

# get connected!

## Tapestry partners

### **Tapestry Partners sought**

The Department of Communications, particularly the Editorial Committee, is asking for the help of each LWML group.

Please appoint a *Tapestry Partner* (see details in *Tapestry*, page 20.)

You will already have someone who orders *Tapestry* for your group. If promotion is one of their gifts, they may wish to become the *Tapestry Partner*. If it is not, they may wish to turn the responsibility over to someone who is a "good saleswoman" or they may wish to find a partner with that gift and share the task.

Please do not attach this task to a specific office, though the

*continued...*

### **The widow and her two lepta**

What does the word *lepta* mean? What would happen if we exchanged the Greek word *lepta* for mite? Who would understand? Oh, okay: we are referring to the widow and her two mites, those two very little coins worth less than one cent.

The purpose of the first question is to help us understand what a new LWML-Canada member or acquaintance means if she asks us, 'What are mites? I thought they were insects.' It may seem funny but that question may be very relevant since the term 'mite' does not appear in either the Mark or Luke accounts in the New International Version of the Bible, now one of the most-read English translations among Protestants in Canada.

I did not come to this realization myself. I admit that it was the Lutheran Church-Canada Director

of Communications Ian Adnams who politely suggested this reflection at the Interdepartmental meeting in Edmonton. Mr. Adnams said that it may be time to start thinking of a new term for our mites. The reference for it has disappeared from newer biblical translations and we want all LWMLers to understand what mite giving is, not just those who are familiar with the practice.

To clarify what our mite giving is, let's return to the biblical account. Both Mark 12 and Luke 21, which precede the story of the widow and her offering, provide Jesus' interesting commentary on the spirituality of the Pharisees and Scribes. It seems as though Jesus, in His wisdom, gathers his disciples to compare the empty spirituality of the

*Continued on pasteboard.*

*...Tapestry partners continued*

person chosen may have an office. It would be best to have someone do this on an ongoing basis rather than change every time elections are held.

Since subscriptions are due April 30 we would like to see a *Tapestry Partner* in place in your group as soon as possible.

A kit to assist the *Tapestry Partner* is enclosed with this mailing. Please submit name and pertinent information to the Dept. of Communications, 2816 Calder Avenue, Saskatoon, SK S7J 1W1.  
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*Marion Hollinger  
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EQUIPPING WOMEN  
FOR MISSION AND SERVICE

### INSIDE

-  **Christian mentoring**
-  **Ideas to think about**
-  **Convention Corner**

In my last article for *Get Connected* I shared with you my vision for LWML–Canada ... a vision that we become an organization willing and able to encourage and support all women in Lutheran Church–Canada as they grow in and reach out with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Does this mean I expect all women would belong to LWML–Canada? Not at all! What I do mean is that we would support and encourage each other as we serve in our congregations where we use the gifts and talents we have been given by the

grace of God. As an organization within a congregation an LWML Society is one part of a whole community of believers! We are not an identity unto ourselves. Natural Church Development says a healthy LWML Society promotes a healthy congregation. As LWML members we promote and encourage and participate in Christian service in our congregation and community, working together with all members of the congregation for the sake of the gospel. Just as we are unique individuals – we are also equipped for

a unique service and so are all God's children! Those of you who know me, will understand when I say my gifts do not include a voice that can sing in the choir! However, my voice is one that is able and willing to make visits to the hospital and to senior members in our communities.

Where can we begin as encouragers? Begin with prayer. Ask God to use your LWML Society in your congregation according to His will. Talk with your pastor and work with him where the need is the greatest!

*To God be the glory. Amen.*

*Jesus replied: "‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." Matthew 22:37-40 NIV*

With the size of Canada and the cost of travel it is never too soon to start putting money aside to attend the next LWML–Canada convention.

"Where" and "When" have been established. In April the Executive Committee will work on "What."

### **WHERE:**

Holiday Inn – Select, Toronto, Ontario

This hotel, located close to the airport, provides free shuttle service. Meeting rooms, which can cost thousands of dollars, are free subject to enough sleeping rooms booked, and enough meals purchased. The cost of meals is being negotiated. Note: Colleges and retreat centres were investigated but package totals were

*Continued on page 3*

*Continued from page 1*

Scribes and the Pharisees to the spirit-filled actions of the widow. Jesus pointed out the Jewish spiritual leaders of the day—who wore long flowing robes and said lengthy prayers in public to be noticed, not to mention that they stole widows' property for crooked gain. On the other hand, Jesus showed the disciples how the widow simply and quietly deposited her last two coins, almost worthless according to the economic

standards of the day, into the temple offering receptacles. Then Jesus added His divine editorial comment: in God's eyes this poor widow gave more than the rich people and the Jewish leaders who gave out of their plenty.

