

**Tell the news — LWML-Canada to host mission trip in 2008**

CHRISTIAN MISSION – Rev. Sandor Arguello, missionary to Nicaragua, keeps his eyes open for links that can be made between the Nicaraguan mission (soon to be an autonomous Lutheran Church) and Lutheran Church-Canada members. In the spring of 2006 he approached then vice-president for mission grants, Anne Carson, and asked whether LWML-Canada had ever considered organizing a mission trip to various Lutheran Church-Canada mission fields, but in particular to Nicaragua.

She shared the idea with the General Council. Rev. Arguello indicated that a mission trip would encourage the Nicaraguan church and help the women of his country grow in their faith. Members of the General Council received the idea with excitement and enthusiasm, visualizing not only how it would strengthen the women of the Nicaraguan congregations, but also how it would strengthen the faith of Canadian women and give them an opportunity to see first-hand the difference their mission grants have made in the lives of Nicaraguan people.

Because a new General Council was to be elected the next day by convention delegates, the idea was commended to the incoming Christian Mission vice-president and her appointed committee. Plans are now well underway with committee member, Marilyn Witte serving as mission trip leader.

Since that time, Lutheran Church-Canada, noting the many groups and individuals travelling to Nicaragua to

assist in mission work there, and that Missionary Arguello was spending a great deal of time taking them around and providing translation, decided a Servant Event Liaison Officer was required to do those tasks. In seeking funds to carry this forward LCC asked LWML-Canada for \$3,500 from our Mission Opportunity Fund to purchase needed office equipment. The grant was approved and LCC has since hired Roberto Carlos. He will be helping with the LWML-Canada mission trip to take place in November 2008. The seven or eight participating women will be responsible for their own expenses.



*Teaching and learning at the Sewing Centre.*

**We encourage you, as society leaders, to get the word out about this wonderful opportunity.** It isn't too early to begin talking about it in your congregation.

**Mission News – Grants at Work**

You will find in *Tapestry*, Winter 2007, on page 21, information about three mission grants. Please share this information, and the information below, with members of your society and congregation as you continue to encourage generous mite giving.

Information is provided in *Tapestry* regarding the sewing school in Chinandega, Nicaragua, organized by the Lutheran Mission there. This triennium \$10,000 in funding from LWML-Canada was requested and approved by delegates at the 2006 convention. To date half of the grant has been asked for and paid. The Nicaraguan government recognizes the sewing school and provides

certificates of achievement as seamstresses. This allows these women to work at an occupation that provides needed income for their families. At the same time, prayer and Bible study are part of their day, providing a Christian witness to students who do not know their Saviour.

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**The Inside Story**

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## Judy's Jottings

### Ambassadors for Christ!

**THOUGHT PROVOKER:** Are there women in your community who would be interested in learning some basics, i.e. sewing for their family/cooking nutritionally and economically? Check with your local food bank to see if this type of service is provided and how you can help.

Information about two mission grants from the Mission Opportunity Fund, paid in September, can also be found in *Tapestry*, Winter 2007. A grant of \$750 assisted with the costs of a neighbourhood canvass in Saint John, New Brunswick.

**THOUGHT PROVOKER:** Would a canvass of your community to obtain demographic information to help with your congregation's outreach be something your society could spearhead?

Another grant of \$5,000 will help with a direct mail outreach in the South Calgary area. Already a core group of believers gather each Sunday around the Word and Sacrament.

**THOUGHT PROVOKER:** As Pastor Holdner is making contacts in Calgary, how are you following up with the National Open House? Are there new ways your LWMLC society can reach out into your community through service?

In early October an additional \$4,000, of the \$10,000 grant, was provided to assist with the costs of shipping overseas medical supplies collected by the Ontario LWMLC District Medical Missions group.

LWML-Canada does not set an order in which grants will be paid. Instead, they are paid as needed and requested, and as money is available.

The thought provokers provided are intended to help us consider ways we can expand on our mission grants in a local situation. Perhaps you have some thought provokers of your own that would work well for your society.

