it in a Mylar enclosure.

Materials should be flattened as far as this is possible. Always unfold materials before permanent filing and storage. Paper with a fold will ultimately become perforated and tear at the seam. If the item is then too large to place in the file folder or box, remove from the material and place a note saying what was removed and where to locate it. Place the oversized items flat on a surface that will support the whole document. If items are tightly rolled, contact your District Archivist for methods of flattening. Do not unroll, especially photographs, as the document may tear or the photograph may crack.

Scrapbooks purchased in retail stores for photographs and documents are not recommended because the paper is not acid free. If you can, construct your own scrapbook using acid free paper and detachable mounts for documents and photographs.

Do not use glue, scotch tape or any type of permanent substance to attach items. These will, over time, damage the material you wish to save. If you receive a scrapbook already assembled and have decided the contents are in danger, you can photograph the pages and then disassemble them. Proceed to store the items in proper archival fashion. If that is not possible, place acid free tissue paper between the pages to prevent the deterioration of items on facing pages affecting each other.

Photo albums should be acid free, Lignum, and PVC free. Do not buy ones that just say archival.

Security copies, especially for irreplaceable and invaluable documents, should always be made. Do not attempt to mend, restore or otherwise "treat" valuable items. Check with the District Archivist when in doubt and before attempting any repairs.

Carole MacKay
Archivist

LWML-Canada District Archivists

ABC District: Carole MacKay
12506 - 106 Ave Edmonton, AB T5N 0Z6
780-425-3544

Man/ Sask District : Joyce Luebke
Box 57 Ogema, SK S0C 1Y0 306-459-2623
Ontario Sonset District: Eini Ward 149 Huron Drive
Thunder Bay ON
P7A 3K3 807-345-9348

Ontario District: Irene Pakrul 308-400 Steele Street
Port Colbourne ON L3K 5Z7 905-835-9610

Laurentian District: Eleanor Mueller
877 B Foymount Rd, Eganville ON K0J 1T0
613-828-6443

THEMES FOR TAPESTRY

Do you have a story to share? We'd love to hear from you. Following are coming themes and some thought starters. Or if you know someone who might share on any of these topics let us know and we'll make the contact.

Spring 2005

Built on Bedrock

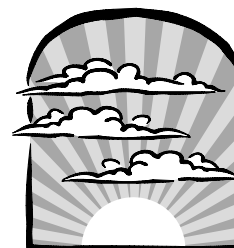
Deadline: September 15, 2004

Ø The invisible Church of God is fighting a battle with Satan in this world. Christians are being persecuted to the point of losing their lives in many parts of the world. We still have the freedom to worship as we see fit in our Western society. What are some of the risks of being Christian? How do you deal with threats to your faith? Do you have threats? How do you live 'above the storm?'

Ø Many books deal with enhancing 'self-esteem,' 'self-confidence,' 'self-respect.' How do these things affect you in your walk of faith in Jesus?

Ø People learn in different ways. How can I use this fact to reach out to people with the truth of the Gospel?

Ø How do we gain a Christian world-view? How do we talk about our faith in today's world?



MEMBER DEVELOPMENT

LEADERS VALUE VOLUNTEERS

Recognizing Volunteers as V.I.Ps

(Very Important Persons)

Leaders know that the members of an organization are its most valuable asset. Where would we be in communities, congregations or in LWML–Canada if not for our volunteers? How can we as leaders acknowledge and encourage volunteers in our church or LWMLC society, zone or district?

WE CAN

PRAY for more workers — *He told them “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field”*
Luke 10:2 NIV

HELP MEMBERS “CATCH THE VISION”

Know our Mission/Vision statement and keep it in front of everyone. Recite it at the beginning of each meeting, print it on all publications. Help members feel a sense of ownership of our vision by assuring them of the important part they play in making this vision a reality - that the organization can't get along without them.



MISSION STATEMENT

Lutheran Women's Missionary League - Canada

...an organization of women

*studying the Gospel of Jesus Christ

*supporting and encouraging all women of the Church, pastors, and workers in the mission field

*sharing the Gospel in culturally relevant and age appropriate ways

*building up all members of the Church so they....

