

# Jesus Christ

## above all

Philippians 2:9

**37<sup>th</sup> BIENNIAL CONVENTION**

JUNE 22-25, 2017 • ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE

# Convention Highlights

## Wednesday, June 21, 2017

5–8 p.m. Registration Opens

## Thursday, June 22, 2017

7 a.m.–7 p.m. Registration Open  
 9 a.m.–3 p.m. Servant Connections  
 9 a.m.–6 p.m. Exhibits Open  
 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Pre-Convention Seminars for Districts  
 11 a.m. H2H Sisters Commissioning  
 12:30–2:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal  
 2:30–3:45 p.m. YWR Meet/Greet  
 3–4 p.m. Delegate Orientation  
 4:10–6:15 p.m. District Caucuses  
 4:10–6:15 p.m. District Photos  
 6:45 p.m. Pre-service Music  
 7 p.m. **First Meeting**  
 Worship Service with Communion  
 Proclaimer: Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison  
 Convention Offering #1: 2017–2019  
 LWML Mission Goal

## Friday, June 23, 2017

6:45–7:45 a.m. Wake Up With the Word Bible Studies  
 7 a.m.–2 p.m. Registration Open  
 8 a.m.–5 p.m. Camp Insta Friends  
 8 a.m. Singing  
 8:15 a.m. **Second Meeting**  
 EC & Banners Procession  
 Bible Study #1: Deaconess Betty Knapp  
 Business Session  
 Bylaws Amendments  
 Adoption of Mission Goal 2017–2019  
 Mites in Action Speaker #1: Sanya Parson, Christ-Centered Tutoring through Rebecca's Garden of Hope  
 11:30 a.m. Exhibits Open  
 Lunch Recess  
 12 p.m. Info Gatherings  
 2 p.m. Singing  
 2:15 p.m. **Third Meeting**  
 Greetings from LWML Canada  
 President Iris Barta  
 Keynote Address: Ida Mall  
 Mission Grants Presentation and Voting  
 Mites in Action Speaker #2: Katia Sahyouni, Outreach in Refugee Camps — Lebanon  
 Convention Offering #2:  
 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Thank Offering  
 Mission in Motion/Mission Pledge Walk  
 Dinner  
 5–6 p.m. **Fourth Meeting**  
 5:30–7 p.m. **Fiesta Mariachi with Mariachi San Pablo**  
 7:30–8:30 p.m.


## Saturday, June 24, 2017

6:45–7:45 a.m. Wake Up With the Word Bible Studies  
 7:30–9 a.m. Exhibits Open  
 8 a.m.–2 p.m. Registration Open  
 8 a.m.–5 p.m. Camp Insta Friends  
 8:45 a.m. Singing  
 9 a.m. **Fifth Meeting**  
 Procession: Past Presidents  
 Mission Flag Presentation: Young Woman Representatives, Heart to Heart Sisters  
 Procession: Camp Insta Friends  
 Bible Study #2: Deaconess Betty Knapp  
 Mites in Action Speakers #3: Steve and Nancy Cohen, Bringing the Gospel to the Lost Sheep of Israel  
 Convention Offering #3: Bilingual Worker Priest, Concordia Lutheran Church, Chula Vista, California  
 Introduction of Candidates  
 11:30 a.m.–2 p.m. Exhibits Open  
 Lunch Recess  
 12 p.m. Special Interest Luncheons  
 2 p.m. Singing  
 2:15 p.m. **Sixth Meeting**  
 LCMS Mission Speakers  
 Report of Mission Grants Election  
 Election of Officers  
 Installation of Nominating Committee  
 Report of the President  
 Invitation to 2019 Convention  
 Dinner Recess  
 5 p.m. **Seventh Meeting**  
 7:30 p.m. **75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary “Diamond Dazzle” Celebration**

## Sunday, June 25, 2017

8:45 a.m. Singing  
 9 a.m. **Eighth Meeting**  
 Mites in Action Speaker #4: Vicar Tim Norton, Hope and Healing to the Navajo People  
 Convention Offering #4: God Cares About You Mission, Albuquerque, New Mexico  
 Recognition of Albuquerque Host Committee  
 Installation of Officers  
 Service of Sending Worship Service  
 Proclaimer: Rev. Allen Anderson  
 Gifts from the Heart Dedication

# Welcome to Albuquerque!



## Jesus Christ above all

Philippians 2:9

We are happy to welcome you to the 37<sup>th</sup> Biennial Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) Convention and 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. The convention program has been planned and prepared by the 2017 LWML Convention Programming Committee and is being hosted by the members of the Montana, Rocky Mountain, Utah-Idaho, and Wyoming Districts.

Our hope is that you will be **engaged** in celebrating God's faithfulness as you meet new people, renew old friendships, and visit exhibits; **encouraged** through worship, Bible study, mission speakers, and song; and **equipped** to share His message of salvation. **Enjoy** your time together as brothers and sisters in Christ, celebrating God's goodness to us throughout 75 years of serving the Lord with gladness!



This convention manual provides many details you will need for your convention experience and will serve as a concise summary of the 2015–2017 Biennium. Convention manuals really serve as LWML yearbooks, so you may want to save this one for future reference. You will find other necessary items in your convention tote bag, including the first issue of the daily convention newspaper, *The Diamond Times*, the convention activity locator, and other items to help you enjoy this convention.

Need help or have a question? The LWML Information Booth has three locations in the Albuquerque Convention Center:

1. East Building, Upper Level, East Lobby near 210 Tijeras.
2. East Building, Main Level, East Lobby near 120 Doña Ana.
3. West Building, Main Level, Lobby near East Escalator.

The Message Center is located in the East Building of the Albuquerque Convention Center, Main Level, East Lobby Pre-function area.

Join us now as together we celebrate **"Jesus Christ Above All."**

*LWML 2017 Convention Programming Committee*  
*2017 Convention Host Committee*

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## Convention Information

**Announcements** – Only announcements of an emergency nature will be made during meetings. Other announcements may be posted on the Message Center. The Message Center is located in the East Building of the Albuquerque Convention Center, Main Level, East Lobby Pre-function area.

**Blood Donations** – Donations are available by pre-registration only. If you are scheduled to be a blood donor, please go to the West Building of the Albuquerque Convention Center, Main Level, Pre-function Corridor of Hall 4, at the time of your donation on Thursday, June 22.

**Child Care** – Child Care and Youth Activities (***Camp Insta Friends***), available by pre-registration only, are located in the East Building of the Albuquerque Convention Center, Upper Level, Rooms 239, 237, 233, and 231 (Suites E/F, G & H).

**Convention Charms and Tie Tac Pins** – If you pre-ordered these on your Convention Registration form, you may pick them up at the table in the Registration Area located in the East Building of the Albuquerque Convention Center, Main Level, East Lobby.

**Convention Polo Shirts** – You may purchase a convention logo shirt (if supplies are available) at the Info Tables Area in the East Building of the Albuquerque Convention Center, Main Level, East Lobby Pre-function Corridor.

## Exhibits and Displays

## The Above All Exhibit Hall

A variety of exhibits, including many hands-on, interactive activities, are located in the East Building of the Albuquerque Convention Center, Main Level, Exhibit Hall 2. Included are displays sponsored by LWML Committees that feature new LWML products and resources, as well as banners from each district. The banners will be displayed after the morning session Friday until 2 p.m. Saturday.

**The Above All Exhibit Hall** will be open as follows:

Thursday, June 22, 2017 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Friday, June 23, 2017      11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
5 – 7 p.m.

Saturday, June 24, 2017

7:30 – 9 a.m.  
11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**Delegates** - All voting delegates must sign in at the Delegate desk in the Registration Area.

**Emergencies** – Contact an usher or hostess in case of accident or illness while at the Albuquerque Convention Center. The First Aid room is located in the East Building of the Albuquerque Convention Center, Main Level, Assembly Hall, behind Hall 1, and will be open during the hours of convention meetings and activities.

**Gifts from the Heart Items** – These may be brought to the collection and packing area in the East Building of the Albuquerque Convention Center, Main Level, Room 113 Zia Lounge, glassed-in room when you register. Please bring all items by noon Friday, June 23, so they can be distributed to local agencies.

**Identification** – Your badge is your admission to all meetings and all convention events. ***Very Important:*** Please complete the reverse side of your convention badge with your appropriate medical information for emergency purposes.

**Information Desk** – Three locations in the Albuquerque Convention Center:

1. East Building, Upper Level, East Lobby near 210 Tijeras.
2. East Building, Main Level, East Lobby near 120 Doña Ana.
3. West Building, Main Level, Lobby near East Escalator.

**Lost and Found** – Lost and Found is located in the East Building of the Albuquerque Convention Center, Main Level, East Lobby, Ticket Office.

**LWML Store** - The LWML Store is located in East Building of the Albuquerque Convention Center, Main Level, Hall 2, The Above All Exhibit Hall.

**Meals – For those who purchased Catered meals,** Thursday boxed supper will be available to enjoy in the district caucus rooms. Friday boxed salad lunch can be enjoyed at one of the various Info Gatherings. Saturday Special Luncheons can be enjoyed in various locations in the Albuquerque Convention Center (see daily newspaper for locations). Friday and Saturday dinner will be served in the West Building of the Albuquerque Convention Center, Main Level, Halls 3 and 4. Concessions will be open beginning Wednesday in the Albuquerque Convention Center.

**Mission Pledge Walk** – The *Mission in Motion* walk will begin at 5 p.m. Friday, June 23. Prior to the Walk, check in at the table in the East Building of the Albuquerque Convention Center, Main Level, East Lobby Pre-function Corridor in the Info Tables Area to pick up your shirt, turn in your completed Acknowledgment Release form, pledge sheet, and donations after you have registered for the convention. On Friday for the Walk, gather in the West Building of the Albuquerque Convention Center, Main Level, 3rd Street Entrance, Pre-function Corridor.

**Prayer Chapel (*Grace Place*)** – A room for those who wish to have some quiet moments of prayer will be open at all times, except during worship services and evening programs. It is located in the East Building of the Albuquerque Convention Center, Upper Level, Room 210 Tijeras. Pastors are available for comfort and/or consultation as needed. Speak to an usher or go to the Prayer Chapel if you wish to speak with a pastor.

**Registration** – Confirmation of registration and general information has been mailed. Acknowledgement/Release forms sent by the Registrar **must** be completed and presented at Registration. Badges and convention materials will be picked up at the Registration Area located in the East Building of the Albuquerque Convention Center, Main Level, East Lobby, South End. Registration will be open as follows:

Wednesday, June 21, 2017	5–8 p.m.
Thursday, June 22, 2017	7 a.m.–7 p.m.
Friday, June 23, 2017	7 a.m.–2 p.m.
Saturday, June 24, 2017	8 a.m.–2 p.m.

**Seating** – Please follow the instructions of the ushers at all times. Special seating areas are designated for presenters and their families, special guests, and physically and hearing impaired attendees.

**Servant Activities – *Servant Connections*** are Thursday, June 22, in the West Building of the Albuquerque Convention Center, Main Level, Hall 4. Session times are 9–11 a.m., 11 a.m.–1 p.m. and 1–3 p.m. These activities are available by pre-registration only. Please report and receive your memento at the check-in table marked ***Servant Connections*** at the Info Tables Area in the East Building of the Albuquerque Convention Center, Main Level, East Lobby Pre-function Corridor.

**Transportation** – Hotel Shuttles, from the downtown LWML hotels, will be in service two hours before sessions begin and two hours after sessions conclude. The shuttles can be accessed using the East Lobby entrance of the Albuquerque Convention Center on Second Street. District Charter Buses, serving as convention shuttles, will arrive and depart from the Albuquerque Convention Center at the West entrance on the Service Road near Tijeras.

**Wheelchairs** – Wheelchair rental (with prior arrangements) is located in the East Lobby on the Main Level, West Building near East Escalator of the Albuquerque Convention Center.



ALICE DECKER, CARRYING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY BANNER AND GIVING THE OPENING PRAYER, IS THE GREAT-GRANDDAUGHTER OF THE FIRST LWML PRESIDENT, CLARA SCHMITT.

# Convention Personalities

## Worship Leaders

**Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison** is proclaimer for the Thursday opening worship service. In his third term as president of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), he serves as the chief ecclesiastical officer of the LCMS, supervising the doctrine taught and practiced, representing the LCMS with its partner church bodies throughout the world, and overseeing all officers, executives, and agencies of the LCMS. Harrison encourages the women of the LWML to be who they are called to be — Christian women in today's world. Harrison and his wife, Kathy, are members of Village Lutheran Church in Ladue, Missouri, where he serves as assistant pastor. They have two sons, Matthew and Mark.



**Rev. Allen D. Anderson**, president of the LCMS Rocky Mountain District, is proclaimer for the Sunday worship service. Anderson is passionate about the district's vision of Mercy, Witness, and Life Together. He also works to maintain unity in doctrine, and provides ecclesiastical supervision to congregations and rostered workers in the Rocky Mountain District. He supports congregations in the call process and provides leadership and direction for the district staff. Before becoming president, Anderson held numerous offices in the district. He also continues to serve as pastor of Mt. Zion Lutheran Church and School in Boulder, Colorado.



## Keynote Speaker

**Ida Mall**, Lutheran Women's Missionary League President, 1991–1995, continues to serve and mentor the women of the LWML. She previously served the LCMS through the Board for District and Congregational Services, the Board for Missions, and the Outreach Task Force. She has received the Christus Primus award from Concordia University, Ann Arbor. Mall often says, "If it doesn't have anything to do with your salvation (or someone else's salvation,) don't worry about it." She actively seeks opportunities to share her faith in Jesus with others and makes that focus her personal mission statement. Her joy is encouraging young people or just giving them a hug.



## Bible Study Leader

**Deaconess Betty Knapp** served as parish deaconess for 37 years at Redeemer Lutheran Church, Marquette, Michigan, until her recent retirement in 2016. Through her mother's involvement in LWML, Knapp saw the importance of service and Bible study in the life of a Christian and says it was through LWML where she was introduced to deaconess ministry. Knapp has served in a variety of positions for LCMS and LWML and brings her personal focus to her Bible study: place the emphasis not on her or her surroundings, but on God alone. She says trusting in Him and in the goodness of His ways and purposes for her life gives her comfort, assurance, and strength for everyday living.



## Humorous Interrupter

**Jan Struck** brings a fresh approach to the journey of faith and uses her sense of humor as she shares her life with fellow travelers and leaves them laughing. Her trust and faith in Christ is her reason to make a joyful noise unto God. Retired from her career as a trainer/consultant in the field of healthcare technology, she feels blessed and privileged to share the message of Christ as a speaker and leader of Bible studies, workshops, and women's retreats through the United States and Canada. Struck says LWML is the heart of her speaking ministry and has taught her to use her gifts as an encourager and sharer of God's joy.



# Convention Personalities



## Song Leader

**Wendysue Fluegge** is a gifted musician/songwriter who loves putting faith stories and Scripture to melody. God has given her a unique full time ministry where she partners with hundreds of churches and organizations all across the country. With a passionate heart for Jesus and people, Wendysue boldly converses with anyone, anywhere, about spiritual things, and is always *ready to give an answer for the hope she has* (1 Peter 3:15). Based out of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Fluegge lives with her husband of 20 years and their two teenagers.



## Mites in Action Speakers

**Steve Cohen**, founder of The Apple of His Eye Mission Society in Georgetown, Texas, and his wife **Nancy**, bring wit, years of experience on the mission fields in Israel and Russia, and a passion to see women involved in community and outreach. They consider it part of their mission to inspire women everywhere to share their knowledge of God's Word and are thrilled to be in partnership with LWML in Bringing the Gospel to the Lost Sheep of Israel, 2015–2017 Mission Grant #14.



**Sanya Parson** serves as Director of Rebecca's Garden of Hope. Parson developed a training template for other organizations to use to develop their own tutoring and mentoring programs for at risk youth. She coordinates a national network of resources to support these partner programs around the country. Parson takes great joy in promoting lasting relationships with parents and youth so that lives can be impacted, one child at a time. 2013–2015 Mission Grant #13, Christ-Centered Tutoring through Rebecca's Garden of Hope.



**Vicar Tim Norton**, Lutheran Indian Ministries, brings experience in church planting and evangelism from his service as a missionary in Africa and the United States during the last 18 years. Serving at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in Navajo, New Mexico, since 2013, Norton shares the Word of God with the Navajo people and says Native Americans can often be a forgotten people group in our own backyard, but by God's grace the LWML has not forgotten the Navajo. 2015–2017 Mission Grant #6, Hope and Healing to the Navajo People – Rocky Mountain District.



Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) in Lebanon, locally called Middle East Lutheran Ministry (MELM), is using \$72,000 in LWML grant funds to turn around a cycle of poverty and psychological trauma in the lives of many refugee women and their families. Born in a war zone in Lebanon, **Katia Sahyouni** says her childhood was spent running from the war and escaping bombs. She has seen people killing each other, but knowing that Jesus shed His life in order to save others was the motivation to commit her life and heart to Him and to serve Him as long as she lives. Her outreach includes ministry to students, refugees, youth, orphans, and various ethnic groups. 2015–2017 Mission Grant #7, Outreach in Refugee Camps – Lebanon.



## Missionaries

**Rebecca Schaff**, missionary for The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) in Minneapolis, Minnesota, organizes opportunities for interaction and cultural exchange between domestic and international students who attend the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. She seeks to build relationships and directs students to University Lutheran Chapel for Bible study, worship services, spiritual growth, formal catechesis, and fellowship opportunities.

# Convention Personalities

**Rev. Carl and Chenhsi (Li) Hanson**, career missionaries for The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) in the Asia region, are based in Hong Kong. He connects local churches and schools, creating a link for Asian Lutheran mission outreach in the Asia region. He is also part of the Asia Management Team for the LCMS which supports the Asia region through joint planning and budgeting. Chenhsi serves as the children's ministry coordinator for The Church of All Nations in Hong Kong and as a freelance translator.



## Saturday Special Interest Luncheon Speakers

**Steve and Nancy Cohen**, Apple of His Eye Ministry. He has authored and published numerous articles and books. He has been on numerous radio and TV programs addressing the urgent need to bring the Gospel to the over 6 million unsaved Jewish people in North America and now in Israel. She is a published freelance journalist for periodicals and newspapers and speaks Russian and Hebrew. She says LWML has a hands-on approach to missions along with a godly fervor to engage the Gospel worldwide.



**Gloria Edwards and Linda Reiser**, Lutheran World Relief. Lutheran Women's Missionary League President, 1995–1999, Edwards believes the LWML encourages every woman to understand herself as a gifted person and then to use her gifts to make a difference. Lutheran Women's Missionary League President, 2003–2007, Reiser appreciated witnessing firsthand the amazing “mighty Mite Box” donations from the women of the church and the way missions and missionaries have made an eternal difference throughout the world.



**Rev. Kevin Robson**, LCMS National Mission and International Mission and Missionaries. Robson says he was blessed to serve as an LWML zone counselor early in his ministry and enjoyed parishes with an LWML presence. His personal philosophy is he wakes up thankful and rejoicing every day. Robson will be joined by Missionaries Rebecca Schaff and Rev. Carl Hanson to share stories from the mission field.



**Vicar Tim Norton**, Lutheran Indian Ministries, serves the Navajo in New Mexico. He is currently enrolled at the Cross-Cultural Ministry Center (CMC), a joint program at Concordia University, Irvine, California, which will lead to ordination in conjunction with Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. He says LWML has blessed his family's lives and ministry and credits God using the LWML to save the life of his son while the family was serving in Africa.



**Donna Pyle**, Author, Bible study presenter, and founder of Artesian Ministries. Pyle has partnered with LWML on several DVD-based Bible studies, including the newest, *Peter ... from Fisherman to Fisher of Men*, which is being released at this convention. Pyle's devotional journal, *A Sparrow's Worth*, explores a woman's value in Christ, and her series of eight downloadable Bible studies are available for individual or small group use.



**Rev. Dr. Gregory P. Seltz**, Speaker of The Lutheran Hour® radio program, a position he has held since February 2011. Seltz's involvement in LWML started early on in his ministry with service as counselor. He says he's learned that if the Lord wants something done, it will get done. If He doesn't, often that will become clear too. Even in the midst of difficulties, whether in life or ministry, peace and hope can always be found in our Lord Jesus Christ.



# Convention Rules

## 1. Credentials

- a. The Convention Registrar shall report to the Recording Secretary, directly after the opening ceremonies, the number of delegates registered as present with proper credentials, and the Recording Secretary shall make supplementary reports to the convention when required as a result of a change in the registration rolls.
- b. A member registered as an alternate may be transferred from alternate status to delegate at any time during the continuance of business meetings by presenting the request to the Recording Secretary. Upon clearance, the Convention Registrar shall make the official adjustments to the voting rolls and the newly certified delegate shall retain the position through the remainder of the convention.
- c. Delegates must wear the identification badges issued by the Convention Registrar for seating in the delegate section.

## 2. Seating

- a. Delegates shall be seated together in sections reserved for them.
- b. Delegates are requested to be in their seats five minutes before the time set for the opening of meetings.

## 3. Conduct of Business

- a. The President shall appoint a committee of three members to approve the convention minutes.
- b. Only registered delegates and other voting members of the convention may introduce business, debate, and vote.
- c. A motion offered from the floor must be presented to the Recording Secretary in writing, signed by the maker.
- d. Speakers from the floor must use one of the microphones and give name and title or district in order to be recognized.
- e. Discussion is limited to two (2) minutes for each speaker. No one may speak more than twice on a question unless consent is granted by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates.
- f. Voting by electronic ballot is authorized.

## 4. Communications

- a. All communications for officers and members of the assembly shall be delivered by pages.

- b. At the chair's discretion only urgent announcements will be made from the dais. Others will be posted at the Message Center.
- c. Only the President and/or Public Relations Director may authorize official LWML news releases concerning convention business.
- d. No literature may be distributed in the convention rooms or assembly hall without permission of the Executive Committee.
- e. All cell phones are to be turned off or turned to vibrate.

## 5. Photographs

- a. It is requested that no photos be taken during worship services and other devotional periods.
- b. Since the LWML will be taking pictures and videotaping gathering proceedings and activities, your registration for this event gives the LWML permission to use your image and comments in educational, informational, and promotional materials in a variety of media, including electronic media.

### Bylaws Article IV

#### Conventions and Representation

##### Section 2

The voting assembly of the convention shall be:

- a. one (1) certified delegate from each zone having ten (10) or fewer units and one (1) certified delegate for each additional ten (10) units or major fraction thereof, as of January 1 preceding the convention;
- b. voting members of the Board of Directors;
- c. past presidents of the LWML who are currently members of LWML.

##### Section 3

A member of the voting assembly shall vote in one (1) capacity only. Proxy votes are prohibited.

##### Section 4

d. In the event neither the delegate nor the alternate is able to serve, a member of the same zone may serve as delegate upon certification in writing by her LWML district president and presentation to the LWML Recording Secretary.

##### Section 5

A majority of the registered voting assembly shall constitute a quorum.

# Convention Program

9 a.m.–3 p.m. .... Servant Connections  
 9 a.m.–6 p.m. .... Exhibits Open  
 3 p.m.–4 p.m. .... Delegate Orientation/Introduction of Candidates  
 4:10–6 p.m. .... District Caucuses  
 4:10–6 p.m. .... District Photos  
 6:45 p.m. .... Pre-service music  
**7 p.m. .... CONVENTION OPENING & FIRST MEETING**  
 Opening of Convention ..... Patti Ross, President  
 Lighting of the Convention Candle ..... Adelaide Ross, Granddaughter of the President  
 Celebration Service with Communion  
 Ecclesiastical Procession  
 The LWML Processional Cross ..... David Ross, Son of the President  
 Proclaimer ..... Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, LCMS President  
 Convention Offering #1 ..... 2017–2019 LWML Mission Goal  
 Recess ..... LCMS Clergy

Thursday, June 22, 2017

## Convention Offering #1 LWML Mission Goal 2017-2019

The standing rules of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League Bylaws state that the offering received at the convention communion service shall be designated as a contribution to the mission goal of the LWML.

6:45 a.m. .... Wake Up With the Word Bible studies: CPH, Spanish, LWML  
 8 a.m.–5 p.m. .... Camp Insta Friends Child Care/Youth Activities Opens  
 8 a.m. Singing ..... Wendysue Fluegge, Song Leader

Friday, June 23, 2017

## 8:15 a.m. .... SECOND MEETING

LWML Banner ..... Patti Ross, President  
 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banner ..... Alice Decker, Great Granddaughter of Clara Schmitt, First LWML President  
 Canada LWML Banner ..... Iris Barta, President LWML Canada  
 Banner Procession ..... LWML District Presidents and Young Woman Representatives  
 Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America  
 I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

America the Beautiful ..... District Presidents serving from 2014–2018  
 Lillian Biddle, Atlantic | Lynnette Campbell, California-Nevada-Hawaii | Carolyn Smith, Carolinas  
 Edith Collis, Chesapeake | Kathy Pavelock, Eastern | Jan Simmons, English  
 Judy Lessmann, Gulf States | Emily Rogers, Indiana | Joan Berquist, Iowa East  
 Ann Carrick, Iowa West | Margaret Hesemann, Minnesota South | Christie Steffens, Missouri  
 Crystal Miller, Nebraska North | Arlene Price, New Jersey | Mary Harrington, North Wisconsin  
 Barbara Belanski, Northern Illinois | Sylvia Bean, Rocky Mountain | Brenda Schoenbeck, Southern Illinois  
 Linda Larson, Utah-Idaho | Marie Chow, Washington-Alaska | Danyne Six, Wyoming

O beautiful for spacious skies, For amber waves of grain,  
 For purple mountain majesties Above the fruited plain!  
 America! America! God shed his grace on thee  
 And crown thy good with brotherhood From sea to shining sea.



# Convention Program

Friday, June 23, 2017

continued

Call to Order.....	Patti Ross, President
Opening Prayer .....	Alice Decker
Welcome .....	Shari Miller, Sylvia Bean, Linda Larson, Danyne Six Montana, Rocky Mountain, Utah-Idaho, Wyoming LWML District Presidents
Greetings.....	Rev. Terry Forke, Rev. John Hill, Rev. Paul Linnemann, Rev. Allen Anderson Montana, Wyoming, Northwestern, and Rocky Mountain LCMS District Presidents
Bible Study #1 .....	Deaconess Betty Knapp Introduced by Carol von Soosten, Public Relations Director
Introduction of LWML Department .....	Eden Keefe, Vice President of Christian Life Christian Life Committee and Christian Resources Editors Committee
Electronic Voting Review .....	Barbara Volk, Parliamentarian
Credentials Report .....	Ginger Starrett, Recording Secretary
Proposed Convention Rules .....	Barbara Volk, Parliamentarian
Presentation of Proposed Agenda.....	Ginger Starrett, Recording Secretary
Appointment of Minutes Review Committee	
Singing.....	Wendysue Fluegge, Song Leader
Greetings .....	Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, LCMS President
Amendments to the Bylaws .....	JoNette Brogaard, Chairman, Structure Committee
Prayer.....	Debbie Larson, Vice President of Organizational Resources
Electronic Voting—Bylaws Amendments	
Prayer.....	Mary Smith, Structure Committee Member
Report of the Treasurer.....	Marilyn Schroeder, Treasurer
Financial Report.....	Kelley Young, LWML Director of Finance & Administration, CPA
Introduction of LWML Office Staff .....	Kelley Young
Mites in Action Speaker .....	Sanya Parson, Rebecca's Garden of Hope Introduced by Cheryl Mattil, Strategic Plan Facilitator
Mission Goal 2017–2019 .....	Marilyn Schroeder, Treasurer
Prayer .....	Leslie Jaseph, Meeting Manager
Electronic Voting—Mission Goal	
Announcements .....	Lois Anderson, 2017 Host Committee Chairman
Closing prayer .....	Lois Teinert, Contracts Administrator

## LUNCH RECESS

Exhibits Open 11:30 a.m.–2 p.m

2 p.m. Singing .....

Wendysue Fluegge, Song Leader

**2:15 p.m. .... THIRD MEETING**

Opening Prayer .....

Marie McNary, Chairman, Information Technology Committee

Introduction of LWML Department ..

Kaye Wolff, Vice President of Special Focus Ministries

Committee on Young Women, Heart to Heart Sisters Committee,

Church Workers in Mission Task Force

### Voting Body

Board of Directors voting: \_\_\_\_\_

Past LWML Presidents  
voting: \_\_\_\_\_

Delegates voting: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Eligible to vote: \_\_\_\_\_

### Non Voting Body

Appointed Personnel & Committee  
Members: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Registrants: \_\_\_\_\_

**Grand Total:** \_\_\_\_\_

# Convention Program

Introduction of Wendysue Fluegge, Song Leader .....	Becky Wehrspann Features Editor of the <i>Lutheran Woman's Quarterly</i>
Introduction of LWML Canada President, Iris Barta .....	Patti Ross
Keynote Address .....	Ida Mall Introduced by Eden Keefe, Vice President of Christian Life
Mission Grants Presentation .....	Shelley Moeller, Vice President of Gospel Outreach
Credentials Report .....	Ginger Starrett, Recording Secretary
Prayer.....	Tracy Stetzel, Mission Grants Selection Committee Member
Electronic Voting—Mission Grants	
Mites in Action Speaker .....	Rev. Dr. Douglas Rutt and Katia Sahyouni, Lutheran Hour Ministries in Lebanon Introduced by Cheri Fish, Mission Editor of the <i>Lutheran Woman's Quarterly</i>
Convention Offering #2.....	75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Thank Offering
Announcements .....	Lois Anderson, Chairman, 2017 Host Committee Chairman Marguerite Christman, Convention Manager
Closing Prayer .....	Nancy Kohrs, Chairman, Leader Development Committee

Friday, June 23, 2017

continued

## Voting Body

Board of Directors voting: \_\_\_\_\_

Past LWML Presidents  
voting: \_\_\_\_\_

Delegates voting: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Eligible to vote: \_\_\_\_\_

## Non Voting Body

Appointed Personnel & Committee  
Members: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Registrants: \_\_\_\_\_

**Grand Total:** \_\_\_\_\_

## MISSION IN MOTION PLEDGE WALK 5 p.m.

### DINNER RECESS

Exhibits Open 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

## 7:30 p.m. .... FOURTH MEETING

### Fiesta Mariachi with Mariachi San Pablo

Introduction: Sylvia Bean, LWML Rocky Mountain District President

6:45 a.m.–7:45 a.m. .... Wake Up with the Word Bible Studies

8 a.m.–5 p.m. .... Camp Insta Friends Child Care/Youth Activities Open

7:30 a.m.–9 a.m. .... Exhibits Open

8:45 a.m. Singing ..... Wendysue Fluegge, Song Leader

## 9 a.m. .... FIFTH MEETING

Opening Prayer ..... Caroline Honeycutt, Archivist-Historian

LWML Banner ..... Mikayla Heckmann, President's Page

Procession ..... Past LWML Presidents

Mission Flag Presentation ..... Young Woman Representatives and  
2017 Heart to Heart Sisters/Leaders

Procession ..... Camp Insta Friends Kids and Child Care Workers

Pledge to the Cross..... Led by Past LWML Presidents

I pledge allegiance to the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and to the faith for which it  
stands, one Savior, eternal, with grace and mercy for all. So help me God.

Saturday, June 24, 2017

## Convention Offering #2

### LWML 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Thank Offering

The LWML 75<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary Thank Offering  
has been designated for the  
advancement of the LWML  
Endowment Fund.

# Convention Program

Saturday, June 24, 2017

continued

## Convention Offering #3 Bilingual "Worker Priest"

This offering will be used to serve people on the US/Mexico border with Concordia Lutheran Church, Chula Vista, California.



THE LWML PLEDGE WAS WRITTEN BY REV. HARRY FRICKE, A PASTORAL COUNSELOR IN THE LWML NORTHERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT, AND WAS ACCEPTED AS THE OFFICIAL PLEDGE AT THE DENVER CONVENTION IN 1956. PASTOR FRICKE'S DAUGHTER-IN-LAW, LEE, CURRENTLY SERVES AS A ZONE PRESIDENT IN THE LWML SOUTH WISCONSIN DISTRICT.

The League Pledge..... Led by Past LWML Presidents  
In fervent gratitude for the Savior's dying love and His blood-bought gift of redemption, we dedicate ourselves to Him with all that we are and have; and in obedience to His call for workers in the harvest fields, we pledge Him our willing service wherever and whenever He has need of us. We consecrate to our Savior, our hands to work for Him, our feet to go on His errands, our voice to sing His praises, our lips to proclaim His redeeming love, our silver and our gold to extend His kingdom, our will to do His will, and every power of our life to the great task of bringing the lost and the erring into eternal fellowship with Him. Amen.

