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Mission Statement:
Hope For The Family

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Continued from last Issue: **The Marriage Triangle —Leaving, Cleaving, Be-**

Recap: Everyone talks about love, sex and marriage and how these fit together. Which is more important? Where does a relationship begin? Here at Family Life Mission, we like to compare marriage with a triangle. If one of these angles is missing in the marriage triangle, then we have all the sicknesses of marriage:

- If there is no leaving (commitment, marriage) we have the *Stolen Marriage*.
- If there is no cleaving (communication, love) we have the *Empty Marriage*.
- If a couple does not become one flesh (cohabitation, sex) we have the *Hungry Marriage*.

In this issue we look at the second angle of the Marriage Triangle—**Cleaving**.

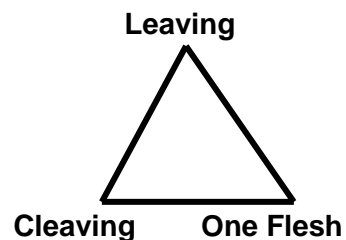
Cleaving by Ingrid Youngdale

Cleave comes from the Hebrew word meaning “glued together”. You, my spouse, are more important to me than anyone else, than anything else.

When I was engaged to Walter Trobisch, working as a single missionary teacher in Cameroun, West Africa, I received this letter from Walter describing love (another word for cleaving).

He who loves is no longer alone. The one he loves is constantly present with him. He renounces the right to remain at the center of his own life. He permits someone else to enter into the midst of it and senses that to be sweet fortune. He gives himself up and lets himself go. He becomes empty like an open hand which holds nothing but waits until something will be put into it. He who loves has the courage to become one who needs something.

Many husbands and wives no longer have time for each other. The husband forgets to tell his wife that she is number one in his life. He gives the impression that other things are more important — his work, or maybe just watching football. The wife may be engrossed in their new baby or a career. This results is an empty marriage where the “chariot wheels grind heavily.” There is sand in the gears! Cont. pg.4.



FLM 2004 Annual Meeting Highlights

by Lauren Youngdale

The 2004 Family Life Mission Annual meeting was held June 12 at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Springfield, Mo.

FLM Chairman David Nehmer welcomed all gathered.

Lauren Youngdale led a Bible Study on Ephesians 6:10-20 on "The Christian's Warfare", speaking of the seven pieces of armor God provides. The most powerful weapon is Prayer which is constant, intensive and unselfish.

Ingrid shared highlights of the past year and an FLM vision for the future. She read greetings from FLM Germany, Africa and friends in this country. Portions of the letters are shared in this issue.

David Nehmer presented a report with the following highlights:

This past year retreats were held at Quiet Waters Center, Branson, Mo., and Rivendell Retreat Center, near Bolivar, Mo. Three retreats at Akron, Ohio, were sponsored and led by St. Luke's Episcopal Church. A special retreat for seminarians and wives was held at Wartburg Theological Seminary led by Dr. Daniel Trobisch and the Youngdales.

Suggestions for the future.

1. Train Leaders who can bring FLM Retreats to their own congregations.
2. Print and package FLM Quiet Water Retreat materials for use by churches in their own family ministries.

A sincere thanks was given to David and Cathy Nehmer for three faithful years on the board and for serving as executive officers. A special thanks went to Cathy for keeping the FLM Office running during this interim period.

The Treasurer's Report by Roy Bonapalli showed a balance of \$21,550. The 2004-2005 budget of \$27,500 was adopted.

Elected to the board were: Joyce Cutright, J.T. Porter and Dr. David Trobisch, member at large.

Greetings from Ohio Quiet Waters

The Ohio Quiet Waters sends love and greetings to you and all those involved in FLM here in the states and abroad. We hope to encourage and bless you in the ministry you are doing and have been so faithful to for so many years. Truly God has blessed FLM and the fruit is evident.

You, also might like to know that in May we have completed five successful retreats since November, 2001. We began with one a year and now have two each year. Our next is scheduled for October! What a blessing and gift it has been to St. Luke's.



We are happy to report that we had two couples and one single (participate) from another church in the Columbus area. We see the first opportunity to expand the ministry here in Ohio. There are many yet to include from St. Luke's, but the door opened to include others, thus the opportunity to spread the FLM ministry to help more families.....

Blessings to each and every one of you gathered for the FLM Annual Meeting. May the Lord grant you His guidance, wisdom and inspiration for the future of the ministry.....

On behalf of all of us who love and bless you at St. Luke's. Connie Auerbach

Greetings from FLM International

Dear Friends,

A few days ago we received a letter from a 78-year-old lady. She has been an intercessor and supporter of the family Life Mission for decades. She never threw away any newsletter, but kept them all. The first goes back to May 1, 1953. Only God knows how many prayers have been spoken by this precious lady on behalf of the Trobishes and their ministry. The tremendous spiritual fruit in so many countries has become possible by people like her and it is still possible through those who dedicate themselves in order to help others.

