

## Message from Our President

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**Carol Rogers**

*“Unless the Lord builds the house, its  
builders labor in vain.” — Psalm 127:1*

### Building the Body of Christ

As I write this, we have just celebrated Easter Sunday and now look forward to 50 days of light and grace leading up to Pentecost. The rhythm of the liturgical seasons is welcome in this fast-paced life we live. Seeking to center our minds on Jesus and His saving passion, death, and resurrection helps to keep difficulties and distractions of daily life in perspective. We remain children of the light, and He is always with us.

I challenge you to continue to stay connected to Jesus through daily prayer (individually and with your family), daily Mass (as often as possible), and Sunday Mass.

Can you believe it!? Almost a full year has passed since I was installed as MDCCW president. Your MDCCW Board has been busy these 11 months. The Into the Deep initiative affects how representatives are selected for the MDCCW Board since vicariate boundaries are no longer officially in place. Because of that we have been working to have representation on the Board from each of the 30 pastorates so that women from all over the diocese will have a voice.

You can be part of it. Contact me (608-391-2564) or email [carrogmdccw@gmail.com](mailto:carrogmdccw@gmail.com) to volunteer yourself or suggest another woman to represent your parish or pastorate.

My hope is that we will Build the Body of Christ by having reps on the Board from all over the diocese by the end of 2025. I will

need every one of you to help by including the MDCCW Board in your prayer intentions.

Speaking of hope, this is the Jubilee Year of Hope. If you have not yet passed through a Holy Door, please make plans to do so soon. Reap the fruit of your pilgrimage by completing the requirements to earn a plenary indulgence for yourself or for a Holy Soul in Purgatory.

### Service, Leadership

In cooperation with the National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW), we encourage women to raise money and contribute to service projects such as Water for Life, the Madonna Plan, and Box of Joy as well as help with the diocesan ordination reception and the Pray for Our Priests initiative. You can stay informed of projects and MDCCW business by sending me your email address so that I can send you *The Pen*, our monthly bulletin.

As part of our executive committee, we are honored to include Coreen Marklein, a past MDCCW past president, secretary, and service commission chair. She now serves on the NCCW Learning, Training, & Development Team (LTD) and is also part of the NCCW Bylaws Committee. Coreen will be one of the presenters at LTD Training on July 19 in Plover. See Jane Schiszik's Province Director's message on page 3. The registration form is included in this newsletter. This is an event that is well worth your participation.

### Call to Convention

I invite you to a once in a lifetime experience at the 70th MDCCW Convention on June 28. Register early!!! Be prepared to hear a powerful speaker, Valimar Jansen. Set your GPS for St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Cross Plains, for a Day of Spirituality as we “Renew Our Hope in

Christ.” See registration form in this newsletter.

Special thanks to the planning committee, led by Kathy Roelke. They thought and prayed about how to make this convention much more than an annual meeting. As a result, this event offers women experiences in prayer and song that immerse them in the Biblical foundations of our Catholic Faith — truly a Day of Spirituality.

Three spring vicariate meetings were held in Roxbury, Briggsville and Fennimore. Some CCWs in the diocese still operate as a vicariate because the new pastorate boundaries did not affect them. Meeting many of you at these and other events in the diocese is a great pleasure for me and is a “perk” of being MDCCW President.

Wishing you all growth, health, hope, and holiness, in His Mercy and Her Love.

## From Our Spiritual Advisor

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### **Msgr. Duane Moellenberndt**

I am amazed that I am writing again a column for the newsletter, inviting you to our annual gathering of Catholic women from around the diocese. My mother always said the older you get the faster time goes. I must confess that years ago when she said this, I really didn't understand what she meant. However, now that I am over three-quarters of a century old, I do indeed realize how right Mom was in her statement.

So, once again I invite and encourage you to attend the MDCCW gathering June 28 at St. Francis Xavier Church, Holy Cross Parish, Cross Plains.

The theme this year is “Renewing Our Hope in Christ.” This fits well with the Jubilee Year of Hope 2025 as proclaimed by our Holy Father.

It is important for Catholic women to gather in solidarity with one another as witnesses to the beauty and message of our faith. We draw strength from one another, but we also show that we treasure our faith given to us by the Lord Himself.

By your attendance on June 28, you will be encouraged by others deeply committed to the message of Jesus. You will be inspired by our speaker and singer for the day, ValLimar Jansen. We are blessed that Bishop Hying will join us.

Many members of the MDCCW have been working to make this day special for all of us. Our participation shows our gratitude for all they have done. Please join us.

Blessings to each of you for all you do for the Church.