The emphasis for this issue of *Get Connected!* is Christian Mission. What does this encompass? Quite simply we could say that Christian Mission is all we do to spread the Gospel of Christ to our world.

Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 5:17-20, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to Himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making His appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God."

What does it mean to be an ambassador? The dictionary says: "An ambassador is a diplomatic official (or minister of the highest rank), accredited to a *foreign government* or to an *international organization*, to serve as the official representative of his or her own country, to represent the person and dignity of the supreme ruler."

What an awesome responsibility and privilege we have as Christ's ambassadors. There are two things that ambassadors need to know in order to be faithful to their task. First they need to know intimately the supreme ruler they are representing. Secondly they need to know and understand the foreign country and its people. Think about the implications of the knowledge we need – study of God's Word on a daily basis – listening to and having complete compassion for the people of the world.

Ambassadors generally are given diplomatic immunity in their host country. As we live in a sinful world, our immunity doesn't come from our host country, rather in a unique situation, we receive immunity from

our Heavenly Father, from our supreme ruler, as He promises to go with us. Paul talks about the courage we need in Ephesians 6:18b-20, "To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak."

As leaders in LWML-Canada we are also ambassadors for our *organization*. In a way we can use the same guidelines: knowing completely the workings of our league, and knowing our target audience – every woman of Lutheran Church-Canada. As a missionary league, our primary purpose is to share the Gospel of Christ through all we do. Our secondary purpose is to encourage, build up and equip the women of LCC so that they, too, can join us in our mission...the Christian Mission!

Our task is set out for us then – to learn all we can, to become equipped to fulfill our purposes and then to go and tell. God's Word provides the knowledge for our first purpose. He alone gives us the gifts, the power and even the desire to carry out His plan for our lives. Reading *Tapestry*, *Get Connected!*, and LWML-Canada Updates, checking out our website and looking at your own district newsletters are all ways to gain the knowledge for our secondary purpose.

May our Gracious God and Lord fill you with the wonder and joy of being a great Ambassador!

Grace and peace in Christ,

Judy Grande  
President,  
LWML-Canada

## Spice up your society's image – with an eye to the future

CHRISTIAN MISSION – Is your society becoming—dare we say it—a little old and tired? Do you fear for its future? A group that is active and alive in Christ will serve as a magnet and attract other women to it. But, you say, you've run out of ideas. Here are a few that will help spice up not only the image of your society as you serve the mission of your Lord and your Church, but your feelings about it as well.

**BAKE** some homemade bread (or make perogies) and deliver to shut-ins, newly-weds, inactive members – and don't forget the pastor's family.

**PLAN** a Mother-Daughter Banquet in May. Invite a dynamic speaker. Or have a fashion show of bridal gowns. Talk about the joy and blessings of marriage. Have everyone bring a picture of themselves in their wedding clothes for a recognition picture contest.

**TRY**, instead of mother-daughter event, a "Daughters of the King" potluck that incorporates the singles in your congregation. Instead of a focus on marriage and family, consider our status as daughters of our Royal Heavenly Father.

**ARRANGE** a Church Praise Picnic at a local park. Invite everyone! Take along the choir, a keyboard and music books. Sing together before and after you enjoy a meal.

**SCHEDULE** a Strawberry Social in June. Keep an eye open, or check with the parents, for talented youth to add a touch of entertainment. Select a skit from the LWML–Canada Resource Catalogue. Practise in advance, and you will do a more professional job. Usually some sound equipment will help everybody hear better.

**ENCOURAGE** fellowship before Lenten services, by providing simple soup suppers. Organize the cooperation of the Sunday school

teachers, the church council, the men, the LWMLC circles, altar guild, and youth, asking each group to bring a couple of pots of soup for one of the services; the selection of different soups will be marvelous. It will be a roaring success. Others could bring some homemade bread, or light desserts.

