

# GET CONNECTED

TIPS AND TOOLS TO GET AND STAY CONNECTED

www.lutheranwomen.ca

Spring 2010

## *Judy's Jottings:* Being good hosts

### Inviting Special Guests

There are different types of invitations to special meals in our home, some include family and close friends who join in on the preparation activities of the meals and there's much love and laughter shared during these times. There are most likely also occasions when special guests are invited and treated with honour; they enjoy the meal, the fellowship and fun, but generally aren't expected to help with food preparation, setting a glamorous table or cleaning up afterwards.

Compare that example now with our LWMLC Society average monthly meetings and the effect it may have on guests. Not all society meetings are the same, of course, but the following agenda items are used by many: roll call, reading of the minutes, reports of officers and committees, and planning for future events. All these things are similar to the preparations you make for the meal. While some items are interesting to your members (the family) many of them would not be of interest to a guest. The main event of your monthly gathering may be Bible study, work on a service project or a guest speaker, these things are beneficial to both members and guests.

### One Step for the Future

My vision for societies is most likely the same as your hopes... that no matter the size of our society, we are able to continue with the missions and service of our League. We also hope to have other women working alongside us to fulfill our mission. To help accomplish this, I'd like you to consider some possible changes to your meeting

structure. I want to encourage and challenge you to think about focusing your executive or planning committee meetings on arranging ministry events for all the women in your congregation (and their friends). Events that will help women *Grow in God's Word, Serve God's People, and Share God's Son*. Then I'd like to encourage you to consider ways of having your regular monthly meetings "user friendly" for visitors, involving them in the mission and service of the league and the church.

### Two Meeting Formats

★ All planning takes place with your executive, and your monthly gathering is completely for Christian Growth and Service. ♥ This gives you opportunity to invite all women of your congregation to an evening of Christian fellowship. ♥ Relationships grow and guests witness first hand the mission of LWMLC. ♥ Purpose fulfills our Mission and Vision statements.

★ Continue having your business at your monthly gathering. ✓ Consider the order... main event (i.e. Bible study, guest speaker)... fellowship... business. This allows your guests to decide how much involvement they want. ✓ Look then at the purpose of your meeting as you set your agenda. An agenda is a guide to keep us on track so necessary business is completed quickly. Take a practical look at items on the agenda and determine if they are helpful and necessary to fulfill the purpose. ✓ A roll call simply tells you who's there – most likely already evident by looking around the room. ☺ The only recognition needed is welcoming guests. ✓ Minutes and other written reports, if

distributed to members shortly after a business meeting, help them keep up on important information and re-reading isn't necessary. ✓ Discussion on specific items that need action can be kept minimal, helping guests stay tuned in. Using familiar terminology helps them understand discussion and encourages them to participate.

Whatever format you use, may you find joy in meeting together, may your purpose be mission minded and may we work together as a league to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to our communities. I pray that God through His Spirit will help us grow in love and faithfulness and enable us to serve our Triune God through our LWMLC societies. *"Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another"* (Romans 12:9-16a).

*Grace and Peace in Christ,  
Judy*

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More tips & tools at [www.lutheranwomen.ca](http://www.lutheranwomen.ca)

## Information from the Christian Mission Committee

## GRANTS

### Help we will provide

The Christian Mission committee has developed innovative ways to connect the women of LWMLC to the national mission grants so they become their own "mission missionaries."

- Each of the selected mission grants will be featured in *Tapestry* with a corresponding mini- Bible study and a "mini-mite challenge" to encourage mite giving. This challenge could extend into your congregation, extended family, friends or community! If your society currently does not subscribe to *Tapestry*, this might be a good time to consider ordering at least one copy since it also contains updates for your mission grant poster.

- Each of the districts will receive a tri-fold display of the national mission grants to be featured at the LWMLC district conventions.

- An update of the "Decade Plus Three" listing of mission grants that have been supported over the years will be sent out after the district conventions and will include the mission grants each district adopts during 2010. This will keep women updated regarding all the projects their mites have supported, and continue to support. since 1993!

### More ways to support missions

The mission grant proposals not selected at the national convention can be adopted by societies/zones/districts for monetary ingatherings or convention offerings. The following list is available. Please contact Iris Barta for more information on how to support these worthwhile projects.

