

get | connected!

LEADERSHIP LETTER

SPRING 2005

Calling ...

all zones!

all societies!

all women!

When God calls us to be leaders,
He gives us the required gifts and skills.
Check out the new leadership workshop.

Leading with Character and Competence

This one-day user-friendly workshop
is being developed for use by
zones and/or societies.

It includes
devotions, a treasure hunt, Bible study,
role playing, action plans,
personal reflection, a game show,
a talent survey, interactive activities
and personal take-away truths.

Available April 2005
Begin planning the basics now... date and place

MEMBER DEVELOPMENT

Leading with Character and Competence

The Member Development Committee, chaired by Helen Leonhardt, Vice-president for Mission Education, has put together an inspiring and user-friendly workshop to help train future leaders. All the day's activities are provided along with helpful suggestions for their use. See the accompanying ad on *page one* for the kinds of activities included.

Use of this workshop will be different in each district of LWML-Canada because the needs and make-up of each district is different. For some a district-wide event may work best but the workshop was written with a "closer to home" audience in mind, such as would come together in zones or societies. This is another opportunity to put our triennial theme, "Encourage One Another in Christ," into action as we encourage one another in leadership.

While we want to develop our own leadership skills further, we must also look to the future. Offer specific invitations to those women in your societies and in your congregations who haven't had the opportunity to attend such an event and therefore might not, on their own, consider attending. Develop your plans with that in mind.

The workshop has been completed and layout in preparation for printing is underway. As soon as we know the number of pages we can provide you with a price. Cost will be reasonable. Orders will be accepted now but will not be filled until April 1, 2005 when printing is complete.

Helen Leonhardt

Retreat Time! Start packing!

ARCHIVES

ARCHIVAL MATERIAL

The following records are normally of value to the organization, historian and researcher:

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORDS

Bylaws – one copy of the original and each revision of the league itself. A list of the charter members, if available, are all important documents.

Policy statements – directives and regulations issued by or to executives and other personnel.

Financial Records – basic financial reports should be retained. Annual reports, general ledgers, the non-current treasurer's records, including monthly reports. Statistical and comparative summaries and surveys may also be of value.

Minutes – of all meetings, plus minutes of all committees.

Reports – any report issued by executives, boards, committees relating to activities, plans, projections and annual reports should be retained.

Correspondence – all official correspondence dealing with policies, function, personnel, plans and programs of the society should be included.

RETENTION SCHEDULE

It is a good idea to have a process in place in which records due for retention are inventoried and boxed for storage or transfer to the archives. Records due for destruction may be shredded or recycled depending on the nature of the information. Confidential or sensitive material should be shredded. It is helpful to designate a specific time each year to review and prepare the records. This is referred to as a retention schedule and allows for consistency and ease of retrieving information.

TEMPORARY RECORDS DESTRUCTION LIST

Some records created in the course of activities have limited value. Below is a list of some items that may be destroyed and a suggested time frame for such destruction.

♦**Contracts** that are not accepted. These may be kept for reference information purposes only, but they have no historical value. If it is decided that they are not required any longer, a time frame of two years is generally all that is necessary.

♦**Communication** with members, such as letters, congratulatory notes, etc. have a limited amount of information, may be destroyed after two years.

♦**Photocopied form letters** and any other materials that have been mass distributed should be destroyed each year. One copy of the original should be kept in a permanent file to be retained in the archival records.

♦**Program materials** – again only one copy should be saved and all other copies should be destroyed on completion of the programs. Two years would be the limit of retention of this type of information.

Part of the financial records that may be destroyed after the taxation year plus six years are: remittance envelopes, deposit slips, cancelled cheques. Make sure you retain financial statements.

Miscellaneous items that do not fall in either the retention items on the previous page or the destruction categories above should be retained until further investigation. The rule is: "When in doubt, retain." Check with the LWML–Canada Archivist.

Carole MacKay
Archivist

MISSION SERVICE

Blessed are the glad-hearted servants...Who shine with the Master's joy!

Matt Anderson
Day Spring Cards

Spring will soon be in the air! What a familiar statement. We hear and see everyone dreaming and making plans for the new year, outdoors, in our yards and gardens.

What an opportune time to bring our thoughts and prayers to the Lord in thanks for the gift of forgiveness and new life in both our bodies and outdoors. The great sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross gives us new hope for our life in eternity.