FLM-North America has a mighty influence on the lives and marriages of many. I am sure God will multiply the fruit of your faithful work. May you never lack helpers and resources and may there always be plenty of people who pray.

“The harvest is plentiful...”(Matthew 9:37).

God's blessing be with all of you.
United with you in the Lord's Service.

Rev. Hans-Joachim Heil, Germany
President of FLM International.

Testimonies from Ohio Quiet Water Retreat Participants

(a wife) *God has shown me how important it is to put my spouse before children, work, schedule. The time with my spouse this weekend has been awesome and affirming of our marriage. What a blessing!*

(a husband) *Many issues have been brought to the surface, i.e. self esteem, relationship between husband and wife, a deeper look into communication and relationship. I sincerely believe this is a new start for our marriage.*

(a single) *God has shed his light on areas in my heart that had unhealed wounds and I was able to release them to the Lord.*

(a husband) *The T-JTA has pointed out areas that I need to address, and ways that I am affecting my marriage and my wife. I need to change priorities and expectations to be a better husband and father.*

Lauren Youngdale Honored at 50th Anniversary of Ordination

On May 16 Lauren Youngdale was honored with 25 members of his graduating class of 50 years ago from Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago.

The service was held in the Rockefeller Chapel on the University of Chicago campus with the Academic Dean at Payne Theological Seminary Dr. Marsha Boyd speaking on John 14 and how Jesus put things in place as he took his leave from his disciples. Boyd, who was ordained in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, told the old and new graduates: “It is not by your degrees, but by your love, that you will be effective. Go in peace. Go in love to a world filled with visions of hate. God's Power Kit is God's Holy Spirit.” Besides her academic duties, Boyd is a pastor's wife and mother of six.

After returning to Springfield from the event, Lauren wrote to his children.

“In the Army Medics, taking care of the wounded and treating men who died on the hospital ships, I was devastated. I cried to the Lord—This is not for me. I do not want to lose men. I want to save them. What do you want me to do, Lord?”

“It became clear to me there that dealing with life to strengthen and save people and to deal with their souls was the answer.”

Lauren was ordained June 20, 1954, on a call to Axtell, Neb., the very town where Ingrid's ancestral grandparents put down their roots as Swedish pioneer homesteaders.

From Axtell, Lauren and his wife Norma served parishes in Hallock and Fergus Falls, Minn. After taking a year of clinical pastoral education Lauren served as Chaplain at Pioneer Home in Fergus. Shortly after retirement from there, his wife of 47 years died.

Two years later Lauren and Ingrid Trobisch were married. Lauren and Ingrid established

Calendar & Retreat Dates

July 16

Seminar—*How To Utilize and Interpret The Taylor-Johnson Temperament Analysis.*
Immanuel Lutheran Church, Springfield, Mo.
Presented by Dr. Daniel Trobisch from Salzburg, Austria.

July 30-Aug. 1

Quiet Waters Retreat
Quiet Waters Center, West Branson, Mo.

Sept 17-19

Quiet Waters Retreat
Rivendell Retreat Center, Near Bolivar, Mo.

Oct. 1-3

Quiet Waters Retreat
Beulah Beach Retreat Center,
Vermillion, Ohio.
Contact: Dennis Allen — 330-945-9991

Oct. 8-10

Quiet Waters Retreat
Quiet Waters Center, West Branson, Mo.

Cleaving—Continued from Page 1

Recently our country had the opportunity to gain a better understanding of cleaving through watching news programs highlighting the 52-year-old marriage of Ronald and Nancy Reagan.

"If she (Nancy) would leave the room, I would be lonely until she returned," Reagan explained.

And Nancy said, "I think I was born not to be 'we' and not 'I' ... I knew I was the most important person in his life just as he was in mine."



The Quiet Waters Retreat Center is available for pastoral, missionary or Christian retreats.

For information contact FLM Ministry Coordinator Melody Saul at 417-338-2013.

First FLM African Marriage Counselor Called Home

Jean Banyolak, the first African marriage counselor, died in Douala, Cameroun, on Good Friday, April 9.

Jean had been connected with the Trobisch family since 1957 when he was a student at Cameroun Christian College where the Trobisches were teaching. He became the African godfather for their son David.

After finishing his college training Jean went to Europe on a scholarship to become the first French-speaking African marriage counselor. He and his wife Ernestine served faithfully for 35 years in Douala.

FLM today is active in 14 African countries.

Family Life Mission

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