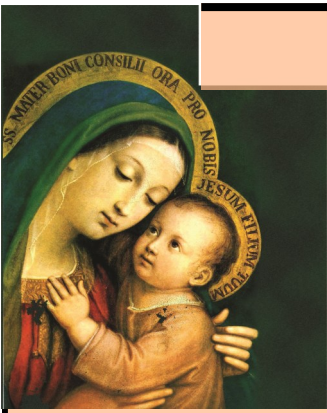




AWARE

A NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION OF THE
DIOCESE OF SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN
An Affiliate of the National Council of Catholic Women since 1928

2026 FALL ISSUE

DCCW PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

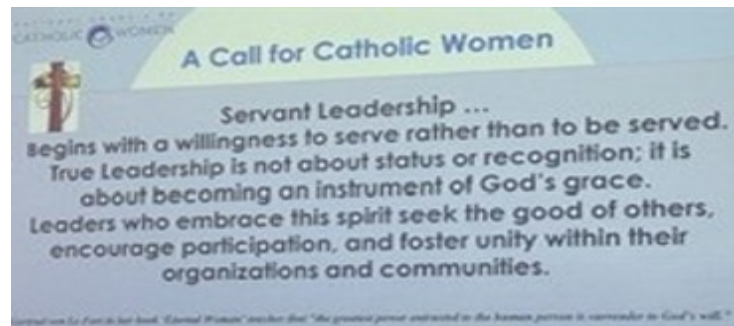
Susan Porter — St. John the Baptist, Draper
portersm57@gmail.com

HELLO FALL! As the arrival of my favorite season draws near, I find myself reflecting on the Byrd's song "Turn! Turn! Turn!" whose lyrics are based on Ecclesiastics 3:1-8:

"To everything, turn, turn, turn.
There is a season turn, turn, turn.
And a time to every purpose under heaven"

This summer gave us a "time to dance" with the celebration of our nation's 250th birthday, and sadly, a "time to mourn" when an unthinkable tragedy affected one of our own. As fall approaches, we now turn our attention to reconnecting with our Council sisters and engaging in efforts to support our purpose of uniting Catholic women in the state of Utah in areas of spirituality, service, and leadership. October, designated as Council Sunday Month, offers an opportunity to showcase the work we do in our affiliate parishes. I hope participation in our Council activities in the coming year will offer many times "to laugh, to build up, to gather together, to plant, and to love."

Speaking of connecting with Council Sisters, I was blessed to join eighteen other women from Utah and Father Ariel at the NCCW Convention in my hometown, Grand Rapids, Michigan, at the end of August. We gathered to learn, pray, and to support Utah's own, Amy Kennedy, President of the NCCW. Affectionately known by her team as "President Amy," she has made "Servant Leadership: Women of Faith, Women of Action" the focus of her term. This year's convention theme, "Speak, Lord, Your servant is Listening," (1 Samuel 3:9) emphasized the essential role attentive listening plays in our call to Servant Leadership. We are called to put aside our own agendas and listen with open ears, hearts, and minds to hear God's voice. One convention slide expressed this call beautifully:



The quotation at the bottom is from Gertrud von Le Fort's book, 'Eternal Woman.' It says, "the greatest power entrusted to the human person is surrender to God's will."

This was one of many inspirational reflections shared at the convention. I look forward to carrying this theme throughout the year and presenting it at our DCCW convention in April. The final verse of "Turn! Turn! Turn!" is "A time of peace, I swear it's not too late." At the convention, we were given a "flowchart" outlining a pathway to peace—not simply the peace envisioned by this well-known Vietnam war-era anthem, but the interior peace that steadies us amid the chaos when we prayerfully listen to, ponder, and discern God's plan for us.

Faith → Trust → Acceptance → Surrender → Peace

ANY UPDATES TO DCCW BOARD, DEANERY AND PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION, MUST BE EMAILED TO THE DCCW SECRETARY, JENNI FAZIO, ASAP!