"Lutheran Women One and All" #11 ..... Wendysue Fleugge, Song Leader  
Bible Study #2 ..... Deaconess Betty Knapp  
Greetings ..... Kurt Buchholz, President and CEO, Lutheran Hour Ministries  
Mites in Action Speakers ..... Steve and Nancy Cohen, Apple of His Eye  
Introduced by Kristi Roegner, Chairman, Church Workers in Mission Task Force  
Convention Offering #3 ..... Bilingual Worker Priest,  
Concordia Lutheran Church, Chula Vista, California  
Introduction of LWML Department ..... Shelley Moeller, Vice President of Gospel Outreach  
Gospel Outreach Committee, Mission Grants Committee, Mission Servants Committee  
Introduction and Report of the Nominating Committee ..... Katy Gifford, Chairman  
Introduction of Candidates  
Legacy Circle Report ..... Linda Gage and Pat Bilow, LWML Gift Planning Counselors  
David Fiedler, President, LCMS Foundation  
Tee Up 4 Mites and Mission in Motion Pledge Walk Report ..... Mariann Porter,  
Golf Outing Chairman; Tina Bentley, Mission Pledge Walk Chairman  
Greetings ..... Robyn Streck, Lutheran Church Extension Fund  
Announcements ..... Lois Anderson, Chairman, 2017 Host Committee Chairman  
Closing Prayer ..... Melissa Merker, Coordinator, LWML Graphics Team

## LUNCH RECESS

Exhibits Open 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Special Interest Luncheons

2 p.m. Singing..... Wendysue Fluegge, Song Leader  
**2:15 p.m. .... SIXTH MEETING**  
Opening Prayer ..... Christy Ndem, Member, Heart to Heart Sisters Committee  
Recognition of Heart to Heart Participants ..... Kaye Wolff, Vice President  
of Special Focus Ministries  
Introduction of LWML Department ..... Debbie Larson, Vice President of  
Organizational Resources; HOPE Committee, Leader Development  
Committee, Structure Committee  
Special Missionary Guests ..... Rebecca Schaff, LCMS Office of National Mission  
Rev. Carl and Mrs. Chenhsi (Li) Hanson, LCMS Office of International Mission  
Introduced by Shelley Moeller, Vice President of Gospel Outreach

# Convention Program

Report of Mission Grants Election .....	Patti Ross
Credentials Report .....	Ginger Starrett, Recording Secretary
Prayer.....	Nancy Graf Peters, <i>Lutheran Woman's Quarterly</i> Editor-in-Chief
Electronic Voting—Officers	
Installation of Nominating Committee 2017–2019 .....	Rev. Robert Mundahl, LWML, Junior Pastoral Counselor
Report of the President .....	Patti Ross
Introduction of Convention Programming Personnel.....	Patti Ross
Invitation to 2019 LWML Convention .	Bunnie Koelsch, Chairman, 2019 Host Committee June 20–23, 2019, Mobile, Alabama
Introduction of 75th Anniversary Committee .....	Edie Norris, Chairman
Introduction of Appointed Personnel, Special Appointed Personnel, and Special Task Force .....	Patti Ross
Announcements .....	Lois Anderson, Chairman, 2017 Host Committee
Closing Prayer.....	Jennette Heller, Member, Committee on Young Women

Saturday, June 24, 2017

continued

## Voting Body

Board of Directors voting: \_\_\_\_\_

Past LWML Presidents  
voting: \_\_\_\_\_

Delegates voting: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Eligible to vote: \_\_\_\_\_

## Non Voting Body

Appointed Personnel & Committee  
Members: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Registrants: \_\_\_\_\_

**Grand Total:** \_\_\_\_\_

## DINNER RECESS

7:30 p.m. ....SEVENTH MEETING

## 75th Anniversary “Diamond Dazzle” Celebration

8:45 a.m. Singing..... Wendysue Fluegge, Song Leader

9 a.m. ....EIGHTH MEETING

Opening Prayer..... Beverly England, Member, Marketing Team

Final Credentials Report..... Ginger Starrett, Recording Secretary

LWML Department Introduction .... Nancy Bogenhagen, Vice President of Communication  
Information Technology Committee, Official Publication Staff, Graphics Team

Mites in Action Speaker ..... Vicar Tim Norton, Lutheran Indian Ministries  
Introduced by Debbie Yocky, Marketing Team Member

Convention Offering #4 ..... God Cares About You Mission, Albuquerque, NM

Introduction of Convention Programming Committee ..... Patti Ross || Recognition of Albuquerque Host Districts ..... | Lois Anderson, Chairman, 2017 Host Committee |
Closing Remarks .....	Patti Ross, President
Announcements .....	Lois Anderson, Chairman, 2017 Host Committee
Installation of Officers.....	Rev. Robert Mundahl, LWML Junior Pastoral Counselor

## Worship Service

Proclaimer ..... Rev. Allen Anderson, LCMS Rocky Mountain District President

Sunday, June 25, 2017

continued

## Voting Body

Board of Directors voting: \_\_\_\_\_

Past LWML Presidents  
voting: \_\_\_\_\_

Delegates voting: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Eligible to vote: \_\_\_\_\_

## Non Voting Body

Appointed Personnel & Committee  
Members: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Registrants: \_\_\_\_\_

**Grand Total:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Convention Offering #4 God Cares About You

This offering will be used to support this mission as it serves a diverse population living in the poorest area in the “International Zone” of the city of Albuquerque, NM.

# Bible Study Part One



1. A Look Back at the Timeless Message of the Gospel
2. Early Focus on Bible Study
  - a. 1946: Counselor Fedder exhorts us to be a “force for good” in our church.
  - b. 1947: make Bible study a focus at home and in convention.
3. Convention Bible Studies through the Years
  - a. 1961 – Living with My Lord – Pittsburgh
    - i. How does Paul describe himself? (Acts 22:3-5)
      1. I am a \_\_\_\_\_.
      2. Born in \_\_\_\_\_ in Cilicia.
      3. Trained in the law of our fathers at the feet of \_\_\_\_\_.
      4. In Acts 23:6b Paul also tells us he is a \_\_\_\_\_.
      5. In Acts 22 Paul adds one more piece to this puzzle and declares that he is a \_\_\_\_\_ by birth.

## Small Group Discussion:

1. Thinking through Paul’s conversion experience, what steps were necessary to become good witnesses of Christ?
  - a. What was Ananias’ response to the Lord’s call in Acts 9:10?
  - b. What was Paul’s response to the Lord’s call in Acts 9:20, 22?
  - c. How are we to respond to the call to be “workers in the harvest fields”?
2. Ok, we know the “right” answer to the above question, but let’s get real. How do we really answer that question?
  - a. What gets in our way of doing what we are called to do?
  - b. What have you found that helps to get you to answer “yes” when called to witness and serve?

- b. 1977 – Lift Thine Eyes – Laramie
  - i. Psalms of Ascent
    1. Psalm 123:1 – To you I \_\_\_\_\_ *up my eyes, O you who are enthroned in the heavens* (ESV).
    2. Psalm 125:2 – As the mountains \_\_\_\_\_ *Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds his people, from this time forth and forevermore* (ESV).
  - ii. The Woman at the Well of Sychar – John 4:5-39
    1. She lifted up her eyes and saw the Messiah.
    2. Disciples were told to \_\_\_\_\_ *up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest* (John 4:35 ESV).
- c. 1981 – Come to the Living Waters – Milwaukee
  - i. The Woman at the Well of Sychar – John 4:1-42
    1. Bible study written by a woman, led by a woman, focused on one woman’s personal encounter with Jesus.
    2. Her witness *Can this be the Christ?* (John 4:29 RSV) became the invitation others from her community needed to hear and they in turn responded in faith.
- d. 1993 – One in Spirit – One in Purpose – Edmonton
  - i. The stories of Biblical women:
    1. Sarah: Great \_\_\_\_\_ are worth the wait.
    2. Esther: One person who \_\_\_\_\_ God’s guidance can make an extraordinary difference in the world.
    3. Dorcas: A life \_\_\_\_\_, with an appropriate task, makes for a \_\_\_\_\_ Christian.
    4. Naomi & Ruth: Committed, Christ-centered \_\_\_\_\_ are tested and confirmed in hard times, and they are \_\_\_\_\_!
- e. Personal Mission Statement: a clear, concise statement that defines the unique reason or purpose for one’s existence or efforts.

### For Personal Reflection:

Find a quiet place to reflect on your own personal story. Thinking back to how Paul described himself, how would you describe yourself? What key events in your life helped to shape who you are today?

How do you show **Jesus Christ Above All** in your life?

Try writing your own personal mission statement. It may take a few drafts to get it to say what you want it to say, but that's OK. We are all evolving in our daily walk so what you are focusing on today might be different next year, but the focus of our faith is changeless: **Jesus Christ Above All**.

## Bible Study Part Two

1. Called to be disciples, but how?
  - a. Personal involvement in mission outreach:
    - i. Mary Banta – Chinese Sunday School, New York City
    - ii. Mrs. Ernest Steckle & Mrs. Ernest Wilken – children's Sunday Schools – Saginaw Valley, Michigan
    - iii. Mrs. Paul Hansen – Lutheran Hour correspondence volunteer – Chicago
    - iv. Mrs. Dan Schoof – displaced Japanese Americans – Minneapolis
    - v. Rosa Young – Lutheran educator – Alabama
    - vi. Gertrude Simon – missionary to children – China
    - vii. Martha Boss – medical missionary – China and Hong Kong
  - b. Our excuses:
    - i. I don't know enough about the \_\_\_\_\_.
    - ii. Everyone knows I'm a \_\_\_\_\_.
    - iii. I'm not good at \_\_\_\_\_ with strangers.
    - iv. They'll just \_\_\_\_\_ me.
2. "Joining Jesus on His Mission" – Rev. Greg Finke
  - a. How's Jesus been \_\_\_\_\_ with you lately?
  - b. Jesus' mission is the \_\_\_\_\_ mission that brought him into our world and took him all the way to the \_\_\_\_\_ to pay for our sins.
  - c. 1 Peter 3:15b (VOICE): *Always be \_\_\_\_\_ to offer a defense, humbly and respectfully, when someone asks why you live in \_\_\_\_\_.*
3. There is \_\_\_\_\_ more important in all the world than to \_\_\_\_\_ **Jesus Christ Above All**.

### Final Reflection:

Now what? Ask yourself: What changes do I need to make in my life right now, today, or at least when I get home, so that I am ready to proclaim Jesus is my Lord and Savior?

# Proposed Amendments to LWML Bylaws

## Proposed Amendments to LWML Bylaws

*If proposed amendments are adopted, the LWML Structure Committee requests permission to renumber and re-letter sections to account for deletions and insertions and make any necessary spelling and typographical corrections.*

### ARTICLE IV - CONVENTIONS AND REPRESENTATION, Section 1

*Rationale: To put into place a procedure to deal with unexpected issues regarding convention sites.*

#### PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Add “h”: In the event that the convention site selected by the Board of Directors becomes unfeasible, the Executive Committee shall have the authority to select another site within the same region. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Committee shall decide, and vote may be taken by mail or electronic messaging.

#### IF ADOPTED WILL READ:

h. *In the event that the convention site selected by the Board of Directors becomes unfeasible, the Executive Committee shall have the authority to select another site within the same region. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Committee shall decide, and vote may be taken by mail or electronic messaging.*

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### ARTICLE IV - CONVENTIONS AND REPRESENTATION, Section 2

**(The voting assembly of the convention shall be:)**

*Rationale: Committee chairmen have knowledge and experience which would be beneficial for the conduct of business at conventions.*

#### PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Add new “c”: chairmen of standing committees; (current “c” becomes “d”)

#### IF ADOPTED WILL READ:

c. *chairmen of standing committees;*

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### ARTICLE X – BOARD OF DIRECTORS, Section 1a

*Rationale: Committee chairmen, appointed by the President with approval of the Executive Committee, serve in departments under the direction of the vice presidents. Their primary responsibilities relate to working with their committees to carry out the purpose of the committee. Committee chairmen report to the Board of Directors, and receive input from the Board of Directors, through their department coordinator. Although vital to the operation of the LWML, committee chairmen have no direct role in the function of the Board of Directors.*

#### PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Strike “, and chairmen of standing committees” and insert “and” between “appointed officers,” and “district presidents”

#### IF ADOPTED WILL READ:

a. The Board of Directors shall be composed of the elected officers, appointed officers, *and* district presidents. A member of the Board shall vote in only one capacity on the Board of Directors. The Pastoral Counselors, special appointed personnel, and Director of Finance & Administration shall be advisory members.

## ARTICLE XIII – DEPARTMENTS AND STANDING COMMITTEES, Section 1c

Rationale: *Committee chairmen, appointed by the President with approval of the Executive Committee, serve in departments under the direction of the vice presidents. Their primary responsibilities relate to working with their committees to carry out the purpose of the committee. Committee chairmen report to the Board of Directors, and receive input from the Board of Directors, through their department coordinator. Although vital to the operation of the LWML, committee chairmen have no direct role in the function of the Board of Directors.*

### PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Strike “Chairmen shall be voting members of the Board of Directors.”

### IF ADOPTED WILL READ:

c. Committees shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Committee.

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## ARTICLE XIII – DEPARTMENTS AND STANDING COMMITTEES, Section 1

Rationale: *Committee chairmen have knowledge and experience which would be beneficial for the conduct of business of conventions.*

### PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Add new “e”: Standing committee chairmen shall have voice and vote at convention. (current “e” becomes “f”)

### IF ADOPTED WILL READ:

e. Standing committee chairmen shall have voice and vote at convention.

# Candidates for Office



## VICE PRESIDENT OF CHRISTIAN LIFE

**Susan Donnelly, Manchester, New Jersey  
(New Jersey District)**

**LWML:** Mission Grants Committee; Activities Director  
Pittsburgh Convention Host Committee.

**DISTRICT:** President, Vice President of Gospel Outreach, Editor.

**ZONE:** Secretary.

**LOCAL:** President, Vice President, Secretary.

**CHURCH:** Evangelism Director, Church Council, Call  
Committee, Prayer Chain, Garden Committee, Social  
Ministry, Church Christmas Bazaar, Vacation Bible School,  
Wednesday morning Bible studies.

**COMMUNITY:** Summer Lunch Program, Thanksgiving Meal  
Ministry, Seminar Leader on Appraisals and Tax Appeals in  
New Jersey.

**EDUCATION:** Bachelor of Science in English, University of Idaho,  
coursework for Appraisal License.

**OCCUPATION:** Real Estate Appraiser.

**VISION STATEMENT:** *Our mission as women of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) has always been to create stronger relationships between our sisters and God and in doing so, encouraging our sisters to step out in faith and use their talents to further God's kingdom. In 1 Peter 4:10 we read, "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." Our gifts are as varied as God's grace. The Holy Spirit has planted a song in my heart, "Here I am Lord, Is it I, Lord? I have heard You calling in the night. I will go Lord, if You lead me. I will hold Your people in my heart." I want every woman to hear God's call and know that your LWML sisters will equip and encourage you in all you do for our Savior, Jesus Christ, using your gifts to spread the Good News in new ways to those who have never heard.*



## VICE PRESIDENT OF CHRISTIAN LIFE

**Jennifer Huecker, Bunceton, Missouri  
(Missouri District)**

**LWML:** Christian Life Committee Chairman and member,  
Nominating Committee.

**DISTRICT:** President, Convention Chairman, Christian Life  
Chairman.

**ZONE:** President, Christian Life Chairman.

**LOCAL:** President, Christian Life, Secretary.

**CHURCH:** Sunday School Teacher, Stewardship and Evangelism  
Committee, Voter's Secretary.

**COMMUNITY:** 4-H Project Leader, 4-H Congress Chaperone,  
Public School Board, Substitute Teacher.

**EDUCATION:** Associate of Arts, St. Paul College, studied Art at  
Columbia College.

**OCCUPATION:** Self-employed Freelance Artist and Farm Wife.

**VISION STATEMENT:** *That LWML, led by God, is a thriving group of committed women, growing in their faith, immersed in His Word, and serving through love for missions and outreach to others.*



WHEN ENCOURAGING WOMEN TO RUN FOR LWML OFFICES IN 1942, CHICAGO'S REV. OSCAR FEDDER STATED, "WHEN THE LORD TAPS YOU ON THE SHOULDER ... YOU MUST NOT TURN HIM DOWN. IF HE THOUGHT YOU WERE INCAPABLE, HE WOULD NOT HAVE CHOSEN YOU."

# Candidates for Office



## VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATION

**Charlotte (Char) Kroemer, Newberg, Oregon  
(Oregon District)**

**LWML:** Chairman Structure Committee, Nominating Committee, Sister to Sister Committee, YWR Committee, Discipling Woman to Woman Team.

**DISTRICT:** President, Vice President for Leader Development, Recording Secretary, Nominating Committee Chairman, Convention Chairman, Special Gifts Chairman.

**ZONE:** President, Archivist-Historian.

**LOCAL:** President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Christian Growth Chairman.

**CHURCH:** Constitution/Bylaws Revision Committee, Call Committee, School Board, Church musician, Recording Secretary, Vacation Bible School and Sunday School teacher.

**COMMUNITY:** McMinnville's Habitat for Humanity Faith Relations Committee.

**EDUCATION:** B.A. from Valparaiso University, Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) from Concordia University, Portland OR.

**OCCUPATION:** Administrator/Principal/Teacher at St. John Lutheran Church & School.

**VISION STATEMENT:** *LWML equates with serving our Lord with gladness. It is my prayer that as the world seems to continually change the LWML remains constant and true to the Word, seeking God's wisdom and direction for all we do. As Women in Mission may we continue to focus on service to others by using our God-given gifts, by sharing our God-given blessings through mites, and by reaching out to our neighbors with His truth. I pray LWML never loses the JOY we have because of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.*



## VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATION

**Barbara Schaer, Gordon, Nebraska  
(Wyoming District)**

**LWML:** Christian Resources Editors Committee, 2017 Convention Host Committee Publicity Chairman, Media and Marketing Committee, Mission-Ministry Vision (MMV) Consultant.

**DISTRICT:** Vice President of Gospel Outreach, Vice President of Mission Grants, 2016 Convention Chairman, Leader Development/HOPE Committee member, Newsletter Editor.

**ZONE:** Served in all positions at one time or another.

**LOCAL:** Treasurer, served in all officer positions and on all committees.

**CHURCH:** Treasurer, Council Secretary, Youth Director, Sunday School Teacher, Choir Director, Vacation Bible School Teacher and Director.

**COMMUNITY:** Gordon Chamber of Commerce, Willow Tree Festival worker.

**EDUCATION:** Rushville High School. Educational classes required to obtain and maintain licenses.

**OCCUPATION:** Real Estate Broker, Licensed Real Estate Appraiser.

**VISION STATEMENT:** *My vision is that all women of the LWML would be empowered with the passion for mission and ministry through the power of the Holy Spirit as they continue to serve and work to extend the kingdom of God.*

# Candidates for Office



## VICE PRESIDENT OF GOSPEL OUTREACH

**Sally Handrick, Perryville, Missouri  
(Missouri District)**

**LWML:** Mission Grants Committee Chairman and member.

**DISTRICT:** Vice President of Gospel Outreach, Co-Chairman of LWML Missouri District Convention 2016, PING Presenter, Gospel Outreach Committee, Assembly of Leaders Presenter, Christian Life Committee, Structure Committee, Member Development Committee, Nominating Committee Chairman, Committee of Young Women Chairman.

**ZONE:** President, Communications Manager, Christian Leadership Training Chairman, Effective Society Planning Facilitator, Nominating Committee, Christian Growth Committee Chairman and member.

**LOCAL:** Recording Secretary, Member Development Chairman, Christian Growth Committee.

**CHURCH:** Board of Education, Lutheran school teacher, Choir, Bible study leader, Vacation Bible School song leader.

**COMMUNITY:** Perry County Lutheran Chorale, AAL Regional Volunteer/Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Chapter leader, school volunteer parent-teacher, Red Cross volunteer, Lutheran Braille Workers, hospital auxiliary.

**EDUCATION:** Attended Concordia College, Austin, Texas; BA in Education from Concordia Teacher's College, River Forest, Illinois.

**OCCUPATION:** H&R Block Client Service Representative and volunteer.

**VISION STATEMENT:** *Knowing that we are God's representatives in the world, my vision is for the LWML to serve as a resource and encouragement for all to be in the Word daily—growing in Christ so that we may readily share Him with all whom God places in our paths. "But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect ..." (1 Peter 3:15).*



## VICE PRESIDENT OF GOSPEL OUTREACH

**Angelina Jauregui, Los Angeles, California  
(Pacific Southwest District)**

**LWML:** Heart to Heart Sister Committee Chairman, speaker, 2007 Sioux Falls Convention, Heart to Heart Sister Task Force, Member of first Heart to Heart Sister gathering at 2003 Oklahoma City Convention, Heart to Heart Speaker at 2005 Tampa Convention.

**DISTRICT:** Vice President of Gospel Outreach, LWML Grant writing training for Ethnic Pastors, Speaker throughout the district for Heart to Heart program.

**ZONE:** Speaker for Zone Rallies on Multicultural issues, Devotional leader at Zone Rallies.

**LOCAL:** President, Vice President, organizer of mission trips to Mexico for LWML women from around the country.

**CHURCH:** Executive Director, St. John's Lutheran Church, provided leadership for congregation in vacancy, scheduling guest pastors for ten years, ongoing Vacation Bible School leader, Bible class leader for Spanish language study, member Lutheran Hour Rose Parade Committee, rode the Rose Parade float in 2009.

**COMMUNITY:** Los Angeles County Commissioner of Older Adults, President of VIP Senior Club of Montebello, CA.

**EDUCATION:** East Los Angeles College; University of Utah—Salt Lake, VISTA volunteer certificate.

**OCCUPATION:** Information Systems Analyst, retired.

**VISION STATEMENT:** *As we celebrate 75 years of the LWML mission ministry, it is my vision to see the face of LWML include women of all colors and ages, using their God given giftedness to serve the Lord of the Harvest and to reach the people of the world through global missions. Through my God given gift of leadership I will put my whole trust in God to move the hearts of His people and encourage them to give generously to LWML so we can continue to proclaim the Gospel of his loving sacrifice on the cross. I will continue to share my enthusiasm of serving the Lord with gladness and thanksgiving.*

# Candidates for Office



## RECORDING SECRETARY

**Arlene Naasz, Pierre, South Dakota  
(South Dakota District)**

**LWML:** Structure Committee, Board of Directors, Christian Life Committee, Mission Service Committee.

**DISTRICT:** President, Vice President of Gospel Outreach, Vice President of Mission Inspiration, Special Gifts Fund Chairman, Convention Host Committee for 2007 Sioux Falls and 1989 Rapid City conventions, Bylaws Chairman, Parliamentarian.

**ZONE:** Secretary, Treasurer, Bylaws Committee, Historian, retreat chairman.

**LOCAL:** Christian Life, Bylaws, Program Planning Committee, Mission Service leader.

**CHURCH:** Choir and bell choir, Sunday School teacher, Vacation Bible School leader.

**COMMUNITY:** Organized mission trip to Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, Lutherans for Life of South Dakota State secretary, Master Gardener, 4-H Judge.

**EDUCATION:** BS in Family and Consumer Sciences from South Dakota State University, graduate coursework at Northern State University.

**OCCUPATION:** Retired Educator.

**VISION STATEMENT:** *My prayer and vision for the LWML is that we continue to serve the Lord, wherever and whenever He has need of us. We are an organization of different sizes, different shapes, different ethnicities, different ages, and different talents. God has richly blessed us and we need to use our differences as we go forward to do His will. To God be all praise and glory!*



## RECORDING SECRETARY

**Ginger Starrett, Belvidere, New Jersey  
(New Jersey District)**

**LWML:** Recording Secretary, Governance Committee Chairman, Development/Advancement Committee, Visioning Committee, ID Committee, 2013 Pittsburgh Convention Host Committee.

**DISTRICT:** President, Vice President of Human Care, Convention Planner, Convention Chairman.

**ZONE:** President, Vice President, Missions, Secretary.

**LOCAL:** President, Secretary.

**CHURCH:** Altar Guild, Board of Social Ministry, Board of Ministry, Sunday School teacher, youth group leader, Family Group Leader National Youth Gathering, Thanksgiving meal ministry coordinator.

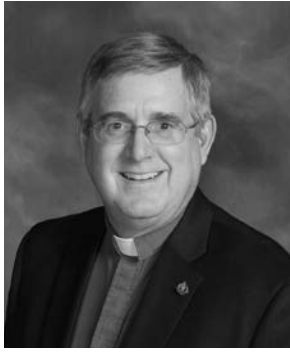
**COMMUNITY:** CROP Walk committee member, Girl Scout leader, Sunshine Committee member at Thomas & Betts, Green Township Women's Auxiliary.

**EDUCATION:** Attended Warren County Community College.

**OCCUPATION:** Retired Planner/Buyer at T&B Elastimold Co.

**VISION STATEMENT:** *As Lutheran Women in Mission we will continue to seek out new opportunities to value and strengthen the bond of all mission minded women in the church. Each woman, young and young at heart, will be equipped to recognize and use the gifts the Lord has bestowed upon her to further His Kingdom work through the LWML.*

# Candidates for Office



## PASTORAL COUNSELOR

**Rev. Mitchel Schuessler Troy, Illinois  
(Southern Illinois District)**

**MINISTRY:** St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Troy, Illinois, 2009–present; Immanuel, Altamont, Illinois, 2002–2009; Bethlehem, Ferrin, Illinois, 1993–2003; Trinity, Harvel, Illinois, 1988–1993; Immanuel/Trinity, Auroraville/Borth, Wisconsin, 1987–1988.

**EDUCATION:** Doctoral Candidate for Doctor of Ministry, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis; Master of Divinity, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, 1987; Millikin University-Decatur, Illinois, 1983.

**LWML COUNSELOR:** District Counselor, Southern Illinois District, (eight years); Zone Counselor, Southern Illinois District, (10 years).

**SYNOD/DISTRICT LCMS ACTIVITIES:** National Youth Gathering Family Leader, two gatherings. Community Life Builder, eight gatherings, Delegate to LCMS Convention 1998, 2001, Nominations Committee-Chairman Southern Illinois District (two conventions), Youth Board Chairman, Southern Illinois District (four years), Southern Illinois Board of Directors (four years), Southern Illinois District Circuit Counselor (10 years), Southern Illinois District Ministerial Health (four years).

**COMMUNITY SERVICE:** Raymond-Harwel Kiwanis; Shattuc Lions Club; Altamont Lions Club.

**VISION STATEMENT:** *The LWML should continue to reach out with the message of the Gospel to the women of the LCMS, using every opportunity and means to make available that which will help them to grow in faith and showing that faith in action through the mission grants.*



## PASTORAL COUNSELOR

**Rev. Tod Shouse, Zephyrhills, Florida  
(Florida-Georgia District)**

**MINISTRY:** Our Savior Lutheran, Zephyrhills, Florida 2014–present; Redeemer Lutheran, Bartow, Florida 2010–2014.

**EDUCATION:** Master of Divinity, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, 2010; University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 1976-1980.

**LWML COUNSELOR:** District Counselor, Florida-Georgia District, four years.

**SYNOD/DISTRICT LCMS ACTIVITIES:** Pastoral Delegate to 2013 LCMS Synodical Convention.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE:** Prayer Leader for Mayor's Prayer Breakfast, 4th of July Celebration, Teacher of the Year recognition. Chamber of Commerce, Redeemer Lutheran Food Bank, outreach to military, Back to School Backpacks.

**VISION STATEMENT:** *To continue to encourage and equip women to live their lives in active mission ministries — locally, nationally, and world-wide. To personally grow in faith through worship, Bible study, and prayer. To stand firm in the faith while sharing the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ to those who don't know Him as their Lord and Savior. Lutheran women in mission are Lutheran women in motion — connecting people to Jesus.*

# Candidates for Office



**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**  
**Joy Anderson, Prior Lake, Minnesota (Minnesota South District)**

**LWML:** Information Technology Committee Database Assistant, YWR to the 2005 Tampa Convention.

**DISTRICT:** VP of Servant Resources, Servant Resources Chairman, Young Women Rep Co-Chair, Webmaster, Gospel Outreach Committee.

**ZONE:** Secretary, Christian Life Chairman.

**LOCAL:** President, Christian Growth Leader.

**CHURCH:** Board of Education, Kansas Work Week Mission Trip, Board of Stewardship, Communications and Technology, Sunday School substitute teacher, Pastor Call Committee, Board of Missions, Worship Song leader, Choir member.

**COMMUNITY:** Concordia University, St. Paul Alumni Relations President and various offices, Camp Omega Board of Directors Member, Blood Donor.

**EDUCATION:** B.A. in Theatre Arts, Concordia University, St. Paul.

**OCCUPATION:** Office Manager at an accounting firm.

**VISION STATEMENT:** *My vision for the LWML is for the organization to continue being a leader in spreading the Gospel and support of missionaries and mission organizations around the world. I want our mite goals each biennium to grow. I want the LWML to be an organization with excitement and love of the LWML that others can't help but want to know more about, and be part of, this wonderful organization.*



**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**  
**JoNette Brogaard, Alexandria, Minnesota (Minnesota North District)**

**LWML:** Structure Committee Chairman, 1999 Minneapolis Convention Host Committee.

**DISTRICT:** President, Corresponding Secretary, Regional Vice President, Nuclei Committee Chairman.

**ZONE:** President.

**LOCAL:** President, Archivist-Historian, Christian Growth.

**CHURCH:** Choir accompanist, Brass group accompanist, Vacation Bible School Coordinator, handbell choir member, church organist.

**COMMUNITY:** Alexandria Literacy Project, Kindergarten Teachers' Convention Host Committee.

**EDUCATION:** B.A. Education, Concordia University, St. Paul.

**OCCUPATION:** Retired Lutheran Day School Teacher.

**VISION STATEMENT:** *I see the LWML continuing to be an organization that unites us as a group so we can "do more", like financing mission grants that affect people around the world and doing service projects in our communities. I also see LWML as a group united that provides resources, opportunities, and ideas so that each woman can individually grow in faith and service to her family, church, and community.*



**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**  
**Betty Dietrich, Morton, Illinois (Central Illinois District)**

**LWML:** Gospel Outreach Committee chairman and member, Nominating Committee.

**DISTRICT:** President, Vice President of Christian Life, Human Care Committee Chairman, Grants Committee member.

**ZONE:** Vice President.

**LOCAL:** President, Vice President, Secretary.

**CHURCH:** Small group leader, Central Illinois District Mission Commission, Camp CILCA Board of Directors, Sunday School and Vacation Bible School teacher, youth group leader.

**COMMUNITY:** High School parent group board, PTL treasurer and board member.

**EDUCATION:** High School Diploma, Technology Education.

**OCCUPATION:** Pharmacy Technician.

**VISION STATEMENT:** *I feel my gifts are service related. My gifts include mercy, hospitality, and service. I would use these gifts to encourage other women regardless of age and experiences to use their gifts to serve Him. I feel I also have the gift of encouragement and faith, and by sharing these gifts, I can help other women realize nothing is impossible with God's help.*



**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**  
**Linda Fees, Miller, Nebraska (Nebraska South District)**

**LWML:** Mission Servants Committee Chairman, Human Care Committee Member.

# Candidates for Office

**DISTRICT:** District President, Convention Chairman, Vice President of Human Care, Leader Development Member.

**ZONE:** President, Treasurer.

**LOCAL:** Society President, Treasurer.

**CHURCH:** Organist, Confirmation teacher.

**COMMUNITY:** American Red Cross Platelet Donor; 4-H leader; school volunteer

**EDUCATION:** B.S. in Education from Concordia University, Nebraska.

**OCCUPATION:** Farmer/Rancher and Substitute Teacher.

**VISION STATEMENT:** *I know that God will continue to use the LWML to encourage and energize women (and men) of all ages to become servant leaders and missionaries in homes, local neighborhoods, and global communities. He will continue to bless the missions and the members of our organizations. We have wonderful examples available from past leaders and projects, yet the LWML must be bold in welcoming new ideas to reach and develop members of all ages and backgrounds.*



**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**  
**Deborah Graybosch,**  
**Ronkonkoma, New York**  
**(Atlantic District)**

**LWML:** LWML 2013 Pittsburgh Convention Host Committee, Board of Directors.

**DISTRICT:** President, Vice President for Spiritual Life, Vice President for Leader Development, Mission Advocacy and Grants Chairman.

**ZONE:** President, Vice President, Nominating Committee, Christian Life Chairman.

**LOCAL:** President, Vice President.

**CHURCH:** LCMS Atlantic District Nominating Committee, Deacon Intern, Lay Assistant, Hope and Mercy Outreach chairman, altar guild chairman, Gospel Outreach chairman.

**COMMUNITY:** Hope and Mercy Outreach Event chairman, fundraising for family in need.

**EDUCATION:** Concordia Bronxville - Deacon Program, Stony Brook University, Suffolk Community College – Dental Assistant Certificate.

**OCCUPATION:** Administrative Assistant/Surgical Coordinator.

**VISION STATEMENT:** *Believing that encouragement and mentoring is vitally important to the growth of any organization, my prayer is that each and every LCMS woman will look to the younger generation to guide them forward in their service to the Lord, while at the same time, look back to the generations that have gone before us, with thankful hearts for the road they have paved. Coming from a district which is blessed by its diversity in both age and race, my prayer is that each and every district of the LWML may experience this true blessing from God.*



**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**  
**Anne Hartman, Eau Claire,**  
**Wisconsin (North Wisconsin**  
**District)**

**LWML:** Christian Life Committee, HOPE Committee, Young Woman Representative Task Force Chairman, Leader Development Committee, YWR at 2003 Oklahoma City

Convention.

**DISTRICT:** Convention Co-Chairman, Christian Life Committee Co-Chairman, YWR Committee Chairman.

**ZONE:** Vice President, Christian Life Chairman.

**LOCAL:** LWML Individual Member.

**CHURCH:** Small Group Bible Study Leader; Mid-week Kindergarten Teacher; Board of Deacons Financial Secretary and Deacon-at-large, Women's Ministry.

**COMMUNITY:** Eau Claire Public School District, Parent Advisory Council, Soccer Club Tournament Committee, Memorial High School Orchestra Booster Club, Chippewa Youth Symphony Board Member, Crestview Academy Parent Group Treasurer, South Middle School Parent Advisory Council.

**EDUCATION:** B.S. in Education from Valparaiso University.

**OCCUPATION:** Homemaker.

**VISION STATEMENT:** *My favorite part of the LWML mission statement says that we assist each woman of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. That means every woman in the pew. My vision is that we continue to be an organization that encourages women to be in His Word, serve Him, and reach out to those who don't know Him. I pray that we are a group that embraces women of all ages and cultures. May we continue to give our mites to reach the lost and serve our Lord with gladness in the way He has gifted each of us to serve.*

# Candidates for Office



## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE Karen Morrison, Wichita, Kansas (Kansas District)**

**LWML:** HOPE Committee.

**DISTRICT:** President, Vice President of Communication, Public Relations Committee, currently serves as

Lutheran World Relief Coordinator for annual state-wide pickups each October.

**ZONE:** Secretary, Christian Life Chairman.

**LOCAL:** President, Bible Study Coordinator.

**CHURCH:** Nursery Coordinator, At Large Church Council member, Adult Ministry, Board of Youth.

**COMMUNITY:** Prairie Quilt Guild Board of Directors, assist in serving meals at a homeless walk-in center and the CrossOver Recovery Center with other Risen Savior church members.