...daily live their faith and

...confidently share the Good News of Jesus in word and deed with all people in their communities and world.

ENCOURAGE THE HEARTS OF FOLLOWERS

Help those around you discover, develop and use their special God given talents and gifts. Constantly remind them that they have unique gifts and abilities that God wants them to use for His church; that it is wrong to let these waste away, underdeveloped and under appreciated.

CHALLENGE VOLUNTEERS TO STRETCH AND GROW

Help build their confidence, to have high expectations of themselves. Then equip them and be their mentor!

SHOW APPRECIATION

Find ways to show appreciation for contributions and accomplishments. Say *Thank You* privately and publicly. Let people know you value their dedication in all the ways they serve. Recognition from others enhances a person's ability to serve. Recognition is not so much something you do as it is something you are, being sensitive to others - genuinely caring and appreciative.

Some ways to recognize volunteers are to

- ❖ Smile.
- ❖ Write a short thank you note, send a card on their birthday.
- ❖ Recognize and accommodate personal needs and problems.
- ❖ Provide a baby sitter.
- ❖ Hold rap sessions - feedback -have a volunteer suggestion box.
- ❖ Respect sensitivities and preferences
- ❖ Take time to talk.
- ❖ Invite them to participate in policy making and planning.
- ❖ Praise their work to their friends and family.
- ❖ Provide opportunity to take part in volunteer workshops or conferences.
- ❖ Pray for and give thanks for specific people and their efforts.

AFFIRM / AFFIRM / AFFIRM YOUR VOLUNTEERS

Build some dollars into your budget for volunteer recognition. Personalize the recognition

- ❖ Post pictures of volunteers taking part in special events including youth, women's and congregational events
- ❖ After doing fast food with the teens so often, supply the couple who volunteer as youth leaders month after month, with a meal at a nice restaurant.
- ❖ Give a bag of gourmet coffee beans and a note to the person who always makes coffee.
- ❖ For the faithful teacher of Sunday School for 20 years notes of appreciation from former students would be a nice touch.
- ❖ Encourage the men of the congregation to put on a special ladies' appreciation dinner and evening of entertainment.

CELEBRATE AND ACKNOWLEDGE YESTERDAY

Celebrate the contribution of the people of the organization in the past. Remember and build on the

legacy of those who have gone before us — the 20, 50 or 100 years the Lord has, in His grace, granted our organization. How can we honour this “people” heritage? And “yesterday” need not stretch that far into the past. How do we recognize and appreciate those who served last week, last month, last year?

ADD “SPICE” TO VOLUNTEER MEETINGS OR JOBS.

No heart? No spark? Same old same old year after year? Volunteers get burnt out or bored. How can we get the sizzle back again?

As leaders let’s add some fun and sparkle to the tasks that have become humdrum; keep interest and enthusiasm alive. Here are some ideas to add a bit of humour or a dash of thoughtfulness, the odd surprise:

If this month’s meeting notice looks just like last month’s:

- ❖ Slip in a related cartoon or quote.
- ❖ Include the beginning of a riddle or a joke. Promise to share the punch line at the beginning of the meeting.
- ❖ Tuck a puzzle piece into each envelop with instructions to bring to meeting. Add a prize for first puzzle solved.
- ❖ Write a personal note at the bottom - *How are the kids? Hope you can come!*
- ❖ Add a sprinkle of glitter to the notice.

Adjust the atmosphere at your next meeting - Make tired people feel welcome :

- ❖ Bring your disc player and fill the air with lively background music.
- ❖ Set a word puzzle/question on a table as conversational focus for early arrivals.
- ❖ Add a bouquet of flowers and send home with someone.
- ❖ Set out a few saucers of jelly beans.
- ❖ Hang up an inspirational poster.
- ❖ Present board members with their very own personalized foam cushions.
- ❖ Use scented markers for your flip chart - neon coloured pens and highlighters [check for allergies!]