Tisha Ramos-Yarber
dccw.sec@gmail.com

Tisha WILL FORWARD UPDATES TO NCCW

*Don't Miss Important Year-Round
Communications from DCCW & NCCW*

INDIVIDUAL NCCW MEMBERS NEED TO MAKE CHANGES TO YOUR PROFILE ONLINE OR CONTACT NCCW DIRECTLY



Remember

THE AWARE NEWSLETTER

Susan Espinoza, Editor
susane0101@gmail.com

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DCCW SPIRITUAL ADVISOR
Father Ariel Durian- St. James the Greater, Vernal
arieldurian@outlook.com



LISTENING WITH YOUR HEART:

“Speak, Lord; your servant is listening.” — 1 Samuel 3:9

The theme of the National Convention of Catholic Women 2026 that we held in Grand Rapids, MI, “Speak, Lord; your servant is listening,” reminds us that every ministry begins with a relationship with God. Before we can serve, lead, or make a difference in the Church, we must first learn to listen to the voice of the Lord.

Like the young Samuel, we do not always recognize God’s voice immediately. We live in a world filled with noise, distractions, responsibilities, and many competing voices. Sometimes we are so busy doing things for God that we forget to stop and ask, “Lord, what are You asking me to do?”

As women serving through the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women of Utah, this question is especially important. Our ministry is not simply about meetings, activities, or accomplishing projects. It is about discerning where the Holy Spirit is leading us and responding generously.

Listening to God also means listening to one another. God can speak through the experiences, joys, struggles, and wisdom of our sisters. When we listen with patience and compassion, we build unity and create a Church where every person feels welcomed and valued.

And when God speaks, He invites us to respond. Samuel listened and became a messenger of God’s Word. Mary listened and courageously said, “Let it be done to me according to your word.” We too are called to move from listening to action — to bring faith to those who are searching, hope to those who are discouraged, and love to those who feel forgotten.

Perhaps the Lord is calling each of us today to something different: to pray more deeply, to forgive, to encourage someone, to reach out to a woman who feels alone, or to offer our gifts more generously to the Church.

Whatever the call may be, may our response always be:
“Speak, Lord; your servant is listening.”

Lord, give us quiet hearts to hear Your voice, wisdom to discern Your will, and courage to follow where You lead us. May the women of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women of Utah continue to be faithful servants—women who listen, discern, and lovingly serve.

**DCCW FIRST VICE PRESIDENT /
PRESIDENT-ELECT**

Gabby Gauchay , St. Francis of Assisi, Orem
saintlydoodles@gmail.com

Pumpkin spice, crisp autumn air, and...Council of Catholic Women! Is there truly any better combination? I am sitting here dreaming of watching the leaves outside my window slowly turn from vibrant green to brilliant shades of gold and amber. It is a stunning reminder of the beautiful canvas our Creator paints for us every year. Just as Jesus calls us to embrace the changing seasons of our lives, autumn reminds us that change can be incredibly beautiful when we are rooted in Him. Each year, I look forward to this season the most. It seems to bring us closer together. As the weather cools, our hearts warm up with community and a deep sense of belonging. As women, this isn't just a committee or a checklist of parish duties. We are sisters in Christ! Whether you are baking for a parish fundraiser, praying the rosary with a sister in need, or simply sharing a laugh over hot cider after Mass - you are cultivating a space where every woman knows she belongs. Christ is at the very center of our gathering, turning ordinary moments into extraordinary encounters of grace. Speaking of our incredible sisters, get ready to show off your council! October is Council Recognition Month. This month, we pull back the curtain and celebrate the magnificent, holy, and sometimes wonderfully chaotic work of our councils. It is also a great time to educate the women of your parish on what your council is all about and maybe recruit some new members! I encourage every council to take a moment this October to celebrate. Host a special coffee donut social, hand out little tokens of appreciation, or simply pray together in a special way. We see you, we love you, and our churches would not be the same without your joyful service. Now, I know we are just getting into sweater weather, but I need you to fast-forward your imagination to the beautiful blooms of spring!

Mark your calendars right now for our DCCW Convention April 16th - 18th, 2027. It is going to be an unforgettable weekend of faith, fellowship, and renewal. While the official convention packets won't land in your inboxes until the beginning of 2027, it is never too early to be thinking about ads! As always we are looking for convention ad contributions! Whether you want to shout out your parish council, honor a spiritual director, or advertise a local business, securing an ad is a fantastic way to support our mission. Don't wait for the winter snows — start gathering those ad sponsorships today! Thank you for your endless energy, your beautiful faith, and for making our diocese the most welcoming place to be. May your autumn be filled with abundant blessings, holy laughter, and just the right amount of apple cider.

