

Running the Race... a skit invitation for the LA-MS District LWML 2022 Convention

Cast: Mary, Martha & Race Registrar

Props: table for registrar, envelopes for race packets, and race bibs (LWML convention lanyards could be good substitute)

Setting: Race Registration Tent / Registrar's Table

**Registrar:** Step up here to get registered for the race!

*(Mary & Martha get in line; Martha is decked out in top of the line race gear, equipment, & supplies; Mary is just wearing old sweats and running shoes)*

**Martha:** Whew! Glad I finally made it here.

**Mary:** Really? What's going on?

**Martha:** Well, I got up early this morning to drink my smoothie for energy and prep for this race, but obstacles keep getting in my way.

**Mary:** I'm glad you made it too. What kind of obstacles were you dealing with?

**Martha:** First, I had to do a load of wash because I realized my race outfit was in the laundry. Then, I had to find my sweatbands that my daughter has used as a Barbie accessory. But the worst was that my Fitbit died and I had to replace it.

**Mary:** Wow! That does sound like a lot. I can't imagine going through all that just to get to the starting line. I just threw on some old sweats and threw my hair into a ponytail. The only thing I did special was get these running shoes so my feet would be well equipped for the race.

**Martha:** I have to do all that. This needs to be my best race EVER. I heard this is the ultimate race, and I intend to WIN!

**Mary:** Well, it is certainly the ultimate race, but I just want to be sure to get to the finish line, no matter how long it takes, or where the path leads.

**Registrar:** Welcome ladies to the 2022 Lutheran Women's Race for Missions. Here are your packets.

*(Mary & Martha take their packets & race bibs. Martha gets distracted making sure her race bib is on perfectly straight.)*

**Registrar:** Study your maps and pay attention to the finish line in Baton Rouge. You need to be there by April 22<sup>nd</sup> to participate in the celebration.

**Mary:** Wow! This looks like a great place to be.

**Martha:** Wait! I missed what he said. Where are we going?

**Mary:** To Baton Rouge to the Lod Cook Hotel & Conference Center. It looks like a beautiful area right on the lake at LSU.

**Martha:** OK, but I don't see a specific path marked on this map. Maybe I could just put that address into my GPS to find the fastest route.

**Mary:** Of course there is no set path. Everyone's journey is different, but we should all be focused on the goal.

**Martha:** Of Course...the goal is being the first to arrive. Too bad it's all over once you do.

**Mary:** No, that's when it starts.

**Martha:** Wait a minute! I think you're confused. This is a race. It's supposed to be about winning, using the best gear to get you to the end quickest. Then, you go home. Look at you...you don't even have a decent sports watch.

**Mary:** Didn't you listen to the race information? This isn't that kind of race. You don't have to wear just the right clothes or have the latest technology. ALL are welcome! You don't even have to be the fastest. Everyone who focuses and reaches the goal is a winner.

**Martha:** WHAT?! Then why am I running this race at all?

**Mary:** Well, when we get to Baton Rouge on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, there will be a big celebration. All these Lutheran Women in Mission are running the race, coming from all over Louisiana and Mississippi, gathering together to focus on the goal.

**Martha:** Celebration? Focusing on the goal? What are they going to be doing?

**Mary:** It's a whole weekend of faith and fellowship. There will be Bible Studies and Mission Speakers. There will be Servant Events and Gifts from the Heart. We will be awarding Mission Grants that will help God's workers throughout His kingdom.

**Martha:** That's a lot going on. And, I thought my day was busy?

**Mary:** And, on top of all that, we get to see Jan Struck and Abby Goehring in a LIVE performance.

**Martha:** Who are Jan & Abby?

**Mary:** They are humorous interrupters. I saw them in Lexington, and they are SO funny.

*(If you have the capability to show a portion of the Jan & Abby video from Lexington, you can introduce it by Mary saying "Let me show you a clip")*

**Martha:** WOW! That all IS great! Can you tell me any more?

**Mary:** Well, you can't overlook the local scenery & history, the South Louisiana Cuisine, and of course, fun with friends, old and new. But the best part is that everyone is focused on the goal.

**Martha:** You keep mentioning a goal. I thought that was just Baton Rouge. What is this goal you keep talking about?

**Mary:** JESUS, of course! Our eyes should always be focused on Jesus. Just like it says in Hebrews 12:  
“...let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.”

**Martha:** That does sound like a better way to run this race! Thanks for the advice. I hope your run is a great one. I'm going to get started, and I will see you at the Lod Cook Conference Center in April.