May God grant that we trust Him with our present and future resources, that we thank Him for all we have, and that we worship Him with our whole life just like the widow did!

So, how does this

review of the widow's offering influence our concept of giving "little things?" It reminds us that it is not the quantity nor denomination of money given to God that matters. Rather God yearns for the relationship of our souls with His Spirit.

Let us return to the discussion about keeping or revising the term "mite" to reflect the "two copper coins" currently used in our Bible translations. We can choose to change or to maintain the word 'mite'

for the function it presently serves. With either option, it is important that we, as members of LWML–Canada, communicate and live out the meaning of our giving. Then, no matter what the name may be, all who ask about this giving activity, so central a part of our LWML–Canada mission, cannot consider it an out-dated practice.

*Rena Detlefsen  
Mission Projects  
Committee*

A new biennium is underway and your Mission Service Committee's goal is seeking ways to encourage you in serving God and your fellow man. Mission Service is not good works, but an expression of our love and gratitude to God for what He has done for us. It is about serving others in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We follow in Jesus' steps by helping meet the needs of all people, young or old, or of another culture and religion.

Scripture shows Jesus with young children (Mark 10:13-16). In John 4, Jesus spoke to the Samaritan woman at the well and gave her Living water. Matthew 8:14-15 tells us of Jesus healing Peter's mother-in-law.

One way of serving others is becoming a mentor. The older, more experienced person helps or equips someone, usually younger, to face future challenges.

The dictionary defines a mentor as a wise and trusted advisor. Mentoring

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higher and locations less convenient.

**WHEN:**

July 3 - 6, 2003, beginning with a Communion Service on Thursday evening, July 3 and concluding at noon on Sunday, July 6.

More news next issue.

is not a new concept. St. Paul writes in Titus chapter two that older women should be good examples and teach the younger women.

Recently, in my community, I saw a good example of mentoring. Five women, three mothers of teenagers and two grandmothers, held a workshop entitled "Helping the stay-at-home mom." It was not a workshop to pressure young mothers to stay at home. Rather, it was a sharing of how and what

worked for them in situations where financial resources are stretched, especially in one-income families. They discussed "Feeding and clothing your family in a cost-effective manner," and "Organization – being more productive, but having time to do the things you also want to do."

Plans blossomed to include tables with used toys, clothes, linens and other household items, for anyone who could use them, to take home. Door

prizes were also given out. These were items made by the organizers themselves.

These ladies were a blessing to all who attended. Remember, you are unique and God has given you unique experiences and insights.

How can you become a mentor to someone else? By being willing and ready to share your experiences in the spiritual and/or physical realm with whomever the Lord may send your way. You will both be blessed in the process.

## editorial notes

Renate Bishopp, editor

Welcome to *Get Connected* in 2002! A special welcome to the 'mostly new' group of elected officers and appointed personnel who are the contributors to *Get Connected*. I am thankful to have had the opportunity to join the Interdepartmental meeting in Edmonton in November and to get to know the people behind the names! In this issue you will find two pages of pictures so that you can "meet" them, too!

I was thoroughly impressed with the swiftness with which the new committees laid out plans for the coming biennium! How wonderful to see such

enthusiasm! I wish each of you could have experienced this also. It was a class act.

This issue of *Get Connected* brings you as close to the "real thing" as it is possible to get on paper. Besides the pictures, each of the committees has shared some of their plans and invited you to participate. The Department of Communication has written about ideas shared by speakers at the Interdepartmental meeting and invites reactions. They have also explained how it was all brought together with the analogy of a ball diamond.

*Get Connected* can now be received

electronically as well as on paper. There is information on the subscription form to be filled in for the electronic version. Also, there is a subscription form in Tapestry for individuals who might like to receive their own copy.

For those who wish to contact me, I now have an email address at home. A thoughtful LWML sister put on paper the specifications needed in a new computer, making shopping easy! You can reach me at [rbbishopp@shaw.ca](mailto:rbbishopp@shaw.ca).

**NEXT DEADLINE**

**June 1, 2002**

## ENCOURAGE, EQUIP, EMPOWER

At the Interdepartmental meeting in Edmonton the Member Development Committee decided this biennium's focus.

Encourage  
Equip  
Empower

We Encourage LWML Societies to participate in the *Partnering Societies* invitation. You will be able to share your ideas personally with one another. More details are on page 28 of *Tapestry*.

We will Equip Societies by promoting the devotional materials already available through LWML-Canada. We are also planning a Leadership Workshop at Zone level for Societies, based on "Hats On To You."