## From Our Province Director

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### **Jane Schiszik**

Spring is a beautiful time for renewal and rebirth. All you need to do is look outdoors and note the grass is starting to get green. The barren trees are starting to bud. Some flowers are miraculously poking through the ground, and even the air feels and smells fresher!

God has graciously provided us with a new burst of life in so many ways. Besides all the changes in nature, for some people spring is a time for spring cleaning! Well, this article addresses a different type of renewal and a way to breathe new life and energy into parish ladies' groups or Councils of Catholic Women. It is called a LEADERSHIP TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT (LTD) Day offered on **Saturday, July 19**, at the St. Bronislava Church in Plover.

This development training program is an NCCW custom-designed program to meet the needs of Councils of Catholic Women. The cost is \$30 per individual and includes breakfast and lunch. The program provides a fresh perspective on:

- Growing Your Membership
- Growing Your Board
- Growing Your Faith
- Growing Your Ideas.

All women from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee and Dioceses of Green Bay, La Crosse, Madison, and Superior are invited to attend this awesome Day of Enrichment! It will be a day for nurturing our spirits, intermixed with time for prayer and fun.

Please consider being a part of this renewal event and register today! A registration form is included in this newsletter. The following link has LTD Training registration and hotel information. <https://tinyurl.com/LTDJuly19>.

## Leadership Commission

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### **Sue Barker**

*Leadership Commission Chair*

Spring officially arrived on March 21, and Easter Sunday has just passed on April 20, so we are in the Easter Season until Pentecost Sunday in June. This time of year also brings several pastorate/vicariate spring meetings along with our MDCCW convention.

Even if you are not a member of a particular group, you are welcome to attend. Don't be afraid to look into what another CCW might be hosting, as it's a great opportunity to learn something new and make new friends.

This is also a Jubilee Year, The Year of Hope. We are able to earn a Plenary Indulgence by making a pilgrimage to any of the six sites in the Diocese of Madison:

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church and Shrine of Our Lady of the Green Scapular in Monona; St. Cecilia Church in Wisconsin Dells; St. Bernard Church in Watertown; Nativity of Mary Church in Janesville; St. Mary Church in Fennimore; and the Schoenstatt Shrine in Madison. You can also visit Holy Hill in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. This is a great excuse for a road trip with your CCW sisters!

Our annual MDCCW convention will be an exciting day of faith sharing with our speaker Dr. Valimar Jansen, who will fill us with excitement and show you our faith from a different angle.

Last but not least, plan to attend our national convention August 19-23 in Orlando, Florida. In addition to meetings and speakers, NCCW always has church visits, city tours, entertainment and great speakers. Hope to see you soon!

## Service Commission

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### **Linda Ripp**

*Service Commission Chair*

MDCCW will again host the reception following Ordination on Friday evening, May 30, at St. Maria Goretti Church in Madison. Four men will be ordained: Rev. Mr. Brad Grobbel, Rev. Mr. David Jaramillo, Deacon William Kearley, and Rev. Mr. Ryan Ruhle. We can expect up to 700 people in attendance with maybe half attending the reception.

We will need help with serving food and beverages. If you would like to donate (monetary or food — no nuts) for the reception or if you can help serve or clean-up, please contact me at [linmdccw@gmail.com](mailto:linmdccw@gmail.com), 608-849-7643.

## Boxes of Joy

MDCCW again will do the Box of Joy project. Boxes are shipped to Latin American countries through Cross Catholic International. This may be the only Christmas gift children receive. Last year we shipped over one thousand boxes from the Madison Diocese.

The drop-off site will be St. Martin Catholic Parish Center (former school building) in Martinsville (5959 St. Martin Cir, Cross Plains). The dates are earlier this year than last year: Saturday, October 25 (11am–2pm), Sunday, October 26 (9am–1pm), and November 1-2 (9am–3pm).

Boxes will be available in July. If people would prefer to donate items (small toys, school supplies, new summer clothes, underwear for ages 2-14) or money instead of filling an individual box, please bring items to St. Martin's Oct 25-26 or contact Linda Ripp (608) 849-7643 or [linmdccw@gmail.com](mailto:linmdccw@gmail.com).

## Ways and Means Committee

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**Suzanne Koch**  
*Ways and Means Chair*

The MDCCW mustard fundraiser has been very well received. Councils of Catholic Women from around the diocese have sold hundreds of jars of various mustards.

In addition to selling mustard at tables set up at events, we have a new initiative especially appropriate for this time of year. A case of mustard holds six jars and costs \$18. Please consider buying a case, or two or three, to donate to a worthy cause, such as the following: senior citizen centers, food pantries, and to organizations who put on brat and hamburger fries throughout the spring and summer months, such as Lions clubs, VFWs, KCs, church Holy Name society, and youth groups.

