

Working for the Harvest

I don't know about you, but it has been a hard month to get my faith going. Activities and events have been a struggle on my prayer life. Tonight, I think God made it clear. As I drove home from yet another volleyball match, I noticed the sun was shining and the fall colors are beginning to be spectacular. It made me realize how the harvest is at hand. Care and safety are important during the harvest. We see many accidents and pray for all involved. says:

"Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore, you ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest'".



As council, we are at a time where we hear of the dwindling numbers of women not participating in the council meetings. Recently, I attended the St. Stephen's 150th Anniversary and had a chance to visit with Bishop Conley and a young woman. Bishop Conley was excited about the good work of the LDCCW and encouraged her to belong to a council. This was a time for invitation and warm welcomes. We exchanged phone numbers and I promised her I would help her out. If Bishop Conley is excited about the work we do within the diocese, then why are we not sharing the same excitement within our parish council?

How are you planting the seeds for a good harvest? You have my permission to be radical and change up the structure of your meetings!! There has been many comments and woes being said about the declining membership. I am going to ask you to think creatively about how you keep your membership going! Invite, prepare and foster a warm environment for the women of your parish to feel welcome.

Your council will always need a monthly business meeting, the work always needs to be done. I honestly miss the days of programs at the meetings. Quarterly meetings with programs will allow for the women of your parish to learn something new and important to their lives. Ask the women in the parish if they can provide a program. Maybe a gardener can come or people can provide information on the new changes in Medicare or better yet, a wine tasting party! Invite!! You have my permission to change things up!

Please keep praying for your members whether they attend a meeting or not. St Wenceslaus in Wahoo spent a year praying for their council and today it is successful. Every woman you bring into a council meeting, you will bring a woman in who needs faith and encouragement. Don't let your light shine under a basket. Let everyone see the beautiful work you do!

Your Sister in Christ

President Judy Weston

Lincoln Diocesan Council of Catholic Women