

Lutheran Women's Missionary League
Minutes
37th Biennial Convention
June 22-25, 2017
Albuquerque Convention Center
Albuquerque, New Mexico

The 37th biennial convention of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League was held at the Albuquerque Convention Center, Albuquerque, New Mexico, on June 22-25, 2017. The theme for the convention was "Jesus Christ Above All" based on Philippians 2:9: *Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name.* The convention was broadcast over the internet via live-stream for those unable to attend.

CONVENTION GOAL STATEMENT

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, through Word and Sacrament, I will proclaim Jesus Christ above all.

CONVENTION OBJECTIVES:

Convention attendees 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.

PRE-CONVENTION ACTIVITIES

Pre-convention activities began on Wednesday evening, June 21, 2017.

- Onsite registration occurred at the Albuquerque Convention Center.
- Servant Activities conducted at the convention center beginning at 9 a.m. on Thursday, June 22, 2017, included:
 - Assembling Braille Books of the Bible for Lutheran Braille Workers
 - Creating greeting cards for cancer patients.
 - Tying Quilts and Fleece Blankets for Lutheran World Relief
 - Assembling Personal Care and School Kits for Lutheran World Relief and Lutheran Indian Ministry.
 - Assembling Hygiene Bags for The Storehouse.
 - Marking Bibles for Prison Ministry.
 - Blood Donation with United Blood Services.
- The Above All Exhibit Hall was open beginning at 9 a.m. on Thursday, June 22, 2017.
- Gifts from the Heart gathered 11,155 packaged items that included baby, health, and school kits, sheet sets, quilts, underwear, and Arch Books. There were 169 boxes of additional individual items collected. Cash and check donations of \$1,783 and gift card donations of \$29,548 were received.
- Delegates to the convention met on Thursday afternoon, June 22, 2017 from 3 to 4 p.m. for Delegate Orientation.
- Following delegate orientation, district photos were taken and district caucuses were held.

Convention Opening and First Meeting
Thursday, June 22, 2017
7 p.m.

OPENING OF THE CONVENTION

During the lighting of the candle by Mikayla Heckman, President Patricia Ross opened the convention in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

CELEBRATION SERVICE WITH COMMUNION

The celebration service began with Phillip Jaseph, who carried the LWML processional cross, followed by the ecclesiastical procession of LCMS clergy participating in the service. The proclaimer for the worship service was the Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison. He started by wishing the LWML Happy Birthday! His theme was from the opening worship text. Isaiah 43:1-15, Philippians 2:1-11, and Matthew 16:13-20. As redeemed loving children of God we are called to do His business, sharing the Gospel, and loving one another in every aspect of our lives.

CONVENTION OFFERING # 1
2015-2017 LWML Mission Goal
The offering totaled \$45,123.55 (preliminary)

Second Meeting
Friday, June 23, 2017
8:15 a.m.

CHILD CARE/YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Child care/youth activities at Camp Insta Friends began at 8 a.m. at the Albuquerque Convention Center.

SONG LEADER

Wendysue Fluegge was the song leader for the convention and led the convention body in singing before meetings and throughout the convention.

HUMOROUS INTERRUPTIONS

Throughout the convention, Humorous Interrupter Jan Struck provided a joyful interruption as Katie Luther as part of the anniversary celebration in which we recognize our 75th Anniversary of the LWML and 500th Anniversary of the Reformation.

WAKE UP WITH THE WORD BIBLE STUDIES

The “Wake Up with the Word Bible Studies,” held on Friday and Saturday morning were open to all convention attendees.

GRACE PLACE CHAPEL

A chapel dedication and prayer service was held on Thursday, June 23, at 7:30 a.m. In the prayer chapel was a memorial book for remembering all the faithful women who were called to their rest during the past biennium. The book will travel from convention to convention, honoring those women who are with us in our hearts.

OPENING OF SECOND CONVENTION MEETING

Eden Keefe, Vice President of Christian Life, occupied the Vice President’s chair during the second meeting.

BANNER PROCESSION

The LWML banner was carried by President Patti Ross, the 75th Anniversary banner was carried by Alice Decker, great granddaughter of Clara Schmitt, the first LWML President, and the LWML Canada banner was carried by President Iris Barta. The LWML Executive Committee followed the banners in procession.

