

Leadership Conference of Women of Religious



Creating in Chaos

Annual Report
2009 — 2010

Annual Report of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious

2009 – 2010

- 3 A LETTER FROM THE LCWR PRESIDENCY
- 4 A LETTER FROM THE LCWR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
- 5 THE YEAR IN REVIEW
- 17 THE LCWR REGIONS
- 25 LCWR FINANCES
- 28 LCWR COLLABORATORS
- 30 LCWR NATIONAL BOARD AND COMMITTEES
- 31 LCWR NATIONAL OFFICE STAFF



Leadership Conference of Women Religious

8808 Cameron Street
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910
Tel: 301-588-4955 — Fax: 301-587-4575
www.lcwr.org

Editor: Annmarie Sanders, IHM
LCWR Director of Communications

Women of Spirit: Creating in Chaos

Looking over a year of challenges, contrasts, and commitments, we find ourselves immersed in the Paschal Mystery as we conclude the initial decade of this 21st century. One cannot place theoretical observations on the great mysteries that fidelity requires. As the Paschal Mystery women found themselves in a chaos they neither desired nor chose, so too with us!

We have found ourselves celebrating the stories of our foremothers in America through the great exhibit we have called *Women & Spirit*. Each opening of the exhibit in Cincinnati; Dallas; Washington, DC; and Cleveland etched more deeply into our hearts the memory of the great-souled women who served the needs of the poor with an unrelenting response for right relationships in their world. These very stories have provided us the impetus to face our own surprises of the past year.



Marlene Weisenbeck, FSPA

The apostolic visitation and doctrinal assessment seemed a formidable experience of chaos. As if the chaos of ecclesial brokenness all around us was not enough, our very earth itself shook with quakes and floods and eruptions. Could mystery be any more evident in cosmic destruction and the disruption of human relationships happening simultaneously?

We women religious are not afraid of chaos. We have our terrors and our doubts that can threaten the work of the Spirit. Even so, we transmute one thing into another, turning disappointments and tragedies into new stories of healing and loving. The call to create in disturbing times is a calling like no other. It is an urge that howls for expression in shadows seeking more light. It is an act of faith to respond to this inner voice, to give it our time and our love, and if grace be with us, to bring forth blessing and peace.

Our centeredness in the Paschal Mystery has prompted us to cry out to the Christ who leads us. We have spoken truth to one another and to our companions on this journey of visitation and the testing of belief. We have responded with integrity because these momentous events lie deeply within the meaning of our lives and dignity. Our crying out is a potent message with great good news that, in Christ, humanity is delivered from all gloom. We are restored to grace and holiness of life. Jesus said that if we fail to tell this story, the “stones will cry out.” It seems that this is a time when we are crying out with the stones! Our spirits must spring into the universe with redemptive and prophetic urgency.



Mary Hughes, OP

Marlene Weisenbeck, FSPA — President
Mary Hughes, OP — President-Elect
J Lora Dambroski, OSF — Past President



J Lora Dambroski, OSF

The call to create in disturbing times is a calling like no other. It is an urge that howls for expression in shadows seeking more light.

God's Dreams for Us

Yesterday I was reminded that I was the last person to respond to a request for a message for the LCWR annual report. I hung my head in shame, made a promise that I would complete it immediately, and promptly left the office to go to a wake service for a sister in my community. Driving to the service I wondered what more could be said about this past year. During the service, however, a long lost memory about this sister came back to me. On the drive home that memory began to give shape and focus to my report.

I stood in awe this year as I watched the leaders of congregations embrace their responsibilities with the apostolic visitation process by coming together in solidarity, standing with, by, and for one another during the completion of the interviews and in exploring the ways to complete the questionnaire. Watching them accept this particular call from the church, participating in the process, asking the hard questions of themselves and others, standing with integrity, and risking all in faith gave me hope and deepened my understanding of the common good.

In facing the challenges of the doctrinal assessment, the LCWR leadership and staff are being challenged to prove our faithful stewardship of the mission and function of the organization that provides leaders with services "which develop the life and mission of women religious in responding to the Gospel in the contemporary world...." As we continue to answer inquiries that question our ability and desire to remain faithful to and in relationship with the church, we do so knowing that in the end we may face sanctions that could lead to profound organizational changes.

Taking on these types of challenge is but one side of the LCWR story this year, but it is also typical of what women religious do. We truly do go about the work of the 2009 assembly theme, *Creating in Chaos*, and isn't that so often how it is when listening to God's voice being spoken through others? God calls us forth in ways we can never imagine and in so doing brings to life the best of who we are and frees us to look toward the future.

But these two examples do not fully explain the work we have been about this past year. During the 2009 national assembly in New Orleans we were given a mandate to develop processes and programs that will lead all of us to the exploration of the deepest questions we have about our identity and mission as women religious. The members expressed a desire to articulate anew the meaning of our lives in mission in today's world. The members also requested a review and updating of the ways LCWR services and programs can best meet their needs. At its post-assembly meeting the LCWR national board commissioned the national office staff to implement these two directives affirmed by the members.

I ponder this as I recall the memory that stirred me at the wake service. The now-deceased sister many years ago made a passing comment that at the time shocked me. As I see now, her words revealed that she understood far better than I that God did indeed have a plan for me that I could never have imagined for myself. In looking over other situations in my life I realize that this has occurred more often than not and usually at times and in ways I least expect. I imagine this can be said for all of us. Let us remember this as we move together into the future and stay open to the mind of God who may be dreaming plans that go far beyond our imagination.

Jane Burke, SSND
LCWR Executive Director



Let us stay open to the mind of God
who may be dreaming plans that go
far beyond our imagination.

2009 LCWR Assembly Women of Spirit: Creating in Chaos

Approximately 800 LCWR members and associates gathered in assembly in August 2009 to explore critical issues facing religious life leaders against the backdrop of the two Vatican studies in process.

Aware of the devastation of New Orleans, the need for restoration of the coastal wetlands of Louisiana, and climate change, the assembly participants met under the theme “Women of Spirit: Creating in Chaos.”

Among the highlights of the 2009 assembly were:

- A pre-assembly tour of the ministry sites and housing of women religious in New Orleans that had been destroyed by the 2005 hurricane. These sites were among those that received assistance from the recovery project co-sponsored by LCWR and FADICA that raised more than \$7 million and thus enabled sisters to remain in New Orleans and restore their works.
- Keynote address by Cokie Roberts offering a historical perspective on the resiliency and creative contributions of women religious since 1727.

(continued on page 6)

ABC News and NPR analyst Cokie Roberts in her keynote address referenced the study being conducted on the quality of life of Catholic sisters by the Vatican, saying that while she was not qualified to speak on the quality of life of these women, she could speak with authority to the quality of life of those changed by them and solidly endorsed the spirituality and mission of sisters today.



Several hundred of the leaders held an outdoor public prayer service on the banks of the Mississippi River where they learned more about the ruinous effects of coastal wetland erosion.



THE YEAR IN REVIEW

- Discussions of the apostolic visitation of US women religious and the doctrinal assessment of LCWR.
- A presentation by Paul Bednarczyk, CSC and Mary Bendyna, RSM on the results of the vocation study conducted by the National Religious Vocation Conference and the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate.
- The presidential address by J Lora Dambroski, OSF.
- The presentation of the Contemporary Religious Life Project, a five-year plan for LCWR.
- The bestowing of the 2009 LCWR Outstanding Leadership Award on Helen Maher Garvey, BVM and Sharon Holland, IHM.
- A public witness event on the banks of the Mississippi River focused on the coastal wetland erosion.
- Unanimous affirmation of a resolution by leaders to reduce their institutes' carbon footprint.



We are in greatest service to one another by the solidarity of our sisterhood as Gospel women.
— J Lora Dambroski, OSF,
2008-2009 LCWR President

Vatican Investigations of US Women Religious

LCWR members have engaged in much prayer, reflection, and discussion around the two investigations of US women religious being conducted by the Vatican.