Member leaders will be Empowered to train leaders in their societies, so members may grow to realize their full potential in Christ and work together to accomplish God's vision.

## HELPFUL RESOURCES

The following materials, available from LWML-Canada, are useful in encouraging members.

- 93/7132 "Gaining, Training, Maintaining LWML Members" tells us, "assist each woman" through encouraging Bible

study involvement. Offer it at all times of the day. Assume every woman in the congregation wants to be involved in Christian service. Don't pre-judge interests or time available. Plan programs that meet a variety of interests. Learn of the interests and talents of the women in your congregation by consulting surveys done by the congregation. Invite them to use their talents.

This program lists reasons why women join a service organization.

- to be needed
- to help others
- to grow in faith
- to support causes they believe in

It also tells us to keep women from losing interest:

- Use members' time well. Busy work without a purpose is a waste of time.
- Spread the workload rather than over-burdening a few.
- Give recognition for a job well done.

First Thessalonians 5:11 says we are to "encourage one another and build each other up."

- 89/7005 "Helps for Getting and Keeping Members" — a two-page article — gives additional suggestions for recruiting and keeping members active.

- 7004 "Encouraging LWML Membership"

gives you ideas to encourage others to become LWML members.

- CMD 01/01 "HATS ON TO YOU" — new leadership training workshop material. Our Member Development Committee will meet in August 2002 to prepare a plan of action for training leaders to present this material to Societies at the Zone level.

## What is the value of a member?



Ten little members standing in a line. One disliked the president, then there were nine.

Nine ambitious members offered to work late. One forgot her promise, then there were eight.

Eight creative members had ideas as good as heaven. One lost enthusiasm, then there were seven.

Seven loyal members got into a fix. They quarreled over programs, and then there were six.

Six members remained with spirit and drive. One moved away, then there were five.

Five steadfast members wished there were more. One became indifferent, then there were four.

Four cheerful members who never disagreed until one complained of meetings, then there were three.

Three eager members. What could they do? One got discouraged, then there were two.

Two lonely members; our rhyme is nearly done. One joined a bridge club, then there was one.

One faithful member was feeling rather blue — met with her neighbor, then there were two.

Two earnest members each enrolled one more — doubling their number, and then there were four.

Four determined members just couldn't wait — 'til each won another, and then there were eight.

Eight excited members signed up sixteen more. In another six verses, there'll be a thousand twenty-four!  
*-by Anna Burns*

What kind of member are you?

- One that makes things happen?
- One that watches things happen?
- One that wonders what is going on?

May each society grow to realize their full potential in Christ, working together to accomplish God's vision.

## Christian Mentoring

Have you ever heard of the word *mentor*?

What is meant by *mentor*?

How can *mentoring* help in a congregation?

These questions have no doubt entered the minds of many people.

If you are searching for a way to develop more leaders in your congregation or strengthen ministries within your church, perhaps the concept of mentoring could be a blessing. The word mentoring is not a biblical term but it can be described as a process that takes place in the church between an experienced teacher and a disciple; the results are an increase in knowledge and wisdom for both. It is a teaching style that is very personal and distinctive to the individual,

resembling that of a pupil or follower of any teacher or school or an apprentice working alongside a craftsman.

Mentoring can take a variety of forms involving the head and the heart. In a Christian congregation mentoring is a special way to develop leaders for ministries within our church. It is an excellent way to strengthen our faith and show Christian love. Just as Moses was mentored by Jethro, and later Moses mentored Joshua, mentoring is a tool for helping encourage and assist future leaders prepare to serve and share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

One form mentoring

can take is helping a new Sunday school teacher. Someone may love children and be willing to teach but just not know how to approach the task.

Mentoring can be a valuable tool to help equip persons to teach and use God-given gifts. Future leaders can be trained to serve and at the same time not feel threatened. More experienced members can make a difference.

Have you ever looked around in your congregation and tried to share with someone your experience, skills and understanding? If there ever was a time in our congregations for mentoring, for equipping Christians for spreading the faith and sharing the

Gospel, it is now. One-on-one mentoring to share the love of Jesus Christ and His great sacrifice definitely needs to reach our thirsty culture.

Mentoring offers a teaching-learning tool for use to the glory of God and the good of our neighbor. Guided by the Holy Spirit, mentoring results in an increase of wisdom and better leadership for both the mentor and the mentee. Our Saviour was the perfect mentor. When we follow in His footsteps, we are blessed. At the same time we encourage one another in Christ. Praise God that His Son loved us with an everlasting love. He showed each one of us how to love.