In Christ's Joy,
Gabby Gauchay



DCCW IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Annette Pressley
St. Thomas More, Cottonwood Heights
tennis1054@aol.com

As I bid adieu to my position as DCCW President, I look forward to my new position as Immediate Past President. Even though the list of responsibilities is not as long, there is always work to be done. I must, again, say thanks to the Board, Advisory Board, Commission Chairs, and Convention chairs. A special shout out to officers Susan Porter, 1st VP-President Elect, Tish Ramos-Yarber, Secretary, and Gaylynn Huffman, Treasurer. This would not have been possible without our Directors of Meetings, Jamie Beert and Marcie Downs diligence and attention to detail. It was an honor to work with them.

I thought my summer would have passed by quietly, but I was wrong. One of my responsibilities as IPP is to make sure our executive board is complete. Unfortunately, our newly elected secretary, Jenni Fazio, submitted her resignation due to unforeseen circumstances. By the time you read this, we will have a newly elected DCCW secretary. Many good wishes to Jenni.

I was fortunate enough to attend the NCCW Convention in Grand Rapids, MI, along with several of our DCCW members. What a privilege to spend time with such an inspiring group of women. There were incredible keynote speakers, great presentations by the National Commissions, and of course the daily Masses with up to 2 Bishops and 25 plus priests concelebrating. Next year's convention will be in Milwaukee, WI and it is never too early to start making plans. We were reminded that if we saved just \$3.30 a day, we would have enough to attend next year.

I will close this with a couple of thoughts. Be aware that we never know the trials and tribulations someone is going through when we lose patience: death of a loved one, illness - theirs or a loved one - financial woes, job loss or insecurities, care-giver burnout, over-extending commitments, the list goes on. Don't weaponize the past, but practice radical forgiveness. God can heal what you give to him, but not what you hold tight.

Take a deep breathe, say a prayer, and put everything into God's hands.

*Kindness is a language
which the deaf can hear
and the blind can see.*

-Mark Twain

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN (NCCW)

Amy Kennedy — President
Cathedral of the Madeleine, Salt Lake City
amy.kennedy@comcast.net

Here I Am, Lord: Responding in Service

Dear Sisters in Christ,

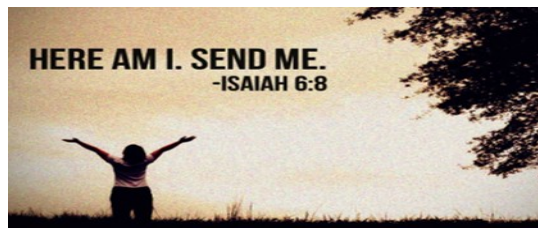
I start with two simple but meaningful words: thank you. To every woman from our diocese who traveled to this year's National Council of Catholic Women Convention, and to the many more who could not be there in person but held us in prayer, your presence – both physical and spiritual - was felt every single day. A gathering like our NCCW Convention is built on more than logistics and speakers; it is carried by the intentions offered for it, and I know many of you offered exactly that. I am deeply grateful.

As one Convention closes, another begins to take shape. I am pleased to introduce my theme for our 2027 Convention in Brookfield, Wisconsin: *Here I Am, Lord: Responding in Service*. This theme picks up exactly where last year's left off. Our 2026 theme was *Speak, Lord, Your Servant is Listening*, the words the boy Samuel is told to say when he hears his name called in the night. For our next Convention, we take the next line of that same story: once Samuel recognizes the voice, he does not hesitate. He answers, "Here I am." First, we listen; now we respond. That is the arc I want us to live out together in a year spent listening to where God is calling us, followed by a year spent actually showing up for it. Trusting that our "yes" matters more than our certainty.

For many of you, this fall means a new Council year is just beginning with new officers installed, new committees forming, and a blank calendar waiting to be filled. Let Samuel's answer be yours as you take up that work. You do not need the whole plan in hand before you say yes. Say "Here I am," and trust that the rest will be shown to you as you go. Over the next year, I hope this theme will shape how we approach our service in our parishes, deaneries, and homes. I look forward to walking that road with each of you.