### TARGET YOUNG GIRLS

While being active, visible and doing interesting and helpful activities, we need, also, to make an intentional effort to help the young girls of our congregations to experience the joy of working together toward a common goal, to discover a passion for mission, and to understand that LWML–Canada provides them wonderful opportunities for both. Try some of these ideas for connecting with another generation, the LWMLC, not only of tomorrow, but also of today.



### Preteens and Early Teens

Recognize the newly confirmed. Give a gift purchased from the LWML–Canada Resource Centre; for example, a wooden cross, *Teen Speak*, a mite box. In some societies girls of the congregation, when confirmed, are welcomed into membership and share the mission.

Back to Basics Club — Sponsored by your LWMLC society, this group of girls, ages 7-14, meets weekly, bringing their friends. In this club they learn how to cook, sew, set the table, and other similar skills. They enjoy eating what they make. Each meeting has a devotion or Bible story. If you have an LWMLC member leading this group with the help of a few mothers, it builds a good relationship both with the children and with their mothers. One Back to Basics Club participates in making soup for one of the soup suppers during Lent. The group also

can invite members of the congregation and serve a dinner at the end of the school year. This is a good outreach in the community when children bring their non-churchgoing friends.

On LWML–Canada Sunday, with the permission of the Sunday school teachers, involve the students in helping you pack school kits, klenli kits, etc. for CLWR. Teach them how to roll bandages from old sheets and fold gauze squares 4"x 4" for Medical Missions. Let them trim stamps to purchase Bibles (Canadian Bible Society), count and package the Campbell Soup labels for the Lutheran schools and write notes or letters (see page eight for addresses) to Lutheran Church–Canada missionaries. Having experienced it, the children can tell their parents about the mission work of LWML–Canada.

### Teenagers

If your group is active in serving at the local retirement/nursing home, take along a high school student during their vacation time. Serve tea or coffee and cookies in the tuck shop/tea room. Teach the youth how to visit with shut-ins. Share *Tapestry* or read an article from it to those with limited sight.

Remember college students away from home. It is never too late to send them letters of encouragement. Prepare a "care package" with items like a chocolate bar, package mix of dry soup, gum, mittens, a Christian tract, etc. Notify the pastor at the college's location so he can visit them, give them information about the church's activities and arrange transportation to worship if needed. Also notify the local LWMLC president so the group can take these young women "under their wing."

Teach young girls to tie quilts for CLWR. During Spring Break, invite them to learn a new skill like making baptismal banners. Serve pizza for lunch.

# Lutheran Women in Prayer

CHRISTIAN GROWTH – In previous issues of *Get Connected!* the Christian Growth Committee presented some teaching on prayer: What is prayer? Why do we pray? Who should pray? To whom do we pray? With what attitude should we pray? When do we pray? Where do we pray? Which prayers are acceptable to God? Now we would like to focus on types of prayer and some prayer ideas.

## Types of Prayer

We have Jesus' example for praying: "To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example that you should follow in His steps" (1 Peter 2:21). He prayed often. He took time out of His busy life of preaching and healing to go to a quiet spot by Himself and spend time with His Heavenly Father. He spent a whole night in prayer before He selected the twelve disciples (Luke 6:12).

Christians pray. What a privilege it is for us to carry EVERYTHING to God in prayer! He has promised to hear and answer us. "Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need" (Hebrews 4:16). "Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you" (1 Peter 5:7). "To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul" (Psalm 86:4). "Cast your cares on the Lord and He will sustain you" (Psalm 55:22). "The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and His ears are attentive to their prayer" (1 Peter 3:12).

Prayer can be **private**, simply talking with God. We talk to Him as children talk to their dear father. In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus gave His followers these directions: "But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you ... your Father knows what you need before you ask Him" (Matthew 6:6). Jesus then continued this directive with what we call The Lord's Prayer.