- Addictions Recovery Centre in the Kootenays

- Retreat program for pastors, deaconesses and their families in Nicaragua
- Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church and School, Surrey, B.C.
- First Nations ladies' retreat at Grace, Post Alberni, B.C.
- Evangelistic training of seminary students at CLTS, St. Catharines
- Pastors with Alternative Training (PAT program)
- Assisting intercultural mission expansion in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA)
- Furniture for Odessa seminary, Ukraine.

District vice-presidents responsible for mission grants can also contact the LCC mission executives for suggestions for mission projects to support. Your district contacts are as follows:

ABC District – Rev. Dr. Glenn Schaeffer

Central District – Rev. Tom Prachar

East District – Rev. Paul Zabel

They can be contacted at their respective district offices.

### First grants paid

A Mission Opportunity Fund grant of up to \$5,000 has been approved for two students, Jeffery Swards and Wayne Zhang, as well as their professor, Dr. William Mundt, from the seminary in St. Catharines to travel to Southeast Asia. The trio will be working with Dr. Harms in Thailand and Cambodia for the first two weeks in March. Please remember them in your prayers.

A partial grant of \$3,000 has been paid toward the training of Deaf leaders. These funds will be used for

courses taken by Gregory and Linda Desrosiers from Surrey, B.C. Linda and Gregory are currently second year students of the Deaf Institute of Theology (DIT) of Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri, USA. The remaining \$10,000 is yet to be requested.

We thank President Bugbee, Dr. Neitzel and Ian Adnams for their time and contributions to this committee!

We look forward to your feedback and ideas for this triennium.

*Diane Dennis, Christian Mission*

### "Spot the flaw" contest winner announced

The winner of the "spot the flaw" contest is Shirley Schaeffer from Redeemer in Waterloo. Shirley will receive a package of materials from the LWMLC Resource Centre.

Thank you to everyone who participated. The answer we were looking for was the extra bracket following the word goal.

Please look for updates on our mission grant projects in *Tapestry*. We encourage you to pray for the projects funded by our mission grants and to find way to involve members of your societies and congregations to become involved in supporting these projects. The February prayer calendar from the LWMLC website focuses on our mission grants. Consider using this during your personal devotions, at society meetings and with your whole congregation.

God's blessings as you shine for HIM!

*Iris Barta, Vice-President*

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## *A prayer guide for an LWMLC leader*

1. First of all, remember to go daily to the throne of grace in prayer.
  - Ask God to guide and give the necessary wisdom to be a fit worker in His Kingdom.
  - Consider: I have been given a responsibility and also a privilege. Am I worthy of it?
  - Always remember that the individual woman is the nucleus of LWML-Canada.
  - The local society is the basic unit where our organization must function and grow to better serve our Saviour.
2. Pray for guidance to inspire others.
  - Keep well informed on program helps and programs available, as well as mission grants.
  - Have a positive and joyous approach to your responsibility.
  - Plan inspirational, interesting and educational activities.
  - Have a sense of purpose and know what you stand for.
3. Ask God to help you be an efficient and effective leader.
  - Listen.
  - Hold regular meetings.
  - Maintain a system of storing information.
  - Get to the heart of problems immediately and do something about them.
  - Use practical judgment, balancing people, materials, time and money.
  - Give priority to the important goals defined.
  - Cooperate with the society chairmen, zone officers, district officers and committees, national officers and committees.
  - Delegate responsibilities to co-workers.
  - Encourage those who have accepted responsibilities; check on them occasionally.
4. Pray that you may be a good example by using the following.

- Courteous words instead of sharp retorts.
- Smiles instead of blank looks.
- Response instead of indifference.
- Action instead of delay.
- Understanding instead of a closed mind.
- Availability instead of exclusiveness.
- Sincerity instead of pretense.
- Facts instead of arguments.
- Enthusiasm instead of dullness.
- Giving instead of getting.
- Warmth instead of coldness.
- Appreciation instead of apathy.

First and foremost, accept your Saviour's invitation to come to Him – He will help with the responsibilities that go with the talents He has given you to be a good leader.

*Adapted from #7205 on A to Z: Program Planning Made Easy resource CD.*

## *Support for Medical Missions spreads*

In the last issue of *Get Connected* we provided instructions for folded gauze bandages. This issue we are including instructions for rolled bandages from sheets. The material cost will be cheaper, but the freight will be more costly because of the weight of the sheeting.

Depots for Medical Missions send medical supplies to many missions around the world. The conditions

are very primitive in many remote mission fields; the availability of medical bandages and supplies is a necessary essential to the medical caregivers in those areas.

We have contacted the Malabar Mission Society, who support mission work in India, and they are anxious to receive bandages. We have an address to send to directly. If you would like the address contact Arlene at the address below.