I would like to thank three women who always say, "Here I am." With joy and dedication, Jeanne Audiss resumed her role as San Francisco Province Director last year to complete the term of her successor, who had to step down. It was an honor to have her serve with me during my first year as NCCW President. At the end of this year's NCCW Convention, past DCCW Presidents Marcie Downs and Bonnie Siegrist were installed as Co-Directors for our Province and will serve on the NCCW Board with me. They bring their great faith, talent, and enthusiasm to their new roles and I thank them for saying yes to the job.

With gratitude and prayer,
Amy Kennedy
NCCW President, 2025–2027



DCCW PARLIAMENTARIAN
Jeannie Audiss
Saint Joseph the Worker, West Jordan
jaudiss1234@yahoo.com



Several of our members of the Council of Catholic Women recently returned from the Convention of the National Council of Catholic Women in Grand Rapids, Michigan. It was a wonderful experience with President Amy Kennedy presiding.

Every even numbered year the Membership votes on Resolutions. This year was no exception. Resolutions that were passed were A Resolution Concerning Hunger, Taking a Stand Against Violence in Schools, Servant Leadership, Walk With One Initiative, and Promoting the Domestic Church through Service Projects. All of these had been submitted by the National Resolutions Committee to the National Board and were approved to go before the Membership. At the Convention a fifth possible amendment was brought before the Membership for its approval for consideration. It was submitted to the Resolutions Committee as an End to Persecution of Christians in Nigeria. The Committee felt it should include all Christians who are being persecuted and rejected it. The National Board agreed. If a resolution is rejected by the Board, it goes back to the Originator for possible rewriting. If the Originator chooses to rewrite it within the required time frame, then it goes before the whole Membership as an additional Resolution to be considered. The membership then has to vote if they are willing to consider it. If the Membership passes a vote to consider it, then they vote on it in the same manner as the other resolutions. The Originator changed the title to read End the Worldwide persecution of Christians and reworded the content. This resolution was also passed by the Membership.

After all editorial changes have been updated the Adopted Resolutions for 2026 will be posted on the NCCW Website: www.nccw.org/About Us/ Protocols/By-Laws/ Resolutions then Resolutions/2026 Adopted Click Here.

As your new CCW year begins, or continues, as the case may be, check the website to review the full resolutions. You will find they all offer ideas for possible new programs for your groups to act upon this year. Please choose at least one!

Submitted by Jeanne Audiss
Your DCCW Parliamentarian

SAN FRANCISCO PROVINCE CO-DIRECTORS

Bonnie Siegrist
Blessed Sacrament, Sandy
utahbonnie@comcast.net

Marcie Downs
Cathedral of the Madeleine
marciedowns51@gmail.com

WE SAID YES!

The recent National Council of Catholic Women convention in Grand Rapids had the theme "Speak Lord, Your Servant is Listening." This theme was especially meaningful because we said YES to become NCCW's San Francisco Province Co-Directors. While Jeanne Audiss ended her term at this convention, she stood beside us, as we committed ourselves to the mission of NCCW. As board members of NCCW, we also committed to all affiliates in and out of our San Francisco Province.

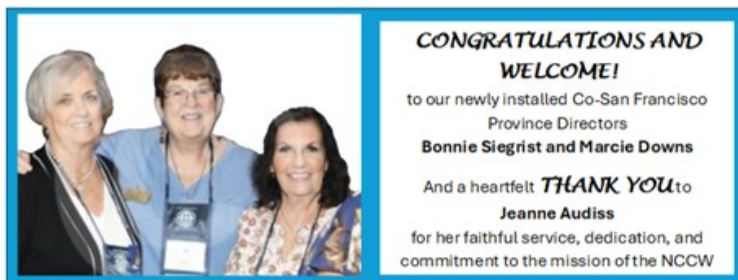
So, what does this mean for the Diocese of Salt Lake City DCCW? Well, normally the position would have rotated to another affiliate diocese in the San Francisco Province; however, they each had to pass on their time, and ready or not the position came back to our DCCW. At the DCCW June board meeting, board members agreed to continue to support the province and us, as we begin our newest journey. Thanks to our past positions at the parish, deanery, and diocesan levels, we both feel and **HOPE** we have the knowledge and experience needed to be able to fulfill the requirements of Province Director.