Prayers can be **spontaneous**, as when a crisis is occurring in our lives and we feel the need for immediate help from our Father in heaven. For example, if we are involved in an

accident or some unfortunate and unforeseen circumstance, we breathe a prayer for His intervention and safe deliverance. When we hear the warning siren of a police car, an ambulance or fire engine, we can offer up a prayer that God will be with the authorities, paramedics and firemen, as well as with the people and families who need their help.

"Men ought always to pray, and not to faint" (Luke 18:1).

Prayers can be **informal**, extemporaneous, that is, spoken or done without preparation. Sometimes in a group setting, when there is a specific prayer time, the opportunity is given for individuals to pray, at random, wherever they may be sitting. Some call them popcorn prayers. At other times, in a circular group, the leader begins with a prayer, each individual has the opportunity to add a short prayer, and the prayer is ended by the leader. In any of these situations, if someone is uncomfortable with praying aloud, she should not feel forced to do so.

Our prayers may be **formal**, written prayers, as when prayed during a worship service by the pastor alone or by the congregation in unison. Most of our usual worship service is made up of prayers: for example, the Confession at the beginning of the service; the Agnus Dei (Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world); the Post-Communion Collects (thanksgiving prayers); prayers for sick and shut-in members; prayers of thanksgiving for special times such as a new birth, an anniversary or special birthdays. We also pray for our missionaries and mission opportunities, for our government, and for all believers. The Prayer of the Church

is the part of the service where the pastor leads the congregation through a series of petitions (prayers) with responses from the congregation. For example, after each petition the pastor may say: "Let us pray to the Lord", and the congregation may respond with "Lord, have mercy", or "Hear our prayer".

An excellent source for formal prayers is in the new Lutheran Service Book, pages 305 – 318, under the heading, Prayers, Intercessions, and Thanksgivings. It's worth checking out. Prayers found here include: The Church and Her Mission, At Worship, Baptismal Life, Civil Realm, Home and Family, In Times of Need, and In Times of Joy. You are sure to find the very prayer you need for the circumstance you find yourself in. There are even prayers especially for women's (and men's) organizations, for restoration of health, and for persecuted Christians, just to name a few. And don't forget the Book of Psalms, often considered the great prayer book of the Bible.

Following are some examples of hymns which are good prayers.

*Prayer is the soul's sincere desire,  
Unuttered or expressed;  
The motion of a hidden fire  
That trembles in the breast.*

*With prayer my humble praise I bring  
For mercies day by day.  
Lord, teach my heart Thy love to sing;  
Lord, teach me how to pray.*

*Teach me to follow all the way.  
Teach me to trust and to obey.  
Teach me to love.  
Teach me to pray.*

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## Prayer Ideas

### PRAYER CHAINS OR GROUPS

A Prayer Chain consists of a chairman, coordinators, captains (no more than four per coordinator). Each captain should have no more than four people to call. This method makes it easier to expand at any time when the list of those praying gets longer.

#### Rules for the Chairman

1. Receive all prayer requests by phone or in writing.
2. Keep a confidential record book of all prayer requests. Note the address of the person for whom was prayed; the phone number of the person requesting prayer; the type of request; or anonymous.
3. Call coordinators.
4. Keep prayer list updated; check back weekly with person who made the request or person for whom prayers are said.
5. Send cards to those prayed for.

#### Rules for Coordinators and Captains

1. Keep a notebook available at all times and enter prayer request or praise exactly as it is dictated to you, then read it back, phrase by phrase.
2. Immediately call those who are directly under you; continue calling until all have been reached.
3. Dispose of written requests following contact with your group.

#### Rules for Prayer Group Members when receiving a call

1. Pray immediately concerning requests when received.
  - a. Don't leave the phone until you have prayed so that you do not become involved in other things, putting it off until it's too late or forgotten altogether.
  - b. Pray for God's will (don't pray answers, pray requests to God).
  - c. Pray fervently. "The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective" (James 5:16b).
2. Don't gossip about the prayer

request or discuss any other subject during a prayer request call.

3. Prayer requests are not to be discussed at any time. Confidentiality is important!

#### Preparation for Prayer

Before praying, ask God to forgive your sins.