Banners of the LWML Host Districts were carried by the District Presidents, Shari Miller, Montana District; Sylvia Bean, Rocky Mountain District; Linda Larson, Utah-Idaho District; Danyne Six, Wyoming; and banners from each district were carried by each LWML District President accompanied by her Young Woman Representatives.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE and AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL

LWML District Presidents serving from 2014 – 2018, led the *Pledge of Allegiance* and singing of *America the Beautiful*:

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	Anne 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	

OPENING PRAYER

Alice Decker, great granddaughter of the first LWML President Clara Schmitt, led the prayer for the opening of the second meeting.

WELCOME

District Presidents, Shari Miller, Montana District; Sylvia Bean, Rocky Mountain District; Linda Larson, Utah-Idaho District; Danyne Six, Wyoming District; welcomed everyone to Albuquerque, New Mexico.

President Ross welcomed remarks from Northwestern (Utah-Idaho) LCMS District President Rev. Paul Linnemann and LCMS Rocky Mountain District President Rev. Alan Anderson. She also welcomed all other LCMS District Presidents in attendance.

BIBLE STUDY #1

Public Relations Director Carol von Soosten introduced Deaconess Betty Knapp who presented the Bible study on “The Timeless Message of the Gospel.”

ELECTRONIC BALLOTING REVIEW

Parliamentarian Barbara Volk led a review of the use of the wireless voting devices.

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Recording Secretary Ginger Starrett gave the report of the Credentials Committee as of 9:53 a.m., Friday, June 23, 2017.

VOTING BODY

Board of Directors	62
Past LWML Presidents	6
Delegates	<u>495</u>
Total Eligible to Vote	563

NON-VOTING

LWML Appointed Personnel and Committee Members	55
Other Registrants	<u>2850</u>
Total Non-Voting	2905
Total Registration	3468

The credentials report as of 9:53 a.m. on June 23, 2017, was **ADOPTED** by a vote of 438 to 3.

READING OF THE PROPOSED CONVENTION RULES

The convention rules, read by Parliamentarian Barbara Volk, were **ADOPTED** by a vote of 448 to 1.

PRESENTATION OF PROPOSED AGENDA

The proposed agenda was presented by Recording Secretary Ginger Starrett, as printed in the convention manual with necessary changes to be made at the discretion of the chair was **ADOPTED** by a vote of 464 to 2.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Minutes Review:

Diane Reimold, Chairman, President, Mid-South District
Brenda Piester, President, Kansas District
Marilyn Hiltel, President, Minnesota North District

LCMS PRESIDENT

Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, President of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, brought greetings and thanked the LWML for raising mites for LCMS missions. A video highlighting mite giving over the past 75 years was shown. President Harrison presented a Presidential Proclamation to honor the 75th Anniversary of the LWML.

AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

JoNette Brogaard, Structure Committee Chairman, presented the proposed amendments (attached) to the LWML Bylaws and **MOVED**, by direction of the Board of Directors, their adoption. Debbie Larson, Vice President of Organizational Resources, led the convention body in prayer before the vote. The Article IV, section 1 amendment was **ADOPTED** by a vote of 471 to 2.

JoNette Brogaard, Structure Committee Chairman, presented the proposed amendments (attached) to the LWML Bylaws and **MOVED**, by direction of the Board of Directors, their adoption. Mary Smith, Structure Committee Chairman, led the convention body in prayer before the vote. The Article X, section 1a, Article IV, section 2, and Article XIII, section 1c amendments were **ADOPTED** by a vote of 375 to 84.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Treasurer Marilyn Schroeder introduced the members of the Finance Committee Jannell Harlow, Bunnie Koelsch, Kim Burdett, Jim Schlie, Pastoral Counselor Rev. Robert Mundahl, and the members of the Investment Committee Sandy Thompson, Wayne Price, Vice President of Gospel Outreach Shelley Moeller, and Sr. Pastoral Counselor Rev. Dr. Robert Roegner. President Patti Ross and Director of Finance and Administration Kelley Young serve on both committees in an advisory capacity. Treasurer Marilyn Schroeder serves as Chairman of both committees.

Treasurer Marilyn Schroeder reported the 2015-2017 mission goal of \$2,000,000 was surpassed by the close of the biennium.