### Two new program resources did not make the catalogue

**Season of Light** – an Epiphany devotion  
C2001-1  
2 pages 50 cents

**The Luther Coat of Arms** – a devotion that includes a pattern for putting the coat of arms together during the devotion  
C2001-2  
4 pages 50 cents

**Half price Bulletins**  
Gifted by God  
100 for \$6  
Called to Serve  
(original version)  
only 50 left for \$3

## what's new with PR?

*Karen Leonhardt, chairman*

WHAT'S NEW with the Public Relations Committee? We are! The members of our committee — Karen Leonhardt, Susan King and Deb Pakrul — are all NEW to the Public Relations Committee, and are looking forward to NEW challenges ahead of us in the coming biennium.

WHAT'S NEW? This spring look for **new LWML promotional material** in your package with the LWML–Canada Sunday Service. When you order bulletin covers for

LWML Sunday, why not order some give-away items to share with members of your congregation? It's a great way to promote awareness about the exciting work of LWML.

WHAT'S NEW? We are eagerly awaiting the launch of our **new LWML–Canada website**. This will be a wonderful means of communicating with our membership, the church-at-large, and those outside our church. Coming soon to your computer!

WHAT'S NEW? Watch for **new LWML–Canada display boards and sample resource packages**. Our plan is to have one LWML–Canada display board and resource package for each of the five districts. These would be for use at LWML District conventions and other conventions and events within your district.

WHAT'S NEW with you? Remember that communication is a two-way street. Let us know what's new with you!

## MEET YOUR LWML-CANADA LEADERS FOR 2001-2003



From top left, clockwise:  
 Member Development Committee (l. to r.) – Arlene Kish, Phyllis Kober and Sharlene Procknow (chair) with Vice-president for Mission Education, Helen Leonhardt.  
 Christian Growth Committee (l. to r.) – Fran Van Vorst (chair), Carolyn Taylor. Unable to attend: Patti Kronen.  
 Editorial Committee (seated l. to r.) – Kay Rikonen, Renate Bishopp (Get Connected), Muriel Threinen (standing l. to r.): Anne Taylor, Laurie Schaeffer. Missing from picture: Marion Hollinger.  
 Vice-president for Mission Service: Jean Wagner  
 Vice-president for Mission Inspiration: Shirley Besler  
 Program Resource Committee (l. to r.): Elizabeth Kouhi, Gail Mitchell (chair), Cheryl Teeter.  
 Bylaws Committee (l. to r.): Judy Grande (chair), Bonnie Kasper. Unable to attend: Pat Rocheleau.  
 Mission Service Committee (l. to r.): Evaline Ulmer, Judy Hertlein (chair), Valina Hoadley.



*New leaders, continued...*



From top left, clockwise:  
 Public Relations Committee (l. to r.) – Karen Leonhardt (chair), Susan King. Unable to attend: Deborah Pakrul.  
 Mission Projects Committee (l. to r.) – Barb Jurgens (chair), Vice-president for Mission Projects Anne Carson, Shirley Meister, Rena Detlefsen.  
 Missions for Children and Youth Ad Hoc Committee (l. to r.) – Nancy Fritsche and Melissa Richholt. Missing from picture, Janet Buchner.  
 Recording Secretary: Lorraine Cathro

District Presidents and friends: L. to r. back row: Dr. Albin Stanfel, LWML–Canada Pastoral Counselor; Heather Chony, Ontario Sonset District President; Marilyn Witte, Alberta–British Columbia President; Marilyn Schultz, LWML–Canada President. Front row: Carol Rein, Manitoba & Saskatchewan District President; Marie Sack, Laurentian District President; Ardith Pollex, Ontario District President. Unable to attend Rev. Ken Eifert, LWML–Canada Pastoral Counselor.

**EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT... (and then some!)**

Several officers, pictured below, were given opportunity to speak to the other newly elected and appointed personnel providing details like how to fill out an

expense voucher, what to preserve for the history of LWML–Canada, publication deadlines and more.

Lynda Wachter,  
Treasurer



Doreen Wagner,  
Financial Secretary



Marion Hollinger,  
Director of Communications



Carole MacKay,  
Archivist/Historian



Lillian Friesen,  
Office Manager



Laura Kihn,  
Corresponding Secretary



# Planning conference provides much food for thought

## Focus on purpose

In November 2001 the elected and appointed personnel of LWML–Canada met in Edmonton, Alberta. President Marilyn welcomed them saying, “We are here to find ways and means to help our members fulfill the mission of Christ’s Church on earth.” She cautioned that, as an organization, we can “spread ourselves ‘thin’ trying to be everything to everyone.” We can “lose track of our purpose, spending far too much time on ‘getting’ new members and being overly concerned about financial matters. Ultimately we forget the sharing of the Gospel.” She invited the group to keep in mind, “LWML–Canada is...an organization whose members have a personal relationship with Christ Jesus...an organization of women committed to sharing the Gospel...all about the ministry, mission and service of the Church...about Christian women’s leadership, empowerment and motivation...about being members of a team working with the greater body of believers in Lutheran Church–Canada.” She concluded with “Pray...before you plan...as you plan. Pray that we may put aside our will and do the will of God, trusting He will bless our efforts for the sake of His Church and the spread of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