No unconfessed sin: Ps. 66:18; Isa. 59:1-2; 1 Peter 3:12

Forgive others; receive God's forgiveness: Mark 11:25-26; Matt. 6:12-15; 1 John 1:1-10

Keep up your personal daily prayer life: Matt. 6:6; 1 Thess. 5:17

Pray in faith, believing: Heb. 11:6; Mark 11:24

Pray God's will for all requests: 1 John 5:14-15; Matt. 6:10.

*Christians keep requests confidential!*

#### PRAYER CHART

Here is a suggestion for children: Decorate a large sheet of paper and divide it into two columns (or various sections). On one side write prayer requests and the date when prayed. Then on the other side write when and how the prayer was answered (Adults can write their requests and answers in a little booklet). This helps children (and adults) see that God answers prayers.

#### PRAYER ROCK

This is fun to make and give to others. Supplies needed are: seven inch square of fabric, small wire-stemmed silk flower or ribbon/yarn and a small rock. Place rock in fabric and tie with wire-stemmed flower or ribbon. Attach the following poem:

*I'm your little prayer rock and this is what I'll do;*

*If you put me on your pillow until the day is through*

*Then turn back the covers and climb into your bed,*

*WHACK! Your little prayer rock will hit you on the head.*

*Then you will remember to say your prayers beside your bed*

*Then dump me out onto the floor: 'Till morning I'll stay there.*

*When you get up next morning, CLUNK! I'll stub your toe;*

*So you will recall, my friend, your morning prayers, you know.*

*Put me back on your pillow when your bed is made,*

*And your clever little prayer rock will continue in your aid;*

*'Cause our Father feels so sad when He doesn't hear from you,*

*I'll help you to remember because I love Him, too.*

This might be a good time to mention Luther's Evening Prayer, p. 298, LSB (He adds: "Then go to sleep at once and in good cheer"), and Morning Prayer, p. 295, ("Then go joyfully to your work"). Or you can use your own version of these well-focused prayers.

Morning and evening devotions as well as grace at the table should become sacred moments to us.

#### PRAYER PARTNERS or PALS

This could include only members of your LWML-Canada society, or it could be used as outreach and involve all those in the congregation who wish to be included. Participants write their names, birthdates, and anniversaries on a slip of paper, and the names are drawn or handed out in a sealed envelope. One person in the group would act as the coordinator, keeping track of the names, as well as each person's prayer pal. At some point during the year – perhaps at a pre-Christmas evening of food and games – the partners are revealed and new names drawn for the next year. The intent is to keep that partner, or family, in your prayers throughout the year, acknowledging special times in their lives such as birthdays, anniversaries,

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and sometimes just letting them know they are being prayed for during an illness or other stressful circumstance.

### CHURCH FAMILY

You could have a small rock pile in the church narthex with the name of each congregational family on a small rock. Members would select one or more rocks and pray for a particular family (or families), then bring it back and exchange it for another family to pray for. The rocks can be kept in a dish on your cupboard where they are visible and are a reminder to pray for those particular families.

### GOD CAN

Each participant decorates a GOD CAN. The GOD CAN may be made from a 1 lb. coffee can, including the lid. The can may be covered with contact paper, wrapping paper, fabric, or may be spray painted. The following phrase should be written or attached to the can: *When you can't, GOD CAN.* The can may also be decorated with ribbon, lace, flowers or other craft leftovers. A slot is cut into the lid (like a piggybank) and the lid is glued to the can.

The following instructions are given, printed on a 3x5 card:

Write your challenge/problem on a slip of paper and confidently place it in your GOD CAN. This act helps to impress deeply upon you your choice to let go and let God. Then, if you are tempted to worry any further, tell yourself, "No, I turn away from the challenge and turn to God for peace and guidance. I know that even when life seems too overwhelming for me to handle, GOD CAN!"

The idea of a GOD CAN is to encourage each participant, once they have given their problem to the Lord, not to take it back but to leave its resolution to Him.