What a great photo opportunity to put a picture in the local paper to show the generosity of us ladies in supporting our community and perhaps generating a new member or two!

This fundraiser was for the first year of President Carol's term in office. Please contact me with any ideas for a fundraiser for her second year in office, or to have me drop off mustard to you for an upcoming event.

Suzanne Koch [kochspeech@gmail.com](mailto:kochspeech@gmail.com); 920-229-4150.

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## NCCW Convention 2025

**August 19 – 23, 2025**

**Lake Buena Vista, FL**

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## MDCCW Website

Please check the MDCCW website ([mdccw.com](http://mdccw.com)) regularly for calendar events and updates on the convention, including for on-line registration.

# 70th ANNUAL MDCCW CONVENTION

**Day of Spirituality | Saturday, June 28**

*Renewing Our Hope in Christ*

**St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Cross Plains**

*Dear Sisters in Christ,*

As chair of this year's convention, I invite you to join women across the Madison diocese to celebrate our 70th Annual MDCCW Convention on Saturday, June 28, at Saint Francis Xavier Catholic Church, 2947 Thinnest Street in Cross Plains.

Our theme is *Renewing Hope in Christ*, building upon the Catholic Church's 2025 Jubilee — Pilgrims of Hope.

We are delighted to bring our keynote speaker, Dr. ValLimar Jansen, to Wisconsin. She has an amazing voice and shares beautiful stories that invite you into Jesus' life. When ValLimar is sharing her gifts, she hopes to lift people up and ignite passion and purpose within them for Christ.

Personally, when I experienced presentations by ValLimar at the 2024 national convention, my heart was set on fire with the Holy Spirit. I came home with a passion and desire to find a way for ValLimar to touch the hearts of others in our community. I am confident that anyone who attends this spiritual day will come away touched by God's love.

## Registration

Registration for the event is \$50 and due by June 20. The registration fee must accompany the registration form and is not refundable but is transferable.

Please see the registration form in the back of this newsletter. Mail completed form with payment to Coreen Marklein, 1307 Crawford Street, Baraboo Wisconsin 53913. You can also register online at [www.MDCCW.com](http://www.MDCCW.com).

The MDCCW welcomes you to join in this beautiful day and experience song, stories, prayer, reflection and so much more. Please invite your priests to attend as your guests

**Kathy Roelke, Convention Chair**  
Pastorate 18 CCW President

## Agenda

<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	Registration/ Light Breakfast
<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	Welcome <b>Carol Rogers, President</b>
<b>9:15 a.m.</b>	Keynote Address #1 <b>ValLimar Jansen</b>
<b>10:15 a.m.</b>	Table Discussion
<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	Break
<b>11:00 a.m.</b>	Mass
<b>12:00 noon</b>	Lunch
<b>12:45 p.m.</b>	Business Meeting
<b>1:05 p.m.</b>	Keynote Address #2 <b>ValLimar Jansen</b>
<b>2:30 p.m.</b>	Closing, Silent Auction, Basket Raffle winners, Announcements

## About the Speaker

With over 120 unique performances annually, Dr. ValLimar Jansen has developed her signature blend of Scripture proclamation, reflection, music, costumed dramatic storytelling, prayer, and inspirational exhortation.

At its 2024 convention, NCCW presented Dr. Jansen with the "Lifetime Achievement Award" in recognition of how her life's work aligns with the mission and goals.

She presents parish missions and conducts retreats for schools, parishes, dioceses, and



retreat centers throughout the United States and Canada Dr. ValLimar Jansen has sung and toured professionally throughout the world.

She served as co-emcee for the USCCB's gatherings of English-speaking pilgrims at World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland, and was a prayer leader and concert artist at World Youth Day in Panama City. At the Loreto International Papal Event in Italy, Dr. Jansen and her husband, Frank Jansen, performed for over 400,000 people. The event was broadcast on Italian television, EWTN, and across the world.

Dr. Jansen played the role of Beneatha with the Broadway touring cast in the European premier of Raisin. She went on to co-author a one-woman musical about the life of Ethel Waters that received a special commendation from the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.

In 2023, Dr. Jansen performed in concert as a headliner at the iconic Carnegie Hall in New York City. She dedicated her performance to the six Black Catholics on the journey to sainthood. Fronting a 250-voice choir, ValLimar received the night's only standing ovation for her performance.

