

BEHOLD, I AM DOING SOMETHING NEW

2010 - 2011 ANNUAL REPORT
LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE OF
WOMEN RELIGIOUS



Annual Report of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious

2010 – 2011

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Behold, I Am Doing Something New

Praying with texts describing the days of the early church — texts often read during the Easter season — can lead us to wonder what it was like to live in this time of new birth. The courage, the generosity, and the living faith of the early disciples were extraordinary. That time can lead us to recall the conversations that generated so much excitement in the days following the Second Vatican Council. There was a heightened emphasis upon the study of both charisms and scripture. There was an eagerness to experiment and to deepen our fidelity to religious life. There were renewed efforts at courage and generosity and new expressions of living faith.

The circumstances of our recent lives brought challenges, many of which surprised us. Some challenges were hurtful. This year, however, has been a year of honoring. The *Women & Spirit* exhibit continues to draw hundreds of thousands to learn the stories of Catholic sisters in America. LCWR has received an honorary doctorate from the University of San Francisco. The American Catholic Historical Association honored LCWR as did the National Federation of Priests' Councils with its Mandatum Award. In the same week we might be attending a reception at the Vatican Embassy in Washington, DC to celebrate the anniversary of the election of Pope Benedict XVI and the Easter Prayer Breakfast at the White House. Our visits to offices in Rome yielded new hope. We dare to hope for a rebirth of relationships.

Our voices have always been present. Now, more than ever, we are being recognized as having voices that matter. Our fidelity to the principles of Catholic social teaching has been consistent and clear, if not



Pat Farrell, OSF; Mary Hughes, OP; and Marlene Weisenbeck, FSPA

always understood. We have reached a new depth in our process of renewal and we are speaking in ways that continue to require courage, generosity, and new expressions of living faith. We are speaking with solidarity, with joy, and with conviction. At the same time, may we always speak with humility, with truth, and with holiness. How else will we perceive what God is doing in our midst?

*Mary Hughes, OP
LCWR President*

*Pat Farrell, OSF
LCWR President-Elect*

*Marlene Weisenbeck, FSPA
LCWR Past President*

Can You Not Perceive It?

What is God's Time?

Throughout this year, I have found myself resonating with what the LCWR contemplative process is calling forth from us. At the same time, I also find within myself some concerns about our openness to giving ourselves the time it takes to “perceive” what God is doing among us, about how we will know for certain that we have uncovered “the new,” and about knowing when is the right time to act.

I think the discipline this process can impose upon us is one of the greatest challenges we face given today’s realities. Traditionally we are seen as women who take action, who speak up and out. We see and respond to needs because we live in a world filled with pain and suffering, and because our mission calls us to respond. This is good and necessary. However, we now live in a world where instant communication provides us knowledge of situations once considered unthinkable, and often we feel a certain pressure to respond in an instant. Given these new times in which we live and our desire to respond, I wonder if we will have the discipline to take/make the time needed — God’s time — to free ourselves to “perceive” and let “the new” rise up within us. I ask myself what is God’s time? And how do I know when is the right time for me, for us to respond?

I have a friend who when confronted with a new idea or challenge will say, “I need time to think

I wonder if we will have the discipline to take/make the time needed — God’s time — to free ourselves to “perceive” and let “the new” rise up within us.

about this.” I have always admired this quality, but have to admit that sometimes I am also frustrated by it. I realize I have fallen into believing that I want/need an instant response.

Two experiences give me some insight into perceiving the new and knowing it was time to take action. Recently, I was in conversation with someone about a serious matter and made a statement that I had not given voice to previously. I was surprised at what I said. Later, reflecting back, I realized that my response was really something that had been taking shape within me for a time. I had spent time pondering this situation, looking for a direction but had never spoken of it, or taken action. It was in that moment of conversation that I knew what I needed to say and do. Weeks later, I recognized that I had been listening. It was “the new,” but until that moment I had not really been able to perceive it.

On the other side of this there have been some ideas I have been considering for a long time that I think would be “new” for LCWR, but are still just rumblings within me. They are what I consider critical concerns, but I have yet to find within myself what I perceive is of God. I want to wait patiently, but I am a woman of my time, and so I too am looking for instant communication. Repeatedly I say to myself, give this more time, in God’s time I/we will perceive the new. The waiting is the challenge.



*Jane Burke, SSND
LCWR Executive Director*

2010 LCWR Assembly Hope in the Midst of Darkness

More than 750 members and associates gathered in Dallas, Texas in August 2010 for the annual assembly that focused on “Hope in the Midst of Darkness: Exploring the Ecclesial Role of Women Religious.”

Among the highlights of the assembly were:

- A keynote address by M. Shawn Copeland, PhD of Boston College on the grace of prophetic hope
- A keynote address by Richard R. Gaillardetz, PhD of the University of Toledo on contemporary religious life’s creative fidelity to the vision of Vatican II
- The presidential address by Marlene Weisenbeck, FSPA on “Called to Hope as Prophets, Artists, Healers, and Lovers”
- A welcome from Dallas bishop Kevin J. Farrell
- Updates on the status of the doctrinal assessment of LCWR being conducted by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith
- Panel presentation on the experience of the apostolic visitation’s on-site visit phase
- Presentations on the LCWR Contemporary Religious Life Project
- Passage of a resolution to actively strengthen bonds with women religious globally
- A public prayer service in downtown Dallas centered on the abolition of the death penalty
- Presentation of LCWR’s Outstanding Leadership Award to Margaret Brennan, IHM.



M. Shawn Copeland



Richard R. Gaillardetz



Marlene Weisenbeck, FSPA



Assembly participants process to a public square in downtown Dallas to pray for the abolition of the death penalty.

2010 LCWR Assembly Hope in the Midst of Darkness

Let us be reverent stewards of these holy energies
of prophecy, art, healing, and love.
Let our charity give impetus to an unreasonable willingness to
believe in and taste the future;
to act together so that others might know
and feel our love for the Gospel.

— Marlene Weisenbeck, FSPA, Presidential Address



In this moment of LCWR history,
when its very meaning and history has been
called into question, I feel extraordinarily hon-
ored and humbled to be able to express a word
of wonder and of gratitude for
Who and What we are.

— Margaret Brennan, IHM, Acceptance Speech



*CNN covers part of the assembly and includes
it in a news segment on the Catholic Church in
the United States*



Assembly Resolutions Policy Revised

Following the 2010 assembly, the LCWR Assembly Resolutions Committee reviewed the existing policy, perceived a gap, and proposed an additional step which was reviewed by the LCWR board, revised further, and approved. The board also recommended that a new form be developed for regions to indicate that they had reviewed the assembly resolution proposal during their spring meetings and whether or not they had significant questions.



LCWR's Contemporary Religious Life Project

Strategic Operational Planning Committee

The Contemporary Religious Life Project, an initiative affirmed by the 2009 LCWR assembly, called for the creation of a Strategic Operational Planning Committee to study the conference's structures and effectiveness in light of its changing demographic and financial realities.

Based on the feedback offered during the 2010 LCWR assembly, the committee created an online survey of all LCWR members which was conducted in fall 2010. The survey, which looked at the current realities and long-term needs of the conference and its members, provided invaluable information that will be used in future planning as the committee explores the most viable structures for LCWR as it moves into the future.

See, I am doing something new!
Now it springs up;
can you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the desert and
streams in the wasteland.
— Isaiah 43: 19

Contemporary Religious Life Committee

The project also called for the creation of a committee that would help leaders assume an anticipatory role in reading the signs of the times from a gospel perspective and understanding the implications for religious life, and that would help bring emerging questions, issues, and trends to the attention of the members. The Contemporary Religious Life Committee assists with planning the LCWR assemblies, and with providing resources to assist with study and theological reflection on the emerging questions.

Thus far the committee has provided suggested readings for all members (shared in an online annotated bibliography) which leaders are encouraged to use with their own members, and has developed the "Behold, I am Doing Something New" contemplative process. LCWR has engaged in the contemplative process by incorporating it into meetings of the national board, the regions, and some committees, and will utilize it at the 2011 assembly.