Try something new for snacks:

- ❖ A sundae bar with half a dozen choices for toppings would be a delicious surprize.
- ❖ Fortune cookies with an appropriate message or Bible verse might add a special ‘flavour’.
- ❖ Arrange for a lunch of try do-it-yourself pizzas.



Formalize Fun for your society or zone/district/ board meetings :

- ❖ Write *fun* into your planning and program objectives.
- ❖ Select a Director of Humor or appoint an official jester.

ABOVE ALL GIVE THANKS TO GOD FOR YOUR VOLUNTEERS!

“I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.” Phil 1:3 NIV

Helen Leonhardt
Vice President, Mission Education

Note: *Servant Leadership* was ordered for all national LWML–Canada personnel. There are a number of copies left in the Winnipeg office...first come, first served...for \$12 a book. Save a dollar or two and help us recover the cost.

Leadership Development Workshop
“Leading with Character and Competence”

Based on two books by Jane Fryar - *Servant Leadership* and *Trust and Teams* - this workshop focuses on current and potential leaders. It will be offered to all women of Lutheran Church - Canada to help them be effective leaders...in both LWMLC groups and congregations. The workshop, prepared by the Member Development Committee of LWMLC, will be piloted in Fall 2004 and be ready for Zone and District use in 2005.

THEMES FOR TAPESTRY

Summer 2005

Keeping the Balance

Deadline: December 15, 2004

Ø Leading experts in physical and mental health always tell us it is important to find balance in our lives for optimum health. Fad diets don’t work, they say. What we need is a balanced diet, combined with exercise. Going overboard on exercise won’t work either.

Ø Excess of anything can throw our lives into a tailspin. How do you choose what’s best? What hope is there for those suffering from an excess which results in depression, loneliness, anger, or guilt? Can we have an excess of doing work for God in our church?

Ø It has been said that a person with a sense of purpose will remain alert and aware as she ages. Where does this purpose come from?

Mission Grants

“Encourage one Another In Christ” Hebrews 10:25, is the LWMLC theme for this triennium. At our planning session in Edmonton, November 6-9, 2003, we were asked to include four actions in our planning: **invite, inform, involve and inspire**. The Mission Grants Committee found these actions fit very aptly into our plans.

We would like to invite all members, societies, zones, districts, and synodical boards to start thinking now about Mission Grant proposals for the next triennium. Now that we have a three - year period in which to collect Mites for missions, we also have a longer period of time to consider mission proposals for the next triennium.

The deadline date for Mission Grant proposals is June 30, 2005.

Full guidelines for submitting mission grant proposals are available from the Mission Grant Committee or may be downloaded from the LWML-Canada web site [www.lutheranwomen.ca.]

In brief, the proposals must

- ❖ extend the ministry of the Word by being ‘mission’ in emphasis
- ❖ fit into plans and projections of Lutheran Church – Canada
- ❖ be current and ready for implementation
- ❖ provide assurance the project will be maintained and there will be accountability for the appropriate use of the grant.

Mission grants should provide the opportunity for non - believers to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Projects situated in a synodical district must be approved by that district.

Projects involving a national or partner church must be approved by that body.

Proposals should not include *Listed Service Organizations* of Lutheran Church-Canada such as Lutheran Bible Translators, Lutheran Braille Workers, LAMP - Canada, etc. as these organizations do on-going fund raising parallel to ours.

The Mission Grants Committee encourages all members to involve themselves in awareness of mission needs. Dr. Harms spoke to us at the 2003 Convention in Toronto about the LCC mission work in Ukraine, Guatemala, Thailand, Nicaragua, Macau, Venezuela, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia and Panama. He stated that, “as doors open, we step through and as doors close, we move on”. He can suggest ideas for mission proposals as he knows what the current foreign mission needs are. Dr. Harms can be contacted by Phone 1-800-588-4226 (ext. 15) or e-mail to missions@lutheranchurch.ca.