**EDUCATION:** Emporia State University, Wichita State University.

**OCCUPATION:** Sales and Bookkeeping.

**VISION STATEMENT:** *My vision is that the LWML would continue to be the premier LCMS organization where women of all ages can work, study, and grow side by side, focusing on mission work near and far, while showing the love of Christ to all we encounter along the way and sharing the Gospel message of salvation with everyone our lives touch. We will do this with a humble servant heart because our motto will always be to "Serve the Lord with Gladness."*



## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE Emily Rogers, Pendleton, Indiana (Indiana District)**

**LWML:** Board of Directors, Gospel Outreach Committee, Mission-Ministry Vision (MMV) Task Force and Consultant, HOPE Committee.

**DISTRICT:** President, LWML

Consultant, MMV Consultant, Leader Development Chairman, Mission Grants Committee, Vice President Spiritual Resource Department, Nominating Committee, Christian Leadership Training Committee.

**ZONE:** President, Christian Growth Chairman, Nominating Committee.

**LOCAL:** President, Vice President, Special Women's Events Coordinator, Christian Growth Chairman, Nominating Committee.

**CHURCH:** Choir, preschool board member, Women's Bible study leader.

**COMMUNITY:** Madison County 4-H Association Board of Directors (Awards Committee, Bylaw Committee Chairman, Secretary, Vice President), County 4-H Rabbit Superintendent and leader, President Choir Booster, and Post Prom Co-Chairman.

**EDUCATION:** Associate in Applied Science – Food Service & Lodging Supervision Technology, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN.

**OCCUPATION:** Instructional Teaching Assistant.

**VISION STATEMENT:** *My vision for the LWML is for all women to identify with 1 John 4:19, "We love because He first loved us;" realize with a desire to use those gifts to serve the Lord and others with gladness.*



## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE Sherrie Smith, Justice, Illinois (Northern Illinois District)**

**LWML:** Committee on Young Women Chairman, Leader Development Committee member, Christian Resources Editors Committee member, Mission Ministry Vision

Consultant.

**DISTRICT:** President, Committee on Young Women Chairman, Planner, song leader.

**ZONE:** President, Secretary/Treasurer.

**LOCAL:** President, Christian Growth Chairman.

**CHURCH:** Organist, Vacation Bible School leader, Bible study leader, Choir and Handbell Choir member, Visioning Committee member.

**INTERNATIONAL WORK:** Short term mission team member on eight (8) trips.

**COMMUNITY:** Feed My Starving Children, Phil's Friends, BEDs Volunteer, Flood Relief.

**EDUCATION:** B.A., Concordia University Chicago.

**OCCUPATION:** Preschool Teacher, Children and Family Ministry Director.

**VISION STATEMENT:** *My vision for the LWML is that women of all ages and ethnic backgrounds come together to study God's Word, serve those near and far, and have fellowship with each other. It is time for us to find new ways to reach out to our broken world with the Good News of Jesus.*

# Candidates for Office Voting Tally

## Vice President of Christian Life

Votes Cast \_\_\_\_\_

Votes \_\_\_\_\_  
Necessary for Election

Invalid \_\_\_\_\_  
Ballots

Susan Donnelly

Votes Received \_\_\_\_\_

Jennifer Huecker

Votes Received \_\_\_\_\_

Write In \_\_\_\_\_

Votes Received \_\_\_\_\_

## Vice President of Communication

Votes Cast \_\_\_\_\_

Votes \_\_\_\_\_  
Necessary for Election

Invalid \_\_\_\_\_  
Ballots

Charlotte (Char) Kroemer

Votes Received \_\_\_\_\_

Barbara Schaer

Votes Received \_\_\_\_\_

Write In \_\_\_\_\_

Votes Received \_\_\_\_\_

## Vice President of Gospel Outreach

Votes Cast \_\_\_\_\_

Votes \_\_\_\_\_  
Necessary for Election

Invalid \_\_\_\_\_  
Ballots

Sally Handrick

Votes Received \_\_\_\_\_

Angelina Jauregui

Votes Received \_\_\_\_\_

Write In \_\_\_\_\_

Votes Received \_\_\_\_\_

## Recording Secretary

Votes Cast \_\_\_\_\_

Votes \_\_\_\_\_  
Necessary for Election

Invalid \_\_\_\_\_  
Ballots

Arlene Naasz

Votes Received \_\_\_\_\_

Ginger Starrett

Votes Received \_\_\_\_\_

Write In \_\_\_\_\_

Votes Received \_\_\_\_\_

## Pastoral Counselor

Votes Cast \_\_\_\_\_

Votes \_\_\_\_\_  
Necessary for Election

Invalid \_\_\_\_\_  
Ballots

Rev. Mitchel Schuessler

Votes Received \_\_\_\_\_

Rev. Tod Shouse

Votes Received \_\_\_\_\_

## Nominating Committee

Votes Cast \_\_\_\_\_

Votes \_\_\_\_\_  
Necessary for Election

Invalid \_\_\_\_\_  
Ballots

Joy Anderson

Votes Received \_\_\_\_\_

JoNette Brogaard

Votes Received \_\_\_\_\_

Betty Dietrich

Votes Received \_\_\_\_\_

Linda Fees

Votes Received \_\_\_\_\_

Deborah Graybosch

Votes Received \_\_\_\_\_

Anne Hartman

Votes Received \_\_\_\_\_

Karen Morrison

Votes Received \_\_\_\_\_

Emily Rogers

Votes Received \_\_\_\_\_

Sherrie Smith

Votes Received \_\_\_\_\_

Write In \_\_\_\_\_

Votes Received \_\_\_\_\_

# In Memoriam

## Elizabeth “Betty” Duda | LWML President 1987–1991

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*Come to me ...  
and I will give you rest  
(Matthew 11:28).*

“When we talk about serving the Lord with gladness — and I always add 'and joy' — that's how it is in the LWML. We are a mission organization. We're dedicated to the Great Commission. When you are doing that, you are developing leadership.” Those words emphasizing LWML's theme were shared years ago by Past President Dr. Elizabeth “Betty” Duda during an interview for an article for *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*.

International LWML President from 1987–1991, Betty passed into the arms of Jesus on December 24, 2016, at the age of 84. Betty also served her Lord as the LWML Florida-Georgia District President and ILWML Mission Projects Director. She determined early in her term that everything would be done for only one reason — to glorify the Lord. Secondly, she wanted the LWML to become a stronger faith and service organization that would attract and better represent all Lutheran women.

Betty was a strong encourager who saw not problems, but opportunities. Her daughter Elizabeth said, “She was a role model and helped mentor others because she wanted to pass that legacy on and help show that you can really make a difference.”

Betty served as president of many groups, including being the first woman elected to the board of Concordia University, Bronxville, New York, where she served as chairman for five years. She completed terms as chair with many other Lutheran and civic groups and served on numerous boards including The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; several Concordia Universities; Mill Neck School for the Deaf, Lutheran Friends of the Deaf; POBLO (People of the Book Lutheran Outreach); and Reedy Creek Improvement District (Disney World).

Many will remember Betty not only for her inspiring leadership, but also for her humble service as evidenced by the foot washing she and other officers performed for all the attendees at the 1988 Assembly of Leaders. Betty said, “My greatest obstacle over the years has been convincing people that I just wanted to serve the Lord. I had no agenda, no political motivation at all. Everything I've done is to serve.”

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*Trust in the Lord with all  
your heart and do not rely  
on your own insight. In  
all your ways acknowledge  
Him, and he will make  
straight your paths  
(Proverbs 3:5 RSV).*

### Joy Dougherty

Joy Dougherty, Toledo, Ohio, died after a valiant fight with cancer on August 30, 2015, and is home in the arms of her Savior, Jesus. Joy was born on April 8, 1941. She was a baptized child of God and a pastor's daughter.

Joy served as LWML Recording Secretary from 2013 until her death. Joy previously served her Lord at the local LWML level, as president and vice president of the zone, chairman of the district nominating committee, LWML Ohio District President, and mission editor of the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*.

Joy once shared, “My prayer is that LWML will continue to fill each woman with the eagerness and enthusiasm to grow spiritually, to support missions, and to be an ambassador for our Lord and Savior in word and deed wherever she is placed.” She would have wanted to be remembered as a woman of faith who loved her husband and family dearly, treasured her Lutheran education, and who lived a life of service to her Lord and to her profession.

Joy is survived by her husband John, three children, and seven grandchildren.

# 2017 Proposed Mission Grants

## **1. Completion of Lukonda Lutheran School Buildings, Uganda – Lutheran Church Uganda \$48,000**

This grant will complete Phase II of construction of two schools in Kayunga District, Uganda. Between 100 and 200 children, ages 4 to 12, will be educated in these schools. The villages of Kakiika and Lukonda will provide bricks and land for the school, with Resurrection Lutheran Church and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) Southeastern District supporting the remaining costs of labor and materials. When complete, each of the two school buildings will have four classrooms. Two of the classrooms in one building will also be used for weekly Lutheran worship services. This grant will enable completion of the school building complex begun in 2012.

## **2. Providing Food and the Gospel to Starving Children – Mercy Meals of Siouxland \$40,000**

Jesus gives the same command today, to feed the hungry, that He gave His disciples. Mercy Meals of Siouxland, a ministry of Faith Lutheran Church, Sioux City, Iowa, began packaging fortified rice/soy meals in 2012. Mercy Meals donates all packaged meals to Orphan Grain Train for transportation and delivery to Christian organizations in many countries, including India, Haiti, Romania, and Ecuador, as well as to Navajo reservations in the Southwest and Ysleta Mission in El Paso, Texas. Children and families receive food and hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ. An LWML grant will feed from 50,000 to 75,000 hungry children.

## **3. Lutheran Children's Books for Families Worldwide – Lutheran Heritage Foundation \$100,000**

Lutheran churches, missionaries, and new Christian families around the world will be provided with Bible story books, translated into their languages that teach children about Jesus. These brightly illustrated books, such as *A Child's Garden of Bible Stories* and *Bible Stories in Pictures*, are given free of charge to the parents and missionaries who need them.

## **4. Christian Hope Through Mass Media in Egypt – Lutheran Hour Ministries \$100,000**

Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) has over 60 years of experience proclaiming the Gospel via mass media in the Middle East. Fortunately, the political climate in Egypt provides a new opportunity to expand ministry in the region. Other parts of the Middle East, however, are experiencing great turmoil with war and, as a result, refugees, mainly women and children, are fleeing to safety. There is urgency to expand their proclamation of the Gospel in these areas, especially refugee camps in Lebanon, Jordan, and Turkey. LHM will reach families, refugees, and citizens of the region through a new television program broadcast in Cairo, Egypt. This new television broadcast has the potential to reach millions of people throughout the Middle East, refugees and

citizens alike, with the message of faith and the true love of Christ and to be a strong Christian voice and witness through Arabic satellite television programming.

## **5. Laborers of Love – Lutheran Braille Workers \$100,000**

Lutheran Braille Workers (LBW) has been providing God's Word to the visually impaired since 1943, utilizing the New International Version of the Bible for the past 25 years. With the use of the English Standard Version (ESV) by the LCMS, LBW desires to offer people with visual disability the opportunity to worship and study with the same translation of the Bible as sighted people of the Church. These funds will assist in the cost of the production of the zinc plates for each Braille Work Center along with producing the ESV Bible in large print.

## **6. Education Loan Repayment Assistance Grants – MinistryFocus \$100,000**

Twenty called church workers, each year during the biennium, will each receive a grant of \$2,500 through MinistryFocus, an LCMS Recognized Service Organization (RSO), to assist in repayment of educational loans accrued in preparing for service to the Lord through the church. Repayment of educational debt is often made more difficult by the very modest salaries of church workers. This problem may affect recruitment, performance, and retention of church workers.

## **7. Fairmount Coffee House Outreach Ministry – Lutheran Student Center, Wichita, Kansas \$100,000**

The Lutheran Student Center (LSC) of Wichita, Kansas, is a campus ministry under the guidance of the University Lutheran Ministry Association (ULMA). This area of the city has seen some urban decay over the last several years and Wichita State University has taken on the challenge of bringing renewal to the area. The Fairmount Coffee House will be situated directly across the street from the new campus expansion called "Innovation Campus." This will be an interconnected community where organizations establish operations and utilize the university's vast resources. There are no other coffee houses in the area and the Fairmount Coffee House will provide an environment where the love of Christ is felt as you walk in the door. Walls will be decorated with Scripture quotes and staff will share the Gospel with students and guests. Students are working hard to raise funds for this project and are seeking grants from other organizations.

## **8. RECONNECT to the Body of Christ, Circuit 28 – Texas District \$50,000**

The congregations of Texas District Circuit 28 have a great desire to work together as one group in training mission workers to share the Word and unite these congregations and communities. The Rio Grande Valley of Texas shares the

# 2017 Proposed Mission Grants

border with Mexico and has a large Hispanic population, many of whom are among the poorest of poor, at risk and unchurched. They have developed a long-range plan to assist the struggling congregations in reaching out to the communities to bring the Word into the homes of hurting families. The first step in the plan has been realized with the arrival of a Director of Christian Education (DCE) that will be serving the circuit – not just an individual church. With this in place, the next stages can begin by training leaders within the congregations in a mission and ministry model utilized by a local, thriving congregation, building campus relationships with the 50,000 students attending local colleges, and conducting community mercy projects. These funds will assist in the project startup costs, training materials, transportation costs, scholarships, and other incurred expenses of the training program.

## **9. Reformation Continues: Lectionaries in West Africa – Lutheran Bible Translators \$108,800**

Following the words of Martin Luther, “I wish that this book alone, in all languages, would live in the hands, eyes, ears, and hearts of all people (LW 48.356),” this project focuses on translating Old Testament texts for the three-year lectionary series into three languages in Cameroon and Ghana, West Africa. New Testament translations already are completed. When completed, these lectionaries will enable the use of mother tongue Scriptures in the church.

## **10. Training Lutheran Middle Eastern Missionaries – Biblical Orthodox Lutheran Mission \$93,000**

The mission of the Biblical Orthodox Lutheran Mission (BOLM) is a ministry primarily to Arabic-speaking peoples and Muslims in particular. They bring the Good News of salvation through their teaching and by the power of the Holy Spirit. BOLM’s outreach impacts lives in the United States and in the Middle East. They educate and disciple new believers and, as the Lord wills, commission them as missionaries. They need funds to support their internet seminary for two years; acquire Bibles in various languages for distribution, acquire and distribute copies of *Luther’s Small Catechism* in Arabic, and for expenses for phone and internet.

## **11. “Set To Serve” – Voice of Care \$100,000**

The mission of Voice of Care is to equip the Church to nurture people with disabilities and their caregivers in their walk with Christ, training ministry workers and lay volunteers to serve at their own congregations, and in the community. These volunteers share Jesus’ love through church and community site programming and special needs camps. Workshops teach how a congregation can provide help by offering inclusive worship, adaptive Christian Education, short-term respite programs, disability awareness days, volunteer-led “Jesus time” in residential or daycare facilities,

and Vacation Bible School. Grant funds would be used for webinars and videos, as well as workshops.

## **12. Student Leadership Training Conferences – Lutheran Campus Mission Association \$30,000**

Lutheran Campus Mission Association (LCMA) is seeking funds to initiate additional Campus Ministry Leadership Conferences in three new regions. The gathering has been effective in providing disciple-building and leader development to members of various campus ministries. Prior conferences have led a significant number of alumni to enter a church work profession. This grant will fully fund up to three new regional conferences for two years, after which ministries in each region will fund the events with registration fees and support as needed from LCMA and private donors.

## **13. Training Teachers for Today’s Learners – Lutheran Special Education Ministries \$100,000**

Recognizing that well-equipped teachers can best serve students who have special learning needs to “do all things through Christ,” this grant would provide additional education for special education teachers as well as effective tools, supplies, and appropriate technology for use in the daily classroom. The iCAN after-school programs and summer sessions also provide community outreach in a Christ-centered area with exposure to God’s love for perhaps the first time.

## **14. Mercy House for Women and Children – Franklin Avenue Mission, Flint, Michigan \$100,000**

The Franklin Avenue Mission in Flint, Michigan, has purchased a residence next door to the mission, and is seeking funds to redesign, renovate, refurbish, and furnish the residence. Named Mercy House for Women and Children, the facility will house six to eight homeless, pregnant, and/or abused women and their children. Located in one of the poorest cities in America, the home will attempt to break the cycle of poverty and decrease the potential for abuse, by housing women and children in a safe, caring, Christian environment, where the best practices of parenting and relationship building can be modeled and taught.

## **15. Sharing Jesus with People with Disabilities – Bethesda Lutheran Communities \$100,000**

Bethesda Lutheran Communities desires to enhance the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities with services that share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Operating at program locations across the United States, they provide homes and support, promoting awareness and advocating for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Over 1,900 people at 300 program sites in 13 states are served. Travel is essential in achieving this mission. Costs are not subject to state reimbursement when faith supports

# 2017 Proposed Mission Grants

are at the heart of the mission. Relying on the support of donors, Bethesda is able to nourish relationships and grow their network to support people of all abilities with their faith journey. Grant funds would be used to support ministry consultant travel.

## **16. Restoration Programs for Native Hawaiians - Lutheran Indian Ministries \$75,000**

Most people think of Hawaii as paradise, but to Native Hawaiians, Kanaka, it is quite a different place. In recent years, the number of homeless people in Hawaii has grown, with poverty rising, leaving few people in the middle class. Most of the ministry work is done in urban areas by non-Kanaka men and women to non-Kanaka people. To successfully engage the Kanaka people in the Christian faith and to provide the support and assistance that Kanaka people need to begin to overcome the serious social issues that plague them, missionaries must embrace the Kanaka culture. Clarence DeLude III (Kanaka), who is on staff with Lutheran Indian Ministries, is enrolled in the Cross-Cultural Ministry Center Program at Concordia University, Irvine, California, which leads to ordination. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, Clarence, a Native Hawaiian will be used as God's instrument in bringing the Gospel of Jesus Christ to his fellow Kanaka people. Grant funds would be used for scholarships for Clarence, VBS/Teen Camp, on-going Bible study, and Sexual Abuse and Leadership Training (SALT) seminars.

## **17. Family Scholarships for Short Term Mission Trips - MOST Ministries \$60,000**

MOST Ministries has been meeting the physical needs of people around the world as a way to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Through connections with LCMS missionaries and Lutheran church leaders, MOST is building churches and schools, providing health care, and teaching marketable skills, all the while sharing the love of Christ and the Gospel of our Lord. MOST feels it is important to recruit families into mission work not only because of the positive impact it has on the lives of those they serve, but on the families themselves. Serving as a family opens the eyes of their children to see how other people live and gives them a perspective of how fortunate they are in the United States. We are all aware of the increasing costs of travel. This grant will help to offset the expenses of approximately 50% of a typical trip. When the families return, they will share their experiences with their churches, communities, district, and the women of the LWML.

## **18. Expanding the Broadcast of Worship for Shut-Ins - Lutheran Ministries Media, Inc. \$80,000**

Lutheran Ministries Media seeks to reach a rapidly aging society with the life-saving message of the Gospel through

the weekly broadcast ministry of Worship for Shut-ins. Their desire is to dramatically increase the reach of this broadcast throughout the United States as well as the world through the means of solidifying the on-air broadcast time on a new major cable or network station and internet streaming of television broadcast. These funds will assist the ministry over the two-year period in expenses and allow the programs to become self-sufficient.

## **19. Equipping Youth to Witness for Life - Y4Life - Lutherans for Life \$25,000**

Y4Life seeks to equip young people to be the voices for life in a culture that glorifies the choice of death. The need is especially true for teens, college students, and young adults who are bombarded with secular life styles that are contrary to God's wonderful plan for life. Currently, the Y4Life program is serving college campuses. The mission grant funds will go directly towards expanding the initiative to include Lutheran high school campuses. By training student leaders and providing ongoing mentorship and support for the individual campus ministries, they can raise their voices for life.

## **20. Forming International Teachers and Leaders - Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri \$100,000**

Over the past years, Concordia Seminary's Graduate School has seen an increase in the number of international students seeking advanced theological degrees with the full intent of returning to their respective home countries to become teachers and church leaders. This advanced training will have a considerable impact on spreading the Gospel in their countries and will enable them to raise up the next generation of pastors and church leaders.

## **21. Tanzanian Sewing Center - Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT) \$25,000**

In southeastern Tanzania, many young women from villages do not attend school or have jobs, and so seek unskilled jobs in larger towns, often ending up involved in prostitution. Some end up with AIDS or unexpected pregnancies, with no means of supporting themselves. The ELCT has established the Bishop Makala Sewing Center to teach young women sewing, life skills, and the Gospel. The ELCT goal is to build classrooms with a 50 student capacity, along with a dormitory. Within one year of training, their sewing skills enable women to have pocket money, purchase a sewing machine, and buy materials to create sewn items to sell for income.

## **22. Christian Eldercare Home in Haiti - Ministry in Mission \$100,000**

Haiti is a nation in need of special attention. Since the earthquake in 2010, Lutheran baptisms in Haiti have been multiplied beyond expectations and Lutheran church attendance is increasing. However physical and spiritual needs

# 2017 Proposed Mission Grants

of our brothers and sisters in Christ are left unmet. A center for the elderly people who have outlived their families, and some of whom are currently living in tents and deplorable conditions, is planned to be built on the same property where an orphanage was constructed in 2014. The children will have grandparents and the elderly will have children to make them smile. The center, built with funds supplied by this grant, would result in a dwelling with clean water, suitable waste containment, beds, food, and care for these forgotten people. Ministry in Mission desires to fulfill the intent of creating a true community for Haitian Lutherans by providing a safe living environment for all Haitians in the surrounding area and particularly the forgotten elderly society.

## **23. Raising Pastors and Deaconesses - Evangelical Lutheran Church of Liberia \$97,000**

Prior to the civil conflict of 1990, there were several Bible colleges/seminaries across the country. Some are yet to be opened and none are Lutheran. The civil war has increased the level of economic hardship in the country, making it difficult for those who may want to study outside of Liberia. In addition, fees charged by other colleges and seminaries outside of Liberia are extremely high. The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Liberia has decided to build a Lutheran Bible College for its 137 congregations and for those from neighboring Sierra Leone and Guinea. The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Liberia believes strongly in the need to witness to our Lutheran confession in a nation that predominately preaches and practices work righteousness over and against justification by grace through faith alone. This grant will provide all the necessary funds to build the college/seminary with the people of the church supplying the labor.

## **24. Current Missionary Need - LCMS International Mission \$100,000**

With fervent, sustained support of LCMS mission projects, Mission Central, located in Mapleton, Iowa, seeks to serve as an avenue for continued support for missionaries throughout the world to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This grant would provide for a variety of necessary missionary resources such as orientation and training, language training, transportation to and in the country of service and on furlough, various types of insurance, housing, medical care, utilities, and education of missionary children, to name a few.

## **25. Lutheran World Relief Quilt and Kit Shipping Fund \$80,000**

Every year, many Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) groups and individuals join their hearts and hands in sewing mission quilts, making blankets, and assembling personal care, baby care, school, and fabric kits to be distributed to people in need through Lutheran World Relief (LWR). Delivering these materials to people in need is a long and sometimes complex process, involving trucking and rail transportation, warehousing, processing, and overseas

shipping. This grant to LWR's Quilt and Shipping Fund ensures the ability to deliver more than 35,500 quilts each year to our neighbors in need around the world and sustains the ministry that so many LWML members have been a part of for generations.

## **26. NOLA 4H: Hearts for the Hungry, Homeless, and Hurting - Christian Families United for Progress \$100,000**

Hurricane Katrina was the largest residential disaster in United States history. Twelve years later there is no more federal aid, and many inner-city communities are still hurting. New Orleans has the third highest homeless rate in the nation with 1,700 homeless persons every night, much of this due to the hurricane and loss of homes. Entire neighborhoods were wiped out. Many residents lost friends and family and still suffer from loneliness and depression. Six inner-city LCMS churches, their pastors, leaders, and members have come together to serve Christ by serving their neighbors and providing food and shelter. The NOLA 4H churches work closely with other organizations to support various outreach ministries such as food banks, clothing, toiletries, Bibles, prayer books, counseling, and clinics. Funds will go towards these ministries and equipping each of the fellowship halls in the six churches to serve more people.

## **27. Libraries and Literacy in China -**

### **Concordia Welfare & Education Foundation \$88,890**

Concordia Welfare and Education Foundation (CWEF) is a non-profit organization based in Hong Kong that was started by The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) and has been working there independently for over 15 years. Here, and in other parts of China, they partner with communities to implement programs in the areas of public health and education. Many areas in China have large underserved populations with children that become left behind when their parents move to other provinces. CWEF partners with schools to provide resources for teaching rural students to read and to practice healthy habits. Many years are spent working in the community and establishing bonds of trust with the people and their leaders by supporting schools and health clinics. The Holy Spirit is working all the time, and many have experienced the love of Christ in word and deed from CWEF staff and volunteers.

## **28. Christ for Veterans and Their Families -**

### **LCMS Ministry of the Armed Forces \$27,750**

Funds requested by the Ministry to the Armed Forces (MAF) will be utilized to host national training events for Operation Barnabas, an extension of MAF, which provides a network of care through trained congregations that want to reach out to members of the military, their families, and the veterans in their congregations and communities.

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## **29. Christ's Care for Children: Kenya - LCMS Office of International Mission \$60,000**

Through primary boarding school facilities operated by the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Kenya and a secondary school and college scholarship program, vulnerable children have the opportunity to complete school while living at a home away from home. A Christ-centered, caring, and safe environment provides each pupil with education, Scripture engagement, catechesis, and worship. An LWML grant to Christ's Care for Children: Kenya will support 25 students for a two-year period, providing lodging, meals, school fees and related school expenses, medical care, adult oversight, tutoring, emotional support, and spiritual care free of cost to the child or their family.

## **30. Prison and Jail Ministry Synod-wide Conference in 2018 \$36,500**

One of the largest needs in Prison and Jail Ministry is not only the offering of Word and Sacrament ministry to those incarcerated, but also in assisting the person when he or she returns to the community. The Prison and Jail Ministry Conference enables over 200 lay and clergy participants from 30 of our LCMS districts to learn about the importance of prison and jail ministry as well as networking with one another for best practices and support of each other in a very difficult mission and ministry. A number of LCMS districts are already doing, or are starting up a Prison and Jail Ministry, and a Synod-wide conference will allow these to continue and expand as changes and new developments continue in the federal and state criminal justice systems. Grant funds would help pay for the expenses involved in hosting a conference.

## **31. Thanking Former Missionaries - LCMS Office of International Mission \$55,555**

The LCMS has been sending missionaries into the field since 1894, and today, trains, sends, and supports career, long-term, and short-term missions around the world. As an expression of gratitude to former missionaries and their families, a celebratory reunion is planned to honor and thank them for their service. This event will provide an opportunity for Synod to reconnect with former missionaries and to express to them the value of their service, while allowing these

church servants to renew friendships, review experiences, and rejoice in God's many blessings. This grant will cover lodging, meals, and a stipend to offset travel costs for former missionaries attending the reunion.

## **32. Every One His Witness - LCMS Witness and Outreach Ministry \$33,500**

With over 200 million non-churched people in the United States, this initiative is a witness and outreach evangelism program that equips believers to be effective witnesses of Jesus in their everyday lives. It approaches witnessing and outreach as the calling of every believer, focusing particularly in the United States, to share in God's joy as He works through us to gather the lost into His Church. The LCMS, in its June 2016 Convention, adopted this program for implementation throughout the LCMS.

## **33. Nursing Students Serving with Mercy Medical Team - LCMS Office of International Mission \$25,000**

Seeking to expand their educational exposure, nursing students in the Concordia University System would be afforded the opportunity to participate in a short-term mission trip to Madagascar with a Mercy Medical Team. This service opportunity for students to work with medical professionals in providing medical and/or spiritual care to the under-served would be invaluable.

## **34. Engaging RSOs - LCMS Recognized Service Organizations \$27,800**

LCMS RSOs will be able to partner more effectively with congregations in providing acts of mercy and will be equipped with the skills and resources to network more efficiently with congregational members, other Lutheran entities, their communities, and the church at large. Grants will provide consulting in such things as fund development and board governance; funds will permit Chief Executive Officers to attend Lutheran professional conferences relating to leadership, board development, and funding; and relationships will be strengthened between congregations and RSOs in providing services and resources to serve those in need.



NEARLY 400 LWML MISSION GRANTS, PLUS THOUSANDS MORE FROM LWML DISTRICTS, HAVE SUPPLIED FUNDS FOR REACHING OUT WITH GOD'S LOVE IN 71 COUNTRIES ON FIVE CONTINENTS SINCE THE GROUP'S BEGINNING IN 1942.

# Proposed Mission Grants WHEREAS Statements

## 1. Completion of Lukonda Lutheran School Buildings, Uganda - Lutheran Church Uganda \$48,000

WHEREAS, Christ in His Holy Word has charged us to reach out to all nations; and

WHEREAS, Educating Christian youth is a means of propagating His Word to future generations; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) Southeastern District and Resurrection Lutheran Church of Cary, North Carolina, have funded Phase I of the construction of two school buildings; and

WHEREAS, The people of the Lutheran Church in Lukonda, Uganda have provided land and bricks for the schools, but are unable to fully finance Phase II of the school construction; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$48,000 to fund completion of the Lukonda Lutheran School Campus.

## 2. Providing Food and the Gospel to Starving Children - Mercy Meals of Siouxland \$40,000

WHEREAS, The Lord commanded the disciples to feed the hungry and make disciples of all nations; and

WHEREAS, As many as 14,000 children die each day of starvation in our world, most not knowing Our Lord; and

WHEREAS, Mercy Meals feed the body and the Gospel feeds the soul; and

WHEREAS, Donations are not fully funding the ministry of Mercy Meals of Siouxland at this time; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$40,000 to help fund Providing Food and the Gospel to Starving Children.

## 3. Lutheran Children's Books for Families Worldwide - Lutheran Heritage Foundation \$100,000

WHEREAS, People were bringing babies to Jesus for Him to bless them, and Jesus called the children to Him saying, *But Jesus called them to him, saying, "Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God."* (Luke 18:16); and

WHEREAS, With the growth of Lutheran churches and missions around the world, new Christian parents want to teach their children about their Lord Jesus Christ but lack Lutheran Bible storybooks in their own languages; and

WHEREAS, Lutheran missionaries and church leaders worldwide have expressed a deep need for Lutheran materials, printed in the native languages of the people they serve, so that they may better share the Lutheran faith with families in their care; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Heritage Foundation, an LCMS Recognized Service Organization (RSO), has for 25 years

vigorously fulfilled its mission of translating, publishing, and distributing Lutheran books (including *A Child's Garden of Bible Stories* and *Bible Stories in Pictures*) into more than 90 languages, giving LCMS missionaries, pastors, and families the tools they need to introduce children to Jesus; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$100,000 to help fund Lutheran Children's Books for Families Worldwide.

## 4. Christian Hope Through Mass Media in Egypt - Lutheran Hour Ministries \$100,000

WHEREAS, The mission of Lutheran Hour Ministries, based on the clear teaching of Scripture, is bringing Christ to the nations and the nations to the Church; and

WHEREAS, Lutheran Hour Ministries' center in Egypt will carry out our mission to millions of people in Egypt and the Middle East; and

WHEREAS, Lutheran Hour Ministries has developed Christian Hope Through Mass Media in Egypt to reach and connect with Arabic-speaking families and youth, refugees, and citizens of the region through social media and Arabic satellite television; and

WHEREAS, There is a need to expand Christian Hope Through Mass Media in Egypt in reaching families and youth with the message of faith and trust in God, in reaching refugees in camps where 60 percent are youth, and be a strong Christian witness of love and forgiveness through Egyptian-dialect Arabic television programming; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$100,000 to help fund Christian Hope Through Mass Media in Egypt.

## 5. Laborers of Love - Lutheran Braille Workers \$100,000

WHEREAS, Jesus declares, *"The sower soweth the Word"* (Mark 4:14 KJ21), and He uses our hands to do the sowing; and

WHEREAS, Lutherans Braille Workers (LBW), one of the largest producer of biblical Braille in the world, is daily asked to send God's Word to blind and visually impaired people around the world; and

WHEREAS, LBW has been providing the New International Version translation of the Bible to people with visual impairment free of charge for more than 25 years; and

WHEREAS, The LCMS has chosen to use the English Standard Version of the Bible and funds are needed to produce the English Standard Version of the Bible for the blind and visually impaired; therefore be it

RESOVLED, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$100,000 to help fund Laborers of Love - Lutheran Braille Workers.

# Proposed Mission Grants WHEREAS Statements

## 6. Education Loan Repayment Assistance Grants -

### MinistryFocus \$100,000

WHEREAS, *For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, (Eph. 2:8), So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ. (Romans 10:17),* and hearing requires proclamation; and

WHEREAS, The proclamation of many called workers of the LCMS are inhibited by a mismatch of burdensome educational debt with low levels of income; and

WHEREAS, The potential of long-standing debt may also negatively impact recruitment and retention of called workers; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$100,000 to help fund Education Loan Repayment Assistance Grants.

## 7. Fairmount Coffee House Outreach Ministry -

### Lutheran Student Center, Wichita, Kansas \$100,000

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Student Center of Wichita, Kansas, established 50 years ago seeks to expand its ministry and introduce more Wichita State University (WSU) students to the Gospel of Jesus Christ; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Student Center of 2017 will be reaching out to the students of WSU and the local Fairmount neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Student Center will open a coffee house outreach ministry inside the center called the Fairmount Coffee House and will engage our guests by utilizing coffee as our well (John 4:1-42) to share the love of Jesus with them; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$100,000 to help fund Fairmount Coffee House Outreach Ministry.

## 8. RECONNECT to the Body of Christ, Circuit 28 -

### Texas District \$50,000

WHEREAS, Today the United States is the third largest mission field in the world; and

WHEREAS, The Brownsville/Harlingen Texas metro area in the Rio Grande Valley has the distinction of being the lowest socio-economic metro area in the United States with 35% of the people living in poverty; and

WHEREAS, Bold new steps such as the 'RECONNECT to the Body of Christ' initiative are required to reconnect struggling congregations and their communities to the body of Christ; and

WHEREAS, 'RECONNECT to the Body of Christ' is a nontraditional missional model program that will show small struggling congregations how they too can bring professional

church workers and relationship building programs into their circuits, training church members in successful methods of reconnecting congregations with their community; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$50,000 to help fund RECONNECT to the Body of Christ.