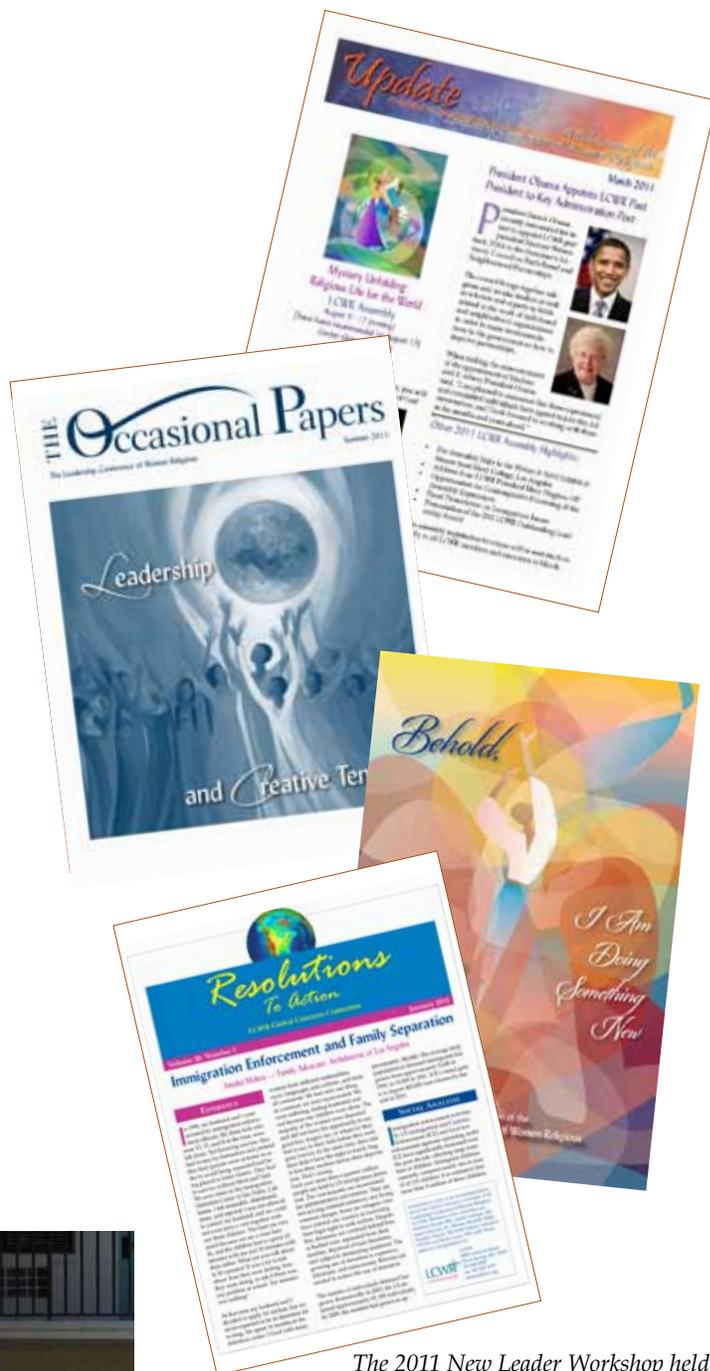


Leadership Formation

The conference has engaged in study of the leadership formation resources it currently offers and has begun several initiatives to strengthen those resources to best fit the needs of its members.

LCWR continues to offer:

- The New Leader Workshop, which approximately 80 leaders attended this year
- The Leading from Within Retreat, attended by 25 LCWR members
- *Update*, the monthly conference newsletter
- *Occasional Papers*, the biannual conference journal
- The LCWR reflection book, an annual collection of members' insights on a theme. More than 20,000 copies of this publication were distributed.
- *Resolutions to Action*, a periodic publication offering theological reflection, social analysis, and suggested actions on justice issues
- An online broadcast messaging system that allows for timely communication between the LCWR national office and its members and associates.



The 2011 Leading from Within Retreat held in Winter Park, Florida



The 2011 New Leader Workshop held in Mundelein, Illinois



New Initiatives in Leadership Formation

LCWR, in collaboration with Washington Theological Union (WTU), has begun the design of new leadership formation initiatives to best serve women religious leaders today. The purpose of these initiatives is to assist leaders in envisioning a future for their congregations and developing and strengthening the leadership skills needed to articulate a compelling vision and engage members in making it a reality.

In late 2010 LCWR began seeking grants for these initiatives and received funding to create two ad hoc committees. One committee is looking at the overall design of possible new initiatives, and has drawn upon the expertise of the National Leadership Roundtable on Church Management and Catholic Health Association. A second committee is reviewing the *LCWR Leading from Within Manual* and exploring other resources in order to provide leaders with access to the latest leadership formation resources.

Thus far, the committees have been focusing on:

- The provision of administrative and emotional support for all leaders during this time of massive change, and particularly for leaders whose congregations are in the process of organizational transformation: merging with another community, forming new entities, realignment of property and buildings
- Furthering the development of the intellectual and spiritual life by engaging participants in the larger questions regarding the meaning of religious life and its role in the church and in the world
- Development of leadership skills that assist current leaders in cultivating the leadership in their members, especially those under 60 years of age, to assure religious life for future generations.

The committees are exploring the use of online technologies in order to provide resources in an efficient and cost-effective manner to as many LCWR members as possible. LCWR is also seeking additional grants to further develop these initiatives.



Members of the LCWR Manual Committee are: (left to right) Sara Dwyer, ASC; Chris Koellhoffer, IHM; Ellen Dauwer, SC; Janet Mock, CSJ (WTU staff); Mary Jo Nelson, OLVN; Jane Burke, SSND; Sheila Lemieux, CSJP; Annmarie Sanders, IHM; and Regina Bechtle, SC



Program Design Committee meeting participants: (standing) Nancy Schreck, OSF; Eileen Campbell, RSM; Nancy Conway, CSJ; Mary Pellegrino, CSJ; Marlene Weisenbeck, FSPA; Annmarie Sanders, IHM (LCWR staff); Michael Brough (consultant); (seated) Barbara Hagedorn, SC; Rey Friel (consultant); Mary Haddad, RSM (consultant); Janet Mock, CSJ (WTU staff); Jane Burke, SSND (LCWR executive director); and Laura Glasgow (WTU staff). Also present were Fred Tillotson, O Carm (WTU president) and Larry LeNoir (WTU faculty)

Members Create Networks of Support

The unique challenges during this time for women religious in leadership has led LCWR members to find new ways to reach out to and support one another.

Solidarity in Prayer During Phase Three of the Apostolic Visitation

LCWR members were invited to pray for those congregations selected for a visitation, as well as for those conducting the visitations. Congregations that requested prayer were listed on a calendar that was available to all LCWR members and associates.

Refounding/Revitalization Network

A group of LCWR members who lead congregations that have decided not to reconfigure, merge, or form a union, but want to “refound” or “revitalize,” formed to explore possibilities and strategies around future leadership, alternative forms of association, and property/environmental issues. This group meets by videoconferencing and in person prior to the LCWR assembly.

Young Leaders

Forty-five LCWR members who are approximately 60 and younger completed an LCWR survey designed to ascertain their interest in networking with one another. Results showed high interest in electronic networking, meeting at the LCWR assembly, and interfacing with one another in geographic groupings.



LCWR president Mary Hughes, OP (center) at the April White House prayer breakfast

Collaboration in the Public Service Sector

President Barack Obama and his administration have invited LCWR’s participation in several initiatives and events during this year. This included an invitation to LCWR president Mary Hughes, OP to attend the White House’s second annual prayer breakfast marking Holy Week and Easter, where she was among 130 other Christian faith leaders, members of congress, and administration officials.

LCWR staff have also been invited participants at other meetings and social events with the US president and key members of his staff.

In addition, President Obama appointed LCWR past president Marlene Weisenbeck, FSPA to serve on the President’s Advisory Council on Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. The council, consisting of leaders and scholars, make recommendations to the government on improving partnerships.

Collaborating to Best Serve Religious Life

LCWR works closely in collaboration with a number of other organizations serving religious life. (Updates from its closest collaborators are included in this report on pages 29 and 30.) Among this year's activities were the following.

InterAmerican Committee Meeting

Officers from the Confederation of Latin American Religious, the Canadian Religious Conference, the Conference of Major Superiors of Men, and LCWR met in June 2011 in Silver Spring, Maryland. Among the matters addressed were religious life as it moves into the future and the reconstruction efforts of women and men religious in Haiti following the 2010 earthquake. The guests also toured many sites of interest in the Washington, DC and Baltimore areas.

Vocation Symposium

LCWR president Mary Hughes, OP represented the conference at a symposium sponsored by the National Religious Vocation Conference (NRVC) to review the results of the study on recent vocations to religious life conducted by NRVC and the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate. The participants, who represented a variety of constituencies in the church, created a plan of action that addresses vocational promotion.



Maryann Seton Lopiccolo, SC and Mary Hughes, OP at the vocation symposium

JS Paluch Seminar

LCWR's associate director for communications represented LCWR at the annual JS Paluch Seminar, a forum for continued collaboration among national vocation organizations.

Catholic Mission Forum

LCWR co-sponsored the 2010 Catholic Mission Forum, an event of the US Catholic Mission Association.