LCWR president Marlene Weisenbeck, FSPA with apostolic visitor Mother Clare Millea, ASCJ

The LCWR leadership has been engaged with the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith since March 2009 as it conducts its doctrinal assessment of the conference. The presidency and national staff continue to respond to requests for documents and information as the assessment progresses.

LCWR members are involved in the apostolic visitation being conducted by the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life. As a conference, LCWR has provided opportunities for members to

discuss the visitation process with one another both at the national assembly and at regional meetings.

As the apostolic visitation moved into its third phase, LCWR members were invited to pray for those congregations selected for a visitation, as well as for those conducting the visitations. Congregations that request prayer are listed on a calendar that is available to all LCWR members and associates.

As the two Vatican investigations of US women religious continue, several associations of religious from around the world, as well as organizations and ministry centers of lay persons have written letters offering their support and prayer, some of which are posted on LCWR's website. These include: the International Union of Superiors General; the Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM); religious conferences and organizations in Southern Africa, Australia, Asia-Oceania, New Zealand, Zambia, and Latin America; as well as some US religious institutes of US men.

Media Coverage of LCWR

National and international media have given unprecedented coverage to matters concerning US women religious and LCWR this past year. Stories on Catholic sisters, related in particular to the *Women & Spirit* exhibit as well as to the two Vatican investigations, have been covered by such media outlets as: *The New York Times*, National Public Radio, ABC National News, *National Catholic Reporter*, Public Broadcasting System, *America*, *USA Today*, *US Catholic*, and many diocesan and city newspapers.



ABC National News interviews LCWR member Mary Waskowiak, RSM at the August 2009 LCWR assembly

LCWR Stance on Healthcare Reform Draws Praise and Criticism

On March 17 NETWORK presented a letter to each member of Congress urging support of the Senate healthcare bill (HR 3590) which promises to expand coverage to 31 million uninsured persons while upholding longstanding conscience protections, and not provide taxpayer funding for abortions. Marlene Weisenbeck, FSPA signed the letter as LCWR president, as did almost 60 other leaders of LCWR congregations. According to feedback from members of the White House staff, members of Congress, NETWORK, and others, this letter had a significant impact on the debate over the bill and helped lead to its passage on March 21.

The media gave a great deal of attention to this action by women religious. This may have been due partly to an inaccuracy in the subsequent press release issued by NETWORK implying that 59,000 Catholic sisters had voiced their support for the bill, rather than some of the leaders. The media coverage also played on the angle that the position taken by Catholic sisters and the Catholic Health Association differed from that taken by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

In responding to media inquiries, LCWR stated, "Without question LCWR stands with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and other Catholics in their tireless efforts to promote the sacredness of life and to assure that federal fund-

The impact of this action by LCWR and women religious leaders underscores the strength of the moral authority of women religious and the responsibility to exercise that authority with great care.

ing is not used for abortions. LCWR emphasizes that we are not in opposition to the bishops in their pro-life stance. We support this legislation because it provides healthcare coverage for millions of people, therefore expanding justice — the right to healthcare, for all."

In the days following, the LCWR presidency and the LCWR national office were deluged with phone calls, e-mail messages, and letters from the public, as well as from LCWR members. Some people expressed gratitude to the conference for speaking publicly in support of the healthcare reform bill,

while others expressed grave dismay for a stance they believed ran contrary to the bishops' position and was not strong enough to restrict the use of federal funds for abortions.

The impact of this action by LCWR and women religious leaders underscores the strength of the moral authority of women religious and the responsibility to exercise that authority with great care. As a result, the officers and staff reviewed LCWR's policies and practices to assure that the conference continues to employ its authority with integrity as it works to guarantee the rights and dignity of all persons.



Fox News was among the many media outlets who covered the story of US Catholic sisters supporting the healthcare reform legislation

Outreach to Haiti

Following the January 12 earthquake, LCWR was in communication with numerous congregations with members living and working in Haiti. LCWR sent an online survey to all major superiors in an effort to gain an understanding of the needs of the sisters in Haiti and the people they serve.

LCWR and CMSM are now working with Catholic Relief Services, the Catholic Medical Mission Board, the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, the USCCB, the Raskob Foundation, and the Community of Sant'Egidio to coordinate assistance to Haiti to help meet some of the country's short-term and long-term challenges and to empower Haitian religious to lead the rebuilding of their institutions and ministries.

Honors Bestowed on LCWR and US Women Religious

US House of Representatives

On September 22 the US House of Representatives unanimously approved a resolution honoring the historic contributions of Catholic women religious. The resolution (HR 441) "honors and commends Catholic sisters for their humble service and courageous sacrifice throughout the history of this nation; and supports the goals of the *Women & Spirit: Catholic Sisters in America* Traveling Exhibit, a project sponsored by the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR) in association with Cincinnati Museum Center and established to recognize the historical contributions of Catholic sisters in the United States."

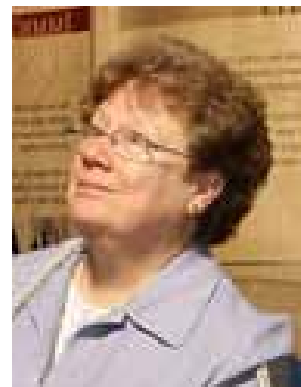
The Honorable Marcy Kaptur of Ohio introduced the resolution.



Chicago Mayor and City Council

The mayor and city council of Chicago issued a resolution on April 14 honoring LCWR for its action on behalf of healthcare reform. The resolution notes the key role played by women religious, because of their commitment to life and their dedication to persons who are sick and poor, in persuading some lawmakers to vote yes on the healthcare bill.

Mayor Richard M. Daley and city clerk Miguel del Valle signed the resolution, copies of which were sent to all members of Congress.



Pax Christi USA

At its national conference on peacemaking, Pax Christi USA will bestow the Eileen Egan Peacemaker Award on LCWR.

Pax Christi stated that it "knows and recognizes that women religious are the backbone of the Catholic peace and justice movement. These strong, prophetic, and compassionate women are always on the frontlines where the weak and most vulnerable suffer at the hands of violent and unjust power. They have been our teachers, our guides, our mentors, and our conscience. They have called us to be a people committed to living lives fashioned by the heart of the gospel which Jesus proclaimed. For the dedication to peace and justice which they have shown in our church and to the world, Pax Christi USA recognizes and honors them with this award."

LCWR president Marlene Weisenbeck, FSPA will receive the award on behalf of the conference on July 18 in Chicago.



WOMEN & spirit

CATHOLIC SISTERS IN AMERICA

The LCWR exhibit, *Women & Spirit: Catholic Sisters in America*, provides a unique opportunity to thousands of people to experience the stories of the 220,000 women religious who have served in this country since 1727.

The exhibit, which opened in May 2009, is currently in its fourth venue and will continue to five more sites during the course of the next two years. Visitor statistics from the museums show that the exhibit is attracting much public interest.

Cincinnati Museum Center
65,916

The Women's Museum: An Institute for the Future
Dallas, Texas
49,355

S. Dillon Ripley Center of the Smithsonian Institution
Washington, DC
172,925

Numerous media outlets have published articles and reviews of *Women & Spirit* and several radio and television programs have featured LCWR history committee members and museum personnel speaking on the exhibit.

LCWR is now in the production phase of a documentary that will serve as a companion piece to the exhibit by telling the story of Catholic sisters to an even larger audience.

LCWR history committee member Mary Charlotte Chandler, RSCJ views the wall of religious institute names



LCWR president Marlene Weisenbeck, FSPA greets visitors at the opening of the exhibit at the Smithsonian in January.