FINANCIAL REPORT

LWML Director of Finance and Administration Kelley Young presented the final financial report for the 2015-2017 biennium that was audited by Anders CPAs + Advisors of St. Louis, MO.

By direction of the Board of Directors, Treasurer Marilyn Schroeder **MOVED** acceptance of the financial report of the LWML Accounting Department and of the Treasurer of the LWML. The motion was **ADOPTED** 464 to 2.

INTRODUCTION OF OFFICE STAFF

Director of Finance and Administration Kelley Young introduced the staff of the LWML Office: Karen Anderson, Carol Ianelli, Eva Keller and Ashley Jenkins.

MITES IN ACTION SPEAKER

Strategic Plan Facilitator Cheryl Mattil introduced the first Mites in Action speaker, Sanya Parson, from Rebecca's Garden of Hope, who spoke about the tutoring and mentoring to at risk children.

ADOPTION OF THE MISSION GOAL FOR 2017–2019 BIENNIUM

Leslie Jaseph, Meeting Manager, led the assembly in prayer before the voting on the 2017–2019 LWML Mission Goal.

By direction of the Board of Directors, Treasurer Marilyn Schroeder **MOVED** the adoption of a mission goal of \$2,075,000 for the 2017-2019 biennium. The motion was **ADOPTED** 479 to 5. In praise and thanksgiving to our God, the assembly sang the *Common Doxology*.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW LOGO

A video presentation was displayed that revealed the new LWML logo to the convention body.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lois Anderson, 2017 Host Committee Chairman, gave announcements.

CLOSING PRAYER

Lois Teinert, Contracts Administrator, led the closing prayer for the morning meeting.

Lunch Recess

Info Gatherings

First Timers, Gifts of Love Ministry, Heart to Heart (H2H) Sisters Reunion, Lutheran Church Extension Fund,

Lunch with My Friends, Partners in Mission: LWML and Church Workers, YWRs and YWR Alums, Lutheran Women's Quarterly Staff Luncheon, Germany Lutherland Trip, Thrivent Financial.

THIRD MEETING
Friday, June 23, 2017
2:15 p.m.

OPENING OF THE THIRD MEETING

Kaye Wolff, Vice President of Special Focus Ministries, occupied the Vice President's chair during the third meeting. The third meeting of the convention began with prayer by Marie McNary, Information Technology Committee.

FIRST TIMERS

President Ross announced that over 850 "First Timers" were attending convention.

INTRODUCTION OF CONVENTION SONG LEADER

Past President Jan Wendorf introduced Wendysue Fluegge, Convention Song Leader.

INTRODUCTION OF CANADA LWML

President Ross introduced President Iris Barta, LWML Canada. President Barta brought greetings on behalf of LWML Canada and invited the attendees to their convention "One in Spirit, One in Purpose," July 5-8, 2018, in Winnipeg, Canada.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Eden Keefe, Vice President of Christian Life, introduced the keynote speaker, past LWML President Ida Mall. She encouraged her listeners to "step out and step forward" because God has work for us to do, as Epiphany people we should let the light of Christ shine through so that people may be drawn to Jesus and to know Him better.

MISSION GRANTS PRESENTATION

Vice President of Gospel Outreach Shelley Moeller, introduced the video presentation of the thirty-four Mission Grants proposals.

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Recording Secretary Ginger Starrett gave the report of the Credentials Committee as of 4:09 p.m. Friday, June 23, 2017.

VOTING BODY

Board of Directors	62
Past LWML Presidents	6
Delegates	<u>495</u>
Total Eligible to Vote	563

NON-VOTING

LWML Appointed Personnel and Committee Members	55
Other Registrants	<u>2853</u>
Total Non-Voting	2906

Total Registration 3471

BALLOTING FOR MISSION GRANTS

Following a prayer by Tracy Stetzel, Mission Grants Committee member, the vote for mission grants proceeded with electronic balloting (delegates could vote for eight). Results were tallied and reported at the opening of the fourth meeting on Saturday morning.

MITES IN ACTION SPEAKER

Lutheran's Woman's Quarterly Mission Editor, Cheri Fish, introduced the second Mites in Action speaker, Rev. Dr. Douglas Rutt, and Katia Sahyouni from Lutheran Hour Ministries. Katia Sahyouni reviewed the activities of the ministry. During this presentation the live-stream was blacked out to protect those still active in the missionary field.