LCWR member Linda Szocik SSJ-TOSF at a memorial in San Salvador to the nearly 25,000 people who either died or went missing during the civil conflict of the 1980s

Delegation to El Salvador

LCWR co-sponsored a delegation to El Salvador to mark the 30th anniversary of the US churchwomen killed in El Salvador. Led by the staff of SHARE, several LCWR members and staff were among the 49 people who spent one week in the country visiting the sites of martyrdom and learning about the realities of the Salvadoran people today.

International and National Collaboration with the Church

Annual Visit to Vatican

The LCWR presidents and executive director represented the conference in Rome from April 27 through May 4. They traveled with a delegation of officers from the Conference of Major Superiors of Men and made several of their visits to various Vatican offices jointly. Among the offices visited were:

- The Secretariat of State
- The Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life
- The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith
- The Pontifical Council for the Family
- The Pontifical Council for Inter-Religious Dialogue



The LCWR and CMSM delegations visit with US ambassador to the Vatican Dr. Miguel Díaz

- The Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace
- The Pontifical Council for the Laity
- The Pontifical Council "Cor Unum"
- The Pontifical Council for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Immigrants
- The Pontifical Council for Social Communications
- The Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity

The trip also included meetings with the US ambassador to the Vatican, leaders of the Union of International Superiors General and the Union of Superiors General, and major superiors of congregations who have sisters working in the United States, as well as participation in Pope Benedict XVI's weekly audience.



Pat Farrell, OSF; Mary Hughes, OP; Joseph Tobin, CSsR, secretary of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life; and Marlene Weisenbeck, FSPA

Commission on Religious Life and Ministry

The Commission on Religious Life and Ministry (CRLM) meets annually in November. It is composed of LCWR, the Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM), the Council of Major Superiors of Women Religious (CMSWR), the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), the National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO),

and the National Conference of Vicars for Religious (NCVR). A key action taken at the 2010 meeting was the signing of the memorandum of understanding with regard to the relationship between the NRRO and the four conferences: LCWR, CMSM, CMSWR, and USCCB. It also clarifies the responsibility for stewardship of the Retirement Fund for Religious.

Looking to the future, this year the commission discussed a report given by Paul Bednarczyk, CSC,

(continued on page 13)

Commission on Religious Life and Ministry

(continued from page 12)

executive director of the National Religious Vocation Conference on the “Moving Forward in Hope” conference. Held last fall, the weekend meeting was a follow-up to the NRVC/CARA Study of Vocations.

Other emerging issues addressed were the impact of congregational reconfigurations, particularly on dioceses, and critical issues concerning retirement funding. It became clear that the conferences need to work collaboratively to reach out to congregations that are not in contact with the NRRO. New and creative solutions are needed to address some of the challenging demographics that are becoming increasingly apparent in religious congregations.

The LCWR presidency and executive director attended the November meeting of the USCCB as observers. In addition, the executive director represented LCWR at the meeting of the USCCB Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations. She and other representatives from various consultative groups reported on their organizations’ activities and had the opportunity to bring questions forward from their groups. LCWR’s question was: How can congregations of women religious concerned about the future of religious life better collaborate with local diocesan offices also concerned about religious life?



Pat Farrell, OSF in Haiti during the annual meeting of CLAR

Outreach to Haiti

LCWR has been an active partner with other organizations seeking to assist women and men religious in Haiti struggling to rebuild their lives and ministries, following the devastating earthquake in January 2010. Among the efforts in which LCWR has participated are:

- Ongoing communication with LCWR members who have sisters in Haiti to ascertain the needs
- Participation in a meeting convened by the Raskob Foundation and Catholic Relief Services and attended by representatives of the Catholic Medical Mission Board, CMSM, and the Conference of Haitian Religious to assess the needs in Haiti
- Representation of LCWR by president-elect Pat Farrell, OSF at a gathering in Miami of key ecclesial collaborators to build a common approach to responding to the needs of the Catholic church in Haiti
- Participation by Pat Farrell in the annual meeting of the Confederation of Latin American Religious (CLAR) held in Haiti in order to demonstrate solidarity and to explore how most effectively to channel assistance.

Discussion of the situation in Haiti also formed a major part of the agenda of the 2010 meeting held in Montreal of the InterAmerican Committee.



Members of the Commission on Religious Life and Ministry meet in Baltimore in November 2010

LCWR National Board

The 21-member LCWR national board worked throughout the year to provide leadership to the conference on national and regional levels. Meeting in Dallas, Texas in August and in Lutz, Florida in February and working electronically and by conference calls, the board's focus has included:

- LCWR assembly evaluation and planning
- LCWR membership dues
- Leadership development programming
- Transformative Elements document
- Reports from the National Religious Retirement Office on retirement planning and funding
- Hotel chains and human trafficking policies
- Needs of younger LCWR members
- Working with survivors of sexual abuse
- Preparation for regional meetings
- Study of the analysis of the survey of membership on LCWR structure and services
- Criteria for signing statements on justice matters
- Participation in the LCWR contemplative process



The CMSM and LCWR executive committees meet at the conferences' offices in Silver Spring, Maryland

LCWR and CMSM Boards

In addition to two joint meetings of the executive committees of LCWR and CMSM each year, the conferences' national boards convene in the same location in February, so that they can meet jointly as well. This year the agenda topics of the joint gathering included:

- The desire for honest and open conversation among religious on the critical and rapidly rising issues facing congregations
- Concern for the number of congregations of women religious facing grave financial challenges
- The challenge of bringing issues of significance to the USCCB Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations
- Implications of the NRVC/ CARA study on vocations



LCWR executive committee meet in LaCrosse, Wisconsin - Mary Hughes, OP; Ellen Dauwer, SC; Jane Burke, SSND; Carol Zimm, SSJ; Marlene Weisenbeck, FSPA; Pat Farrell, OSF; and Sheila Megley, RSM



The LCWR national board at its meeting in Lutz, Florida

Honors Bestowed on LCWR and US Women Religious

Several organizations and institutions either honored or expressed particular appreciation to LCWR and US women religious.

- University of San Francisco conferred the degree of doctor of humane letters to LCWR in honor of all US women religious
- American Catholic Historical Society bestowed its Service to Catholic Studies Award for the *Women & Spirit: Catholic Sisters in America* traveling exhibit
- Spiritual Directors International Coordinating Council expressed in a letter its appreciation for the significant role of women religious in the practice of spiritual direction
- National Federation of Priests' Councils presented its Mandatum Award for the service to the Gospel of Jesus Christ given by LCWR and women religious



LCWR president Mary Hughes, OP (center) receives the University of San Francisco honors on behalf of all US women religious



LCWR associate director for business and finance Pat Cormack, SCSC receives the award from the National Federation of Priests' Councils



Mary Hughes, OP and Helen Garvey, BVM, coordinator of the LCWR history project, accept the American Catholic Historical Society award

WOMEN & spirit

CATHOLIC SISTERS IN AMERICA

Since its opening, nearly one million people have visited the LCWR *Women & Spirit: Catholic Sisters in America* exhibit as it traveled to:

Cincinnati Museum Center
Cincinnati, Ohio
May – August 2009

The Women's Museum: An Institute for the Future
Dallas, Texas
September – December 2009

S. Dillon Ripley Center at the Smithsonian
Washington, DC
January – April 2010

Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage
Cleveland, Ohio
May – August 2010

Ellis Island Immigration Museum
Liberty Island, New York
February – May 2011

The National Mississippi River
Museum & Aquarium
Dubuque, Iowa
February – May 2011

Mount St. Mary's College
Los Angeles, California
June – August 2011

Its final two showings will be at:

Center for History
South Bend, Indiana
September – December 2011

The California Museum of
History, Women & the Arts
Sacramento, California
January – June 2012

Documentary

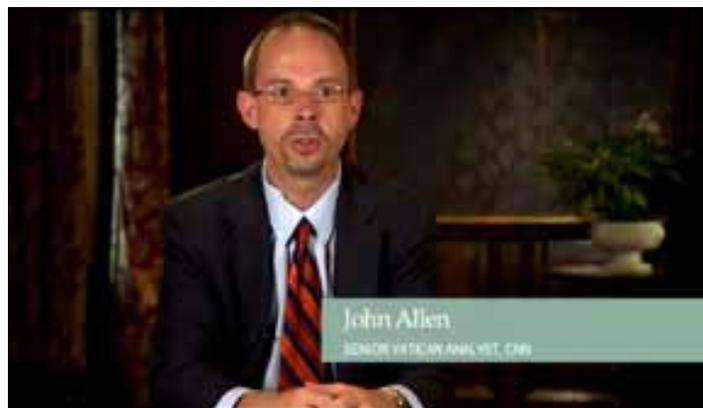
Due to the tremendous interest in the exhibit, LCWR raised funds so that it could produce a one-hour documentary that also tells the story of the contributions of women religious to the nation.

