

# IMPRESSIONS

August 2007

*Impressions is a tool to encourage Young Woman Representatives after their convention experience as they serve in their home districts. It can be used as an instrument to educate and inform other young women about LWML.*

## From the Heart of a YWR

**R.O.C.K.!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

### Rest On Christ the King

Wow, those words didn't mean much to me a month ago. But as I sit here today, I am absolutely blown away by the awesomeness of our God. I was chosen as one of two Young Women Representatives from the Missouri District to attend the LWML National Convention in Sioux Falls, SD this past June. I had no idea what I was in for. In four days, we packed in more excitement, worship, sharing, caring, laughing, crying, and overwhelming experiences than I have ever had.

Being a YWR, I was in a position to meet several of the wonderful people that "run the show" in both the LWML and LCMS. What incredible things are happening in the mission field because of the quiet work of thousands of Lutheran women. One of the greatest things I saw was the attitude of service in Christ that I saw in every person I met. There was such a positive energy throughout the convention that I couldn't help but be inspired to join the ranks. Portland here I come!

"TRUST ME...TRUST ME..." said the voice that kept echoing in the background of my thoughts. Back in June, as I dragged my feet in preparation for the trip to Sioux Falls, as I boarded the bus for the 10 hour drive, as I met my roommate, as I experienced communion with 5000 women, as I got to know our district president Janice Rose, as I had opportunity to fellowship with past presidents, as I was able to shake the hand of President Kieschnick, I would NEVER have guessed what God had in store for me. No longer do I look at my obligations with dread or apprehension. God asks us to serve joyfully. He did not promise that it would be easy. But God does promise that He will never leave us. He only asks that we TRUST in His plan

for our life, rather than our own.

Having never put myself in a situation that required me to completely let go and trust in God, I am in awe of His strength and humbled by His amazing love for me.

I humbly sing His praises as I continue to ... R.O.C.K.

*Amy Bartels*

Missouri District YWR to Sioux Falls

### Me & the LWML

What an amazing experience it was to attend my first national LWML Convention as a Young Woman's Representative for the Missouri District! It was truly an awesome and humbling experience for me. I had the honor to meet an amazing group of people including past and present LWML national and district presidents, Rev. Dr. Robert M. Roegner, President Gerald and Terry Kieschnick, and many Young Woman Representatives from across the United States. I had an incredible experience with my new best friend, convention roommate, and other Missouri District Young Woman Representative — Amy Bartels. When we first met at convention, she was at the convention not really knowing why she was there. However, God had a plan for her just like He does with each of us. Since the convention, Amy and I talk at least weekly about what we're doing in our zones, societies and district with LWML. We both are so excited about what God has planned for us in LWML and He is directing us to create an excitement and fire in young women around us.

Thank you Missouri District, for allowing me the opportunity of a lifetime.

God's Richest Blessings to you,

*Kristy Carter*

Missouri District YWR to Sioux Falls

### What's Happening

The first Sunday in October in many congregations is celebrated as LWML Sunday. Churches all over the country have an opportunity to dedicate this Sunday to share the work of LWML with their congregations and to educate them about our organization. Materials were sent out in June 2007, even before the convention in Sioux Falls. The convention theme is the same theme for LWML Sunday — ROCK! Rest On Christ the King. Resources for this special day can also be found on the LWML Web site, <http://www.lwml.org>. This can be a great way to get new women involved in your society. Include them in your planning and ROCK on LWML Sunday.

### Did You Know ...

LWML has a Bible verse that is our motto: "Serve the Lord with Gladness" (Psalm 100:2). This Bible verse serves as our motto as well as the basis for one of our songs, "Serve the Lord With Gladness." It is what we do — LWML women are in God's Word, serving Him and reaching out to people around the world who do not know Him yet.

Have you ever been to a district or national convention? This is a great place to witness the servant heart that LWML women have. Watch the women in your congregation who are active in LWML — they will surely be examples of serving the Lord with gladness.

