



Since you are my rock and my fortress, for the sake of your name lead and guide me. Psalm 31:3

Published by the LWML Leader Development Committee

Greetings from the Leader Development Committee!

We would love to hear from you, with ideas and suggestions, on what is working in your district. We hope to include your ideas in future issues of *The TEAM Leader*. E-mail us at lwml@lwml.org and put Leader Development in the subject line.

Anne Hartman, Sandra Haugner, Nikki Tyrrell; Sharon Goertzen, Chairman; Marguerite Christman, Department Coordinator

Quotable

Mentoring is simply pointing them in the right direction and walking with them on the journey.

— Mark Engelthaler,
Leadership Magazine



Join Us in Sioux Falls!

Be sure to make plans to attend the LWML 32nd Biennial Convention in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, June 21-24.

Plan to visit the Leader Development booth,

ROCKIN' WITH THE TEAM LEADER — JESUS!!!

While there, you will have the opportunity to:

- Participate in hands-on activities
- Look at leader materials in the *LWML Catalog*
- Meet and connect with the Leader Development Committee and share ideas
- Receive leader tips
- Sign up to receive a banner of **Jesus — The TEAM Leader** or a copy of the new, **Here I Am Lord** in PowerPoint
- Listen to ROCKin' music!!!



Guidance for LWML Leaders

The best leader is the one who gets the job done

"Tell Archippus: 'See to it that you complete the work you have received from the Lord.'" (Colossians 4:17)

Early in the morning, we might debate whether the ideal leader is someone who is highly organized, or charismatic, or a visionary, or an equipper. But at the end of the day, we would agree the best leader is the one who gets the job done. A quick read through the book of Proverbs will reveal the truth of this assertion: A leader is judged by his work, not his dreams. After lambasting the sluggard repeatedly, Solomon sums up the first twenty-four chapters of advice by declaring procrastination ends in ruin (Proverbs 24:33-34). More famously, we remember the proverb often quoted by parents to lazy about-to-miss-dinner children, "If a man shall not work, neither shall he eat" (2 Thessalonians 3:10).

So why would we, as leaders, *not* finish the work we have received from the Lord?

We're afraid. We don't start because we fear it will end in failure. We don't finish because we realize the completed product will not be what we hoped we would accomplish, or what others hoped we would accomplish, and we fear it won't be acceptable.

Our Lord has given us the antidote

for such debilitating fear: Love, as in "Perfect love drives out fear..." and the explanatory promise, "We love, because he first loved us" (1 John 4:18-19). Our confidence in who we are as leaders is found in God, who has assured us that we are His "workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do" (Ephesians 2:10). Our confidence in our work is found in Christ, who having begun a good work in us, will "carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus" (Philippians 1:6).

Forget the fear of failure – do your work like the child, who when asked to draw a picture with a crayon, happily scribbles away with complete confidence that her finished work will delight her parents. Our Father is delighted, because we belong to Him.

Therefore, "whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord you are serving" (Colossians 3:23-24). Know the inheritance is already yours through Christ Jesus; all that is left is the work today and the greeting tomorrow, when the Lord will say, "Well done, good and faithful servant! Come and share your master's happiness!" (Matthew 25). Expect God's happiness as you get started and enjoy your work today!

*Written by Pastor Carl Gnewuch,
LWML Pastoral Counselor*

Tips for Training New Leaders

- A first step opportunity to train new leaders is personal relationship. Before anyone can be trained, they need to believe somebody wants them to do well and believes in them.
- Expect mistakes and don't expect them to learn everything at once!
- Ask God to give you a love and commitment to those you are training.

Diversity: Will it be a Problem or an Opportunity?

If you have watched the news today or any day recently, you probably have been bombarded with opinions about the war in Iraq, the war in Afghanistan, the conflicts between Israel and Palestine, and concerns over immigrants crossing our own borders. As you look around in your own community, you may see faces from Africa, the Middle East, Mexico, Eastern Europe ... you name it. People from all over the world have come and continue to come to the United States because they seek freedom and prosperity. They seek the blessings of freedom of speech and freedom of religion ... blessings we often take for granted or may even ignore.

Experts tell us that many more immigrants are likely to come. So what does that mean for us as a country? What does that mean for our Church? What does that mean for the LWML?

Rather than seeing the influx of immigrants and refugees into our country as a problem, we need to see it as an opportunity for ministry. Dr. Edward Westcott stated it this way when he spoke at the LWML Convention in Kansas City. He said, "Look what's happening! He's dropped refugees right next to you. By design, He's turning this country into the largest mission field in the world."

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LWML has a long history of appreciating and promoting diversity. As an organization, we have become increasingly intentional about assuring the participation of ethnic women at all levels in the LWML. Through the Heart to Heart Sisters program we have reached out to African American, Hispanic, Hmong and African Immigrant women. At the convention in Sioux Falls this summer, Native American women and women who have converted from the Islam and Hindu religions will be special guests.

As an LWML organization, we realize that our lives are enriched by sharing in the ministries of these women. Some have suffered a great deal for their faith. Their stories awaken in us a sense of profound gratitude to our Lord for the many blessings we have been privileged

to enjoy as LCMS women here in the United States. As Heart to Heart women share about their ministries, we also gain new insights into how to do a better job of reaching out with the message of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. We also come to realize how many more people still need to hear this saving message.

Unlike the old metaphor of the U. S. being a melting pot, we like to think of our church and our LWML more as a pot of stew. In a stew the vegetables and meat all retain their shapes and flavors, but by cooking together, they form something much richer than any of them would be by themselves. That is how we see our diversity in the LWML. Our organization is made up of women of all ages and ethnicities. We all have our own customs and identities, but when we work together for our Lord's kingdom, we become a force much greater than if we each were to work alone.

Diversity—is it a problem for us in the LWML? The answer is an emphatic "No!" It's our opportunity to be as Rev. 5: 9 describes the Church—"from every tribe and language and people and nation."

*Written by Marilyn McClure – LWML
Gospel Outreach Committee Chairman*

We need you!

Are you a District Leader Development Committee Member or Vice President of Servant Resources? The LWML Leader Development Committee needs your help!

If you would like to serve as a volunteer in our booth at convention, please contact Sharon Goertzen at goertzen@hamilton.net. When you e-mail, please let her know when it would be convenient for you to help. She will confirm the time that will be set for you to work.

Personal Prayer Tips ... To Be All You Can Be As A Leaguer

- P**ray about each aspect of your LWML involvement.
- E**specially specific prayers about upcoming meetings.
- R**emember to pray about each letter you write.
- S**urround all meeting with prayer.
- O**penness with the Lord brings personal peace.
- N**oon each Monday is a time set aside that all LWMLers pray.
- A**nd remember those special prayers as you put mites in your mite box.
- L**ift up two LWML co-workers daily in prayer.

- P**rayer partners draw you closer to other LWML leaders.
- R**ead books about prayer.
- A**lways include a spiritual thought or Scripture quote in letters/speeches.
- Y**our outward spiritual life is a witness to others.
- E**ating in restaurants, take time to thank the Lord.
- R**eserve time daily to personally meditate on God's Word.

- T**hank the Lord for the opportunity to "Serve the Lord with Gladness."
- I**ncrease your awareness of mission projects and pray about them.
- P**ositive thoughts with others comes from close communication with God.
- S**incere, disciplined prayer life enables you to BE ALL YOU CAN BE!

Taken from the 2005 Leaders Manual