The exhibit banner hanging outside the entrance to the S. Dillon Ripley Center of the Smithsonian Institution



International and National Collaboration with the Church

Annual Consultation with the Vatican

Each spring representatives of LCWR and CMSM travel to Rome for consultations with various Vatican officials. This year the LCWR delegation consisted of Marlene Weisenbeck, FSPA; J Lora Dambroski, OSF; and Jane Burke, SSND. (Due to the ash from the volcanic eruption in Iceland, Mary Hughes, OP was unable to fly to Rome.)

Among the delegation's activities this year were visits with the following:

- The Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life
- The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith
- The Congregation for the Oriental Churches
- The Pontifical Council for the Family
- The Pontifical Council for Inter-Religious Dialogue
- The Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace
- The Pontifical Council for the Laity
- The Pontifical Council for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Immigrants
- The Pontifical Council for Social Communications
- The Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity

- Dr. Miguel Díaz, ambassador of the United States to the Vatican
- The staff and officers of the International Union of Superiors General and the Union of Superiors General
- Some of the US major superiors living in Rome.

Some of these meetings were attended by the officers and executive director of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men as well.

Collaboration with USCCB

As is customary, the LCWR presidents and executive director attended as observers the November meeting of the USCCB. In addition, the executive director attended a meeting of the 11 organizations that relate to the USCCB Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations. At that time, the USCCB clarified the role of the USCCB episcopal contact and the expectations the USCCB has for the organization's relationship with that contact. Each organization is expected to share with the contact documentation and newsletters that are sent to the organization's members. The organization is also to invite the bishop to its annual meeting and pay for the bishop's registration, room, and travel expenses unless it is not within that organization's means. The episcopal contact for LCWR is currently Bishop Terry Steib.

LCWR executive director Jane Burke, SSND; LCWR president Marlene Weisenbeck, FSPA; and J Lora Dambroski, OSF during the April visit to Rome



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



The LCWR National Board

The LCWR national board has worked throughout the year to give leadership to the conference and to the regions. Among the matters addressed by the board at its August meetings in New Orleans, its February meeting in Tucson, and in its ongoing work throughout the year were:

- A public statement from the LCWR presidents and board in August on healthcare reform
- Discussion of the 2010 focus for LCWR: The Ecclesial Role of Women Religious
- The CDF doctrinal assessment of LCWR
- The CICLSAL apostolic visitation of US women religious
- The NRVC-CARA study on vocations
- The CARA study on sexual abuse policies
- The LCWR Call for 2010-2015
- The Contemporary Religious Life Project
- Future workshops for outgoing leaders
- The role of the LCWR presidency
- The LCWR and CMSM 1989 “Transformative Elements” that set forth a vision for religious life for 2010
- LCWR’s financial needs.

LCWR holds its February meeting in conjunction with the meeting of the board of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men so that some meetings may be held jointly. The two boards invited Tucson Bishop Gerald Kicanas for a period of conversation on topics of mutual interest and concern. Discussion included concern for the dearth of vocations in the church, concern for the future leadership of the church, relationship-building between bishops and women religious, avenues for interaction of

religious with the USCCB, the apostolic visitation of US women religious, and the role of faithful dissent within the church.



LCWR president-elect Mary Hughes, OP; LCWR past president J Lora Dambroski, OSF; CMSM president Thomas P. Cassidy, SCJ; Tucson Bishop Gerald Kicanas; and LCWR president Marlene Weisenbeck, FSPA at the joint board meeting in February

Commission on Religious Life and Ministry

The Commission on Religious Life and Ministry (CRLM) meets annually in November. Sometimes the meeting is followed up with a spring conference call. Four major groups compose the CRLM: LCWR, the Conference of Major Superiors of Men, the Council of Major Superiors of Women Religious, and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. The National Conference of Vicars for Religious is also represented.

This year the CRLM met November 13 at the Little Sisters of the Poor in Baltimore. A key issue on the agenda was a proposed incorporation of the National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO) separate from the USCCB. This has been a discussion item since 2001.

Each conference/council has an opportunity to provide updates to the group at the meeting. This year Bishop Terry Steib engaged the commission in discussion of the apostolic visitation. Concerns raised included media coverage, lack of transparency, role of the bishops, role of men’s congregations, and items on the questionnaire.

The LCWR and CMSM national boards at their annual joint meeting



The LCWR Contemporary Religious Life Project

The 2009 LCWR assembly unanimously approved a plan, now called the LCWR Contemporary Religious Life Project, which resulted in the formation of two new committees to serve the conference.

The Contemporary Religious Life Committee is assisting the conference to actively read the signs of the times from a gospel perspective, assuming an anticipatory role in understanding the implications for religious life, and bringing emerging questions, issues, and trends to the attention of the members. These questions are to inform the planning of the programs, services, and resources offered to LCWR members to assist them in their ministry of leadership.

The committee members are studying the current literature about religious life and developing a plan for naming the topics that seem most critical for leaders. In consultation with the LCWR national board, the committee will choose the topic for particular study for the upcoming calendar year. Each year the committee is to develop a 12-month process that focuses on in-depth study and theological reflection on the emerging question facing religious life selected for that year. This includes the planning of the annual assembly.

The committee has begun an annotated bibliography of readings pertaining to contemporary religious life that is available on the LCWR website, along



Contemporary Religious Life Committee (front) Annmarie Sanders, IHM; Rosemary Smith, SC; Constance FitzGerald, OCD (consultant); Catherine Bertrand, SSND (facilitator); (back) Marie McCarthy, SP; Jane Burke, SSND; Mary Whited, CPPS; and Susan Schorsten, HM.

with reflection questions. Leaders are encouraged to utilize this resource themselves and with their members.

The Strategic Operational Planning Committee is studying the conference's life and effectiveness in light of its demographic and financial realities. This includes studies of the current realities and long-term needs of both the conference and its members, the governance structures of LCWR, and the national office.



Strategic Operational Planning Committee members: (standing) Kathleen Durkin, CSJ; Theresa Sandok, OSM; Marie Lucey, OSF; Beatrice Hernandez, OSF; Patricia McDermott, RSM; and Pat Cormack, SCSC; (seated) Jane Burke, SSND and Janet Roesener, CSJ (facilitator). Missing is Barbara Staropoli, SSJ.

Resources, Information, and Networking Opportunities

The LCWR newsletter, *Update*, is published 11 times a year and sent to the conference's nearly 1500 members, associates, and subscribers.

The LCWR *Occasional Papers*, a biannual journal, offers articles and reflective materials on religious life and leadership subjects. Many leaders purchase additional copies for their own members so that each publication reaches several thousand religious in the United States and abroad. The winter 2010 issue focused on hope in the midst of darkness, while the summer 2010 issue will highlight prophetic and imaginative leadership.

This year LCWR published *Resolutions to Action* focusing on "Choosing simplicity in a context of deep time," "'ILLth': Uneconomic Growth," and "Reducing and Offsetting Our Carbon Footprint."

Nearly all correspondence between the LCWR national office and the conference's members, associates, and subscribers occurs through an [online broadcast messaging system](#).

LCWR members and associates are encouraged to utilize the [LCWR Resource Sharing Forum](#), a list-serv that provides a means for networking, sharing information, or raising questions.

More than 21,000 copies of the 2010 [LCWR reflection book](#), "Hope in the Midst of Darkness," were distributed throughout the nation and to readers in other countries.



Programs for Leadership Development

Leading from Within Retreat

For the sixth year, LCWR offered the Leading from Within Retreat to a group of 25 conference members. Directed by Regina Bechtle, SC and Maria Elena Martínez, OSF, the participants spent five days at the Redemptorist Renewal Center at Picture Rocks in Tucson in prayer and reflection on various spiritual life themes as they relate to religious life leadership.



New Leader Workshop

More than 100 leaders participated in the 2010 new leader workshop held at the University of St. Mary of the Lake in Mundelein, Illinois in March. Leaders not only received valuable input from a team of presenters, but also had the opportunity to explore the implications of the material in several sessions in which they worked as councils. The workshop proves helpful for both new leaders and those returning to leadership.



