

Whispers from the Auxiliary

ALL of the gifts we have, are freely given to us by God. He gives them to us out of love, continuously. He always offers an *OPEN* invitation, reaching out and inviting us to more. How well do you do at inviting others? Maybe you are great about it to the movies, because you heard of a good one or maybe to dinner at your favorite restaurant that you know they will enjoy. Mmmmm generic and easy right? How are you at inviting others into your gift of faith that God has freely given to us that's meant to be shared? I'm slowly learning that more we share it, the more we get in turn AND the deeper it grows!

I know I always need to TRUST when the Holy Spirit prompts me to *OPEN* up and reach out to offer, whatever it might be HE is inviting THEM into. Our God is depending, waiting for us who know and love Him to *OPEN* up and connect others to Him in whatever small (smile) or BIG (like a retreat maybe!) ways we can. SO many people are searching and longing to belong to something that brings hope and love. If we've got it, we give it- an invitation is easy, but we hate to be rejected. Even if the person denies us, perhaps we have a planted a seed or maybe offered a string they may not forget and reach out to later.

I was struck at mass on Sunday 3/12 it was the Gospel of the woman at the well. Jesus asks her (an invitation) for a drink. Bishop Baron's homily said that Jesus was, in that moment, *OPENLY* offering her the free gift of grace, an invitation. She was *OPENED* by that grace when she engaged with Him in dialogue and her life was forever changed. I know my own life has changed by accepting that invitation to grace, it was an invitation given by my sweet friend, Yvette.

The same day at mass with that gospel, I happened to be standing at the back of the church holding my sleeping 7 month old granddaughter. In the first 5- 7 minutes of mass several people arrived late and walked in the back door by where I was standing. They would stand and pause, looking for a pew that was *OPEN* on the end, looking for a place to sit so they might not have to walk over people.

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“Called to
His Purpose”

Romans 8:28

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Andi Finch
WWWA 2023 President

WWWA Mission Statement

Our Mission: As women united by faith in Jesus Christ and by a common interest in WWCC, we propose to contribute to the growth and development of the Camp through prayer and fellowship, assisting in fundraising, disseminating information, and providing support for functions held at the camp, providing monies for scholarships/camperships and projects!

Then it struck me, as I also sort of looked for an *OPEN* end for them, how most pews had 1, maybe 2 people sitting only at the ends with a good 10-15 feet in between people! All of the ends of the pews looked like a "closed" invitation for seating. It was sort of sad. Like, "this is my pew, please don't sit next to me!"

We've all had it happen (or maybe it's you) where someone asks to sit in the mostly empty pew where you are on the end and, instead of scooting in, we make them go over or around us. I have always found that SO awkward! What if, when we sit down, we all went to the middle and all the ends were *OPEN*.

Then the pew can receive another, easier. Maybe it's for making room for a new friend Jesus wants you to be *OPEN* to. Yea, I know, then maybe you *OPEN* 'your pew' to the family of busy, noisy young kids or the elderly person who falls asleep or is very slow in front of you. We never know who God wants to place in our midst that day!

I am trying harder daily to *OPEN* myself to the Holy Spirit and listen to when He is prompting me to invite others to whatever I am a part of! I invited 4 new friends in the last few months to my book group, they ALL said yes! I am getting better at reaching out to everyone I know when the auxiliary has an event. Friends have come and really enjoyed it! I am now inviting them to join us on retreat to see camp, meet Jesus. Well and next, of course, join us as an auxiliary member!

Jesus lived in community and as women we really need to be in community building each other up. With our combined gifts and talents, through the events the auxiliary offers, God can work in others. We simply need to *OPEN* ourselves to sharing this treasure we have.

I am the next generation of the auxiliary, are you? It's not sad! It's an honor to be *OPEN* to continue building on and growing what our WW spiritual mothers started for us 35 years ago. Join me in *OPENING* your pew by scooting to the middle and *OPENING* your heart to invite others to share your faith and love in Jesus through our auxiliary!

Shalom Aleichem (peace be upon you),
Andi Finch, President

WWWA
Women's Retreat

Move to Your Story

Experience a fresh breath, unwavering love,
& eternal purpose

May 19-21, 2023
Whispering Winds Camp in Julian

Come enjoy warm fellowship and the powerful presence of the Holy Spirit. Paula will take us on a journey to gain heart knowledge, courage, and the space to hear God's voice.