### PRAYING HANDS

Make and paint small Plaster of

Paris praying hands. Attach a card with your church name, address, phone number, time of worship service, etc. Place these in *Welcome Wagon* packets, or ask members to share names of newcomers. Go out in pairs to say "welcome" and extend a personal invitation to visit your church. Leave the praying hands for their home – it will become a constant reminder of your church.



### Action Suggestion

Be sure to make use of the monthly Prayer Calendars, available on our LWML–Canada website. Consider making them available to members of your congregation. Each month they focus on a theme pertaining to that particular month.

Bible quotations are from the NIV

### Remember...

Even though you cannot see God He is there for you!

When Jesus died on the cross, He did it for you!

Jesus rose again to show you that God can overcome every evil, betrayal, great sorrow and even death.

With God, everything is possible.

Have faith.

Resist sorrow and despair.

Pray about everything that concerns you.

God will answer your prayer.

It may be something you didn't pray for, but God will send you what you need.

Be strong and courageous.

Be kind and compassionate.

Befriend people who love God, who seek to do His will.

Pay attention to people who are reaching out to find God.

Help them to understand the love of Jesus and be amazed by the power and grace of God.

Comfort, comfort, comfort God's people.

## Prayer Resources

All are on the *From A to Z – Program Planning Made Easy CD* (unless noted).

### Bible Studies:

*A Private Line* (2 pgs) #5115

**Devotions:** *A Closing Devotion Based on Psalm 121* (1 pg) C1996-05

**Dramas:** *God's Gift of a Secret Pal* (2 pgs) #5171

**Litanies:** *Who Will Wear the Crown?* (4 pgs) #5432

**Retreats/Workshop:** *Count Your Blessings* (22 pgs) #59138 (Good in part or all)

**Mites:** *Pray, Praise and Give Thanks* (1 pg) C1996-04

Order items or CD from LWML–Canada Resource Centre: [orders@lutheranwomen.ca](mailto:orders@lutheranwomen.ca) or call 1-888-596-5226 [1-888-lwm-ican]

## Update

CHRISTIAN GROWTH – The Christian Growth Committee reminds you that **there will be no 2008 Prayer Service materials.** Copies of previous services are available for your use from the Resource Centre and the LWML–Canada web site or you may wish to plan a different prayer event.

We encourage you to grow in your prayer life; pray daily, help others to learn to pray, and make prayer a routine part of their day. Make use of the monthly *Prayer Calendar* on the web, the teaching and ideas found in *Lutheran Women in Prayer*, as well as the resources dealing with prayer, both listed in *Get Connected!*. A retreat on prayer would be another idea. Use the resources available for this on the *A to Z, planning made easy CD* or browse the catalogue at [www.lutheranwomen.ca](http://www.lutheranwomen.ca).

Pray continually (1 Thess. 5:17)

## News from LWML–Canada

### LWML–Canada to celebrate 15<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2008

PUBLIC RELATIONS – On June 20-21, 1993, LWML–Canada held its Founding Convention in Edmonton, Alberta. In June 2008, or thereabouts, we encourage societies to have a birthday party. There won't be anything specific outlined although LWML–Canada will provide some resources you might use. We encourage you to start thinking now about how your society might celebrate this special event. It could be as simple as cake and ice cream and singing happy birthday. Or it may merit a potluck meal and special program for all the women of your congregation. Or, anywhere in between.

As with all birthday parties, there will be a gift... a special thank offering to be invested in the future of this great organization. More details to come.

Discussions are taking place regarding the publication of an Anniversary Edition of *Tapestry*. Likely this would be several pages added to Summer 2008, rather than an extra issue. Should this go ahead, we would like to incorporate lots of anecdotes. Many women have stories to share... both funny and serious... of their experiences in ILWML and LWML–Canada. We would be pleased to receive from you, in the near future, the names, addresses, phone numbers, even e-mail addresses, of women you think might have a story to tell that would be of interest to others across Canada. Also provide some idea of what they might have to share. This edition would by no means be comprehensive for there won't be enough space. Instead, from the names provided we would attempt to pick a representative sample of stories for all to enjoy.