As a committee, we are still working on setting up depots for Medical Missions in the Manitoba and Saskatchewan District and the Alberta-British Columbia District. If your society would like more information or is willing to take on this work in support of missions, please contact Arlene Kish, Box 195, Bruno, SK. S0K 0S0 or email [a.kish@sasktel.net](mailto:a.kish@sasktel.net).



## **SERVICE**

### **ROLLED BANDAGES for Medical Missions**

- Use clean, used sheets – cotton or flannelette (preferably white)
- Tear into strips 2" or 3" wide
- Join strips, as required, with a flat seam sewn by hand or machine.
- Roll the strips; resulting roll should be no larger than 3" in diameter
- Tack the end with a couple of stitches to hold.

Bandages are shipped to Lutheran Hospitals in the Philippines, Papua, New Guinea, Malappuram Welfare Centre in Kerala, India, and to many Bible Translators in New Guinea and Africa

...via Canadian Lutheran World Relief

It's been over a month since the devastating earthquake struck Haiti and Canadian Lutheran World Relief has been working with partners of Action by Churches Together (ACT) on the ground to ensure that the people of Haiti get access to food, water and shelter.

Many of you have asked what you can do to help. We all know LWMLC women like to be involved "hands on" and CLWR is providing us with such an opportunity. There is a desperate need for help. Hygiene kits and quilts are some of the ways you can help. These will be needed to fulfill needs in the coming weeks and months.

Will you help with the need for hygiene kits and quilts? CLWR wants to bring relief and comfort to the people of Haiti, but they also need to continue to fulfill requests from around the world. CLWR has recently sent a container to Nicaragua (read about it in the next issue of Tapestry) and one will be sent to Haiti in a few months.

Here's how you can help: Consider taking your items to an ingathering at a spring zone renewal or rally, or gather items in your local society.

There are several ways to get kits and quilts to CLWR warehouses.

1) Drop off your items at one of their warehouse, if you live close. CLWR Warehouse, 549 King Edward St., Winnipeg, MB, R3H 0N9, Ph.: 204.694.5602 or 1.800.661.2597, Fax: 204.697.0326, Email: WeCare@clwr.mb.ca

2) in Eastern Canada Home Hardware graciously continues to provide a shipping service at no charge to the We Care program. Cartons for delivery to CLWR's Winnipeg warehouse can be dropped off at any Home Hardware store in Canada. Please limit the weight on any one carton to 40 lbs or 18 kg.

3) in Western Canada Kindersley Transport, Ridsdale or

A hygiene kit is one of the many kits that may be assembled for CLWR. Go to www.clwr.org for information on other kits to make.

HYGIENE KIT

- Basic toiletries for someone who has lost everything.
• 1 nail file (4"–10 cm)
• 1 small tube or plastic jar Vaseline (leave in box)
• 1 pocket pack of disposable tissues
• 1 bar soap (new and wrapped),
• 1 toothbrush
• 1 box of 12 bandage strips
• 1 small wide-tooth comb
• 1 wash cloth, 1 hand towel (approx. 26 inches or 66 cm long)

Wrap everything in the towel, label "Hygiene Kit," tie with string and place in a We Care bag or backpack. We Care bags and backpacks can be ordered from CLWR at a price of \$5.00 each which helps cover the costs of shipping.

Gardewine North will provide shipping to the CLWR warehouse free of charge. Just drop off your boxes at their shipping depots. Gardewine North provides delivery from Thunder Bay west to Manitoba including northern Manitoba.

Please make sure your boxes are labelled with the Warehouse address. Labels are available online. Monetary donations may be sent to: CLWR Head Office, 302-393 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3B 3H6 ph. 204.694.5602 or 1.800.661.CLWR (2597); Fax 204.694.5460; e-mail clwr@clwr.mb.ca ; website: www.clwr.org

...via Haiti Lutheran Mission Society

The Haiti Lutheran Mission Society is also taking monetary donations for Haiti. "HLMS wires funds directly to the Lutheran Church of Haiti so

that supplies are purchased there and trucked quickly to the needy."

To send donations, call the HLMS at (905) 688-6211 or (905) 468-3655 or send a cheque to 400 Glenridge Ave., St. Catharines On, L2T 3L2. The HLMS is a listed service organization of Lutheran Church-Canada.

John Wilch, chairman, said the earthquake hit Haitian Lutheran churches hard. Wilch said he's received reports that the earthquake destroyed 45 churches.