CONVENTION OFFERING #2
75th Anniversary Thank Offering, for the Endowment Fund
The offering totaled \$49,105.84 (preliminary)

CONCORDIA PUBLISHING HOUSE

Vice President and Corporate Council, Jonathan Schultz brought greeting from CPH and thanked the LWML for years of service and partnership.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lois Anderson, 2017 Host Committee Chairman, and Marguerite Christman, Convention Manager, gave announcements.

CLOSING PRAYER

Nancy Kohrs, Leader Development Committee Chairman, led the closing prayer for the afternoon meeting.

Mission Pledge Walk

Dinner Recess

FOURTH MEETING

Fiesta Mariachi with Mariachi San Pablo

Friday, June 23, 2017

7:30 - 9 p.m.

FIFTH MEETING

Saturday June 24, 2017

9 a.m.

OPENING OF THE FIFTH MEETING

Shelley Moeller, Vice President of Gospel Outreach, occupied the Vice President's chair during the fifth meeting. Caroline Honeycutt, Archivist-Historian, led the opening prayer.

PROCESSION

A procession of past LWML Presidents opened the fifth meeting, led by the LWML Banner carried by the President's page, Mikayla Heckman, from the Texas District. They were followed by the Young Woman Representatives and the Heart to Heart Sisters carrying 71 World Mission flags. The procession also included the Camp Insta Friends children, and the child care volunteers.

PAST LWML PRESIDENT BETTY DUDA

President Ross gave a tribute to 1987–1991 LWML President Betty Duda, who passed from this world to her heavenly home on Saturday, December 24, 2016, in Florida, at the age of 84.

A memorial prayer led by Rev. Dr. Robert Roegner, thanked God for the faithful service of Betty Duda, past Recording Secretary, Joy Dougherty and all of those who have passed in the last two years.

PLEDGE TO THE CROSS AND LWML PLEDGE

The Pledge to the Cross and the League Pledge were led by past LWML Presidents Ida Mall, Gloria Edwards, Virginia Von Seggern, Linda Reiser, Janice Wendorf and Kay Kreklau.

The assembly joined in singing "*Lutheran Women One and All.*"

SPECIAL PARTICIPANTS

President Patti Ross recognized and thanked the Young Woman Representatives, 81 present, for their attendance.

BIBLE STUDY #2

Deaconess Betty Knapp continued with the Bible study on “The Timeless Message of the Gospel.”

LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES

Kurt Buchholz, President and CEO, of the International Lutheran Layman’s League / Lutheran Hour Ministries, brought greetings and presented President Ross with the Luther Rose Medallion from the 2017 LHM Rose Parade float.

MITES IN ACTION SPEAKER

Kristi Roegner, Church Workers in Mission Task Force Chairman, introduced the third Mites in Action speakers, Steve and Nancy Cohen, Apple of His Eye Ministries. President Patti Ross presented Steve and Nancy Cohen with a \$100,000.00 mission grant check for Apple of His Eye Ministries.

CONVENTION OFFERING #3

*Bilingual Worker Priest at Concordia Lutheran Church
Chula Vista, California*

The offering totaled \$30,904.81 (preliminary)

INTRODUCTION OF THE GOSPEL OUTREACH DEPARTMENT

Shelley Moeller, Vice President of Gospel Outreach, introduced the committee members of the Gospel Outreach Department. Gospel Outreach Committee: Chairman Betty Dietrich, Sarah Brown, and Martha Hartwig; Mission Grants Committee: Chairman Sally Handrick, Susan Donnelly, Frances Militor, Lucia Segovia, and Tracy Stetzel; and the Mission Servants Committee: Chairman Linda Fees, Leslie Colligan and Cheryl Kilham.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Katy Gifford, Nominating Committee Chairman, presented the slate of candidates for election at this convention:

Nominating Committee	Joy Anderson JoNette Brogaard Betty Dietrich Linda Fees Deborah Graybosch Anne Hartman Karen Morrison Emily Rogers Sherrie Smith
Pastoral Counselor	Rev. Mitchel Schuessler Rev. Todd Shouse
Vice President of Christian Life	Susan Donnelly Jennifer Huecker
Vice President of Communication	Charlotte Kroemer Barbara Schaer
Vice President of Gospel Outreach	Sally Handrick Angelina Jauregui
Recording Secretary	Arlene Naasz Ginger Starrett

GIFTS OF LOVE MINISTRY

Linda Gage and Pat Bilow, Gift Planning Counselors and David Fiedler, LCMS Foundation President, brought greetings and spoke about the growth of the Gifts of Love ministry, which led to add the Gifts of Love Legacy Circle. The Legacy Circle will give Glory to God for donors who have been inspired to create visionary charitable estate gifts.