To give focus and direction to the planning several things were done. Copies of the research surveys received from LWML members were given to each department for their review and use. Each participant received a book about mentoring prior to the meetings. Three speakers were invited, each with a specific topic.

Then committees and individuals took all these ideas, and the resulting discussion, with them to their planning sessions.

## **Nurture, interpret, relate, research, think big**

Dr. Paul Otke, a retired psychologist, was the first speaker. He pointed out the importance of looking at where we have come from and where we want to go. Reflecting on the constant change in our world he said, “We’ve gone from cow chips to microchips in one generation,” and “moving from works to grace in Jesus’ day was also a tremendous change.” He reminded us of the busy and difficult lives people have today. Because of that, people will join an organization when belonging provides opportunity for satisfying needs—when there’s something in it for them. He recommended that we can best reach non-members by providing nurturing, by finding ways to add meaning and

purpose to their lives, by helping them address problems, by providing something they consider worthwhile doing and by providing opportunity for them to use their skills. That isn’t a new thought, but it does raise a question. When we invite others to participate in LWML activities do we assume they will see why participation will benefit them, as well as others, as they live out their faith? Can we express the invitation in ways which help them recognize those benefits? The “shotgun” approach to communication rarely works. We need to zero in on each individual’s needs.

Dr. Otke found, as he asked questions of non-members, that LWML, though a great product, is one of the best-kept secrets in the church. In their minds of those he spoke with LWML smacks of the 40s, the acronym has little meaning, it’s a graying organization, set in its ways, and, with little knowledge about mite boxes, they consider them somewhat trivial. There is very little understanding of the goals of LWML.

He saw a need for us to expand and clarify what is covered under the LWML objectives in our Handbook. Mission Inspiration, Mission Education, etc. are abstractions which need to be interpreted for others to understand them. Some of

our terminology may need changing. For instance there was confusion during discussion regarding the word ‘society’...members used it to refer to an LWML group, Dr. Otke to the world around us. It also creates confusion for those non-members we want to attract.

In looking at how differing age groups relate to each other he pointed out that a family involving several generations is a good illustration. As children grow into adults and assume more responsibility, parents don’t stop being parents but the role changes from providing direction to being a friend.

Dr. Otke encouraged the use of focus groups to solicit information from those whom we wish to attract.

He pointed out that only so much can be done by volunteers, that at some point a paid, half-time administrative position for LWML–Canada would improve efficiency and allow for more sharing of information (communication). He indicated we are probably already at that point considering the many references to a need for improved communication on the research surveys. Creative ways of funding such a position need to be explored including endowments and grants.

He stressed that we must dare to think big – after all, we are doing

God's work. Dare to follow untrodden paths. One place to look for inspiration is to the five famous Alberta women who gained the vote for Canadian women. Women, he said, have been too willing to be followers instead of active team members, despite the gifts God has given them. The influence of women in the Church is one of the Church's most underutilized resources.

### Help build healthy congregations

Daryl Becker, Executive Assistant for Parish and School Services with the ABC District of Lutheran Church–Canada introduced the group to Natural Church Development. It's about congregations, he said, not organizations, but an LWML group, as part of a congregation, using Natural Church Development principles, can help to make and maintain a healthy congregation.

A healthy, growing congregation shows eight characteristics. When all are equally well-developed the congregation, like a plant sprouting from a seed, appears to grow "all by itself." God is providing the effort, not human strength. When any characteristic is weak it limits the congregation in its growth, both physical and spiritual.

LWML groups can help strengthen several of the characteristics. Note that in each case it is the adjective that is important.

Look for a role for your Society in these examples.

- ◆ empowering (not empowered) leadership [equipping, motivating, supporting and mentoring others to become all God wants them to be]
- ◆ gift-oriented ministry [helping others identify their spiritual gifts and use them in carrying out the mission and ministry of the congregation and Synod]
- ◆ holistic small groups [where individual Christians not only discuss Bible texts and listen to experts, but apply biblical insights to everyday issues in their lives].

Each Synodical District has someone trained to lead workshops on Natural Church Development. Ask your pastor for more information.

