



Christian Life

What's New for 2007!

Welcome to the 2007 issue of the MN South District Christian Life Newsletter. The purpose of the newsletters is to give you support, encouragement and information to help you as Zone Christian Life Officers and devotions for your personal use.

The newsletter will be in two parts this year. This is the first and has information about the chartered bus signup deadline for the Sioux Falls LWML convention along with devotions from Rev. Gary Klatt and Darleen Harens. The second newsletter will have all the details of the Women's Retreat to be held July 27 & 28 in St. Peter, and Christian Life helps for you to use.

We hope that you have saved the 2005 & 2006 newsletters in your

zone files so that you can refer to information about Christian Life, suggested duties of a Christian Life officer and other helps. Copy the newsletters for your own personal file if you wish.

Please feel free to contact this committee concerning questions you may have about Christian Life in your zone. Irene's address and email are on the back of this newsletter. Refer to the back of the current WOM for the other members of this committee.

New Christian Life Committee for 2006-2008

The Christian Life Committee for 2006-2008 are Ruth Bury, Minnetonka Conference VP, Darleen Harens, Lyndale Conference VP, Rev. Gary Klatt, Counselor and Irene Mensing, Executive Vice president continues her duties as Chairman of this group.

Many of you had a chance to meet Ruth, Darleen and Irene at the Joyshops last fall.

Since then Rev. Duane Schroeder has taken a call to Oklahoma and Rev. Gary Klatt has accepted appointment to this committee.

Watch for part two of this newsletter later this month with registration forms and all the info about the Women's Retreat to be held this July 27 and 28 at GAC in St. Peter.

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Spread the word—**deadline** to sign up for the Charter Buses to Sioux Falls is **January 15, 2007!**

Upcoming dates to mark on your calendar:

- LWML Convention—
Sioux Falls, SD June 21-24, 2007
- MN So. District Women's Retreat-GAC, St. Peter July 27 & 28, 2007
- MN So. District LWML Convention June 20-22, 2008, Mayo Civic Center, Rochester, MN.



Share the Good News of Jesus through devotions and Bible Study at LWML events and meetings. Not only will you be encouraging others, but you will also grow spiritually.

“The Gift of Joy”



But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.”
Luke 2:10 NIV

The virgin Mary was filled with joy after spending time with her cousin Elizabeth. She sang the praises of God for the marvelous things that He had done (Luke 1:46-48b). He had remembered His people and the promises that were made many years before.

List some of the things that give you reason for joy in your life.

Are your reasons for joy common to all people or does your Christian faith give you a special perspective for joy.

An angel appeared to the shepherds as they carried out their simple life. At first they were frightened that God was coming to them in this spectacular way. The angel told them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people (Luke 2:10).” What is your response to God’s messages of grace and mercy that come to you through His messengers? Do you recognize with joy His message of forgiveness of sins, victory over death and the devil? The message is no less spectacular when it comes through your Pastor or fellow Christians than it was from the holy angel.

The shepherds and wise men traveled to Bethlehem to worship the newborn King. They fell down and worshiped Jesus because they believed He was the Son of God and Savior of the world (Luke 2:20, Matthew 2:11). They gave themselves and their gifts in praise to God for all He had done. The shepherds told everyone all that they had seen and heard. Their joy could not be contained. Do you know this kind of joy? Are you filled to overflowing with the truth of God’s Word in your life?

Read Galatians 5:22-25. All these fruits of the Spirit are yours through God’s generous and complete gift of faith. You have been given the Holy Spirit in your Baptism when He created faith in your heart. All of these fruits are yours to use in your everyday life. All you need to do is believe it and the Holy Spirit will give you all that you need to see the opportunities and to act upon them (Matthew 10:19-20).

God has given you His joy so that your joy might be full (John 15:11). Live in that joy every day and you will be a blessing to all you encounter. God bless you and keep you always.

Have a Blessed New Year.

*Pastor Gary Klatt
 Christian Life Counselor*



2007 Christian Life Newsletter will be in two parts. This is the first. The second is scheduled to be out the end of January and will contain information about the Women’s Retreat, to help you as a Zone Christian Life Chairman and other items of interest.

The Manger – What did you see?

As you have again celebrated the Christmas season, the time when our Lord and Savior came as an infant to be the Savior of the world, what did you see?