Please send them to editor-in-chief, Marion Hollinger, 2816 Calder Avenue, Saskatoon, SK S7J 1W1; [tapestry@lutheranwomen.ca](mailto:tapestry@lutheranwomen.ca).

### LWML–Canada Sunday feedback

PUBLIC RELATIONS – Included with the material for LWML–Canada Sunday 2007 is a form to provide some feedback. From time to time we hear that societies are not using the materials we provide, or that the materials aren't suitable. It is difficult to know if only a few find that to be the case, or if the feeling is widespread. It makes no sense to spend time and effort on things that are not needed while neglecting other ways we could be of service. Hence the importance of receiving your feedback. Please take the time to fill out the form and mail it. We anticipate many positive responses but we also need to hear what isn't working well. If you download the LWML–Canada Sunday materials the form is on our web site. Comments can be sent by e-mail.

### New Colouring Pages Ready

PUBLIC RELATIONS – The LWML–Canada Christian Mission Committee, with help from artist Victoria Mitchell, developed another set of colouring pages for children. These pages tell the Christmas story. They are available from the LWML–Canada Resource Centre. Cost is \$1.00 for the original copies and your society is then welcome to make copies for your congregation.

### Stories needed

PUBLIC RELATIONS – Stories are required for the Summer and Fall 2008 issues of *Tapestry* on the themes *The Gift of Friendship* and *Home Improvement*. Deadline for the former is February 1, 2008 and the latter, May 1, 2008. Following are some ideas regarding the topics, but other directions are welcome. Please ask the Lord to guide your writing as you share how your story and God's story are intertwined.

### GIFT OF FRIENDSHIP

Friendship is a precious gift from God—something to be cultivated, appreciated, and treasured, not something to be taken for granted.

Tell us about the role of friendship in your life or perhaps about a special friendship. How is/was God part of the friendship? How did that friendship strengthen your understanding of your relationship with Christ?

- ◆ In your journey of faith how would you describe friends as a bouquet of flowers, a gift from God?

- ◆ Friendship is not limited to those our own age or of similar background. Has God placed someone in your life who is older, or younger? Someone of another race? Someone dealing with a handicap? Tell us about the blessings of such friendships.

- ◆ Rejoice and trust God to provide the friend you need; to be the friend God intended each of us to be. Describe your experience.

- ◆ Friendships require commitment—time, talent, gifts and abilities. Share what you have received from such a committed friend, including the spiritual blessings.

- ◆ Needs differ over time. Do friendships need change? How do we deal with these situations? Is there a time to let go of a friendship? When, why, how? How can we find God's guidance in our friendships?

### HOME IMPROVEMENT

Our homes are intended to be the training ground for Christian values and, while God holds fathers responsible for the spiritual upbringing of their children, mothers also play an important role.

- ◆ How does that happen in your home? Is there a child in your home who is mentally challenged? Have you been able to help them grow in faith? What have you learned from them?

- ◆ Tell readers how you have connected with adolescents, teen, toddlers in

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regard to living as a Christian instead of how the world lives and what the results have been.

♦ What is Confirmation? How do Lutherans view Confirmation? From your experience and that of others, has it made a difference in how you view today's world and how you respond to daily situations?

♦ How do you deal with friends and family members who say Christian values are old-fashioned and not realistic in today's fast-paced world? Combine it with what Scripture has to say.

Please, send your stories for the above subjects to Editor-in-Chief, Marion Hollinger, 2816 Calder Avenue, Saskatoon, SK S7J 1W1; tapestry@lutheranwomen.ca

### Seminar 2008

MEMBER DEVELOPMENT –

**Topic:** *I can't, but with God I can! — How to relate compassionately to those who are suffering.*

**Objectives:** After this seminar the participant will

1. Understand suffering from a Biblical perspective.
2. Be assured of Christ's forgiveness when words and actions hurt instead of help.
3. Be equipped to relate in practical ways to those who are suffering.

