Developing a Women's Ministry

1. **PRAYER** - Bathe your ministry plans in prayer.

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God and the peace of God, which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6 &7

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him and he will make your paths straight." Proverbs 3: 5-6

2. WHY GATHER WOMEN TOGETHER?

"Let us consider how we can spur one another on toward love and goods..." Hebrews 10:24&25

Women need other women for fellowship, encouragement, sharing, to edify one another and for fun! Take a look at Titus 2:1 "you must teach what is in accord with sound doctrine...vs. 3.teach the older women, vs. 4 train the younger women..."

Women have needs that only women can meet and God's Word has instructed us to do so!!

3. **FORM/ IDENTIFY A LEADERSHIP TEAM**— Acts 6:3-4 "Brothers,(or sister) choose men(or women) from among you who are full of the Spirit and wisdom" A good balanced team is made up of a

- A. Visionary: one who can see and dream of the possibilities for your group.
- B. Shepherd: one who can guide your group
- C. Administrator: one who is a leader or organizer

4. CREATE OR DESIGN A MISSION OR PURPOSE STATEMENT FOR YOUR GROUP

What do you want to accomplish in your group? Our National WMF Mission Statement is: The purpose of the WMF is to awaken and deepen interest in and love for the kingdom of God, at home and abroad, thus sharing in the great missionary enterprise of the Christian Church.

In writing a mission statement for your organization you want to *keep the MAIN thing*, *the MAIN thing*. In other words, as in the National WMF Mission statement, the purpose "is to awaken and deepen interest in and love for the kingdom of God . . .". That is the main reason for the National WMF to exist and the other areas of ministry develop from that point.

Here is an example of a mission statement: "_____WMF exists to deepen interest in and love for the kingdom of God, at home and abroad, through Bible Study, fellowship, encouragement, and ministry opportunities."

- 5. **BIBLE STUDY**: As a National WMF our goal is to get your ladies into Bible Study for their spiritual growth.
 - A. Select a Bible Study- we encourage you to check out all our available WMF studies through our Executive Secretary Dawn Johnson Phone: (715)772-4454 or email: ctk@wwt.net Each year our National WMF has a new Bible study available for your group to study, 2011 was Joseph, An Ordinary Life in the Hands of an Extraordinary God. 2012 Bible study is Pearls for a Princess.
 - B. Select times and frequency for all age groups & schedules, such as morning, afternoon or evening. You may want to take a survey to find out what would work best for your groups of women.

6. SERVICE MINISTIRIES INSIDE YOUR CHURCH

There are many ways to organize ladies into work teams, circle groups for serving kitchen opportunities, coffee & meals or needs that are unique to your church fellowship. Such as: Coffee fellowships, Meals, Hospitality, Decorating, Nursery, Altar, Cleaning, Historian, Bulletin Boards, Work projects, Quilting, Flowers, Banners. (See section V. Ministry Resources under Program ideas for more ideas.)

7. MINISTRY NEEDS INSIDE YOUR CHURCH:

Prayer groups, prayer chains, Cradle Roll for infants, MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) Mom's In Touch (prayer for schools & children) single, widows, elderly, needs you see in your church.

8. MINISTRY NEEDS OUTSIDE YOUR CHURCH:

- A. WORLD MISSIONS: Our National WMF has chosen as our goal to give each of our AFLC missionaries \$500 each month. Our national giving is dependent on each local group giving to that project.
 - Get to know and get involved in our AFLC missionary work. Please see the Missionary list in the Resource Manual or go to the website:
 - <u>www.aflc.org/worldmissions</u> and you will see articles about the missionaries, pictures of the missionaries and any other information you need to keep in touch with these servants of God.
- B. When you organize your group you can give to all or select a missionary each year to focus on, to get to know and assist them in their work.
- C. Love Gifts of money should be sent through the WMF or through the AFLC World Missions.
- D. To make Missions important in your local WMF and church you can ask for the missionaries to come and speak when they are come. Contact our World Missions office for speakers,
- E. Hold a Missions event, Mission conference, rally or meal to pray for them, to give to their support and projects.
- F. Quilts, love boxes, and cards can be sent for birthday
- G. Prayer cards of each missionary are available to remind us of praying for them daily at home.
- H. Missionary Letters are sent out from each missionary which can be read to your group to keep missions and their needs before us.

I. Short Term Mission trips are available to go on. Please Contact the World Missions office our AFLC.

9. MINISTRY NEEDS OUTSIDE YOUR CHURCH NATIONALLY:

Our AFLC has a Home Missions Department that our WMF supports. Please look in section II. WMF Projects of this WMF Resource Manual for our projects that can become your own in your ladies group.

- A. Alaska Missions
- B. Barnabas Teams

10. MINISTRY NEEDS OUTSIDE YOUR CHURCH LOCALLY

Outreach to other women in your community: be creative sharing ideas.

- A. Special events such as seasonal activities; Christmas program or tea, spring gala, garden party, exercise health, fall suppers.
- B. Outreach specific to various ages & social groups: young moms, elderly shut ins, visit to nursing homes with programs and lunch.

11. DEVELOPING FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Develop fellowship opportunities with your mission statement in mind. Incorporate as many spiritual opportunities as possible with each event: devotions, Bible studies, sharing of testimonies of faith. Always ask your planning group, is this activity accomplishing our mission statement?

- A. Seasonal activities: valentines banquet, mother's day tea, Christmas events etc... with devotional (Look in section V. Ministry Resources under PROGRAM IDEAS for further ideas)
- B. How to develop an event with scriptural basis (Look in section V. Ministry Resources under the PROGRAM IDEAS for the worksheet on creating an event.)