The Haiti Lutheran Mission Society cares for the peoples' needs in Haiti, both spiritually and physically.

Regardless of the way in which you choose to help, the end result is the same: you become a partner in improving and saving lives.

Whether you offer up your time, your skills, your professional or personal resources, your money or your goodwill, the help you give will make you a partner in some remarkable accomplishments that are making a difference around the world.

Continue to give generously.

Have you named a Communication Partner? To improve our lines of communication, LWML-Canada is asking societies to name a specific person as Communication Partner. This is separate from Tapestry subscriptions though the same person may do both tasks. While most communications will be by mail, sometimes we would like to contact as many societies as possible quickly by e-mail. If the appointed Communication Partner can also receive e-mails that simplifies things. If she cannot, please try to appoint a second person for that task. Please use the form sent to your society: mail it or e-mail all the required information.

## Servant Spirit during Lent

On February 17 we will join Christians around the world in observing the season of Lent. Lent is a deeply spiritual time as we reflect on the tremendous love and sacrifice of Jesus for us so that we might have forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. As Dr. Martin Luther said in explaining the second article of the Apostles' Creed "*Jesus, my Lord, has redeemed me a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death.*" As Jesus Himself said, "*Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.*" (John 15:13 NIV)

Dr. Luther went on with his explanation to state that Jesus made this supreme sacrifice "*so that I may be His own and live under Him*

*in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true!*"

In Jesus we have been redeemed from all sins, including the sin of selfishly wanting to use all of God's blessings for our own needs and wants rather than using them to His glory and the welfare of our neighbour. Selfishness is not part of good servanthood! Here is a definition of good and godly servanthood: "*God's redeemed stewards, in cooperation with and encouragement from fellow redeemed stewards, freely and joyfully manage all of life and life's resources for God's purposes.*"

Lent provides us with an excellent opportunity to reflect on what is really important and worth spending our lives and resources on. During this 2010 season of Lent may God's Holy

Spirit help us understand that God wants to use us as instruments in His hands to touch the lives of others in ways that make an eternal difference. As we are led to accept this truth we will better understand what it means to use our time, our skills and talents, and our financial resources in loving and sacrificial ways.

What a time of spiritual growth the season of Lent can be for us as we strive to spend our lives and resources on things that really matter and last beyond our lifetimes. God's redeemed servants want to make this world a better place because we have been here. May the love and sacrifice of Jesus so impress us that we will want to reach out in loving and sacrificial ways.

*"God's redeemed and maturing servants do the right things for the right reasons and strive for excellence in all they do."*

## Web page for french-speaking women

You, the members of LWML-Canada, are reaching out to french-speaking women, in Quebec in particular but also throughout the world via the Internet and the LWML-Canada website [www.lutheranwomen.ca](http://www.lutheranwomen.ca).

Considerable time has gone into translating some Bible studies and articles from LWML-Canada's magazine, *Tapestry*. Then it was necessary, just as it is with the English version, to have them go through doctrinal review by a french-speaking pastor.

The dream of translator, Suzanne Drouin, is to eventually offer all of *Tapestry* in French.

And down the road we would like to offer the magazine, or at least parts of it, in other languages. Translators and reviewers will be required in each of those languages so it isn't something that will happen quickly.

Please pray for the fruitfulness of this venture. And, if you know someone who would appreciate the French version, please direct them to [www.lutheranwomen.ca/french.htm](http://www.lutheranwomen.ca/french.htm).

## COMMUNICATION

### *Tapestry renewals and subscriptions due April 30*

As a courtesy to the volunteers who receive your cheques, record the information and need numbers for the printer, please use the form recently mailed to societies and return it on time. If you did not receive a form, contact our data manager, Darla Hennig, at [hennigmd@telus.net](mailto:hennigmd@telus.net) or 1-780-450-4103.

## LWML-Canada CALENDAR – 2010

March 11-14: General Council meeting, Booth College, Winnipeg, Man.

March 26: Dinner for Vicars, CLTS, St. Catharines

April 9: Dinner for Vicars, CLS, Edmonton

April 30-May 1: Laurentian District convention, Ottawa

June 10-12: Ontario District convention, Sarnia, Ont.

June 11-13: Manitoba & Saskatchewan District convention, Moose Jaw, Sask.,

July 8-10: Alberta-British Columbia District convention, Kelowna, B.C.

September 16-17: Ontario Sonset District convention, Dryden, Ont.,

October 3: LWML-Canada Sunday