

Wasatch Deanery Report

09.02.25

President's Report

Gabby Gauchay

It's FALL! The most wonderful time of year - the "ber" months are upon us! And boy does it feel good. Though I am so sad to not be with you physically for our fall meetings, by the time you read this report, I will be snuggling our baby, Benedict Joseph Gauchay. Thank you so much for all of the prayers, gifts, advice, love and support each of you have shown me during this pregnancy. The Wasatch Deanery was some of the first people I announced my long awaited pregnancy to. I feel so special and honored to be not only a part of this organization - but LOVED by YOU! Thank you, truly.

As you all know - not only is it FALL but it is also time to start thinking - "what will I do if/when I get called to serve in a higher capacity?" That's right, positions for both the Wasatch Deanery and the DCCW will be up for nomination and then election in the coming months. Now, how about we turn that question I just posed into something deeper and more meaningful. - "God, how do you want me to respond when I get called to serve? - What do you have planned for me, Lord? - How can I bring the love I have for you, Lord into the places I walk - into the communities I serve? - What gifts and charisms have you placed in my heart to give to the world to build Your Kingdom?" It can be scary and intimidating, the idea that you may be asked to serve, but just remember, you are being called for a reason - someone sees what God is working in you. And always, look to our Blessed Mother in these times to remember how beautiful a YES can be!

Vice President's Report

Robin Marvive

Hello my beautiful sisters,

When do you get called to do Service. It's that time of the season, when new opportunities arise to be a part of something more, in your community, at church and pretty soon in the WCCW. In our beautiful faith we are constantly seeing acts of Service. Some in the forms of volunteers and donations and others in the form of being on a Board. If you have ever been part of a church board you know that it's not the leader, it's the whole board that makes the magic. We all desire to serve God, letting God's hand be on all we do. But it is from listening and seeing Jesus in others that we all blossom in God's Grace. In our prayers and desires to help others we find our peace. Sometimes it is easier to ask a friend or lean on a sister for help before you reach out a olive branch to someone new. But those silent faces glow when you say Hello. I am reaching out my olive branch towards all of you to consider bringing your talents, spirituality and love to our WCCW board. We have upcoming elections and i really want you to pray about being part of something new. I love the quote "if it doesn't challenge you, it's doesn't change you". If you would like to shadow someone that is already part of the board please reach out to them. We can all learn from each other and grow together. I also would like you to remember that the WCCW will be hosting the DCCW Convention during the next term. This could be an amazing and beautiful experience. As we do now, I know we will bring a lot of wisdom, grace, joy, laughter and love to everyone we serve and learn from. If you are interested in serving on the board pray about it and give it to God. His plan is always the right plan. I love serving with you and for you. God Bless Your Journey.

Immediate Past President's Report

My Dear Sisters in Christ. I don't know about you, but this summer has been a blur. I was able to visit family on two different occasions. It was wonderful but made the summer go by even faster. I, also, was blessed to attend the National Council of Catholic Women Convention the end of August. It was such a spiritual and uplifting event. It is a wonderful time to connect with our women from Utah (we had about 20 attendees) and to meet women from across the US. We were blessed to witness the installation of Amy Kennedy, Salt Lake Deanery, as the President of the NCCW. We bid a fond farewell to Pat Voorhes who was serving as the Immediate Past President of NCCW. We are so fortunate to be represented at the National Level. I do not feel like I have been of great service at the IPP of the Wasatch Deanery as most of my time has been consumed serving as President of the SLCDCCW. The Wasatch Deanery Nomination Committee will be activated at this meeting, and I will be reaching out soon asking for your service to your Deanery. One of our speakers at the NCCW Convention gave us some advice when we are asking for volunteers to lead, "Tell them Mary said YES!!" In trying to beat the report deadline, I will close with a few of the speaker comments, that I jotted down at the NCCW Convention. I hope something will give you pause and maybe for my next report I can elaborate. Receive like Mary at the Annunciation, Adore like Mary at the Manger, Persevere like Mary at the Foot of the Cross We all need some "SONshine" Do not be afraid. When you fear, STAND FIRM and TRUST Never waste your suffering Always be Thankful Dread is NOT of God and Fear is NOT of God.

Blessing to you all and may you all have a great fall and for many of you a start of your CCW year.