### Support the vision of the Synod

Ian Adnams, Director of Communications for Lutheran Church–Canada, was the third speaker, explaining, from the LCC Handbook, that the purpose of an auxiliary is to support the vision of the Synod, to assist congregations and pastors in being the Church in mission. At the same time an auxiliary has an independent identity as an organization with its own officers, structure and finances. How do we support our church body while still maintaining our

own identity as an organization? Following are some ways of doing so.

- ◆ through mission projects which complement the mission programs of the church (LWML–Canada and Districts)
- ◆ through providing resources which can be used by other groups or individuals in the church (LWML–Canada)
- ◆ by developing relationships which encourage our sense of family within the church-at-large (Zones, Districts, LWML–Canada)
- ◆ by providing opportunities for the Spirit to move us along the path to spiritual maturity, enabling individuals to serve God and their neighbour through the congregation, with hearts filled with love, gifted to build up the body of Christ (all levels, especially societies)
- ◆ by looking at today's issues in the light of the scriptures, enabling individuals to live out their faith in their daily encounters with the world (all levels, especially societies)

More specific ideas included 1) being a catalyst for family events, 2) being single-minded but not narrow-minded, 3) supporting the congregation with creative, new ideas, 4) providing opportunities for active involvement in mission (beyond giving mites) such

as being a catalyst for servant events or promoting overseas volunteer opportunities, 5) modeling and sponsoring a caring ministry within the congregation. He suggested local LWML members ask themselves — what facilities are available at our church? what gifts do members have? how can both be put together in ministry to those in need? It might result in things like encouraging Stephen Ministry within the congregation, being advocates for younger women or running a community kitchen at the church.

### PLAY BALL!!

In initial preparation for the weekend, President Marilyn invited me (the Director of Communications) to plan something for Saturday evening...something light, after all the heavy-duty planning, yet something that would tie it all together. Hunting for an idea I came across a diagram of a ball diamond. The more I looked at it and read what the originator had to say about it, the more possibilities appeared. The original diagram contained the four bases shown in the diagram on the next page and the base lines with their labels. The diagram related to a congregation but I found it easily transferable to LWML–Canada.

As a person comes to know Christ through the

work of the Holy Spirit and the Word they decide to join a congregation (or LWML group). They commit themselves to membership, to being part of a group who know and confess Christ. As Rick Warren, the designer of the original diagram, noted...some Christians stop there. They're the ones who climb up in the bleachers to watch, only coming down at special times like Christmas and Easter. As the Christian grows in Christ they move on to second base, growing to spiritual maturity through regular Bible study and fellowship with fellow Christians. A natural outgrowth of this is a desire to serve Christ as we

commit ourselves to ministry, to serving others—though some resist this involvement. As we serve Him we begin to share Him, committing ourselves to witnessing and mission outreach. Rick Warren pointed out that in any congregation (or Christian organization) there are those who go directly from first base to third base. These very willing workers have missed the indepth Bible study and nurturing necessary to serving and witnessing with the Lord's strength and power. Instead they are using their own strength and determination, though they may not realize it, and eventually they will fail. We guard against this

in LWML when we put emphasis on Bible study, devotions, things through which the Spirit feeds us—maturing our faith—before moving on to ministry (mission service) and missions.

Also added to this diagram is the large gray circle and the different forms of mentoring or encouraging that happen as we go from base to base. More information on these can be found in "Mentoring" by Henry A. Simon. The small gray circle in the middle holds communication (formal and informal, done by everyone) is an integral part of everything else.

For Saturday evening committees and individual officers were asked to write each of their activities on a separate sheet of paper and "Come to the ballgame!" Baseball hats, popcorn and peanuts were provided. Everyone sang, "Take me out to the ball game." Then the activity plans were posted around an outline of the ball diamond on the wall. What fun! Lots of laughter...and lots of sharing. The Lord had guided well. Individual plans meshed into a whole as you will discover throughout the biennium. (See photographs on page 19 of Tapestry.)

*Director of Communications*

## **Lutheran Women's Cooperating Committee (LWCC) meets in Minneapolis — more things to think about!**

Lutheran Women's Cooperating Committee is made up of two Canadian auxiliaries — LWML—Canada and Evangelical Lutheran Women (ELW) and two American auxiliaries — LWML and Women of the ELCA. Each organization may send up to four representatives including the president and editor. The group meets annually the first weekend of December. Hosting duties are rotated.

The 2001 meeting was held in Minneapolis, hosted by the LWML. Marilyn Schultz and Marion Hollinger represented LWML—Canada. Dorothea

Korcok attended at the cost of LWCC to complete her term as LWCC president.

