



# Christian Life

## Details are complete— Are you ready to “TRAVEL”?

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Remember: As Zone Christian Life officers you are the only ones getting this information. Please share this information within your Zone.

### Upcoming dates to mark on your calendar:

- LWML Convention—  
Sioux Falls, SD June 21-24, 2007
- MN So. District Women’s Retreat-GAC ,St. Peter July 27 & 28, 2007
- MN So. District LWML Convention June 20-22, 2008, Mayo Civic Center, Rochester, MN.

Are you planning a vacation this summer? Whether you are going to see family, the mountains or the lake, please set aside the dates of July 27 and 28 to join the Minnesota South District LWML Women’s Retreat as we take a trip. You will be guaranteed a trip of a lifetime as we take a **Journey Of Faith**. Join your LWML sisters as we come together in Bible study and worship to take a personal look at where we are in our faith walk with Jesus. The basis for our study will be Ephesians 5:8 NKJ “*For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as Children of Light.*”

As with any journey we will take a look at the beginning, spend time discovering where you are now in the thick of it, then looking ahead for a strong finish. God has promised us His presence through Word and Sacrament and by His Spirit we are equipped for every challenge of life.

The District Christian Life committee invites you to join us as we take a **Journey Of Faith**. This trip will include air-conditioned accommodations on the beautiful campus of Gustavous Adolphus College in St. Peter, delicious meals prepared by the GAC Market Place and free admittance to the Friday evening LWML Road Show

(see inset). A registration form is included in this newsletter and will be in the Spring issue of the WOM. Zone presidents will receive a poster and registration form for each society at the February LWML Board of Directors meeting. For questions about the Retreat please contact Irene Mensing at [imensing@bevcomm.net](mailto:imensing@bevcomm.net) or phone evenings 1-507-526-3430.



**\*The committee is in need of participants for the LWML Road Show.** If you or anyone else you know has a talent to share please contact Irene Mensing. She is looking for individuals, groups or societies to participate. Whether you sing, dance, play a musical instrument or act in a sketch – all are invited to participate in this showcase of LWML talent. Please do so by July 1, 2007, if possible.

## Be Still

### *“Be still and know that I am God”*

Psalm 46:10a NIV

Looking forward to this New Year and all that it has to offer, I am thankful for all that God has allowed me to experience in life. A wonderful family, a home that keeps me warm and dry and my LWML sisters and brothers in Christ. I have not always been at this point. I have found that I need to continually grow and be nourished with the Word of God.

In all the business of our lives, I for one am guilty of not taking time to listen to God and what He has to say. One of my favorite Bible verses comes to mind when I am getting so wrapped up in the physical and material world

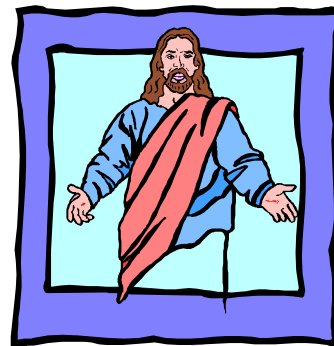
around me. *“Be still and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.”* (Psalm 46:10 NIV). This verse pulls me back to reality and lets me know that everything I have is not mine but comes from God. I take time for personal daily devotions and that is when I get to “know God”.

One Sunday morning during Bible study hour, the Pastor recommended the book “Neither Wolf Nor Dog” by Kent Nerburn. It is a dialogue between the author and an Indian Tribal Leader. At one point in the book they are on a walk and stopped for a rest. During their conversation, the Indian had asked the

author what he heard. He said he heard nothing. The Indian told of what he heard: the rustling of the prairie grasses, the running water of a far off stream, the chirping of a bird off in the distance. Have we really taken the time to listen to what God is saying through the people and the world around us? Have we taken the time to “be still”?

So in closing, let us all take time to be still and know God, for we are here today and tomorrow does not yet belong to us. I hope to see many of you at the Convention in Sioux Falls this June and at the Retreat in St. Peter at the end of July where we can “know God” more deeply.

Ruth Bury  
Christian Life Committee



Let us all take time to be still and know God, for we are here today and tomorrow does not yet belong to us.

## Available Resources in Sioux Falls

The new 2007-2009 edition of the LWML Meeting and Event Planner will be available at the Sioux Falls convention. Spread the word to your societies that this is a great resource with over 26 new devotions based on the “Rest On Christ the King” theme and a complete set of program ideas for two years. In our busy worlds, why try to recreate the wheel? The LWML has this great resource available for us to use.

Look for more new Mustard Seeds. In 2005 the Mustard Seeds were brought back to the LWML in a new format—the size was the same, but instead of a Bible study the new ones are in the form of a complete devotion. They

are a perfect size to slip in a greeting card or letter. This is an excellent way to share our faith with others.