TEE UP 4 MITES

Amy Hubash, Convention Committee Activities Director, member in charge of the golf outing, presented a check for \$12,550.78 from the fourth biennial Tee Up 4 Mites golf outing.

MISSION IN MOTION (MISSION PLEDGE WALK)

Convention attendees (1132) participated in a mission walk Friday afternoon. Tina Bentley, Mission Walk Director, announced the activity raised \$73,674.55 in pledges for mites.

THANKS AND GREETINGS

President Ross thanked Robyn Streck, Director of Public and Customer Relations of the Lutheran Church Extension Fund for the convention tote bags and sponsorship of the LWML Treasurer's breakfast. Robyn Streck brought greetings on behalf of LCEF.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lois Anderson, 2017 Host Committee Chairman, gave announcements.

CLOSING PRAYER

Melissa Merker, Coordinator Graphics Team, led the closing prayer for the morning meeting.

Lunch Recess

Special Luncheons

Apple of His Eye, Lutheran World Relief, LCMS Missionaries, Vicar Tim Norton, Donna Pyle, Rev. Gregory Seltz/Lutheran Hour Ministries.

SIXTH MEETING

Saturday, June 24, 2017

2:15 p.m.

OPENING OF THE SIXTH MEETING

Debbie Larson, Vice President of Organizational Resources, occupied the Vice President's chair during the sixth meeting. Christy Ndem, H2H Committee member, gave the opening prayer for the sixth meeting.

SPECIAL PARTICIPANTS

President Patti Ross introduced Kaye Wolff, Vice President (VP) of Special Focus Ministries. VP Wolff gave an overview of the H2H program to the convention body. President Ross recognized and thanked the participants in the H2H program for their attendance.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

Debbie Larson, Vice President of Organizational Resources, introduced the committee members of her department. HOPE Committee: Chairman Bunnie Koelsch, Karen Lougheed, and Karen Morrison; Leader Development Committee: Chairman Nancy Kohrs, Susan Brunkow and Kelli Alsup; and the Structure Committee: Chairman JoNette Brogaard, Mary Smith, Arlene Naasz, and Parliamentarian Barbara Volk.

MISSION SPEAKERS

Vice President of Gospel Outreach Shelley Moeller introduced Rev. Kevin Robson, Executive Director of LCMS Office of International Mission.

Rev. Kevin Robson brought greetings from the LCMS Office of International Mission and the Office of National Mission

and thanked the LWML for the prayers and the mites from mighty women in mission and mercy. Rev. Robson introduced special missionary guests Rebecca Schaff, who works for the office of International Mission on the campus of the University of Minnesota at the university chapel. Rev. Robson introduced Rev. and Mrs. Carl Hanson. Rev. Carl Hanson works as the regional Congregation Facilitator in Hong Kong, China, and South Korea.

All thanked the LWML for support through prayers, volunteer service, and mission grants and described their areas of service.

REPORT OF VOTING FOR MISSION GRANTS

President Patti Ross reported the results of the voting for mission grants:

