



Inspire

Welcome Home

New Women's Ministries Start-Up Ideas

New Year—New Programs

New Year is notorious for setting resolutions—goals and plans a person sets for this fresh, new year. January is also a great time to start and try new programs at the corps in order to reach new women. Here are just a few suggestions:

- ◆ January is diet month where people are looking for ways to shed a few pounds. Hold a cooking demonstration class on how to re-work favorite recipes to be healthier, less fat/sugar, etc. Link women from social services by offering cooking classes when you distribute food boxes—creative ways for the clients to use the food they have been given.
- ◆ Start a WM walking group or exercise class.
- ◆ January is a great time to focus on getting out of debt. Hold a budgeting class for women in your community.
- ◆ Start a new craft class at The Salvation Army Thrift Store. Hold a demonstration of an easy craft that can be made from items purchased at the Thrift Store. Include fliers about other WM events for shoppers. Work with the thrift store, perhaps a discount can be given to those who attend the demonstration or class.

Easy Kitchen Craft Ideas

Mason Jar Lid Magnets

Here is an easy craft to decorate your refrigerator. All you need are the mason jar lids, scrapbook paper, printed verses or quotes, ribbon or jute cord, any desired embellishments, magnet strips and a glue gun.

This would be a great craft to make at the Thrift Store!!



INSPIRATIONAL IDEAS from the Territory

Cathedral City, CA started an INSPIRE Women's Soccer Team!

Estrella Mountain, AZ WM's is going to focus on missions and what the Army is doing around the world.

Hanapepe, HI ladies are continuing to diligently work on their goal of inviting a friend to Home League to grow their program.

Hanford, CA made bags out of old t-shirts.

Kahului, HI women received a formal invitation to attend a welcome back "Breakfast with Jesus." They had a traditional island breakfast that included Portuguese sausage, rice, fruit and assorted breads with the devotion focused on Jesus' invitation in John 21:12 to come and have breakfast, nourishing both body and soul.

LA Korean, CA started "Meals on Wheels" program for Corps members who are not able to attend the service on Sunday. Ladies pack and deliver the lunches after church.

San Diego Door of Hope, CA started a "Crafting with Captain" where moms and their children enjoy a time of crafting together.

San Francisco South of Market Street, CA has a "Spiritual Sports Supports" WM group. They assist with the sports leagues by taking registration and attendance and lead a devotion during the sports half-times.

San Luis Obispo, CA had a mom who doesn't normally attend come and speak about the topic of autism, because her 5-year-old son is autistic.

Commissioner Jolene K. Hodder—Territorial President of Women's Ministries

Colonel Colleen R. Riley—Territorial Secretary for Women's Ministries

Major Beth Desplancke—Territorial Women's Ministries Program Secretary

Be sure to check out our website for more resources: <https://usw-womensministries.org/>

Service

Clean and organize the corps kitchen.

Hold a kitchen shower for the corps—bringing new or gently used items to stock the corps kitchen.

Clean and re-fill the salt and pepper shakers at the corps.

Help organize the corps food pantry. There is still probably canned food items waiting to be sorted from Christmas food drive donations last month.

As a WM group volunteer to cook dinners for youth programs at the corps for a month.



For a fun and educational New Year's Around the World program check out our website: <https://usw-womensministries.org/january-2020-inspire-newsletter/>



Worship

Worship in the Kitchen

This month as we focus on the kitchen, the story from the Bible that immediately comes to my mind is the story of Mary and Martha found in Luke 10:38-42.

It is a familiar story and many of us immediately relate to Martha. Martha opened her home to Jesus and His disciples. In those days there was no Grub Hub or Door Dash so food couldn't simply be delivered. No Merry Maids to call to do the cleaning. So Martha switched into clean, cook and organize mode. She has herself in a tizzy with all the preparations that needed to be done. In her bustling about she notices that her sister Mary is not working but sitting at Jesus' feet. Martha becomes irritated, annoyed and down right angry.

In verse 40 it says that *Martha was distracted with all the preparations that had to be made*. The word distracted means "to be pulled away" or "dragged away." The implication is that Martha wanted to hear Jesus herself, she wanted to be seated at His feet too, but she was pulled away by her sense of her "duties." Martha didn't realize that in her desire to serve Jesus, she was actually neglecting Him. She was so busy doing things for Him that she had not time to spend with Him.

While Martha was scurrying around the kitchen and questioning the Lord's concern for her and her needs, Mary was oblivious to all of it. Mary wasn't in the kitchen preparing a meal. She was as close to Jesus as possible. *Mary sat at the Lord's feet listening to what He said (v. 39)*. Mary was right where Jesus wanted her.

Notice the differences between the two sisters. Martha was restless, but Mary was resting at the Lord's feet. Martha is worrying; Mary is worshipping. Martha is stewing; Mary is at peace. Martha is lashing out while Mary is listening. Martha is confronted by Jesus and Mary is commended.

In verse 42 Jesus is saying, "There is really only one thing worth being concerned about. Mary has discovered it!" What was the one thing? Sitting at Jesus feet. Seizing the time be with Him and Him alone. Yes, Jesus desires we serve Him, but we can't do any of that effectively and sincerely if we don't truly know Him, and that comes from being in His presence and sitting at His feet. Our work for Him must flow from our worship of Him.

Life in the kitchen, the busyness of life, calls to all of us, and the work needs to get done. It is finding the balance between the attitude of Mary and Martha that is needed. Start the new year with a new habit—make time in the kitchen a time of work and worship. In the midst of cooking meals and doing dishes, find ways to still worship. Play worship music as you work in the kitchen. Leave a Bible on the counter; as you wait for the microwave or pot to boil, spend some time reading a few verses. Memorize Scripture as you cook. Post a verse at eye level and repeat it as you stir the pot. Use your cooking and cleaning time as prayer time. Let God change your heart as you serve Him.