National Public Radio senior news analyst and ABC News political commentator Cokie Roberts will donate her services as the documentary narrator.

The documentary will be available for sale on a DVD that includes a digital catalogue of the entire exhibit, a film study guide, and some of the videos that appear in the exhibit. The goal is also to seek broadcast of the film on Public Broadcasting Service affiliates across the country.



Kathleen Sprows Cummings, an assistant professor of American studies at the University of Notre Dame speaks on the documentary



John L. Allen, senior correspondent for the National Catholic Reporter and senior analyst for CNN, shares his perspective in the documentary on the historic contributions of women religious

Advocacy for Justice and Peace

Global Concerns Committee

Members of the LCWR Global Concerns Committee (GCC) perceived that through the apostolic visitation of US women religious and doctrinal assessment of LCWR, the Spirit was stirring something new by way of the many responses LCWR received from religious around the world offering support, encouragement, and prayer. The committee developed a new kind of assembly resolution, one not focused on an issue of social justice, but a resolution for LCWR to “strengthen bonds among women religious throughout the world.”

In their enthusiastic response to this 2010 resolution, congregations and regions undertook a variety of activities including a YouTube interview, speakers at region meetings, financial support, sharing in regions by congregations with an international presence, sending sisters from a region on a delegation to El Salvador, contacts with sisters globally via technology, and inclusion of women religious around the world in prayer.

Also, the GCC issued the following Resolutions to Action: “Reducing and Offsetting our Carbon Footprint,” “Legalized Homicide: Death Penalty in 2010,” “Global Seed-Stories of Hope,” and “Immigration Enforcement and Family Separation.”

In their ongoing collaboration, the GCC and the CMSM Justice and Peace Committee determined to take up a new agenda item, federal budget issues, during their joint meeting in April. While the budget has not been a top priority issue for either committee, given the drastic proposals coming from congress this year, members agreed it must be addressed. A staff member of NETWORK was invited to the meeting to provide information about the budget process, key items, and additional resources. Both committees also heard a report about CMSM and LCWR collaboration with CRS on behalf of ministries of congregations in Haiti.



Committee members: Sharon Altendorf, PBVM; Janet Lehmann, SC; Dorothy Pagosa, SSJ-TOSF; Marie Lucey, OSF; Kathleen Bryant, RSC; Judy Justinger, SSJ; Seamus Finn, OMI (CMSM host); Miriam Mitchell, SHSp

Staff

Ongoing participation in a number of issue-group meetings fills up staff schedule quickly: Justice for Immigrants Campaign; Catholic Coalition on Climate Change; Coalition of Catholic Organizations Against Human Trafficking; NETWORK board meetings and coordinating council calls; Jubilee USA activities; Catholic Leadership Council of the National Religious Campaign Against Torture; Interfaith Nuclear Disarmament Group; Extractive Industries Working Group; Faith, Ecology and Economy Transformation; monthly meetings of Heads of Washington Offices (interfaith justice staff); and meetings of the Catholic Health Association (CHA) board. “Something new” came by way of two groups. One was a rare success story, the ratification of the new START treaty after months of intensive work by many faith and nuclear disarmament organizations. A special reception was held in DC by faith groups, including LCWR, to honor Rose Gottemoeller, Assistant Secretary of State, for her leadership on verification. The second was the closure of the National Coalition on Catholic Health Care Ministry, which grew out of work in 1989 by women religious sponsors of Catholic healthcare. With the purposes of the NCCHCM fulfilled, participating members of the USCCB, CHA, CMSWR, and LCWR agreed to sunset the group, with gratitude for all that had been accomplished.

Systemic Change Think Tank

Leaders and justice and peace coordinators participated in the 2011 systemic change think tank, utilizing the “Awakening the Dreamer” program.

Creating 'Something New' in the LCWR Regions

Region 1

The 15 LCWR regions respond to the question: In what ways has your region explored "the new" that may be happening within religious life?

At our fall meeting, Dr. Colleen Griffith, associate professor of the practice of theology, Boston College, addressed "Creative Fidelity in Challenging Ecclesial Times." Reflection and table conversations confirmed how women religious dialogue and act in ways that sustain creative fidelity to the needs of the People of God, while never compromising integrity.

At our spring meeting, an intercultural, intergenerational panel of women religious provided a contemplative space of silence and openness. We crossed the borders of our hearts, stepped out of our own cultural skin, and learned how grace-filled our rootedness is in the consecrated life that we share together. We hold new insights and dreams about being women religious in this 21st century.

A fourth symposium offered by the Boston Unit of the LCWR Anti-Trafficking Coalition addressed the question: What can private citizens do to break the chains of human trafficking? A safe house for trafficked women initiated by this unit nears realization.

Regional projects, Wisdom's Way and Institute for Community Economics, help us understand the societal trends that affect women seeking bachelors' degrees and that impact low-income housing.



Region 8



Region 9 at the National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium in Dubuque, Iowa



Region 1

Region 2

The members of Region 2 have taken time to reflect together on the events that have shaped our religious life in the last two years in order to see what God is asking of us for the future of our consecrated life and the world.

In fall 2010, we invited the four western New York State bishops to be with us. It was a time of prayer, dialogue, laughter, mutual listening, and celebration. We had planned this event for two years and the atmosphere, with the backdrop of the Vatican investigations, was one of mutual support and affection with a desire for deeper unity.

In spring 2011, in an effort to build on the expressed desire of women religious to go more deeply into our religious life, we invited Marlene Weisenbeck, FSPA, to present reflections on the vows. We spent a beautiful retreat day together and then engaged in the contemplative process from the Contemporary Religious Life Project with Marlene's presentation as our content.

Our social justice committee provided opportunities for us to delve into the LCWR 2010 assembly resolution by inviting sisters from our member congregations who had served in other countries to speak with us in the fall and by sponsoring a presentation about the life of Dorothy Stang, SNDdeN by Nancy Murray, OP for our spring conference.

We have experienced so much over this year. Our region is thankful for the opportunities given to us to share with one another what matters most to us. Our bonds are strengthened every time we meet.



Region 3

"Behold, I am doing something new; do you not perceive it?" This powerful question framed our work and called forth deeper solidarity among us. We found ourselves drawn into the Contemporary Religious Life Project and enthusiastic about the journey of God's revelatory work in and through us as we live into the future.

We welcomed Mary Charlotte Chandler, RSCJ and Charlene Diorka, SSJ at our fall meeting to reflect on the historical, social, and ecclesial contexts of religious life in dialogue with the recent CARA study on vocations. The insights gleaned offered clarity and cohesion of thought as we continue to attend to the "something new" our God is doing at this point in time. The desire to open ourselves to God's

promptings was nourished and nurtured in a way that freed us to perceive the newness and respond anew.

Furthering the LCWR 2010 resolution at our spring meeting, we welcomed nine sisters to share their experience of religious life. The grace of this meeting touched our minds and hearts and urged us to continue to strengthen the bonds of relationship with our global sisters. The gift of religious life is needed now more than ever by our world and we desire to remain faithful, hopeful, and joy-filled in the midst of the tremendous realities we all face. Social media came alive at our spring meeting through a presentation by Kim Cavallero, SHCJ communications director and the chair of the National Communicators Network for Women Religious. We perceived more clearly what is unfolding in our culture and how we can engage in meaningful and purposeful ways those God continues to call to religious life.



Region 4

In October 2010 Region 4 participated in the LCWR process inviting us to reflect on what might be the emerging new reality into which God is calling us. At that same meeting, Christine Vladimiroff, OSB gave a presentation, "Ecclesial Women: Dancing to the Edge," that provided an important consciousness-raising process and in-depth exploration of the emerging newness and possibilities for us today in the church.

At both the October and April 2011 meeting, we reflected on the LCWR assembly resolution and recognized that we have been experiencing a new growth in global solidarity with religious through the apostolic visitation of US religious congregations, the Forum for Sisters, and interactions with others in international congregations.

An important concern in the region was a difficult situation involving some congregations of women religious and one of the area bishops. The situation was cleared, and for members the experience highlighted the kind of witness we want to give in difficult situations, expressing the desire to remain at the table in dialogue. Partly in response to this situation, the region engaged Nancy Sylvester, IHM, who spoke about "Compassionate Conversing in a Time of Chaos." The topic followed our October discussions and helped us to reflect on our dispositions, attitudes, and behaviors in light of the desire to have a compassionate heart. Nancy used the "Engaging Impasse" process, helping us learn to embrace a contemplative stance in addressing the complex issues of our time. The concluding reflection, "What is the New Presence?," strengthened our understanding of how we are to be present as women of compassion amid emerging new realities.