ValLimar has produced or co-produced 15 CDs and has nine published works. Drawing on her Bachelor of Arts in theatre arts, her Master of Arts in dramatic art, and her Doctorate in Christian performing arts, ValLimar is a playwright and storyteller. Regarded as an accomplished songwriter, she writes all her music in collaboration with her husband. ValLimar, her husband, and their supportive family live in Southern California.

Join this exceptional experience led by an international speaker, singer and actress, ValLimar Jansen. To learn more about ValLimar, visit her website at [www.valLimar.com](http://www.valLimar.com).

## Annual Meeting

President Carol Rogers will preside over the annual meeting which will include election of treasurer. Current treasurer Patty Spragg is the nominee. Other nominees will be accepted from the floor.

Please contact Carol if you are interested in serving on the board as an appointed commission chair.

## Mass

Bishop Donald J. Hying will be the main celebrant and homilist for the Mass. Concelebrating with him will be Father Scott Jablonski, host pastor; Monsignor Duane Moellenberndt, MDCCW Spiritual Advisor; and other attending priests.

The day of the Mass is the Memorial of the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The offertory collection during Mass that day will be part of MDCCW efforts to Build the Body of Christ by beautifying our new cathedral, St. Bernard of Clairvaux. All donations of any amount in the collection will be attributed to the women of the diocese.

## Silent Auction

The silent auction is the MDCCW annual fundraiser. Proceeds from this auction help the MDCCW continue its work.

Silent Auction Chair Kathy Loy encourages parishes, pastorates, and individuals to bring a basket for the silent auction. Please let her know ahead of time if you plan to bring one so space can be made available.

Label each basket with the donor's name, contents, and the estimated value of the donation. Use only clear coverings on the baskets, if used.

Kathy Loy at 608-822-6412 or [jkloy@tds.net](mailto:jkloy@tds.net).

## Convention Charity

The monies collected in Mass at Offertory will support The Cathedral of Saint Bernard of Clairvaux.

Proceeds from a bucket raffle will go to the Women's Care Center in Madison and to Clarity Clinic in Platteville.

Proceeds from the Silent Auction support the work of MDCCW. Cash and checks only for payment.

## Memorials, Honoraria, Ads

New to the printed Convention Program this year is a section of ads. You may choose to do any of the following:

Honoraria and Memorials may be purchased for \$25 each with a message limited to 25 or fewer words. Honor a living person/group or remember a deceased loved one. See the registration form for details.

Place a commercial ad in the Program by submitting a logo, slogan, etc., along with the name of the business and contact information. Ads are priced as follows: ½ Page Ad (\$300), ¼ Page Ad (\$200), and Business Card size Ad (\$100).

Be recognized as a sponsor in the program and future MDCCW materials and programs. Sponsorship needs include speaker costs, lunch, and program support. Levels of sponsorship are Platinum (\$2,000), gold (\$1,500), silver (\$1,000), and bronze (\$500) levels.

Contact Carol Rogers (phone: 608-391-2564; or by email at [carrogmdccw@gmail.com](mailto:carrogmdccw@gmail.com)) if you know of interested companies.

## Convention Site

The convention will take place in the fellowship hall of St. Francis Xavier Church, Cross Plains. Mass will be held in church.

The fellowship hall and the church are one building. To enter for the convention, go to the second door on the right where a welcome sign will be displayed.

Saint Francis Xavier Church is part of Holy Cross Catholic Parish which includes the following churches.

- St. Bernard, Middleton
- St. Francis Xavier, Cross Plains
- St. Martin of Tours, Martinsville
- St. Mary, Pine Bluff
- St. Peter, Ashton.

From its website Holy Cross Catholic Parish | Middleton-Cross Plains, WI: *Besides being geographically proximate to one another, the five churches also share certain historical touch points. But, above all, we are united in Jesus Christ – “who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross” so as to demonstrate God’s perfect love for each of us (Hebrews 12:2). Thus, despite the many challenges of living in a broken, hurting, and confused world, we continue to find hope and solace in Jesus and in the saving power of His cross. In the words of the Carthusian monastic order, “the cross is steady while the world turns.”*

## Lodging

A block of rooms has been secured at the newly renovated Courtyard Marriott Madison West/Middleton at 2266 Deming Way, Middleton for Friday, June 27. This hotel is a 12-minute drive to Saint Francis Xavier Church .

Please refer to the MDCCW room block when making your reservation to receive the group rate of \$159 + tax for a room with 2 double beds. Rooms will be held at this rate until June 5.