What now? Our minds are churning with what we want to accomplish over the next two years. As a liaison between NCCW and all dioceses in the San Francisco Province, we are **your** voice on the NCCW board. To keep things simple and efficient, we asked our DCCW Council sisters Casey Pond to stay on as Province Treasurer and Becky Colombo to continue as Province Secretary. They also said YES. According to our San Francisco Province Bylaws, other board members include the presidents of all NCCW affiliate dioceses in the province, as well as all past San Francisco Province Directors. As Spiritual Advisor of our DCCW, Father Ariel Duran will automatically continue as the San Francisco Province Spiritual Advisor.

Did we have to think and pray twice, three times, maybe even four times about taking on this position? Sure did!! But, the Lord spoke, these two servant leaders listened, and together we excitedly said YES. It will be a privilege to walk along side so many dedicated Catholic women who generously give of their time, talents, and faith in service to our Church and our communities.

May we all always have an open heart and a listening spirit.

Marcie and Bonnie



DCCW MEMBERSHIP, DEVELOPMENT AND RESOURCE TEAM

Barb Kerouac, Co-Chair
St. Martin de Porres, Taylorsville
barb0235@msn.com

Michael O'Shea, Co-Chair
St. Anthony of Padua, Helper
msmichaeloshea@gmail.com



MDR Team

Do you know what this means???

Membership Development Resource Team for the DCCW

Did you know that our DCCW has team members who will come to your affiliates???

What will they do??? Support, educate, train, and visit with your Affiliates???

How do you get them to come??? ASK

Contact your affiliate president, reach out to your Deanery officers, contact the DCCW Officers...do you know who they are??? They can help you find us.

Again ask, contact information is on the DCCW website www.dccwutah.org

Or contact Barb at 801-964-6512. Text or call *(leave a message if you want a call back)*

We are waiting to help or just want a little support.
Let us help you strengthen your affiliate.



WANT TO SEE YOUR COUNCIL GROW?? I INVITE ONE NEW PERSON TO EVERY CCW MEETING AND EVENT .

Inviting ladies to join your Council is offering them an opportunity to enhance their lives while giving service to their church and community. It can be life changing. Our attitude, enthusiasm, and love of Council is contagious and encourages the stranger to attend a meeting or event. Think about all the wonderful things council does and

AFFILIATE OF THE YEAR

Barb Kerouac, Chair
St. Martin de Porres, Taylorsville
barb0235@msn.com

Happy Fall y'all.

Hope you are enjoying the late summer, early fall season. Don't you just love this time of year?

I sure do. It's always beautiful and cooler weather.... YAY!

Just a friendly reminder coming your way.

Every year, at the Annual DCCW Convention, one of the hard-working CCW affiliates is selected as the Diocesan Affiliate of the Year. Please start compiling all you do to fill out the submittal form. Every Parish affiliate in good standing of the DCCW is eligible. The more concise and detailed information you provide increases your chance of being selected during the blind selection process. (Past DCCW presidents are sent the submissions with all distinguishing affiliate information erased, so they can't identify the affiliate in any way but by the information and answers to the questions on the forms for the unbiased selection.) Don't wait to try and compile your information, as it is easier to answer the questions on the form if you already have it at your fingertips.

May I make a suggestion for each of your affiliates find someone who will take this project on throughout the year. Don't leave it to the last minute when the call to convention is sent out, things will be forgotten. The deadline for the form to be sent sneaks up fast. It's a lot of info that is needed but is limited to only 1 page. So concise editing of your submission is key.

All forms and deadlines will be forthcoming as
the DCCW calendar year is just beginning.

The DCCW knows that every parish affiliate CCW
is more than deserving of this award.

Good luck and we look forward to seeing all your hard work put into words on your submissions by the Convention deadline in Spring of 2027.



DCCW SERVICE COMMISSION

Pat Voorhes, Chair
St. Vincent de Paul Parish
patthebaglady@gmail.com

At the recent NCCW Convention, the Service Commission put forward a resolution that was adopted titled: *Promoting the Domestic Church through Service Projects*. Its purpose is to select service projects which promote the family as the “Domestic Church.”

The resolution quotes several statements from the Catechism of the Catholic Church promoting the family as the Domestic Church: “The Christian home is the place where children receive the first proclamation of the faith. For this reason, the family home is rightly called the ‘domestic church’ ...” (CCC 1666); and “We must remember the great number of single persons....” (CCC 1658) as well as single parent families....” so that they do not consider themselves separated from the Church (CCC 1651).

