



## Hope in the Lord

*He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. Isaiah 40:29-31*

Fall is my favorite time of the year as the colors of the leaves change, and the air gets cooler, it reminds me of how much God loves us. Take a minute to refresh in His creation. As God takes this time to "recreate" the world around us, let's not get lost in life, but take time to enjoy His wonderful creation. Let us, as children of the Lord, remember to "hope in the Lord" so He can "renew our strength," and allow us to "soar on wings like eagles". This week take 10 minutes each day, turn off your phones, computers, TVs, and other "distractions" and take time to enjoy God's creation He has made special for you.

**Prayer:** Dear Lord as busy young women we often don't take time to stop and enjoy Your creation. Continue to help us grow in You and give us strength as we have "hope in You". Help us to "soar on eagles wings, run and not grow weary; and walk and not be faint", and to enjoy Your creation. It is in Your loving and gracious name we pray, Amen.

Submitted by Tammy Space, Redeemer, Claremore



## Great Time At Retreat

The Oklahoma District Retreat with the theme, "A Time to ..." held at Oakridge Christian Camp in Anadarko, was such a 'treat' for me. It had been a long time since I had roasted hot dogs over an open campfire and made s'mores with gooey marshmallows and chocolate. Yum!



Karen Rumsey, YWR Coordinator enjoying the ride!

Our voices sounded awesome in the outdoors as we sang uplifting and fun songs around the campfire. The retreat especially gave me the opportunity to have a quiet time with my Lord and a time with my 'sisters in Christ' as we focused during our Bible study on our service to our Lord. Do YOU need a time to relax and be refreshed? Watch the Voice of Service, our Oklahoma District newsletter for our next RETREAT and 'treat' yourself to a wonderful experience. We'll bring the marshmallows!

Submitted by Yvonne Moore, Young Woman Representative

## God's Leading

The LWML has asked me ... "why did I come to the Seminary as a Deaconess student"? To explain this life changing decision I have to go back to an earlier beginning. I know my first thoughts of working in the church came to me as a young girl. I seemed to put the idea 'on hold' and filed it away, not knowing the answer. However, knowing what I know now, the Lord kept track of that 'file' and my heart's desire. After my husband and I married we were busy raising our two sons and I was a stay-at-home mom. Later I began working as a Secretary with the school district they attended. As time passed I soon had an ah-ha moment. Our oldest son was now in college and our youngest would be entering college in four years. What would I do then, once they didn't need me so much? I had a Liberal Arts Degree but during my Internship, I realized teaching in public schools was not what I wanted.



Pictured L to R; Jennifer, Cole, and Chris Griffith

About this time the LWML society of my church encouraged me to fill out the paperwork and apply for one of the OK District's YWR positions. I was selected to be a YWR at the Sioux Falls, SD Convention and it was a great experience. I participated in the servant activities, learned about mission grants and how our mite money supports these grants. We heard interesting missionary stories from China and Africa. And, at this same time the Lord was leading me to a lady at the convention from Chicago who was a Deaconess. I had never heard of this program, this Deaconess Program in St. Louis—I was SO excited! This was exactly what I had wanted to do since I was a young girl. I learned that a Parish Deaconess is first and foremost concerned about spiritual care for women; she visits people in the hospital and the homebound; she counsels women, children and families and she can teach and lead Bible studies and devotions, and work with youth groups.

About this same time my husband was considering the ministry. My husband and I took our financial concerns in prayer to our Lord. In the fall of 2007 we knew this was a correct decision for both of us. Beyond the Deaconess Program I plan on getting a masters degree in counseling or social work. Being a Deaconess and Christian Counselor go hand-in-hand. God's plans are always so fulfilling - I would never have begun this wonderful vocation had it not been for God leading me to that special Deaconess at the LWML Convention.

Submitted by Jennifer Griffith, 2006-2008 Oklahoma District YWR

## Young Woman Recognized



Yvonne Moore, YWR; Karen Rumsey, YWR Coordinator; and Tammy Space, young woman retreat attendee.

Tammy Space, a young woman attendee, was surprised by Karen Rumsey, YWR coordinator and Yvonne Moore, YWR by being presented a Bible at the retreat. Tammy, reflecting on her time there stated, "The retreat was really a time for us to focus on fellowship, fun and the Word. We talked about time and how we all need to stop and enjoy God's creation; whether that be the creation of our family, friends, the beautiful trees, or flowers. We all need to take a step back and enjoy all the creations He has given us and quit being clock watchers."

Submitted by Karen Rumsey, YWR Coordinator