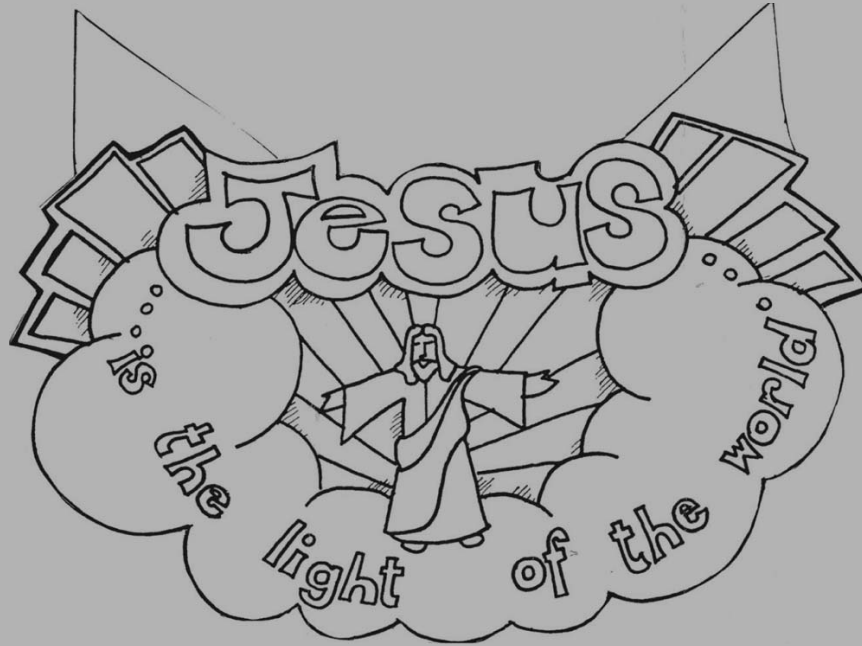
Spring heralds the return of countless birds in all their glory to build nests and raise new young to bless our earth with glorious songs. Plants show young buds and sprouts bursting forth with a new enthusiasm for the season.

A Year in Review...

The Mission Service Committee continues to work enthusiastically for the members of LWML–Canada regardless of the season. The advent calendar met with tremendous success with positive feedback about how the children enjoyed the story message, pictures and the opportunity to help with a mission service to less fortunate children, learning about the message of faith. Several societies bought a calendar for each member of the Sunday School. If you wish to buy some calendars for next advent, they are still available.

New Mission Service Project

Keeping with the theme of sharing the Gospel, the Mission Service Committee has designed



visors for children, youth or young at heart to wear on special occasions such as rallies, picnics, Vacation Bible Schools, parades and any other places where we want to show everyone who our Saviour is. We encourage all LWML–Canada societies to make or provide the materials so each Sunday School or VBS child has one. What a great way to *advertise* our faith. A picture of the visor is shown above. Pattern and instructions are available on the LWML–Canada website www.lutheranwomen.ca and from the LWML–Canada Resource Centre in Winnipeg.

Our responsibilities may not be glorious deeds that win us loud acclaim – at least not on this side of heaven. Here, our tasks may be something much simpler and ever important:

Did You Remember...

- ❖ To speak a healing word to a broken heart
- ❖ To extend a hand to one who has fallen
- ❖ To give a smile to those whose laughter has been lost
- ❖ To encourage the dreamer who has given up
- ❖ To share the painful solitude of one who is alone
- ❖ To ease the burden of one bent low beneath a thankless task
- ❖ To reassure the doubter and reinforce the believer?

❖ To light the candle of God's Word in the midst of another's darkest night.

Did you Try...

in your societies, the new kits the "*Homeless Child Kit*" and the "*Warm Feet for the Street*" kit, previously featured in *Get Connected*? If not keep them in mind for the future.

Beneath supporting hands of friends and helpers, we feel God's strong grasp and hold on, no longer alone.

Fran Van Vorst

CHRISTIAN GROWTH

Prepare to be prepared!

“But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.” 1 Peter 3:15

This verse is two- fold! It is obvious to those around us that Christ is Lord of our life, when we convey Him by our words and actions in our daily living. Therefore, others are drawn to us in a time of need to seek that same strength and assurance.