Just as our foreign missions are meeting needs of a changing world, we need also to be aware of the current needs in our own communities. We should involve ourselves in awareness of people who are hurting such as those in shelters, prisons, hospitals, rehabilitation centres, families in poverty, single parent families, ethnic groups, disabled people, street people, etc. Certainly there are wonderful opportunities for mission service but there may also be possible projects here which could receive mission grants. Keeping the guidelines clearly in mind, and using previous convention manuals as your guide, be creative and, to quote Dr. Harms, “Avoid duplicating the work of other churches.”



*Using the logo from the 2003-2006 Mission Grants Poster, the Mission Grants Committee demonstrates to LWMLC Inter-Committee Meeting how they will **invite, inform, involve and inspire** members “In Christ”.*

Committee members, left to right: Anne Carson [Vice-President] Barb Jurgens, Shirley Meister and Lynne Wood.

The members of the Mission Grants Committee pray that you will be inspired to write a proposal for the next triennium and be ready to submit it by June 30, 2005. Through our Mites and the Lord's guidance, we can make a difference because, *“faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ”*. Romans 10:17.

Through projects supported by our mission grants we can help people hear this faith-giving Good News message.

Shirley Meister
Member
Mission Grants Committee

Mission Service

If the world is cold, make it your business to build fires.

With the glorious days of summer nearly behind us, it is now time to think and plan for our year ahead. As we return to school or to our work, let us pray for renewed strength and courage to fulfill the promise to serve our Lord in many ways with a willing and thankful heart.

When you read this new edition of Get Connected the youth event in Brandon will be memory for our young people. It is our hope they returned home with positive feelings and a new excitement to praise and serve our Lord and Saviour. As it was written by Barbara Johnson:

“There are so many ways we can wear Christ’s light-giving, star-decked crown in this world, helping others see God’s goodness shining through the clouds.”

New Service Project to watch for

The Mission Service Committee has been working diligently to bring an Advent calendar (for ages four to ten) by the 2004 Advent season. Our committee met with a few snags when we tried to set up a CD to accompany the Advent calendar. Our final decision was that the CD will have to come at a later date. However, accompanying the Advent calendar will be a children’s mission box.

The children can gather pennies, nickels or other coins to aid a mission grant project that assists children in another part of our country or the world. In that way they are serving by doing the Lord’s work.

Did You Remember?

In your busy life did you remember to pray for the sick and shut-ins, or those suffering from visual or hearing disabilities? Dropping in for a short visit often brightens a cloudy, dull day for them. Your love and caring manner, along with a radiant smile, can put a sparkle in the heart of even the most lonely or sick person. A card or phone call shows them you care and assures them that they are in your thoughts and prayers.

Perhaps you know of a troubled young mother whom you could encourage or to whom you could be a mentor. Invite her to your home for a meal, to a church service or to an LWML meeting. To know someone cares may be enough to give her the strength and courage to take a positive step forward and appreciate her blessings. Those experiencing a family or health crisis need a sympathetic ear. Keep in mind that the best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or touched; they must be felt with the heart. Jesus is before you to lead you. He is behind you to guard you. He is beside you that He may support and comfort you. He is above you to bless you. In short, He is with you and for you!

Suggestions for Mission Service in your church or community:

Have You Tried

- ❖ giving stockings at Christmas for kids at a shelter or maybe an Easter basket with Christian books?
- ❖ checking your hospitals to see if they have a program for rocking babies in the nursery in which you can participate?
- ❖ providing welcome baskets to new members in the congregation and /or in the community?
- ❖ adopting a seminary student by means of financial aid, sending cards, prayer chain or offering at home away from home?
- ❖ offering respite care to give a caregiver a break. Check if your community has such a program?
- ❖ forming a craft circle as a fellowship time and possibly to provide favors for hospitals, nursing homes, rallies, etc.?
- ❖ using your talents or those of someone in your group to teach someone to sew, knit, paint or draw, etc.?