Telephone number is 608/203-0100, Courtyard Madison West/Middleton — With Bar, Hot Tub & Indoor Pool



# Madison Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (MDCCW)

## 70th MDCCW Convention

**A DAY of SPIRITUALITY, Saturday, June 28, 2025**  
**RENEWING OUR HOPE IN CHRIST**

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church,  
 2947 Thinnes Street, Cross Plains, WI. 53528 (wheel chair accessible)

Complete registration online at [www.mdccw.com](http://www.mdccw.com) or send paper registration and payment to: Coreen S Marklein, 1307 Crawford Street, Baraboo WI 53913. Contact Coreen via email at [csmarklein@gmail.com](mailto:csmarklein@gmail.com) or phone (608) 393-0880 if you have questions. Fee(s) must accompany registration form. Registrations are transferable but not refundable. Be sure to invite, register and pay for your parish priest(s) and religious.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish Name/Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Pastorate: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check all that apply:

\_\_\_\_\_ CCW Member \_\_\_\_\_ Guest \_\_\_\_\_ First-time MDCCW Convention Attendee  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Past president of MDCCW \_\_\_\_\_ Parish CCW President \_\_\_\_\_ Member MDCCW Board

A continental breakfast will be available in the morning. Please select one item from the lunch menu below. Meal includes apple, cookie, chips, coffee and water.

\_\_\_\_\_ Tuna Sandwich \_\_\_\_\_ Ham Sandwich \_\_\_\_\_ Turkey Sandwich  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Special Dietary Needs: \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like to honor someone special or a group by having a memorial/honoree listed in the program, complete information below. Request/payment must be submitted **BY JUNE 9** to be included in the program (25 word-maximum).

# memorials or honorees @ \$25 each. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Memorial \_\_\_\_\_ Honoree

Example of a memorial or honoree: *In honor of M. Rita Marklein, from Your Family*

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Convention Fee: \$50.00  
 Memorial or Honoree @ \$25.00 each

Registrations **DUE BY JUNE 20, 2025.**  
 Memorial/Honoree **DUE BY JUNE 9, 2025**

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_ Send cash or checks payable to MDCCW.

Guest Speaker/Performer: **Dr. ValLimar Jansen.**



*You will be amazed by Dr. Jansen's ability to blend Scripture proclamation, reflection, music, her costumed dramatic storytelling, prayer, and inspirational exhortation in her presentations. She will have two separate presentations – one in the morning and one in the afternoon. She will also be our song leader for Mass. You will not want to miss seeing this truly awe-inspiring and gifted speaker.*

**Gift basket silent auction and bucket raffle will be held (cash or check only). Offertory collection will go to the St. Bernard of Clairvaux Cathedral building project.**

MDCCW is an Affiliate of the National Council of Catholic Women.





# Calling All Women

LTD Day  
Saturday  
July 19

## Registration Form

Join us for a day of nurturing ourselves in spirit, fun, prayer and enrichment to grow our Christian women's communities. This training is an NCCW custom designed program to meet the needs of our ladies' groups as identified by local leadership.

**Saturday, July 19, 2025, 9am – 3pm**  
**St. Bronislava Parish, 3200 Plover Road, Plover, WI**

\$50 per person includes continental breakfast, lunch and all printed materials.  
Please mail your payment to Jean Kelly, 800 Terrace Dr., Elm Grove, WI 53122.  
Checks made out to the Province of Milwaukee.

Questions? Contact Jane Schiszik [janschiszk@hotmail.com](mailto:janschiszk@hotmail.com) or Bridgette Adler [bridgettheadler@gmail.com](mailto:bridgettheadler@gmail.com)

### ATTENDEE INFORMATION

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Diocese: \_\_\_\_\_

### HOTEL INFORMATION

#### **Hampton Inn by Hilton**

3090 Village Park Drive

Plover, WI 54467

Group Name: NCCW LTD

Arrival date: July 18, 2025 Departure date: July 19, 2025.

Group Code: NCC

Rate: \$179.00 a night plus tax for a Room

Rooms 4 – Double Queen Rooms

7 – Single Queen Rooms

Cancellation 24 hours before arrival

FOR RESERVATIONS: Call the hotel: 715-295-9900; Press "0" to speak to a Front Desk Agent.

Guest will need to mention they are booking under a group block. **Last date for Room Block**

**Reservations at the Hampton Inn is June 18th, 2025.**

#### **AmericInn by Wyndham Plover, Stevens Point**

1501 American Drive, Plover, WI 54467

Phone: 715-342-1244

email: [plover.wi@americinn.com](mailto:plover.wi@americinn.com)

Phone Number: 715-342-1244

Group: NCCW Province of Milwaukee LTD (NCCW)

Arrival Date: July 18, 2025

Room Rate: \$160.00 plus tax

Rooms available:

3 Single King Rooms

6 Single Queen Rooms

**Last date for the AmericInn Room Block: June 15, 2025**

