

National Chairperson of International Relations Fran Lucas

One of the roles of the national president is that of liaison with the World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations (WUCWO) and its international programs.

I have been urging League members to take a subscription to *Women's Voice*, the official magazine of WUCWO, to ensure that all members are aware of current and planned WUCWO projects. If you don't yet have a subscription, I urge you to do so. Another valuable feature of the magazine is the update on what individual regions/countries are doing.

A major project of WUCWO has been the World Women's Observatory (WWO), which was created in 2021 in response to the call for synodal conversion. The objective of the WWO is to give visibility to women, especially those most vulnerable, who seem invisible both in terms of their suffering and their potential, in order to inspire and generate pastoral strategies by the church, synergies by civil society, national governmental organizations, public policy by states, and contributions to the international agenda that favour the integral human development of women and that of their families, communities and people. WWO's tagline is "Listening to transform lives."

Attending the WUCWO General Assembly in Assisi, Italy, from May 14-19, was a true highlight for me as the audience with Pope Francis is something I cannot imagine having the pleasure of doing again. That was followed by mass at St. Peter's Basilica, arranged for those attending the assembly, which really did add to the specialness of the trip. Honorary Life Member Barb Dowding will report in greater detail on the trip.

At the North American regional meeting, I reported on our Canadian activities over the past two years. At the request of the WUCWO board, we submitted Resolution 2022.01 Enact Federal Legislation to Reduce Food Loss and Waste and were pleased to see it incorporated into the WUCWO global food crisis resolution.

It was an honour to be present at this assembly where Barb was elected North America vice president for the next four years.

After the assembly, three of us made a trip to Genazzano outside of Rome to see the original fresco of Our Lady of Good Counsel. That image first appeared in 1467 at that very location, and the church itself is called Our Lady of Good Counsel. This was yet another highlight of our trip.

This concludes my report. ✚