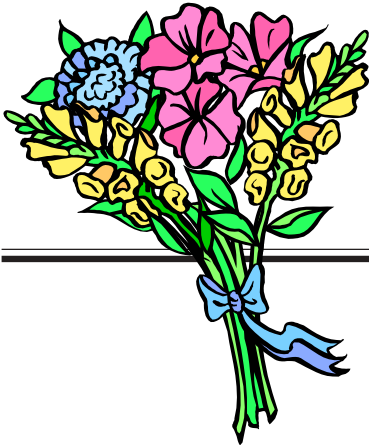

JOYBELLES

Women's Ministry newsletter for the Mountain View Conference



1st Quarter 2008

Warm Greetings, Ladies!

The coming of Spring is in the air with the appearance of Crocus, Jonquils and Daffodils to brighten up the landscape and the song of the Robin adding voice to the brilliance.

Amid a world that is waxing old and riddled with turmoil, the power of God continues to be manifested in the seasons and the Spring of Eternity is "even at the door."

The media is permeated with political jargon these days as Presidential candidates, one of whom is a woman, vie for the highest office in the land. Hillary Clinton is blazing a trail tried by few women to become the first woman president in America. She is not the first candidate, however. A woman by the name of Victoria C. Woodhull was nominated as the first presidential candidate in 1872.

To become the "first" person to accomplish something in life often stems from a desire for recognition, for position or for power. But there

are individuals, many of whom are women, who have set goals for themselves or achieved recognition for other, more noble reasons.

Some of those women who are credited as having been "firsts" are:

- BETSY ROSS, who in 1776 became our first flagmaker.
- ELIZABETH BLACKWELL, who in 1849 became the first woman to graduate with a medical degree.
- HARRIET TUBMAN, who in 1850 became the first woman known to have helped slaves to escape.
- SUSAN B. ANTHONY, who in 1869 began the U.S. Women's Suffrage Organization.
- CLARA BARTON, who in 1881 became founder of the Red Cross.
- MARY BAKER EDDY, who in 1879 organized the Church of Christ.

In more recent years, Jane Reno became the first woman Attorney General in the U.S., Sally Ride, our first woman astronaut, Condoleezza Rice, the first African-American Secretary of State...and many other "firsts."

There is a "first" recommended in scripture that we, as Christian women, should be seeking to achieve; more important than any other "first" one could strive for. Matthew 6:33 reads, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you."

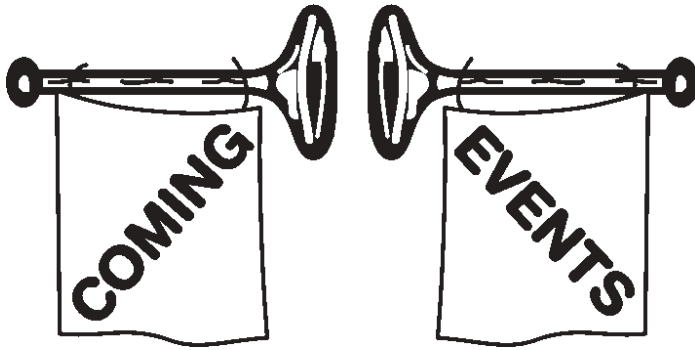
Setting personal goals is a good thing and there is nothing wrong with being a "first", but the goal which should take first place in our lives is that which Jesus has recommended to us in His word.

It is my prayer that this will be your priority as a woman seeking service for God in these last days.

Your staff is already working on our October retreat. We look forward to hearing about the activities of Women's Ministries in your congregation.

See you then!

Feryl



**North American Division
Women's Ministries
Convention**

September 24-29, 2009
**Hilton Anatole Hotel in
Dallas, Texas**

June 14, 2008 Women's Ministries Emphasis Day
(materials available-www.nadwm.org)

July 12, 2008 Women's Ministries Offering Day
(bulletin insert available-www.nadwm.org)

August 23, 2008 Abuse Prevention Day
(materials available-www.nadwm.org)

October 3 - 5, 2008 Mountain View Conference
Women's Retreat

September 24-27, 2009 NAD Women's
Convention - Dallas, Texas

The theme of the convention is *Free Indeed*. The convention will explore many of the ways Jesus sets us free and will have strong components of spiritual nurture and challenge, health emphasis (physical as well as emotional), and service/witness training.

There will be a few fliers at the Women's Ministry booth at camp meeting.

There are two wonderful websites which the Seventh-day Adventist church has available for those interested in Women's Ministry resources and ideas.

- www.nadwm.org
- www.wm.gc.adventist.org



WANTED

At camp meeting there will be a Women's Ministry booth. On one section of the background board I would love to feature photos of your women's ministry group in action. Would you let me know if you have a photo to share? We want others to know what your church is doing in Women's Ministries Please call me at the conference office at 304-422-4581 so I can plan for camp meeting. Thank you.
--Valerie Morikone

JoyBelles is now online. Go to: www.mtviewconf.org and click on "publications" and choose "JoyBelles".
Tell the ladies at your church - they may be interested in reading this newsletter also.

Women Knit Helmit Warmers for Soldiers

A group of local women knitted a little piece of home so troops stationed in Iraq can keep warm.

Women from the Parkersburg Seventh-day Adventist church recently knitted a series of five wool helmet warmers for soldiers in Iraq and are now trying to get more churches involved in making more for soldiers serving overseas.



Christine Miner, who came into the Newstart Thrift Mart looking for a helmet liner for her grandson, began conversing with Amy Fullmer, manager of the thrift store and also women's ministry leader at the Parkersburg church. The price of new liners is quite expensive and even though the government supplies liners they are not made of wool so not as warm. Christine found a pattern and instructions on the internet and had the wool but needed help in making the liners.

Amy, along with other women of the Parkersburg church, joined together in making this project a success. Not only did they supply warm wool liners but there was a wonderful write up in the newspaper complete with photos and contact information for the thrift store which created a good response from the community.

--adapted from *The Parkersburg News*, Feb. 23, 2008

Two-Lane Livin'

Chris Hasse, Spencer church member, was asked in the fall of 2007, to be a columnist for the *Two-Lane Livin'*, a monthly publication which has a circulation of 15,000 in the central region of WV. This publication is also available at the State Capitol Complex in Charleston and can be read on the internet (www.twolanelivin.com).

Chris uses her column to witness for Christ. One time she chose as her subject the parable of the 10 virgins. In her bio, at the conclusion of the column, Chris mentioned that she got the information largely from *Christ's Object Lessons* and this resulted in three requests for the book. Each columnist also receives space for one free ad and Chris promotes the website www.BibleUniverse.com. In the 2008 April and May issue of *Two-Lane Livin'* she will be advertising Spencer Adventist church's ShareHim meetings in her free ad and also in her column. Chris has folks in the community come up to her saying that they have read her articles.