Speaker:
Paula Mascari Bott
Director of Ministry
Development
& Programs
at Whispering Winds

**Registration is closed. Waiting list
available.**



*Discounts for
Active WWWA
Members*

www.whisperingwinds.org

Celebrating Our Risen Lord & His Divine Mercies!

There is Power in Prayer.

WWWA invites you to pray along with us everyday at 7:30am and 3:30pm for our beautiful camp, campers and staff.



As I sit here poised to write this article it's with a sense of great anticipation. The days of our Lenten journey are drawing to a close and preparations are being made to celebrate Palm Sunday, Holy Week and the Paschal Triduum. At this point in the liturgical calendar each year I always experience conflicted feelings. These arise because in our liturgies and scripture readings we revisit and focus on the Lord's Passion. Due to the horrific, torturous punishments that Our Lord had to endure, I find recalling these events to be both intense and emotionally draining to say the least! In particular, participating in the reading of the Passion, when we as part of the crowd are called upon to shout, "Crucify Him", it's uncomfortable and distressing. Likewise the same is true when praying the Stations of the Cross and meditating on those graphic scenes. Each time I contemplate these events it's practically impossible to phantom the magnitude of Christ's suffering and the fact that He loves me so much He was willing to endure such atrocities for the redemption of my soul!

By our Lord's cross and Resurrection He has conquered death and freed us all from the stain of sin. What an amazing and incredible gift we have all been graced with

and blessed to receive. All glory and honor are due to Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for this! Alleluia and praise be His Holy Name!

At the conclusion of the Easter Octave is another very important solemnity known as the Second Sunday of Easter. Designated as Divine Mercy Sunday, in the year 2000, by Pope John Paul II, it was established in order to have the faithful focus on the merciful love of God that is behind the Paschal Mystery, the entire mystery of Christ's death, burial and resurrection which is made present for us in the Holy Eucharist. As Pope John Paul II pointed out in his Regina Caeli address, "*the whole Octave of Easter is like a single day of Thanksgiving for the goodness God has shown to man in the whole Easter mystery.*" What a beautiful season and amazing reason this is for rejoicing!

During the 1930s, through His numerous revelations to Maria Faustina Kowalska, who was later canonized St. Faustina, Our Lord expressed His desire for her to tell the whole world about His inconceivable mercy. He also shared His desire to have a Feast of Divine Mercy established as a refuge and shelter for all souls, especially for poor sinners.

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In addition, He also promised that on that particular day the very depths of His tender mercy would be released and He would pour out an ocean of graces upon those souls who approached the fount of His mercy. (Faustina's Diary entry #699) Furthermore, on this specific date, by fulfilling the criteria of offering love and forgiveness to others (just as He does to us), as well as making a sincere and sacramental Confession and receiving Holy Communion, we are promised we can obtain complete forgiveness of sins and any punishment due. This is because the divine floodgates through which all mercies flow will be completely wide open.

The Divine Mercy message is simple and it's that God loves all of us. He wants us all to recognize that His mercy is greater than our sins, so we need only to call upon Him with trust in order to receive His mercy. We can facilitate doing this by praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet and also letting His mercy flow through us so others will also come to share His joy. The message of Divine Mercy is one that we can call to mind simply by remembering the following ABCs:

A - Approach Him in prayer constantly, repenting of our sins and asking Him to pour out His mercy upon the whole world.

B - Being merciful to others. God wants us to receive His mercy and also let it flow to others by right and to extend love and forgiveness to others just as He does toward us.

C - Completely place our trust in Jesus. God wants us to know that the graces of His mercy are dependent upon trust in Him. The more we trust in Him, the more we will receive.

As we once again celebrate the wonders of the Paschal Mystery, like our Triumphant

Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we too need to empty ourselves and follow Christ's example of humility. We need to stand up and speak the truth in order to dispel the darkness that's currently prevailing in our world. In these troubled times we need to expose evil and disordered thinking and illuminate what's good and righteous. Like the disciples that we have been called to be, we need to serve as shining beacons of light for all the world to see and we need to be ardent promoters of the message of Divine Mercy. Leading up to Divine Mercy Sunday we can begin doing so on Good Friday by engaging in praying the Divine Mercy Novena.*

Pope Francis instructed the faithful in his Divine Mercy Sunday homily back in 2013: *"Dear brothers and sisters, let us be enveloped by the mercy of God; let us trust in patience, which always gives us more time. Let us find the courage to return to His house, to dwell in His loving wounds, allowing ourselves to be loved by Him and to encounter His mercy in the sacraments. We will feel His wonderful tenderness, we will become more capable of mercy, patience and love."*

*For additional Divine Mercy information go to:

<https://marian.org/divine-mercy/what-it-is>

www.thedivinemercy.org

www.marian.org

www.allheartsafire.org

www.shopmercy.org

www.marianplus.org



Many Blessings as we celebrate our Risen Lord & His Divine Mercies! -Linda Crabtree



The early Angels in the Winds shop



Married to Steve for 52 years.