Did you see a manger where the animals ate, an unlikely bed for an infant, or a smelly place where no humans wanted to be?

Or did you see as Stephen said *“Behold,.... The son of man standing on the right hand of God.”* (Acts 7:56 KJV)?

Again things often look different from what they actually are. What initially appeared as a place

where animals ate, became the first resting place of our Lord and Savior when He came to earth as an infant. Imagine having visitors who were prompted to be there due to angels telling them who they would find and where He would be. How would you have reacted to all of that attention to a small baby?

Hard to imagine that such a resting place for a baby could be a resting place for the Son of God.

Incomprehensible, but thanks be to God – He is so much greater than we could ever be. God choose such a place as a

manger as the first resting place for His Son who was to die for all of our sins and rise again so that we can live with God through all eternity.

What did you see? What do you believe?

Pray that as Stephen said in Acts 7, each one of you may see Jesus, the Son of Man, standing at the right hand of God.

Darleen A. Harens
Christian Life Committee
Lyndale Conf. VP



“Behold,.... The son of man standing on the right hand of God.”

(Acts 7:56 KJV)

Ride the Charter Bus to Sioux Falls!

You still have a few days before the January 15, 2007 deadline to send in your \$10.00 deposit to reserved a seat on chartered buses to the LWML Convention in Sioux Falls.

Joyce Swedean is our Bus Lady and she is working on the plans to get us there for choir

practice on Thursday.

Please refer to your Winter 2006 WOM for all the details and the registration form.

If you cannot find your WOM, please contact Joyce. Her email is swedeanjar@aol.com and her phone is 651-688-8245.

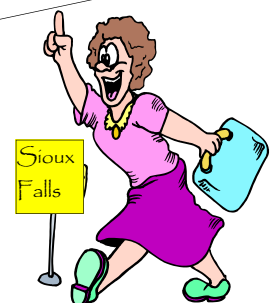
Cost of the bus trip is \$65.00. Our charter buses will also serve as our shuttle during the convention for no extra cost.

Joyce will also arrange for our block housing—she explains that procedure in the Winter WOM also.



Join your LWML sisters of the MN South and ride the charter buses to the convention.

Take a minute & contact ladies in your zone to remind them of the deadline.





MINNESOTA SOUTH LWML
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Lutheran Women in Mission

Irene Mensing
Christian Life Chairman
41000 50th St
Blue Earth, MN 56013

Phone 1-507-526-3430
Email: imensing@bevcomm.net

Minnesota South is
on the web
www.mnslwml.org

Ride the bus to
Sioux Falls—
deadline to mail
your \$10 deposit to
Joyce Swedean is
January 15, 2007.
See page 3 inside
and the Winter
WOM for complete
information.

There will be a NEW 2007
LWML bear available at the
convention in Sioux Falls.



If anyone is
checking, yes,
I did say that
2005 would
be the last!
Sorry.

LWML Convention plans are set for Sioux Falls, SD June 21-24, 2007

The women of South Dakota have officially invited us to attend the 2007 Convention of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League to be held in Sioux Falls.

The theme of the convention is ROCK! Rest on Christ the King. Those in attendance will learn how we trust our Lord as we rest in the security of His love and Word. LWML'ers will celebrate our oneness in Jesus, our King, confidently sharing the Gospel and being led and guided by our Lord to personal avenues of service.

Keynote speaker will be Terry Kieschnick, wife of LCMS President Gerald Kieschnick. Rev. Dr. Dean Nadasdy of Woodbury Lutheran Church in Woodbury, MN is the worship designer for both worship services and is the proclaimer for the opening Communion service. Dr. Mary Manz Simon is the Bible study leader. She is the author of the book, *Little Visits with Jesus*.

Jan Stuck will serve as Mistress of Ceremonies on Friday night of the convention. Many of you may remember that Jan was the keynote speaker and banquet entertainment at the 2006 MN South District convention in St. Peter.

Mark these dates on your calendar, send in your reservation for the bus, plan on having a great experience. LWML conventions are a mountain top experience with Bible Study, speakers, Communion Service, exhibits and fellowship with sisters in Christ. This will be a great convention and best of all, it's close and cost will be very favorable!!! Don't miss out on this opportunity. See you there!

