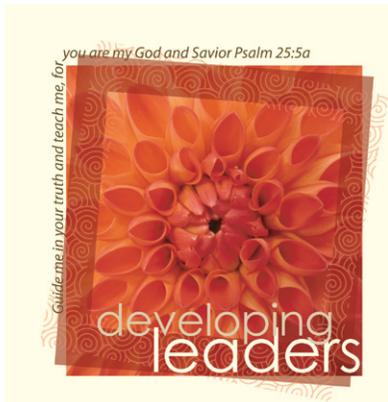


# follow the leader

Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are my God and Savior. Psalm 25:5a

Published by the LWML Leader Development Committee

Vol. IV No. 4 • February 2011



## Incoming and Outgoing Officers

Have you been asked to be an officer? Is your term up this year? This issue discusses both aspects: the person being considered and then being elected to that position and the person who will be leaving that position.

The Leader Development Committee is reviewing/updating current LWML resources that support developing leadership qualities and mentoring relationships with the intent to develop a user-friendly and easily accessible format for their use. If you have any questions, suggestions, or experience with these topics, we would like to hear from you! Please e-mail [deprs@lwml.org](mailto:deprs@lwml.org) and put Leader Development in the subject line so the message can be forwarded to us.

## Sketch Introducing LWML Leadership Resources (NEW!)

*Lucy Leader is In! Five Cents Per Session* is a sketch that you can use in your society, zone or district to feature the newly revised leadership resources from LWML. It is available as a free downloadable resource under Resources > Leader Helps at [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org).

## I Have Been Nominated for an LWML Office

### What do I do now?

**P**ray for guidance! Here is a verse and a prayer that is adapted from *A Woman's Praying Heart* (LWML Catalog #23200) that you can use:

"Let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance" (Prov. 1:5a).

*Dear Lord, I was so surprised when I was asked to have my name placed in nomination for office. What is it You have in mind for me, Lord? I do not feel qualified for this position. Do I trust that You have prepared me for it and You will give me the ability to fulfill it, if I am elected? As I consider this position, help me to present the possibility of this service fairly, both the "pros" and the "cons" to my pastor so he can counsel me in my decision.*

*Lord, You know I desire to serve You. I ask that You guide me in this decision and make it clear what You would have me do. Give me peace about the decision once it is made. If I decide not to run, give me other opportunities to serve. If I do decide to allow my name to go forward, help me to fulfill*

*my responsibilities in a manner that is pleasing to You. In Your most holy Name, Amen.*

Then, get acquainted with the office. Get the job description. Review the calendar of events that would take place if you were elected to this office. Review the bylaws on the responsibilities for this office. Ask questions of the current officer.

You can also ask your mentors, family, and friends to see if they believe you can do the job! Remember that you need to also grow in the position, so you need to stretch a bit. If you feel slightly uncomfortable, it could be a good thing!

Do not be surprised at what the office entails if you are elected to that office.

**"Succession is one of the key responsibilities of leadership."**

—Max Dupree

## My Term Is Up – What Do I Need to Do?

**F**irst and foremost, praise God for the opportunity you have had to serve Him! The next items that you need to do are more boring. ☺ Review all the files that you need to give to the new officer. Update them if necessary so the new officer understands the files as she reviews them. Throw away unimportant or personal correspondence. Remember to send any significant items to

the District Archivist-Historian, or if holding a national office, then the national LWML Archivist-Historian. Meet with the new officer and go through the files so she will get a better understanding of her new position. Be a resource to her and be available for questions as they arise. However, do not hover over her; only offer answers or advice when she asks for it. Pray with and for her.

## I Got Elected – What Do I Do Now?

**F**irst and foremost, praise God for the opportunity to serve Him and pray for guidance as you fulfill the duties of the office! Review all the materials about the office, including the bylaws. Meet with the outgoing officer to go through the materials and ask questions. Use the outgoing officer

as a resource. You do not need to do the job the same as your predecessor. Leave your own mark on the office. If you need leadership resources, go to the LWML website or catalog. Remember that God put you in that office for a reason. Serve the Lord with gladness in that office!