## 9. The Reformation Continues: Lectionaries in West Africa -

### Lutheran Bible Translators \$108,800

WHEREAS, The Great Commission of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, commands us to reach out to all at home and abroad; and

WHEREAS, 2017 marks the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation, remembering the clear Gospel message it conveyed to Christian communities throughout the world; and WHEREAS, Lutheran Bible Translators continues this reformation vision by working in minority language communities in some of the most difficult to reach places in the world; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Churches in Cameroon and Ghana West Africa have requested Lutheran Bible Translators to translate and provide the portions of Scripture necessary for the lectionary to be used in their churches; therefore be it RESOLVED, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$108,800 to help fund The Reformation Continues: Lectionaries in West Africa.

## 10. Training Lutheran Middle Eastern Missionaries -

### Biblical Orthodox Lutheran Mission \$93,000

WHEREAS, Christ in His Holy Word has charged us to reach out to all nations; and

WHEREAS, The teaching and preaching of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus to those bound in chains through ignorance and through cults is crucial; and

WHEREAS, Extraordinary means are necessary to reach those in Muslim countries; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$93,000 to help fund the work of Biblical Orthodox Lutheran Mission in the Middle East and worldwide to bring Muslims and others to the Lord Jesus.

## 11. "Set To Serve" - Voice of Care \$100,000

WHEREAS, There are millions of people throughout the United States with disabilities (developmental, trauma-induced or age-onset) and research confirms that 90% of these people are not connected with a congregation; and WHEREAS, Voice of Care has the specific resources and

# Proposed Mission Grants WHEREAS Statements

tools to train congregations in a variety of targeted programs designed to reach this lost population for Jesus; and WHEREAS, Voice of Care understands not all congregations can independently afford this kind of training, and some are remotely located and could not easily or affordably travel to training workshops and seminars but still desire to reach out to people with disabilities and their caregivers within their communities; and

WHEREAS, Voice of Care's present resources do not cover the costs of providing affordable workshops and seminars throughout the United States or the necessary equipment and technology for creating and presenting webinars and videos; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$100,000 to help fund Voice of Care's "Set to Serve" initiative.

## **12. Student Leadership Training Conferences— Lutheran Campus Ministry Association \$30,000**

WHEREAS, Jesus Christ has commanded each of us his followers, "*Go therefore and make disciples of all nations*" (Matt. 28:19); and

WHEREAS, The students, faculty, and staff on the campuses of the United States post-secondary schools comprise what has been called "America's foremost mission field;" and WHEREAS, Lutheran campus ministries are ideal environments for training LCMS-member students in witnessing, reaching out, and disciple-building in the university context; and

WHEREAS, Regional ministry events such as the Lutheran Campus Mission Association-sponsored Campus Ministry Leadership Conference offer the potential to equip hundreds of student leaders to share Christ and build new disciples; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$30,000 to help fund New Regional Campus Ministry Student-Leadership Training.

## **13. Training Teachers for Today's Learners – Lutheran Special Education Ministries \$100,000**

WHEREAS, *But Jesus called them to him, saying, "Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God"* (Luke 18:16); and

WHEREAS, National statistics indicate that one in five children in the United States has a learning need while educational funding for those children are not provided to faith-based schools; and

WHEREAS, Teachers in Lutheran schools and churches are "the hands and feet of Jesus" within their communities; and WHEREAS, Lutheran Special Education Ministries'

commitment to serving children, their families, schools, churches, and the community has been evident for 140 years; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$100,000 to help fund Training Teachers for Today's Learners.

## **14. Mercy House for Women and Children – Franklin Avenue Mission, Flint, Michigan \$100,000**

WHEREAS, Christ in His Holy Word challenges His followers to humble ourselves and serve the underserved, spiritually, physically, and emotionally; and

WHEREAS, Flint, Michigan, one of the poorest cities in America, where 46% of the general population and 66% of the children live below the poverty line, with Flint's east side at 80% below poverty level; and

WHEREAS, Women and children are a part of this vulnerable population; and

WHEREAS, The Franklin Avenue Mission is sustained entirely by member congregations and individual donations and volunteers; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$100,000 to help fund The Mercy House for Women and Children in Flint, Michigan.

## **15. Sharing Jesus with People with Disabilities – Bethesda Lutheran Communities \$100,000**

WHEREAS, God, in His Holy Word, tells us that we are "fearfully and wonderfully made," and He knit us together in our mother's womb, each one of us is the body of Christ and a part of it arranged by God as He wanted us to be, and that Christ Jesus died for ALL people; and

WHEREAS, We, as Lutheran Christians, believe adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities should have the opportunity to connect and fully participate in the life of the congregation of their choice; and

WHEREAS, Ministry consultants are needed to travel to visit the people we support, their families, congregations, and other partners as needed to facilitate faith connections; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$100,000 to help fund Bethesda Lutheran Communities Sharing Jesus with People with Disabilities.

## **16. Restoration Programs for Native Hawaiians – Lutheran Indian Ministries \$75,000**

WHEREAS, Isaiah 61:1 says, *The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good*

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*news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound,* and Native Hawaiian, Clarence, of Lutheran Indian Ministries, is ministering to Native Hawaiians on the island of Oahu; and  
WHEREAS, Clarence DeLude III, who has a master's degree in Lutheran education, is enrolled in the Cross-Cultural Ministry Center Program at Concordia University, Irvine, California, leading to ordination in 2019; and  
WHEREAS, The majority of Native Hawaiians live in poverty which contributes to dysfunctional behaviors in families, substance and sexual abuse, violence and suicide that leave many hurting with little hope; and  
WHEREAS, A former church building is available for various Gospel-oriented programs for youth and adults such as: Vacation Bible School, Teen Camp, Bible studies, seminars, training of facilitators, and cultural arts program to draw Native Hawaiians to Christ and His church, thus bringing hope and restoration; therefore, be it  
RESOLVED, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$75,000 to help fund theological training for Clarence and support Gospel-oriented programs for Native Hawaiians to know Jesus Christ, the only source of Truth, Restoration, and Hope.

## **17. Family Scholarships for Short Term Mission Trips - MOST Ministries \$60,000**

WHEREAS, Christ has charged us in His Holy Word to *"make disciples of all nations..."*; and  
WHEREAS, It can be financially difficult for families to serve as members of a short term mission team since the typical trip costs anywhere from \$2,000 - \$4,000; and  
WHEREAS, Nurturing a mission-minded spirit in families through serving as members of a short term mission team will strengthen their faith and provide encouragement to reaching all nations through mission work; and  
WHEREAS, MOST Ministries, an RSO of the LCMS, is seeking \$60,000 for scholarships to assist families in serving their Lord on short term mission trips; therefore be it  
RESOLVED, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$60,000 to help fund Family Scholarships for Short Term Mission Trips.

## **18. Expanding the Broadcast of Worship for Shut-Ins - Lutheran Ministries Media, Inc. \$80,000**

WHEREAS, The great commission moves us in Mark 16:15 to *"Go into all the world and proclaim the Gospel to the whole creation;"* and  
WHEREAS, Lutheran Ministries Media shares Christ's love every week through television broadcast ministry of Worship for Shut-Ins; and

WHEREAS, Worship for Shut-Ins is uniquely positioned to reach a growing population of those who are aging and unchurched; and  
WHEREAS, Worship for Shut-Ins seeks to boldly proclaim God's Word throughout new television markets and the internet; therefore be it  
RESOLVED, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$80,000 to help fund Expanding the Broadcast of Worship for Shut-Ins.

## **19. Equipping Youth to Witness for Life - Y4Life - Lutherans for Life \$25,000**

WHEREAS, The mission of Y4Life, a ministry of Lutherans for Life, is to equip Lutheran youth and young adults to be Gospel-motivated voices for life who *set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity* (1 Tim. 4:11); and  
WHEREAS, 1.2 million women have abortions every year in the United States, with approximately 27% of those having no religious affiliation; and  
WHEREAS, There is a great need to equip young Lutherans to share the Gospel through life issues and serve in their own schools and communities; and  
WHEREAS, Y4Life seeks to equip young people to speak for life and serve their community through student-led life ministries on high school and college campuses; therefore be it  
RESOLVED, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$25,000 to help fund Equipping Youth to Witness for Life - Y4Life.

## **20. Forming International Teachers and Leaders - Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri \$100,000**

WHEREAS, The global proclamation of Christ's love and the message of eternal salvation through faith in Him continues to be paramount and, blessedly, the sharing of the Gospel message is increasing in many different parts of the world, and Lutheranism is spreading in entire regions of different continents; and  
WHEREAS, There is a significant shortage of Lutheran pastors with advanced theological education in the majority of these countries; many more pastors are needed to ensure that the Word of God continues to spread in these nations; options outside the U.S. are few for the advanced theological study that is needed for these pastors, and a few of these Lutheran church bodies have the funds to send their most capable students to the U.S. for this advanced study; and  
WHEREAS, Concordia Seminary's Graduate School not only stands ready to welcome these international students, but continues to give high priority to their pastoral formation; and  
WHEREAS, The LCMS has named supporting and

# Proposed Mission Grants WHEREAS Statements

expanding theological education as one of its key mission priorities to ensure that there will be pastors to lead Lutheran congregations throughout the world; therefore be it  
**RESOLVED**, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$100,000 to fund Forming International Teachers and Leaders.

## **21. Tanzanian Sewing Center – Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT) \$25,000**

WHEREAS, The Bishop Makala Sewing Center strives to train desperately poor young women in Tanzania who are faced with choosing between starvation and prostitution, who neither work nor attend school, who are untrained in any skill; and

WHEREAS, Becoming mired in human trafficking, many women meet extremely unhealthy situations in the cities where they seek to sustain their lives, the result being unexpected pregnancy, disease, and degradation; and  
WHEREAS, The Christians in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania are committed to connecting these women to Jesus, providing Christian education, teaching life skills, providing a safe environment for learning, emphasizing Christian unity among them and purchasing products from them as well as developing additional markets for their sewing skills; and

WHEREAS, Though extremely rich in spiritual blessings and a will to serve, these African Christians do not have the means to reach the many suffering, but we have the means to provide Christ's mercy and compassion through our gift; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$25,000 to help fund the Tanzanian Sewing Center.

## **22. Christian Eldercare Home in Haiti – Ministry in Mission \$100,000**

WHEREAS, The Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ is *to make disciples of all nations*, He also calls His people to travel in the footsteps of St. Paul to foreign soil; and  
WHEREAS, God has completed the LCMS Lutheran Village construction project in Haiti for mercy and Gospel outreach to Haitian Lutherans and unchurched citizens; and  
WHEREAS, Ministry in Mission, an RSO of the LCMS, has continued to work in Haiti for nine years as a conduit to support and encourage The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Haiti; and

WHEREAS, The mission includes construction of homes and churches, promoting and supporting feeding programs for the children and elderly, teaching and serving fellow Christians and evangelizing non-Christians, understanding that help is needed to provide shelter and care for the elderly; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$100,000 to help fund Christian Eldercare Home in Haiti.

## **23. Raising Pastors and Deaconesses – Evangelical Lutheran Church of Liberia \$97,000**

WHEREAS, The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Liberia, being a partner church body of the LCMS; and

WHEREAS, Its goals and objectives are the development of human resources towards the proclamation and teaching of the Gospel unto repentance and the salvation of souls through Word and Sacrament; and

WHEREAS, The building and establishment of seminary/university is necessary to train pastors, deaconesses, and other church workers; and

WHEREAS, This seminary project, being a priority need for the church and people of Liberia, will provide adequate opportunity, both spiritual and physical, to over 10,000 men and women in service of the Gospel, especially those who are just recovering from 20 brutal years of civil wars and are now engaged in rebuilding their lives and homes, therefore be it  
**RESOLVED**, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League National Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$97,000 to fund the construction of a seminary/university in Monrovia, Liberia.

## **24. Current Missionary Need – LCMS International Mission \$100,000**

WHEREAS, since the LWML at its founding in 1942 identified its purpose “to develop a greater mission consciousness among women and to gather funds for mission projects for which no adequate provision was made in the LCMS budget;” and

WHEREAS, Jesus has called our LCMS missionaries to go into all the world to proclaim Him and they are indeed required to provide all necessary resources to serve; and  
WHEREAS, Lutheran women attending this convention, empowered by the Holy Spirit, through Word and Sacrament, to proclaim Jesus Christ above all, can assist this endeavor of our missionaries with mite dollars and prayers; and  
WHEREAS, The blessed gift of money will be awarded with the greatest prayerful discretion by the knowledgeable LCMS Mission Central staff, with the recommendation and endorsement of the LCMS Office of International Mission, and given to the most current and urgent needs of our missionaries waiting to serve or already in the field; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$100,000 to help fund Current Missionary Need.

# Proposed Mission Grants WHEREAS Statements

## 25. Lutheran World Relief Quilt and Kit Shipping Fund \$80,000

WHEREAS, Our Lord Jesus Christ, being above all, cared for the poor and fed the hungry, and that God, our Creator and Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit fill us with the desire to care for the hungry, those who thirst and those with nothing; and WHEREAS, For over 70 years, LWML and Lutheran World Relief have worked together in Christian love to provide for the needs of people worldwide with handmade quilts and kits; and

WHEREAS, These gifts of faith provide Lutherans of all ages a hands-on way to reach out and share the love of Jesus with their furthest neighbors, and in doing so grow in their faith while offering new hope for families worldwide; and WHEREAS, *The Lord watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless* (Ps.146:9), and we follow by giving them first priority in receiving these gifts as the intensity of humanitarian needs increases around the world; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$80,000 to fund the Lutheran World Relief Quilt and Kit Shipping.

## 26. NOLA 4H: Hearts for the Hungry, Homeless, and Hurting - Christian Families United for Progress \$100,000

WHEREAS, Christ, in His Holy Word, has charged us to reach out to the hungry, homeless, and hurting poor; and WHEREAS, Inner-city churches are a means of providing mercy ministries and propagating His Word to all people, most especially *"the least of these;"* and WHEREAS, The people of Christian Families United for Progress (six New Orleans Lutheran churches with African-American pastors serving the inner city) are unable to finance fully the cost of feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and providing healing to the hurting; therefore be it RESOLVED, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$100,000 to help aid the hurting in New Orleans, Louisiana.

## 27. Libraries and Literacy in China -

### Concordia Welfare & Education Foundation \$88,890

WHEREAS, The Holy Word speaks in 1 Corinthians 3:6, *I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. So then neither he who plants is anything, nor the one who waters, but God who gives the increase. Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor* (NKJV).; and WHEREAS, Lutheran Christians have established Concordia Welfare & Education Foundation (CWEF), a mercy organization in Asia, that is equipped to serve people living in poverty through education and human care programs; and

WHEREAS, Rural China communities comprised of impoverished families and left-behind children do not have access to appropriate reading materials or adequate adult support to develop good reading habits; and WHEREAS, CWEF has observed God's hand in providing sharing opportunities through providing library and literacy programs in China that will enable students and teachers to have access to age appropriate reading material and literacy activities which will support the development of reading and writing abilities; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$88,890 to help fund CWEF Libraries and Literacy in China.

## 28. Christ for Veterans and Their Families - LCMS Ministry of the Armed Forces \$27,750

WHEREAS, *For everything there is a season, a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up* (Ecc. 3:1-3); and

WHEREAS, Ministry to the Armed Forces/Operation Barnabas (son of encouragement) seeks to train, equip, and encourage LCMS districts, congregations, and their members, as well as local Operation Barnabas District Chapters and counselors, to share with their congregations techniques for compassionate care and Gospel sharing outreach; and WHEREAS, There has been an immense drawdown of our military forces sending soldiers to return to civilian communities and their families, thousands of whom struggle with physical, mental, financial, and emotional stresses; and WHEREAS, This time of adjustment to a more normal pace of life within our civilian communities is an important period of critical adjustment and we want to equip churches to reach out to veterans and their families with the love of Christ; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$27,750 to help fund Christ for Veterans and Their Families.

## 29. Christ's Care for Children: Kenya - LCMS Office of International Mission \$60,000

WHEREAS, The Great Commission of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, commands us to reach out to all at home and abroad; and

WHEREAS, About 1.4 million children in Kenya and their families are affected by AIDS, and an estimated eight percent of Kenyan adults are living with the HIV virus, resulting in many children dropping out of school because they cannot pay school expenses, and may be forced into child labor or sexual exploitation; and

# Proposed Mission Grants WHEREAS Statements

WHEREAS, Ministry partners aim to guide at-risk children into the homes of loving families and under the wing of Evangelical Lutheran Church of Kenya (ELCK) congregations to help children become educated, responsible Christian adults; and

WHEREAS, Tuition scholarships can provide a Kenyan child with care, including food and both educational and spiritual support so that 25 children can be cared for two years; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$60,000 to help fund Christ's Care for Children: Kenya.

## **30. Prison and Jail Ministry Synod-wide Conference in 2018 \$36,500**

WHEREAS, Christ in His Holy Word has charged us to reach out to those in prison in Matthew 25:36, *I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.*, and we are told in Hebrews 13:3a *Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them...*; and

WHEREAS, Synod agreed in Convention in July 2013 to have a prison and jail ministry coordinator in each of our 37 districts, either volunteer or compensated, for the purpose of researching opportunities, training, providing guidelines, equipping congregations, and networking for prison and jail ministry; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Women's Missionary League funded the first two Synod-wide Prison and Jail Ministry Conferences, which enabled over 200 lay and clergy participants from 30 of our LCMS districts to learn about the importance of prison and jail ministry, network with one another for best practices and support each other; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$36,500 to help fund the Prison and Jail Ministry Conference throughout Synod for 2018.

## **31. Thanking Former Missionaries –**

### **LCMS Office of International Mission \$55,555**

WHEREAS, By the grace of God, the LCMS has sent missionaries into the world since 1894 in response to our Lord's command to make disciples of all nations; and WHEREAS, The Lord of the harvest has blessed LCMS mission efforts through the faithful service of thousands of rostered church workers and lay men and women throughout the years that have resulted in the formation of Lutheran schools, congregations, medical centers, and independent church bodies that remain faithful to the Gospel; and WHEREAS, The service of these faithful missionaries often resulted in hardship, personal loss, and death – yet they

served with joy, laying the foundation of LCMS mission work across the globe and furthering the Gospel of Jesus Christ; and

WHEREAS, Former LCMS missionaries have expressed interest in reuniting with colleagues engaged in mission service; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$55,555 to fund Thanking Former Missionaries.

## **32. Every One His Witness –**

### **LCMS Witness and Outreach Ministry \$33,500**

WHEREAS, The Great Commission, *“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you”* (Matt. 28:19-20); and

WHEREAS, North America now constitutes the world's third largest mission field (after China and India based on the number of people who do not confess Jesus Christ) with over 200 million non-churched people, meaning that, with over 2.3 million baptized members, the LCMS has an amazing opportunity to *“go therefore”* and reach others with the Gospel; and

WHEREAS, The LCMS, in its June 2016 Convention, adopted Every One His Witness as an evangelism program throughout Synod and commends the use of Every One His Witness evangelism program to all LCMS districts, congregations, RSOs, and auxiliaries; and

WHEREAS, Continued module development, utilization of various media formats, and other resources developed in multiple languages as well as regional workshops for the Every One His Witness evangelism program are needed; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$33,500 to help fund Every One His Witness.

## **33. Nursing Students Serving with Mercy Medical Team –**

### **LCMS Office of International Mission \$25,000**

WHEREAS, Christ in His Holy Word has charged us to reach out to all nations in Matthew 25:40, *“And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me’*”; and

WHEREAS, LCMS teams bring urgently needed medical and/or spiritual care to under-served countries around the world offering medical professionals, pastors, and hard-working laity an opportunity to volunteer abroad in a variety of clinical and health-related settings; and

WHEREAS, The experiences for students of any discipline, but particularly nursing students, to work directly with experienced professionals while providing mercy to people are

# Proposed Mission Grants WHEREAS Statements

not only valuable, but immeasurable; and  
WHEREAS, Financial considerations often prevent nursing students from participating in Mercy Medical Teams and a grant would aid in the expenses for Concordia University System nursing students to participate in a mission trip with the Mercy Medical Team to Madagascar; therefore be it  
RESOLVED, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$25,000 to help fund Nursing Students Serving with Mercy Medical Team.

## 34. Engaging RSOs -

### LCMS Recognized Service Organizations \$27,800

WHEREAS, *"The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these"* (Mark 12:31); and

WHEREAS, The granting of RSO status by the Synod signifies that a service organization, "while independent of the Synod, fosters the mission and ministry of the church, engages in program activity that is in harmony with the programs of the boards of the Synod, and respects and does not act contrary to the doctrine and practice of the Synod"; and

WHEREAS, The LCMS desires and encourages its RSOs to live out their Lutheran identity in the services and programs they provide; and

WHEREAS, Congregations and members will partner together with a RSO and provide a service or acts of mercy to the community, providing congregational members with opportunities to live out our calling to love and serve our neighbor; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the delegates gathered at the 2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, vote the sum of \$27,800 to help fund Engaging RSOs.



AT THE 1999 LWML MINNEAPOLIS CONVENTION, THE TERM "MISSION PROJECTS" WAS CHANGED TO "MISSION GRANTS" TO REFLECT THE FACT THAT LWML SUPPLIES FUNDS TO GROUPS WHO DO THE ACTUAL WORK ON PROJECTS.

# Mission Grant Selection Tally

	Votes Received	Plurality Ranking	
1.	_____	_____	1. Completion of Lukonda Lutheran School Buildings, Uganda - \$48,000
2.	_____	_____	2. Providing Food and the Gospel to Starving Children - \$40,000
3.	_____	_____	3. Lutheran Children's Books for Families Worldwide - \$100,000
4.	_____	_____	4. Christian Hope Through Mass Media in Egypt - \$100,000
5.	_____	_____	5. Laborers of Love - \$100,000
6.	_____	_____	6. Education Loan Repayment Assistance Grants - \$100,000
7.	_____	_____	7. Fairmount Coffee House Outreach Ministry - \$100,000
8.	_____	_____	8. RECONNECT to the Body of Christ, Circuit 28 - \$50,000
9.	_____	_____	9. Reformation Continues: Lectionaries in West Africa - \$108,800
10.	_____	_____	10. Training Lutheran Middle Eastern Missionaries - \$93,000
11.	_____	_____	11. "Set To Serve" - \$100,000
12.	_____	_____	12. Student Leadership Training Conferences - \$30,000
13.	_____	_____	13. Training Teachers for Today's Learners - \$100,000
14.	_____	_____	14. Mercy House for Women and Children - \$100,000
15.	_____	_____	15. Sharing Jesus with People with Disabilities - \$100,000
16.	_____	_____	16. Restoration Programs for Native Hawaiians - \$75,000
17.	_____	_____	17. Family Scholarships for Short Term Mission Trips - \$60,000
18.	_____	_____	18. Expanding the Broadcast of Worship for Shut-Ins - \$80,000
19.	_____	_____	19. Equipping Youth to Witness for Life - Y4Life - \$25,000
20.	_____	_____	20. Forming International Teachers and Leaders - \$100,000
21.	_____	_____	21. Tanzanian Sewing Center - \$25,000
22.	_____	_____	22. Christian Eldercare Home in Haiti - \$100,000
23.	_____	_____	23. Raising Pastors and Deaconesses - \$97,000
24.	_____	_____	24. Current Missionary Need - \$100,000
25.	_____	_____	25. Lutheran World Relief Quilt and Kit Shipping Fund - \$80,000
26.	_____	_____	26. NOLA 4H: Hearts for the Hungry, Homeless and Hurting - \$100,000
27.	_____	_____	27. Libraries and Literacy in China - \$88,890
28.	_____	_____	28. Christ for Veterans and Their Families - \$27,750
29.	_____	_____	29. Christ's Care for Children: Kenya - \$60,000
30.	_____	_____	30. Prison and Jail Ministry Synod-wide Conference in 2018 - \$36,500
31.	_____	_____	31. Thanking Former Missionaries - \$55,555
32.	_____	_____	32. Every One His Witness - \$33,500
33.	_____	_____	33. Nursing Students Serving with Mercy Medical Team - \$25,000
34.	_____	_____	34. Engaging RSOs - \$27,800

# Mission Grants - THE Story!

## Eighty mission grant proposals were received in 2017!

Here's the process used to select those that actually appear on the 2017 convention ballot:

- \* LWML women from many districts, as well as personnel from The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS,) gathered facts about groups for which they saw a need for funding. They acquired necessary approvals and signatures (as stated in the Mission Grant Proposal Guidelines) and submitted the proposals electronically to the LWML Vice President of Gospel Outreach by the September 30, 2016 deadline.
- \* The Vice President reviewed each submission to ascertain that all of the components were present and prepared a packet of information for each proposal. Copies were then sent to the nine members of the LWML Mission Grant Selection Committee: the LWML President, the Vice President of Gospel Outreach, the two Pastoral Counselors, and Mission Grants Committee members. Copies were also made available to designated LCMS personnel.
- \* Prior to the Mission Grants Selection Committee meeting, members prayerfully read and evaluated each proposal. Questions were submitted to Synod personnel who attended a portion of the meeting. Again, covering their decisions with prayers for guidance, the Committee sorted the grants into categories and made their selections. Votes needed to be unanimous to move each grant forward.
- \* Proposals selected for the ballot were presented to the LWML Board of Directors for their vote, the results of which appear on the convention ballot. Convention delegates will make the final selection of grants to be funded by LWML mite offerings.
- \* Some proposals not chosen for the convention ballot were added to a Grants Bank and will be made available to LWML districts for their 2018 conventions; others were suggested for convention offerings.

Selecting grants to be funded by LWML mite offerings has been the hallmark of the organization for all 75 years of its existence. During that time, nearly 400 groups in 71 countries around the world have received resources to share God's love and witness to His saving grace. We give God all the glory and thank Him for allowing us to participate in spreading the Gospel.

Many recipients of LWML grants have expressed their gratitude to God for the blessings they received. Destitute post-war Europeans in 1945 received food, medicine, bedding, clothing, and Christian books from the LWML's second grant. One recipient wrote a poignant letter: "For seven years we did not have enough to eat ... we felt your package was a gift from the Lord ... It was my mother's birthday and we were able to give her the warm coat that you sent. Thanks for it all." (Taege, Marlys. *Women IN God's Service*. Lutheran Women's Missionary League, 1991.)

## Your Mite Offerings Have Made an Impact!



LWML's VERY FIRST MISSION GRANT RECIPIENT WAS CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH FOR THE DEAF IN CLEVELAND, OHIO. MITE OFFERINGS SUPPLIED FUNDING TO BUILD THEIR CHURCH, WHICH WAS DEDICATED IN 1949. THE CONGREGATION IS STILL ACTIVE TODAY.

# Report of the President

It has been a privilege and adventure for me serving as your LWML President over the past two years. I give glory to God for leading me and inspiring me in service to Him and the Lutheran Women's Missionary League.

For 75 years the LWML has held out the Word of God to the world through mission inspiration, mission service, mission education, and funding of mission grants for missions in the United States and abroad. I thank you for giving me your trust and the opportunity to work with so many gifted and dedicated women in our church.

We look ahead to the next 75 years with anticipation of what God has in store for the women of the LWML. Change is constant and fast these days. Communication, women's time and involvement fluctuate, and encouragement is sometimes hard to come by. Our God, however, is unchanging and readily available to us through prayer and the sacraments. Likewise, our mission in LWML is unchanging. We will continue to hold "Jesus Christ Above All" for the next 75 years!

A sampling of the activities of the President as they relate to the LWML primary targets over the past two years:

## Nurturing Faith in Christ

- Personal Bible study through my church Sunday School, Women's Bible study, *Quarterly* studies and LWML events;
- Reviewing all Bible studies, devotions, the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* studies, eNews, website, and social media postings to increase opportunities for every woman to be nurtured in faith;
- Relying on prayer for personal help and encouragement, for mission grant recipients, district and national leadership;
- Growing in faith as I see first-hand the love of God for His people and sharing that with other people.

## Sharing Encouragement

- Met with many women through the 10 district conventions where I represented LWML and shared my "Engage, Encourage, Equip, and Enjoy" theme. I pray I was able to convey encouragement for your work and your personal place in God's plan for His people;
- Received encouragement from past LWML Presidents, current Executive Committee and Board members, and LWML members from across the states as I continued in our work together;
- Thankful for the support and encouragement received from my husband, children, immediate family, and church family.



*Serve the LORD with Gladness! (Psalm 100:2)*

## Making Our Mission Meaningful

- Appointed qualified women to serve on committees, teams, and task forces;
- Appointed an LWML 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Task Force;
- Received results of Structure Task Force;
- Held strategic planning in October 2016 involving all board members and staff;
- Worked with Communications and the LWML Office to increase communication through engagement with social media, an LWML App, and President's Blog so all LWML women would engage with our mission.

## Activities of the President 2015

- All postings in social media, products, committee output, contracts, publications, vouchers were approved by the President;
- Prepared official calls and agendas for Executive Committee meetings and Board of Directors meetings.
- Attended WebEx meetings of committees and task forces;
- Assisted with appointing personnel to LWML committees and task forces, approved appointments;
- Met in November 2015 with past national presidents for the Presidents' Club meeting where our sessions were guided by Sandy Thompson;
- Worked on 75th Anniversary plans with Chairman Edie Norris and her task force;
- Worked with PR, Marketing, and LWML Office in order for LWML to participate in Giving Tuesday fundraiser. Composed the Annual Appeal letter which went out around Christmas;
- Interviewed on KFUE and recorded a part on LHM video;
- Contacted speakers and presenters for Albuquerque convention. Continue to work on Convention Programming Committee and with Convention Manager and the 75th Anniversary Committee;

# Report of the President (continued)

- Worked with DFA Young and Investment and Finance Committees to write Endowment Policy;
- Made assignments for EC representatives at district conventions;
- Entertained Lutheran Friends of the Deaf President, Michael Killian, his wife, Susan, and Deaconess Tiffany Manor at our Tulsa home to receive on behalf of the LWML a letter stating that we are the recipients of their highest award, the John of Beverley award which was given at a banquet in Milwaukee following the July 2016 LCMS convention.

## Meetings Attended

- July 31, 2015, Transition with Kay Kreklau, St. Louis, MO;
- August 11–15, 2015, Executive Committee (EC), St. Louis, MO;
- August 19, 2015, Gary Thies, Mission Central, Mapleton, IA;
- October 19, 2015, Kay Meyer, Family Shield Ministries, St. Louis, MO;
- October 10, 2015, Rev. Dr. Daniel Rutt, Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM), St. Louis, MO;
- October 18–20, 2015, Convention Programming Committee, St. Louis, MO;
- October 20–25, 2015, EC, St. Louis, MO;
- October 22–25, 2015, Interdepartmental Meeting, St. Louis, MO;
- November 8–11, 2015, Presidents' Club (past national presidents), St. Louis, MO;
- November 10, 2015, Barb Below, St. Louis, MO, LCMS President's Office liaison;
- November 11–13, 2015, 75th Anniversary Committee, St. Louis, MO;
- November 12, 2015, Kurt Buchholz, LHM, St. Louis, MO;
- November 18–19, 2015, LWML Office, St. Louis, MO;
- December 11, 2015, Michael Killian, Deaconess Manor, Lutheran Friends of the Deaf, Tulsa, OK;

## WebEx Meetings Attended

- Executive Committee, Oct. 12, 2015; Jan. 18, 2016;
- Finance Committee, July 7, 2015; Sept. 22, 2015; Nov. 11, 2015; Dec. 21, 2015; Jan. 5, 2016
- Assembly of Leaders, Sept. 28, 2015
- Convention Programming Committee, Oct. 1, 2015; Oct. 29, 2015; Nov. 16, 2015
- Convention Host Committee, Nov. 21, 2015
- Development/Advancement Committee, Oct. 5, 2015; Nov. 5, 2015; Dec. 4, 2015
- Governance Committee, Oct. 7, 2015
- Interdepartmental 2015 Committee, Sept. 1, 2015;

Sept. 9, 2015

- Investment Committee, July 14, 2015; Dec. 21, 2015
- Visioning Committee, Oct. 1, 2015
- Board of Directors Structure Task Force, Oct. 13, 2015
- Planned Giving Council, Sept. 28, 2015; Dec. 14, 2015
- Meetings on Endowment, Nov. 30, 2015; Dec. 21, 2015; Jan. 5, 2016
- Marketing/Graphics, Oct. 13, 2015; Dec. 7, 2015

## Activities of the President 2016

- Correspondence answered via email, letters, phone calls;
- Represented LWML at various events, radio interviews, videos;
- Reviewed all print, product, and social media postings of LWML and wrote articles for same;
- Prepared agendas and call letters for Board of Directors, Executive Committee;
- Prepared report and overture document for LCMS Milwaukee convention;
- Wrote and submitted progress reports for LCMS Board of Directors meetings, quarterly;
- Supervised work of Director of Finance & Administration;
- Assisted with personnel employment issues and job realignments in the LWML Office;
- Received and approved vouchers for payment through Tallie program;
- Signed all contracts, legal documents, and other official papers for the LWML;
- Maintained contact with Structure Task Force;
- With Executive Committee vote, moved 2017 national LWML convention from Salt Lake City, Utah to Albuquerque, New Mexico;
- With Executive Committee vote, moved 2019 national LWML convention from Birmingham to Mobile, Alabama;
- Received notification from district presidents of societies accepted into membership;
- Receive notification from district presidents of societies that have disbanded;
- Wrote thank-you letters for Giving Tuesday, Holiday Appeal, HELP | LOVE | GROW matching grant, and to individual donors as needed.