When someone shares his/her life’s dilemma, seeking your advice, how do you respond? How do you guide him/her to look to God for help, comfort and direction? Sometimes we are so taken aback that we ourselves struggle with the issue and are not ready to respond, as we should. We need to turn to God ourselves for help, comfort and His compassion. We cannot give what we do not have!

Resources are all around us but we don’t always have them at our fingertips. The world does not have the answers one needs when faced with life and death issues. Often we call upon our fellow Christians for help so we can be a help to someone else. If we, who are in the Word, struggle with finding God’s answers to problems, imagine how overwhelming the Bible must be to someone who is a stranger to it.

We become so busy living from day to day, that we fail to be prepared for the inevitable in our lives or in the lives of others around us. That is why it is so important that we are continually in God’s Word for strength and guidance. Sometimes it is only with hindsight that we realize the wisdom and assurance gained as we feed on His Word.

We are called to be witnesses to a fallen world. The oil in our lamps is to light the way for the lost. God’s word is the Truth everyone so desperately needs though many are unaware of it! If we are willing to live as we say in the LWML–Canada pledge, then we need to be prepared in the light of God’s all-powerful Word, ready for the here and now, actively engaged in the work of the Lord so that many would know Jesus.

“Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning. Luke 12:35(NIV)

PROGRAM RESOURCE

LWMLers are encouraged to get involved in the ongoing production of materials. *Fueling Friendships* is a good example of what sharing personal experiences can do. Each scenario or short story is followed by an application of God’s Word. These two-sided sheets may be used individually or as a packet.



Many societies use seasonal events to reach out to friends and the community around them. New materials are in great demand. Often, in desperation to have a devotion or skit to reflect the theme of the program, someone will write one specifically for it. Has your society thought about forwarding a portion or an entire program so other societies can draw upon such resources in the future? There is no need to worry about minor errors as everything is edited.

God calls each one of us to share in the work of bringing the lost and the erring into eternal fellowship with Him. If you are not a writer, you

may encourage someone who is. With your permission, they could write your real life scenario as a witness of how *“all things work to the good for those who love God and are called according to His purpose.”* Romans 8:28

Let us equip the saints for the ongoing battle against the devil, the world and our flesh using God’s Word as the Sword of Truth. For we are promised in Matt. 24:35 and 1 Peter 1:25 that *“His Word will never pass away”*. It is for all eternity. Time here on earth is short for each of us, but with God’s help we can be the light for the world.

Irene Warpula

Mission Grants

Mite Box Sundays

Those of you who take part in holding Mite Box Sundays can vouch for the fact that it is a great way to present the value of and the need for the collection of mites.

Mission Grants/Projects Committee member Shirley Meister in her Fall 2002 article in *Get Connected*, emphasized the importance of raising awareness of mission needs. Part of the ensuing interest may be, she states, getting involved in the total process and submitting a mission project proposal. She also cites a number of societies who receive tax credit for their mites through their church offerings.

Finally, she mentions an example of Mite Box Sundays. She tells how the LWMLC society of Grace, Oshawa, four times yearly, invites its congregation to take part in mite giving on Mite Box Sundays and how articles in church newsletters may result in more generous mite giving. I thought you might like to hear, in detail, about how another society, Christ Our King, Mississauga has set up its Mite Box Sundays:

◆In September, a calendar outline is drawn up for the coming year. In addition to the listing of both society and zone happenings for each month there is also a Mission Grant Focus.

◆This Mission Grant Focus is then expanded upon in the form of a prayer in the monthly newsletter. The congregation is asked to pray for this particular grant which highlights the need for our support and explains how it will help others to learn the Good News about Jesus Christ our Saviour.

◆Three times yearly (in October, February and May), they have Mite Box Sundays. These special Sundays are promoted through earlier newsletters and everyone is encouraged to fill their mite box and bring it on this day. Mite boxes are gathered together in two large baskets and brought forward at an appropriate time during the service by two ladies. The pastor then dedicates (blesses) these mites to the Lord’s glory.

Is there a way to involve more people, especially families, in mite giving and thereby make our Mite Box Sundays even more inviting?