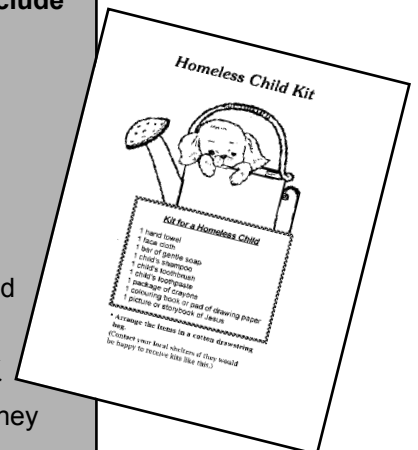
God has blessed us with abilities; let’s pass them on. During the activity or after, have some singing, maybe a discussion topic and close with a devotion.

Mission Service has developed new kits

In the Mission Service Resource Booklet available July 2003 was a kit, developed for the Homeless Child.

Articles for the kit include

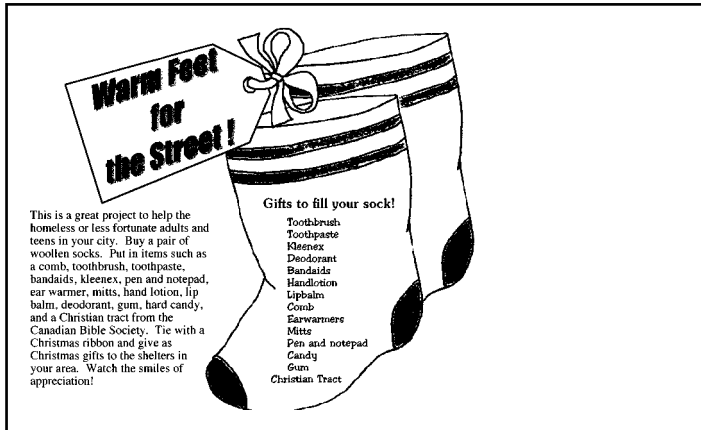
- 1 hand towel
- 1 face cloth
- 1 bar of gentle soap
- 1 child’s shampoo
- 1 child’s toothbrush
- 1 child’s toothpaste
- 1 pkg of crayons
- 1 colouring book or pad of paper
- 1 picture or story book of Jesus. Contact your local shelter to see if they would take these kits.



Let the little children come to me.... Luke 18:16 NIV

MISSION SERVICE cont'd

In addition, don't forget the "Warm Feet for the Street" kit. This is a great project to help the homeless or less fortunate adults and teens in your city.



Buy a pair of woolen socks. Put in such items as a comb, toothbrush and paste, bandaids, kleenex, pen and note pad, ear warmer, mitts, hand lotion, lip balm, deodorant, gum, hard candy, and a Christian tract from the Canadian Bible Society. Tie with a Christmas ribbon and give as Christmas gifts to the shelters in your area.

Editor's note: *Check with the agencies before putting in Christian tracts. For political correctness' sake these are not always welcome! Sad but true!*

New materials now available

Devotions for the Church Year

A set of twenty devotions based on the church year is now available. It may be ordered in any one of several formats on paper, on CD or via e-mail.

Cost: \$3.00

Portrait of Hands

Order this new one-page devotion. It provides opportunity to reflect on how our hands serve the Lord and the portrait of the love and service they reveal to others.

Code: CGG04-01 Cost: 25 cents.

Encouragement Packet

Do you know someone who might be interested in LWML-Canada if they knew more about it? Do you have members in your group who are familiar with what your local group does but, other than mites and mission grants, aren't sure what zone, district and national are all about? Then this packet is for you. Sit down with this person and go through it. Invite her to become involved.

While the Encouragement Packet itself is quite new, it has already been improved. Additional information has been added including tips on how it may be used. Back issues of *Tapestry* (to serve as a sample of the magazine) have been inserted along with a bookmark. To cover extra costs the price has been increased slightly to \$3.50 each.

A Program for Young Women

(including plans for a day at the spa)

This program, prepared by Concordia Zone, Alberta British Columbia District of LWML Canada, may be adapted to establish a program for young women in your area.

Please note that while the overall plan is to establish a program for young women, the initial day at the spa would be suitable for women of any age.