One of the main purposes of this organization is to share resources and learn from each other. With some of the ideas presented by speakers at the planning session in Edmonton ringing in our ears, and with recommendations for change in structure from the Task Force and Action Committees – particularly one which formally incorporates communication – still fresh in our minds, we listened much and asked many questions. Since our return

we have been considering what ideas might be of value for LWML—Canada and how some might be changed to fit the size of our organization. We share here some of the things we learned and invite you to "chew on" them along with us.

Because the structure of LWML most closely resembles ours we looked first at changes they have made since we were part of ILWML.

- ◆ They no longer have the departments of Mission Inspiration, Mission Education, Mission Service and Mission Projects.

Instead the five (up from four) vice-presidents are Vice-president for Christian Life, Vice-president for Communication, Vice-president for Gospel Outreach, Vice-president for Human Care and Vice-president for Servant Resources. And, of course the committees and some appointed officer titles have changed as well.

- ◆ The mite box has a new design.
- ◆ The logo was updated a couple of years ago.
- ◆ Though the original LWML pin was kept, a

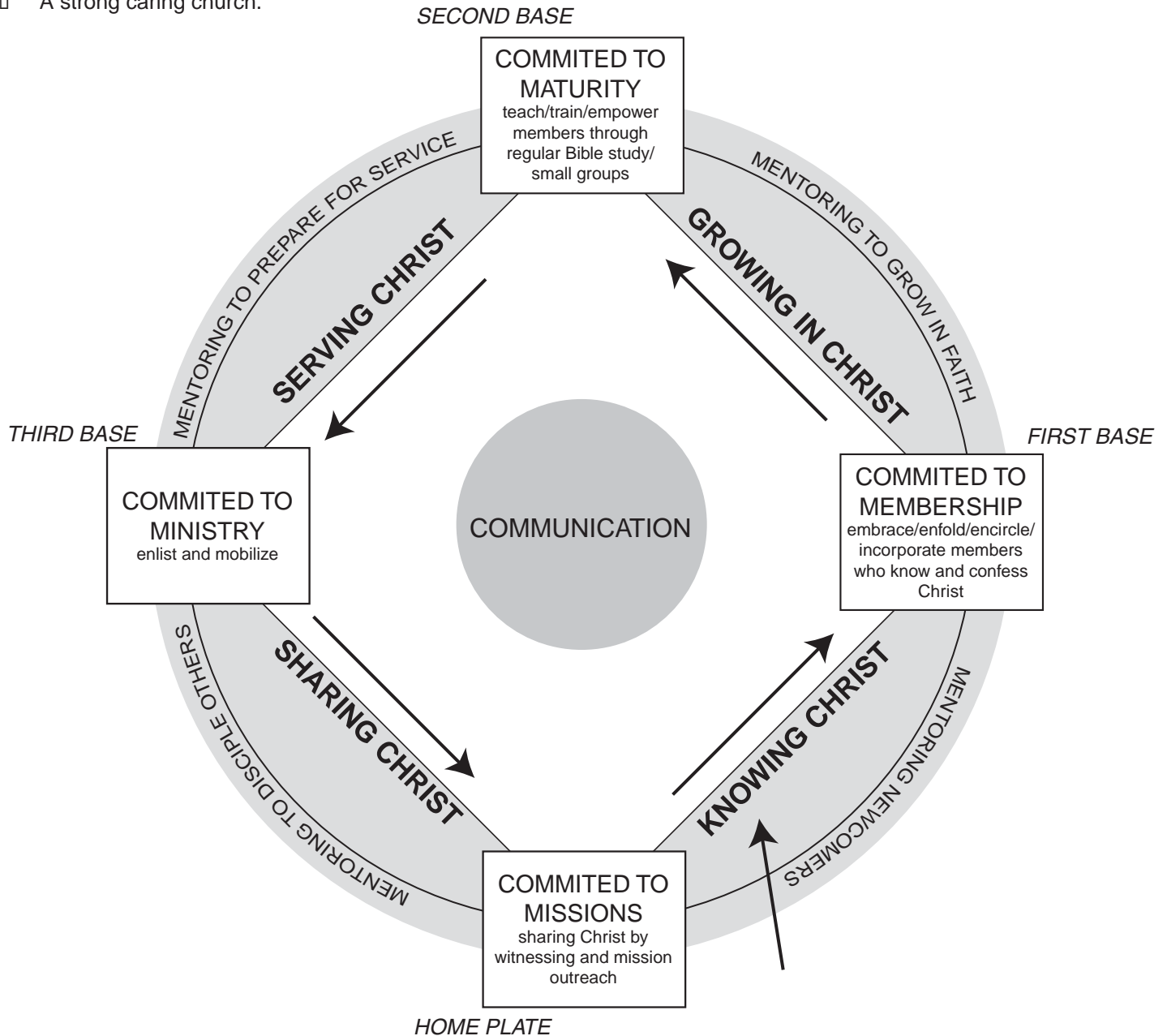
**A vision for Lutheran Church–Canada**

As we in Lutheran Church–Canada move forward, seeking to be faithful to God and His Word, knowing who we are and the mission Christ has given us, I envision a Synod in which every congregation is

- A strong biblical and confessional church.
- A strong missionary church.
- A strong caring church.

