

# CHRISTIAN LIFE NOTES

OREGON DISTRICT LWML VOLUME 9 –JUNE 2017

## ENCOURAGING WORDS

### Make an Opportunity to Encourage Today!

Do you value encouragement from others? Encouragement from fellow Christians can uplift and give support in the day-to-day activities of life. You can encourage others through the power of the Holy Spirit by sharing your faith in your Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, as well as sharing your joy in serving Him through the LWML and its many opportunities.

Does a special woman in your life need encouragement? Perhaps you could share something like this:

*I am so happy that you are my Christian friend! I rejoice in the saving work our Savior has done through His perfect life, suffering, and death and resurrection-- all for me and you. I live in the hope of eternal life in heaven with our Savior. The LWML offers me a welcoming place to share my joy in Jesus through Bible study, fellowship, and service. Join me and we can visit the LWML website ([www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org)) today to find out all the opportunities this group of loving women can offer to you!*

Identify those who need encouragement in your life. Make an opportunity to encourage them today. Take the words of 1 Thessalonians 5:11 to heart: **Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.**

The Time is NOW!

Shari Miller, LWML Montana District President  
2016-2020

### From a sermon I heard recently . . .

"I'd like to encourage you today by asking you if you have ever considered the prospect of living in the wonderful state of Kansas. I mean, who wouldn't want to live in Kansas? Right? Dr. Brewster Higley moved from Indiana to Kansas in 1871 and was so inspired by his wonderful surroundings that the next year he wrote a little poem that you are so very familiar with. It goes like this:

*"Oh, give me a home where the Buffalo roam, where the Deer and the Antelope play; Where seldom is heard a discouraging word, and the sky is not cloudy all day. Home, home, on the range...."*

I mean who wouldn't want to live where the skies were not cloudy all day?! Especially this year!! I am not alone. When the skies are cloudy all day, it can be so easy to issue forth so many discouraging words.



Encourage  
one another  
and build up  
each other....  
1 Thessalonians 5:11, NRSV

Here is a very encouraging verse in scripture.

Hebrews 13:5-6, "God has said, 'Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you!' So we may boldly say: 'The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?'"

Using the original language and helps from the amplified version, the Hebrews verse reads: "I will never, no not ever, no never give up on you, abandon you, leave you behind, cause you not to survive, leave you helpless, nor shall I ever relax my watchfulness over you." (AE)

### Who needs these encouraging words today?

#### Our Thinking vs. God's Promises, a Poem from a recent sermon

**We** say- It's impossible.

**God says**- All things are possible with Me.

**We**- I can't do it.

**God**- You can do all things through Christ who strengthens you.

**We**- I'm too tired.

**God**- Come to Me, I will give you rest.

**We**- I'm always worried and frustrated.

**God**- Cast all your cares on Me.

**We**- I can't go on.

**God**- My grace is sufficient for you. My strength is made perfect in your weakness.

**We**- I can't figure things out.

**God**- I will direct your steps.

**We**- I'm not able.

**God**- I am able.

**We**- It's not worth it.

**God**- It will be worth it.

**We**- I can't manage.

**God**- I will supply all your needs.

**We**- I'm afraid.

**God**- I have not given you a spirit of fear but of power, love, and a sound mind.

**We**- I don't have enough faith.

**God**- I've given everyone a measure of faith.

**We**- I'm not smart enough.

**God**- I give you wisdom.

**We**- I feel all alone.

**God**- I will never leave you or forsake you.

