



# LINK

September / October 2016

## All we have is a gift from God

**S**ometime in the summer of 2014, a renewal of the League was underway. A group of committed members held a common goal and accomplished it with a great deal of commitment and hard work. But it was far from easy, and did we ever learn a lot!

We learned that running a nonprofit was not for the faint of heart. We learned that those who had come before us had worked tirelessly. We learned that we needed each other in order to hear all voices and all needs of members and those we serve.

It was a time when the League was called to move into the next generation with renewed spirit. First we had to understand all the moving parts; we couldn't lead unless we knew what we were preserving from the past and what we were moving toward.

The most important element in reviving the spirit of the League was and is individuals who value the power of relationships. What was true then is true now. Members new to the board bring expertise, new skills and perspective and give generously of their time. The members who left the board in May had infused the League with vision, leadership and amazingly great hearted time and effort.

The Holy Spirit at work among us is the thread that runs through the past and the present. Together we continue to envision a League that is aware of the needs of our neighbors and our members in new and vibrant ways. Thank you for all you do as members. We are as strong as our recognition that all we have is a gift from God—a gift to be shared with others.

Fran Rusciano Murnane • League President



### Welcome New Members

Elizabeth Teefy  
Sarah Gordon  
Heather Craig  
Sally Sunday-Gaines

LCW Fall Lunch  
at Woman's Club  
at noon on  
Wednesday,  
9/28

(See mailed flyer with  
registration form)

**Please fill out and send in your membership forms** whether you are a dues-paying member or not. Your completed form lets the office know you are still interested in receiving the quarterly Link, the weekly e-blasts as well as information on all of our spiritual, educational and social programs.



## Meet Becca Fallon | LCW board Secretary



**I am in the age group 35-39.** Growing up, I attended Lake Country Montessori (Minneapolis) and Minnetonka High School. Our family has been part of the Basilica parish for many years, and we sometimes attend St. Albert the Great as well. Living out one's commitment to doing good in the world is quite honestly what brought my parents together, and it still defines their love story. We kids were always aware that any advantages we had were the result of not only hard work but also many blessings and the work of those who went before us—and we had a responsibility to find our own ways of giving back. That meant contributing not only in volunteerism, but also in the choices we make on a daily basis—through our work, showing concern for others' wellbeing, and learning about ways of life that might differ from ours.

**I attended Carleton College** (Northfield, MN), where I designed a special major in Natural History, in addition to studying French and African/ Afro-American Studies. After working a few years, I went to the University of Wisconsin-Madison Law School. In both college and law school, I greatly enjoyed studying abroad whenever I could. I also did some work during and after law school for Native American tribes and organizations.

**I now work for U.S. Bancorp,** doing regulatory compliance and risk management, in the area of consumer lending. It's my job to make sure our revenue-generating groups are doing things the right way and prioritizing

consumer protection. It calls for research and writing, critical thinking, partnership, diplomacy, and sometimes conflict management! It can be very time-consuming at certain times-- but I work with good people and I am happy that I have actually made some things better for consumers experiencing financial hardship.

**I live in Minneapolis,** in the Lowry Hill neighborhood—between the Walker Art Center and Sebastian Joe's Ice Cream.

**I heard about LCW** from the inimitable Maureen Neerland! I decided to join the group because I really liked the mission, and felt very much welcomed by the women I met here, and felt there was room to contribute to the future of the League.

**I was invited to join the LCW board** at a time when we were without a Secretary, and before too long I agreed to serve as Secretary, allowing me to both contribute and learn. I enjoy the opportunity to get to know a lot of LCW members and to understand the group's history and evolution.

**I really enjoyed the 'Welcome' meeting** I attended early on, where I heard so many excellent ideas for the LCW's future. I know we have members in all different stages of work, life and family, and I appreciate that we try to strike a balance between having some weekday offerings and timing other events outside of work hours. I would like to see us play a more active role in social services through micro-grants, and re-establishing ourselves as an active part of the healthy diversity of our cities.

**I believe a lot of people my age and younger** are interested in making a real difference in partnership with other people in our local communities. There are a lot of needs as well as capable people organizing to meet them; we could be a relevant partner in that process.

### Retreat

### "Models of Advent"



**W**e are happy to announce our upcoming Advent Program, with Susan Stabile leading us in a morning of thoughtful reflection on "Models of Advent," including a number of biblical characters, who serve as models for us, and what it means to say "yes" to God's plans for us in this world. There will be time for individual reflection and for sharing the fruits of our prayer. Susan is Director of the Office for spirituality at the University of St. Thomas and an adjunct instructor for the St. Catherine University Masters in theology program. She is a spiritual director and retreat leader, trained in the Ignatian tradition, and the author of the book "Growing in Love and Wisdom."