Look for many other new items for Christian Life along with new LWML logo merchandize to visually spread the Good News of Christ. The new LWML catalog will be out, pick one up at the convention for yourself or arrange for your Zone Delegate to get enough for the Zone.

One last reminder—if you do not have a copy of the newly revised Christian Life Handbook, it’s a great bargain at \$1.00 and a great resource for your Christian Life files.

## Motivation—Bible Style

As I was preparing for this newsletter, I turned to a book I have on my shelf titled “God’s Devotional Book—Motivation”. Now the devotions are not what I’d call the typical LCMS style, but they do say a lot about motivational qualities that leaders should have, or at least hope to have.

“If God is for us, who can be against us?” (Romans 8:31b NIV) What better thought than this to begin any LWML planning. Think about the little boy with the five loaves and two fishes in Mark 6:41-44. This amount of food would have only fed a few people, but putting this in Jesus’ hands, there was enough to feed the five

thousand. Believe in yourself and ask Jesus for His help as you work on your planning or are asked to lead.

*“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.”* (Deuteronomy 30:6)

We all have our fears whether it’s mice, snakes or speaking in front of a group. The only way to overcome your fear is to face it with the help of Jesus. We all know how Moses argued with God about taking leadership in Exodus 3 & 4 and God’s answer was to have Aaron do his talking. Are you asking for God’s help when

you are facing one of your “fears”?

*“Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men.”* (Colossians 3:23 NASB)

Think about this: what kind of effort would you give if the most important person in your life was going to be at your next event? All of us know we would try harder! In our daily lives we should be thinking of doing our work to the glory of God. We know, in the end, we will be receiving our reward from God as it is Him that we serve.

With God’s help—how can we fail?

Irene Mensing

Christian Life Chairman



Don’t be afraid of pressure—remember that pressure is what turns a lump of coal into a diamond.

Focus on the positive: There are two things that are hard on the heart — running upstairs and running down people.

*“Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”*  
Joshua 1:9 NIV

## Need more reasons to attend the 2007 LWML convention?

The Prairie Park will be the finest collection of exhibits especially for LWMLers west or, for that matter, east of the Mississippi! And then there is Erin Bode, a classical jazz singer and an LCMS woman, who will entertain us Saturday night. On Friday night we will celebrate with entertainment extraordinaire for the LWML’s 65th Anniversary with Jan Struck as Master of Ceremonies. These are more ROCK—solid reasons to come to Sioux Falls. “ROCK! Rest On Christ the King”

- \*Rejoice in the security found in God’s Word and love
- \*Celebrate the oneness found in Jesus, our King
- \*Confidently and boldly share the Gospel message
- \*Be led and guided by the Lord to personal avenues of service

Come join this activity-filled and action-packed weekend, complete with worship, Bible study and fellowship with other sisters and brothers in Christ.

Don’t miss out on this chance to attend an LWML convention—and with it being so close in South Dakota the cost is favorable also. Registration opens March 1 and the form can be found in winter *Quarterly* or on the LWML website at [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org).





Please find someone in your society or neighborhood to help you get (download) these resources for you. Have you thought about appointing an "IT" person (information technology)? This could be a member who, because of her job, cannot attend meetings, but wants to serve in some capacity.



**Make sure to check out the Leader Development Department at [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org). Use the quick link in the Special Features pull down. The newsletters have great information!**

## New look for national LWML web site

The national LWML is in the process of updating their web site. Most of the work is done and it is now more 'user friendly'. Many of us have access to the internet and this is a fantastic resource to check out. For those of you who do not have internet access, please find someone in your society or neighborhood to help you get (download) these resources for you. Have you thought about appointing an "IT" person (information technology)? This could be a member who, because of her job, cannot attend meetings, but wants to serve in some capacity. Don't pass on this opportunity to get more information that will help you as you serve as an officer or chairman.

I'd like to highlight a few items that are great resources. On the bottom of the **Program Helps page**

are links to three printable helps. The first is "All Along Life's Way", a 19-page help described as a "series of five minute devotions written especially (but not limited to) groups who want to open their gatherings with more than a prayer, but less than a full Bible study." There are 9 devotions, each looking at a woman in the Bible whom God had called to serve in a special way.

"Mountain Top Adventures" is a Bible study based on Luke's account of Jesus' Transfiguration.

The third is "Celebrate! You are a Promise" based on 2 Peter 1:3-4 which takes a look at God's promise of love and forgiveness.