The resolved part of the resolution gives these ideas for your CCW’s service project to promote the family as the “Domestic Church”:

Promote Church teaching on the Domestic Church by hosting reading sessions on these sections of the Catechism of the Catholic Church: 1655-1666 and 2201-2233; or St. John Paul the II’s Encyclical *Familiaris Consortio* (the Role of the Christian Family in the Modern World) or St. John Paul II’s Letter to Families. The event could also include donations to a local food pantry or a shelter for homeless families.

Create Faith Enrichment Boxes as gifts to groups such as First Communicants, Confirmandi, OCIA Candidates and others. The boxes (covered shoe boxes) can be filled with items to nurture their faith such as devotionals, scripture cards, journals, rosaries, prayer journal, highlighter, stickers, bibles, treats made by the Carmelite Nuns, subscription to Magnificat, and books by Catholic authors. The list goes on and on so be creative and expansive.

Promote the 2025-2027 Service Commission’s resource: *Catholic Books and Resources for Children and Families*. This document lists books from these websites:

<https://www.teachingcatholickids.com/your-50-favorite-books-for-catholic-kids/>

<https://www.wordonfire.org>

<https://ignatius.com/>

<https://bookstore.magnificat.net/childrens-s-books.html>

<https://app.formed.org/app/browse>

<https://www.catholiccompany.com/collections/kids-books-media>

<https://catholic.store/collections/books/kids>

<https://goodbooksforcatholickids.com>

<https://holymen.com/>

I encourage you to be creative and generate your own ideas for promoting the NCCW Resolution *Promoting the Domestic Church through Service Projects*. Let me know your great ideas so I can promote them in the AWARE.

Building the Domestic Church
While Strengthening our Parish

LEADERSHIP COMMISSION

Joan Simard, Chair
St. Thomas More, Cottonwood Heights
Tebear-jcs@comcast.net

Leadership Commission Priorities

Hello, everyone. I am honored that Susan Porter asked me to serve as your Leadership Commission Chair. As fall begins, our committee - made up of a wonderful group of women - has started reviewing the DCCW Bylaws. Our goal this year is to update both the Bylaws and the Standing Rules, which are long overdue for revision.

NCCW Convention Grand Rapids, MI.

The Leadership Lunch and Learn session, “Your CCW Angel is Here to Help” included reviews of the Rings of Council and the Time, Talent and Treasure that each of us has as we work within our CCW. They presented several great ideas to promote your CCW.

The Leadership Commission Presentation then presented “Ideas for Today and Tomorrow”. The focus was on Listening to God and one another. Be supportive of each other by supporting our strengths and mentoring within our Church build trust, strengthen our unity and be present with one another and God.

I am sure I will have more to contribute as the time goes by, but this is just a start for me in a new role to serve Our Lord and be present in Him.

Blessings for our strengths and energies,

Joan Camarro Simard

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DCCW LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION

Donna Murphy, Chair
St. Thomas More, Cottonwood Heights
drmurphy@gmail.com

The NCCW convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan ended on Saturday August 29, 2026. Our NCCW President Amy Kennedy from our local Salt Lake DCCW did an amazing job as our current leader. We had a wonderful welcome from the President of Grand Rapids DCCW Janet Regan and her twin sister Jeannie from Ohio. I attended a workshop by Michelle Peckham, President of Knoxville, TN, DCCW and Ingrid Delgado with St. Vincent de Paul, Washington D.C. about the importance of us as Catholic women to contact our Congressional legislators to vote for issues which help our immigrant population. It is quite easy to get on the USCCB website as www.usccb.org and to click on Take Action on Political Advocacy and write letters to your elected officials. It is fairly direct by putting in your name and address in the required location on the web site as it will create a form letter for you emphasizing what USCCB message is regarding certain political issues. You can also choose to edit the version to make it your own however you do not want to change the viewpoint that USCCB is supporting or opposing on proposed legislation. Many times the elected official will have an automatic response to your email regarding what they have voted on or their viewpoint but the main focus is to let them know about your Catholic viewpoint and how you agree with the USCCB's position. Please be mindful of being polite, respectful and to the point on what message you are trying to convey to them and how you prefer them to vote on the issue. Please thank them for their service and time reading your email and request a reply. Sometimes elected officials never hear from constituents whether it's local city council, state or national legislators.