Affiliate Reports

St. Francis of Assisi – Orem, UT

We had our annual parish picnic with attendance by both English and Spanish speaking communities. We also welcomed Fr. Tristan Dillon as associate pastor. Our other big project has been our fall dinner dance. This year we will hold it on the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi and are looking forward to whole parish participation. We would welcome people from other parishes as well.

We held a baby shower for Gabby which was put on by CCD and WoSF. Gabby is a greatly appreciated and active participant in both organizations.

Our next projects will be our annual Christmas Boutique. We welcome any groups or individuals who might be interested in having a booth. Contact Pat Doherty partusdoherty@gmail.com for more information.

St. Peter – American Fork, UT

In May, we joined the Saint Francis of Assisi Counsel of Catholic Women for a wonderful dinner in honor of all the Ladies!

In July, the Council collaborated with the Knights to host a heartfelt farewell dinner for Father Ariel. Refreshments included homemade lemonade and a specially prepared cake in his honor. Earlier, the Council presented Father Ariel with a framed Prayer for Priests as a token of gratitude and appreciation for his service.

In August, a Welcome Potluck Dinner was organized in honor of our new Pastor, Father Eugenio Yarce, following the Saturday evening Mass, in collaboration with the Knights.

In September, we plan on having a Welcome Social for all the Ladies with a short meeting going over the approved Calendar for 2025 – 2026. Father Eugenio will honor us with the opening prayer.

St. Thomas More - Cottonwood Heights, UT

This summer has been moving fast yet the Ladies of St Thomas More have slowed down for a small break. We continue to meet for our monthly Meet and Mingle events. During the summer, three ladies offer to host us in their home and it's great fun to see everyone in a different and fun environment. This past spring, some of the ladies organized a small group to help with the Turtle Project. Our group has helped assemble and sew vests for a couple of years now and we highly recommend people getting involved. It's a fun activity that serves the homeless. We look forward to seeing our friends again at our business meetings that will start in September.

Blessed Sacrament - Sandy, UT**St. Martin de Porres - Taylorsville, UT**

With summer break almost over we are ready to start back with our monthly meetings. Although we haven't had any meetings we have still been busy. We worked bingo at our parish one Tuesday night, we are sponsoring a golf team at our parish annual golf tournament, manning a hole at the golf tournament letting everyone know about CCW and we will host the Wasatch Deanery meeting in September. Our first meeting is scheduled for September 17 and we are anxious to get back to meeting with everyone.

St. Joseph the Worker - West Jordan, UT**St. Francis Xavier - Kearns, UT**

This report summarizes the activities of the St. Francis Xavier Council of Catholic Women from June to August 2025:

June:

June 8, 2025: Partnered with the Knights of Columbus to host a family BBQ, providing desserts for the church community.

June 28, 2025: Organized a family bowling event. See attached photo.

July:

July 14, 2025: Held a meeting at the church.

August:

August 2, 2025: Hosted a family breakfast at Lodestone Park.

Sts. Peter and Paul - West Valley, UT

The CCW met on August 2 to lay out the agenda for the coming year. In September, we will again host a parish wide food drive for the Utah Food Bank. Our parish retreat is scheduled for Saturday, September 27 and the CCW will participate in all aspects of the retreat. In October and November, we will coordinate the "bare essentials" clothing drive for the St. Vincent DePaul Outreach to the homeless. On November 18, the Huntsman Cancer Institute Mammography bus will be conducting cancer screenings for the ladies in the parish.

We are trying to find resources for leadership training for the Spanish speaking women in the parish.

St. John the Baptist - Draper, UT

April 2025 - We celebrated our WOY, Julie Carlson, with her nominator and her family, at the annual DCCW convention.

May 2025 - We invited the women to enjoy a Sound Bath, a way of relaxing and meditating while listening to repetitive sounds (like ocean waves or rhythmic drumming).

June 2025 - Our wine tasting had to be postponed due to the unfortunate timing of our wine tasting with a 4 day weekend and unprecedented low pre-registration. This also meant that we were not able to celebrate Julie Carlin, who - after 6 years of faithful and devoted service - had made the difficult decision to step down from leadership of the SJB CCW.

Looking ahead -

Sep 2025 - We are hosting Bunco and inviting all women of the parish (using those actual words!)