2010 Systemic Change Think Tank

An LCWR Systemic Change Think Tank took place in January at Bethany Center in Florida, with presenter Carol Zinn, SSJ who spoke on "The Evolution of Human Thought and Religious Life, for the Life of the World."



Advocacy for Justice and Peace

Global Concerns Committee

In response to the chaos of hurricane and earthquake devastation, destruction of wetlands, impact of climate change, and the negative consequences of unbridled economic growth in our country, the LCWR Global Concerns Committee undertook several actions.

Assembly 2009: Collaboration with New Orleans Catholic Charities to organize the pre-assembly tour of LCWR member ministry sites recovering from Hurricane Katrina. The committee also assisted LCWR Region 5 with their organization of the public prayer witness event calling for preservation of wetlands. The committee also proposed the assembly resolution on reducing our carbon footprint which was approved by the LCWR assembly.

Implementation of the 2009 Resolution: Development of an implementation form for LCWR congregations to be collated by the regions after their spring meetings.

Assembly 2010: Development of a resolution to strengthen bonds among women religious throughout the world. This proposal will be brought to members for approval at the 2010 assembly.

Collaboration with CMSM: The committee invited members of the CMSM Justice and Peace Committee to join them in visiting the *Women & Spirit* exhibit at the Smithsonian prior to their joint meeting in April. Members of both committees agreed to take joint action on comprehensive immigration reform, and shared concerns and activities related to the aftermath of the earthquake in Haiti, including the work of Catholic Relief Services and the USCCB. Committee members expressed support for June 2010 Torture Awareness Month and the actions proposed by the National Religious Campaign Against Torture.

LCWR is committed to “developing models for initiating and strengthening relationships with groups concerned with the needs of society, thereby maximizing the potential of the conference for effecting change.”

— LCWR Mission Statement

Collaboration with Other Justice Organizations

On behalf of LCWR, the LCWR associate director for social mission participated in the spring meeting of the National Coalition on Catholic Healthcare Ministry, meetings of the Justice for Immigrants Campaign of the USCCB, the Catholic Coalition on Climate Change, the Coalition of Catholic Organizations Against Human Trafficking, and the Catholic Leadership Council of the National Religious Campaign Against Torture. She also worked with the Catholic Health Association and NETWORK on behalf of healthcare reform.

As a signer of the Pax Christi USA letter to President Obama in anticipation of his nuclear posture review, she was invited to join Pax Christi in a White House meeting with national security advisor Dennis McDonough. Other organizations in which she participates as LCWR staff include: the Religious Working Group on Water, Faith, Ecology and Economy, the Interfaith Nuclear Disarmament Group, and Heads of Washington Offices (justice staff).

In addition, the associate director sends alerts to LCWR justice and peace contacts several times a month.



LCWR and CMSM justice committees: (back) Juan Molina, OSST; Seamus Finn, OMI; Andrew Small, OMI; Chris Promis, CSSP; Michael McNulty, SJ; (front) Miriam Mitchell, SHSP; Marie Lucey, OSF; Kathleen Bryant, RSC; Kathleen Storms, SSND; Janet Lehmann, SC; Jacquelyn Doepker, OSF; and Judith Justinger, SSJ

The LCWR Mission as Lived in the Regions

Region 1

The 15 LCWR regions respond to the question, “In what ways has your region creatively engaged the chaos of these times?”

Chaos sometimes births creative steadfastness in long-term projects.

Region 1 partners with the Institute for Community Economics, Inc. (ICE), an alternate investment program providing loans to community-based non-profits for affordable housing for the needy.

Region 1 members collaborate in Wisdom’s Way to offer scholarships to women for non-tuition-related expenses: books, food, transportation, baby-sitting fees, and more.

Chaos in the human face of trafficking inspires daring action right here, right now. Members of the Boston Unit of Region 1 founded an anti-trafficking coalition and have organized symposiums to raise awareness and promote action. A subcommittee is researching the viability of a safe house.

The felt disruption of the apostolic visitation led us to strengthen relational bonds. Shared wisdom, deep listening, and the grace of one heart / one spirit permeated our gatherings.

At our spring meeting, we viewed the online video of Fr. Michael Himes’ presentation from the Boston College “Last Lecture Series.”

The apostolic visitation and the Last Lecture confirm our belief:

We are who we are

evolving tradition in holistic ways;
speaking and acting with integrity;
awakening each day with hearts turned outward;
beaming beacons of Life, Hope, Justice, Love, and Peace.

We are who we are.

Region 1



Region 2

The sisters of New York State have bonded together to carry a candle into the darkness and chaos of these times. Our regional meetings have seen consistently increased attendance. At these meetings, we find ourselves grounding our time together in shared contemplative silence before we look at the particular content.

In the fall we welcomed Mary Pat Garvin, RSM to help us look at a central part of our commitment to religious life – our community living. Her topic was revitalizing community life for mission. A highlight of this particular meeting was a moving liturgy we shared with Bishop Howard Hubbard of Albany. We are grateful for the support he expressed as we deal with the apostolic visitation and we look forward to a meeting with him and several other New York State bishops in fall 2010.

In the spring, we shared time with Christine Vladimiroff, OSB as together we looked at our lives as ecclesial women.

Thanks to our justice committee, we have spent significant time at both our regional meetings on developing a deeper understanding of our responsibility for the earth and have learned specific steps we need to take to reduce our carbon footprint.

We have had a year that has provided us with renewed and deepened understanding of the treasure of our shared relationships as vowed women religious.

Region 3

The programming for our regional meetings has emphasized and offered us contemplative experiences. In fall 2009, we reflected on the vows in the context of Catholic social teaching. In spring 2010, we reflected on leadership's response to violence and the need for reconciliation in our congregations and in the world.

As women of hope we continue to live, respond to, and minister amid all sorts of chaos such as hunger, immigration, and the earthquake in Haiti. Insights we have gleaned highlight the depth of the wisdom among us and the contemporary value of our charisms and our documents (proper law) as we respond to the chaos of our times. We used our meeting times to share our courage, wisdom, conviction, and sincerity. We realize that how we are affects one another. We find that we are arriving at a place of freedom in the chaos. We have greater clarity about our identity as women religious and laity in the church. We have gotten here together, aging and diminishing numbers notwithstanding. Chaos may even help us focus on the essentials of religious life!

We continue to call ourselves to monitor our carbon footprint in response to the 2009 LCWR assembly resolution.

We continue to grow in effective collaboration as together we address issues such as the education of sisters in Africa and housing for women in our area who are in need.



*Anne Myers, SSJ and Dolores Joseph Bozzelli, IHM
at a Region 3 meeting*

Region 4

Region 4 began its fall meeting centered on leadership in open systems, as Gertrude Foley, SC challenged us to learn new ways to look at problems and to apply principles of systems thinking, to tap into the new consciousness, the evolving story of how the universe works, and to ask new questions of the problems before us. As the year progressed we engaged in the unique opportunity provided by the apostolic visitation process to grow in solidarity with each other as we discussed possible responses and considered canonical advice.

The earthquake in Haiti and the growing number of homeless people in our own geographical areas provided “hands-on” responses to the chaos that invades our lives. The recent actions around the healthcare reform legislation landed us once more in the chaos of what it means to be women religious in today’s church. Communication or the lack of it, or the timing of it, whether it be in the merger processes of many congregations or in the day-to-day messiness of our ordinary lives in the ministry of leadership, touches into that chaos which often comes from the very complexity of our existence.

The arrival of the *Women & Spirit* exhibit at the Smithsonian Institution in our region gave us renewed opportunity to be grounded in the courage and perseverance of our foremothers. As we visited

this exciting tribute to the labors of so many congregations and their achievements, we bore with us the resonance of Simone Campbell’s excellent presentation on advocacy, prophetic vision, and the need for Sabbath time in our chaotic lives.