## Meetings Attended

### 2016 District Conventions

- Prepared a mini-report for district conventions. Prepared a letter of greeting for district convention manuals. Prepared President's address. Prepared interest session and gave two;
- Attended 10 LWML district conventions;  
California-Nevada-Hawaii, Fresno, CA, April 15–17  
Louisiana-Mississippi, Houma, LA, April 22–23

# Report of the President (continued)

Missouri, Cape Girardeau, MO, June 3–5  
Rocky Mountain, Colorado Springs, CO, June 10–12  
Washington-Alaska, Everett, WA, June 17–19  
Pacific Southwest, Orange, CA, June 24–26  
Michigan, Boyne Mountain, MI, July 29–31  
New Jersey, Morristown, NJ, August 5–7  
Nebraska South, Kearney, NE, September 16–18  
Chesapeake, Timonium, MD, September 23–25.

*Wonderful experiences with many women who love the Lord! Thank you to all who hosted me!*

## 2016 Events Representing LWML

- May 1–2, Ft. Wayne Seminary event with 4th year students and wives, vicars and deaconess interns. Gave gift cards from LWML;
- May 2, Ft. Wayne Seminary Dedication of graduate student study area in honor of LWML;
- May 3, St. Louis. Seminary Vicar and Deaconess intern reception. Gift cards given;
- May 4, St. Louis. Met with LCMS President Harrison and Barb Below at International Center;
- May 4, St. Louis. Met with LCMS Travel and Meeting Planning Director, Lynne Marvin and Suzie Foote, Manager, LCMS Travel and Meeting Planning;
- July 8–14, LCMS Convention Milwaukee. Set up and assisted with LWML exhibit and addressed assembly on Wednesday, July 13;
- July 10, Milwaukee. Accepted “John of Beverley” Award from Lutheran Friends of the Deaf – Mill Neck for past and present women of the LWML for service to the deaf. Betty Duda, Mill Neck board member and past LWML President presented the award at their banquet;
- August 2, Salem Lutheran, Tomball, TX. Represented LWML at taping of Donna Pyle video Bible study;
- September 8, St. Louis Attended and addressed the LCMS Board for National and International Missions and LCMS Board of Directors;
- September 26, New Windsor, MD. Toured Lutheran World Relief (LWR) warehouse;
- September 26, Baltimore, MD. Toured LWR Headquarters and met with CEO Daniel Speckhard and Geri Sicola, VP of Strategic Partnerships and External Relations;
- October 20–23, St. Louis. Lutheran Hour Ministries 100th Anniversary celebration. LWML exhibited and hosted a women’s Saturday breakfast event in honor of LHM’s anniversary. Gave greetings at the breakfast gathering;
- December 27, Oviedo, FL. Represented LWML at funeral service for past LWML President, Betty Duda.

*Thank you for letting me represent all the wonderful women of the LWML. My prayer is always that I do and say what is pleasing in God’s sight and yours.*

## Other Meetings

- Board of Directors, Feb. 4–6, 2016
- Executive Committee, Jan. 18, 2016; Feb. 2–6, 2016; March 22, 2016; May 19–21, 2016; June 30, 2016; July 25, 2016; Oct. 25–26, 2016
- Convention Programming Committee, Jan. 31–Feb. 2, 2016; May 17–19, 2016; Aug. 30, 2016; Oct. 23–25, 2016
- Convention Host Committee WebEx, Nov. 12, 2016
- Finance Committee, Jan. 14, 2016; March 21, 2016; April 12, 2016; May 25, 2016; June 13, 2016; Aug. 18, 2016; Aug. 22, 2016
- Investment Committee, July 26, 2016
- Development/Advancement Committee, March 31, 2016; April 18, 2016; May 5, 2016; Oct. 10, 2016
- Visioning Committee, July 20, 2016; Sept. 6, 2016
- Spending Policy WebEx, Aug. 12, 2016; Aug. 30, 2016
- 75th Anniversary Committee, Aug. 15, 2016; Sept. 6–8, 2016
- Planning Giving Council, Aug. 29, 2016
- Strategic Planning Event, Oct. 26–29, 2016
- Communication Department Meeting, Dec. 1, 2016
- Convention Site Committee, Oct. 28, 2016; Nov. 28, 2016
- Strategic Planning EC Meeting, Nov. 10, 2016

## Activities of the President 2017

- January 2, 2017 Pasadena, CA Represented LWML on the LHM Rose Parade Float;
- Strategic Planning EC WebEx, Jan. 7, 2017;
- Began President’s Blog, Jan. 9, 2017;
- Mission Grants Selection Meeting, Jan. 10–12, 2017, St. Louis;
- Convention Programming, Jan. 22–23, 2017, St. Louis;
- Executive Committee, Jan. 23–28 2017, St. Louis;
- Board of Directors Meeting, Jan. 25–28, 2017, St. Louis;
- Best Practices Ministries Conference, Feb. 22–25, 2017, Phoenix, AZ;
- Concordia Seminary St. Louis Vicars and Wives presentation, March 13, 2017;
- Taping Family Shield Ministries radio show, March 14, 2017, St. Louis;
- Convention Host Committee meeting, March 23–25, 2017, Albuquerque;
- Executive Committee, June 19–21, 2017, Albuquerque;
- Board of Directors, June 21–23, 2017, Albuquerque;
- 75th Anniversary – 37th Biennial Convention, June 22–25, 2017, Albuquerque.

# Elected Officer Reports

## VICE PRESIDENT OF CHRISTIAN LIFE – Eden Keefe



*... walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called ... speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love (Ephesians 4:1b, 15-16).*

### Nurturing Faith in Christ

- Was uplifted and strengthened by faithful worship and Bible classes, prayer time, personal devotions, and visual faith journaling;
- Led women's Bible studies using LWML materials;
- Prepared devotions, prayers, and visual faith materials for LWML meetings and events;
- Coordinated with Rev. John Heckmann and Rev. Dr. Steve Turner on the 2016 and 2017 LWML Prayer Services.

### Sharing Encouragement

- Met with Young Women Representatives and district board members at district conventions;
- Wrote home page articles and 2-Minute Tuesday articles for LWML;
- Supported committee work during review of submissions and posting of resources on the LWML website;
- Coordinated the LWML free printable coloring resources on the LWML website;
- Encouraged district president mentees, prayed for my LWML prayer partner and for all district conventions and presidents, and communicated in a positive way with fellow EC members, committee members, Gift Planning Counselors and staff, and LWML Office staff.

### Making Our Mission Meaningful

- Sought to provide high-quality work in each assigned task;
- Maintained a positive attitude to exemplify serving the Lord with gladness;
- Developed, with committees and task forces, products and resources to equip and encourage women;
- Personally invited women to learn more about LWML;
- Promoted and supported the national and Carolinas district mission goals;
- Participated in strategic visioning with EC and BOD;
- Engaged in mission service.

Serving on the Executive Committee has been a blessed and unique learning experience. I am in awe of the wealth of talent, generous hearts, and mature faith of those who hold positions in the LWML – on all levels – and I cannot adequately express my thanks for being entrusted, by God's grace, to serve.

As Coordinator of the Christian Life Department, I supervised the work of the Christian Life and Christian Resources Editors Committees. It was a privilege to work with these dedicated and highly gifted committee chairmen and committee members, the Information Technology Committee, the Graphics Team, the Marketing Team, the LWML Office staff, Contracts Administrator, and the Executive Committee. Throughout the past two years I reviewed products and resources, worked with forms, contracts, and authors, facilitated the posting of resources on the LWML website, and the distribution of the Christian Life newsletter.

As Vice President, I served as the chairman of the 2015 Interdepartmental Meeting and the chairman of the Planned Giving Council. I attended meetings of the Executive Committee (EC) and Board of Directors (BOD), including a Strategic Visioning Meeting. I facilitated a session at the 2015 Rural & Small Town Missions Conference, participated in the 2016 Gifts of Love Ministry Training, facilitated visual faith sessions at the LWML Nebraska North District Leadership Training, served as a national LWML representative and keynote speaker at the LWML Atlantic District Convention, and as national representative at the LWML Ohio and Northern Illinois District conventions in 2016. Additionally, I performed general duties of the office and communicated via phone, email, and WebEx as needed.

# Elected Officer Reports

## VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATION – Nancy Bogenhagen

“Serve the Lord with gladness! Glorify His name.” What a privilege to be in service to our Lord with fellow sisters and brothers in Christ as we strive to glorify Him in all that we do in the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League, from sisters in my local society, to those in my zone and district, to all those who worked with this biennium’s Executive Committee. Serving the Lord with gladness, we share His love, mercy, and grace to His glory.

It has been my special privilege to work alongside the Executive Committee members and fellow Communication Department volunteers this past biennium. To the Information Technology Committee and their time and talents overseeing the website and social media; to the Official Publication Staff and their gifts of relevant and quality issues of the *Lutheran Woman’s Quarterly*; to the Graphics Team and their skills in creating attractive LWML products/resources, thank you. Thank you for sharing your heart for LWML your time and gifts, as we worked together to carry out the mission and vision of LWML.

As an elected officer, I attended and prepared reports and/or presentations for WebEx and face-to-face meetings of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors, Interdepartmental 2015, Strategic Planning 2016, Convention Programming Committee, Communication Department, Podcast Task Force, and Team Communications. I was privileged to represent LWML at the Montana, Central Illinois, Indiana, and Carolinas District Conventions. I also responded to numerous communications sent to this office.

Some of my activities this biennium as they relate to the LWML primary targets:

### Nurturing Faith in Christ

- Worshiped, communed, and served regularly in my home congregation;
- Read and meditated on daily devotions, including Mustard Seed Devotions;
- Participated in TheLWML Facebook Bible Study;
- In prayer for fellow sisters and brothers in Christ and for the LWML.

### Sharing Encouragement

- Corresponded with department chairmen and coordinator and district president mentees;
- Hosted department WebEx meetings for updates/questions/brainstorming;
- Wrote home page articles for [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org).
- Participated in local, zone, and district events; served on local and district boards.

### Making Our Mission Meaningful

- Proofed issues of the *Lutheran Woman’s Quarterly* and various other LWML resources;
- Reviewed social media posts;
- Provided oversight of website and its contents, including the secure area for Board of Directors;
- Coordinated collaboration of Marketing, ITC, and Graphics Team for best flow of LWML resources;
- Coordinated collaboration of Communications Coordinator, Media & Communications Manager, and Information Technology Committee for Team Communications, determining best work flow of LWML communications;
- Provided/updated past LWML documents as needed/requested; compiled a resume of district convention documents;



*Let love be genuine. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer (Romans 12:9a, 12).*

- Assisted with meeting technology, including Doodle polls, WebEx meetings, and PowerPoint presentations;
- Assisted with software and technology troubleshooting and training;
- Compiled author schedules for home page articles and 2-Minute Tuesday messages;
- Kept the Personnel Directory of LWML Board of Directors and Committees updated;
- Coordinated updates in the LWML Style Guide and Style Sheet.

### Special Assignments

- Convention Programming Committee;
- Assembly of Leaders;
- Podcast Task Force;
- Executive Committee Strategic Planning;
- Team Communications.

# Elected Officer Reports



*The LORD is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him (Psalm 28:7).*

## VICE PRESIDENT OF GOSPEL OUTREACH – Shelley Moeller

To serve the Lord through LWML is an awesome privilege. Growth in my faith, my confidence, and experience is immeasurable. Sharing God's love by distributing the Gifts from the Heart and Mission Grants led me to meet people that also have such a love in their hearts to serve the Lord and the people in this world. Most important is that we keep our eyes on the Lord as we make plans and detail out our work so that we do His Will. Jesus Christ Above All, He shall receive all the glory.

My sincerest thanks to the ladies in the Gospel Outreach, Mission Grants, and Mission Servants Committees. Their dedication and professionalism made our accomplishments fun and moved LWML into a brighter light. Supervising their work by proofreading, guiding their creativity, and encouraging them to spread their wings was a pleasure. Also heartfelt thanks to our LWML office staff whose enthusiasm and devotion makes volunteering such a joy.

As a member of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors, I attended all meetings, one Interdepartmental meeting, and one Strategic Planning Meeting. Also I was honored to attend three district conventions (South Dakota, New England and Minnesota South), the Lutheran Deaconess Association Conference, meetings with LCMS representatives, numerous WebEx meetings, responded to correspondence pertaining to my office and phone calls. I attended the Lutheran Hour Ministries 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration. One of the greatest honors of my office was representing you, the LWML woman, by personally handing grant checks to many of our LCMS partners, LCMS Recognized Service Organizations, and churches receiving the funds with which our Lord has blessed our mite offerings.

Specific activities as they relate to the LWML primary targets:

### Nurturing Faith in Christ

- Worshiping and communing regularly;
- Participating in several Bible studies;
- Personal devotions daily;
- Preparing devotions for meetings;
- Actively participating in my local LWML meetings;
- Daily in prayer for family, LWML sisters, friends, pastors, our country, and those who serve her.

### Sharing Encouragement

- Weekly encouraged the Gospel Outreach Department;
- Wrote home page articles, 2-Minute Tuesday articles, Facebook posts;
- Shared LWML grant stories at conventions, rallies, and meetings;
- Reviews writing of the Gospel Outreach Department;

- Continued to connect with LCMS and Recognized Service Organizations to promote the work of the Lord.

### Making Our Mission Meaningful

- Shared mission information and the story of mites to all who would listen;
- Worked with LCMS to bring "Everyone His Witness" to several LWML districts;
- Participated in the continuing process of Strategic Planning for LWML;
- Serve as the LWML Central Illinois District Structure Chairman;
- Served a tornado torn area through Lutheran Early Response Training (LERT);
- Alongside our LWML staff created a new online grant application process;
- Worked towards giving our district officers a better understanding of grant applications, vetting processes, and good reporting practices.

### Special Assignments:

- Chairman, Development/ Advancement Committee;
- Member, Governance Committee;
- Member, Investment Committee;
- Member, Visioning Committee;
- Chairman, Mission Grants Selection Committee.

# Elected Officer Reports

## VICE PRESIDENT OF ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES – Debbie Larson

As coordinator of the Organizational Resources Department, I am privileged to supervise the work of the HOPE, Leader Development, and Structure Committees. These dedicated and talented women have given selflessly of their time to God's glory. It is an honor to work side by side with the members of the Executive Committee (EC), the Board of Directors (BOD), committee members, and the members of my home congregation.

I thank my Lord for the opportunities He has given me as I serve Him through the LWML. I thank my husband and family for their support and my sisters and brothers in Christ for serving the Lord with gladness beside me. Blessed be the Lord!

As an elected member, I attended and participated in EC, BOD, Interdepartmental, and special assignment committee meetings and joined in WebEx and conference calls. It was my privilege to attend five LWML district conventions in 2016.

Some of my activities as they relate to the LWML primary targets:

### Nurturing Faith in Christ

- Daily Scripture reading, devotions, and prayer. Attend weekly worship and Bible studies;
- Continue to keep all leaders and members of LWML in my prayers;
- Continue to pray for all those touched by Jesus through this organization.

### Sharing Encouragement

- Represented the EC at the LWML Kansas, Oregon, Iowa East, and North Dakota District Conventions; led interest sessions, presented at a pastors' luncheon, and met with Young Women Representatives. I also attended the LWML Minnesota North Convention;
- Wrote articles, letters, and devotions as requested;
- In constant communication with chairmen of the HOPE, Leader Development, and Structure Committees, working with them and facilitating meetings as requested;
- Mentored, with joy, several district presidents;
- Updated the Christian Leaders Bible Study and Study Guide, authored by Rev. John Heckmann;

- Proofed and approved articles, Facebook posts, revised and new resources, devotions, icebreakers, letters, district and LWML Bylaws, and website text for my department;
- Facilitated the production of the HOPE Committee's YouTube video titled "LWML Tea Party."

### Making Our Mission Meaningful

- Continual review and reference of LWML Bylaws, LWML Handbook, and LWML Leaders Manual;
- Updated Bylaws per amendments approved at the June 2015 Convention;
- Updated the Leaders Manual to reflect any changes in the Bylaws;
- Updated the LWML Handbook to reflect current practices;
- Prepared for and participated in the Interdepartmental meeting. Prepared for meetings with my department chairmen;
- Completed online training programs relevant for this position;
- Reviewed and commented on LWML districts' proposed bylaws amendments going into the 2016 district conventions;

- Reviewed proposed amendments to the LWML Bylaws. Submitted them for approval, on behalf of the Structure Committee, to the EC and BOD, to be brought to the convention in Albuquerque.

### Special Assignments

- As a member of the EC Visioning Committee and the EC Governance Committee, made preparations, participated in related WebEx meetings, and completed assignments as given;
- Prepared for, and facilitated, the District President special training session held in February 2016; and
- Prepared for and facilitated the Structure Review meeting held in October 2016.



*I can do all things through him who strengthens me (Philippians 4:13).*

# Elected Officer Reports



*As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace (1 Peter 4:10).*

## VICE PRESIDENT OF SPECIAL FOCUS MINISTRIES – Kaye Wolff

The past two years as Vice President of Special Focus Ministries have been a humbling experience, filled with joy and blessings. I thank our Lord and Savior for the opportunities afforded me through the work of the LWML, and the gifted brothers and sisters that have encouraged me.

As an elected officer, I attended all meetings, WebEx and face-to-face, of the Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and special assignments. I am responsible for the oversight of the Committee on Young Women which facilitates the YWR program; the Heart to Heart Sisters Committee which motivates and equips multicultural women to serve in the LWML; Church Workers in Mission, which works to develop collaborative relationships between pastors, deaconesses and LWML groups; and YOUTH in Mission (formerly Teen LWML) since they contribute as much as they learn.

The duties of the office included equipping and enabling the committees to support the programs and women they serve, responding to texts, email, and phone calls, writing, editing, and other duties as assigned by the President.

I represented the LWML by attending four district conventions, presented a Webinar and a workshop for the LCMS Rural and Small Town Mission, Lutheran Hour Ministries 100th Anniversary celebration, and the LCMS Campus Ministry Conference.

Activities as they relate to the LWML primary targets:

### Nurturing Faith in Christ

- Studied God's Word privately and publicly in my congregation;
- Attended regular worship and communion;
- Attended zone Bible study, Bible study leader at district and zone events;
- Prepared LWML devotions and prayers for meetings as requested;
- In prayer regularly for my LWML family, mentees, and prayer partners, and LCMS partners.

### Sharing Encouragement

- Represented the Executive Committee at the Oklahoma, Wyoming, Mid-South and Southern Illinois district conventions; met with YWRs, Heart to Heart Sisters, pastors, and youth;
- Presented a Webinar "Are We a Friendly Church?" for LCMS Rural

- & Small Town Mission (RSTM), and presented a workshop "Reaching Young Women" at the RSTM Conference in Wichita, Kansas;
- Mentor to four district presidents;
- Led Bible study for LWML Michigan District African World Festival, speaker at several zone meetings, encouraging women to do what they can do, and not dwell on what they use to do;
- Shared messages of encouragement on social media, the LWML website home page, and 2-Minute Tuesday.

### Making our Mission Meaningful

- As a department, we wrote informational articles and produced resources that help equip and engage women, youth, and church workers;
- Shared with pastors and deaconesses the need to work in partnership and support of their LWML groups;

- Staying in touch with our LWML family via email, social media, and phone calls;
- Participation in in-state mission trips and servant events;
- Encouraging mite contributions at churches that no longer have active LWML groups.

### Special Assignments:

- Visioning Committee member;
- Convention Programming Committee member;
- Assembly of Leaders Committee member;
- Interdepartmental Committee member.

# Elected Officer Reports

## RECORDING SECRETARY – Ginger Starrett

It has been a blessing and an honor to have served as your Recording Secretary these past two years. As I filled the position for our wonderful sister who now resides in heaven, Joy Dougherty, it has given me greater insight into the work of the Lutherans Women's Missionary League (LWML). Sometimes the Lord chooses you for service when you least expect it. But when He gently taps you on the shoulder, don't be afraid to do what is asked, for it can be a truly rewarding gift.

I give thanks for the many wonderful men and women that I have worked with and met over the past two years who have been supportive in prayer and friendship. They are gifted Christian-hearted people who have a love for the Lord and the LWML, hard working, devoted, and always selflessly giving their all without notice or complaint.

May the Lord who has given so much continue to bless this organization and the people who give their time and talents to further the Lord's kingdom through the LWML.

### Nurturing Faith in Christ

- Worship and commune regularly;
- Serve on the alter guild in my home congregation;
- Participate in Bible studies and daily devotions;
- Participate in the district retreat;
- Daily in prayer.

### Sharing Encouragement

- Wrote a 2-Minute Tuesday article for the LWML;
- Wrote an article for *Radiant Reflections* – 75 years of Blessings;
- Encouraged, engaged, and prayed for my district president mentees;
- Prayed for the EC, BOD, prayer partners, and the 2017 convention committee;
- Prepared devotions and prayers for Executive Committee (EC), Board of Directors (BOD), and Interdepartmental meetings.

### Making our Mission Meaningful

- Participate in LWML society, zone, and district wide events and promoted the mission grants;
- Serve on local and district boards;
- Represented the EC at the LWML English and North Wisconsin District Conventions;

- Shared my personal LWML story with the YWRs at the LWML North Wisconsin District Convention;
- Participated in Giving Tuesday, Gifts of Love challenge, and the Shave off;
- Participate in Joyful Response, and society mite box giving;
- Participated in the Strategic Planning process for the LWML;
- Actively share the joys of the LWML.

### Activities 2015-2017

- Minutes for 2015-2017 Executive Committee meetings;
- Minutes for 2015-2017 WebEx EC meetings;
- Minutes for 2016-2017 BOD meetings;
- Interdepartmental 2015 committee member;
- Strategic Planning meeting member;
- Governance Committee Chairman;
- Visioning Committee member;
- Development/Advancement Committee member;
- Giving Tuesday Committee member;
- 2017 Convention reports, statistics, and delegation data collection;
- June 22-25, 2017, 37<sup>th</sup> Biennial LWML Convention.



*Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out (Deut. 28:6).*

# Elected Officer Reports



*Commit your way to the Lord;  
trust in him and he will do this  
(Psalm 37:5 NIV):*

## TREASURER – Marilyn Schroeder

General overview and personal reflections from this biennium.

Thank you for the privilege and honor to serve as treasurer of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. It's truly a joy to serve in this capacity, and an even greater joy to serve our awesome God alongside you through the in-gathering of mite dollars for funding our mission grants. My first term to serve on the Executive Committee has been very exciting. Thank you for your prayers.

As an elected officer, I attended all called meetings of the Executive Committee (EC), Board of Directors, multiple WebEx meetings for the EC as well as the Finance and Investment Committees for which I have served as chairman. Additionally, I was privileged to represent the LWML at two district conventions: Utah-Idaho and Florida-Georgia. This biennium, a very exciting LWML event was initiated. Giving Tuesday was first held in 2015, and repeated in 2016, with outstanding results.

Listed below are specific activities as they relate to the LWML's primary targets:

### Nurturing Faith in Christ

- Attended worship and the Lord's Supper regularly;
- Engaged in reading *Today's Light* daily devotion, LWML's Mustard Seed Devotions, and the Lutheran Hour Ministries devotion via email;
- Attended Bible study at my church as often as possible;
- Prepared devotions and prayers for EC, BOD, and Convention Programming Committee meetings as requested;
- Prayed regularly for mission grants, mite in-gatherings, and special prayer request needs.

### Sharing Encouragement

- Encouraged and supported elected and appointed officers, and other volunteers, in person and in prayer;
- Wrote 2-Minute Tuesday and LWML home page articles as requested;
- Helped facilitate a gathering of all district treasurers at this convention to share fellowship and be updated on responsibilities for their position as treasurer;
- Attended my local zone and society events whenever possible.

### Making Our Mission Meaningful

- Reconciled monthly mite donations and posted reports on the LWML website;
- Reviewed multiple LWML policies and updated the same when applicable;
- Attended the Gift Planning Advocates annual training meeting;
- Attended and celebrated the 100 year Anniversary of Lutheran Hour Ministries;
- Accompanied LWML members in September 2016 on the Jubilee Journey to Germany (Lutherland - 500th Reformation Tour) led by Sr. Pastoral Counselor Rev. Dr. Robert Roegner;
- Served as lay member on the Iowa District West Board of Directors;
- Serve as Parliamentarian on the LWML Iowa West District Board of Directors.

# Elected Officer Reports

## SENIOR PASTORAL COUNSELOR – Rev. Dr. Robert M. Roegner

What a joy it has been to serve you as your Senior Pastoral Counselor! I have had the privilege, over the past two years, of working beside some very gifted and mission-minded women leaders of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Whether it has been leading you in worship, devotions, and Bible studies, assisting in helping to produce numerous resources, lending my counsel and aid to various committees, the Board of Directors, and the Executive Committee, or simply celebrating with you how our Lord gives us His grace simply and freely through His Word and Sacraments, I have been blessed by your presence in my own life and mission ministry.

It is God who reminds us through I Peter 2:9 why we serve in the way we do, *However, you are chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, people who belong to God. You were chosen to tell about the excellent qualities of God, who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light* (GWN).

I am always amazed as I look around a room filled with Lutheran Women in Mission of the passion you have for people living around the world who are living in “darkness” without the light of Christ. You get it when Peter tells you, *You were chosen to tell about the excellent qualities of God ...* During this 2015–2017 Biennium, there have been three primary foci you as Lutheran Women in Mission, and I as your pastoral counselor, have targeted. They are:

### Nurturing Faith in Christ

- I have had the privilege of reading, doctrinally reviewing, and helping to get published hundreds of articles, Bible studies, news releases, devotions, skits, etc., to assist you, the LWML in finding personal opportunities in your daily life to be nurtured in your faith in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit to discover your unique gifts and value in God’s family.

### Sharing Encouragement

- I have had the opportunity to meet so many of you as Lutheran Women in Mission at your society and zone meetings, district conventions, and of course here at your national convention, where we are able to share encouragement with each other because we value our friendships and the support we have for one another and so we can grow in our faith and relationships as brothers and sisters in Christ.

### Making Our Mission Meaningful

- I have been truly humbled that God would allow me to be a part of the LWML using my many years of mission and missionary experience to challenge and equip you to make a meaningful difference in the lives of hurting, helpless, and unbelieving people at home and throughout the world.

Thank you for allowing me to serve God and His church through the LWML. You have helped me become a better person, a better pastor, a better missionary, and of course, a guy who has a lot of purple in his wardrobe! It doesn’t get any better for me than that as your Pastoral Counselor.



# Elected Officer Reports



## JUNIOR PASTORAL COUNSELOR – Rev. Robert L. Mundahl

What an amazing year it has been as your Junior Pastoral Counselor. I thank God every day for the women of the LWML and for this time of service within His Church. It is an honor to see how God has blessed this organization with gifted and willing women. The focus is on Jesus Christ and the salvation He has won for all people. As a primary target for the 2015–2017 biennium, the Executive Committee has approached it with these three things in mind.

### Nurturing Faith in Christ

Much of what I did as a Counselor was in this realm. Leading devotions and Bible studies for the various committees and groups to which I was appointed, partnering with Sr. Counselor Roegner in the worship of our Lord, providing guidance to the many resources that show up in print or on social media, giving support and counsel to those who asked, and working closely with the Executive Committee and Board of Directors. With the Word of God at hand, and by the guiding of His Spirit, we grew to fear, love, and trust in God above all things!

### Sharing Encouragement

My personal Bible verse is Hebrews 13:5, *I will never leave you nor forsake you*. As His willing servant, in all that He has called me to do, I take great encouragement from these words. Knowing of His presence and blessings for me throughout the years has provided a foundation for me to give encouragement to others. With Jesus as my strength and joy in service, I have sought to model, teach, and provide it in everything I do. Prayers, notes of support, and complementary words have been applied by me as your Counselor.

### Making our Mission Meaningful

My mission statement/vision for this organization: *The LWML embraces the challenge of reaching the world with the grace of our Savior, Jesus Christ. As all women grow in faith through the Word of God, they will be equipped to carry out the overall mission of our Lord in their family, congregation, and community settings.* At every opportunity I have sought to bring this home. The challenge is great and this work is so critical. Helping each part of the LWML claim this reality as their own, and working in concert together for the sake of reaching the lost and the erring, is at the core of my service.

As we finish this biennium in Albuquerque and embark on another in good faith, may the joy and peace of the Lord go with us. As Lutheran Women in Mission, let us always proclaim **Jesus Christ Above All**.



IN 1942, AS THE LWML WAS BEING FORMED, FIVE PASTORS WERE APPOINTED TO SERVE AS COUNSELORS. THREE OF THEM WERE ELECTED TO CONTINUE THEIR SERVICE AT THE FIRST BIENNIAL CONVENTION IN FORT WAYNE IN 1943. CURRENTLY, TWO PASTORAL COUNSELORS SERVE ON THE LWML EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

# Appointed Officer Reports

## MEETING MANAGER – Leslie Joseph

It has been a blessing and privilege to serve as LWML Meeting Manager these last two years. The Meeting Manager plans and coordinates travel, lodging, catering, and meeting support for all LWML events held during the biennium, except for the convention. I am grateful to God for providing this opportunity to assist the women and men who faithfully serve LWML.

General activities of the office were performed as required, including responding to correspondence, email, U.S. mail, and telephone calls.

### Nurturing Faith in Christ

- Read daily email Mustard Seed devotion and *Today's Light*®;
- Attended regular worship;
- Attended weekly Sunday Bible study;
- Attended church small group meetings as scheduled;
- Prepared and presented devotions at the Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings as assigned.

### Sharing Encouragement

- Wrote thank-you notes to meeting site hotels;
- Prayed for women and men working in the LWML.

### Making Our Mission Meaningful

- Worked in cooperation with the manager of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Travel and Meeting Planning;
- Reviewed, approved, and forwarded vouchers to LWML office for payment of all meeting billing;
- Monitored travel and meeting expenses;
- Chaired Convention Site Committee;
- Served as member of Development/Advancement Committee;
- Served as a member of the 2015 Interdepartmental Committee;
- Sent and managed travel memo and Acknowledgment/Release forms for all meetings;
- Presented information for district presidents during the District Presidents

meeting in January 2016 and October 2016;

- Initiated planning for 2016 and 2017 meetings;
- Reviewed documents as requested;
- Arranged travel, lodging, catering, and meeting support for:
  - Six Executive Committee meetings in St. Louis, Missouri, and Albuquerque, New Mexico;
  - Three Board of Directors meetings in St. Louis, Missouri, and Albuquerque, New Mexico;
  - Six Convention Programming Committee meetings in St. Louis, Missouri, and Albuquerque, New Mexico;
  - LWML Past Presidents' meeting in St. Louis, Missouri;
  - Structure Task Force meeting in St. Louis, Missouri;
  - Nominating Committee meeting in St. Louis, Missouri;
  - Interdepartmental meeting in St. Louis, Missouri;
  - Strategic Planning meeting in St. Louis, Missouri;
  - Mission Grants Selection Committee meeting in St. Louis, Missouri;
  - Gifts of Love Ministry Team Training meeting in St. Louis, Missouri;
  - 2017 LWML Convention, Albuquerque, New Mexico.



*And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:7).*

# Appointed Officer Reports



*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).*

## Nurturing Faith in Christ

- Daily study of God's Word;
- Joyfully worshiped and attended Bible studies;
- Prepared devotions and led prayers as assigned for Executive Committee (EC) and Board of Directors (BOD) meetings;
- Authored devotions as requested.

## Sharing Encouragement

- Shared Jesus with people encountered while traveling for LWML;
- Responded to requests for information and permission for logo use;
- Prepared exhibit and attended Beautiful Feet Conference, Concordia University, Seward NE, in 2015;
- Arranged for 2016 LWML Reception hosted by President Patti Ross at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne IN, and Concordia Seminary, St Louis MO;
- Arranged for exhibits and attended 2016 LCMS Convention, National

## PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR – Carol von Soosten

What a joy-filled privilege it has been to serve my Lord and Savior as your LWML Public Relations Director. I thank my husband, family, and my Christ Lutheran Church and School family for their support, and all the men and women I've been honored to get to know during this service. It is my prayer that together, as Lutheran Women in Mission, we continue to **Engage, Equip, Encourage, and Enjoy** while we serve the Lord with gladness!

Youth Gathering, Lutheran Education Association Convocation, and 2017 Best Practices in Ministry Conference;

- Represented LWML at 2016 LWML district conventions for Nebraska North and Texas;
- Promoted LWML through *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* "Shop LWML" page.

## Making our Mission Meaningful

- Served as coordinator of Marketing Team, overseeing development and implementation of campaigns and promotional materials;
- Issued LWML news releases and issues of eNews;
- Supplied materials for articles for the *Reporter*;
- Corresponded with the President, officers, and LCMS entities as needed;
- Coordinated LWML Sunday resources and publicity for 2016 and 2017;
- Coordinated Giving Tuesday campaigns with other LWML staff for 2015 and 2016;
- Authored LWML website home page articles, 2-Minute Tuesday articles, sketches, Bulletin Bytes, and Facebook posts;
- Participated in assessment and approval of LWML store products and new products for development;

- Oversight of arrangements for exhibits at other Lutheran events and conferences;
- Secured photographer for LWML meetings and 2017 convention, and took photos as needed;
- Supervised development of materials for 2015 and 2016 President's Annual Appeal letter;
- Wrote or updated EC biographies, LWML Past Presidents' biographies, and biographies for all convention personalities;
- Prepared PR packets and products for distribution at meetings and events;
- Prepared materials for LWML Representative Report and the printing of the President's Report to the Districts for 2016 district conventions;
- Attended multiple meetings representing LWML;
- Attended all regular and WebEx meetings of LWML Executive Committee, Board of Directors, Interdepartmental, Convention Programming Committee, and Development/Advancement Committee;
- Completed PR responsibilities for 2017 LWML Convention.

# Appointed Officer Reports

## STRATEGIC PLAN FACILITATOR – Cheryl Mattil

Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) as your Strategic Plan Facilitator. The Executive Committee (EC) was an absolute pleasure to work with on a daily basis. They are all grounded in Christ and have true hearts for our LWML. This biennium was a time to celebrate the past and look to the future. I am so thankful to the EC, my Visioning Committee, and our Board of Directors (BOD). Without the Holy Spirit's guidance, the EC's and BOD's hard work and dedication, the LWML would not be moving forward with a new enthusiasm.