Many of the congregations also spoke of how they used the LCWR process with their own members.



Catherine Meinert, SC; Toby Lardie, HM; and Althea Anne Spencer, OSF

Region 5

During both our fall and spring meetings the process developed by the Contemporary Religious Life Project Committee provided a serene, meaningful way to "explore the new." We were encouraged to use this process within our own communities.

At the fall 2010 meeting, a presentation by Sylvia Thibodeaux, SSF (Department of Religious, Archdiocese of New Orleans) and Tom Costanza (Catholic Charities Office of Justice and Peace, New Orleans) regarding their onsite visit to the religious in Haiti, provided a moving insight into the hopes and needs of the Haitian people and the religious, in particular.

During our spring 2011 meeting, a presentation by Nancy Schreck, OSF on the parables was "like a retreat," to quote one member. She enabled us to understand that the "parables are meant to release new energy in the heart, pose a question waiting for an answer and are an invitation waiting for action." What a perfect way to approach the new and to make space for the new to approach us.



"Second Lining" at the spring meeting, with music and supplies provided by the Holy Family Sisters

Region 6

Region 6 has explored “the new” that may be happening within religious life through participation in the Contemporary Religious Life Process. With each experience of the process, we have realized that the conversation goes deeper and “the new” that is emerging is becoming clearer. We continue to explore collaborative possibilities in many areas, including actively seeking to strengthen our bonds with women religious throughout the world. We have grown in awareness of the interconnectedness of LCWR communities in our region with members and/or provinces scattered around the globe. As we have listened to the stories of the women serving in God’s kingdom outside of the US, our human consciousness has grown, developing the awareness that building relationships is critical to who we are and our ability to create a collaborative voice in the church. We are learning to live in prayerful solidarity with one another and all of God’s creation, consciously looking for “the new,” open to the possibilities, and living into our desire for oneness.



Region 7

Over the past several years we have moved from a focus on reconfiguration of congregations and institutes within our region to a focus on deepening our engagement with one another and widening our embrace. This has occurred in several ways: through the deepening dialogue and solidarity that has built up among us in response to the apostolic visitation; through programs which have explored the vows through the lens of Catholic social teaching, and the use of processes rooted in contemplative dialogue; through inviting social justice promoters and formation and vocation personnel to join us for our programs as appropriate; and through our sharing and conversation during our informal times together at both meals and socials.

... we have moved from a focus on reconfiguration of congregations and institutes within our region to a focus on deepening our engagement with one another and widening our embrace.

Region 8

Region 8 has a great spirit which has been enhanced amazingly in the past year by both the Contemporary Religious Life Committee and the 2010 assembly resolution. In addition, we have grown in our solidarity with one another and with our sisters throughout our nation and around the globe. By means of electronic communication and conference calls, we kept in touch throughout the year to update one another on the apostolic visitation, on the work of LCWR, and on the social justice issues which we had supported. We sponsored one additional meeting with a canon lawyer to assist our members.

Our meetings were full and fun! A marvelous panel of international sisters, under the guidance of Nancy Schramm, OSF, presented invaluable perspectives on the challenges of multicultural living at the fall gathering. The spring meeting featured an overview of the current work of Project IRENE, a trip to the Illinois State Capitol to meet our legislators, and a presentation on human trafficking for our group and for several local health and law enforcement staff.

We are very proud of the work of RoseMary Meyer, BVM and Project IRENE and its impact on legislation affecting women and children in Illinois. We are particularly thankful for the work done to abolish the use of the death penalty in the state of Illinois.

Region 8 rejoices in the fact that new leadership emerged generously and easily in this round of elections. We rejoice in the new energy that has evolved and for the sense of solidarity among us.



Region 9

Collaboration will be more the norm.

- Among ourselves as a region and the LCWR national office in regard to the apostolic visitation and the support all US women religious have received from groups all over the world.
- Through a day of reflection we listened, prayed, and shared on Marlene Weisenbeck's presentation from the 2010 LCWR assembly. We shared on our own gifts to deepen our prophetic leadership for the 21st century.
- As a joint project we sent out letters on anti-human trafficking to hotels and emphasized this during the Super Bowl time and got news coverage in various venues.
- We wrote a joint statement affirming workers' rights to collective bargaining in Wisconsin and had this published in local papers and diocesan papers.
- We have created two joint committees: communicators (who do joint communication on issues of need and help us to develop new ways of social networking) and our joint legislative network committee (who work on peace and justice issues). Many times these two committees work in synch with each other.
- We are deepening our realization that collaboration will be vital and more operative than ever in the future.
- Two of our congregations have worked collaboratively to open a memory care unit for sisters with dementia that would be open to others if there is room.

One of our sisters in the region has a hearing deficit and at each meeting has to have interpreters to help her understand the material presented. In spring 2011 we created a policy for the region to help with expenses.

Helen Garvey, BVM shared with us on the *Women & Spirit* exhibit and then together we visited the exhibit in Dubuque, Iowa. Later we reflected on what the sisters of the past have taught us and what needs to be our response to the needs in our world in the future.

One of our sisters presented a "virtual world meeting and sharing" through the computer. We will consider this mode of meeting and sharing in the future.

Region 10

The members of Region 10 have been immersed in exploring the “new” emerging in religious life by listening to young new religious as well as women religious from Colombia and Vietnam. Exploring the cultural contexts of both groups as well as the desires and sense of mission in each was a way not only to expand our understanding and solidarity but it helped us continue to discern the essence of religious life that bonds us with one another whatever our location or age. Learning from the Sisters of the Visitation about the plans they have to conclude the life of their community in a covenant relationship with other congregations was another experience that we brought to our shared reflection in the Contemporary Religious Life process. Being immersed in the history of religious life, returning to our deep story in the *Women & Spirit* exhibit in Dubuque, Iowa was a great richness this spring.

The collaboration we so appreciate among leaders is being broadened in Region 10 to include the members of our congregations. We sponsored programs gathering members for formation and education with a particular emphasis on the global reality of religious life. These programs have already taken place in St. Louis and Omaha and will be held within the next year in Dubuque. Other collaborative efforts among our congregations in “energy centers” within the region enable us to mobilize our resources in response to pressing issues of social concern.



Erin Muldoon (an Adrian Dominican novice) and Sarah Heger, CSJ (temporary professed, St. Louis) with Mary Ann Vogel, CHM (center)

Region 11

We began the year exploring “the new” by inviting a Native American woman to address our fall gathering on the challenges of living cross-culturally in the Eastern Dakotas. For the first time, an electronic news bulletin was composed for the bishops of the region to inform them of the major activities of the women religious in their region, in an effort to engage conversation about what is the emerging reality for the life of our religious institutes.

Because Minnesota has become one of the most heavily sex- and slavery-trafficked states in the nation, this reality has called forth our religious institutes to be educated and become advocates for human rights on all levels. In trying to raise awareness, we learned that human trafficking and money paid to cross the border are interrelated experiences in this area of the nation.

In addition, the experiences today of numbers of migrants in our region is both a challenge and opportunity, calling for action and the education of sisters as they move into ministries serving the Spanish-speaking in particular. “The new” is the coming together in solidarity, shaping our future, sharing our gifts and knowing in a new way our interdependence — that which we learned in kindergarten. We ended the year by gathering to cast fire upon the earth, leaving in the four directions, rejoicing in the fires of faith within each of us. (Flooded roads prevented some from coming and a snow blizzard delayed the return home for others!)



Speakers at the spring meeting: Ann Redmond, CSJ; Mikelle Dahlin; Heather Robinson; and Michelle Garnet McKenzie

Region 12

During the past year the members of Region 12 struggled to find new ways to collaborate as women religious around some of the most pressing issues of our time.

We are aware of the increase in violence in our society and world. We have searched for new ways to respond together, as women religious, especially to the violence along the border between Mexico and the United States. We have also searched for ways to address the violence against women and children, especially trafficking of women and children.

We have sought to respond to those issues through prayer and contemplative listening and by learning ways we can be prophetic in our response to those issues. In our fall 2010 meeting we listened to, and engaged in dialogue with two speakers who are involved in ministering to victims of border violence and human trafficking. At our spring 2011 meeting we reflected together on ways to address violence through shared contemplative listening.

Through all of this we believe “the new” that is happening in religious life today is a call to solidarity, deep contemplation, and bold prophetic action.