Region 4 at the Smithsonian

Region 5

Region 5 has experienced some of the best of times and some of the worst of times during the past five years. In all those times creativity has been alive and well. We are still dealing with the chaos caused by the hurricanes that devastated much of the area of our region. The work of rebuilding has brought us together with one another as congregations of women religious and with the people of our area in ways that we could never have imagined.

We have tried consciously as a region to address the chaos in our work together this year by having presentations at our two meetings dealing with engaging chaos and impasse. When the decree establishing the apostolic visitation was promulgated, region members united with one another to study the question and prepare for our collaboration. We were gathered in a regional meeting the very day that the major superiors received their communication of the materials for Phase II of the visitation. We met the challenge of the documents with prayer, discernment, solidarity, and a sincere pledge to study the material and to respond in the best way we could while remaining true to our integrity and the charisms of our founders.

We continue to sponsor our ministry in Lake Providence, Louisiana, where we have two women religious who serve the needs of the area which is one of the poorest in the state of Louisiana. These women are a sign of hope to all the people of Lake Providence.



Region 5 gathering

Region 6

Chaos in our times is evident in our society, church, and personal lives. “Inspired by the radical call of the Gospel, led by God’s Spirit, and companioned by one another, we embrace our time as holy, our leadership as gift, and our challenges as blessings.” (LCWR Call)

Region 6 was privileged to open the LCWR exhibit *Women and Spirit: Catholic Sisters in America* in May 2009 and celebrate its return to Ohio in Cleveland, the northern portion of our region, in May 2010.

We have used our individual and combined resources with creativity as we strengthened the bonds of solidarity with one another. Our collaboration was evident in a number of social justice issues, including human trafficking, immigration reform, healthcare issues, and the crisis in Haiti.

We have also strengthened and supported one another with prayer, conversation, shared insight, and education as we have responded to the various phases of the apostolic visitation.

It is in creativity that Region 6 has been united, is empowering and encouraging one another, and living “our leadership as gift and our challenges as blessings.”



Outgoing Region 6 leadership: Yvonne Fischer, OSF, Patricia Homan, OSU (chair); Donna Frey, OSU; Michele Morek, OSU; and Barbara Jean Head, OSU

Region 7

The members of Region 7 have engaged creatively with the chaos of these times by keeping our focus on mission. We have engaged in deep sharing and conversation which have strengthened the bonds among us as we have explored the key issues of our time in church and society.

Our meetings have provided solid input from presenters Anthony Gittins, CSSp and Barbara Stanbridge, IHM, deep reflection, and an emerging sense of a shared vision for the way forward. We have made a deliberate effort to integrate our justice promoters into the work of the region, inviting them to the program portion of meetings that focus on particular justice issues. In addition we have invited our vocation/formation personnel to join us for input, reflection, and deep conversation on the emerging future of religious life.

We have engaged in deep sharing and conversation which have strengthened the bonds among us

We have also had mutually supportive conversations around the process and the impact of the apostolic visitation on our lives and ministry and our role as leaders.

All of these efforts have contributed to a sense of mutual support and solidarity in mission for the members of Region 7.

Region 8

Region 8 has been an active group and has worked systematically to address issues that are important to the group, and to build solidarity in the midst of the chaos of these times. We have utilized creative ways to build solidarity among ourselves as women religious in today's church and society.

Most importantly, we have taken concrete steps to address our concern about the effect of trafficking on women and children throughout the world. In fall 2009, the region and the bishops of Illinois successfully completed and disseminated a joint statement with action suggestions to all parishes throughout the state of Illinois. This statement was published in *Origins* in early 2010 (at the request of Cardinal Francis George), and our representative, Jean Okroi, IBVM, was featured on several radio talk shows in January.

We continue to be proud of the work done through Project IRENE to promote more just laws and policies affecting women and children in the state of Illinois. Our spring meeting is always held in Springfield, our state capital, which gives us an opportunity to become further educated on the current issues facing our state. At our spring meeting, we also explored the universe story vis-à-vis our own stories.



A visual reflection created during a Region 9 meeting by LCWR member Doris Klein, CSA

Region 9

The members of Region 9 have engaged creatively with the chaos of these times by:

- Addressing together the challenges of the apostolic visitation at regional meetings and in conference calls and canonical consultations. The mutual support we have experienced through this process has deepened our bonds of friendship and trust and given us a new appreciation for LCWR.
- Nourishing our minds and spirits by having quality speakers address timely topics at our regional meetings: NETWORK's Simone Campbell, SSS on "Leadership in a Globalized World"; the SSND Sunseed staff on "Religious Life in an Ecozoic Era"; Marquette theologian Rev. Bryan Massingale on "Building Bridges in Challenging Times: Healing a Divided World and Church."
- Publishing a series of ads in the five Wisconsin Catholic diocesan papers and the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* dealing with the myths of immigration and directing readers to the newly created Facebook page "Wisconsin Catholic Sisters" for more information. This project is a collaborative effort of our communicators and legislative network.
- Keeping abreast of key social issues facing our state and nation, assisted by our legislative network, which is made up of the justice and peace coordinators of our member congregations.
- Supporting LCWR and NETWORK through prayer, participation, and financial assistance.



Region 9 gathering

Region 10

As a region we have grappled with hard questions such as vocations, the health of our members, and the multiple implications of diminishment. Conversation and shared insight have expanded our vision and enabled us to identify unarticulated areas of common concern. Our joint consideration of the apostolic visitation has generated profound solidarity among us as well as a renewed appreciation of our constitutions.

Similarly, planning together for the *Women & Spirit* exhibit has grounded us in a prophetic history that propels us more boldly into the future. In the economic chaos of these times our congregations have been very creative in finding ways to do more with less. We have reexamined our long-term planning for retirement and have collaborated with laity in new projects in new ways. The challenge of finances has reaffirmed in us the choice to have charism and mission be what drives us into the future. A collective manifestation of that is the public impact we have continued to have through initiatives in the areas of immigration and the environment. As ecclesial women, we have met regularly with our area bishops, promoting a relational style of conversation.



Region 10 meeting

Region 11

At our fall meeting Barbara Stanbridge, IHM led us in a reflection on Theory U and its application to the task of leadership. In the light of the call to “go deeper” we grappled with the questions “Who are we? Who are we called to be? Where do we want to be?” We left our meeting with the challenging questions, “What is longing to be born in us now? How can women religious lay claim to our unique identity, i.e., to be prophetic communities of hope?”

Our spring meeting was held at St. John Abbey in Collegeville, Minnesota. Thirty-five congregational leaders from 17 religious communities in Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota met with six of our bishops. Engaging in deeper dialogue allowed us to hear one another’s stories of God’s presence and call to leadership in our lives, and enhanced our understanding of one another’s roles. Recommendations include the creation of a quarterly bulletin to maintain communication among the religious communities and the bishops, the consideration of a meeting in 2012, and the plan to have a similar gathering with persons of other cultures to listen to who they are and what their needs are in our church and our world.

Chaos exposed pain and led to creative energy in this dialogue.



“Emerging Energy,” a reflection by LCWR Region 9 member Doris Klein, CSA

Region 12

Region 12 met in fall 2009 and had as its program speakers on immigration issues. We would like to highlight Celia Haggert from the Center for Public Policy Priorities who wrote a paper on “Common Sense Principles for Immigration Reform.” (www.cppp.org/files/2/442_immigrationreform.pdf) It is a very timely and thought-provoking article.

The program for our spring meeting generally is more in a reflective mode. This past spring meeting we engaged Francis Briseño, OSB, as a facilitator to help us reflect and converse around the article from Sandra Schneiders, IHM, “The Tasks of Those Who Choose a Prophetic Life Style.” It was time well-spent.

Since we will be the host region for our next LCWR assembly, we have been busy getting volunteers for the different tasks and coordinating the witness which will be focused on the death penalty.

We look forward to seeing all in Dallas!

