

Layschool January 2022

Message

Hello students and mentors, instructors and administrative team.

As I write my thoughts for layschool I am drawn to “Jubilee.” This is our year of jubilee whereby we celebrate over 20 years as being a lay school, and rejoice that 50 students joined studies last fall.

J – JOY abounds; U – UNITING us in the; B – BEAUTIFUL good news; I - INVIGORATING our faith and; L – LEADING us to hear God’s call. E – ENCOURAGE on another! E – ENJOY the journey!

Yes, January classes are just days away and it’s our chance to reboot study patterns. It’s our chance to refocus on God’s call as we eagerly study the Word. I share a story that taught me focus and a way to start the New Year. Hope you enjoy.

Years ago a co-worker and I from Homme Home in Wittenberg had the opportunity to attend a time-management workshop. Oh good! It was a break in the pattern of working 8:00 to 4:30, have lunch in Wausau, and oh yes, come back smarter from the Franklin Covey seminar.

The room was crowded with attendees eager to learn how to manage time. We all needed this with days of many shifts: The work shift, the home shift, and finally collapse from weariness of a day’s demands. Our instructor had us work through our beautiful new black leather binders holding calendars, goal setting ideas, and words to encourage our new life through his time-management tools given in the seminar.

Our morning break came and people left for a cup of coffee. I sat in my seat stunned and briskly addressed the leader with: “I am already over the top busy. How do you now expect me to add into my day the routine of keeping up with this material too? With a smirky smile told me, “Well, that is another seminar.” He must have sensed my frustration for he continued with his life story saying, “I worked hard in my career that had me travelling across country. Then illness demanded I take care of myself. Being homebound I had many hours to contemplate my life. I realized I

didn't even know my teenaged children. I thought about life's meaning; and with chalk in hand drew a circle on the black board writing the following in a pie cut into four pieces: **Five L's We All Seek.** Living with purpose, Learning – growing in faith, Love of family and friends, and Leaving a legacy.” And at the center of the pie drew a circle and wrote: The Lord. He told me he gives time with each category all centered in the Lord. And that made all the difference in how he contemplated life.

We come into 2022 centered in Christ Jesus. Epiphany's light guides us to envision, with gratefulness, the wonderful things God is doing amongst us. Mentors, students, instructors, and administrative team: “Joy abounds uniting us in the beautiful good news; invigorating our faith and leading us all to God's call. Encourage one another! Enjoy the journey this year of Jubilee into 2022.

Pr. Betty Wyatt
Mentor Coordinator

Isaiah 40:31 NIV

But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.