

PRESIDENTS REPORT
DCCW BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 17, 2022

Summer is ending and we will be off and running with all our Council activities. It has been a hot long summer, I pray for a long cool Fall with moisture to replenish reservoirs and refresh our dry earth. I've been trying to keep on top of my new position, juggling upcoming events and coordinating tasks. I admire all those who have led the way and am humbly grateful for their direction.

After the June meeting, I have met with Msgr. Bircumshaw, Fr. Ariel Durian, Fr. Christopher Gray, DOM, Finance committee, and have interacted with a multitude of Advisory board members, Deanery Presidents and CCW Members. I am still learning the in's and outs of taking the lead in this wonderful organization. There is much to be done.

It has been a challenge working with the Diocese and Well's Fargo in getting tasks done, but were finally able to proceed with the audit committees audit of accounts and Finance Committee's proposed budget. Jeanne Audit will present the audit Committees report and Roslyn Gunderson, DCCW treasurer will present the proposed budget that was sent with the call to meeting for review by all board members.

The Finance Committee met, interacted multiple times, and because of the trend of the economy, have felt we need to continue to hold our 2023 Convention at the Sheraton. I know we wanted a change, it was a difficult decision, but given the state of the economy we could not justify a significant rise in cost to attend another site. Our DOM, Becky Hicks, did a tremendous job putting together a cost comparison to move to another site. We will have more time to prepare and negotiate with another site for the 2024 Convention. Plus, the fact we will be hosting the 2023 NCCW Convention within 4 months of our DCCW Convention, I want our Council sisters to be able to afford attending the NCCW convention.

The Bylaws Committee, Dawn Haberkorn Leadership Chair, Kathy Fazio, Cheryl Johnson, Karen Fawbush, Kirsten Mele, and Becky Colombo have been working on the revisions to the Convention Guidelines. They have been sent by email for review by all board members at this meeting for approval and to be distributed at the November board meeting. The Bylaws committee will continue working on the bylaws and standing rules for the November board meeting for review and approval at that time. Please take the time to graciously submit suggestions to any of the bylaws committee for review in the next month.

We sadly lost Fr. James Blaine on August 31, 2022, He was the dedicated Spiritual Advisor to St. Peter's Parish in American Fork and also to the Wasatch Deanery. He was very faithful to all the ladies and his duties as Spiritual Advisor. May Eternal rest be granted him, O Lord, and perpetual light shine upon him.

The annual Give Me a Chance Fundraiser, "Enchantment in the Garden" was held Sept 10, 2022. There were 12, maybe more, DCCW members in attendance. Bishop Solis, 3 priests and several Deacons and Sisters from the Daughters of Charity also attended. Several of the silent auction items were provided by CCW affiliates and members. Way to go Ladies!! Always better to receive than take. Even though many of us ended up winning bids on Silent Auction items. This year the money raised is going towards air-conditioning and heating for their facility. GMAC is such a great cause and am happy we support their work.

Bishop Solis has deemed October as Council Recognition Month. Traditionally we have had a "Council Sunday" the 3rd weekend of October, but to give our affiliates more flexibility to hold an event in their Parish, the whole month of October is designated for our Council sisters to be recognized for their talents and gifts. Last April when we received the news of the loss of our Bobbie Hunt, CCW extraordinaire, we were unable to attend her funeral service because of untimely COVID exposures. So, on October 8th, 11:00 am, we will be having a Memorial

Celebration of life held in her own parish of St. Rose of Lima, to honor her years of dedication to our CCW at all levels. She was a wonderful mentor to all who had the pleasure of knowing her in Council and is missed dearly.

November 3-5th brings the NCCW Convention in Minneapolis Minnesota. "NCCW Wide Open Hearts: abiding in Faith, Hope, and Love". Rev. Fr. Ariel Durian, DCCW Spiritual Advisor, and 15 ladies, including our own Pat Voorhes, NCCW President, Amy Kennedy, NCCW Secretary, and Jeanne Audiss, who will be installed as San Francisco Province Director at the convention, will be attending. I think we are very well represented for such a small Diocese. The Salt Lake City DCCW delegation have the privilege of presenting the "call to 2023 NCCW Convention" to be held August 24-26, 2023 at the new Hyatt Regency downtown Salt Lake City. We look forward to bringing back reports of all the happenings at the 2022 NCCW convention.