As an auxiliary to the Church **LWML–Canada** supports that mission through our purpose:

The women of Lutheran Women's Missionary League–Canada are called to grow in and reach out with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



God has commissioned the church:

Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. Matthew 28:19,20 NIV

As each individual progresses from membership to maturity to ministry to missions, it improves the health of all levels of LWML and of the church.

## program resources

*Gail Mitchell*  
*chairman*

### **DID YOU KNOW...**

- ◆ there's a new resource catalogue
- ◆ it's now bright yellow
- ◆ it was part of the program resources package sold at convention
- ◆ there are over 200 selections available
- ◆ these are suitable for families, youth and women of all ages
- ◆ Lent and Easter resources are listed on page 40
- ◆ about the tattoos for Sunday school available on page 16
- ◆ resources from other sources are highlighted in the centre of the catalogue
- ◆ this catalogue costs less than a cup of coffee?

If you don't have a copy, order one NOW by writing, phoning or faxing Lillian Friesen at:

LWML-Canada  
3074 Portage Avenue  
Winnipeg, MB  
R3K 0Y2  
Phone 1-204-895-3433  
Ext 20  
Fax 1-204-897-4319

NOTE: Remember to include your telephone number on the order form when requesting materials.

new larger pin, resembling a brooch, with a different design has been produced.

- ◆ The Quarterly has a new look.

With the difference in the size of our respective organizations and the different perspective of Canadians it wouldn't be very useful to "copy" what they have done. Noting the many changes, however, does two things for me and I hope for you. It says that by making our own changes we are not being unfaithful to our roots. Our roots are not in organizational structure, they are in witness and service to our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. It also sparked some ideas making me think, "We could use that. We'd have to change this and that but it would be worth exploring."

Many organizations and businesses periodically update their "look" to appeal to a new generation. With our 10th anniversary coming, perhaps we're ready for a new look. I subscribe to several graphic design publications. Often they feature re-designs of logos, printed materials, web sites, etc. for organizations or businesses, giving an consistent look to everything. The difference in what a change of design says about an organization is astounding and can be very positive. On my prayer list is finding a professional who could help us make that kind of change.

Because I am involved

in Communications/Public Relations/Marketing, etc. I was particularly interested in what the other auxiliaries are doing in that regard.

- ◆ In LWML the Quarterly falls under the elected Vice-president for Communications. This vice-president also looks after other internal communications. The appointed Public Relations Director (working closely with the Marketing & Media Committee) looks after external communications. That includes LWML Sunday since it promotes LWML in the Church.
- ◆ The Women of the ELCA are still using paper registration forms but are also going to try web-based registrations for their coming convention.
- ◆ Lutheran Women Today, the magazine of Women of the ELCA, has moved to the same size as Tapestry.
- ◆ ELW has representatives in each congregation to promote their magazine, *Esprit*.

Because we have recently had much discussion in our organization about financial matters, that was the other area I was particularly interested in hearing about.

We're the only auxiliary of the four which depends so heavily on one

source of revenue (mites). All have someone who works specifically in the area of development (finding other sources of funding like endowments, grants, gift planning, etc.). Though we didn't hear all the details we did gather a few ideas regarding ways of financing things.

- ◆ *Esprit*, the magazine of ELW, invites readers to become sustaining supporters (contributing \$60 annually and receiving a tax receipt) to keep the cost of subscriptions down (Despite that, an annual subscription costs about \$20.).
- ◆ LWML uses profits from the sale of promotional items to cover much of the cost of their office in St. Louis (including the cost of paid staff).
- ◆ To celebrate their 60th anniversary LWML established an endowment fund. The proceeds are to be used to help fund resources and programs.

We heard much more over the course of the weekend but space limits the sharing. The time together was well-spent.

*Marion Hollinger*  
*Director of*  
*Communications*  
*LWML-Canada*

NOW AVAILABLE  
A pattern for turning an  
LWML-Canada  
sweatshirt into a great-  
looking cardigan.