Meet our New Spiritual Advisor!

If ever you find yourself awake in the middle of the night, you'll have no trouble finding company with lovely **LINDA CRABTREE**, a self-professed night owl! That's when she does her best thinking, creating, and praying, of which Whispering Winds has been

greatly blessed as a recipient. Linda's love of WW began at the beginning of Family Camp in the early 1980s. She remembers making centerpieces out of tuna cans for one of the original weekends (there's that creative talent!). That was just the start of a grace-filled relationship with the auxiliary. Linda shared her time and creative ideas in the Angel's in the Wind Store as it was built, expanded, burned and replaced. (The Angel's in the Wind Store was the auxiliary's primary means of financial support for the camp early on.) Linda helped organize the first Hoe Down at Santa Sophia, her home parish for 47 years (wait! She can't be that old!). In 2003, yes-the year of the Cedar Fire, her dedication to the camp really kicked in. As president of the auxiliary at the time, Linda was divinely led to find a replacement for the burned-down store and a way to spread the word about Whispering Winds. A little trailer was the answer (and there's a miracle and a funny story that goes along with that...you'll have to ask Linda!). Son, Andy, designed the WW logo on the side of the trailer and the idea was to haul the trailer from parish to parish on Sundays to share the news of WW. However, the Fire Walk was the only time it left WW camp and now today you can enjoy it as the Snack Shack at the pool.

Linda was voted Woman of the Year in 2008 and has been a woman about camp ever since. She retired as a teacher from Santa Sophia Preschool and St. Patrick's School (where she met Kathy Brown), has raised her 2 amazing sons (Andy and Scott) and now 8 incredible grandchildren with a love for the camp and a love for Jesus. WW is second home to Linda and the passion she carries for the camp has been passed on to her family. Linda's friendship, her faith-in-action and trust in the Lord will bless us all as she takes on a new role as our Spiritual Advisor.

"A faithful friend is a sturdy shelter, she who finds one finds a treasure." Sirach 6:14

Submitted by Chris Villalobos

Asking For Gift Card Donations

We hope you have had a joyous Easter season!

We are all looking forward to our Whispering Winds Women's Retreat in May. We are already at full capacity for the special weekend. We are truly blessed. As for past retreats we are asking for gift card donations for the raffle.

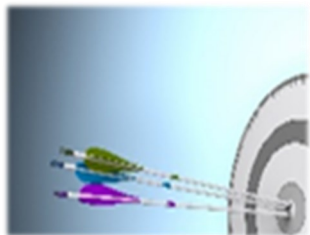
If you can please send the gift cards to the Whispering Winds office:
4636 Mission Gorge Place, Suite 203
San Diego CA 92120

If you bring the cards to the retreat please give them to one of the committee members.

God bless, Patricia Viescas, Val Spooner, Mattie Scull, Claudia Penczar
Ways and Means Committee

It Takes One Good WWSA Member to Know One!

We have 159 members signed up for 2023 and counting so let's go for goal and hit 200!!!



Registration for 2023 membership ends September 1st.

You may have been asked what are membership benefits....

- Discounts on our May Woman's retreat and Fall Brunch
- Free Advent and Lenten evenings of reflection
- PLUS you get to be part of a great group of faith-filled woman who share a love for the Whispering Winds Camp!

NOW is the perfect time to invite new members!

Kelly Sinclair & Susan Galichon, Membership

Praying For Each Other

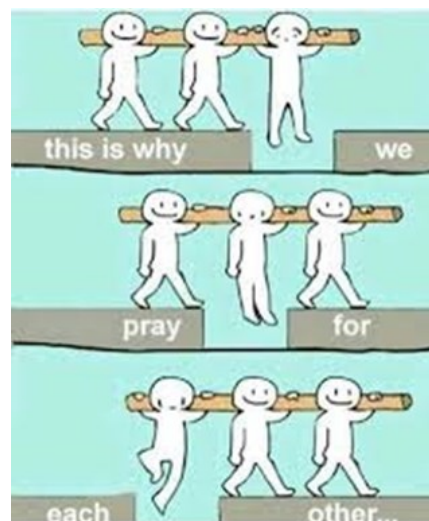
If you have a prayer request you are encouraged to send it to wwindswa@gmail.com.