**This will be a morning not to be missed.**

**Monday, December 5  
9:00 - 12:00 p.m. noon  
Our Lady of Grace, Edina**



Please consult flyers and Link articles for details about events.

# September/October calendar



## In Memoriam

The League offers sympathy to the families of members Sarah Reilly, Joannette Coogan and former member Barbara Tiede on their deaths.

### Coming Attractions for ALL

Wednesday, Sept 28	Fall Luncheon at The Woman's Club
Thursday, November 3	Discovering the Depth of Muslim Culture 10:00 a.m.
Monday, December 5	"Models of Advent" Retreat 9:00 a.m.

### Activities designed for League members and guests

Tuesday Club	Second Tuesday each month/St. Olaf/10:30 a.m.
Daytime Book Club	Second Thursday each month/private homes/9:15 a.m.
Evening Book Club	Third Tuesday each month/private homes/7:00 p.m.
Spiritual Conversation Book Club	First Monday each month/TCW/9:30 a.m.
Tuesday, October 18	Mia Art Tours/10:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Salvation

IS A WORD FOR THE DIVINE SPACIOUSNESS THAT COMES TO HUMAN BEINGS IN ALL THE TIGHT PLACES WHERE THEIR LIVES ARE AT RISK, REGARDLESS OF HOW THEY GOT THERE OR WHETHER THEY KNOW GOD'S NAME. SOMETIMES IT COMES AS AN EXTENDED HUMAN HAND AND SOMETIMES AS A BOLT FROM THE BLUE, BUT EITHER WAY IT OPENS A DOOR IN WHAT LOOKED FOR ALL THE WORLD LIKE A WALL. THIS IS THE WAY OF LIFE, AND GOD ALONE KNOWS HOW IT WORKS."

— Barbara Brown Taylor



## The League Archives: A Dramatic Documentary

By Mary Ritten • League Archivist

**Act I:** During our Centennial Year, about half the League archival materials were reunited with an earlier batch of LCW archives residing at the Minnesota Historical Society. It is quite a relief to know that they are finally safely ensconced in a state-of-the-art storage facility.

**Act II:** The sale of our building necessitated the removal of a great many more historical documents. Since January 2015, they have been stored temporarily in a rented space at the Woman's Club.

**Act III:** The grand finale came this summer when the Basilica of Saint Mary graciously agreed to accept our remaining materials and store them in their beautiful new archives center. Not only does this insure the protection of League history, it also gives us easier access to any documents we may need in the future AND it saves us money.

**What a happy ending!**



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*The League of Catholic Women  
is an independent service  
organization founded in 1911  
partnering with women and  
families in need to affect positive  
change in their lives and enriching  
the lives of its members.*



**A Listening and Learning Experience . . . . . Not to be Missed**

On Thursday, November 3, League members will be given an opportunity to learn more about the richness of Muslim culture in an LCW Educational Enrichment program featuring two speakers from our local Islam Resource Group. We encourage you to invite spouses and friends to join you to hear answers to questions you may have and discover facts you may not know. These newer neighbors of ours are especially anxious to tell their story to those who seek to understand their traditions and welcome them into our community.

**DISCOVERING THE DEPTH OF MUSLIM CULTURE**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3 AT THE MINNEAPOLIS WOMAN'S CLUB**

**10:00 a.m. Coffee and pastries**

**10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Speakers' Presentation**

Reserve by check for \$10.00 to League office, 410 Grove Street, Mpls. MN 55403 or on the League's website, [lwcmpls.org](http://lwcmpls.org), using our Pay Pal option  
Walk-in tickets available for \$15.00



**Important  
League  
Information.  
Please clip  
and save.**

LCW Office Address: 410 Oak Grove Street, Minneapolis, MN 55403

LCW Office Phone: 612-813-5321

LCW Office E-mail: [lwcmpls@gmail.com](mailto:lwcmpls@gmail.com)

Website: [leagueofcatholicwomen.org](http://leagueofcatholicwomen.org)

LCW Office Hours: Wednesdays and Thursdays 9:00 a.m. to noon

**The Link** is a quarterly publication of The League of Catholic Women, located at The Woman's Club of Minneapolis, two blocks east of the Walker Art Center.