Check out the **Member Development page**. The **TEAM Leader** is a newsletter put together by this committee. Currently there

are 4 issues available. Each one is two pages and has great information and ideas for all of us who have a role as an officer, committee chairman or leader.

Spread the news about the **Young Women's section** on the web site. The current issue of their newsletter Impressions is there along with other information about and for Young Women.

I can't wait for the site to be complete with a section for TEEN LWML, more Printable Program Resources and new LWML items.

The 2007 LWML Prayer Service is found on the website in a downloadable format. Encourage your societies to use this service or have a Zone Prayer Service.

Irene Mensing  
Christian Life Chairman

## Time Management—God's Way!

*"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven."* Ecclesiastes 3:1 NIV

Think about this—the greatest possession we have is the 24 hours directly in front of us. Consider this: there are 168 hours in a week of which we should sleep through 56 of them. That leaves 112 hours awake. An average person works 48 hours and if we allow 12 hours for eating we have 52 hours per week to devote to any purpose we want. Would it be too much to give God a tithe of that "free time"? This would be only 5.2 hours a week. Allowing two hours a

week for church and Bible study the remaining amount of this tithe would be 192 minutes or almost 30 minutes per day for prayer or personal Bible reading.

The amount of time left is now 45 hours per week for chores and personal fun! How do you spend your time? Is it the fact of not having enough time or is it too little planning of the time we have? Try using your prayer time as soon as you get up and put Jesus in charge of the rest of your day. See how much time you have left when you let Jesus guide you.



# Minnesota South LWML Women's Retreat

## Journey of Faith

July 27 & 28, 2007

Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, MN

Early arrivals Thursday July 26—Check In 7 to 9 pm

Friday Check In 7:30 am / Opening 9 am

Saturday closing with Noon lunch

Friday evening "LWML Road Show" Contact Irene Mensing at 507-526-3430 to find out how to participate—all talents welcomed!!

### Option Registration Fees:

- A — \$126.00 —For Thursday evening through Saturday noon lunch—A/C room
- B — (\$102.00 for non air-conditioned room)
- C — \$95.00 —For Friday (No Friday breakfast) through Saturday noon lunch—A/C room
- D — (\$83.00 for non air-conditioned room)
- E — \$70.00 —For Friday and Saturday (No housing & no Friday breakfast)

Mail completed form, a check made payable to Minnesota South LWML for appropriate fee, and a **stamped, self-addressed, business-size envelope** (for confirmation reply and more details) to:

Darleen Harens  
18790 Jordan Circle  
Lakeville, MN 55044  
952-435-6910 dhav@att.net

(Single rooms and one day registration also available by contacting Darleen Harens.)

**Registration Deadline: July 13, 2007**

Please print and check all that apply—Thank you.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City, St, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Church \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Registration fee enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for Option \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to room with \_\_\_\_\_ and we are enclosing our registrations together.

For health reasons, I prefer a first floor room: Yes \_\_\_\_\_

I am a Young Woman Rep: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ I'd like to participate in the YW activities: Yes \_\_\_\_\_

I need a map of the Gustavus Adolphus Campus: Yes \_\_\_\_\_

I can be an Emergency Medical Technician at Retreat: Yes \_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency Information** Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

In case of an emergency please contact: Name \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Health Insurance Company \_\_\_\_\_ Policy Number \_\_\_\_\_

(This information will be keep confidential and only used in the case of an emergency.)



MINNESOTA SOUTH LWML  
CHRISTIAN LIFE NEWS  
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*Lutheran Women in Mission*

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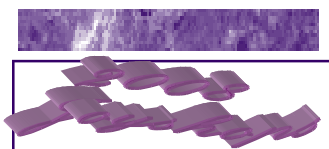
Minnesota South is  
on the web  
[www.mnslwml.org](http://www.mnslwml.org)

## Purpose and Responsibilities of Christian Life Leaders/Committees

The purpose of the Christian Life Committee is to encourage, equip and nurture believers so that they may become strong in the Lord, steadfast in the faith, and willing to serve the Lord according to the gifts He has given them.

Responsibilities of a Christian Life Leader are to: **encourage** and nurture women to grow into a more mature relationship with

Jesus Christ; **keep** the Word of God as a focal point in all LWML meetings and activities; **provide** leadership and direction in organizing opportunities for Bible study, devotions and prayer; **inform** women of the Christian Life materials available to them through the LWML; and **assist and involve** others in the use and presentation of Christian Life materials. (excerpt from Christian Life Handbook)



Soon the District Christian Life Committee will be selecting locations for the Joyshops to be held September of 2008. Do you have any suggestions or would you like to host this one day Bible Study event? The CL committee will consider all offers. Contact Irene—information above.

*Serve the Lord  
With Gladness*