We have over 300 prayer warriors that would love to lift up your prayer requests.

If you would like to be a prayer warrior you are encouraged to join us! Send an email to wwindswa@gmail.com and ask to be on the prayer group email.

We get about 5 prayer requests/month and they are all sent as a blind copy.

On the fence about joining the prayer warriors...hmmm....pray about it!



Joni Deiters, Prayer Chain



Save the Date:

You are invited to
 join us
 October 28, 2023
 for WWA Annual Fall Brunch,
 where our love
 for God, WW
 Camp and each
 other come
 together as one.

Looking
 forward to
 seeing you there!

Things to Bring to WWA Women's Retreat

Used Books - to share with other retreatants.

The Miracle Hour Book - If you already have one, bring it. We will be praying the Miracle Hour together on Saturday Afternoon. If you don't, no worries. You can follow along from our slideshow. If you would like to order one, you can do so here

Baby Items to Donate to Birthline of San Diego

Donate new or gently used items for Birthline of San Diego Birthline distributes hundreds of baby gift bags every year to expectant mothers, as well as all sorts of infant supplies to vulnerable families with young children. Help us by donating new or gently used items for our client families. Birthline relies heavily on in-kind donations to provide necessary supplies to families in need.

BIRTHLINE WISH LIST ITEMS

- Hand covers/Mittens
- Strollers and double strollers

- Diaper bags
- Pack-N-Plays
- Portable Infant Co-Sleepers
- Pull-ups: Sizes 4/5 T
- Canned Powdered Milk-Based Formula (We cannot accept liquid or expired formula)
- Gently used baby and children's clothing sizes 12 months to 6 years
- Gently Used Toys (0-5 years)
- Maternity Clothing
- BABY GIFT BAG ITEMS (NEW ITEMS ONLY PLEASE)
- Digital Thermometer
- Baby Wash and Lotion
- Diaper Rash Ointment or Cream
- Newborn Pacifiers
- Bottles and Nipples
- Infant Board Books
- Developmental Toys
- Baby Towels and Washcloths
- Baby Plush Blankets
- Receiving Blankets
- Bibs and Burp Cloths
- Socks and Hats
- T-shirts and Onesies
- Sleep Sacks (Blanket Sleeper)
- Outfits (pants & shirt, or one-piece) sizes preemie to 9 months

Anyone NOT attending the retreat and would still like to participate with a WWA donation of things to Birthline- you can contact Andi Finch, 619 -244-5021 for pickup or you may drop off your donations at the WW office, 4636

Mission Gorge Place, STE 203 San Diego, CA 92120

until May25th

2023 WWA Governing Board

	ADMIN TEAM	
President	Andi Finch	momfinch4@gmail.com
Vice-President	Angela Varela	avarela@san.rr.com
Past President	Kesa Waddell	kwaddell@swccd.edu
Recording Secretary	Paula Crowely	paulawulatwin@gmail.com
Finance Manager	Karen Goodman	goodmank619@gmail.com
Board Liaison	Nelda McComb	nsm3359@sbcglobal.net
	SPIRITUALITY TEAM	
Spiritual Advisor	Linda Crabtree	linda.crabtree@gmail.com
**Spiritual Events Chair	Cathy Sperrazzo	cathy@eyetoeyep.com
Spiritual Events Co-Chair	Linda Aguilera	laguilera@me.com
**Hospitality Chair	Gloria Rosales	gloriarosales1@me.com
Hospitality Co-Chair	Marla Carter	marlacarter77@yahoo.com
**Ways & Means Co- Chair	Claudia Penczar	cmpenczar@gmail.com
Ways & Means Co- Chair	Val Spooner	sv4grls@cox.net
Ways & Means Co- Chair	Patricia Viescas	relaxandrefresh@cox.net
	COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLICITY TEAM	
Communications Chair/ Prayer Chain	Joni Deiters	jdeiters@san.rr.com
Newsletter/	Tammy Knapp	knapptnt49@gmail.com
Corresponding Secretary	Debbie Bradel	bradeldebbie9@gmail.com
**Membership Chair	Kelly Sinclair	ksincl505@cox.net
Membership Co-Chair	Susan Galichon	susan@galichonlaw.com
**Historian/Photographer Chair	Chris Villalobos	chrisvillalobos5@gmail.com