

Friends Into Serving Him[®] Guidelines

Friends Into Serving Him[®] is the Teen Division of Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML), officially brought into existence at the 2005 LWML Convention in Tampa, Florida.

Requirements To Form A Group

- A young woman age 21 or older (or group of women) who is interested in working with teen women
- Teen women through age 17 who are interested in growing in their relationship with their LORD and in showing His love to others through service activities
- A current LWML society or individual LWML member who is willing to sponsor the new Friends Into Serving Him[®] group
- A Registration Form, and other forms as may be required by district and/or national LWML
- A Bible for each member

Procedures For Forming A Group

- A woman or group of women desiring to bring a Friends Into Serving Him[®] group into existence should first seek the sponsorship of a local LWML society or LWML individual member ("Sponsor").
- The Sponsor will provide a group Registration Form that should be completed and returned to the Sponsor. The Sponsor will retain a copy of the form and will forward the original to the district LWML officer, as determined by the district, for record-keeping purposes.
- The Sponsor will maintain a copy of LWML's Policy on Sexual Misconduct, proof of background checks on adult mentors, and other forms as may be required by the congregation, and/or district LWML with group records in sponsor files and act according to policy protocol in the event of an incident.
- The forms listed above may be obtained from the LWML Office or downloaded and printed from the Teen Resources section of the LWML Web site (www.lwml.org).

Meetings

- The structure of each group and how, when, and where it meets are decided by its teen members, with the approval of the Sponsor.
- Teen members are encouraged to plan and conduct meetings and events with adult women serving as chaperones and mentors.
- Group organization and activities should be consistent with the purposes and practices of the LWML.
- Adult mentors must be present at each Friends Into Serving Him[®] meeting or sponsored activity.
- Permission slips/medical authorizations for each teen member should be kept on file in case of emergency or in the event it is necessary to contact a parent.

Membership

- The materials and items available for Friends Into Serving Him[®] are appropriate for the 14-17 year old female. Individual groups may establish age guidelines within their group through age 17.
- At the age of 18, a young woman is no longer eligible to be a teen Friends Into Serving Him[®] member but would become a member of the LWML, provided she is a member of an LCMS congregation.

Finances

- LWML mission grants and programs are supported by voluntary offerings obtained through the Mite Box; therefore, members are encouraged to use Friends Into Serving Him[®] Mite Cans. Mites collected shall be forwarded to the district LWML by the group's Sponsor.
- Groups may otherwise choose their own methods of raising funds, keeping in mind that the purpose of Friends Into Serving Him[®] is service to others.
- A checking or savings account may be set up as a sub-account with the sponsoring LWML society or as a separate account, using the district's Tax Identification Number that can be obtained from the district treasurer.