In regards to important issues, it is our civic responsibility to inform them of our Catholic viewpoints. This is a mid-term election year so it is essential to get to know your candidates so you can vote as informed, educated constituents. Try to attend fundraisers, neighborhood gatherings, town halls, city council meetings or call them.

I shared the hard work we are doing in Utah with Michelle and Ingrid as a 106 yr. old council as the Immediate Past President of Women's State Legislative Council of Utah. We are educating our members of current legislative issues and holding our legislators accountable by having face to face presentations from them about various community issues. We will be holding a State Issues Meeting on Sept. 23, 2026 at noon in the Aspen Room of the Senate Building at the Utah State Capitol. Rep. Ken Ivory will speak about the Initiative he is working on with 23 other states in the U.S. as well as business and labor issues. Rep. Doug Owens will speak about water conservation, natural resources and public lands in our state. Housing affordability will be presented by Amy Tomasso VP of Policy & Partnerships with Ivory Innovations at David Eccles School of Business. On October 21, 2026 a National Issues meeting will be held in the same Aspen Room at noon.

Please remember to think about how you are going to vote in November for the midterms as well as for whom and how that candidate may represent your Catholic viewpoints. Please feel free to contact me with any questions at drmurphy21@outlook.com. You may also visit the web site of www.le.utah.gov to review how the Interim Session is going and what bills you may want to follow in the upcoming General Legislative Session starting on Tuesday, January 19, 2027.

You may also sign up for Catholic Advocacy Networks as:

Catholic Charities USA: www.catholiccharitiesusa.org/advocacy

Catholic Relief Services: <https://www.crs.org/ways-to-help/advocate/takeaction>

Catholic Mobilizing Network: <https://catholicmobilizing.org/action/>

St. Vincent de Paul USA: <https://votervoices.net/SVDPUSA/home>

God Bless you all and may God Bless America.

The Church's obligation to participate in shaping the moral character of society is a requirement of our faith. It is a basic part of the mission we have received from Jesus Christ.

Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, no. 9

HISTORIAN
Becky Colombo
St. Anthony of Padua, Helper
beckyc144@gmail.com

Hello everyone! Welcome to the fall season and some beautiful autumn days. I am happy to be reporting to you as the DCCW Historian. I began taking candid shots during our June meeting and will continue to do so throughout my term which covers 2026 through the Spring of 2028.

There were 17 women who attended the NCCW convention recently in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and I am attaching only a few pictures to this article in the interest of space. I will include more in the historian's book or in articles for upcoming DCCW meetings.

We were fortunate to have some of our own in "high places" at the convention in Michigan. Our own Amy Kennedy, aka Madame President of NCCW, was excellent at running the board meetings and gatherings at convention. Jeanne Audiss, our Immediate Past Province Director, handed over the reins to Bonnie Siegrist and Marcie Downs. These two ladies were installed on Saturday at the convention and will be co-directors for the San Francisco Province. They will be a great asset to NCCW in this position! Thank you, Amy, Jeanne, Bonnie, and Marcie.

While in Grand Rapids, Joan Simard, our DCCW Leadership Chair, celebrated a milestone birthday on the day of our Utah Ladies Dinner. (I will let her tell you which milestone!) It was a fun night with noise makers, birthday "Ding Dong" snack cakes, and drinks all around! Of course we sang happy birthday to her at the restaurant, and everyone had a great time. These pictures are attached.

The candid photo of Gaylynn Huffman, our DCCW Treasurer, and Jennifer Warner, St. Anthony Parish (Eastern Deanery) CCW President, was too cute not to share. It was taken at the hotel during our Province Dinner. Another photo shows dancing after dinner with Cleo Mota, Jennifer Warner, and others from the Province Dinner. (I danced also- but was filming during this dance!)



SOUTHWESTERN DEANERY

Jennifer Enman, President

Christ the King, Cedar City

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Summer is almost gone, how fast time flies! Christ The King CCW has been keeping busy with several things, including vacation bible school which was held in June. Several of the ladies donated lots of time to getting it ready, from decorating each room in themes from Genesis to teaching all of the children about it as well. During the month of May, the CWC ladies helped with the Rosary before each mass. The CCW also has started a craft night each Wednesday at the church to make items to sell at the fall festival; proceeds will go to charities in our community. They also helped with First Holy Communion and Confirmation; special prayer cards were given to us so we could pray for the students while they were preparing for their sacraments. Several of the ladies helped assemble backpacks full of donated items that were given to our local care and share family crisis center for students in need. The weather is cooling down but we sure aren't slowing down!

