

Dear Pastor and men in congregational leadership,

## The Women in your Congregation

Paul writes in Romans 16:1, 2 "I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a servant of the church in Cenchrea. I ask you to receive her in the Lord in a way worthy of the saints and to give her any help she may need from you, for she has been a great help to many people, including me.

Her name may not be Phoebe, but I'm sure faithful women like her come to mind when you think about the women of your congregation. From called workers, to the woman living her faith at work, to the quiet woman who serves behind the scenes, our churches are filled with women who play vital roles in God's kingdom and are a great help to many people.

### **WELS Women's Ministry**

The WELS recognizes and cares about these women and the many things they do in service to God. The synod has asked WELS Women's Ministry to assist congregations by nurturing, encouraging and equipping women to use their gifts and talents to God's glory. For the last 7 years WELS Women's Ministry has been doing this by providing theologically sound resources on the WELS Women's Ministry website, establishing a synod-wide network for sharing ministry ideas, as well as giving support to congregations seeking to establish women's ministry teams.

### **Women's Ministry Conference**

WELS Women's Ministry also hosts a conference every three years. Our next conference is July 18-20, 2019 at Luther Preparatory School in Watertown, WI. The theme is Living Stones: Positioned to Thrive and is based on I Peter 2:5: "you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house."

This year's conference will highlight God's design and purpose for the Christian woman in our society today. From openly speaking about Jesus at work or on the college campus, to reaching out in love to another generation, to working with others in God's kingdom, each woman is uniquely and purposefully in that place by God's design.

Even when it's difficult. Even when it's lonely. Even when it doesn't make sense.

With God's Word, this conference will nurture, encourage and equip you to see how God intends for you to thrive in the unique situation He has placed you in. Speakers include: Pastor Mike Novotny, Naomi Schmidt, Lori Lorig, Mike Westendorf, Jenna Keller, and many more. As Living Stones, learn how you are Positioned to Thrive!

#### Introduction to the Conference

In order to better explain the scope of the conference from speakers to lodging, a variety of promotional and informative material can be found at <a href="well-net/wmconference">wels.net/wmconference</a>. Powerpoint presentations, Save the Date flyers, bulletin announcements, and much more highlight the features of this conference. These can be used to create awareness among the women of your church as well as answer questions for those looking for more information. For specific questions email wmconference@wels.net.

# **Leadership Support Opportunities**

How can you help? In the months leading up to the conference we ask for your support in three ways:

- PRAY that God's Word continues to lead women into lives of service to him.
- SHARE the information you receive about the 2019 Women's Ministry Conference with the women in your congregation.
- INVEST in the women of your congregation by considering how you can fund or supplement the conference costs for them.

Registration costs: Early Bird is \$130, Regular is \$145

Lodging costs: Hotel costs are approximately \$100-\$135 per night for 2 queen room + breakfast

Dorm rooms at Luther Prep = \$47 for both nights of the conference + breakfast

## Thank you

We thank you for prayerfully considering the spiritual enrichment and focused training this conference will give to your women – and therefore your congregation.

In Jesus,

The 2019 Women's Ministry Conference Planning Team