Region 13

Our exploration of “the new” has led us in several directions this past year. At the fall meeting we had the opportunity to dialogue with four native Pakistani Sisters of Loretto via Skype and learned the realities of living as Catholic women religious in a predominantly Muslim country. Our horizons were further expanded at the spring meeting when Biaggio Mazza, an expert in Muslim/Christian relations and dialogue, shared with us the key themes and concepts in Islam and its relationship to Judaism and Christianity. Discussion about the potential of technology led us to invite one of our own members, Christine Ereiser, OSB, to share with us her experiences with social networking.

While in Denver in the fall, we had the opportunity to visit the new offices and sisters’ residences of the Sisters of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity. The new complex is compact and energy-efficient and an example of possibilities as communities divest of old, large, outdated buildings. These experiences, our faith-sharing, and supporting one another have led us to an uprising of hope that empowers us to continue to create the path by walking empowered by the breath of the Spirit within us.

These experiences, our faith-sharing, and supporting one another have led us to an uprising of hope that empowers us to continue to create the path by walking empowered by the breath of the Spirit within us.



Region 14



Region 15

Region 15 has become very aware of the several congregations of Asian or Hispanic culture who are making an impact in the region because of their faithful service to the dioceses in which they serve. Our region has decided to use its traditional “education days” to invite these various religious communities in the Portland, Seattle, and Spokane areas to gather for some mutual dialogue for the purpose of deepening our relationship with one another. We are especially considering the communities of Korean, Vietnamese, and Hispanic sisters and hope they will respond. Hopefully, this might lead to greater understanding and even some collaborative efforts.



Stewardship of LCWR's Financial Resources

During 2010, the LCWR Finance Committee and the office staff have worked diligently to ensure the careful stewardship of LCWR's resources. A restructuring of support staff positions enabled LCWR to reduce from 7.5 to 6.5 FTEs (full-time equivalents). Mergers and reconfigurations continue to affect membership numbers.

Auditor's Report

Linton, Shafer, Warfield and Garrett, PA completed a review of LCWR's financial statements, noting that there are no material modifications that should be made to the financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. As recommended by the auditors, the LCWR Finance Committee was redesignated as the LCWR Finance and Audit Committee with commensurate adjustment in responsibilities.

Investments

The LCWR Finance and Audit Committee met with Eileen O'Connell, representative of Christian Brothers Investment Services (CBIS). The committee reviewed the performance of LCWR's investments, which began to improve as the markets began to improve. The committee will work to increase investments through tighter management of LCWR's cash flow.

Budget

Budget targets for expenses and revenues were carefully monitored. Income was 8% higher than projected while expenses were reduced by 22%. The adjustment in dues structure (base fee + per capita fee) reversed the impact of this negative trend in revenue from membership dues that began in 2008 and continued through 2009. Membership dues accounted for 23% of revenues in 2010.

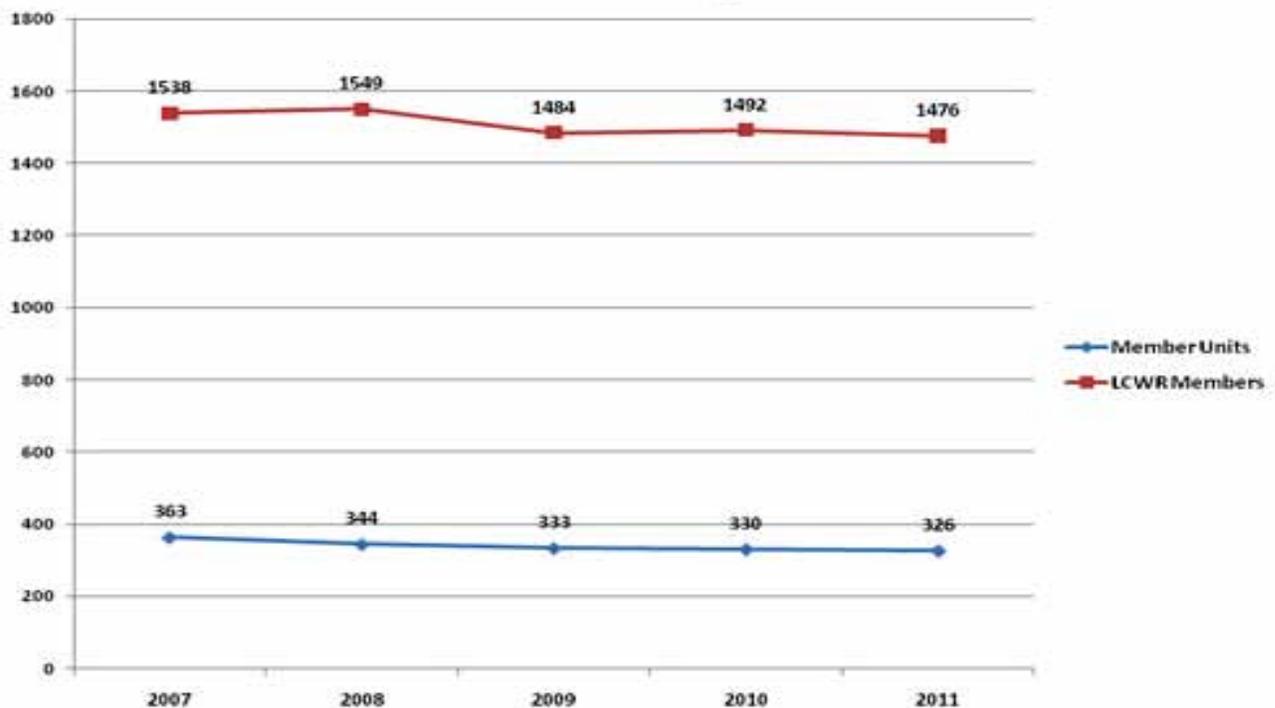
History Project

The *Women & Spirit* exhibit tour is well under way and donations continue to cover expenses.

LCWR Building

The Cameron Street building, jointly owned by LCWR and CMSM, includes offices for their own staffs as well as for the Religious Formation Conference and the Resource Center for Religious Institutes. The income from rents continues to cover expenses and to provide necessary capital improvements. In 2011 a structural and operational assessment of the building will be done in order to project any major capital expenses in the near future.

Membership



LCWR Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2010 and 2009

	2010 (Reviewed)	2009 (Reviewed)
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash	\$1,015,753	\$1,425,177
Account receivable-other	\$ 37,309	\$ 49,595
Promises to give	\$ 5,000	\$ 74,305
Prepaid expenses and other	\$ 25,191	\$ 25,132
Total Current Assets	\$1,083,253	\$1,574,209
Furniture & Equipment at cost		
Furniture and equipment	\$ 13,578	\$ 29,656
Less: accumulated depreciation	\$ (8,701)	\$ (21,870)
Furniture and equipment, Net	\$ 4,877	\$ 7,786
Other Assets		
Investments	\$ 4,116,087	\$3,606,469
Investment in common fund	\$ -	\$ 16,283
Investments in real estate - net	\$ 401,256	\$ 371,122
Total Other Assets	\$4,517,343	\$3,993,874
TOTAL ASSETS	\$5,605,473	\$5,575,869
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 48,486	\$ 55,045
Deferred revenue	\$ 622,017	\$ 539,389
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 670,503	\$ 594,434
Fund development loan payable	\$ 304,050	\$ 304,050
Total Liabilities	\$ 974,553	\$ 898,484
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted		
Undesignated	\$ 851,967	\$ 434,086
Board designated - support fund	\$2,591,499	\$2,591,499
Total Unrestricted	\$3,443,466	\$3,025,585
Temporarily restricted	\$1,187,454	\$1,651,800
Total Net Assets	\$4,630,920	\$4,677,385
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$5,605,473	\$5,575,869

