

President's Report – January 16, 2023

Already we are 16 days into the New Year. These past few weeks have been a time of reflection and pondering on what can I bring to our CWL council this year. What makes our council unique or are we unique? I also was thinking – if I was to describe our council, what would I say?

So let us take two minutes in small groups and answer that question. These are the words that were used to describe our council:

amazing, resilient, efficient, loving, kind, generous, smart, friendly, understanding, easy to laugh, spiritual, prayerful, welcoming, Catholic and Living It!

They say it takes a village to raise a child and but also takes committed and involved members to make a CWL council survive. As you have heard we are a great group of women, wanting to continue to do great work.

But this is what has had me pondering the last couple of weeks. We all love our CWL, but are we willing to do what needs to be done to keep it going?

So back to the presentation on Discernment. Do I have what it takes to be more active in our council? Do I support our executive fully? Am I unsure or afraid that I might not succeed if I take on a leadership role?

Do I have the capabilities in me to take a leap of faith, just like Mary did in becoming Jesus' mother?

These are all questions that I'm sure we have asked ourselves about taking on something new, whether with CWL, school activities with your children, or new positions at work. How do we overcome the doubt or hesitancy to go forward.

For myself taking on the role of President for a second time did take some discerning and finally realizing that the Holy Spirit was the one keeping me up at night, wondering if I should go forward or not. After several nights of not sleeping, I finally realized what was happening and accepted to take the role on and yes, I slept very well that night.

So we are not unique in finding people to volunteer for roles, especially since the pandemic. I'm sure we could call any agency and they would say they all need more volunteers.

So next year I already know that the position of President, Secretary and Treasurer will need to be filled, so we do need someone new to take on these roles. So let us take the time to discern about what we are capable of doing and as we have just described ourselves as being resilient, I do not want to see that disappear. I do realize that it is not in everyone's DNA to be an executive member but if what if your capable of being the secretary or perhaps one of the standing committee chairpersons? Ask the questions, come talk to me. You might surprise yourself and be able to take that leap of faith.

If collectively we all take on small roles, it avoids becoming onerous for one person in whatever it is we are doing.

So let us keep this in mind and continue to pray for the continued success of our council and that there will be a seamless transition from one executive to another.

There once was a woman who woke up one morning, looked in the mirror, and noticed she had only three hairs on her head.

"Well," she said, "I think I'll braid my hair today."

So she did and she had a wonderful day.

The next day she woke up, looked in the mirror, and saw that she had only two hairs on her head.

"Hmm," she said, "I think I'll part my hair down the middle today."

So she did and she had a grand day.

The next day she woke up, looked in the mirror and noticed that she had only one hair on her head.

"Well," she said, "today I'm going to wear my hair in a pony tail."

So she did and she had a fun, fun day.

The next day she woke up looked in the mirror and noticed that there wasn't a single hair on her head.

"Yea!" she exclaimed, "I don't have to fix my hair today."

Attitude is everything.