

Fourfold Group Meetings

Worship, education, fellowship and service programs make this group a welcome place for all women. This fourfold format beautifully reflects The Salvation Army's holistic approach to ministry.

Worship:

Worship is a part of every Women's Ministries program. Most meetings involve reading the Bible and prayer. Special programs or events may highlight this aspect such as worship services, singing praises and Bible studies.

Education:

These programs include a wide variety of subjects that promote personal, family and community growth. They address the needs, interests, and concerns of the Women as well as family and community issues. This aspect of the program also promotes women's understanding of Christian principles and lifestyle.

Fellowship:

Fellowship experiences are filled with fun, food and warm friendships. Offering an opportunity to build relationships, share concerns and receive friendly advice from other women is an important and exciting component of Women's Ministries. Many fellowship activities include outings, parties, and social events.

Service:

Giving women an opportunity to make a difference in their community and world, Women's Ministries offer a variety of service projects. These vary from group to group but may include feeding the homeless, helping less-fortunate children receive toys for Christmas, baking cookies for college students, visiting nursing homes and so much more!

Example of Meeting Structure

You may set up a station or decorate the tables with items themed to your evening program subject.

- 6:30 Attendance taken and Dues collected
- 6:45 Call to Order
"A Warm Welcome to all!"
Reports, reading minutes, Announcements
- 7:00 Program Feature
- 7:45 Devotional exercise
- 8:00 Closing Exercise
Friendship Circle:
Sing "Goodnight" or "As for Me and my House"
Recite Prayer – Mizpah Benediction
- 8:05 Refreshments
*Ladies assigned each week to bring food

Be sure to record statistics properly following the meeting.

Resources

Online Resources:

Facebook: [Facebook.com/WomensMinistriesUSAEasternTerritory](https://www.facebook.com/WomensMinistriesUSAEasternTerritory)

Here you will find Territorial postings of WM Retreats, rallies and special events. Devotionals written by women officers and lay leaders are also posted here.

Pinterest: [www.Pinterest.com/USAEastern](https://www.pinterest.com/USAEastern)

Women's Ministries Resources

www.wmresources.org

Here you will find program aids from the current year as well as archived programs from previous years. These are printable for use in program planning and implementation. Enrollment ceremony ideas and Women's Sunday themes and outlines are also included.

SACONNECTS WM

<http://women.saconnects.org>

Here you'll find devotionals, program ideas and GATHERING/ENCUENTRO program

Refer to your Women's Ministries Manual for instruction and directives for all programming and planning questions.

Purpose & Expectations

The Fundamental Purpose of the Home League:

- ♦ To make every effort to win women for Christ
- ♦ To promote and encourage healthy and happy relationships and home environments
- ♦ To work toward the betterment of the community, the nation and the world
- ♦ To link families to the Army and soldiership

Home League Motto:

"I will live a pure life in my house..." Psalm 101:2(GNT)

Membership:

- ♦ All women (minimum age 14) – minimum 4 weeks attendance
- ♦ Religious affiliation is not a factor when recruiting new members
- ♦ New members receive membership card and pin. Membership forms sent to DHQ – pin and card processed to the corps
- ♦ Weekly dues is collected from every member who is able to pay
- ♦ Names and addresses of members should be entered into the Corps Management Database.
- ♦ Additions and removals of members should be recorded in current month's statistics. New members are processed through DHQ, and any removals, other than PTG, must be approved by the Divisional Commander

Meetings:

- ♦ Frequency – Meetings should be held regularly throughout the year. Home League meetings, combined with other Women's Ministry meetings should total 48 within a year.

Worship Program Ideas

- Walk and Pray – Take a brisk walk around the neighborhood or set up interactive prayer stations at the building – focus on prayer.
- What resolutions? – Explore the whys, whats and hows of New Years resolutions in relationship to God’s plans and desires.
- Pages of the Ages – what lies ahead in the new year?
- Living portraits of Biblical women
- Heaven’s Miracles – Earthly results – How past miracles inspire us
- A Red Letter Day – where your treasure is, there your heart is.
- In Green Pastures – celebrating the rest that God gives (Psalm 23)
- Metamorphosis – New Creatures – celebrate new life in Christ
- Rebirth of Spring – Ecclesiastes 3
- The Significance of Silence – exploring how the Holy Spirit works
- Holy Week Scenes
- Mirror, Mirror - what do we see as compared to God’s view
- Pass on the Praise! – Psalm 150 share and encourage one another
- Listen up! – exploring the parables of Jesus
- In Hot Water – How to stand in the face of temptation and trial
- Exercise your faith – easy or chair exercises to Christian music
- Falling leaves – share how we let go of habits, feelings, ideas in order to bring about Spiritual change.

