

# IMPRESSIONS

October 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.*

## YWR Devotion

### “You are a Missionary”

Some people feel called to leave family and home to go far away to tell others about Jesus' love.

We thank God for them and should support them faithfully with our prayers and offerings.

Jesus appoints all of us as missionaries when He says, "... you will be my witnesses ..." (Acts 1:8). It's our duty and honor.

My mission field starts right where I am — in my home, neighborhood and place of business.

If the people in my life are to spend eternity with Jesus, they need to believe what He did for them.

May none of them be lost because I didn't care enough to share the Good News with them.

*Dear Lord Jesus,  
Thank you for those who told me about you.*

*Because of them, I know You are always with me, and when I die, I'll be with You forever.*

*Help me remember to pray for family and friends who don't trust in You. Give me wisdom and love as I speak to them about You.*

*May I live my life in such a way that others will want the kind of faith I have.*

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

## From the Heart of a YWR

### Taking a Leap of Faith

Is life keeping you from living? It's a question you might have to seriously sit down and answer. What has kept you from doing all that you want to do? Did you have a baby? Did your husband transfer to a new position or relocate your family? Was there a death? Are you to the point now where you have to take care of your parents? All of these things are a part of life.

I'm sure you've heard about past experiences preparing you for the future. This I know is true: It seems as though I've gone through some bumpy spots just so that this part of my life is like a newly paved highway.

Living in Colorado, I will have potholes regardless, just as life has. I left college to come back home to take care of my grandfather and was blessed to be with him in his final years. If I'd said no to him, I wouldn't have met my husband. Not meeting him, I wouldn't have my three beautiful boys.

The Lord then might have overlooked our chance to relocate to Grand Junction and place me in a church that was in need of new blood with a willing heart. We might then

also not have been given two more precious children, twin girls — all within six years.

As a YWR at this year's convention, I was asked, "Are you involved in your LWML or church?" This is what I said: "I've been president of our society, teach Sunday school and preschool on Wednesdays, coordinate our MOPS group, coordinated VBS, sing in choir. I think that's about it." After the jaws were put back together, I then mentioned that I have five children. As they dropped again, other YWRs ask, "How do you do all that?" The answer is that I let GOD help me. There is no possible human way I could serve Him *without* Him. After all, what was it to Him to bless my life?

There are ways to serve. Look in your heart, then at your calendar. Where could your time be better used? I'm not saying to up and volunteer for everything under the sun. "No" is a very important word. But taking the leap of faith that He will not leave you or forsake you opens the door to be very, very dangerous!

*Caroline Hayes*

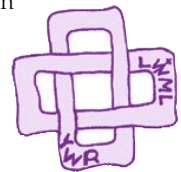
YWR Rocky Mountain District  
Grand Junction, Colorado

## Resource/Product Promo

The Leader Development Committee worked on a wonderful resource in the last biennium called **Joyfully United in Spirit**. Some of this resource was used for the YWR programming in Sioux Falls. It is a great tool when working with the young women in your district at a

convention or retreat setting.

This resource is not available in the LWML Catalog, but each district president has a copy. Please contact your district president if you are interested in using the resource for training other young women about the LWML.



# A Message from ... the President

## Women of Strength; Women who ROCK

You've got mail ... new e-mail messages ... do you look at the message line to see if you want to open the e-mail?

One time an e-mail I received had "A Strong Woman" on the message line. When I saw it was from a friend at church I began to wonder, had she seen me at the local Y pursuing circuit training, developing my muscles? We all know how important it is to work out and do weight-bearing exercises. What about you? Are you a strong woman?

Here is what the e-mail read:

*A strong woman works out every day to keep her body in shape ... but a woman of strength looks deep inside to keep her soul in shape.*

*A strong woman isn't afraid of anything ... but a woman of strength shows courage in the midst of fear.*

*A strong woman won't let anyone get the best of her ... but a woman of strength gives her best to everyone.*

*A strong woman makes mistakes and avoids the same in the future ... a woman of strength realizes life's mistakes can also be blessings and capitalizes on them.*

*A strong woman walks sure footedly ... but a woman of strength knows when to ask for help.*

*A strong woman wears the look of confidence on her face ... but a woman of strength wears grace.*

*A strong woman has faith that she is strong enough for the journey ... but a woman of strength has faith that it is in the journey that she will become strong.*

I thought of another "strong woman" statement: *A strong woman thinks she can do it all ... but a woman of strength knows she can do everything through Him (Christ) who gives her the strength* (Philippians 4:13).

As I thought about the contrast between a strong woman and a woman of strength, as shown by the author of the e-mail, I wondered: Was Jesus a strong man or a man of strength? For when you get right down to it, isn't Jesus our only true

model for life on this earth?

Recall with me events in the life of Jesus ... when He withstood the temptations of Satan in the wilderness after fasting 40 days, then rebuked Satan

with the Word ... when He went up on a mountainside by himself to pray ... when He taught the people in the Sermon on the Mount ... when He healed their diseases, made the blind to see, the lame to walk ... when He ministered to the needs of the crowds and miraculously fed large numbers of people ... when He washed His disciples' feet. Surely He was a man of strength when in the Garden of Gethsemane he cried out, "Not as I will, but as You will!"

And so, dear Christian woman reading this, are you a strong woman or are you a woman of strength? As you follow the example of Jesus, may you grow strong in Him. Stay connected to Him by reading the Bible, attending worship services, meditating on the Word, witnessing to those around you each day and praying. Women of strength are women who ROCK; women who Rest On Christ the King.

Jan Wendorf  
LWML President

## Did You Know ...

LWML has two official songs. At the convention, it is awesome to hear thousands of men and women praising God with their voices. These two songs — "Lutheran Women, One and All" and "Serve the Lord with Gladness" — really declare what the core of LWML is all about. Do you remember singing them at convention? The words to "Lutheran Women, One and All" are below, and the words to "Serve the Lord with Gladness" can be found on the LWML Web site by clicking on the "About Us" link. Check them out and sing them with the women in your societies at home. The words so truly give great meaning to the wonderful group we are a part of.

### *Lutheran Women, One and All*

Lutheran women, one and all,  
We have heard the Gospel call.  
We by faith have seen our Lord  
Crucified and then restored.  
We have seen Him pay the price,  
For our sins a sacrifice.  
Him we Lord and Christ acclaim  
And unite to praise His name.

Lutheran women, young and old,  
Well we know His challenge bold:  
Help to take the Gospel light  
To a world in darkest night,  
By example in the home,  
By inviting those who roam,  
By our prayers for sinners lost,  
By our gifts for missions' cost.

Lutheran women, coast to coast,  
In the Lord a mighty host,  
Let us all united be  
In the Holy Trinity,  
One in faith, in hope, and love,  
Working for the Lord above,  
Till, our earthly labors done,  
We in heaven shall all be one.

Tune: 495 LW  
Elmer A. Kettner