

Christmas 2018

My dear Friend and Fellow Member,

In my Easter letter to you, I remarked upon how quickly my six years as Worldwide President had passed. In my final Christmas letter to you as your Worldwide President, I write to say farewell and prepare to hand over this wonderful, privileged role to my successor.

I know that God has listened to your prayers and answered them because he has kept me well and has enabled me to achieve so much for him and for Mothers' Union during my six year term.

Thank you for your prayerful love and support for me and for the organisation you and I are each privileged to be part of. I especially thank God for the joy of serving and the amazing opportunities I have enjoyed as your President.

I shall miss writing to you, my heart is heavy. Although we may not have met in person, I truly feel that you are a close friend, someone I value and love greatly. Thank you so much for allowing me to share these precious six years with you. Thank you too for allowing me to tell you a little bit about my family.



A picture taken of me in Burundi. I heard how men and women, through the Mothers' Union Literacy & Financial Education Programme, are also being shown how to make excellent goods (like the basket on my head). Goods are sold at market for a fair price. The money they raise is saved for their families' future. I thank God for such initiatives.

When I was a child, one of the songs I loved to sing at Sunday school was "Trust and Obey." "Trust and Obey, for there's no other way, than following Jesus, and to trust and obey". I remember thinking that I didn't want or need to follow anyone else, with Jesus in my life, my personal saviour.

When I was in Burundi in August and Tanzania and Uganda in September/October, I shared this story with fellow members. To my joy and delight, it was also a song loved by so many other members too. We sang the song together. What a privilege it was to sing those words together, knowing that members, like me, knew and loved the Lord Jesus Christ.

The words "trust and obey" remind me of you and so many faithful, dedicated members like you. Through your commitment and dedication to pray for our leaders and the ongoing work, you are the heart of Mothers' Union. I am truly grateful. I pray that the Lord will bless you with love, each and every day.

I am certain that both you and I know and love the story when the Angel visited the young Mary and the wonderful, frightening, unbelievable, life-changing news she received. Mary was to be the Mother of the Saviour of the World. Mary trusted and obeyed.



When I visited members in Uganda, it was great fun standing in the middle of the North and South divide of the Uganda Equator. I thank God for all who have trusted and obeyed and answered God's call wherever they live in God's wonderful world. My arms are outstretched because I hope to show everyone looking at the photo God's love through me. I believe that we are blessed through our membership. We hear how people's lives are changed and transformed by so many of Mothers' Union initiatives. May God continue to

use us in his service.

My dear friend, I pray that this blessed Christmastime you and your family will be surrounded and enfolded in God's love.

My love and my prayers,

*Lynne*