Education Program Ideas

Guests from the community and Home League members offer a multitude of focused topics.

- Cake decorating
- Essential oil use demonstration
- Heart health, women’s health, diabetes prevention
- Police or fire department safety trainings
- Nutrition and cooking/baking
- Teaching of a craft or skill, i.e. crocheting, painting
- So much more – dare to imagine, and ask!
- Learning sign language, or a second language
- Homes around the World – love your neighbors
- The art of Giving
- I Have a Dream - Black History Month (February)
- The Family Tree – Learn about ancestry
- The Many uses for Dryer Sheets
- The First Thanksgiving
- Believe it or Not – exploring fun and amazing facts
- Great Women, Past and Present
- Salvation Army History

Fellowship Program Ideas

- Holiday themed fun & Games
- Everybody's Birthday party
- Keepsakes – games and food that starts with “K” – show & tell
- Customs and Costumes – around Halloween
- Country Charm – quilts, baskets, everything country
- Four Seasons party
- Gray Matter – improving your memory; memory games
- Winds of March – Breezy, blowy, windy themed games
- What's New? – celebrate “firsts”; reminisce
- Ice Cream Social
- Highway to Heaven – Angels, Clouds, heaven themed
- Game Show Madness – family feud, price is right, concentration
- Music in the Air – Name that Tune, musical chairs, etc.
- Household Wrinkles – games with chore theme: hang or fold laundry, ironing contest, stack the dishes, etc
- Colors of the Rainbow – celebrate all colors
- Mardi Gras Madness – talent show, elect a queen
- Soup's On or Chili Cook-off
- Favorite Things – show and tell or fashion show

Service Program Ideas

- Paradise on Earth – recycling, community clean-up
- Getting to Know You – meeting at senior center or high rise
- An understanding Heart – write letters/cards to shut-ins and missing members offering encouragement
- The Stars are Brightly Shining – address and stamp cards to Missionaries from the Territory
- Forgive and live – have ladies write cards of forgiveness and/or apology to someone; plan and conduct a holiday party for a nursing home – take refreshments and treats for the patients.
- What's New in the Kitchen? – clean corps kitchen, women bring items to add to kitchen, women prepare a dish to share – charge .25 cents a scoop – money for world services
- Baby Shower – ask women to bring items in to give to a pregnancy center or shower a new young mother
- Support Corps Ministries – Ask women to help with seasonal and ongoing social service and ministry activities
- Support and Care Projects:
 - Collect hats and mittens for shelter or Christmas giveaway
 - Make goodie bags to be taken to the Police or Firemen
 - Put together bags to send with kids to camp
 - Conduct and support fundraisers to benefit corps ministries
 - Make cookies and help with Bible School or Day Camp

Once you know what needs are specific to your community, plan a program and project to complete with the ladies.



How did it begin?

The first Home League program in the USA was organized before 1910. The first recorded Home League in the Eastern Territory is believed to have been in Pen Argyl, PA in May 1913. Other women's groups quickly developed including educational programs and service opportunities for women. These groups channeled women's talents, energies and resourcefulness to positively influence their homes, community and world. For instance, during World War I they formed support groups for bereaved mothers. Soon, the Home League was an integral part of every Salvation Army Corps Community Center.

The Home League evolved into a weekly meeting with a fourfold program of worship, education, fellowship and service. In 1987 a Women's Outreach Ministries component was added to the Home League program to reflect women's changing roles and expanding interests. In 1994 the traditional Home League program was renamed Women's Ministries to better convey the wide variety of programs offered to women.

Fundraising & Projects

Every year, every corps participates in supporting projects on the Divisional and Territorial level, with an additional Extra-Mile project that benefits The Salvation Army work overseas. These amounts are determined by THQ and collected and delivered by the Divisional Women's Ministries Department. The women's group may also choose to provide for a project that meets a local need.

Some fundraising suggestions that have been successful include:

- M&M tube collections – M&M candy tubes are purchased, then either given out or sold to individuals. After eating or sharing the candy, the individual fills the tube with quarters, topping off at \$10-14.00 per tube
- Easter Fashion Show/ Spoon Supper – Contact the local ARC and ask for donations of outfits that can be modelled by the ladies (as well as men and children, if you like). Then hold a spoon supper (.25-.50 cents per spoon of food) followed by the fashion show. (\$3-5.00 admission fee)
- Bake sales, suppers, candy sales, hoagie sales, rummage sales
- Silent Auction – Collect new and lightly used items – invite the community to share cookies and silently bid on items – highest bid in each cup pays that much for the item.
- Purse or basket auction – load new and used (good condition) purses and baskets with useful items and hold an auction!
- Local restaurants may offer fundraisers that offer a percentage of the amount spent by your coupon holding patrons.