One pastor organized a Family Night in November in which he introduced the new LWML–Canada Advent calendar and children’s mission offering box. He used this as a springboard to get parents on-board in having their children become more enthused and interested in being involved not only in devotions but also in missions. Hopefully, participation in these devotions will lead to a greater involvement in the LWML and Mite Box (and Mission) Sundays.

I am sure that other societies have other unique ways of organizing Mite Box Sundays and we ask you to share these ideas with us. We will then publish them in succeeding articles. Please email me at barbjurgens@hotmail.com.

May we continue to highlight the projects we support through information about mission grants, requests for prayers for funding and a successful outcome of each project, the use of children's mission boxes, and the continuing practice of Mite Box Sundays. To God be the glory!

Barb Jurgens

LWML–Canada hosts auxiliary leaders

LWML–Canada hosted the annual meeting of Lutheran Women's Cooperating Committee in Edmonton December 3-5, 2004. The group is composed of representatives from four Lutheran women's auxiliaries from Canada and the United States. The main purpose of the gathering is to share ideas and resources, to discuss common successes and difficulties. Second to this is sharing some of the work undertaken by the hosting organization and/or hearing a speaker on a subject of benefit to all.

On Friday afternoon the group toured a care centre run by the Good Samaritan society (a joint Lutheran entity). Next stop was Concordia

Lutheran Seminary where Rev. Dr. Ed Lehman provided a tour and spent time describing the purpose of the Mission Study Centre housed at the seminary. Karen Marshall showed the group around Concordia University College of Alberta.

Rev. Neil Otke provided an orientation to *The Rock* and its programs for the inner city at St. Peter's Lutheran. Last stop of the day was at Grace Lutheran for a dinner and program arranged by Carole MacKay and prepared by the Sudanese congregation which shares their facility. The Sudanese families joined members of the LWCC for the meal and shared their singing with much joy.

Marilyn Schultz led Saturday's opening devotion and Marion Hollinger led a Bible study (from *Tapestry*). The rest of the morning was spent sharing resources, information about programs and future plans. Lynne Wood showed slides and

talked about her Nicaragua visits including setting up a curriculum for a sewing school and also instructing teachers how to teach sewing.

The editors of the four auxiliaries also had an opportunity to compare notes. Finally, attending a concert put on by students of Concordia College and Concordia High School rounded out the day and the weekend gathering.



Front l-r: Mary Ellen Kiesner, president, Women of the ELCA; Linda Reiser, president, LWML (LCMS); Marilyn Schultz, president, LWML–Canada (LCC); Betty St. Onge, president, Evangelical Lutheran Women (ELCIC).

Back l-r: Susan Alston-McRae, board member, Women of the ELCA; Beverly England, PR director, LWML; Nancy Goldberger, editor, Women of the ELCA; Marion Hollinger, editor and PR director, LWML–Canada; Catherine Pate, program editor, ELW; Linda Post Bushkofsky, executive director, Women of the ELCA; Ruth Vince, executive director, ELW.

MARILYN'S MUSINGS

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these. Mark 12:30-31a

Dear Parents,

It has been a long day! Being the parents of three small and very busy children is no easy task. To be organized for their baptism was a big job and I know you are both thankful and pleased that all went according to plan. I believe that you and I, and many of those present, will carry the memories of this day in our hearts forever!

Being asked to participate in today's events reminded me that we really cannot claim responsibility for all that has happened. Yes, you did some planning and we made the physical preparations, while the pastor arranged and carried out the service. But, it was at the direction of the Holy Spirit and by the grace of God that your little ones are now His baptized children and part of the community of faith at St. Peter Lutheran Church in Oxbow, Saskatchewan.

Each faith community or congregation is as unique and varied as the people who worship in this building each Sunday. A congregation is a microcosm, a smaller edition of the community in which we live. We are men. We are women. We are children and teenagers. We are young and older. We are big and we are small. We are wealthy and we are poor. We come from many different ethnic backgrounds. Most of us have work to do. Some go to school and some are retired and, as many say, some are just plain tired! We live, love, laugh, cry and make mistakes. We sin against God and each other. And we return again and again knowing we honour God the Father by loving our neighbours. We are blessed by loving and are forgiven when we fail in our obligations and responsibilities to each other. We are a family. The dynamics of a family are continually changing but the heart of the family stays intact when that family is built on the love of God and the forgiveness we have through Jesus, our Saviour.