1. Completion of Lukonda Lutheran School Buildings, Uganda	139
2. Providing Food and the Gospel to Starving Children	279
3. Lutheran Children’s Books for Families Worldwide	159
4. Christian Hope Through Mass Media in Egypt	155
5. Laborers of Love – Lutheran Braille Workers	123
6. Education Loan Repayment Assistance Grants	114
7. Fairmount Coffee House Outreach Ministry	67
8. RECONNECT to the Body of Christ, Circuit 28	105
9. Reformation Continues: Lectionaries in West Africa	89
10. Training Lutheran Middle Eastern Missionaries	142
11. “Set To Serve”	77
12. Student Leadership Training Conferences	51
13. Training Teachers for Today’s Learners	79
14. Mercy House for Women and Children	246
15. Sharing Jesus with People with Disabilities	119
16. Restoration Programs for Native Hawaiians	107
17. Family Scholarships for Short Term Mission Trips	96
18. Expanding the broadcast of Worship for Shut-ins	90
19. Equipping Youth to Witness for Life-Y4Life	127
20. Forming International Teachers and Leaders	85
21. Tanzanian Sewing Center	174
22. Christian Eldercare Home in Haiti	148
23. Raising Pastors and Deaconesses	96
24. Current Missionary Need	165
25. Lutheran World Relief Quilt and Kit Shipping Fund	150
26. NOLA 4H: Hearts for the Hungry, Homeless, and Hurting	152
27. Libraries and Literacy in China	34
28. Christ for Veterans and Their Families	214
29. Christ’s Care for Children: Kenya	83
30. Prison and Jail Ministry Synod-wide Conference in 2018	98
31. Thanking Former Missionaries	35
32. Every One His Witness	64
33. Nursing Students Serving with Mercy Medical Team	109
34. Engaging RSO’s	8

President Ross declared the following mission grants selected for the 2017–2019 biennium:

Providing Food and the Gospel to Starving Children	\$40,000.00
Mercy House for Women and Children	\$100,000.00
Christ for Veterans and Their Families	\$27,750.00
Tanzanian Sewing Center	\$25,000.00
Current Missionary Need	\$100,000.00
Lutheran Children’s Books for Families Worldwide	\$100,000.00
Christian Hope Through Mass Media in Egypt	\$100,000.00
NOLA 4H: Hearts for the Hungry, Homeless, and Hurting	\$100,000.00
Lutheran World Relief Quilt and Kit Shipping Fund	\$80,000.00

Christian Eldercare Home in Haiti	\$100,000.00
Training Lutheran Middle Eastern Missionaries	\$93,000.00
Completion of Lukonda Lutheran School Buildings, Uganda	\$48,000.00
Equipping Youth to Witness for Life-Y4Life	\$25,000.00
Laborers of Love	\$100,000.00
Sharing Jesus with People with Disabilities	\$100,000.00
Education Loan Repayment Assistance Grants	\$100,000.00
Nursing Students Serving with Mercy Medical Team.....	\$25,000.00
Restoration Programs for Native Hawaiians	\$75,000.00
RECONNECT to the Body of Christ, Circuit 28	\$50,000.00
Prison and Jail Ministry Synod-wide Conference in 2018.....	\$36,500.00
Family Scholarships for Short Term Mission Trips.....	\$60,000.00
Raising Pastors and Deaconesses.....	\$97,000.00

VOTE TO BREAK A TIED GRANT

The LWML Standing Rule #5 of the Bylaws states, if there is a tie vote for the last chosen grant at the convention the tie shall be broken by the voting assembly of our convention.

- #17- Family Scholarships for Short Term Mission Trips – 96 votes
- #23 - Raising Pastors and Deaconesses – 96 votes

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Recording Secretary Ginger Starrett gave the report of the Credentials Committee as of 3:29 p.m., Saturday, June 24, 2017.

VOTING BODY

Board of Directors	62
Past LWML Presidents	6
Delegates	<u>495</u>
Total Eligible to Vote	563

MOTION FROM THE FLOOR

Past President Jan Wendorf moved that the voting body of the convention suspend the standing rule #5 regarding a tie in voting on mission grants and acknowledge God’s direction in our voting yesterday. We boldly step out in faith and adjust our mission goal to fully fund both of the grants that were tied. The motion was seconded and **ADOPTED** 465 to 13. The assembly sang the *Common Doxology* following the vote.

The new Mission Grant Goal \$1,582,250.00 for the 2017-2019 biennium. The extra amount to fund both grants that were tied is \$39,813.00.

PRAYER

Amy Gill, *LWQ* Graphic Designer, led the prayer before the balloting for officers.

BALLOTING FOR OFFICERS

The balloting for officers proceeded with electronic balloting.

