

Hello, LWML Sisters,

If you are reading this before September 21, I am still in the process of training for the 20th annual Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk. It's the entire 26.2 mile marathon route, from Hopkinton to Boston. Very cool! And even more cool is that by my walking I'm able to raise money for the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. (Relax—this is not a fundraising letter! It's part of a bigger story that I'm telling.)

My own dad had four kinds of cancer simultaneously (lung cancer was the final culprit), and I bet he still holds the record for most radiation treatments for one person at Memorial Medical Center in Springfield, IL. I think he'd get a kick out of me using my abundance of energy to raise money for this (and probably ask why I don't RUN instead of just walk!).

So this is a cause that means something to me personally—and to the nearly 8000 other walkers too, I suspect. This distance will take me about 7 ½ hours (not including my lunch break), so I'll be out there walking ALL day long. (And saying a personal prayer along the way for each person who supported me with a donation.)

“Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.” (1 Corinthians 6:19)

God gave me a double dose of energy and adrenalin and a compact athletic physique. That's a good start! But a walk of this distance requires more than that. Hours of training and a good deal of discipline and planning are required. My longest walk so far is 4 hours and 20 minutes (15 miles), and I may plan one more longer one before event day even though it will make me awfully sleepy for the entire rest of that day! I want to be prepared.

So what? Why am I sharing this with you? Because we each have our own part to play during our earthly stay. And some of our roles we get to choose. Every day. Little stuff adds up. We touch people whether we mean to or not, and we want to do it in a positive way!

Be intentional! Has the Lord given you a way with words or a big smile or a wonderful voice or a listening ear? USE YOUR TALENTS! Think about it. Look around you. What can you do behind the scenes or up front and in charge?

Human Care is God in action through YOU!

Remember that “in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you.” (Matthew 6:12) Practice to make this a daily habit and challenge, even when you don't feel like it. You'll feel better and you'll make someone's day.

I'll let you know about my marathon walk. Let me know what's going on with you!

Cheerful in the Lord,

Cindy Zattich
VP Human Care, New England District