Region 13

In the fall members of Region 13 were gifted with an afternoon reflection process led by Mary Kevin Rooney, ASC on “Ecclesial Women: Finding Hope in the Muck.” Mary Kevin used Scripture stories and her own input to help us reflect on hope in our time. After watching the movie *Hildegarde*, which Mary Kevin noted “parallels our own time,” each person was asked to claim her own particular gift that the church needs now.

At the spring 2010 meeting Marcia Allen, CSJ led a process using the 10 transformative elements for religious life that were developed at the 1989 LCWR/CMSM assembly. These predictors for the next 20 years were amazingly “on target” and were impetus for articulating new elements that are important for the future.

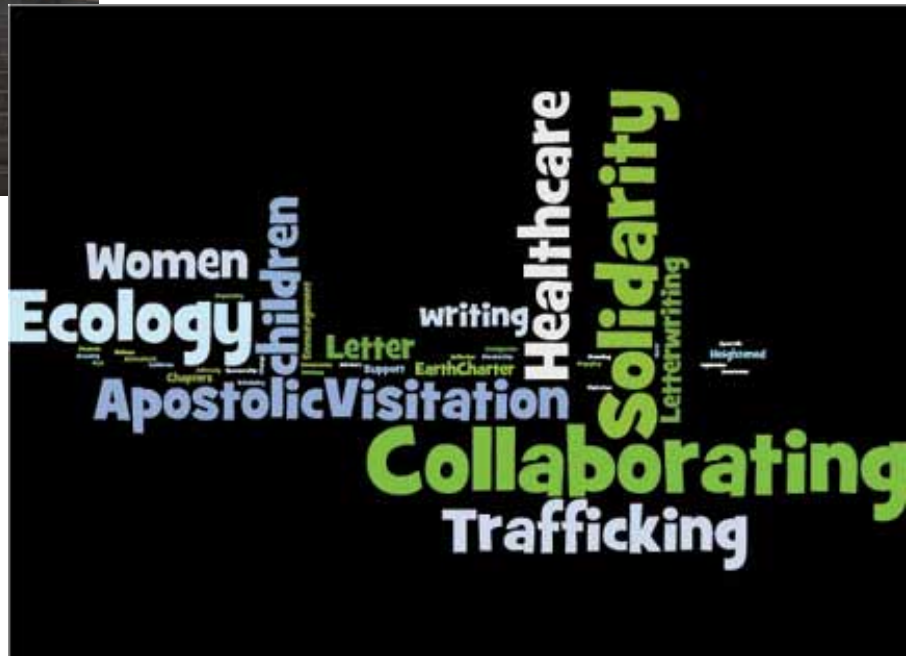
A viewing of *Interrupted Lives*, a story of women religious in the years of communism in Eastern Europe, demonstrated their resilience during harsh circumstances.



Region 13 members (foreground) Cathy Mueller, SL; (background) Fran Schumer, ASC; Anne Shepard, OSB, Anna Marie Broxterman, CSJ; and Anne Stedman, OSB engaged in discussion of the 10 transformative elements for religious life.



Region 14



Region 15

Region 15 has a long history of intercommunity collaboration. Here are some of the ways members of the region have responded to the chaos of our times:

- Participating in IPJC and the extraordinary ways it addresses chaos in so many areas
- Region 15's project is one on human trafficking. STOP THE DEMAND posters were placed on buses in Seattle and the project is moving forward to the Tacoma area
- The region sponsors a monthly prayer vigil in the Seattle area on behalf of those who are trafficked
- Through IPJC, members have participated in immigration reform efforts, the Northwest Coalition for Responsible Investment, and justice cafés for youth
- Northwest Mercy Housing
- Education days on vocations and the issues of our day
- Intercommunity collaboration in a project called Transitions for homeless women
- Each congregation's chapter directional statements
- NABRS annual meetings which provide an opportunity for dialogue with the hierarchical church
- Participation in efforts toward healthcare reform
- Participation in Unanima, an NGO-based in New York that works on trafficking and the environment
- Earth ministries – an interfaith effort to reflect on faith and the environment
- Various congregations' responses to earthquakes in Haiti and Chile
- Each of our congregations' prayers for the needs of the world
- Faithful dialogue and prayer around our relationship with the church

Stewardship of LCWR's Financial Resources

During 2009 the LCWR Finance Committee and the office staff have worked diligently to ensure the wise stewardship of LCWR's resources. It was a challenging year due to the recession and the continued volatility of the US stock market.

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. The Finance Committee continues to work on guidelines for the establishment of an audit committee.

Investments

The LCWR Finance Committee met with Eileen O'Connell, representative of Christian Brothers Investment Services (CBIS). The committee reviewed the investment performance. As the markets began to slowly improve so did our investments. The committee forwarded to the board suggested revisions to the investment policy and the revised policy was approved by the board.

Budget

Overall, operational income and expenses met budget expectations. However, we also experienced unanticipated extraordinary expenses for both the doctrinal assessment and the apostolic visitation. We try to balance the ongoing challenge presented by decreasing income and increasing expenses. We also continue to note the rise in congregational and/or provincial mergers and the decline in numbers of professed which both have significant impact on LCWR projected dues income. The committee is sensitive to the impact of our dues structure on member congregations.

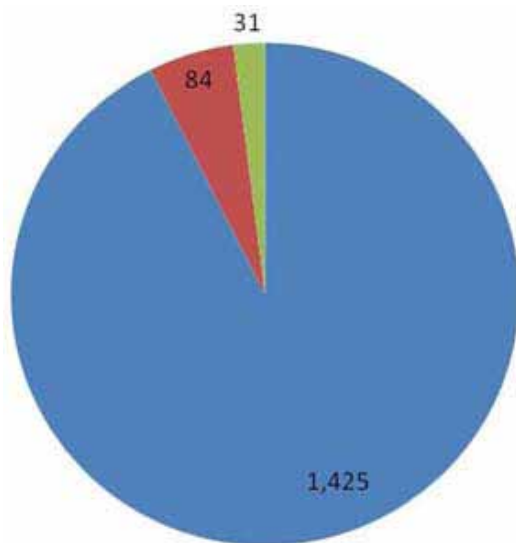
History Project

The *Women & Spirit* exhibit tour is well under way and we are now beginning to draw on the donations received in earlier years. At the same time, as the scope of the project has expanded, fundraising has continued. To date donations have covered expenses.

LCWR Building

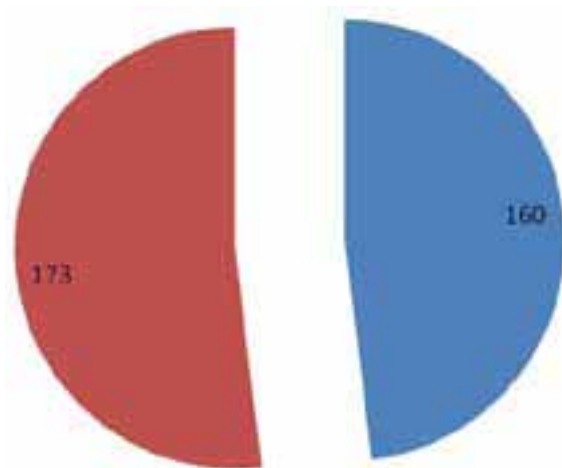
Each year the CMSM and LCWR national boards meet to review the capital needs of the building and budget resources to assure the building's safety and security for its tenants. The building, jointly owned by LCWR and CMSM, includes offices for their own staffs as well as for the Religious Formation Conference and the Resource Center for Religious Institutes.

2009 Paid Membership Numbers by Type



Members
Associates
Subscribers

2009 Number of Congregational Units by Type



Generalates/Monasteries
Provinces/Regions



The LCWR Finance Committee: Helen Ingles, IHM; Pam Chiesa, PBVM; Beatrice Hernandez OSF; Doretta Meier OSF; and Pat Cormack, SCSC. Missing from photo is LCWR treasurer Elizabeth Ney CSJ.