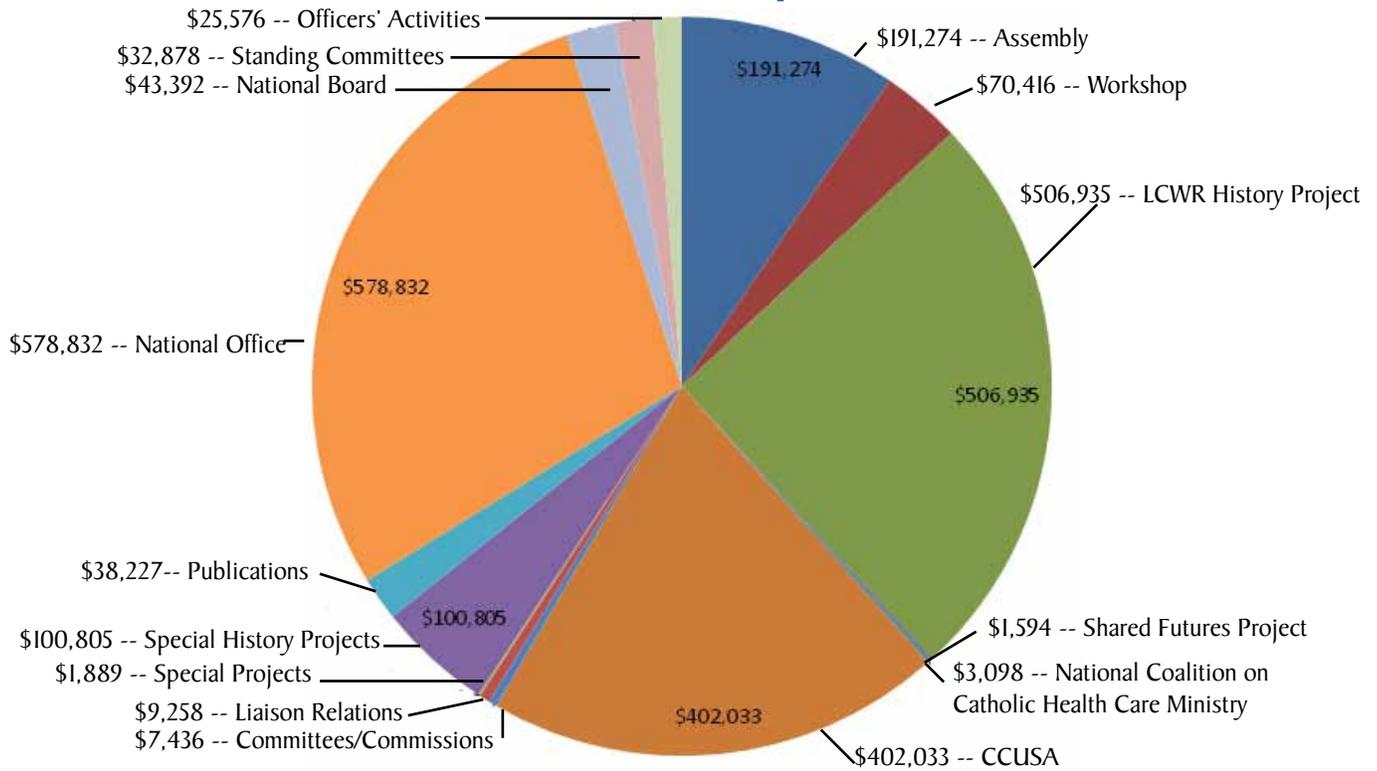
Statement of Revenues and Expenses

	2010	2009
REVENUE		
Membership dues	\$ 460,000	\$ 440,700
Assembly	377,007	405,379
Workshops	72,396	77,270
Contributions	500,229	1,019,553
Publications	117,490	123,536
Exhibits - history project	51,161	-
Interest and dividends	73,374	89,043
Appreciation (depreciation) on fair value of investments	290,349	554,373
Realized loss on sale of investments	1,010	(2,996)
Other	24,162	31,879
Net assets released from restrictions	-	-
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 1,967,178	\$ 2,738,737
PROGRAM EXPENSES		
Assembly	\$ 191,274	\$ 248,079
Workshop	\$ 70,416	\$ 59,674
LCWR History Project	\$ 506,935	\$ 1,171,705
Shared Futures Project	\$ -	\$ 5,645
New Orleans Project	\$ 1,594	\$ 65,559
NCCHCM	\$ 3,098	\$ 8,091
CCUSA	\$ 402,033	\$ 804,000
Committees/Commissions	\$ 7,436	\$ 5,168
Liaison Relations	\$ 9,258	\$ 7,997
Special Projects	\$ 1,889	\$ 17,842
Special History projects	\$ 100,805	\$ -
Publications	\$ 38,227	\$ 38,851
TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES	\$ 1,332,965	\$ 2,432,611
MANAGEMENT & GENERAL		
National Office	\$ 578,832	\$ 595,326
National Board	\$ 43,392	\$ 40,478
Standing Committees	\$ 32,878	\$ 16,916
Officers' Activities	\$ 25,576	\$ 13,888
TOTAL SUPPORTING SERVICES	\$ 680,678	\$ 666,608
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 2,013,643	\$ 3,099,219
Changes in Net Assets	\$ (46,465)	\$ (360,482)

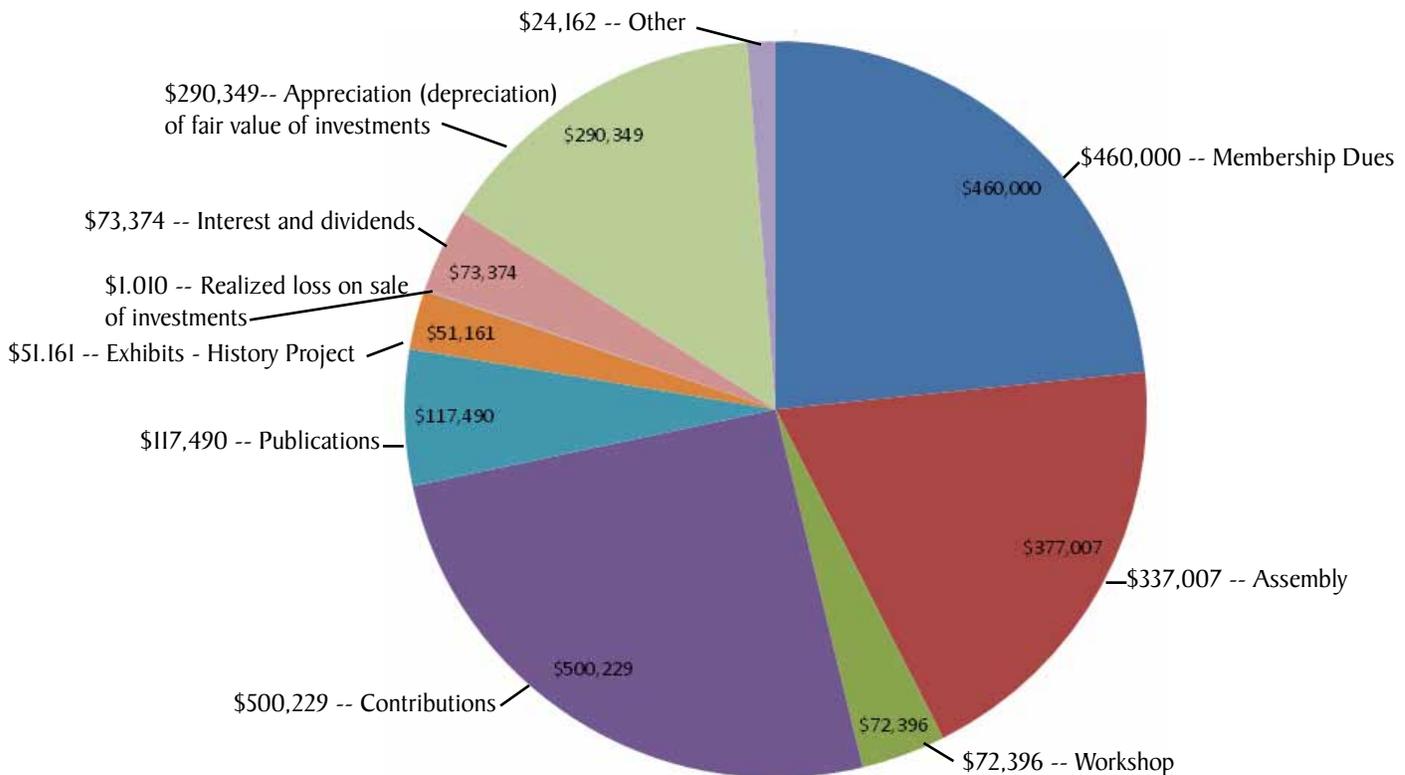


Members of the LCWR Finance Committee. (Standing) Helen Ingles, IHM; Sheila Megley, RSM; Nora Hahn, PHJC; and Pat Cormack, SCSC (staff). (Seated) Doretta Meier, OSF; and Bea Hernandez, OSF. (Not pictured is Karin Dufault, SP)

2010 LCWR Expenses



2010 LCWR Revenue



Collaborating for the Mission of Religious Life

LCWR works closely with other organizations
serving women and men religious in the United States.

These organizations describe how, since 2010,
they have been exploring “the new” happening within religious life.