As an appointed officer, I attended both WebEx and/or face-to-face meetings of the Executive Committee, Board of Directors, Interdepartmental 2015, Strategic Planning 2016, the Visioning Committee, and a Facebook Bible study, "Gifts, Chosen for You". Getting to know you at your LWML district conventions was a true treat for me. I received hugs as the EC representative to the LWML Eastern and Minnesota North Districts, presented a Bible study at Oklahoma, and hugged my fellow Texans in Lubbock. Thank you for all the loving encouragement!

Most importantly, I wish to thank our Heavenly Father for His providence, for the Holy Spirit's guidance, and for the life, death, and resurrection of our Savior. It is only through God's forgiveness and love that we as Lutheran women have the confidence of our salvation. Let's continue to spread the ripples of love and the news of our Savior throughout all creation! To God Be the Glory!

Activities as they relate to the LWML primary targets:

### Nurturing Faith in Christ

- Participate in personal and Sunday morning adult Bible study and worship weekly;
- Wednesday night Bible Study Leader
- Assisting with Midweek Children's Ministry;
- Pray daily for members of the EC, LWML Board of Directors, and national LWML committee members.

### Sharing Encouragement

- Participated in LWML Sunday at my home congregation and presented Mission Grant Speech;
- Wrote LWML website home page articles as assigned;
- Attended LWML society, zone, and district events;
- Delivered a Mission Grant check to the Opportunities in Uganda — Women of the Pearl and Seminary Completion grant;

- Participated musically in worship/funeral/wedding services — adult choir, handbells, and as keyboardist.

### Making Our Mission Meaningful

- Reviewed numerous LWML articles, news releases, correspondence, and products/programs;
- Participated as a member of the LWML ID 2015 Committee and completed all necessary duties and prepared presentations/handouts for ID 2015;
- Reviewed numerous LWML articles, news releases, correspondence, and products/programs.

### Special Assignments

- Visioning Committee Chairman;
- Strategic Planning Event Chairman, "Taking Flight";
- Interdepartmental Committee;
- As "Gifts, Chosen for You" writer - Facebook Bible study.



*Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths (Proverbs 3:5-6).*

# Special Committee Reports

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE –

**Katy Gifford, Chairman**

The 2015 -2017 Nominating Committee was elected at the 2015 convention in Des Moines for the purpose of preparing a slate of qualified candidates for the 2017 convention, which is now held, in Albuquerque, NM. This journey has been full of prayer, quiet consideration, study of God's Word, and a new awareness of God's love for us all. We thank all who submitted nominations, encouraged the nominees, and kept our committee in prayer.

In October 2016, the committee met in St. Louis, supported by our faithful pastoral counselor, Rev. Dr. Robert Roegner. Nominations were carefully reviewed and prayerfully considered in the selection process and preparation

of the convention ballot. The slate of candidates with brief biographical information was prepared for the spring 2017 issue of the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*. The list of candidates with more detailed biographies are provided in this manual.

The Nominating Committee is thankful for all who have been willing to submit their names for an elected position. You and your families' thoughts and prayers are gifts to all of us as we serve our Lord together. We would also like to thank those who kept us in prayer and encouraged us along this journey. The love of our LWML sisters was apparent. Serving the Lord and the LWML in this manner has been a humble honor and an opportunity we'll not soon forget.

We pray that God will bless the convention delegates and guide them, as He has guided us, in the election

process. May the Lord abundantly bless those who are elected in this convention as you serve our Lord! May He give you the strength and skills that your tasks will need! For those who were just as willing to serve, but not elected, we pray that the Lord would show you the opportunities He has for you to be His hands, His feet, His lips, and His voice.

Nominating Committee, pictured below: Deb Poesse; Margo Dupre; Katy Gifford, Chairman; Deaconess Betty Knapp; Melissa Salomón



*He must increase, but I must decrease (John 3:30).*

# Special Appointed Personnel Reports

## ARCHIVIST-HISTORIAN –

**Caroline Honeycutt**

### Activities of Archivist-Historian –Since October 2015

- During the Interdepartmental meeting Barbara Huggins and I worked at Concordia Historical Institute (CHI) finishing her last items;
  - While at CHI (worked 3 days);
    - Reorganized order of boxes;
    - Barbara and I met with the Director at CHI;
    - Decided that Boot Camp will not be held October 2016, but will wait until 2018;
  - Made contact with District Archivist-Historians via group email that was used by Barbara Huggins. Per the LCMS webmaster, as of January 10, 2016, this is no longer being used;
    - Sent a letter introducing myself
- and a notice that there will not be a Boot Camp October 2016;
- Attended 75th Committee Planning Meeting, November 2015;
  - March 29–31, 2016;
    - I worked at Concordia Historical Institute filing items from national and districts;
    - CHI director, Dr. Harmelink, asked me to write a short article that was published in their newsletter;
    - Met with Dr. Harmelink to continue to strengthen the LWML relationship;
  - Attended various conference calls for the 75th Anniversary Committee;
  - Completed tasks for the 75th Anniversary Committee;
  - October 26–28, 2016;
    - I worked at Concordia Historical Institute focusing on the upcoming display for convention;

- Met with Dr. Harmelink about LWML upcoming renewal (March 2017) for membership to CHI for keeping our archives safely stored.

### Meetings Attended

- Interdepartmental, October 2015;
- 75th Committee Planning, November 2015;
- Strategic Planning Meeting, October 2016.



*I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me (Galatians 2:20ab).*

# Special Appointed Personnel Reports

## CONVENTION MANAGER – Marguerite Christman

It has been a joy and privilege to serve the LWML this biennium as the Convention Manager. As a special appointed officer, my tasks have been focused on this convention, “**Jesus Christ Above All.**” It is my prayer that God will bless all who attend this 37th Biennial LWML Convention. May they return home empowered by the Holy Spirit, through Word and Sacrament, to proclaim Jesus Christ above all. It is hoped that each attendee has been encouraged through worship and Bible study, equipped to share His message of salvation, and engaged in celebrating God’s faithfulness while serving the Lord in their home, congregation, community, state, and throughout the world where God sends them.

### As an Appointed Officer:

- Attended and reported to all meetings of the Board of Directors;
- Attended and reported to all meetings of the Convention Programming Committee as an advisory member;
- Served as the liaison with the Albuquerque Host Committee attending all their meetings and working closely with the Host Committee Chairman Lois Anderson;
- Along with the Assistant to the Convention Manager, reviewed and updated the LWML Convention Guidelines for use by the Host Committee and the Executive Committee;
- Set up and continued to fine tune the Host Committee meetings using WebEx technology;
- Along with the LWML Audio Visual Director toured several convention sites for 2019 and 2021 conventions;
- Served on the 2023 Convention Site Committee as an advisory member;
- Assisted in reviewing and fine tuning the convention site application process;
- Served as the LWML contact with the Albuquerque Convention Center;
- Assisted in providing information to the Director of Finance & Administration in preparation of the convention budget and presentation to the Finance Committee;
- Carried out convention contracts following negotiation and signature by the LWML President;
- Planned, arranged, and coordinated catering needs of the convention attendees;
- Responsible for convention registration and the work of the convention registrar;
- Assembled the information and materials for the convention insert in the *Lutheran Woman’s Quarterly*;
- Supervised and monitored the District Charter Buses Housing blocks at several LWML contracted hotels;
- Assisted speakers, special guests, and staff with their convention arrangements;
- Coordinated the LWML room block at the DoubleTree by Hilton Downtown Hotel with the Meeting Manager;
- Prepared expense documentation for all convention invoices to be paid;
- Maintain professional membership in the Religious Conference Management Association, and attended two annual conferences.



*Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name (Philippians 2:9).*

# Special Appointed Personnel Reports

## REPORT OF THE PARLIAMENTARIAN – Barbara Volk

### Activities of the Parliamentarian

- Answered parliamentary questions from LWML officers and chairmen and districts;
- Met with the Structure Committee at the 2015 Interdepartmental Meeting;
- Reviewed and edited structure and parliamentary resources on the Structure Committee webpage;
- Reviewed proposed bylaw amendments from LWML districts;
- Served as a member of the Board of Directors Restructure Task Force;
- Reviewed proposed amendments to the LWML Bylaws with the Structure Committee;

- Planned Albuquerque convention booth and pre-convention workshop with the Structure Committee;
- Served as parliamentarian for the Carolinas District LWML.

### Meetings Attended

- Board of Directors Restructure Task Force WebEx Meeting, October 13, 2015;
- Interdepartmental Meeting, October 22–25, 2015;
- LWML Board of Directors Meeting, February 4–6, 2016;
- Board of Directors Restructure Task Force Meeting, May 17–19, 2016;
- Carolinas District LWML Convention, September 16–17, 2016;
- Restructure Review Meeting, October 24–25, 2016;

- LWML Strategic Planning Meeting, October 26–29, 2016;
- Carolinas District LWML Transition Meeting, November 12, 2016;
- LWML Board of Directors Meeting, January 25–28, 2017.



*for the joy of the Lord is your strength (Jeremiah 8:10).*

## REPORT OF THE CONTRACT ADMINISTRATOR – Lois Teinert

It has been a privilege for me to serve as Contracts Administrator in such a mission-minded organization, alongside men and women who love the Lord and want to serve and give Him their best. The last two years have been an opportunity for personal growth as I have learned this position and have served in this capacity. God has so richly blessed the LWML and I look forward to continue to learn and to serve!

### Activities of the Contracts Administrator

- Contacted and discussed duties of position with Lori May, previous Contracts Administrator;
- Received and reviewed copies of contracts currently in effect between LWML and other parties;
- Successfully completed Security Awareness Training course through Trustwave;
- Received and filed documentation regarding application with State of Utah for sales tax exemption in anticipation of 2017 convention being held in Salt Lake City;

- Prepared contracts for photography and audio visual services, as well as *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* graphic artist, and various Bible studies;
- Corresponded with attorney Dale Werts, Director of Finance & Administration Kelley Young, President Patti Ross, and VP of Christian Life Eden Keefe regarding agreements between LWML and numerous other parties;
- Worked with Director of Finance & Administration Kelley Young in preparing spreadsheet to keep abreast of status of each agreement and proposal;
- As member of Convention Site Committee, studied information provided and prepared spreadsheets showing comparison information on potential 2023 convention sites to assist committee in making recommendations to the EC for their evaluation;

- Assisted Convention Manager Marguerite Christman as requested, by reviewing various items relating to the 2017 Albuquerque, 2019 Mobile, and 2021 Lexington conventions.

### Meetings Attended

- Board of Directors Meeting, February 4–6, 2016;
- Board of Directors Strategic Planning Meeting, October 23–25, 2016;
- Convention Site Committee Meeting, October 24, 2016;
- Convention Site Committee WebEx Meeting, November 28, 2016;
- Board of Directors Meeting, January 25–28, 2017.



*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope (Romans 15:13).*

# Standing Committee Reports

## CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMITTEE – Jennifer Huecker, Chairman

### Purpose Statement

The purpose of the Christian Life Committee is to provide materials to engage, encourage, and equip women to grow in their Christian faith and service.

### Objectives

- Nurturing Faith in Christ – We are committed to helping every woman find personal opportunities to be nurtured in faith in Jesus Christ.
- Making Our Mission Meaningful – We are committed to equip and challenge women of all ages, stages and ethnicities, to make a meaningful difference in the lives of hurting, helpless and unbelieving people throughout the world.
- Sharing Encouragement – We believe that women value friendships, encouragement, and support and we strive to offer warm, welcoming opportunities for women to grow in faith and relationships.

### Activities

- Attended Fall 2015 Interdepartmental Meeting;
- Attended and prepared reports for the 2016 and 2017 Board of Directors meetings as the committee chairman;
- New Balance Bible studies presented at this 2017 LWML Convention:  
*Christ Filled Living*, authored by Kay Meyer;  
*Christ Filled Living with Adolescents*, authored by MaryAnn Waldon;  
*Christ Filled Family Living*, authored by Coreen Jander;
- Prepared three new booklets of Mustard Seed devotions, *Trust & Talents*; *Praise & Patience*; *God's Grace & Goodness*; available at this 2017 LWML Convention;
- Prepared Christian Life newsletters, *Christian Life Connection*;
- Podcasts made available with coordination through several LWML Committees;
- Prepared Christian Life 2017 LWML convention booth;
- Maintained contact by email.



Terri Wenzel; Jennifer Huecker, Chairman; Anne Hartman

*The word of the Lord proves true;  
he is a shield for all those who  
take refuge in him (Psalm 18:  
30b).*

# Standing Committee Reports

*I will lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth (Psalm 121:1-2).*

## CHRISTIAN RESOURCES EDITORS – Carol Schmidt, Chairman

The committee expresses a very special thank you to Eden Keefe, Vice President of Christian Life, for her guidance and support and is most appreciative to those who wrote for Christian Resources Editors Committee. It is our prayer that the resources will be widely used and a blessing to those who use them.

### Purpose Statement

The purpose of the Christian Resources Editors Committee (CRE) is to:

- Review and update current program helps;
- Solicit authors to produce additional program helps;
- Produce a two-year meeting guide that provides programming ideas and helps promote growth in faith and relationships with sisters in Christ.

### Objectives

- Solicit and receive submissions of devotions, Bible studies, sketches, and additional materials to help nurture faith in Jesus in women on their journey of faith;
- Produce a two-year planner for the 2017–2019 biennium that includes icebreakers, devotions, Bible studies, and mission servant projects that emphasize the “E’s” of engage, encourage, equip, and enjoy the faith journey of Lutheran Women in Mission;
- Update and rearrange the Program Helps webpage in a standardized and user-friendly way on the LWML website to assist women in their joyful journey in Jesus.

### Activities

- Attended Fall 2015 Interdepartmental Meeting;

- Attended and prepared reports for the 2016 and 2017 Board of Directors meetings as the committee chairman;
- Gratefully accepted, reviewed, edited, and prepared for posting new devotions, Bible studies, and sketches submitted by gifted LWML authors;
- Selected for monthly posting on the LWML Program Helps webpage a featured ice breaker, devotion, Bible study, Mission Servant idea, and sometimes a sketch;
- Planned, solicited writers, edited, reviewed, and facilitated the production of the 2017–2019 *reSOURCEs for Planning Programs* (RPP), that starts in September 2017 and ends in August 2019, to be available for purchase in print and free for download on the Program Helps webpage;
- Updated Writer’s Guidelines and posted on the Program Helps webpage;
- Added three new categories to the types of Resources available on the Program Helps webpage and completed incorporating previously approved, electronically available resources into the appropriate category on this webpage to make them available free for download;
- Participated with the Christian Life Committee in preparing a joint booth for the 2017 LWML Convention.



Diane Grebing; Carol Schmidt, Chairman;  
Barbara Schaer

# Standing Committee Reports

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE – Marie McNary, Chairman

*Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet,  
and a light unto my path (Psalm  
119:105 KJV).*

The purpose of the Information Technology Committee is to: encourage the use of the website, update and maintain the website, facilitate LWML presence in social networking, and assist with technical support and education.

### **Update, maintain, and encourage use of the LWML website.**

- Serve as a liaison between LWML Vice Presidents, committee members, and the LWML Office Staff (Eva & Ashley) to ensure necessary changes are made to the website (Content changes and updates continue to happen regularly!);
- Ensured 2-Minute Tuesday and home page articles are reaching their target audience through promotion on social media (as well as on website and email list distribution);
- Responded to *webmaster@lwml.org* emails and helped trouble shoot and answer questions when needed;
- Assisted committees in keeping their webpages current and assisted in uploading new content.

### **Facilitate LWML presence in social networking.**

- Write, review, and post social media content on a daily basis;
- Worked with office staff and Christian Life to create special Facebook Devotional Posts for: Lent, *Gifts Chosen for You* (May 2016), Advent, and Epiphany;
- Continued a partnership with Christian Life in regards to podcasting LWML resources;
- There has been a good deal of time dedicated to working with the LWML Office and determining the role of the LWML Communications Office Staff and Information Technology Committee. This will evolve further before 2017 has concluded;
- Responded to comments and questions left by individuals visiting LWML social media sites.
- As of the writing of this report, the LWML's social media reach is:
  - Facebook: 10,914 page likes
  - Pinterest: 773 followers
  - Twitter: 732 followers
  - You Tube: 146 subscribers
  - Google+: 40 followers



Joy Anderson; Brianne Stahlecker;  
Marie McNary, Chairman; Wendy Greiner

# Standing Committee Reports

*He put a new song in my mouth,  
a hymn of praise to our God.  
Many will see and fear, and put  
their trust in the Lord (Psalm  
40:3).*

## **LWQ themes this biennium:**

- “Milestones” [Spring 2016];
- “CrossWords” [Summer 2016];
- “Count It All Joy” [Fall 2016];
- “Pastors’ Wives: Our Lives” [Winter 2016];
- “Engage! Encourage! Equip! Enjoy!” [Spring 2017];
- “Counter Cultural Christian” [Summer 2017];
- “Jesus Christ Above All” [Fall 2017];
- “Trust Issues” [Winter 2017].

*You have multiplied, O Lord my  
God, your wondrous deeds and  
your thoughts toward us; none can  
compare with you! I will proclaim  
and tell of them, yet they are more  
than can be told (Psalm 40:5).*

## **OFFICIAL PUBLICATION STAFF, LUTHERAN WOMAN’S QUARTERLY – Nancy Graf Peters, Editor-in-Chief**

The purpose of the Official Publication Staff is to produce the *Lutheran Woman’s Quarterly* (*Quarterly or LWQ*), inform women of LWML activities, provide topics for study and discussion, and promote the mission of the LWML.

New this biennium: “Then and Now,” an ongoing feature written by the LWML 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Task Force about LWML history and its current mission, with a special focus on counting down to the celebration at the 2017 LWML Albuquerque Convention.

Articles from the current issue, archives of past issues, Bibles studies (English and Spanish), study helps, and information on how to subscribe to the digital or print edition can be found online at the *Quarterly* home page at [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org).

Individual subscriptions to the print and eQuarterly versions can be ordered online. Print, digital, or both: one year, \$6.50; three years, \$18. When you order the eQuarterly, after logging in, you will have immediate access to every article in current and recent issues, instead of having to wait a year to access them online.

Single copies (current or recent back issues) can be ordered from the LWML Office while supplies last.

The Official Publication (*Quarterly*) Staff will host a Friday Noon Info Gathering and a booth at The Above All Exhibit Hall at the 2017 LWML Albuquerque Convention.

The *LWQ* staff acknowledges Department Coordinator Nancy Bogenhagen and Pastoral Counselor Rev. Robert Mundahl for their invaluable encouragement and counsel as they supported us in our work together.

Thanks be to the living God for His sure promises and never-ending guidance, for the peace and joy that comes from knowing Jesus as Lord and Savior, and for the Spirit-led gifts with which He graced the creative, dedicated, and enthusiastic *LWQ* staff.



Back row: Linda Guteres, News Editor; Becky Wehrspann, Features Editor; Nancy Graf Peters, Editor-in-Chief; Amy Gill, Graphic Designer; Sheila Lutz, Christian Living Editor.  
Front row: Cheri Fish, Mission Editor; Sharon B. Rapp, Bible Study Editor

# Standing Committee Reports

## GOSPEL OUTREACH COMMITTEE – Betty Dietrich, Chairman

The purpose of the Gospel Outreach Committee is to engage, encourage, and equip women to share their faith in Jesus Christ, their loving Savior, with people of their communities and the world.

*And he said to them,  
“Go into all the world  
and proclaim the gospel  
to the whole creation”  
(Mark 16:15).*

God wants you to be yourself when sharing that joy and excitement of your faith with others. The goal of the Gospel Outreach Committee this biennium has been to encourage and equip women with ideas to share that joy and faith.

The activities of this committee included the following.

- Attended and participated in the Interdepartmental Meeting, October 2015;
- Attended Strategic Planning Meeting, October 2016;
- Attended and prepared reports for the Board of Directors meetings (chairman only);
- Wrote articles and shared ideas on the LWML web page and Facebook;
- Planned Gospel Outreach Committee booth for Albuquerque Convention;
- Participated in four WebEx meetings;
- Set dates and plans for “Every One His Witness” workshops in five LWML Districts.

The 2015–2017 Gospel Outreach Committee would like to thank Department Coordinator Shelley Moeller, Pastoral Counselor Robert Roegner, and the Executive Committee for their prayers, leadership, and encouragement. It has been a joy to work together and use the gifts the Lord has given us to serve the LWML. We pray that some of the ideas we have shared have encouraged you to develop a closeness to your Savior and equipped you to reach out and use every day opportunities to be God’s witnesses.

Thank you for the privilege of serving Him as your Gospel Outreach Committee.



Sarah Brown; Betty Dietrich, Chairman;  
Martha Hartwig

# Standing Committee Reports

*being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light (Col. 1:11-12).*

## MISSION GRANTS COMMITTEE – Sally Handrick, Chairman

The purpose of the Mission Grants Committee is to review and select mission grant proposals for the Mission Grants ballot. Inform, encourage, challenge, and motivate women to support mission grant recipients.

Following the objectives of providing resources and promoting awareness and connectedness with the grants for the all the members of the LWML, we aim to show the link between our mites and those people whose need is great and to whom we have been blessed to reach out and make a difference with the help of God.

In this biennium our committee has:

- Kept in prayer the members of the LWML as well as the grant recipients;
- Written the grant stories, providing prayers, devotions, bulletin bytes, and Facebook blurbs for each grant to be published throughout the biennium;
- Diligently prepared updates and thank-you acknowledgements from grant recipients for posting on the website;
- Compiled many Facebook posts for awareness of our grant recipients' needs;
- Composed articles for 2-Minute Tuesday and LWML home page;
- Secured authorization from grant recipients for inclusion of their contact information on our website;
- Personally presented two mission grant checks to two different recipients;
- Participated in WebEx meetings to share pertinent information;
- Received and processed through the 2017-2019 Mission Grant Proposals.

The committee attended the LWML Interdepartmental meeting October 2015, and was represented at the LWML Strategic Planning Meeting October 2016.

With thanks and praise to God, we are grateful for the opportunity to serve Him and thereby serve His people as we fulfilled our responsibilities. To God be all the glory.



Tracy Stetzel; Frances Molitor; Sally Handrick, chairman;  
Susan Donnelly; Lucia Novelli Segovia

# Standing Committee Reports

## MISSION SERVANTS COMMITTEE – Linda Fees, Chairman

The purpose of the Mission Servants Committee is to encourage sensitivity in women toward those who are hurting and in need. Provide ideas, resources, and encouragement to empower them to serve God through globally serving others.

### Objectives:

- Publicize opportunities and challenges for mission service in the church, community, and world;
- Be aware of Mission Servant opportunities in times of emergency in which LWML members can serve by donating gifts, time, and talent upon short notice (e.g. hurricanes, wildfires, flooding, etc.) and post list of opportunities for service on the website;
- Publicize Gifts from the Heart (GFTH) opportunities for conventions and meetings;
- Determine needs for GFTH for each LWML Convention, Interdepartmental, Board of Directors, and Assembly of Leaders meetings;
- With Pastoral Counselor(s), plan GFTH dedication for the convention;
- Arrange for packing and delivery of GFTH at each meeting or convention.

### Gifts from the Heart (GFTH) Ingathering Recipients:

- Interdepartmental Meeting: 2015 – Lutheran Senior Services of St. Louis;
- Board of Director's Meetings:
  - 2016 – Lutheran Family and Children's Services
  - 2016 – Humanitri of St. Louis
  - 2017 – Christian Friends of New Americans;

- Albuquerque LWML Convention – 2017
  - Albuquerque Christian Children Care Net
  - Lutheran World Relief
  - Ysleta Lutheran Mission

### Other Activities:

- Developed new Mission Servants logo;
- Designed polo shirts with the new logo;
- Worked with the Information Technology Committee to update the LWML Mission Servant webpage;
- Each month wrote a new *Mission Servant Activities of the Month* for sharing on the LWML website;
- Submitted *Mission Servants Activity of the Month* for the website. These highlight society, zone, and district mission servant activities;
- Developed plans for the convention exhibit with the Gospel Outreach Committee and the Mission Grants Committee;
- Determined the 2017 LWML Convention Gifts from the Heart recipients, developed their list of needs in the Albuquerque area, publicized them, developed the schedule of workers, planned for the packing of donated items, as well as the transportation of the donated items to the recipients.

*And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith (Galatians 6:9-10).*



Linda Fees, Chairman; Leslie Colligan;  
Cheryl Killham

# Standing Committee Reports

## HOPE COMMITTEE (HELPING ORGANIZATIONS PARTICIPATE EFFECTIVELY) – Bunnie Koelsch, Chairman

The purpose of the HOPE Committee is to:

- Engage in opportunities for groups to grow in faith and relationships as sisters in Christ;
- Encourage participation in events and activities that meet the needs of each group;
- Equip groups by providing resources that connect women with the mission and ministry of LWML;
- Enjoy the benefits of *Serving the Lord with Gladness!*

### Objectives:

- Review current/existing resources on the LWML website;
- Have a social media presence on both Facebook and Twitter;
- Provide groups with new meeting ideas through *reSOURCES for Planning Programs* as well as YouTube videos; and
- Increase participation in women's events sponsored by LWML using the Hope Committee resources.

### Activities:

- Regular WebEx meetings and phone conferences with committee members and Department Coordinator;
- Promoted resources through LWML social media of Facebook and Twitter;
- Initiated the development of the new HOPE logo, designed by the Graphics Team;
- Highlighted a group icebreaker and activity each month on the HOPE webpage side bar which is called "HOPEful Tip of the Month";
- Completed first YouTube video and it was shared on Social Media during Giving Tuesday. It may be viewed on YouTube and accessed on the HOPE webpage;
- Completed Group Icebreakers for 2017–2019 *reSOURCES for Planning Programs*;
- Completed new resource titled *LWML Pledge Responsive Reading*;
- Worked on initial implementation of strategic planning initiatives that resulted from the Strategic Planning Meeting in October 2016;
- Worked on ideas for sharing LWML on college campuses;
- Planned HOPE exhibit for the 2017 LWML Convention, which has an "interactive activity" for groups;
- Continued to work on our goal of connecting with all women in the congregations and showing them the benefits and relevance of LWML.

Glory be to the Triune God for the privilege and blessing to serve Him and His people!



Karen Lougheed; Bunnie Koelsch, Chairman;  
Karen Morrison

# Standing Committee Reports

## LEADER DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – Nancy Kohrs, Chairman

The purpose of the Leader Development Committee is to support and encourage present and future leaders as they discover their unique God-given gifts and so participate in a meaningful and encouraging servant leadership role.

### Objective:

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, each LWML woman will discover her unique gifts as God-given for a servant leadership role.

### Activities:

- Created seven new issues of the *Follow The Leader* newsletter;
- Revised *Gaining, Training and Maintaining Members*;
- Revised *The Planning Zone*;
- Revised zone leader helps by creating new downloadable resources – *Zone President Pointers*, *Zone Event Tips: Top 20*, and *Creative Zone Events*, and eliminated *Putting Zest in Your Zone Events*;
- Worked with the Graphics Team to create the image of “Miss Leading”, a caricature representing the LWML leader;
- Updated *Officer and Committee Guidelines*;
- Revised *Passing the Baton* and renamed that resource to *Stay Calm and Transition On*;
- Promoted leader resources through Facebook posts;
- Completed other tasks as requested by Vice President of Organizational Resources Debbie Larson;
- Attended October 2015 Interdepartmental Meeting;
- The chairman attended 2016 and 2017 Board of Directors meetings, Structure Review Meeting, and the October 2016 Strategic Planning Meeting;
- Prepared a display for the 37th Biennial LWML Convention with the theme, *Growing Leaders to New Heights*.

*Serve the Lord with gladness! Know that the Lord, He is God! It is he who made us and we are His ...*  
(Psalm 100:2a, 3ab).



Susan Brunkow; Nancy Kohrs, Chairman;  
Kelli Alsup

# Standing Committee Reports

## STRUCTURE COMMITTEE – JoNette Brogaard, Chairman

The purpose of the Structure Committee is to keep the bylaws and related resources flexible, while maintaining the legal status of the organization.

### Committee Objectives:

- To review and provide guidance for proposed district bylaw amendments;
- To have “on hand” current district bylaws;
- To keep the *LWML* Bylaws and the *LWML Handbook* current;
- To provide information and resources on bylaws and parliamentary procedure.

### Committee Activities:

- Communicated with district bylaws chairmen and district presidents regarding procedures for the bylaws review process;
- Assisted each district as proposed amendments were submitted;
- Maintained a Bylaws Status Chart, tracking the procedure of sending in proposed bylaws amendments, sharing comments on proposed amendments, and receiving the updated sets (2016) of district bylaws;
- Responded to numerous questions/concerns with input from the Parliamentarian and Department Coordinator as appropriate;
- Reviewed twenty sets of district bylaws, shared findings with each other, and sent suggestions for changes to selected districts;
- Studied the report/findings of the Restructure Task Force and participated in a related WebEx;
- Attended the 2015 Interdepartmental Meeting in St. Louis; the chairman also attended the 2016 and 2017 Board of Directors meetings, plus the 2016 Structure Review Meeting and Strategic Planning Meeting held in October 2016;
- Participated in the planning and creation of the committee’s exhibit for the 2017 Albuquerque Convention;
- Worked together to plan a training session on Structure and Bylaws as a pre-convention interest session at the Albuquerque Convention.

We’ve learned a lot from serving on this committee and have been blessed to have been in contact with sisters in Christ from around the country. In looking at district bylaws, we see that we function differently in some areas, but all have the same goal of serving the Lord with gladness! We thank Debbie Larson, our Department Coordinator, who has guided us through our committee tasks, giving direction and encouragement when needed.



Barbara Volk, Parliamentarian; Arlene Naasz;  
JoNette Brogaard, Chairman; Mary Smith

# Standing Committee Reports

## COMMITTEE ON YOUNG WOMEN – Sherrie Smith, Chairman

The members of the Committee on Young Women have enjoyed serving the Lord together. We praise God for the work He has accomplished. We are grateful to our Vice President Kaye Wolff, Strategic Plan Facilitator Cheryl Mattil, Pastoral Counselor Rev. Robert L. Mundahl, the Graphics Team, the Marketing Team, our families, and LWML sisters. It is our prayer that this work will engage young women so that they may be encouraged and equipped to be about the mission of sharing the love of Jesus Christ.

The purpose of the Committee on Young Women is to produce and facilitate the Young Woman Representatives (YWR) program for the LWML Convention, and encourage and mentor younger women to connect and grow in relationships as sisters in Christ.

### Committee Objectives:

The Committee on Young Women objectives were prayerfully chosen at the Interdepartmental Meeting in October 2015:

- Educate and inspire young women to strengthen their relationship with their Savior Jesus Christ;
- Establish a positive and joyful experience for 2017 Albuquerque YWRs;
- Encourage districts to continue incorporating their Young Women IN MISSION in local and district events;
- Provide ideas for YOUth in mission activities that encompass multiple generations.

### Committee Activities:

- Established a Facebook page for Young Women in Mission;  
Shared Bible verses and pictures.  
Posted pictures of the Des Moines convention and quotes from past YWRs.  
Posted pictures of events from around the U.S.
- Updated the Young Women in Mission webpage;
- Facilitated the page for Young Women in the *Lutheran Women's Quarterly* featuring prayers, Bible verses, and communication between an established LWML woman and a younger woman, and a young woman in mission's story;
- Created a new logo for Young Women in Mission and for YOUth in mission –

formerly Teen LWML;

- Created a webpage for YOUth in mission with updated resources for the YOUth;
- Maintained a list of District YWR coordinators;
- Updated the *Joyfully United* resource;
- Wrote *Text Messages from God* devotional for YOUth;
- Communicated with past YWRs through email and Facebook;
- Completed other tasks as assigned by Vice President Kaye Wolff;
- Attended the October 2015 Interdepartmental Meeting;
- Prepared an interactive display for this convention with the theme, "Connecting the Generations."

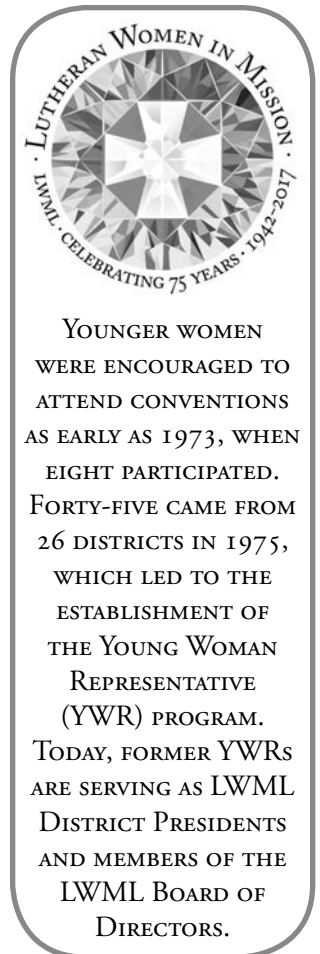
### Meetings Attended:

- Board of Directors, February 2016 and January 2017;
- Strategic Planning Meeting, October 2016.



Melissa Brock; Sherrie Smith, Chairman;  
Deaconess Jennette Heller; Molly Dixon

... for the joy of the  
Lord is your strength!  
(Nehemiah 8:10b)



# Standing Committee Reports

*... a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb*  
(Revelation 7:9)



## HEART TO HEART SISTERS COMMITTEE – Janis McDaniels, Chairman

The purpose of the Heart to Heart Sisters Committee is to motivate, equip, challenge, and ensure opportunities for multicultural women to serve the church, participate in LWML, witness to the world, and grow in relationships as sisters in Christ. Produce and facilitate the H2H program for the LWML convention.

### Committee Objectives:

- To identify multicultural women as leaders;
- To connect, engage, invite, and mentor multicultural LCMS women leaders;
- To enable them to reach out to the multicultural communities in their areas.