Next year is an unusually busy year for the DCCW and its affiliates. We are having all our usual happenings, plus are being asked to help with the Eucharistic Revival the USCCB is calling for the next 3 years. Right now, the only information I have is that we will be asked to help with the Diocesan Mass to be held at the Mountain America Expo Center in Sandy next summer. I will send out more information as I get it. Then the big event of hosting our NCCW Convention in August. It will be Pat Voorhes second year of her term and we are blessed to have it here in Salt Lake, so please plan on attending the 2023 NCCW Convention, we are small in numbers, but large in action.

Monsignor Bircumshaw has reached out to me to make sure all the Parish affiliates have their accounts reported according to the diocesan Rule. They have had a recent audit that says otherwise. Each affiliate should be under their Parish FEIN and having their bank accounts reconciled and recorded by their Parish bookkeeper in the ParishSoft tool the Diocese uses. All monies need to be transparent. At the November 19th Board meeting at St. Olaf's in Bountiful, the CFO and senior accountant from the Diocese will come to answer questions. Please make a point of attending (all Affiliate officers are welcome to attend the DCCW meetings) if you are not in line with the Diocesan Rule.

I'd like to encourage you to join as individual members to NCCW. It's easy to register on line at nccw.org. As an individual member you have access to all the NCCW has to offer in supporting, educating, and empowering you and your parish affiliates. If you don't have a Parish affiliate, NCCW has the tools for you to start one, or you can join the virtual affiliate offered by NCCW, which meets via Zoom. We are lucky enough to have a new affiliate in the Northern Deanery and are excited to welcome St. James the Just, Ogden in joining the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. The NCCW Resource Manual has the general information for setting up and running meetings, proper minute recording, and so much more, or help in reorganizing affiliates. If your affiliate does not have this resource manual, I strongly suggest you buy one. It and many more resources are available at nccw.org. The DCCW also has a MDR (Membership, Development and Resource) Team who will answer questions and help where they can.

I look forward to hearing about all the good works you do and am humbled by your resolve.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Barb Kerouac

Excerpts from Catholic Woman's Bible: Faith, plan and purpose. D-1

Through God's grace in the gift of faith, we are blessed with many things. It's faith that gives us the strength we need to endure all the "sufferings" in life. It's faith that makes us proud to be a living testimony to the truth found in Scripture. Faith also gives us the hope we need to keep our goal of salvation in focus. But most importantly, in a world so full of distractions, faith is what gives us the confidence in knowing that imitating Christ will earn us the ultimate reward - everlasting life in heaven.

But God provides an even more beautiful gift as a result of our faith as Catholics. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC 1327) teaches us that "the Eucharist is the sum and summary of our faith: "Our way of thinking is attuned to the Eucharist, and the Eucharist in turn confirms our way of thinking." The belief in the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist is the ultimate expression of our Catholic Faith. By gathering as a worshipping community each week to recall this sacrifice, we respond in faith to Jesus' command to "Do this in memory of me!"

Be strengthened by the powerful gift of faith. Use it, through your prayer and by your example to give glory to God. When you do, God will reveal his plan for you and your purpose in life will become clear.

Prayer for Faith to St. Joan of Arc:

In the face of your enemies, in the face of harassment, ridicule, and doubt, you held firm in your faith. Even in your abandonment, alone and without friends you held firm in your faith. Even as you faced your own mortality, you held firm in your faith. I pray that I may be as bold in my beliefs as you, St Joan. I ask that you ride alongside me in my own battles. Help me be mindful that what is worthwhile can be won when I persist. Help me hold firm in my faith. Help me believe in my ability to act well and wisely. AMEN!