*Serve the Lord  
with Gladness.*

*Psalm 100:2*

## YWR Devotion

### “God’s Present”

#### You always have the Lord

Deuteronomy 4:39

**Beneath you** – “The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms.” Deuteronomy 33:27

**Before and behind you** – “... the Lord will go before you, the God of Israel will be your rear guard.” Isaiah 52:12

**Around you** – “the Lord surrounds his people ...” Psalm 125:2

**With you** – “... My Presence will go with you...” Exodus 33:14

**In you** – “... Christ lives in me ...” Galatians 2:20

God’s presence with you is God’s present to you.

Taken from *You Make a Difference* (Item # 20710) by Alma Kern.

## Resource/Product Promo

The LWML Catalog is full of wonderful products from Bible studies and devotions to sketches and skits to entertain at your meetings or gatherings. There is a section in the catalog titled “Helping you to Serve.” Since this issue pointed out LWML’s motto and Bible verse as “Serve the Lord with Gladness,” this is a great section to promote in the catalog.

As young women serving in our congregations and districts, there are many items listed here that will help you with structure, training, motivating and serving. You can also find these items on the Web site at <http://www.lwml.org>. Follow the Resource link on the left side of the home page and go to “Shop LWML.” From there you will find a list in red to help guide you in shopping. The many items to help you serve can be found in the Handbooks and Program Resources. As you prepare to become a young woman leader in this great group of women, check out these resources to guide you along your journey.

# A Message from ... the Recording Secretary

*Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be likeminded one toward another according to Christ Jesus: That you may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the father of our Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 15:5-6).*

Webster defines friendship as “intimacy resting on mutual esteem, kindness, aid”. At every stage of our lives, friendships are important and play a key factor in shaping the people we become. Built on a mutual, intimate bond of faith in our risen Savior, Jesus the Christ, I have found LWML friendships to be dear, faithful and life long. LWML sisters pray for each other, encourage each other, aid each other, and remind each other of Christ’s love and forgiveness.

Friends are one of the ways God takes care of us. We need all the things friendship entails from others such as encouragement, companionship, love, honesty, loyalty, understanding, and so many other things friendship offers.

An LWML friend sent me a recipe for friendship. This recipe reminds me of why my LWML friends are important to me.

The friendship ingredients are:

- **Shortening** – Provides texture. Our friendship with our sisters in the Lord can add much depth and texture to our lives. We blend together in unity as part of the body of Christ.
- **Sugar** – Adds sweetness. Our friendship with our sisters adds such a sweet taste to our lives. If we didn’t have sugar in our cookies, we’d sure miss it. The same is true with our fellowship with our sisters. We can’t leave it out of our lives.
- **Eggs** – Holds ingredients together. Sisters in the Lord are someone to lean on. We are held together by fellowship with them. We are stronger because of them, their prayers, and their love in the Lord.

We have a special bond in Christ.

- **Vanilla** – Adds flavor. Sisters add that flavor we need. They give us that extra sensation. Without friends and fellowship we become kind of bland.
- **Flour** – Adds substance. We need the substance a sister in the Lord can add. They give us many things by way of mentoring us when we don’t even know it. Their shared testimonies and way they live their lives has an impact on us.
- **Baking Soda** – Leavens. Leavening agents in baking helps to lighten the dough. Friendship with our sisters in Christ lightens our burdens through their prayer and encouragement.
- **Salt** – Enhances flavor. We know that friendships

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add flavor and just when we need it, they help improve the tastefulness and quality of our lives. Friends are the type of people that know just what we are going through and are there when we need them.

- **Semisweet Chocolate Chips** – The kind of chocolate chips we normally add to our cookies is *semi sweet*. Our sister friends tell us what they feel and think and that’s okay. They can be honest and truthful to us.
- **Nuts ... Optional** – Just a little craziness in a sister friend is great! Sometimes a little zaniness in our friends can be just the ingredient we need.

We share our faith in Jesus with our LWML friends and those friendships will be lasting friendships. I hope you build on your YWR friendships and your LWML family!

*A man that has friends must show himself friendly; and there is a friend that sticks closer than a brother (Proverbs 18: 24).*

Kay Kreklau

LWML Recording Secretary