St. George CCW

Since the Convention, the St. George Catholic Women's Group has remained very active in service to our parish and community. We donated \$2,877 to the Building Fund for the new church and recently hosted Coffee and Doughnuts following Sunday Masses. Our Welcome Committee conducted a church tour for Senior Singles, helping newcomers become more familiar with our parish and its ministries.

The Sunshine Committee has continued its compassionate outreach by attending funerals and presenting prayer shawls to bereaved families. In addition, one of our group's talented and prolific quilters generously donated fourteen handmade quilts to Mary's Hope House, an organization that provides safe, supportive maternity housing and compassionate care to single mothers. Through charitable giving, hospitality, outreach, and fellowship, the women of our parish continue to live out the Gospel call to serve one another. We are grateful for the generosity, dedication, and joyful spirit of our members, whose efforts strengthen both our parish family and the wider community. Since the Convention, the St. George Catholic Women's Group has remained very active in service to our parish and community. We donated \$2,877 to the Building Fund for the new church and recently hosted Coffee and Doughnuts following Sunday Masses. Our Welcome Committee conducted a church tour for Senior Singles, helping newcomers become more familiar with our parish and its ministries.

Looking forward to these next few months to spend time with family and friends,
Peace to all of you.

Jennifer Enman, SW Deanery President



WASATCH DEANERY

Robin Marvive , President
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It is the beginning of our year, and me being president, which is still so mind boggling to me. I don't even remember having a Summer. With so many ways to serve God, I keep reminding myself that all I have is time, God's time. I see the year ahead and see that all the blessings that are coming to and through the Wasatch Deanery is abundant. As we pray that God's hand is on all we do, we walk with confidence that wherever God leads, and we follow, that his Mercy and Grace will be with us. This year the Wasatch Deanery will be having our fundraiser, which is an Opportunity Raffle and let's just say the prizes are amazing and generous. We will also be hosting the DCCW convention in 2027 which sounds fun and scary at the same time. Lol. We are surrounded by so many amazing women of Faith, besides veterans of the DCCW convention, that we know we will be blessed with help and guidance. These next two years will continue to help us to grow with one another, support one another and inspire one another. I am so proud of the Wasatch Deanery ladies, they are all unique and special in their own way and their reach to see Jesus in other's is beautiful. I am extremely honored to serve with all of them.

Some of our affiliates have taken the summer off, reconvening this month.

St. Francis of Xavier will be having their first meeting on 9-17-26 preparing their Fall Calendar. **St. Martin de Porres** will be having their first meeting on 9-16-26 hosting a wine and cheese welcome back and learning to make Charcuterie cups. **St. Joseph the Worker** will be having their first meeting 9-14-26, moving their meetings to the second week of the month. They will start with a potluck social and working with the Knights of Columbus on future projects in the parish. **St. John the Baptist** has been on sabbatical while a new priest was being assigned to the parish. The new priest Fr. Joseph Minuth expressed his desire to have an active CCW in the parish. **St. Peter** – had their first meeting on 9-8-26.

Some of our affiliates kept busy during the summer. **St. Thomas More** had three meet and mingle meetings that were held at 3 different homes of members where fellowship and love were shared. **St. Francis of Assisi** in August held their annual parish picnic and welcomed their new Parochial Vicar. Rev. Nitesh Gomez. Also in August they had a Craft day to prepare for their December Boutique. Also they are preparing for their parish festival on Sept 12th, 13th with the ladies selling baked good. **Blessed Sacrament** – Hosted a table at their Parish Feast Day to promote their group. Also, they held a garage sale. Father's Day they handed out keychains. In July they had fellowship and socializing with Maria's Mexican Grill.

The Wasatch Deanery continues to share their love and gifts with others. I can't wait to see all the service they will bless others with this year.

Forever Grateful,
Robin Marvive WDCCW President.



NCCW CONVENTION PHOTOS



MORE NCCW CONVENTION PHOTOS