Religious Formation Conference

*Violet Grennan, MFIC
Executive Director*

A series of exploratory conversations begun by RFC in fall 2009 titled “Religious Life in the 21st Century: A Transformative Moment” has evolved into programs held across the country: fall 2010 — “Biblical Foundations for Consecrated Life” and winter 2011 — “Transformation of Religious Life in North America: An Action-Oriented Initiative.” Participants have spoken of experiencing new energy, renewed hope, and a renewed desire to reclaim God’s original call to live consecrated life in communion and mission now. Witness to the communal dimension of our lives was named as an identifying factor of the future that God and we desire. Gifts that accompanied our original call — deep faith, inner freedom, and radical availability — were noted as essential for moving forward individually and communally.



Resource Center for Religious Institutes

*Donna Sauer Miller, JD, JCL
Associate Director*

The Resource Center for Religious Institutes (RCRI) has explored “the new” over the last year in a number of ways. We welcomed canonist Amy Strickland to our staff. She comes to us after working for the Archdiocese of Boston for nearly a decade. Meanwhile, we said farewell to Helen Burke, SSJ, who has retired from RCRI and returned to ministry in Philadelphia. Our national conference in September 2010 was a success in Anaheim. The pre-convention workshop on the new healthcare reform law had maximum capacity attendance. We held our second “Alternatives to Reconfiguration” workshop for 100 attendees in March in Baltimore. Our staff continues to provide resources to our members as they explore “the new” that happens within the financial and legal realms of religious life.

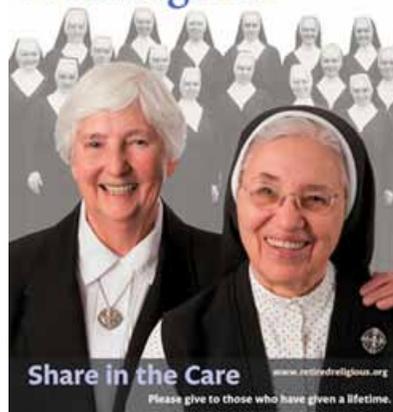


National Religious Vocation Conference

*Paul Bednarczyk, CSC
Executive Director*

In response to the opportunities and challenges put forth by the NRVC / CARA Report on Recent Vocations, in September 2010 NRVC sponsored a vocation symposium which gathered 55 participants from various church constituencies. Its purpose was to develop a national plan based on this significant research that would promote new membership in religious institutes. The final plan was promulgated in February and may be accessed at www.nrvc.net. NRVC will focus its efforts to implementing the plan over the next three years. Although the final document is the end result, the symposium became so much more for the participants. Through honest dialogue and respectful listening, it became an encounter with God's grace, which resulted in greater understanding, reconciliation, and solidarity.

Retirement Fund for Religious



National Religious Retirement Office

*Janice Bader, CPPS
Executive Director*

NRRO is completing the third year of its planning and implementation assistance program. Furnishing consultative, educational, and financial assistance, the program aims to bring retirement funding levels from a potential crisis to a manageable concern. Since 2009 55 religious institutes, including 41 LCWR members, participated.

The program brings communities together to address this shared concern, forging new relationships and creating new synergies. Participants tell us they gain heightened understanding of holistic retirement planning and preparation for the vocation of later life. To date, nearly \$2.6 million has been distributed to implement strategies for increasing retirement funding, thus freeing leaders and members to explore "the new."

As demographics continue to shift, it is increasingly important to journey together. NRRO stands ready to help, and we welcome the opportunity to walk with you.

Generous Service to the Leadership Conference

LCWR thanks all who have contributed their time and talent to the conference through service on its national board and committees and as liaisons to other organizations.

National Board

Officers

Mary Hughes, OP* -- President
 Pat Farrell, OSF* -- President-Elect
 Marlene Weisenbeck, FSPA* -- Past President
 Ellen Dauwer, SC* -- Secretary
 Sheila Megley, RSM* -- Treasurer

Regional Chairpersons

Yvette Bellerose, SSA -- Region 1
 Barbara Staropoli, SSJ -- Region 2
 Carol Zinn, SSJ* -- Region 3
 Vivien Linkhauer, SC -- Region 4
 Beth Fitzpatrick, OCarm -- Region 5
 Patricia Homan, OSU -- Region 6
 Marie McCarthy, SP -- Region 7
 Patricia Crowley, OSB* -- Region 8
 Theresa Sandok, OSM -- Region 9
 Nancy Schreck, OSF -- Region 10
 Tierney Trueman, OSF -- Region 11
 Miriam Mitchell, SHSp -- Region 12
 Catherine Mueller, SL -- Region 13
 Gladys Guenther, SHF -- Region 14
 Anne Amati, OSF -- Region 15

Executive Director

Jane Burke, SSND*

*Members of the Executive Committee

Committees

Assembly Resolutions Committee

Alice Gerdeman, CDP
 Nancy Schramm, OSF
 Marie Lucey, OSF (LCWR Staff)

Contemporary Religious Life Committee

Jane Burke, SSND (Chair)
 Marie McCarthy, SP
 Susan Schorsten, HM
 Rosemary Smith, SC
 Mary Whited, CPPS
 Annmarie Sanders, IHM (LCWR Staff)
 Catherine Bertrand, SSND (Facilitator)

Finance and Audit Committee

Karin Dufault, SP
 Nora Hahn, PHJC
 Beatrice Hernandez, OSF
 Helen Ingles, IHM
 Sheila Megley, RSM (Treasurer)
 Doretta Meier, OSF
 Pat Cormack, SCSC (LCWR Staff)

Global Concerns Committee

Sharon Altendorf, PBVM
 Kathleen Bryant, RSC
 Judith Justinger, SSJ
 Janet Lehmann, SC
 Miriam Mitchell, SHSP
 Dorothy Pagosa, SSJ-TOSF
 Marie Lucey, OSF (LCWR Staff)

Leadership Development Program Design Committee (Ad Hoc)

Jane Burke, SSND (Chair)
 Eileen Campbell, RSM
 Nancy Conway, CSJ
 Barbara Hagedorn, SC
 Mary Pellegrino, CSJ
 Nancy Schreck, OSF
 Marlene Weisenbeck, FSPA
 Annmarie Sanders, IHM (LCWR Staff)
 Janet Mock, CSJ (Facilitator)

Leadership Manual Design Committee (Ad Hoc)

Jane Burke, SSND (Chair)
 Regina Bechtle, SC
 Ellen Dauwer, SC
 Sara Dwyer, ASC
 Christine Koellhoffer, IHM
 Sheila Lemieux, CSJP
 Mary Jo Nelson, OLV
 Annmarie Sanders, IHM (LCWR Staff)
 Janet Mock, CSJ (Facilitator)

Nominations and Elections Committee

Rosemary Crowley, SNDdeN
 Marcia Allen, CSJ
 Nora Hahn, PHJC
 Grace Hartzog, SC (Chair)
 Margaret O'Brien, SC
 Marianne Benson (LCWR Staff)

Occasional Papers Advisory Board

Eileen Campbell, RSM
 Nancy Conway, CSJ
 Lynn Jarrell, OSU
 Nancy Schreck, OSF
 Mary Ann Zollmann, BVM
 Annmarie Sanders, IHM (LCWR Staff)

(continued on page 32)

Generous Service to the Leadership Conference

(continued from page 31)

Strategic Operational Plan Committee

Jane Burke, SSND (Chair)
Kathleen Durkin, CSJ
Beatrice Hernandez, OSF
Patricia McDermott, RSM
Theresa Sandok, OSM
Barbara Staropoli, SSJ
Pat Cormack, SCSC (LCWR Staff)
Marie Lucey, OSF (LCWR Staff)
Janet Roesener, CSJ (Facilitator)

Women & Spirit Documentary Committee

Helen Maher Garvey, BVM (Chair)
Mary Dacey, SSJ
Carole Shinnick, SSND
Annmarie Sanders, IHM (LCWR Staff)

Liaisons to Other Organizations

Resource Center for Religious Institutes

Jane Burke, SSND

National Coalition on Catholic Health Care Ministry

Esther Anderson, OSF
Mary Lou Mitchell, SSJ
Celeste Trahan, CCVI
Marie Lucey, OSF (LCWR Staff)

National Religious Retirement Office Grant Review Board

Imelda González, CDP

USCCB Accounting Practices Committee

Geraldine Hoyler, CSC
Frances Mlocek, IHM

USCCB National Advisory Council

Lynn Jarrell, OSU
Yolanda Tarango, CCVI



e, the members of the
Leadership Conference of Women Religious,
believe that God's call is written
in the signs of our times.

LCWR National Office Staff



Jane Burke, SSND
Executive Director



Marie Lucey, OSF
Associate Director for
Social Mission



Pat Cormack, SCSC
Associate Director for
Business and Finance



Annmarie Sanders, IHM
Associate Director
for Communications



Marianne Benson
Executive Assistant



Carol Glidden
Administrative Assistant
& Membership Coordinator



Christabel Lartey
Receptionist