It is always a privilege to be asked to be a baptismal sponsor. Each child and family are special and each time has special meaning in my life. Today was the same but different! To be part of the baptism of three children is indeed an awesome experience and an added blessing. At this time, more than any other, I am so very aware of the importance of being a baptized child of God and the blessings that come from a relationship with Jesus. Matthew 19:14-15 Jesus said "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." And he placed his hands on them.

As we heard in today's service, there are special responsibilities for the baptismal sponsor and the congregation. I want you to know that we will do our best, by the grace of God, to encourage you to continue to bring your children to worship the Lord. I want you to know we will pray for you and for your family. Should you have a concern regarding your family or one regarding our faith community, I encourage you to speak to the pastor or me with love and honesty. We do this so we may continue to love each other and be held accountable for our actions. This is God's will not our own.

It is my prayer that your family will grow in the love and knowledge of the Lord. As you fulfill your parental obligations I hope you will enjoy your connection to this faith community - times filled with love and joy and peace. It is my prayer that the children have warm and pleasant memories of Christmas concerts and Sunday school, of Vacation Bible School and all the other activities of the congregation. Perhaps someday they, too, will bring their own children to each be baptized as a child of God - in a welcoming, caring and considerate congregation. Good night and may God continue to bless each of you always!

Marilyn

*Train a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it.
Proverbs 22:6.*

Communication

S.O.S. (Support Our Seminarians)

Since the founding of LWML–Canada our national General Council has worked in partnership with the ABC and Ontario LWML–Canada Districts to host a dinner for students at each seminary just prior to their vicarage year. The program includes a speaker from LWML–Canada who describes the work of our organization and presents each student (and often their wives) with samples of our resources.

In November the district presidents met with the PR Director, a member of the Communication Committee and our national president to develop a plan that would expand this program. The intent is that, upon graduating, each new pastor is well-versed in LWML–Canada and the benefit of this organization to his ministry and the mission of his congregation.

The dinners will continue but, in addition, arrangements will be made to have all seminary students adopted by at least one LWML–Canada society. The purposes of the adopt-a-student program in place at each seminary would not be interfered with but we plan to develop a process whereby the adopting societies can help seminarians learn about LWML–Canada. It is hoped to have this all in place for the next school year.

In the meantime, it would be helpful to know which seminarians have already been “adopted” by LWML–Canada societies. Please drop a line to Jean Wagner, LWML–Canada Communication Committee, 46 Bonfair Court, Kitchener, ON, N2M 4P5 or clwagner@sgci.com. Include the name, address and phone number (and e-mail if appropriate) of the person in your society with whom she might do follow-up.

Marion Hollinger
PR Director

News Bytes

❖ Over 1,400 *Journey to the Manger* sets were sold this Advent. Wow! Our LWML–Canada president said she used one herself and suggested that in addition to young children, they would be suitable for many older seniors. A thought for next year.

❖ The General Council, at their November 2004 meeting, changed the name of the LWML–Canada Office to the LWML–Canada Resource Centre. While it remains the official office address of our League, its main function is the provision of resources to members and any in the Church who can use them.

❖ Catharine Pate, new editor of *Esprit* (magazine of Evangelical Lutheran Women, ELCIC) was introduced at the recent Lutheran Women’s Cooperating Committee meeting. The LWML announced that Donna Streufert, editor of the *Lutheran Woman’s Quarterly* will be retiring soon. *Esprit* changed their magazine size to that of *Tapestry* and announced it was “coming out of purses across the country” and onto coffee tables and other places where it can be seen and read outside the ELW membership. The LWML is also looking at the larger size for their magazine. Currently they only have a larger edition when they include the convention information and registration forms.

❖ Our new order line is being well used, both the toll free number and the e-mail address. Ordering program helps via e-mail is also popular and fast!

❖ Lillian Friesen, Resource Centre manager, is booked for surgery in March. Margaret Klatt has begun helping in the Resource Centre and will take Lillian’s place while she has surgery and recuperates. Welcome, Margaret.

❖ A new *Pearls of Wisdom* booklet should be printed by the time you receive this. Entitled *New Life in Christ*, it was written by Carol Cushnor of

Sherwood Park, Alberta. *Upon this Rock*, which was originally written for confirmands is better suited to parents of confirmands and children just beginning confirmation classes. This new one will join "*Teen Speak*" as a gift choice for confirmation day.

