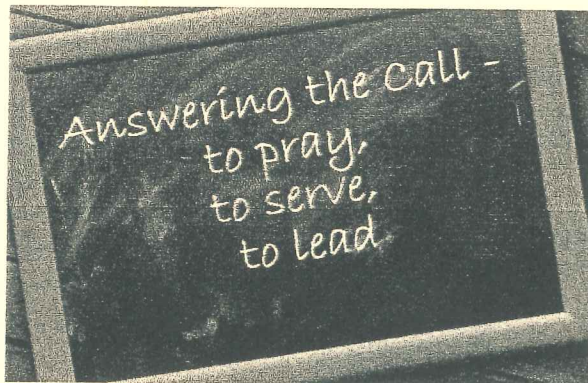


October 2016 Board Meeting

Lorraine Riedl – President Elect



As I reflect on my first few months as President-Elect, I am noticing all of the things I don't know! I have never held this position before and am not always sure what to do. I am positive I am not alone in this feeling! Fortunately for us, a workshop will be held on October 29, 2016, to help us all be better at our jobs at educating, empowering and supporting the women of our diocese, deaneries and parishes. Please join us at St. Anthony Spirituality Center in Marathon (just west of Wausau) for a day of learning, sharing and networking!



Province of Milwaukee

In July, I attended my first Province meeting. We belong to the Province of Milwaukee which is comprised of the 5 dioceses in Wisconsin. I found it most interesting to hear of all the efforts and initiatives of the dioceses in Wisconsin. The main mission of our Province Director this year is to increase membership to the National Council of Catholic Women. I used to think, "I'm a member of the parish council of Catholic Women – that is enough." What I am learning, though, is that the National Council is my voice at the USCCB, the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations as well as the UNITED NATIONS! I can be assured that the National Council of Catholic Women will represent Catholic values in every aspect of their efforts. NCCW also provides valuable resources to our dioceses and parishes around the nation. For example, I am privileged to serve on the NCCW Service Commission committee on fighting Human Trafficking. When I learned that human trafficking is found in all 72 counties of Wisconsin, I knew this battle was bigger than my parish efforts alone! NCCW is working across the nation, but also has resources for you to use and share in your community.

NCCW Convention

While at the National Council of Catholic Women's convention, we heard many great speakers like Sister Donna Markham, OP, CEO of Catholic Charities USA. We partnered with Catholic Charities and brought socks and underwear to the convention to donate to their shelters. "Over the Toes and Under the Clothes" was a great success! We also heard from Maria Morera Johnson, author of *"My Badass Book of Saints: Courageous Women Who Showed Me How to Live."* Judy Hehr, Catholic speaker from Milwaukee, was entertaining, but also showed us that we can overcome great obstacles in our lives and in our faith.