**Target Audience:** All women of Lutheran Church–Canada.

Ready for overview at General Council in March 2008; pilot to be done in April 2008 and ready for Zones and Districts to use by September 1, 2008.

See *Tapestry, Winter 2007* for initial information to share with society members.

### News in Tapestry

*Tapestry* editors have asked Diane Dennis (Box 427, Cupar, SK S0G 0Y0) to serve as a networker in gathering news for the Spotlight section of the magazine. She will be contacting zone presidents in the near future.

### Remember our Missionaries

CHRISTIAN MISSION – The Christian Mission Committee encourages Societies to send letters of encouragement and Christmas greetings to our Lutheran Church–Canada missionaries and Lutheran Bible Translators of Canada workers. LBTC provides a word of caution that also applies to LCC missionaries: it would be better to send only letters, not greeting cards, to missionaries. Postal services abroad tend to be less reliable (trustworthy!) than in Canada. Envelopes shaped for greeting cards will often be tampered with and very few arrive to the hands of the missionaries. Also, do not send gifts of money directly to the missionaries. This intended act of kindness seems to encourage dishonesty. Any monetary gifts should be forwarded through LBTC so they will reach their destination safely.

LCC, 3074 Portage Ave., Winnipeg, MB R3K 0Y2

LBTC, box 934, 137 Queen Street S., Kitchener, OH N2G 4E3

Missionaries currently serving Lutheran Church–Canada:

- ♦ Brent Kilback  
Wabag Enga Province  
Papua New Guinea  
Mailing address:

C/O 74 Rutherford Dr.  
Red Deer AB T4P 2Z2  
E-mail: bkilback@nucleus.com

♦ Rev. Ted Krey  
Soc Luterana Evang en Vezla  
C-555

2111 N.W, 79 Ave.  
Miami, Fl 33122-1611 USA

Located in Venezuela  
E-mail: TKrey@hotmail.com

♦ Rev. Suchart Chujit  
40/4 moo 12

Khok Koi Takua Tung,  
Phang Nga 81240 Thailand

♦ Rev. Aleksey Navrotskiy  
Patona Street 2 Flat 3  
Dnepropetrovsk Ukraine 49000-489

E-mail: navalex1@rambler.ru

♦ Rev. Sandor Arguello & Family  
Mission Christiana en Nicaragua  
Apartado Postal #207

Contiguo a la Kodak Chinandega  
Nicaragua

E-mail: sandorarguello@yahoo.com

The following can be mailed to  
Rev. Arguello's address:

♦ Rev. Hector Morales  
Missionary in Matagalpa and Jintego

♦ Rev. Rufina Quintero Laines  
Missionary in Granada

♦ Rev. Maximo Roman Urroz  
Missionary in Leon

♦ Rev. Pedro Adolfo Quintero  
Missionary in Panama

Iglesia Luterana Jesus Divino  
Salvador

Rio Rita, Panama

E-mail: pedroadolfo@hotmail.com

The only Canadian-specific  
missionaries serving LBTC are

♦ Martin and Joan Weber  
BP22, Bankim par Foumban  
Province de l'Ouest

Cameroun, West Africa

E-mail: MJWeber@LBT.org

Editor  
Renate Bishopp  
2806 Ferguson Ave  
Saskatoon, SK S7J 1N9  
306-343-0156  
getconnected  
@lutheranwomen.ca

Circulation [Data] Manager  
Michelle Johnson  
20 Crescent Road East  
Portage la Prairie, MB R1N 0Y5  
204-957-7714  
datamanager  
@lutheranwomen.ca

LWMLC–Resource Centre  
Margaret Klatt  
3074 Portage Ave  
Winnipeg, MB R3K 0Y2  
204-895-3433 Ext 2220  
resourcecentre  
@lutheranwomen.ca



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