LCWR Statement of Financial Position

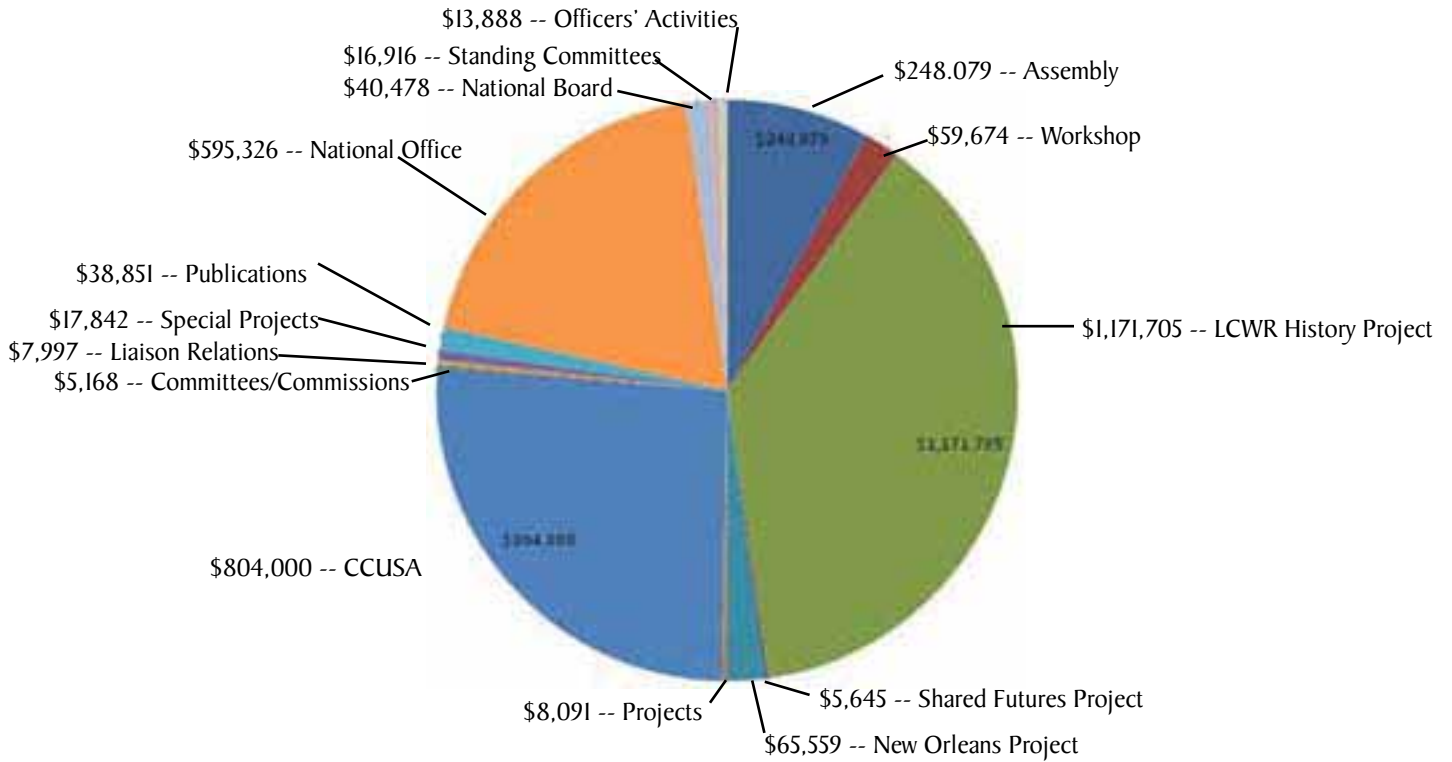
December 31, 2009 and 2008

ASSETS	2009	2008
Current Assets	(Reviewed)	(Reviewed)
Cash	\$ 1,425,177	\$ 2,981,049
Account receivable-other	\$ 49,595	\$ 24,628
Promises to give	\$ 74,305	\$ 150,355
Prepaid expenses and other	\$ 25,132	\$ 21,417
Total Current Assets	\$ 1,574,209	\$ 3,177,449
Furniture & Equipment at cost		
Furniture and equipment	\$ 29,656	\$ 28,082
Less: accumulated depreciation	\$ (21,870)	\$ (18,935)
Furniture and equipment, Net	\$ 7,786	\$ 9,147
Other Assets		
Investments	\$ 3,606,469	\$ 2,365,264
Investment in common fund	\$ 16,283	\$ 16,349
Investment in real estate, net	\$ 371,122	\$ 341,767
Total Other Assets	\$ 3,993,874	\$ 2,723,380
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 5,575,869	\$ 5,909,976
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable and Accrued expenses	\$ 55,045	\$ 36,397
Deferred Revenue	\$ 539,389	\$ 521,662
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 594,434	\$ 558,059
Fund Development Loans Payable	\$ 304,050	\$ 314,050
Total Liabilities	\$ 898,484	\$ 872,109
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	\$ 434,086	\$ (225,112)
Undesignated	\$ 2,591,499	\$ 2,597,144
Board designated-support fund	\$ 3,025,585	\$ 2,372,032
Total Unrestricted Net Assets	\$ 1,651,800	\$ 2,665,835
Temporarily Restricted	\$ 4,677,385	\$ 5,037,867
Total Net Assets	\$ 5,575,869	\$ 5,909,976
TOTAL LIABILITIES/NET ASSETS	\$ 5,575,869	\$ 5,909,976

