

What I Love About Life Here ... and in Heaven

By Caroline Hayes

I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus (Philippians 3:14).

"It's gone," I thought, "the center stone from my grandmother's wedding ring, gone."

I didn't know where I lost it, so how could I find it? And even though I knew I wouldn't come across it, I scoured the room looking for that modest little rock that meant so much to me. No luck!

A few days later, in a surprise phone call, I heard, "Our custodian found your diamond!" I couldn't believe it. The custodian at Ascension

in Littleton, Colorado, took the time to sift through all the trash, dirt, and filth ... looking for my little diamond.

This experience brought to mind how our heavenly Custodian, Jesus Christ, rescues us — His beloved and precious gems — from the filthy landfill of our sin. He cleanses us through His blood, allows His light to shine through us and, through faith, has prepared a heavenly home for us where we will live forever in joy.

What was lost had been found! I washed that precious gem, and it once again is back home — sparkling in the light and providing joy to our family.

Spotlight on Jessica

Jessica Sauer is not new to LWML. "I grew up participating in LWML and seeing its work get done through my mom and the other women in her society." She recalls seeing how the Gospel is spread through women across the country collecting mites and serving in so many ways. Knowing she wanted to serve the Lord through LWML, Jessica now serves as a zone president in the Atlantic District and is the adult advisor for the Friends Into Serving Him® group at her church.

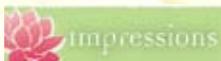
Putting her faith into action, she is teaching her three small children that they are children of God from the Republic of the Marshall Islands. She and her husband are involved in serving the children on the Islands' schools by collecting children's books, toys, and clothing and shipping them to various schools and hospitals there. Traveling with their children to their home of origin, she and her husband participate in teaching projects while allowing their children to take part in their culture.

Jessica feels blessed by the example she had from her mother and the LWML. She is passing that on to her own children through her service to the Lord.



Dear Father ... Birthdays are a big deal in my family, and I just celebrated a "big" one. It really gave me a chance to reflect on my life. Wow, have You blessed me! The list is too long to write, but You know each blessing You have given me. The life I live here as Your daughter is an incredible gift. I know that whatever joys, celebrations, and even trials come my way, the greatest blessing is yet to come. Because of Your sacrifice, I will live with You eternally — and that's something to celebrate!

Love, Your daughter



For more information, check out *Impressions*, the newsletter for young women, at www.lwml.org.