REPORT OF THE ELECTION FOR OFFICERS

President Ross gave the Report of Election of Officers:

Nominating Committee

Number of ballots cast	539
Necessary for election.....	Plurality
JOY ANDERSON received	320
JONETTE BROGAARD received	248
BETTY DIETRICH received	203
LINDA FEES received	248
DEBORAH GRAYBOSCH received	238

ANNE HARTMAN received.....	229
KAREN MORRISON received	278
EMILY ROGERS received.....	202
SHERRIE SMITH received.....	243

Pastoral Counselor

Number of ballots cast	521
Necessary for election.....	262
THE REV. MITCHEL SCHUESSLER received.....	302
THE REV. TODD SHOUSE received.....	219

Vice President of Christian Life

Number of ballots cast	508
Necessary for election.....	255
SUSAN DONNELLY received	173
JENNIFER HUECKER received.....	335

Vice President of Communication

Number of ballots cast	511
Necessary for election.....	256
CHARLOTTE KROEMER received.....	279
BARBARA SCHAER received	232

Vice President of Gospel Outreach

Number of ballots cast	513
Necessary for election.....	257
SALLY HANDRICK received	253
ANGELINA JAUREGUI received	260

Recording Secretary

Number of ballots cast	518
Necessary for election.....	260
ARLENE NAASZ received	256
GINGER STARRETT received.....	262

President Ross announced that the following were elected:

Nominating Committee	Joy Anderson, Chairman Karen Morrison JoNette Brogaard Linda Fees Sherrie Smith
Pastoral Counselor	Rev. Mitchel Schuessler
Vice President of Christian Life	Jennifer Huecker
Vice President of Communication	Charlotte Kroemer
Vice President of Gospel Outreach	Angelina Jauregui
Recording Secretary	Ginger Starrett

INSTALLATION OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Rev. Robert Mundahl, LWML Sr. Pastoral Counselor, installed the Nominating Committee for 2017–2019.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Vice President of Organizational Resources Debbie Larson assumed the chair. President Patti Ross was introduced by Vice President of Organizational Resources Debbie Larson.

The President reported that this biennium she used the personal theme of Engage, Encourage, Equip, and Enjoy,

represented by an E-butterfly, because that is what she feels the LWML does. She reported that much of what was done in the last two years falls under her “E” butterfly, it serves to remind her that God’s grace is over everything we do.

President Ross reassumed the chair.

THANK YOU

President Ross thanked those who work behind the scenes to make the convention a success; Vivien Ernst, Exhibits Coordinator; Marguerite Christman, Convention Manager; Maureen Consiglio, assistant to the Convention Manager; the camera operators; those involved in the live-streaming; Rev. Bill Engefehr, Audio-Visual Director; Heidi Thomas, on screen captioner; Kris Bueltmann and Bill Brockschmidt, convention photographer; Linda Nix and David Bush, deaf interpreters; and Lutheran Friends of the Deaf for their grant to have their services available at the convention.

INVITATION TO 2019 CONVENTION, MOBILE, ALABAMA

2019 Convention Chairman Bunnie Koelsch, and the presidents of the host districts, Trish Aamoth of Florida-Georgia, Anita Granger of Louisiana-Mississippi, and Judy Lessmann of Gulf States, issued the official invitation to the 2019 convention in Mobile, AL, June 20-23, 2019.

LWML 75th ANNIVERSARY

Edie Norris, 75th Anniversary Chairman, gave greetings on behalf of the committee and gave an overview of the “Diamond Dazzle” celebration. Chairman Norris introduced her committee members: past Presidents Ida Mall, Gloria Edwards, Virginia Von Seggern, Linda Reiser, Jan Wendorf, Kay Kreklau, Carolyn Blum, Kristy Carter, Amy Gill, Caroline Honeycutt, and advisors, Rev. Mundahl and President Ross. Chairman Norris acknowledged the working contribution to the committee that was given by past LWML President Betty Duda.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SPECIAL APPOINTED PERSONNEL AND SPECIAL TASK FORCE MEMBERS

President Patti Ross introduced these women and men and thanked them for their service. Appointed Officers: Meeting Manager Leslie Jaseph, Public Relations Director Carol von Soosten, and Strategic Plan Facilitator Cheryl Mattil. Special Appointed Personnel: Archivist-Historian Caroline Honeycutt, Contracts Administrator Lois Teinert, and Parliamentarian Barb Volk. LWML Marketing Team: Chairman Carol von Soosten, member Kristy Carter, Product Developer Beverly England, member Debbie Yocky, and Counselor Rev. Robert Roegner. President Ross then introduced the Board of Directors Structure Task Force: Chairman Linda Arnold, members Gloria Edwards, Eloise Kuhlmann, Jan Struck, Lori May and advisory members Barbara Volk, Marie Chow, Rev. Dr. Robert Roegner and President Patti Ross.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lois Anderson, 2017 Host Committee Chairman, gave announcements.