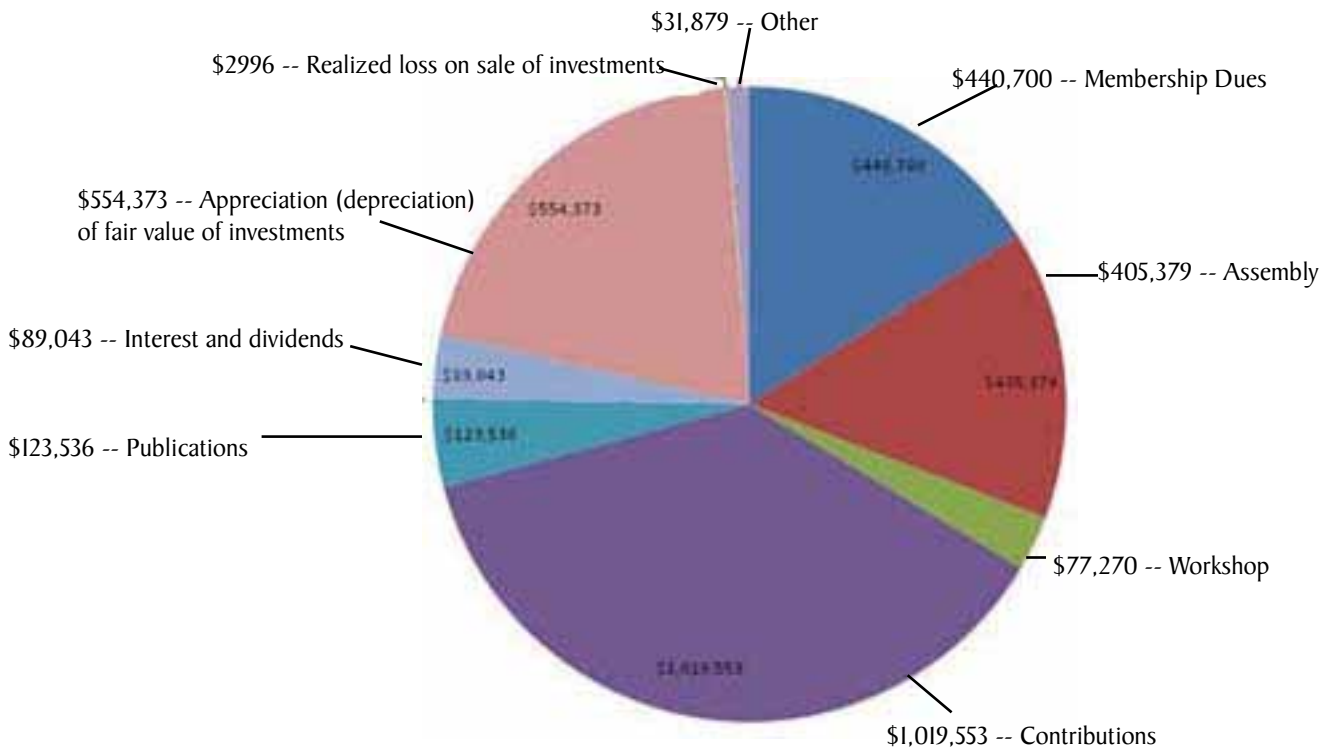
Statement of Revenues and Expenses

REVENUE	2009	2008
Membership Dues	\$ 440,700	\$ 404,698
Assembly	\$ 405,379	\$ 345,046
Workshop	\$ 77,270	\$ 61,390
Contributions	\$ 1,019,553	\$ 1,336,242
Publications	\$ 123,536	\$ 126,614
Subscriptions and labels	\$ -	\$ 4,227
Interest and dividends	\$ 89,043	\$ 154,786
Appreciation (depreciation) on fair value of investments	\$ 554,373	\$ (920,502)
Realized loss on sale of investments	\$ (2,996)	\$ (18,889)
Other	\$ 31,879	\$ 18,273
Net assets released from restrictions		
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 2,738,737	\$ 1,511,884
EXPENSES		
PROGRAM EXPENSES		
Assembly		
Workshop	\$ 248,079	\$ 179,815
LCWR History Project	\$ 59,674	\$ 56,303
Shared Futures Project	\$ 1,171,705	\$ 1,150,655
New Orleans Project	\$ 5,645	\$ 1,116
Projects	\$ 65,559	\$ 172,968
CCUSA	\$ 8,091	\$ 7,923
Committees/Commissions	\$ 804,000	\$ 804,016
Liaison Relations	\$ 5,168	\$ 5,086
Special Projects	\$ 7,997	\$ 6,704
Publications	\$ 17,842	
TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES	\$ 38,851	\$ 32,508
MANAGEMENT & GENERAL		
National Office		
National Board	\$ 595,326	\$ 574,722
Standing Committees	\$ 40,478	\$ 47,150
Officers' Activities	\$ 16,916	\$ 17,937
TOTAL SUPPORTING SERVICES	\$ 13,888	\$ 16,440
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 3,099,219	\$ 3,073,343

2009 LCWR Expenses



2009 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 they have creatively engaged the chaos of the times since summer 2009.



Religious Formation Conference

*Violet Grennan, MFIC
Executive Director*

In the midst of these challenging times in the history of religious life in the United States, in our church, and world, the mission of the Religious Formation Conference (RFC) "... rooted in the Gospel, called by God's prophetic Spirit and responsive to the signs of the times..." serves as anchor, catalyst, and beacon of hope.

In 2009 with keen awareness of service to our membership as they live consecrated life and engage in the work of evangelization of the people of God, the RFC initiated a series of conversations titled "Religious Life in the 21st Century: A Transformative Moment?" Initial steps were taken to address key issues, and on-going development of these initiatives will result in significant programming from fall 2010 through 2011.



National Religious Vocation Conference

*Paul Bednarczyk, CSC
Executive Director*

In the midst of this transitional time in religious life, the National Religious Vocation Conference (NRVC) released the results of its landmark study on recent vocations to religious life. We hope that this study, which represents well over 80 percent of the religious in the United States, has lessened the fears and confusion about who is entering religious life and the communities who are receiving new candidates.

By identifying approximately 4,000 newer entrants, our study is evidence that God's mysterious call to religious life is far more powerful than the crippling and chaotic turmoil of our present time. Men and women continue to respond to God's invitation. As religious we need to support the action of the Spirit in their lives.



Resource Center for Religious Institutes

*Donna Sauer Miller, JD, JCL
Associate Director for Civil Law*

The Resource Center for Religious Institutes (RCRI) has concluded its first full year of operation since being formed from the merger of LRRC and NATRI. Our members have abided patiently the resulting changes that the merger ushered in.

Our first RCRI national conference in October 2009 was a huge success in Atlanta. This year we will gather in Anaheim in September, where, in addition to our workshops on financial and legal topics, we will offer a pre-convention workshop on the new healthcare reform law that passed earlier this year. Details can be found on our website at www.trcri.org. Our staff continues to travel across the country to present talks on a variety of topics as we provide financial and legal resources to meet our members' needs.



National Religious Retirement Office

*Janice Bader, CPPS
Executive Director*

There are more women religious over age 90 than under age 50. Forty percent of women religious are between the ages of 60 and 75.¹ The last large age cohort of religious will be retiring within this decade. Aging brings wisdom and grace. It also creates challenges that are compounded by the current economic milieu.

To support religious in engaging these challenges, the National Religious Retirement Office (NNRO) continues to refine its planning and implementation assistance process. This program helps to identify ways to enhance an institute's ability to provide for elder members. Thirty-five institutes will have participated by the end of 2010. Participants indicate that the program's consultative services, workshop, and networking opportunities are invaluable.

NRRO welcomes the opportunity to journey with you.

¹ Based on data submitted to NRRO in 2009.

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.

LCWR National Board

Officers

Marlene Weisenbeck, FSPA*
-- President
Mary Hughes, OP* -- President-Elect
J. Lora Dambroski, OSF* -- Past President
Ellen Dauwer, SC* -- Secretary
Elizabeth Ney, CSJ* -- Treasurer

Regional Chairpersons

Yvette Bellerose, SSA -- Region 1
Barbara Staropoli, SSJ -- Region 2
Kathryn Clauss, IHM -- Region 3
Vivien Linkhauer, SC -- Region 4
Nancy Reynolds, SP* -- Region 5
Patricia Homan, OSU -- Region 6
Marie McCarthy, SP -- Region 7
Patricia Crowley, OSB* -- Region 8
Theresa Sandok, OSM -- Region 9
Connie Probst, OSF -- Region 10
Tierney Trueman, OSF -- Region 11
Bernadine Reyes, OSB -- 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

Contemporary Religious Life Committee

Jane Burke, SSND (Chair)
Marie McCarthy, SP
Susan Schorsten, HM
Rosemary Smith, SC
Mary Whited, CPPS
Annmarie Sanders, IHM (staff)

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)

Assembly Resolutions Committee

Michele Morek, OSU
Susan Jordan, SSND
Marie Lucey, OSF (LCWR Staff)

Finance Committee

Pam Chiesa, PBVM
Beatrice Hernandez, OSF
Helen Ingles, IHM
Sheila Megley, RSM
Doretta Meier, OSF
Elizabeth Ney, CSJ (Treasurer)
Pat Cormack, SCSC (LCWR Staff)

Global Concerns Committee

Jacquelyn Doepker, OSF
Janet Lehmann, SC
Miriam Mitchell, SHSp
Judith Justinger, SSJ
Kathleen Bryant, RSC
Kathleen Storms, SSND
Marie Lucey, OSF (LCWR Staff)

History Exhibit Committee

Barbara Cervenka, OP
Mary Charlotte Chandler, RSCJ
Mary Dacey, SSJ
Helen Maher Garvey, BVM (Chair)
Karen Kennelly, CSJ
Constance Phelps, SCL
Jane Burke, SSND (LCWR Staff)
Annmarie Sanders, IHM (LCWR Staff)

Liaisons to Other Organizations

Resource Center for Religious Institutes

Jane Burke, SSND

National Coalition on Catholic Health Care Ministry

Marianna Bauder, SCL
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

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
Communications Director



Marianne Benson
Executive Assistant



Carol Glidden
Administrative Assistant



Christabel Lartey
Receptionist



Honora Precourt
Development Coordinator
for LCWR History Project