❖ The mobile stores at district conventions met the goals set out for them. We did not lose money, despite the cost of shipping. We made about \$500 over all. The main goal was to get materials and gift items out where more members could see and purchase them.

❖ Late renewals of *Tapestry* (particularly society bulk orders) cause headaches for the circulation manager and editor. While we regret the necessity, to alleviate some of the extra costs, a penalty of \$1 per subscription will be added to those missing the April 30 deadline.

Renate's Rant

When *Get Connected* is edited, winter has a firm grip on the land. Today it is bitterly cold. (What else do we expect in Saskatchewan in January?) So, a longing for spring creeps into the heart. But, wait, let's enjoy the moment! It is just so incredibly beautiful outdoors! Hoarfrost, on the trees, the shrubs, the piles of snow, sparkles like millions of diamonds. Pond grasses, mere memories of summer, gently nod in the icy breeze, their ragged heads covered with tiny white toques. Lord, it is only Monday! You dresses up your world as if it were Sunday!

Beside being cold it is also the first part of a new year, the time to wish blessings and to start anew, with resolutions, promises and Bible classes. At Faith Lutheran, we just began to look at the Ten Commandments. Last Sunday we pondered Martin Luther's explanation of the First Commandment: ...to fear, love and trust God...! We had no trouble with 'fear' for we all stand in awe of our great God. There was more discussion

over 'love'. Do we humans have the capacity to love someone as big as God?

Now to the final word: trust. Oh, we all pay lip service. Sure, we trust God in theory. But isn't it hard for us, who at times are quite incapable of trusting our neighbour or our spouse, whom we see, to turn over our entire life with all that is dear to us to God, whom we don't see? That takes trust! That takes faith!

When I checked my e-mail messages that night a fellow LWMLer had sent the following story, written by a doctor who worked in Africa. I hope it will say to you what it said to me about trust in God.

"Before they call, I will answer" (Isaiah 65:24)

"One night I had worked hard to help a mother in the labor ward; but in spite of all we could do, she died leaving us with a tiny premature baby, and a crying two-year-old daughter. We would have difficulty keeping the baby alive, as we had no incubator (we had no electricity to run an incubator). We also had no special feeding facilities.

Although we lived on the equator, nights were often chilly with treacherous drafts. One student midwife went for the box we had for such babies and the cotton wool that the baby would be wrapped in. Another went to stoke up the fire and fill a hot water bottle. She came back shortly in distress to tell me that in filling the bottle, it had burst (rubber perishes easily in tropical climates). "And it is our last hot water bottle!" she exclaimed. As in the West, it is no good crying over spilled milk, so in Central Africa it might be considered no good crying over burst water bottles. They do not grow on trees, and there are no drugstores down forest pathways. "All right," I said, "put the baby as near the fire as you safely can, and sleep between the baby and the door to keep it free from drafts. Your job is to keep the baby warm."

The following noon, as I did most days, I went to have prayers with any of the orphanage children

who chose to gather with me. I gave the youngsters various suggestions of things to pray about and told them about the tiny baby. I explained our problem of keeping the baby warm enough, mentioning the hot water bottle, and that the baby could so easily die if it got chills. I also told them of the two-year-old sister, crying because her mother had died.

During prayer time, one ten-year old girl, Ruth, prayed with the usual blunt conciseness of our African children. "Please, God" she prayed, "send us a water bottle. It'll be no good tomorrow, God, as the baby will be dead, so please send it this afternoon." While I gasped inwardly at the audacity of the prayer, she added, "And while You are about it, would You please send a dolly for the little girl so she'll know You really love her?"

As often with children's prayers, I was put on the spot. Could I honestly say, "Amen"? I just did not believe that God could do this. Oh, yes, I know that He can do everything; the Bible says so. But there are limits, aren't there? The only way God could answer this particular prayer would be by sending me a parcel from my homeland. I had been in Africa for almost four years at that time, and I had never, ever received a parcel from home. Anyway, if anyone did send me a parcel, who would put in a hot water bottle? I lived on the equator!

