

NWRCC Disciples' Women's Ministries Report to the Regional Board October 17-18, 2008

The last weekend of September (26-28), the annual retreat of the Disciple Women was held at Zephyr Camp and Conference Center located a Liberty Lake near Spokane. Forty women were in attendance. The program was well planned and carried out by a committee of women from Country Holmes, Green Acres and Opportunity Christian Churches. The theme of the retreat was "Sisters Empowering Sisters: Finding One's Own Place In Ministry."

Women representing organizations who helped and served women in the community spoke to us at various times. The speakers were from Our Sisters Closet, Foot Reflexology, Women Helping Women, and Christ's Kitchen. Three workshops were also offered. These workshops were Crochet a Scrubbie, Finding Your Spiritual Gift, and Spiritual Practice in Prayer. There were opportunities for rest and meditation as well. Each participant received a tote bag with the theme printed on it. Mandalas to be colored by the women were enclosed in each bag. A representative of the Bead for Life project came on Saturday and displayed jewelry made by poverty stricken women in Uganda. This beautiful jewelry was created from recycled paper. Women's groups may work with this organization to obtain jewelry, sell it and send the money to Uganda for distribution to help the women support their families.

The retreat was deemed a great success by all in attendance. The music and inspirational sessions were well received. On Sunday morning Lauri Clark-Strait gave an inspiring message about goats and sheep. Thank you, planning committee.

Another event planned for the spring is "A Day to Play and Pray". This will be held in one or two central locations in the state of Washington. More information will be forthcoming.

Another item of interest is the new magazine called JUST WOMEN. This magazine is being published by Disciples World Inc. and will debut in January, 2009. It will be published quarterly; a one year subscription will be \$19.00. You may subscribe on line at www.JustWomenMagazine.org or call 317-375-8845.

The logo for the 2010 quadrennial has been finalized. Shirts imprinted with the logo will be available after January, 2009. The cost is yet to be determined. The shirts will be available in a shade of blue or a shade of lavender. More information on the shirts will be sent out after the January staff meeting.

Many new and revised programs are in the works. Our women's ministries are transforming. Go, girls!

Helena Wilson