



Welcoming New Members

... into your church family

Participate in your church's assimilation committee to coordinate a special plan for **personally welcoming** each new church family member.

Plan:

- When and how to spend time with new members
- What topics to cover
- What handouts to distribute
- What type of follow up will be done
- Who will coordinate this plan

When welcoming women into your church family; acquaint them with the LWML in your church. Invite each woman to become a member of a small group or circle. Give her a mite box, a *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* and any information you might have about your society. Invite her to large group LWML events or meetings.

There are many opportunities for service for the woman who cannot attend regular meetings. She might work on a mission service project, join an e-mail group, contribute mites, be encouraged in personal Bible study, or join the LWML in prayer every Monday at Noon.

... into the LWML Community

Nothing is as effective as personal invitations and personal gestures of caring. When a woman indicates an interest in LWML:

- Offer rides to meetings or events
- Introduce her to members
- Share program information
- Involve her in activities that provide opportunities for fellowship and mentoring

As she becomes a part of the group, acquaint her with national and district mission projects. Invite her to become involved in LWML by supporting mission through prayer and mites. If she does not already have a mite box, give her one.

Invite her to attend Bible studies to seek spiritual inspiration.
Encourage her to find opportunities for mission service.

Give her copies of official national and district LWML publications, including web sites.

Encourage her to attend zone and district events, and even the national LWML convention, to see the larger body at work.

Practical Welcoming Ideas

Deliver a friendship basket to the new member. Use the visit as an opportunity to show you care. The basket could include current LWML resources, information about your society, a *Together in Prayer* bookmark (#15430), food gift, or small plant.

Present new mothers with the LWML resource *Lead Me, Lord, through...Motherhood* (#21000). There are also a number of baby gifts available in the catalog and on the web site.

Give new brides the LWML resource *Marriage Matters* (#49930) or a recipe shower at a society meeting.

Send cards to college students with *Mustard Seed Devotions*, *Jeans Gems* or other devotional items included.

Present confirmation students with information about Teen LWML. Include one of the many Friends Into Serving Him® items available.

The bottom line is to care personally about each woman as Jesus cares for her. **“Remember, no one cares how much you know until they know how much you care.”** (Theodore Roosevelt)

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