CLOSING PRAYER

Jennette Heller, Committee on Young Women member, led the closing prayer for the afternoon meeting.

Dinner Recess

SEVENTH MEETING

Saturday, June 24, 2017

7:30 p.m.

75th Anniversary “Diamond Dazzle” Celebration

An evening of singing, a photographic history and acting commemorating the last 75 years of the LWML.

EIGHTH MEETING

Sunday, June 25, 2017

9 a.m.

OPENING OF THE EIGHTH MEETING

Nancy Bogenhagen, Vice President of Communication, occupied the Vice President's chair during the eighth meeting. Bev England, Marketing Team member, led the opening prayer for the eighth meeting of the convention.

FINAL REGISTRATION REPORT

The final Registration Report as of 9:10 a.m. Sunday, June 25, 2017:

VOTING BODY

Board of Directors	62
Past LWML Presidents	6
Delegates	<u>495</u>
Total Eligible to Vote	563

NON-VOTING

LWML Appointed Personnel and Committee Members	55
Other Registrants	<u>2854</u>
Total Non-Voting	2909

Total Registration 3472

MITES IN ACTION

Debbie Yocky, Marketing Team member, introduced Vicar Tim Norton, who serves as a missionary at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church and his mission work is with the Navajo people of New Mexico.

Vicar Tim Norton spoke about his work with the Navajo people and how the LWML grant, Hope and Healing, was used to spread the word of God. The grant was used to fund two confirmation retreats, a Christian art program for children, and healing for those affected by sexual abuse, suicide, alcoholism, and domestic violence. The grant paid for outreach to children in the community. He thanked the LWML for their support.

CONVENTION OFFERING #4

God Cares About You Mission

Albuquerque, New Mexico

The offering totaled \$33,985.56(preliminary)

RECOGNITION OF THE CONVENTION PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE

President Ross recognized all the committee members who worked to make the convention a success. Nancy Bogenhagen, Chairman, Kaye Wolff, Marilyn Schroeder, Carol von Soosten, Marguerite Christman, Vivian Ernst, Rev. Bill Engfehr, Rev. Dr. Robert Roegner and President Ross.

RECOGNITION OF ALBUQUERQUE HOST COMMITTEE

Lois Anderson, 2017 Host Committee Chairman, thanked the 79 host committee members and the many numerous workers.

INTRODUCTION OF HUMOROUS INTERRUPTER

President Ross introduced and thanked Jan Struck, the humorous interrupter.

RECOGNITION FOR THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY BANNER

President Ross recognized Judy Jeffrey from the Washington-Alaska District, who made the 75th Anniversary banner.

CLOSING REMARKS

President Patti Ross encouraged all attendees to take the message of "Jesus Christ Above All" home. President Ross stated, "Since you are saved it is up to everyone to bring the lost and erring to Jesus and to let them know that they are saved as well."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements were given one last time by Lois Anderson, 2017 Host Committee Chairman.

INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS

The Rev. Robert Mundahl, LWML Sr. Pastoral Counselor, installed the new officers.

SENDING SERVICE

The Rev. Allen Anderson, LCMS Rocky Mountain District President, was the proclaimer for the Sunday morning sending service and he preached on the sermon text, 1 Peter 2: 1-10. The service included the Dedication of Gifts from the Heart. The liturgists were Rev. Dr. Robert Roegner and Rev. Robert Mundahl, LWML Pastoral Counselors. Newly installed LWML Junior Counselor, Rev. Mitchel Schuessler participated in the worship service.

ADJOURNMENT

President Patti Ross adjourned the 37th biennial convention of the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League at 11:45 a.m. on Sunday, June 25, 2017.

Patricia Ross, President

Ginger Starrett, Recording Secretary