



Would they come? That question nagged at me ever since four teen girls of LWML wrote out invitations to a Valentine's Day luncheon. My doubts arose even though the same event a year earlier garnered the pleasure of all involved and the gracious gratitude and praise of our guests; the senior and single or widowed women of our congregation at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, in Poway, California. In fact, we all agreed that was the highlight among our first year activities for Friends Into Serving Him®, the newest auxiliary of LWML.

Our initial kickoff in September 2008 started with a cooking class and then a picnic lunch under the spreading bows of our lovely trees. For the first time, the idea of Teen LWML was introduced. The girls decided we should meet monthly on Sundays, immediately after the late service, from 12:30-3:30.

Most gatherings include food, fellowship, fun, a devotion, and a service activity. Our high school group typically numbers about five, though it has ranged from two to eight. Activities are published through the newsletter and e-mail, though they are proving to be old school and Facebook is the preferred method of communicating. Which reminds me of those invitations.

On Valentine's Day four lovely ladies joined our four girls and myself in the fellowship hall. Fancy finger food tasted as good as they looked. But the best part was two generations getting an opportunity to share their life experiences with each other. While laughter often erupted, sometimes voices cracked with emotion while sharing memories when each of us felt loved. We remembered that as Christians we are privileged to celebrate not only romantic, eros love; but also brotherly, phileo love; and most of all God's agape love. Christians always have a reason to celebrate on St. Valentine's Day with our sisters in Christ.



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