Oct 2025 - Fruit of the Vine, our wine and food pairing. We are going to shake it up a bit this time by focusing on one region (TBA, but most likely Italy). We are keeping the price at \$40 per person, due to the increased cost of food. Regardless of the number of women, we will go forward with this.

Nov 2025 - Gratitude Craft. We will also be handing out the Christmas gift bags to be filled for our homebound parishioners.

Dec 2025 - Christmas party and ornament exchange - highly popular event

At each meeting, I plan to spend 5 minutes discussing the importance of having a CCW at SJB and why women need to get involved. At the end of 2025, I will have to evaluate if the CCW is viable on its own. If I cannot develop interest to bring new leadership, I will not schedule any events in 2026 and will instead participate in the CCWs of other parishes.

Commission Reports

Spirituality - Ranae Lupus

The Lord's call to give up Everything.

What does being a disciple of Jesus cost? Are we like the rich young man? Do we walk away sad at this thought?

Is the Lord talking to me? How would I react?

Here's a breakdown of what the Bible says about giving up everything:

1. Prioritizing God's Kingdom:

Jesus said, "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money," (Matthew 6:24). This highlights the need to make God the ultimate priority.

In Luke 14:33, Jesus states, "Any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple," (Luke 14:33).

This doesn't always mean a literal giving up of possessions, but a mental and emotional detachment from them, recognizing that everything ultimately belongs to God.

2. Examples in the Bible:

The Rich Young Ruler:

When Jesus told the rich young ruler to sell his possessions and give to the poor, it was a test of his

priorities. While not everyone is called to sell everything, it illustrates the need to be willing to let go of worldly attachments.

Jesus' Disciples:

The disciples left their homes, jobs, and families to follow Jesus, demonstrating a willingness to sacrifice for the sake of the kingdom.

Paul's Example:

The Apostle Paul, despite being a tentmaker, turned his life into a ministry, using his resources to support himself and others.

3. The Rewards of Giving Up:

Spiritual Fulfillment:

Giving up everything for Christ is not a loss, but a gain. It leads to a deeper relationship with God and a greater sense of purpose and peace.

Eternal Life:

Jesus promises that those who give up everything for him will receive "many times as much" in this life and inherit eternal life (Matthew 19:29).

Focus on what truly matters:

Letting go of worldly attachments allows believers to focus on what is eternal and meaningful.

4. Not a Literal Requirement for All:

While the examples in the Bible show people giving up everything, the emphasis is on the heart attitude of surrender and prioritizing God.

The focus is on the principle of detachment from worldly things and a wholehearted devotion to Christ.

In conclusion, the Bible calls believers to prioritize God above all else, which may involve a willingness to give up everything for his sake. This is not necessarily a literal requirement for everyone, but rather a call to a heart attitude of surrender and a willingness to let go of worldly attachments to follow Christ. and set my footsteps on the way of peace.

In the name of the Father and of the son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

Leadership - Jamie Beert

Happy Fall !

NCCW

NCCW Convention – Congratulations again to Amy Kennedy who was installed at the convention. Looking forward to hearing from those who attended all about the fun, speakers, spirituality and community that occurred. Monthly Member & Rosary Calls – If you cannot make the member call, video recordings are available on the member only page of the NCCW Website. (Another reason to get your individual membership!)

DCCW

The next DCCW Board meeting will be November 8 at Blessed Sacrament.

2026 DCCW Convention – Yes work has already started planning next year's convention. We will be returning to Little America on April 17-19. Stay tuned for details. There has also been a committee formed to look into options and ideas for future conventions. The Wasatch Deanery representative on the committee is Bonnie Siegrist, share any ideas you have with her.

Wasatch Deanery

As a reminder from my last report, Wasatch Deanery and DCCW positions will be up for election next year. In the Deanery, we will have nominations for President Elect, Secretary, Treasurer. The Nominating Committee (IPP Annette Pressley, Chair) will be activated at our Fall meeting. (President Gabby Gauchay will appoint members). Annette will send out the Call for Nominations, and the list of nominees will be presented at the Deanery board meeting preceding the DCCW convention and voting will occur at that meeting as well. The terms will begin after DCCW Convention. The new President will appoint a Parliamentarian, Historian, Advisory Board, Deanery Representatives to DCCW Board, and all Chairs of the Committees and Commissions.