### Committee Activities:

- Designed business cards to be distributed at district conventions;
- Revised the Heart to Heart Sisters PowerPoint presentations available on our website: Embracing Diversity, Why Do We Embrace Diversity?, History of the Heart to Heart Program, Heart to Heart Sisters: Frequently Asked Questions;
- In preparation for the pre-convention training, we reviewed and revised the District Leader and Sisters applications; reviewed and revised the training manual;
- Updated the Heart to Heart Sisters webpage with the help of the IT Committee; added multicultural resources, *Lutheran Women's Quarterly* stories, and diversity-focused Bible studies;
- Received eight District Leader applications from the following districts: California-Nevada-Hawaii, Iowa West, Indiana, Kansas, Oregon, Rocky Mountain, South Wisconsin, and Texas;
- Received 13 Sisters applications from the following districts: Atlantic, California-Nevada-Hawaii, Carolinas, English, Kansas, Minnesota South, North Wisconsin, South Dakota, Texas, and Utah-Idaho;
- Looked at ways to improve the Heart to Heart Sisters program for the future.

Our committee gives special thanks to our department coordinator, Vice President of Special Focus Ministries Kaye Wolff, for all her guidance and encouragement.



Janis McDaniels, Chairman; Anuhea Corbin;  
Cecy Dominguez; Christy Ndem;  
Melissa Salomón

# Team Reports

## GRAPHICS TEAM – Melissa Merker, Coordinator

The Graphics Team has joyfully shared their God-given artistic talents to meet the needs of the LWML committees and task forces over the last biennium. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve Christ and the wonderful ladies of the LWML.

### Purpose Statement

The purpose of the Graphics Team is to provide graphic design support for the work of the LWML and promote the creative and professional look of the LWML.

### Activities

- Provided graphic art support for products;
- Assigned a designer to each LWML committee and task force graphic request;
- Provided design for 100+ LWML projects and requests to completion;
- Designed committee logos, devotions, Bible studies, brochures, Mission Grant resources, LWML Sunday materials, product designs, newsletters, Prayer Services, social media graphics, LWML office graphic requests, document covers, and advertisement layouts for external publications;
- Promoted professional look for the organization with committee logos, created an updated LWML Style Sheet, and developed Executive Committee biographies;
- Provided design for LWML Convention projects and printed materials.

## MARKETING TEAM – Carol von Soosten, Coordinator

The purpose of the Marketing Team is to create a consistent message and heighten the awareness of LWML's mission, and enhance our visibility to all women of the LCMS.

It has been a joy and a privilege to serve our Lord through the Lutheran Women in Mission. We pray that our service on this team has helped the women of the LWML as they live for Jesus in their daily lives. We pray that our sisters in Christ find ways to connect with each other and with those around them while sharing the Gospel message of our Lord's love.

The LWML Marketing Team members (and Public Relations Director) partner with a number of other people in order to accomplish their goals and objectives. We wish to thank the LWML office staff (Kelley Young, Ashley Jenkins, Eva Koeller, Karen Andersen, and Carol Iannelli), Marie McNary in ITC, and the Graphics Team (Melissa Merker, Nichelle Dykema, and Shannon Sanew) for their help and support!

In completing the Marketing Team's objectives, the following was accomplished:

- Promoted products and programs to inspire Bible study, missions, service, participation, and fellowship;
- Supported the 2015 and 2016 Giving Tuesday campaign for the Development/Advancement Committee;
- Work and coordination of 2016 and 2017 LWML Sunday materials;
- Contributed Facebook posts for publication as needed;
- Supported and promoted LWML resources and products through eNews, news releases, free downloads, or fliers;
- Reviewed and suggested LWML store products for continued inventory, reduction, and future development;
- Suggested items for inclusion on the "Shop LWML" page of *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*;
- Attended the 2015 Interdepartmental Meeting;
- Assisted with event registration, preparation, design and set-up, and shipping as needed for exhibits for LWML and other LCMS events;
- Participated in conference calls and WebEx meetings as needed;
- Carried out duties as requested by the Public Relations Director;
- Responded to committee requests for marketing.



Shannon Sanew; Melissa Merker, Coordinator; Nichelle Dykema



Bev England; Kristy Carter; Debbie Yocky; Carol von Soosten, Coordinator

# Special Task Force Reports

## CHURCH WORKERS IN MISSION TASK FORCE – Kristi Roegner, Chairman

*And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ (Ephesians 4:11-12).*

The purpose of the Church Workers in Mission Task Force is to develop collaborative relationships with LCMS church workers.

- Task Force recommendations for changes to the Church Workers in Mission (CWIM) page on the national LWML website were completed;
- Developed a Church Workers in Mission brochure (to replace Pastors in Mission brochure) – available in both printed copies and downloadable;
- Developed packets to assist LWML District Presidents in welcoming new church workers into their districts;
- Worked in conjunction with Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne and Concordia Seminary in St. Louis regarding hosting an annual event to promote interaction and foster relationships with the students who will be the church workers of the future;
- Connected with numerous church workers to gather information for mission-related social media posts, and prepared an LWML 2-Minute Tuesday write-up focusing on showing appreciation for church workers;
- The CWIM Task Force contributed ideas regarding questions to be included in a Pastor Awareness Survey;
- A Church Workers in Mission bookmark was developed for pastors, encouraging them to serve as Zone Counselors;
- Planned and prepared a booth for the Albuquerque convention, inspiring all participants to encourage, engage,

and equip LCMS church workers in their vocations and in the mission and outreach of the LWML;

- In conjunction with the Jr. Pastoral Counselor, planned a Church Workers in Mission information session for the Albuquerque convention;
- CWIM Task Force members attended Interdepartmental Meeting and the chairman attended Board of Directors meetings;
- Developed a Church Workers in Mission PowerPoint focusing on the CWIM objectives for this biennium:
  - Encouraging LCMS church workers in their vocations of nurturing faith in Jesus Christ
  - Engaging LCMS church workers in the mission and outreach of the LWML
  - Equipping LCMS church workers in utilizing resources available through the LWML.



Michelle Zollinger; Kristi Roegner, Chairman;  
Karen Puffe

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## Board of Directors Structure Task Force

The Task Force was appointed to study and recommend the restructure of the Board of Directors (BOD) to be more effective in participation and decision-making and better stewards of time and money. Appointment of this Task Force was recommended by the 2013 LWML Business Practices Review Task Force and approved by the BOD in February 2015. Review of current structure and function as directed in the Bylaws was followed by a review of current actual activities and responsibilities of the BOD. A survey of present and past BOD members provided perspective on the lived experience and preferences of BOD members. In-depth study of best practices for governance by non-profit boards of directors provided insight for improvements that would increase effectiveness and efficiency for LWML.

The Task Force met six times during the biennium to complete the assigned work. In June 2016, the

recommendation for restructure of the BOD was delivered to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee handed the two-phase recommendation to the Board of Directors in Fall 2016 and the Structure Committee drafted a bylaw change to implement the first phase. The BOD approval in January 2017 brings the bylaw amendment to the voting assembly in convention in Albuquerque.

The work of this Task Force is complete. It has been our pleasure to serve LWML. To God be the Glory!

**Appointed Task Force Members:** Linda Arnold, Chair; Marie Chow; Gloria Edwards; Eloise Kuhlmann; Lori May; Jan Struck

**Advisory Members:** President Patti Ross; Rev. Dr. Robert Roegner; Barbara Volk

# Convention Programming Committee

## Nancy Bogenhagen, Chairman

The LWML Convention Programming Committee (CPC) assists the Executive Committee in handling its responsibility to plan and supervise the program of the convention. Regular reports are made to the Executive Committee.

### Activities of the CPC with approval of the Executive Committee (EC):

- After the EC wrote and approved the convention theme, goal statement, and objectives, a logo was developed.
- Evaluations from the Des Moines convention were reviewed and suggestions implemented where possible.
- The Convention Guidelines for EC and Host Committee (HC) were reviewed and updated.
- Convention speakers and presenters were secured: keynote, Bible study leader, worship proclaimers, Mites in Action speakers, luncheon speakers, song leader, and humorous interrupter.
- Worked with Visit Salt Lake and the Salt Palace for original convention site; helped determine that Salt Lake City was not going to work for hosting this convention. Upon EC's decision to move the 2017 convention to Albuquerque, New Mexico, worked with Albuquerque Convention and Visitors Bureau and Albuquerque Convention Center to arrange all onsite programming needs.
- Determined daily convention newspaper title, "The Diamond Times"; approved newspaper staff.
- Worked with Director of Finance & Administration and convention budget in establishing registration fees.
- Worked with Convention Registrar and LWML Meeting Manager for special registration, housing, and travel needs.
- Secured all convention programming content and a layout designer for the convention insert of the Winter 2016 *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*. Programming included: Tee Up 4 Mites golf outing, Mission in Motion/Mission Pledge Walk, Servant Connections, Gifts from the Heart, Convention Personalities (speakers/presenters), housing/reservations, meals and special luncheons, travel options, tours, registration form and instructions, Camp Insta Friends (for children/youth), 75th Anniversary Celebration, and Shop LWML convention items.
- Other approved programming: Heart to Heart District Leaders and Heart to Heart Sisters Training events, Young Woman Representatives program, Board of Directors dinner, rehearsals, district caucuses and photos, Thursday opening worship and Sunday sending services, morning Bible studies (Friday and Saturday; three each morning), Friday evening spiritual event (Fiesta Mariachi). Saturday evening entertainment under direction of 75th Anniversary Committee.
- Pre- and post-convention devotions author approved.
- Developed convention manual, worship folders, and devotions content; layout designer for each, approved.

*Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name (Philippians 2:9).*

- Approved convention tote bag and contents for convention folders.
- Choir Director, organist, and accompanist approved; worked with choir director and song leader for convention music.
- Established exhibit hall name, "The Above All Exhibit Hall" and hours; coordinated all exhibitors.
- The CPC gratefully acknowledges the Host Committee, as they are the hands and feet that carry out convention programming.

### CPC Meetings:

- St. Louis, Missouri: October 19–20, 2015; January 31–February 2 and October 23–25, 2016; January 22–24, 2017.
- Albuquerque, New Mexico: May 17–19, 2016; March 24–25, 2017; Host Committee Meeting (CPC Chairman, Convention Manager, LWML President, and Audio Visual Director).
- WebEx: October 29 and November 16, 2015, August 29, 2016, February 12, March 27, and April/May 2017.



### Convention Programming Committee:

Standing: Public Relations Director Carol von Soosten; Audio Visual Director Rev. William Engfehr; VP of Special Focus Ministries Kaye Wolff; Senior Pastoral Counselor Rev. Dr. Robert Roegner; Convention Manager Marguerite Christman

Seated: Treasurer Marilyn Schroeder; President Patti Ross; VP of Communication Nancy Bogenhagen, Chairman

# Special Committee Reports

## CONVENTION SITE (2023) COMMITTEE

– Leslie Jaseph, Chairman

The Convention Site Committee's assignment is to encourage and assist districts in eligible regions to bid to host the LWML Convention, evaluate proposals, meet with bidding convention and visitors bureaus, report approved sites to the Executive Committee, and prepare materials for the Board of Directors.

### The Committee

- Met with the district presidents of potential host districts to discuss the process in February 2016;

- Received letters from five districts stating that they were willing to co-host the 2023 convention;
- Assisted districts in contacting potential convention sites and submitting proposal forms;
- Reviewed materials submitted by the convention and visitors bureaus from five potential sites;
- Visited potential cities as needed prior to January 2017 Board of Directors meeting;
- Prepared comparison chart of three sites for the January 2017 Board of Directors meeting;
- Presented three potential sites to the Board of Directors meeting in January 2017 for vote at the June

- 2017 Board meeting as directed by the Executive Committee;
- Prepared ballot for voting at the Board of Directors meeting in June 2017.

The Convention Site Committee sincerely appreciates the work of the inviting districts and presidents from Iowa East, Iowa West, Minnesota North, Minnesota South, North Dakota, North Wisconsin, Northern Illinois, South Dakota, and South Wisconsin.

Marguerite Christman; Maureen Consiglio; Lois Teinert; Rev. Robert Mundahl, Pastor Advisor; Rev. William Engfehr, Advisory; Leslie Jaseph, Chairman



## 75TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE- Edie Norris, Chairman

It has been an incredible journey for the LWML 75th Anniversary Committee that consists of remarkable individuals. The team came together and began its work by walking through the record of the LWML for the past 75 years. The committee has sought to share that history with today's Lutheran Women in Mission, while reflecting the extraordinary work of God's dedicated servants. From the early pioneers to the women of today, the LWML has kept missions as their focus. Today we celebrate with joy 75 years of blessings, and look forward to continuing the legacy of faithful servants into the future.

The LWML 75th Anniversary Committee will educate members about our past heritage, and celebrate those women who have gone before us. We will celebrate the joy God has shared with us in His Word, His Work, and His Will for us over the years.

### Activities of LWML 75th Anniversary Committee:

- Developed Strategic Plan for promoting and celebrating the LWML 75th Anniversary, before, during, and after the 2017 LWML Convention;
- Worked with graphic designer on 75th Anniversary logo;
- Oversaw development of 75th Anniversary webpage and submitted materials for the page;
- Assisted Graphic Designer with design of new 75th Anniversary Mite Box;
- Created 75th Anniversary web banners, banner designs, rack cards, logo stickers and other materials to assist with promotion of anniversary;
- Provided resource packets for the attendees at the February 2016

- and January 2017 LWML Board of Directors meetings;
- Prepared interactive materials for October 2016 LWML Strategic Planning Event;
- Wrote article for booklet "75 Years of Blessings";
- Authored home page articles for the LWML website;
- Prepared copy for convention insert for the Winter issue of the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*;
- Sent 2-Minute Tuesday article for LWML website;
- Assisted Graphic designer with 75th Anniversary ad for the December issue of *Lutheran Witness*;
- Developed content and worked with graphic designer on development of 75th Thank Offering Appeal mailing;

- Created, implemented very detailed plans for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Diamond Dazzle Celebration for the 2017 LWML Convention.



(Back) Kay Kreklau; Carolyn Blum; Gloria Edwards; Edie Norris, Chairman; Virginia Von Seggern; Janice Wendorf; Caroline Honeycutt; (Front) Linda Reiser; Betty Duda; Patricia Ross; Ida Mall; Kristy Carter; Rev. Robert Mundahl

# Special Committee Reports

## PLANNED GIVING COUNCIL (PGC)

As LWML celebrates its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we also praise God for His incredible faithfulness for the LWML Gifts of Love (GOL) Ministry which started 10 years ago with a \$100,000 grant from Thrivent. Shortly thereafter the Executive Committee (EC) appointed a committee to be the liaison between our Planned Giving Counselor, Pat Bilow, and the EC. The Council was tasked with overseeing some of the budgeting aspects of the grant, connecting with the LCMS Foundation for a contractual agreement for Pat, and supporting the new GOL Ministry. Since then, both the Gifts of Love Ministry and the Gift Planning Council has expanded. The Ministry team now includes Linda Gage as our full-time Planned Giving Counselor, while Pat continues to serve faithfully on a part-time basis. Both are supported by staff and an amazing group of volunteers in 11 districts called Gift Planning Supporters or Gift Planning Advocates, depending on their role.

The Gift Planning Council is appointed by the LWML President. It reviews the Gifts of Love Ministry budget and quarterly financial reports, takes action on recommendations, job description changes, and policies, helps provide annual training for new and existing Advocates and Supporters, provides attendance of a council member and counselors to the annual ALDE Conference, supports the Gifts of Love Legacy Circle, keeps the Gifts of Love Ministry team in their prayers, and the pastoral counselor provides Stewardship Notes for the weekly GOL eNewsletter. The council meets via WebEx and reports through its chairman to the Executive Committee and is represented at Board of Directors by the chairman and the Gift Planning Counselor.

Did you know that our Gifts of Love ministry is not funded through the LWML operating budget? After the initial grant, we have relied on a small group of donors to support this unique ministry which not only helps people plan their estate but also gives them opportunities to put their faith into action by making bequests to LWML and LCMS ministries. We are beginning to see the benefits of the Gifts of Love Ministry **on both the national and district levels** and believe it will continue to significantly bless the LWML with future estate gifts.

In order to expand our donor base — and keep this vital service free to those who use it — in 2016 we embarked on a Gifts of Love Matching Gift Fund Challenge with a \$25,000 matching grant provided by LWML Past President Gloria Edwards. Spearheaded by 100% support of the LWML Past Presidents, the Gifts of Love Ministry Team, and the Executive Committee, it was introduced to the BOD in February 2016, asking them to also support the ministry in any amount. We received such a great response that our initial goal of matching \$25,000 was met. Thanks be to God! Then, Cheryl Keithly, one of the Gift Planning Advocates also gifted \$25,000 for the challenge — and by the end of December 2016, close to \$85,000 was received.

Thank you for sustaining this LWML ministry! Thank you for recognizing the great love of our Savior, the provision of our God, and responding to it. Thank you to those who continue to further God's kingdom with their estate plans! Please note the report from Planned Giving Counselor, Linda Gage, for details on how the Gifts of Love Ministry is blessing the LWML. For more information visit [www.lwmlgiftplan.org/](http://www.lwmlgiftplan.org/).

Planned Giving Council: Rebecca Bessell, Gift Planning Advocate; Linda Gage, Gift Planning Counselor, Advisory; Allen Helms, LCMS Foundation, Advisory; Rev. Robert Mundahl, Pastoral Counselor; Linda Reiser, Member; LWML President Patti Ross, Advisory; Marilyn Schroeder, EC Member; Eden Keefe, Chairman

# Special Committee Reports

## FINANCE COMMITTEE – Marilyn Schroeder, Chairman

The Finance Committee, a Special Committee, under Article XIV, Section 2 of the LWML Bylaws, consists of the LWML Treasurer as chairman, four additional members, and a Pastoral Counselor and the Director of Finance & Administration (DFA) serving as Advisers. The LWML President is an ex officio member.

The purpose of this committee is to review and evaluate all business and financial practices of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML). All decisions of the Finance Committee are presented to the Executive Committee for approval, and, if necessary, to the Board of Directors.

### Committee Activities:

- Met regularly via WebEx;
- Confirmed committee membership as appointed by LWML President;
- Reviewed and analyzed all LWML financials;
- Reviewed and updated LWML office staff position descriptions as necessary;
- Discussed and approved applicable benefits and compensation for the LWML office staff;
- Approved hiring a Marketing and Communications Manager. Ashley

Jenkins joined the LWML office staff in 2016;

- Discussed and approved the 2017 LWML Convention budget for Albuquerque;
- Reviewed and approved the following policies:
  - Accounting Policies & Procedures
  - Board Designated Funds Policy
  - Endowment Policy
  - Operating Reserve Policy
  - Salary and Benefits Policy
  - Spending Policy
  - Whistleblower Protection Policy;
- Reviewed various insurance coverages for both national and district levels;

- Worked closely with DFA regarding financial records and accounting procedures;
- Reviewed the LWML Office Employee Handbook;
- Communicated regularly with the LWML President and the Executive Committee.

**Finance Committee:** Kim Burdett; Janell Harlow; Bunnie Koelsch; Jim Schlie; Rev. Robert Mundahl, Pastoral Counselor; Kelley Young (DFA), Advisory; and Marilyn Schroeder, Chairman

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## INVESTMENT COMMITTEE - Marilyn Schroeder, Chairman

The Investment Committee officially formed in November 2014. The Committee consists of the LWML Treasurer as chairman, three additional members, Director of Finance & Administration (DFA), and a Pastoral Counselor as adviser. The LWML President serves as ex officio.

The Committee meets as often as necessary to conduct the investment business of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML). The investment business purposes are to preserve the principal of the Endowment Funds, to grow the principal over time, and to generate income in support of the LWML's ministry objectives.

### Committee Activities:

- Met via WebEx multiple times during this biennium;
- Met quarterly with LCMS Foundation consultant to review LWML's investment portfolio;
- Reviewed quarterly investment statements as shared by the DFA;
- Worked with the Finance Committee to draft an Endowment Policy approved by the Executive Committee;

- Reviewed and approved the existing Investment Policy;
- Reviewed the Gift Acceptance Policy;
- Recommended release of funds from the Quasi Training Fund for expenses incurred with the Board of Directors Strategic Planning Meeting held October 2016. Executive Committee and Board of Directors provided approval at its meeting in January 2017.

### Investment Committee:

Shelley Moeller; Sandy Thompson; Wayne Price; Kelley Young (DFA); Rev. Dr. Robert Roegner; and Marilyn Schroeder, Chairman

# LWML Office Report

## DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION – Kelley Young

The headquarters for the Lutheran Women's Missionary League is located in the Concordia Publishing House building in Saint Louis, Missouri. The purpose of the LWML professional office staff is to perform the necessary duties required to operate a multi-million dollar non-profit organization. Our staff are wholeheartedly devoted to fulfilling the mission of our organization each day. The staff consists of four full-time and one part-time employee.

### Primary responsibilities of our staff include:

- Providing assistance to the various committees, districts, zones, and societies;
- Overseeing and managing convention registration;
- Maintaining mailing lists and donor database information;
- Implementing LWML's brand strategies;
- Developing and implementing a strategic marketing and communications plan;
- Upholding accounting processes and procedures in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles;
- Overseeing cash and investment requirements;
- Communicating with the Board of Directors regarding financial matters;
- Preparing and presenting financial statements and related schedules;
- Developing and implementing a digital platform that includes content for website and social media that engages audience segments and leads to measurable action;
- Managing the development, distribution, and maintenance of all print and electronic collateral;
- Collaborating with constituents to achieve desired goals established in the strategic marketing and communication plan;
- Managing all media contacts in cooperation with the LWML President and Public Relations Director;
- Preparing operating, convention, store, and capital budgets;

- Handling accounts payable processing and payments, along with accounts receivable invoicing and receipts;
- Updating the website;
- Receiving, processing, recording, and acknowledging donations;
- Overseeing LWML store inventory balances;
- Determining product pricing for the LWML store;
- Maintaining historical records;
- Addressing phone and website inquiries;
- Attending WebEx meetings for Executive, Finance, Investment, CPC, Strategic Planning, Development/ Advancement, and IT Committees.

### Major achievements of our staff in the 2013-2015 biennium include:

- Implementation of store product guidelines for selection, stock thresholds, and pricing with a focus towards maintaining a specified level of profitability for each product offered and implemented a product barcoding process;
- Continued refinement of roles and responsibilities and identification of staffing needs in order to sustain the level of growth needed to further the LWML mission. A Marketing and Communications Manager was hired in September 2016;
- Assisted Executive and Finance Committees in drafting the following policies: Operating Reserve; Spending; Board Designated Funds; Salary and Benefits; Whistleblower Protection;



*Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer (Psalm 19:14).*

- Developed Marketing Plan, Social Media Guidelines, and Blog Guidelines;
- Continued to refine information and add names to donor database. Current donor list has increased by 50% over the 2013–2015 donor database list;
- Developed president's blog, donor newsletter, various member and constituent surveys, donor appeal and thank-you letters;
- Continued focus on controlling costs and targeting areas of revenue generation in all facets of the organization.

## GIFT PLANNING COUNSELOR, GIFTS OF LOVE MINISTRY - Linda Gage

With thanksgiving to God for the dedicated volunteers and generous donors who have a heart to further God's kingdom, our **Gifts of Love** Ministry (the official Gift Planning Ministry of LWML) has been instrumental in equipping, encouraging, and engaging our members in returning God's blessings, while blessing their family and heirs. Carrying out our LWML vision since 2007, this is the 10th year of our vital ministry. During those 10 years, Gifts of Love Ministry has stewarded countless gifts to LWML (both immediate and deferred) for the sake of the Gospel as well as many other LCMS ministries.



Our dedicated Planned Giving Council (PGC) supports, prays, and plans for **Gifts of Love** current and future ministry opportunities, meeting quarterly by webcam. **Linda Gage** serves as our full-time Gift Planning Counselor across the nation with **Pat Bilow** serving part-time in the areas of Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana. They both provide professional services to our members at no cost and assist with planned giving, ensuring that the donor's family is also provided for in a wise and God-pleasing manner.

Nine volunteer Gift Planning Advocates expand awareness within their districts and have received specialized training and support. Meeting quarterly by webcam, they are: **Lois Anderson**, Utah-Idaho; **Ruth Ann Arbeiter**, Southern IL; **Rebecca Bessell**, Eastern; **Marge Bruning**, Chesapeake; **Sandy Hardies**, Michigan; **Peg Henderson**, Florida-Georgia; **Cheryl Keithly**, Pacific Southwest; **Mary Kay Mages**, Minnesota South; **Mary Rinda**, English. Four trained Gift Planning Supporters assist in the Pacific Southwest and also meet quarterly by webcam. They are: **Bonnie Karch**, **Linda Koch**, **Pat Schutte**, and **Barb Virus**.

LWML is pleased to announce a new **Gifts of Love Legacy Circle** for those who have included LWML in their estate plan. Your gift, now or in the future, provides a witness of the enduring fruits of faith and an encouragement to others to realize that they, too, can bless LWML's Gospel-based, global ministry for future generations. We wish to give thanks to God for you, and recognize your faithful stewardship. You will be hearing more about the **Gifts of Love Legacy Circle** at the 2017 convention, and we invite you to stop by the **Gifts of Love** booth to receive more information. We look forward to welcoming all of you into the **Gifts of Love Legacy Circle**.

Now, you may be wondering, "How can I help?" Please consider putting a **Gifts of Love** article in your district or zone newsletter, share our website [www.lwmlgiftplan.org](http://www.lwmlgiftplan.org) with others in your society, zone, or district, and invite me or one of our dynamic Advocates or Supporters to be a speaker at your next event. You will provide your women with the opportunity to put their faith in action through their gift plan and make an eternal difference as God's Word is spread and His kingdom expands. **Thank you for your partnership in the Gospel today that makes an eternal difference for tomorrow!**



### Gifts of Love Ministry Team at the LCMS International Center (Left to Right):

**Front row:** Marge Bruning, Karen Bartos, Linda Koch, Eden Keefe, Barb Virus, Sandy Hardies, Ruth Ann Arbeiter, Kelley Young; **Second row:** Lois Anderson, Marilyn Schroeder, Peg Henderson, Rebecca Bessell, Pat Bilow, Linda Gage, Mary Kay Mages, Cheryl Keithly; **Not pictured:** Bonnie Karch, Linda Reiser, Mary Rinda, Patti Ross, Pat Schutte, Allen Helms, Rev. Robert Mundahl



*Returning God's Blessings*

## ! INTRODUCING ! The LWML Gifts of Love Legacy Circle

**PURPOSE:** To give glory to God in honor of those who have remembered His work through LWML via a gift/estate plan.

Women of the church have a long history of supporting worthy causes and Gospel outreach efforts. As far back as the mid-1800s, church women recognized emerging needs by gathering and mending clothes for seminary students, assisting in hospitals and orphanages and providing food for the hungry, among many other deeds of mercy.



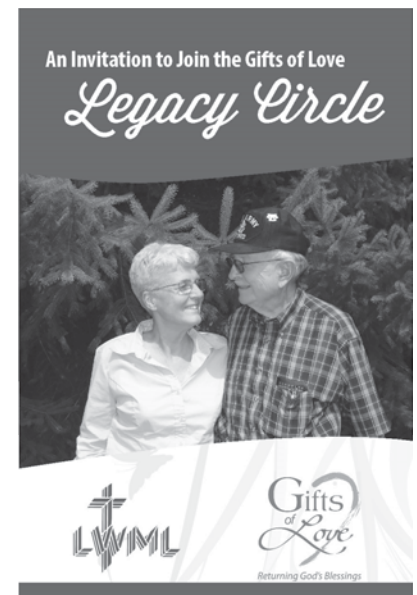
The Mite Box collections began in 1928, and by 1930, 92 Ladies Aid Societies had collected \$6,651.31, mostly from leftover change. In 1942 the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod formally recognized the Lutheran Women's Missionary League as its official women's organization. Over the decades, LWML has distributed more than \$100 million in mission grants to thousands of worthy efforts and causes to help spread the Gospel message and address human care needs both domestically and around the world—all through mites!

By 2006, LWML leadership under past-President Virginia Von Seggern started thinking that even more mission grants could be funded if LWML had its own planned giving ministry. Its purpose would be to encourage faithful stewards to return a portion of their estates to God in thanksgiving for His lifetime provisions of material blessings. The Gifts of Love planned giving ministry was launched in 2007 under the leadership of then-President Linda Reiser. Patricia Bilow, Gift Planning Counselor with the LCMS Foundation, was selected to lay the groundwork.

Five years later, \$25 million in immediate and deferred gifts had been documented from 100+ donors who made planned gifts for LWML and other ministries of the Church. Since then, volunteer Gift Planning Advocates have been added to the ministry to help spread the gift planning word in their home districts. Linda Gage, also a Gift Planning Counselor with the LCMS Foundation, is taking the ministry to even greater levels when in 2013 she replaced Pat who moved to part-time work. By year end 2016, the total to LWML and other church ministries stood at over \$85 million.

By the grace of God, this ministry has flourished through your generosity and heart for ongoing mission outreach. If you have remembered LWML in your gift/estate plan, we give thanks to God for you and invite you to make us aware of your gift so that we can welcome you into the LWML Gifts of Love Legacy Circle. For those considering remembering LWML in your gift/ estate plan, now is the time to complete or update your plan. Please know, you are making an eternal difference!

**For more information, please visit the Gifts of Love booth in the exhibit hall. Forms are available for donors who have named LWML in their gift/estate plans so that we can joyfully welcome you to the Gifts of Love Legacy Circle.**



# Convention Host Committee



**Front row:** Melody Rosenwinkel, Pam Kercher, Beth Weber, Lois Anderson, Carrie Brumbaugh, Myrtle Siefken; **2nd row:** Barbara Schaer, Rhonda Johnson, Linda Fischer, Danyne Six, Shari Miller, Amy Huhbach, Linda Larson, Cheryl Brunson, Sylvia Bean; **3rd row:** Bev Wagner, Mary Marten, Janice Witt, Betty Reimann, Cindie Corvin, Beth Shroff, Sheryl VerWey, Beth Nagy; **Back row:** Yvonne Steeby, Dixie Funk, Linda Maul, Mary Smith, Rev. Ross Schaver, Terri Bentley, Anita Werner, Peggy Schroeder, Rev. Gary Piepkorn, Jill Clark

## HOST COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Lois Anderson (U-I)  
Twin Falls ID

## TREASURER

Rhonda Johnson (U-I)  
Pocatello ID

## ASSISTANT TREASURER

Julie Henderson (RM)  
Albuquerque NM

## COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

Elizabeth (Beth) Weber (RM)  
Grand Junction CO

## PRAYER CHAIRMAN

Mary Marten (RM)  
Falcon CO

## PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN

Barbara Schaer (WY)  
Gordon NE

## SECRETARY

Janice Witt (MT)  
Ennis MT

## STAFF SERVICES CHAIRMAN

Anita Werner (RM)  
Santa Teresa NM

## CREATIVE ENHANCEMENTS COORDINATOR

Pam Kercher (MT)  
Billings MT

## ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN

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Caldwell ID

## DECORATIONS CHAIRMAN

Linda Fischer (WY)  
Powell WY

## MUSIC CHAIRMAN

Beth Shroff (RM)  
Albuquerque NM

## FACILITY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

Melody Rosenwinkel (U-I)  
Alpine WY

## PROPERTIES CHAIRMAN

Cindie Corvin (RM)  
Stanley NM

## USHERS CHAIRMAN

Mary Smith (U-I)  
Boise ID

## WORSHIP SUPPORT CHAIRMAN

Dixie Funk (U-I)  
Ogden UT

## GUEST SERVICES COORDINATOR

Carrie Brumbaugh (WY)  
Lyman WY

## CHILD CARE CHAIRMAN

Jill Clark (RM)  
Alamogordo NM

## FOOD SERVICES CHAIRMAN

Linda Maul (U-I)  
Liberty UT

## PACKET MATERIALS/REGISTRATION CHAIRMAN

Beth Nagy (RM)  
Arvada CO

## TOURS CHAIRMAN

Cheryl Brunson (U-I)  
Millville UT

## TRANSPORTATION CHAIRMAN

Terri Bentley (U-I)  
Meridian ID

## PERSONNEL RESOURCES COORDINATOR

Myrtle Siefken (U-I)  
Idaho Falls ID

## HOSPITALITY CHAIRMAN

Betty Reimann (U-I)  
Boise ID

## PERSONNEL DATA MANAGEMENT CHAIRMAN

Sheryl VerWey (U-I)  
Hansen ID

## SPECIAL DRESS CHAIRMAN

Peggy Schroeder (U-I)  
Wilder ID

## PASTORAL COUNSELOR

Rev. Gary Piepkorn (RM)  
Portales NM

## PASTORAL COUNSELOR

Rev. Ross Shaver (U-I)  
Nampa ID

## MONTANA DISTRICT PRESIDENT

Shari Miller (MT)  
East Helena MT

## ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT PRESIDENT

Sylvia Bean (RM)  
Clovis NM

## UTAH-IDAHO DISTRICT PRESIDENT

Linda Larson (U-I)  
Nampa ID

## WYOMING DISTRICT PRESIDENT

Danyne Six (WY)  
Worland WY

# Board of Directors Executive Committee



**Front Row:** Counselor Rev. Robert Mundahl; Vice President of Organizational Resources Debbie Larson; President Patti Ross; Vice President of Special Focus Ministries Kaye Wolff; Counselor Rev. Dr. Robert Roegner.

**Back Row:** Treasurer Marilyn Schroeder; Recording Secretary Ginger Starrett; Vice President of Gospel Outreach Shelley Moeller; Vice President of Christian Life Eden Keefe; Vice President of Communication Nancy Bopenhagen; Strategic Plan Facilitator Cheryl Mattil; Public Relations Director Carol von Soosten; Meeting Manager Leslie Jaseph.



THE LWML HAD ITS START IN JULY 1942, AT ST. STEPHEN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, CHICAGO, WITH 28 DELEGATES REPRESENTING 15 DISTRICTS. ONE HUNDRED VISITORS WERE ALSO IN ATTENDANCE FOR THE TWO-DAY ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING.

# Board of Directors District Presidents



**District President Class of 2016-2020**

Back row: Brenda Piester, Kansas; Shelia Lutz, Central Illinois; Katy Gifford, Nebraska South; Trish Aamoth, Florida-Georgia.

