

# IMPRESSIONS

October 2008

*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

### Keep an Open Mind

*Editors' note: Now is the time the LWML Districts are seeking Young Woman Representatives to the Portland Convention in 2009. We have asked District leaders to share Impressions with the young women in their districts who are considering this assignment. Here is what some of the 2007 YWRs had to say.*

Keep an open mind and an open heart. You will be meeting some of the nicest people you will ever know. Expect to be kept really busy and very involved. I found it very exciting to see how this great organization works in a very personal manner. God bless this time. I know I will never forget my experience as both our zone and district YWR.

Kimberly Sammons  
Iowa District East

You may think you know everything there is to know about LWML, but the LWML is far bigger than you may realize. Keep your heart and mind

open during your experience as a YWR. You never know when God will be speaking to you through someone you meet or something someone says. Do not be afraid to hear Him. He may be calling you to serve, to learn something about yourself, or maybe just to remind you of His greatness and His love for you.

Krista Niemoth  
Nebraska District South

Always keep an open mind about this experience and be ready for anything because you never know what God will throw at you during the convention!

Carolyn Offutt  
Nebraska District North

The time has been wonderful: full of meeting women from other societies, zones, speaking at spring rallies and mission conferences. Following the Lord's leading,

Debra Rose  
Kansas District

### Greetings from the LD Committee

The 2007-2009 Leader Development Committee is ready to serve you! Amy Bartels of Osage Beach, Missouri was a YWR to the 2007 LWML Convention in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Cheryl Mattil of Sherman, Texas served as Vice President of Christian Life in the Texas District LWML. Patti Ross of Tulsa, Oklahoma recently completed her term as Oklahoma LWML District President. Chairman Barb Virus of Orange, California is a past Pacific Southwest District President and served on the LWML Nominating Committee. We welcome Kristy Carter of Springfield, Missouri, a YWR to the 2007 LWML Convention to the committee! We pray God's blessings on you as you seek ways to use your gifts to serve the Lord with gladness.



Did you know?

### Portland Convention

Are you going to the next LWML Convention in Portland? Did you know that you can order a Portland Convention shirt? It has the convention logo that you can use as a witness tool whenever and wherever you wear it. You can find a shirt order form on the LWML Web site: [lwml.org](http://lwml.org) "Conventions" link. Mark your calendar for June 25-28, 2009! See you there!



### We want to hear from you!

The Leader Development Committee takes great care to be sure we are giving you information that you need and want about the LWML. Please tell us how we are doing with this newsletter.

We would love to hear how you are using *Impressions* to share with other young women in your congregations and zones. Please e-mail us at [sabartels@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sabartels@sbcglobal.net) and let us know what you think. We can't wait to hear from you!

## Devotional Thoughts

### Consistency!

One thing that people would never ask me for is directions! I am extremely directionally challenged. North, south, east and west are just words to me, in fact, I turn maps when I am navigating. No wonder my husband, Mike, has gone to a GPS system. I try to tell myself that he purchased it just because it flashes and makes noise, but I know the truth. Due to this malady, I am continually getting lost. Many times I will arrive at my destination, but I can not remember how. In fact, I remember streets and places, but I do not know if I saw them when I was lost or when I was going the correct way. You can never count on me to consistently arrive somewhere without handwritten directions or a computer generated map.

Consistency is necessary in many aspects of our lives. As a mother, a teacher, an employee, or a friend, we find life much easier if we are consistent. Unfortunately, we are human. Consistency in our behavior is not a given: in fact, it is an impossibility. We are sinners. Thank the Lord for the underserved forgiveness God has given us through his son Jesus' life, death and resurrection. Through faith, God forgives us; therefore, we should forgive ourselves. In our many roles as women, we tend to expect perfection from ourselves. Sometimes the most consistent thing in our lives is the guilt we place on ourselves to be perfect. All we need to do is ask for forgiveness, get over ourselves and start again!

I may get lost in my daily travels, but I know where I am ultimately going----Heaven! Praise God with me, follow his directions in His Word, and celebrate the life of forgiveness He has given us despite our inconsistencies.

Cheryl Mattil

# A Message from ... the VP of Christian Life

## God's Cheerleaders

*Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord (Romans 12:11).*

Give me a "Z"! Give me an "E"! Give me an "A"! Give me an "L"! What does that spell? ZEAL! Zeal? What is that?

According to Roget's Thesaurus, other synonyms include: enthusiasm, eagerness, and passion. It's what cheerleaders have—a lot of zeal.

And what would sports be without those enthusiastic cheerleaders cheering the team on and getting the fans pumped up?

You are probably familiar with perpetual calendars, the ones where you flip a page each day and read a message of encouragement. One such calendar, *Inspirations for Daily Life*, has the following message for the day, "God's cheerleaders encourage others to a higher calling! You were baptized into the squad."

Did you ever think of yourself as a cheerleader? Probably not. Well, consider yourself one, only not the typical kind seen at sports events. Instead, you are part of a very special squad — one of God's cheerleaders! You have been given a special task in serving the one who gave His life for you. That task is, to have passion, a heart for others, to be encouragers. That's what cheerleaders do—encourage others to action. *And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds...let us encourage one another (Hebrews 10:24, 25b).*

One thing about cheerleading is that it takes a lot of practice to learn all the various routines. With regular

practice, the routines become easier. Once the cheers and moves are learned, cheerleaders are ready to cheer with enthusiasm. In the same way, there is much to learn in becoming God's cheerleaders. It means taking time to study His Word regularly. Practicing this routine will help nurture your faith. As you become

more familiar with God's Word, you will become more comfortable in sharing it with others. You can be that person with a passion to serve the Lord and eager

to encourage others to do the same. *But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today (Hebrews 3:13).*

As a woman walking with her Lord, you can also be an LWML cheerleader. When you become more familiar with LWML and what it means to be a woman in mission for the Lord, you'll be able to share what you know about it and also encourage others. The enthusiasm that is evident as you dedicate your life to making a difference in this world in His Name and to His glory will be contagious. Be ready to make the most of every opportunity to share what excites you about LWML.

Once again: Give me a "Z"! Give me an "E"! Give me an "A"! Give me an "L"! What does that spell? ZEAL! What do YOU have? ZEAL! *Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving (Colossians 3:23-24).*

"Encourage one another daily..."

Vivian Ernst

Vice President of Christian Life