Cost: \$2.75

Shipping and handling is charged on all orders sent by Canada Post.

Ordering just got easier!

We want to get more resources into the hands of our members and others in the Church more easily. One of those ways has been the *Mobile Stores* at each District LWML convention. We hope many have taken advantage of this opportunity to see and purchase items.

We have a number of women busily typing the program helps we stock in the office. The result will be two-fold. Beginning September 1 there will be CDs of all the program helps which will provide everything at your fingertips ready to print off for use. Shipping and handling costs for the CD will be minimal. For those with e-mail you will be able to purchase the program helps individually as you do now via e-mail – quick, easy and no shipping and handling costs. [We're working hard to meet the September 1 date. Please be patient if it takes a little longer. The e-mail portion should be ready to roll by then but it may take a little longer to have copies of the CD made.]

A copy of this information is provided in this mailing. We suggest you post it where everyone has access to it.

There will also be a change in making payments. They will be sent directly to our Financial Secretary. The needed information will be on the order form/invoice.

ORDER INFORMATION

Lorraine:

Toll free: 1-888-lwm-lcan (596-5226)

E-mail: lwmican@telus.net

Fax: (call first) 1-604-826-1066

Lillian:

LWML –Canada Office,

3074 Portage Avenue Winnipeg, MB R3K 0Y2

Phone: 1-204-895-3433, Ext. 20

Fax: 1-204-897-4319

To quilt or not to quilt - that's the question

[From panic to blessings]

Last spring, *Tapestry* carried a note from Canadian Lutheran World Relief stating that Tanzania had closed its borders to warehousing items for CLWR. A conversation with Tim Graff at CLWR revealed that their warehouse was full to overflowing into the hallways of their office, that an overseas shipment of quilts and other items requires a whopping \$50,000. The quilters at Faith Lutheran in Saskatoon suspended their work prematurely and started wondering what to do with their 64 quilts. At the annual quilt display, parishioners helped them solve an apparent problem by offering to purchase some quilts, with the proceeds to go to CLWR.

A number of quilts were purchased. I took home a yellow one; someone else purchased several to give to nephews and nieces, one Grandmother garnered one to give to a grandson ready to leave the 'nest'. The YW Emergency Shelter appreciated over 40 quilts to stock their empty cupboards.

A young Inner City school teacher asked to be given a dozen quilts which she would channel to students in need of bedding.

Carefully, twelve of the most outrageously colourful blankets were chosen. Neither the teacher nor the quilters could have known what impact this would have on some young people. Being called to the teacher's room one young fellow, known for his frequent 'trespasses' at the school, marched in with a disclaimer: "*I didn't do nothing bad,*" and "*Teach, you don't even know me!*" His defensive attitude changed into utter disbelief when he found out he was not in violation of school rules again but about to receive a gift; free, unsolicited, by unknown givers!

Several youngsters took care to write notes. Jordan even inquired how long it took to make his quilt.



My yellow quilt ended up in front of the TV until my mother, a recent immigrant from Germany who speaks no English, took ill and spent over two weeks in hospital.

When she complained about the heavy cotton blankets, this light weight quilt met the mark and brightened up an otherwise bare room. The nurses and some visitors admired it and inquired of its origin. The quilt became more than just a cover: it was a 'security' blanket for a woman who was thrown into pain, confusion and a lot of intervention without the benefit of her native language. It gave the nurses an object to compliment and made mother smile. This she could understand!

What wonderful guidance our Lord provided, changing our "panic" over too many quilts to so many blessings to so many people.

The Quilters will pick up their needles again in the fall and some of us will remember the spring quilt season and its marvels for a long time!

Renate Bishopp
'Piecemaker'

Please, read on...

Canadian Lutheran World Relief

The following encouraging news just came in by email from CLWR News Service

More Goods to Eritrea

A 40-foot container of quilts, blankets, newborn supplies, soap and kits left Canadian Lutheran World Relief's Winnipeg warehouse for Eritrea on June 29. It is scheduled to arrive in the Eritrean port city of Massawa on August 12 and will then be moved inland to the capital city of Asmara where Lutheran World Federation (LWF) has its offices and warehouse.