Halfway through the afternoon, while I was teaching in the nurses' training school, a message was sent that there was a car at my front door. By the time I reached home, the car had gone, but there, on the verandah, was a large twenty-two pound parcel. I felt tears pricking my eyes. I could not open the parcel alone, so I sent for the orphanage children.

Together we pulled off the string, carefully undoing each knot. We folded the paper, taking care not to tear it. Excitement was mounting. Some thirty or forty pairs of eyes were focused on the large cardboard box. From the top, I lifted out brightly

coloured, knitted jerseys. Eyes sparkled as I gave them out. Then there were the knitted bandages for the leprosy patients, and the children looked a little bored. Then came a box of mixed raisins and sultanas - that would make a batch of buns for the weekend. Then, as I put my hand in again, I felt the.....could it really be? I grasped it and pulled it out - yes, a brand-new, rubber hot water bottle. I cried.

I had not asked God to send it; I had not truly believed that He could. Ruth was in the front row of the children. She rushed forward, crying out, "If God has sent the bottle, He must have sent the dolly too!"

Rummaging down to the bottom of the box, she pulled out the small, beautifully dressed dolly. Her eyes shone! She had never doubted!

Looking up at me, she asked: "Can I go over with you and give this dolly to that little girl, so she'll know that Jesus really loves her?"

That parcel had been on the way for five whole months. Packed up by my former Sunday school class, whose leader had heard and obeyed God's prompting to send a hot water bottle, even to the equator. And one of the girls had put in a dolly for an African child - five months before, in answer to the believing prayer of a ten-year-old to bring it "that afternoon."

Author unknown



The Inside Story:

- ❖ New Workshop
- ❖ What to keep and what not
- ❖ A new tool for you
- ❖ Be prepared...
- ❖ Could you be a writer???
- ❖ Mite Sunday
- ❖ LWML-Canada hosts...
- ❖ Marilyn's Musings
- ❖ S.O.S - what's that?
- ❖ News Bytes: This and that...
- ❖ Renate's Rant

Now is the time...

to start preparing and submitting Mission Grant proposals for the LWML-Canada Convention in Regina, Saskatchewan in 2006!

Deadline June 30, 2005

Information and guidelines are available from your Zone and District presidents as well as the LWMLC Mission Grants Vice-president, Anne Carson, 600 Byron St. S, Whitby, ON L1N 4R5

905-668-1780 E-mail: william.carson@sympatico.ca

Or

down-load from the LWMLC website

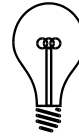
www.lutheranwomen.ca

[project submissions]

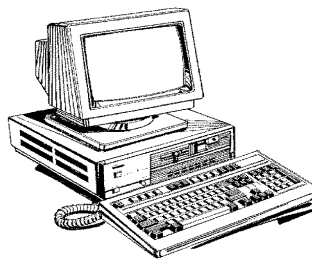
Check out current and past grants to see what's been done!

IDEAS THAT WORK

Here is a great suggestion for those of you who receive or send many LWML e-mail messages: Always type LWML before the *subject*. Since most households have more than one person using the computer it will alert them to the fact that a certain message was intended for **you**. Your e-mails would not be missed or deleted. Encourage your friends to do the same.



Another smart idea comes from Laura Kihn, circulation manager for *Tapestry*. She suggests checking with the internet provider if they allow more than one e-mail address per household address. LWMLers could have their own address! Laura would gladly give directions to anyone who needs to know how. Reach her at tapestry@ifnetwork.com.

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Share The Joy

A cold day. It swirls snow, kicking up a storm. It takes something extra to stick to the job, keep your kids happy in the house, get to church, and be a good neighbour in those frosty months.

We experience frigid temperatures in our faith too. There are cold days when hope dies: love walks out the door, a friend moves out of town, the job ends, the bank fails. God seems distant. Prayer fades in your throat before you barely utter a word. The Bible stares back with a blank page. You might call it spiritual frostbite. It is painful. Poisonous. Dangerous.

The church is God's spiritual stove. In its containment we pile on fuel, stir the embers, strike a match. We need each other's warmth to survive the winters of our lives. Don't be fooled by the facade of strength that some put on to protect themselves. Put a little May and June into someone's life. Don't hide behind propriety. Look both ways – who needs a hand, a word, or one of your ears for a few moments? Lending yours might mean making someone's day. Reach out and warm a heart!

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Joy for a Woman's Soul