You can find position descriptions in the revised Standing Rules (or in the previous Bylaws and Standing Rules). Please look through all the positions, pray and open your heart and minds to consider taking one of the positions. Reach out to the women who currently hold positions to gain more information. Please pray, open your hearts and minds and consider taking a position. If you are interested in an officer position – Raise your hand when the Call for Nominations comes out (or have your friend submit your name). If you are interested in serving as a Committee or Commission chair, let Robin Marvive know! It truly is rewarding.

If you want to dream bigger – the DCCW will have many openings as well. They will also have a Call for Nominations (you may even get a call directly from a member of that nominating committee). Don't be afraid to raise your hand and serve!

Bylaws / Standing Rules Committee – The committee, Jamie Beert, Bonnie Siegrist, Jeanne Audiss and Robin Marvive met and worked through both Bylaws and Standing Rules. Some changes, additions and deletions were made. The revisions will be presented at this September meeting.

Jamie Beert
Leadership Commission Chair
8/25/25

Historian/Website -

Service - Christine Corley

I read an interesting article in the New York Times recently by Emma Goldberg titled “Is Today’s Self-Help Teaching Everyone to Be a Jerk?” in which the author questions the impact of books, videos, and social media influencers urging people to “step back,” “protect your peace,” or “say no.” The author’s concern, which I admit I share, is that when we focus too much inside ourselves, the world around us suffers from our lack of involvement. But as a Catholic, I worry that the impact is even more insidious, and that this well-meaning advice may have the opposite effect of what is intended.

We were created to live and work in community. If it wasn’t good for Adam to be alone in the beautiful and perfect Garden of Eden, how could it be good for humans to withdraw into ourselves and be alone (and lonely) now in a less-than-perfect world?

The Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church (from the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace) states that:

“Discovering that they are loved by God, people come to understand their own transcendent dignity, they learn not to be satisfied with only themselves but to encounter their neighbor in a network of relationships that are ever more authentically human.”

In other words - when we understand in our hearts how deeply God loves us, and we understand ourselves to be beloved, no matter our faults, we naturally start to love those around us. And love, always, prompts us to give of ourselves. And here's the bit that I wonder if so many of today's self-help gurus are missing - it is, as the song of St. Francis reminds us, "in giving that we receive."

The science backs that up

(<https://time.com/collection/guide-to-happiness/4070299/secret-to-happiness/>) - helping others, or causes that matter to us, actually does make us happier. It's not that we never need time to disengage and recharge (I'm an introvert, I get it!) but there is a danger in our current culture of thinking that withdrawing is the solution to every problem. When all you have is a hammer, every problem you encounter starts to look awfully nail-shaped.

Thankfully, God has given us more tools than just disengaging in our toolboxes. When you notice your group starts to feel like too much is being asked of them, or that individuals are feeling burned out or overworked and starting to pull back, go back to basics:

- Experience God's love: Consider working with your priest to offer opportunities for Reconciliation at an upcoming meeting. Go to Adoration together. Pray a rosary as a group. Spend time with one another basking in the grace and love of our Father.
- Build community: Don't just maintain the community you already have, build! This isn't a recruitment drive for your group, but an opportunity to invite a new parishioner to join you for coffee and donuts, or to get to know your parish's OCIA candidates so they have someone to say hello to at mass, or to see who might want to exchange prayer requests. When your group is growing authentic loving human relationships, they will feel more sustained.
- Acts of service: Of course I had to add this one! Not only because helping others does make us happier, but also because we sometimes forget that our health is tied to the health of the communities we build. Not just physical health, but mental, emotional, spiritual, and social health as well. When we work to build and improve our communities through the time, talent, and treasure we put in, we also reap the rewards that come from having strong, healthy communities. Choose a service project that your group is really passionate about, and that will have an immediate and visible impact on your community, however you define it. Maybe that's meeting for meal prep once a month, and making a little more than your families need to donate to someone else in your parish who could use an extra meal. Maybe it's planting flowers in a church or city area. Maybe it's doing yard work together for someone who struggles to get out and rake leaves.

We are called to love, we are called to community, and we are called to service. We were created for each of those things, and we are happier and more fulfilled human beings when we have them. How can your group help your members, and the community around you, experience more of each of these things?

*Submitted by Gabby Gauchay
Wasatch Deanery President
September 2nd, 2025*