The material resources will be distributed by LWF to people in Eritrea who no longer have the resources for many of life's necessities.

Eritrea has been suffering the effects of a drought for two years. In early 2003, an estimated 72 percent of the Eritrean population was assessed as requiring food assistance. Even as late as June 2003 the prognosis looked ominous as the main rains were already several weeks late and the donor response to the government's appeal worryingly low. Although the situation improved somewhat in the following months, it was determined that food assistance was still needed.

This is the second CLWR shipment to Eritrea this year. Volunteers with the CLWR BC Baling Committee packed and loaded a 20-foot container of material resources on May 19.

Total weight of the June 29 shipment is 27,866 lbs. It is valued at \$129,182. Shipping costs from Winnipeg to Massawa amounted to \$7,150. This does not include the

CLWR cont'd

cost of moving the goods from the port of Massawa to their ultimate destination in Eritrea.

So, dear friends, goods are moving! Continue your support!

...there was a **disciple** named *Tabitha* (which, when translated, is *Dorcas*), who was always doing good and helping the poor. Acts 9:36 NIV

Editor's Note

Everytime contributions to *Get Connected* arrive via Email or Canada Post I get excited. What will the committees have thought of this time? Last issue's suggestions were so good. Can they top it?

Wouldn't it be a real **encouragement** to the leaders of LWMLC if, from time to time, they could hear reactions to this or that? *We've tried this, it worked for us! We are using Get Connected everytime we have a planning meeting! It is a fountain of ideas for our society's, our zone's programming!*

I challenge you to drop a line, be it electronically or otherwise and we'll pass it on in the next issue.

I saw the buzz around **The Store** at the Manitoba and Saskatchewan District Convention recently. What a good idea it is to bring the resources to where the people are. Don't we all love to shop when and where we can touch and browse? How come it took so long for the idea to gel?

Talking about convention: I chanced to meet an 'old LWML friend'. She wanted to know what I was doing in my retirement years. So I told her about editing *Get Connected* –as if everyone should know! **She had never heard of it.** So, here's the question: Is this *Leader Letter* being tucked away by the executive of the society or is it available to everyone? Perhaps if it were more visible some women might be more inclined to take an office. After all, the ideas for the jobs are right in *Get Connected!*

Summer barely started around here and we are already excited about Christmas gifts. Looking over the new releases; there could be some to tuck into that stocking: A children's Mission Box and an Advent Calendar, the Encouragement Packet, a new devotion, *Portrait of Hands* and *Devotions for the Church Year*.

Editor

Renate Bishopp
2806 Ferguson Ave, Saskatoon, SK S7J 1N9
306-343-0156 email: rbbishopp@shaw.ca

Circulation Manager

Laura Kihn
Box 973, Lamont, AB T0B 2R0
780-895-1072 email: tapestry@ifnetwork.com

As a child I always had an Advent calendar. It was a plain thing compared to what technology can put out today but it sure held a lot of excitement. Every day as a window was opened we were one day closer to Christmas. My Advent calendar was reused every year but it never got old; just like the story of Jesus! I am looking forward to the all new **Advent Calendar!**

Enclosed is a page with all the details on ordering from LWML–Canada. Please post for everyone to have the information handy.

LWML–Canada Sunday 2004

October 3, 2004

Encourage One Another in Christ:
EQUIP WITH THE WORD

A wide variety of materials were mailed to each society at the end of May. Use whatever fits the needs of your congregation. Order bulletin covers and other items to give away from the LWML–Canada Office in Winnipeg. The service outline, etc. may be ordered via e-mail to save your office secretary the re-typing. lwml.canada@sasktel.net.

NOTE: Although we included the new children's mission offering box on the order form, check out the information on the Advent/Mission package in this issue of *Get Connected*. You might prefer to assist your Sunday school in purchasing the full set of materials instead of giving them out on LWML–Canada Sunday.



