



*As water reflects a face, so a man's heart reflects the man
(Proverbs 27:19 NIV).*

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

In honor of our upcoming 2022 Convention, I chose to reference from my LWML *Today's Light Bible*, given to me ten years ago by Cynthia Behrens, at our 2012 Eagle Crest Convention, some wisdom from Solomon.

We look forward to this 80th birthday celebration of our LWML. It is indeed a milestone to be honored in so many ways....as "we are God's workmanship," our Eph.2:10 theme tells us of, a healthy steppingstone to some serious reflective actions we will take late June.

Solomon, in the great book of Proverbs, verse 19, reminds us that our hearts reflect who we are. Yes, hearts reflect our character, and we know that so much about our character is shaped by those we love, and those who love us. Think now, how is that true for you?

I have walked in the light of the LWML and the body of women since my first convention in 1966. This journey has shaped and honed my faith. He surely restores my soul. I cannot imagine managing speedbumps, potholes, and grave losses without the faithful heavenly Father and Holy Spirit as my guide. And I am so grateful, for all those who have gone on before us...leaving those of us now privileged to *Engage, Encourage, Equip* and *EnJOY*, as my trusty coffee coaster reminds me. Recently, the act of "reflecting" took on a whole new meaning for me; I'm a bit foggy coming out of it. The very word "reflect/reflecting/reflections," becomes my key thought this sunny day, after some sleepless nights. I had traveled to a bridal shower for my youngest granddaughter, and my gift was the 35-page scrapbook, playing out in vivid color and action photos, reflecting her life: from birth to college, and now an 8~year teaching career. I came home to a message on the phone that night: my college roommate, my 62-year's now, dearest friend, had quietly passed that same afternoon. Note "*When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure.*", author unknown.

The message is: There comes a time when no one is left who has lived your stories... but His story lives on.

In fact, His story is to be reflected in our lives. Webster's reflect says: *to cast back light; to give back an image.* How serendipitous is that? We are created in His image, lights to the nations, and it is how we will be remembered...doing His good works.

This will be celebrated in McMinnville in the coming weeks. We are out there acting out God's stories in our mission-driven acts of kindness. In addition, to reference further Webster's definitions: We shall "*think and ponder*" upon scripture and Devotions, upon a slate of new officers, upon specific Projects of our bold Mission Service opportunities, upon gifting of our abundant and fruitful Mites offerings; all this to *our gracious and glorious Lord, Who has blessed* this eighty-year-old organization, as we have "*Served Him with Gladness.*"

Bless your reflections, and to God be the glory, forever and ever.

Yours in His Service; Patricia Reck, Chr.; Leader Development