LWML 75th Anniversary Convention Albuquerque, NM June 2017

(The conclusion of the Bible study presented to the convention included a summary of themes used at LWML national conventions throughout our 75-year history. These themes, woven together, share the focus of the organization as we always point to Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.)

Throughout these 75 years, the LWML has meet in convention 37 times and at each convention a theme was chosen to be the focus for the event. These themes tell the story of the LWML through the years and truly reflect God's purpose in our lives and give us the encouragement we need to answer the call to "Go!"

In 1942 a group of LCMS women gathered to organize as women in mission who **SERVE THE LORD WITH GLADNESS**.

We prayed <u>THY KINGDOM COME</u> as we lent a hand to heal a world torn apart by war. We answered the call to serve <u>FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS</u> because we knew we were <u>SAVED TO SERVE</u>.

When segregation tore at the fabric of our nation we clung to the promise to **OCCUPY**'TIL [THE LORD] COMES because then we would TALK OF HIS WONDROUS WORKS.

As the organization grew, <u>LABOUR WITH MORE LOVE</u> was our focus as we saw the importance of <u>LIVING WITH MY LORD</u>.

<u>THE HARVEST IS GREAT</u> and we all have been called to action because <u>THE LORD IS MY</u> <u>LIGHT</u>, my <u>BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR</u>.

When our nation pursued the space program that reached to the moon and back, we learned to **THRUST WITH TRUST** and **DECLARE HIS GLORY**.

We were <u>TOGETHER IN CHRIST</u> as <u>SAINTS ARISE!</u> when we learned to <u>LIFT THINE EYES</u> to the heavens and <u>SOW THE SEED</u> – God's Word to all the nations.

Together we learned to **COME TO THE LIVING WATERS** of baptism and **REACH OUT WITH CHRIST** to **GIVE GOD GLORY**.

We were RADIANT WITH GOD'S LOVE and learned to SEEK HIS FACE ALWAYS.

When we turned 50 <u>CELEBRATE THE JUBILEE</u> was our call to action because we were <u>ONE IN SPIRIT – ONE IN PURPOSE</u>. We learned to <u>LIVE BY GOD'S DESIGN</u> and <u>HOLD UP</u> <u>THE LIGHT</u> to <u>LET FREEDOM RING</u> throughout the land <u>BECAUSE HE FIRST LOVED ME</u>.

Jesus is the <u>LORD OF MY HEART ... OUR HOPE</u> who helps us <u>LIVE JOYFULLY AS SALT & LIGHT</u> in a world that needs to <u>REST ON CHRIST THE KING.</u>

Together we **LOOK TO THE HILLS ... GOD REIGNS**, and we are aware of **BEING WITH JESUS – LIVING ON THE EDGE**.

We have been **QUENCHED! BY THE WATER** as God has blessed us in ways that are **BOUNTIFUL! [TO] SOW. NOURISH. REAP** because it's all about **JESUS CHRIST ABOVE ALL!**

To Him be the glory forever! Amen!