Front Row: Susan Gruber, Michigan; Marilyn Hiltel, Minnesota North; Anita Granger, Louisiana-Mississippi; Shari Miller, Montana. (Not pictured: Diane Reimold, Mid-South.)



**District President Class of 2016-2020**

Back row: Jeanne Schimmelmänn, Ohio; Lisa Asmus, South Dakota; Debbie Curry, Texas; Dianna Just, Oklahoma; Sharon Roegge, SELC; Carmen Nagel, Oregon.

Front row: Barbara Kaun, South Wisconsin; Bonnie Karch, Pacific Southwest; Valerie Biberdorf, North Dakota; Barbara Jean Lis, New England.



**District President Class of 2014-2018**

Back row: Ann Carrick, Iowa West; Judy Lessmann, Gulf States; Jan Simmons, English; Edith Collis, Chesapeake; Kathy Pavelock, Eastern.

Front row: Margaret Hesemann, Minnesota South; Emily Rogers, Indiana; Carolyn Smith, Carolinas; Lynnette Campbell, California-Nevada-Hawaii. Not pictured: Lillian Biddle, Atlantic; Joan Berquist, Iowa East.



**District President Class of 2014-2018**

Back row: Danyne Six, Wyoming; Brenda Schoenbeck, Southern Illinois; Christie Steffens, Missouri; Linda Larson, Utah-Idaho; Crystal Miller, Nebraska North; Barbara Belanski, Northern Illinois.

Front row: Sylvia Bean, Rocky Mountain; Arlene Price, New Jersey; Mary Harrington, North Wisconsin; Marie Chow, Washington-Alaska.

# New LWML Groups

Welcome to the following new groups (societies) that have been accepted as members of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League during the 2015-2017 biennium.

## **Carolinas District**

Holy Trinity LWML  
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
Statesville, North Carolina

## **Central Illinois District**

Women of Faith  
Faith Lutheran Church  
Monticello, Illinois

## **Eastern District**

Women of Hope  
Hope Community Lutheran Church  
Syracuse, New York

## **English District**

Gracepoint LWML  
Gracepoint Lutheran Church  
Sahuarita, Arizona

## **English District**

LWML of Abiding Faith  
Abiding Faith Lutheran Church  
Florence, Kentucky

## **English District**

Lydia Society  
Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church  
Litiz, Pennsylvania

## **English District**

Women of L.I.F.E.  
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church  
Mesquite, Nevada

## **Florida-Georgia District**

Women of St. Michael  
St. Michael Lutheran church  
Fort Myers, Florida

## **Florida-Georgia District**

Women of Hope  
Hope Lutheran Church  
Jacksonville, Florida

## **Kansas District**

WinGS(Women in God's Service)  
Ascension Lutheran Church  
Pratt, Kansas

## **Mid-South District**

Lydia  
Messiah Lutheran Church  
Pea Ridge, Arkansas

## **Minnesota North District**

Women of Faith Guild  
St. John Lutheran Church  
Barnesville, Minnesota

## **Missouri District**

Hannah Circle  
St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Sedalia, Missouri

## **Missouri District**

Esther Circle  
St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Sedalia, Missouri

## **Missouri District**

Heart to Heart Sisters  
Christian Friends of New Americans  
St. Louis, Missouri

## **Nebraska South District**

Hands of Mercy  
St. John Lutheran Church  
Seward, Nebraska

## **Nebraska South District**

Bethlehem Evening Circle  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
Ravenna, Nebraska

## **Oregon District**

Good Shepherd Women in Mission  
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
Vancouver, Washington

## **Rocky Mountain District**

Beautiful Savior LWML  
Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church  
Broomfield, Colorado

## **Southern Illinois District**

Unity's Ladies  
Unity Lutheran Church  
East St. Louis, Illinois

## **Southern Illinois District**

Emmanuel LWML  
Emmanuel Ev. Lutheran Church  
Percy, Illinois

## **Texas District**

Women in Mission  
St. John Lutheran Church  
Cypress, Texas

## **Texas District**

LWML  
Crown of Life Lutheran Church  
Colleyville, Texas

# Past Presidents and Conventions



## **Clara Schmitt\* 1942–1947**

Aug. 31–Sept. 1, 1943 | Fort Wayne IN  
*Serve the Lord with Gladness*  
 1945 - cancelled due to the war  
 July 18–19, 1947 | Chicago IL  
*Serve the Lord with Gladness*

## **Sadie Fulk Roehrs\* 1947–1953**

July 27–28, 1949 | Cleveland OH  
*Thy Kingdom Come*  
 July 25–26, 1951 | New York NY  
*For Such a Time as This*  
 July 28–29, 1953 | Portland OR  
*Saved to Serve*

## **Lillian Preisinger\* 1953–1959**

1955-Cancelled due to segregation policies in New Orleans LA  
 April 20–21, 1956 | Denver CO  
*Occupy 'Til I Come*  
 July 31–Aug. 1, 1957 | Minneapolis MN  
*Talk Ye of All His Wondrous Works*  
 July 22–23, 1959 | Toronto, Ontario, Canada  
*Labour with More Love*

## **Emma Hoppe\* 1959–1963**

July 26–27, 1961 | Pittsburgh PA  
*Living with My Lord*  
 July 17–18, 1963 | Kansas City MO  
*The Harvest is Great*

## **Eula Hankel\* 1963–1967**

July 20–21, 1965 | San Diego CA  
*The Lord is My Light*  
 July 18–20, 1967 | Washington DC  
*Beautiful Savior, Lord of the Nations*

## **Evelyn Hartman\* 1967–1971**

July 20–22, 1969 | Houston TX  
*Thrust with Trust*  
 June 22–24, 1971 | Louisville KY  
*Declare His Glory*

## **Florence Montz\* 1971–1975**

June 25–28, 1973 | Mobile AL  
*Together in Christ*  
 July 21–24, 1975 | St. Paul MN  
*Saints Alive!*

## **Helen Morris\* 1975–1979**

Aug. 8–11, 1977 | Laramie WY  
*Lift Thine Eyes*  
 July 16–19, 1979 | Omaha NE  
*Sow the Seed*

## **Helen Gienapp\* 1979–1983**

June 22–25, 1981 | Milwaukee WI  
*Come to the Living Waters*  
 June 20–23, 1983 | Detroit MI  
*Reach Out with Christ*

## **Alberta Barnes\* 1983–1987**

July 22–25, 1985 | Ames IA  
*Give God Glory - Praise His Name!*  
 June 22–25, 1987 | Fort Worth TX  
*Radiant with God's Love*

## **Betty Duda\* 1987–1991**

June 26–29, 1989 | Rapid City SD  
*Seek His Face Always*  
 June 27–30, 1991 | Cleveland OH  
*Celebrate the Jubilee - Glorify His Name*

## **Ida Mall 1991–1995**

June 17–20, 1993 | Edmonton, Alberta, Canada  
*One in Spirit - One in Purpose*  
 June 22–25, 1995 | Kansas City MO  
*Live by God's Design*

## **Gloria Edwards 1995–1999**

June 26–29, 1997 | Charlotte NC  
*Hold Up the Light*  
 July 1–4, 1999 | Minneapolis MN  
*Let Freedom Ring*

## **Virginia Von Seggern 1999–2003**

July 5–8, 2001 | San Jose CA  
*Because He First Loved Me*  
 June 19–22, 2003 | Oklahoma City OK  
*Lord of my heart...our Hope*

## **Linda Reiser 2003–2007**

June 16–19, 2005 | Tampa FL  
*Live Joyfully as Salt and Light*  
 June 21–24, 2007 | Sioux Falls SD  
*Rest on Christ the King*

## **Janice Wendorf 2007–2011**

June 25–28, 2009 | Portland OR  
*Look to the Hills ... God Reigns*  
 June 23–26, 2011 | Peoria IL  
*Being with Jesus – Living on the Edge*

## **Kay Kreklau 2011–2015**

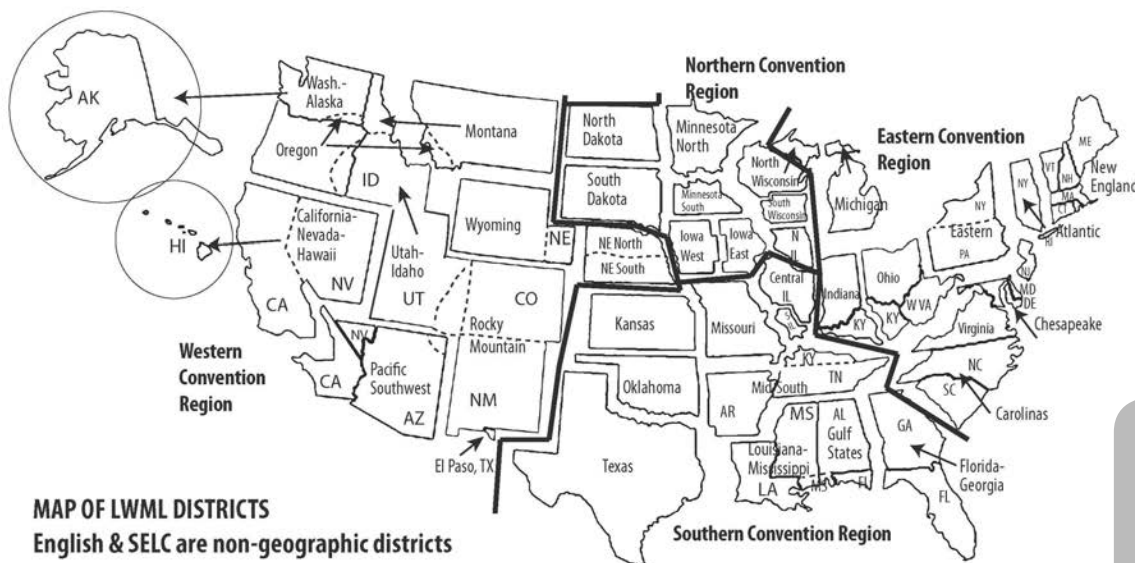
June 27–30, 2013 | Pittsburgh PA  
*Quenched! By the Water*  
 June 25–28, 2015 | Des Moines IA  
*Bountiful! Sow ·Nourish ·Reap*

## **\*Resting in the Arms of Jesus**

# The Lutheran Women's Missionary League by District

The LWML holds its biennial convention on a rotation basis with regions named as follows:

East	North	West	South
Atlantic	Iowa East	California-Nevada-Hawaii	Florida-Georgia
Carolinas	Iowa West	Montana	Gulf States
Chesapeake	Minnesota North	Nebraska North	Central Illinois
Eastern	Minnesota South	Nebraska South	Southern Illinois
Indiana	Northern Illinois	Oregon	Kansas
Michigan	North Dakota	Pacific Southwest	Louisiana-Mississippi
New England	South Dakota	Rocky Mountain	Mid-South
New Jersey	North Wisconsin	Utah-Idaho	Missouri
Ohio	South Wisconsin	Washington-Alaska	Oklahoma
		Wyoming	Texas



Contact district personnel and information  
by going to the LWML website  
<http://www.lwml.org/districts>

## THE ROTATION CALENDAR:

2017-West  
2019-South  
2021-East  
2023-North  
2025-West  
2027-South  
2029-East  
2031-North  
2033-West  
2035-South  
2037-East  
2039-North

# Songs

## 1. 10,000 Reasons/Bless the Lord

*Chorus:*

*Bless the Lord, O my soul; O my soul. Worship His holy name  
Sing like never before O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name*

The sun comes up; it's a new day dawning.  
It's time to sing Your song again  
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,  
let me be singing when the evening comes. *Chorus*

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger.  
Your name is great and Your heart is kind  
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing.  
10,000 reasons for my heart to find. *Chorus*

And on that day when my strength is failing,  
the end draws near and my time has come  
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending -  
10,000 years and then forever more. *Chorus*

*CCLI #6016351; Jonas Myrin and Matt Redman; © 2011 Said And Done Music (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing)*

## 2. Above All

Above all powers, above all kings;  
Above all nature and all created things  
Above all wisdom and all the ways of man -  
You were here before the world began  
Above all kingdoms, above all thrones.  
Above all wonders the world has ever known  
Above all wealth and treasures of the earth -  
There's no way to measure what You're worth

*Chorus:*

Crucified, laid behind the stone.  
You lived to die rejected and alone  
like a rose trampled on the ground.  
You took the fall, and thought of me above all.

*CCLI #2672885 - 1999 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing (IMI)); LenSongs Publishing (Admin. by LenSongs Publishing, Inc. Lenny LeBlanc and Paul Baloché)*

## 3. Amazing Grace - My Chains Are Gone

Amazing grace How sweet the sound,  
That saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost, but now I'm found  
Was blind, but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear  
and grace my fears relieved  
How precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed. *Chorus*

*Chorus:*

*My chains are gone, I've been set free.  
My God, my Savior has ransomed me  
and like a flood His mercy rains.  
Unending love, Amazing grace*

The Lord has promised good to me  
His word my hope secures  
He will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures. *Chorus*

The earth will soon dissolve like snow  
the sun forebear to shine  
but God who called me here below  
will be forever mine.

*CCLI # 4768151 - 2006 sixsteps Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing); Vamos Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing); worshiptogether.com songs; Chris Tomlin, Louis Giglio, John Newton;*

## 4. Beautiful Savior LSB #537

- 1 Beautiful Savior, King of creation,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Truly I'd love Thee, Truly I'd serve Thee,  
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
- 2 Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands,  
Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,  
He makes our sorrowing spirit sing.
- 3 Fair is the sunshine, Fair is the moonlight,  
Bright the sparkling stars on high;  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer  
Than all the angels in the sky.
- 4 Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, Praise, adoration  
Now and forevermore be Thine!

*Public domain*

## 5. Christ Be My Leader LSB #861

- 1 Christ be my Leader by night as by day;  
Safe through the darkness, for He is the way.  
Gladly I follow, my future His care,  
Darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.
- 2 Christ be my Teacher in age as in youth,  
Drifting or doubting, for He is the truth.  
Grant me to trust Him; though shifting as sand,  
Doubt cannot daunt me; in Jesus I stand.

- 3 Christ be my Savior in calm as in strife;  
Death cannot hold me, for He is the life.  
Nor darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain  
Can touch my salvation: with Jesus I reign.

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## 6. Gathering of Daughters

*Tune: "Hark the Voice of Jesus Calling" (LSB #827)*

There's a gathering of daughters  
Hearts set on life's highest goal  
Who have found the living waters  
Meant for every thirsting soul  
Sisters moved to share God's favor  
With their siblings everywhere  
Spirit-linked to Christ the Savior  
Living out His daily prayer.

Every minute a reunion  
Rich in memories and dreams  
Of a close worldwide communion  
Binding dedicated teams  
Like their mentors since creation  
So God's daughters still today  
Practice their unique vocation  
Caring in their special way.

Picture that exciting meeting  
With their risen reigning Lord  
Every saint the others greeting  
Perfect love and joy restored  
Everything alive and thrilling  
Everlasting peace begun  
See God's boundless grace fulfilling  
Every promise one by one.

Many wait to be united  
All of whom are loved to be  
In one family united  
For a deathless destiny  
Singing glory Alleluia  
To the Father to the Son  
Honor blessing Alleluia  
To the Spirit – Holy One.

*Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda ♥ 2002; Used by permission per Louise Vajda*

## 7. Go, My Children with My Blessing LSB #922

- 1 Go, My children, with My blessing,  
Never alone.  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you;  
You are My own.  
In My love's baptismal river  
I have made you Mine forever.

Go, My children, with My blessing—  
You are My own.

- 2 Go, My children, sins forgiven,  
At peace and pure.  
Here you learned how much I love you,  
What I can cure.  
Here you heard My dear Son's story;  
Here you touched Him, saw His glory.  
Go, My children, sins forgiven,  
At peace and pure.
- 3 Go, My children, fed and nourished,  
Closer to Me;  
Grow in love and love by serving,  
Joyful and free.  
Here My Spirit's power filled you;  
Here His tender comfort stilled you.  
Go, My children, fed and nourished,  
Joyful and free.
- 4 I the Lord will bless and keep you  
And give you peace;  
I the Lord will smile upon you  
And give you peace:  
I the Lord will be your Father,  
Savior, Comforter, and Brother.  
Go, My children; I will keep you  
And give you peace.

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## 8. Great is Thy Faithfulness LSB #809

- 1 Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee.  
Thou changest not: Thy compassions, they fail not;  
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be. *Chorus*

*Chorus: Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

- 2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,  
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. *Chorus*

- 3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! *Chorus*

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## \*9. How Great is our God

*\*Participants sing Choruses and Wendysue leads/teaches verses*

The splendor of a king clothed in majesty.  
Let all the earth rejoice, All the earth rejoice  
He wraps Himself in light and darkness tries to hide  
and trembles at His voice; trembles at His voice

*1st Chorus:*

*How great is our God - Sing with me how great is our God  
And all will see how great, how great is our God*

*2nd Chorus:*

*Name above all names; Worthy of all praise.  
My heart will sing How great is our God*

Age to age He stands and time is in His hands.  
Beginning and the end; Beginning and the end  
The Godhead Three in One. Father, Spirit, Son,  
the Lion and the Lamb Lion and the Lamb

*CCLI# 4348399 -Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Jesse Reeves 2004 sixsteps Music  
(Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing); worshiptogether.com songs (Admin.  
by Capitol CMG Publishing) Wondrously Made Songs (Admin. by Music  
Services, Inc.)*

## 10. How Great You Are LSB #801

O Lord my God, When I in awesome wonder  
consider all the worlds Your hands have made;  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder;  
Your power throughout the universe displayed.

*Chorus:*

*Then sings my soul my Savior God to You -  
How great You are - how great You are  
Then sings my soul my Savior God to You -  
How great You are, how great You are*

And when I think, that God, His Son not sparing  
sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;  
That on the Cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
He bled and died to take away my sin. *Chorus*

When Christ will come, with shout of acclamation  
and take me home, what joy will fill my heart.  
Then I will bow, in humble adoration,  
and there proclaim: "My God, how great You are!" *Chorus*

*Wendysue adaption; CCLI #14181 © 1949 and 1953 Stuart K. Hine Trust  
(Administration: USA All rights by Capitol CMG Publishing, except print  
rights for USA, North, Central, South Am; Hope Publishing.)*

## 11. I Love to Tell the Story

I love to tell the story Of unseen things above,  
Of Jesus and his glory, Of Jesus and his love.  
I love to tell the story because I know it's true.  
It satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.

*Chorus:*

*I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory,  
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love.*

I love to tell the story; 'Tis pleasant to repeat  
What seems each time I tell it more wonderfully sweet.  
I love to tell the story; For some have never heard  
The message of salvation from God's own holy Word - *Chorus*

I love to tell the story for those who know it best  
Seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.  
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,  
'Twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long - *Chorus*

*Arabella Catherine Hankey and William Gustavus Fischer; public domain*

## 12. In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found,  
He is my light, my strength, my song  
This Cornerstone, this solid ground;  
firm thru the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love, what depths of peace;  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.  
My Comforter, my All in All.  
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone, who took on flesh  
Fullness of God in helpless babe  
This gift of love and righteousness;  
scorned by the ones He came to save  
Til on that cross as Jesus died,  
the wrath of God was satisfied  
For every sin on Him was laid.  
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay;  
light of the world by darkness slain  
then bursting forth in glorious day  
up from the grave He rose again  
and as He stands in victory  
sin's curse has lost its grip on me  
for I am His and He is mine.  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life no fear in death.  
This is the power of Christ in me  
from life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny  
no power of hell, no scheme of man  
can ever pluck me from His hand.  
Until He returns or calls me home,  
here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

*CCLI #3390395; 2001 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG  
Publishing) Stuart Townend*

### 13. Joyful Joyful We Adore You LSB #803

Joyful, joyful we adore You  
God of glory Lord of love  
Hearts unfold like flowers before you  
Opening to the sun above  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness  
Drive the dark of doubt away  
Giver of immortal gladness  
Fill us with the light of day

All Your works with joy surround you.  
Earth and heaven reflect your rays  
Stars and angels sing around you;  
Center of unbroken praise  
Field and forest, vale and mountain  
Flowery meadow skies above  
Singing bird and flowing fountain  
show the wonders of your love

*Chorus:*

*Voices raised, we bring before you  
our joyful praise as we adore You*

You are giving and forgiving  
ever blessing, ever blessed  
Wellspring of the joy of living  
ocean where my soul finds rest  
Father Son and Holy Spirit  
you who rescue and restore  
Joyful we your heaven inherit  
there we'll praise you evermore. *Chorus*

*Words and music Public Domain - added chorus by Wendysue Fluegge @ 2016*

### 14. Lord I Lift Your Name on High

*(Administered by Music Services), All rights reserved used by permission*

Lord I lift your name on high  
Lord I love to sing your praises  
I'm so glad you're in my life  
I'm so glad you came to save us

You came from Heaven to earth to show the way  
from the earth to the cross my debt to pay  
From the cross to the grave; from the grave to the sky;  
Lord I lift your name on high.

*CCLI #117947 - Words and music by Rick Founds ©1989 Maranatha Praise, Inc./ASCAP*

### 15. Lutheran Women One and All

Lutheran women, one and all,  
We have heard the Gospel call.  
We by faith have seen our Lord  
Crucified and then restored.

We have seen Him pay the price,  
For our sins a sacrifice.  
Him we Lord and Christ acclaim  
And unite to praise His name.

Lutheran women, young and old,  
Well we know His challenge bold:  
Help to take the Gospel light  
To a world in darkest night,  
By example in the home,  
By inviting those who roam,  
By our prayers for sinners lost,  
By our gifts for missions' cost.

Lutheran women, coast to coast,  
In the Lord a mighty host,  
Let us all united be  
In the Holy Trinity,  
One in faith, in hope, and love,  
Working for the Lord above,  
Till, our earthly labors done,  
We in heaven shall all be one.

*Tune: 892 LSB, 495 LW, 574 TL; Elmer A. Kettner*

### \*16. Revelation Song

*\*Participants sing Choruses and Wendysue leads/teaches verses*

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain. Holy, Holy, is He.  
Sing a new song, to Him who sits on Heaven's Mercy Seat

*Chorus:*

*Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord God Almighty,  
who was, and is, and is to come.*

*With all creation I sing praise to the King of Kings.  
You are my everything, and I will adore You*

Clothed in rainbows, of living color.  
Flashes of lightning, rolls of thunder  
Blessing and honor, strength and glory  
and power be to You the only Wise King. *Chorus*

Filled with wonder awestruck wonder  
at the mention of Your name  
Jesus Your name is power, breath and living water.  
Such a marvelous mystery – *Chorus*

*CCLI # 4447960; Jennie Lee Riddle; 2004 Gateway Create Publishing  
(Admin. Capitol CMG Pub (IMI))*

### 17. Serve the Lord With Gladness

"Serve the Lord with gladness!" It is He alone  
Who redeemed us sinners, Guides us as His own  
To enjoy the blessings; Of His love and grace,  
Will at last in glory; Meet us face to face.  
Onward, then, for Jesus! Let this be our aim:

“Serve the Lord with gladness!” Glorify His name.  
 “Serve the Lord with gladness!” He gave us command  
 To proclaim His Gospel; Now in every land  
 So that fellow sinners; May, like us, be blest.  
 Leading them to Jesus, We can serve Him best.  
 Onward, then, for Jesus! Let this be our aim:  
 “Serve the Lord with gladness!” Glorify His name!

“Serve the Lord with gladness!” There’s no greater joy  
 Than to serve the Master, Work in His employ.  
 As we build His kingdom; Angels, too, rejoice  
 Over every sinner; Brought to hear His voice.  
 Onward, then, for Jesus! Let this be our aim:  
 “Serve the Lord with gladness!” Glorify His name!

*Tune: LSB #662, LW #518, TLH #658; Prof. Ernest Lewerenz*

## 18. Shine Jesus Shine

Lord the light of your love is shining.  
 In the midst of the darkness, shining  
 Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us.  
 Set us free by the truth you now bring us.  
 Shine on me, shine on me

*Chorus:*

*Shine, Jesus, shine. Fill this land with the Father’s glory  
 Blaze, Spirit, blaze. Set our hearts on fire.  
 Flow, river, flow. Flood the nations with grace and mercy  
 Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light*

Lord, I come to your awesome presence.  
 From the shadows into your radiance  
 By the blood I may enter your brightness;  
 Search me, try me, consume all my darkness  
 Shine on me, shine on me. *Chorus*

As we gaze on Your kingly brightness,  
 so our faces display your likeness  
 ever changing from glory to glory,  
 mirrored here may our lives tell your story  
 Shine on me, shine on me. *Chorus*

*CCLI #30426 - Graham Kendrick - 1987 Make Way Music  
 (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)*

## \*19. Take Every Aspect

*\*Participants sing Choruses and Wendysue leads/teaches verses*

*Chorus:*

*Take every aspect of my life; Take every aspect Jesus Christ  
 Take every aspect and all I do. Make every aspect more like You -  
 Make me more like You.*

When I look I’m the mirror I see;  
 I see a sinner staring back at me  
 I see my failures all my past mistakes.

Lord I’m needing You to take. *Chorus*  
 Lord won’t You take me - My talents treasures time  
 And use them daily to let your glory shine,  
 And I’ll be seeing after You are through  
 that I’ll be living a life that’s all brand new. *Chorus*

*Words and music by Wendysue Fluegge @ 2016*

## 20. What a Friend We have in Jesus LSB #770

- 1 What a friend we have in Jesus,  
 All our sins and griefs to bear!  
 What a privilege to carry  
 Ev’rything to God in prayer!  
 Oh, what peace we often forfeit;  
 Oh, what needless pain we bear—  
 All because we do not carry  
 Ev’rything to God in prayer!
- 2 Have we trials and temptations?  
 Is there trouble anywhere?  
 We should never be discouraged—  
 Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
 Can we find a friend so faithful  
 Who will all our sorrows share?  
 Jesus knows our ev’ry weakness—  
 Take it to the Lord in prayer.
- 3 Are we weak and heavy laden,  
 Cumbered with a load of care?  
 Precious Savior, still our refuge—  
 Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
 Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?  
 Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
 In His arms He’ll take and shield thee;  
 Thou wilt find a solace there.

*Public domain*

*\*Participants sing Choruses and Wendysue leads/teaches verses*

# Acknowledgments

## The Lutheran Women's Missionary League gratefully acknowledges:

The Albuquerque Convention and Visitors Bureau for providing support for convention programming.

Thrivent Financial for sponsorship of Friday Info Gathering and support to the YWRs, and for providing convention notepads.

The Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) for its underwriting of the production cost of the convention tote bags and sponsoring a breakfast for the LWML District Treasurers.

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; Rev. Bart Day, Executive Director of LCMS Office of National Mission; Rev. John Fale, Executive Director of LCMS Office of International Mission; Rev. Kevin Robson, LCMS Chief Mission Officer, for missionary support and support of Heart to Heart Sisters cross-cultural training and gathering.

Concordia Lutheran Ministries Foundation for providing sponsorship for the servant activities.

Lutheran World Relief for providing sponsorship for the servant activities.

The Mill Neck Family of Organizations, for its support of the closed captioning of the convention proceedings and interpreter services for the convention. The Mill Neck Family of Organizations, Michael Killian, President, CEO, was incorporated in 1979 to gather funds to assist in a variety of ministries to the Deaf.

LCMS Foundation for sponsoring the LWML Board of Directors Dinner.

Concordia Publishing House (CPH) for fully underwriting the Tee Up 4 Mites golf outing. Grateful thanks to all the golf outing sponsors, hole sponsors, and participants in making this a success in gathering funds for LWML mites.

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Montana District, Northwest District, Rocky Mountain District, and Wyoming District, for their gift of 30 Communion sets crafted by Paula Dodd, from Twin Falls, Idaho.

Communion wine and wafers for the opening worship service given by the LWML Montana District in memory of Past District President Jo Young.

MervineMusic, LLC located in Centennial, Colorado; Kenrick Mervine, for providing the Allen three manual organ.

88 Keys Piano Warehouse, located in Albuquerque, New Mexico; Martin Garcia, for providing a Steinway and a Yamaha Grand Piano.

Lutheran Heritage Foundation and Lutheran Bible Translators for funds to offset the cost of printing the worship folders.

Lutheran Braille Workers, for providing sight-saving convention manuals.

Apple of His Eye for the bottled water for the mission walk.

Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Robert Roegner for the generous donation to the LWML of a 1942 silver communion set that was used in the opening worship service.

Amy Gill for designing the 75th anniversary logo and banner, and Judy Jeffrey who artistically created the banner.

Cover Design and Graphic Editor: Nichelle Dykema



THE PROCESSIONAL CROSS, WITH THE LWML SEAL IN THE DESIGN, WAS CUSTOM MADE FOR THE 1991 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE LWML IN CLEVELAND, OHIO. IT WAS CARRIED INTO THAT CONVENTION BY JANICE WENDORF, WHO LATER SERVED AS LWML PRESIDENT FROM 2007–2011.



# Lutheran Women in Mission

*And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins (mites), which make a penny (Mark 12:42).*

## Characteristics of a Christian Steward:

FAITHFULNESS

COMPASSION

GRACEFULNESS

PROPORTIONATE  
GIVING

GLOBAL PRESENCE

*"Freely you have received, freely give" (Matthew 10:8 NIV). God's love motivated Him to give us His best. Likewise, we have opportunities to share.*

### Mite Box

- As you give, pray for all mission grants.

### Memorial Envelopes

- May be ordered free of charge by calling 800-325-3040 or by shopping online at [www.lwml.org/store](http://www.lwml.org/store).

### Joyful Response®

- An electronic, automated method to make mite contributions.

### LWML Endowment Fund

- Earnings from this fund are used to train and equip LWML leaders provide programming, and carry out the LWML mission.

### Gifts of Love Ministry

- Explore the many benefits available with an LWML Gift Planning Counselor.

### Designate Dollars to LWML

- Thrivent Choice Dollars may be designated to the charitable organization of your choice.
- Use GoodSearch as your search engine and each time you search the Internet, a donation is made.
- Shop with AmazonSmile or GoodShop and if you've designated LWML as your chosen organization, a donation will be made with approved purchases.

Learn more about all these options on the LWML website at [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org)

Because of Christian stewards like you the LWML has funded over \$100 million in Mission Grants around the globe and in more than 70 countries since 1943. By the grace of God and to His glory alone, the LWML looks forward to continuing this great tradition.



## Thankful Responses from Grant Recipients

*"Thank you for saying YES and bringing hope to cancer patients through Phil's Friends. Your generosity allowed cancer patients to receive support and encouragement from someone who understands the journey. Your YES let patients know they are not alone and loved by God."* – Phil J. Zielke;  
Founder & President of Phil's Friends

*"We thank the LWML for partnering with us to bring students from Ghana, Liberia, Ethiopia, Slovakia, and Nicaragua, in particular, into our Saint Paul family, and trust that God will use this investment in our ministry to bring the Gospel to a future generation of 'Saints' around the world."*  
Saint Paul Lutheran High School

**Notes:**

**Notes:**

# Statistical Report

Districts (40)	Number of Zones	Number of Units	Number of Societies	Estimated Membership	District Events	Total Mission Goal Adopted 2016-2018
Atlantic	7	70	75	900	60	\$76,500.00
California-Nevada-Hawaii	19	125	130	1350	61	\$230,000.00
Carolinas	7	54	57	975	20	\$66,500.00
Central Illinois	12	114	121	1860	44	\$175,000.00
Chesapeake	8	93	101	1965	37	\$115,000.00
Eastern	9	88	88	1185	55	\$62,000.00
English	7	35	39	400	25	\$56,000.00
Florida-Georgia	19	173	176	6500	83	\$104,192.01
Gulf States	6	56	58	600	21	\$57,000.00
Indiana	21	224	224	6450	99	\$158,750.00
Iowa East	12	104	109	2024	56	\$160,000.00
Iowa West	20	145	160	3511	150	\$200,000.00
Kansas	12	129	135	2625	68	\$151,700.00
Louisiana-Mississippi	5	40	40	260	48	\$55,000.00
Michigan	29	327	327	5232	105	\$235,000.00
Mid-South	10	90	97	1500	51	\$120,000.00
Minnesota North	17	142	147	2316	55	\$171,250.00
Minnesota South	24	162	169	3126	60	\$260,000.00
Missouri	21	215	236	4092	98	\$360,000.00
Montana	6	48	48	619	34	\$55,156.50
Nebraska North	10	74	96	1601	225	\$86,000.00
Nebraska South	12	113	122	3325	52	\$191,000.00
New England	5	48	48	400	25	\$64,000.00
New Jersey	5	26	26	250	20	\$23,000.00
North Dakota	6	65	66	1550	29	\$120,000.00
North Wisconsin	18	193	191	3019	93	\$135,000.00
Northern Illinois	28	214	265	980	73	\$178,500.00
Ohio	13	127	162	3328	96	\$180,000.00
Oklahoma	8	73	76	1200	37	\$103,000.00
Oregon	9	76	76	812	40	\$95,000.00
Pacific Southwest	28	208	211	2310	194	\$150,000.00
Rocky Mountain	11	100	101	1671	70	\$173,400.00
SELC	3	24	24	240	11	\$16,000.00
South Dakota	10	86	89	1728	55	\$88,150.00
South Wisconsin	21	152	152	1850	172	\$214,800.00
Southern Illinois	7	70	74	1384	28	\$93,000.00
Texas	26	191	216	3157	122	\$336,400.00
Utah-Idaho	4	39	39	400	21	\$59,000.00
Washington-Alaska	11	83	86	948	65	\$170,000.00
Wyoming	6	50	50	650	15	\$70,250.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>512</b>	<b>4446</b>	<b>4707</b>	<b>78,293</b>	<b>2673</b>	<b>\$5,415,548.51</b>

## Jesus Christ Above All

*Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name (Philippians 2:9).*

## Convention Goal Statement

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, through Word and Sacrament, I will proclaim Jesus Christ above all.

## Convention Objectives

Each convention attendee will be:

- Encouraged through worship and Bible study.
- Equipped to share His message of salvation.
- Engaged in celebrating God's faithfulness while serving the Lord with gladness.



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