

From the Province Director

Jean Kelly, Director – Milwaukee Province

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Alleluia! He is Risen! When I am asked about what makes the Council of Catholic Women special to me, I always refer to the history. In 1920 the bishops asked the National Council of Catholic Women to be the umbrella group for all Catholic women's organizations, inviting representatives from all over the United States to attend a meeting in Washington, D.C. We continue the tradition of holding national board meetings there. If you would like to know more, you can go to the website (www.nccw.org) to order a wonderful book on "The First 75 Years of NCCW NCCW." It is also on Kindle.

It is a big year for the NCCW as we are celebrating 95 years. The national convention in Orlando, Florida, Sept. 9-12, will include many celebrations. I would love to see as many of your MDCCW members attend as possible. We will have our province dinner Friday evening where we join with the other dioceses from Wisconsin. The entire convention will be a time for learning and fun. Check the website (<http://www.nccw.org>) for more information, including how to register. There will not be any onsite registration this year. **The early bird registration ends June 30!! Send in now!!**

NCCW has two new programs being implemented all over the nation. The first one is the "We Are Called to Witness" program which has suggestions for your organization to do in response to Pope Francis' call to the New Evangelization. I hope you have been able to implement some of the ideas. The second one is the new "Women Healing the Wounds" domestic violence program with ideas for your group to help those in need. Both of these are available free on the NCCW website. They are wonderful to use in your vicariates and parishes.

This is my last year as your province director. It has been a very special time for me. I have learned a great deal about NCCW and have met many wonderful faith-filled women. Everyone is welcome to join the NCCW. You will be glad you did. You can go to the website or contact me, and I will be happy to help.

If you have any questions I am always willing to answer them!