LWML–Canada Prayer Service 2005

Encourage One Another in Christ
EMPOWER FOR MISSION

Enclosed with this mailing is a copy of the LWML–Canada Prayer Service for 2005. The service format is informal. It incorporates small groups discussion and prayer as well as prayers for our mission grants. The service was written by Rev. Irv Pudrycki, Pastor Emeritus, Regina, Saskatchewan. The service can be ordered by e-mail from lwml.canada@sasktel.net to eliminate re-typing.

Communication

Be all you can be as a Christian Communicator

[Adapted from a paper by Jean Wagner, member, Communication Committee]

“Thoughtless words can wound as deeply as any sword, but wisely spoken words can heal.” Proverbs 12:18

Communication is the glue that holds individuals and organizations together. Messages link people together. Webster says that a communicator is “one who transmits, or has an interchange of ideas or thoughts.”

How do the women of LWML-Canada communicate?

- ❖ by speaking to groups
- ❖ in two-way interactions with each other
- ❖ by sharing the Gospel

What is communication?

❖ It is an art that requires earnest attention, practice and careful techniques. It is also a science based on the tenets of psychology. Each member of LWMLC needs to become competent in effectively communicating God’s Word. Some surveys show that communication is 10% words, 35% voice tone, and 55% nonverbal. While the average person can speak about 150 words per minute, she usually can think about 600 words per minute!

What kind of communicator am I?

- ❖ Leaders set the tone for quality communication. Some studies show that 80% of poor leadership is the result of misunderstandings due to inadequate communication.
- ❖ Good leaders ask others for their ideas. This opens the pathway for two-way communication.
- ❖ Leaders who listen have more influence. Henry Ford once said, “If there is one secret to success it lies in the leader’s ability to get the other person’s point of view.” Malcolm Forbes claims that “people who matter the most are aware that everyone else does too.”

Why is nonverbal communication important?

❖ Actions speak louder than words. Zig Zigler claims that within the first four minutes of meeting someone, you either receive or reject them. On average, 87% of information is gathered by sight, 7% by hearing, 3.5% by smell, 1.5% by touch and 1% by taste.

What does an LWMLC Leader need to remember about communication?

❖ To become a good leader effective communication skills are essential. Know your facts, but use an informal style. Humour, stories or word pictures help to convey a message. Keep your speech simple but repeat important points up to three times. Catch the audience’s attention with visual aids

and keep it by showing interest and enthusiasm for your topic. Watch for barriers that impede good communication like a lack of clarity, honesty or trust. **Practice, practice, practice!** Effective communication is not eliminating the butterflies in your stomach. It’s getting them to fly in formation!

Be all you can be:

If you have opened your heart to God and learned to communicate with Him, the next step is opening your heart and ears to others. In Paul’s letter to the Philippians he states that every tongue should confess Jesus Christ as Lord. The tongue is capable of great things and as leaders we need to turn to Him and ask for wisdom to be His communicators.

Have you heard about the LWML – Canada Mobile Store?

This spring and summer the Communication Committee and PR Director for LWML–Canada, along with staff in the LWML–Canada Office in Winnipeg, have brought many of our resources to District conventions through the LWML–Canada Mobile Store.

It is and has been a great way to save—both on items sale priced specifically for conventions and by avoiding shipping costs.

The Mobile Stores have been a huge success at conventions to date. Comments included: “What a great way to bring LWML–Canada items to our conventions!” Items sold very quickly including LWML–pins, sweatshirts, tote bags, offering envelopes, mite boxes, crosses, memo cubes, *Teen Speak* and many devotional items.

A huge thank you to all who donated their time setting up, selling and, of course, buying!

Dorothy Brophy
Communication Committee

What’s new on the web?

LWML–Canada Sunday 2004 materials are ready for ‘download’

You’ll find information on Mission Grants paid so you can colour in your poster

You may ‘download’ a new catalogue or a copy of the revised bylaws

This site you’ll definitely want to bookmark.

Explore <http://www.lutheranwomen.ca>

