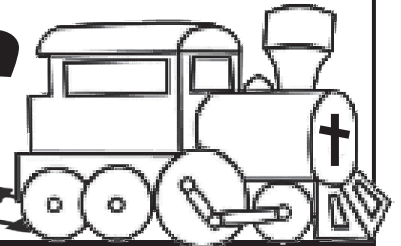


PRAISE EXPRESS



38th Biennial LWML Convention

• Mobile, Alabama

• Sunday, June 23, 2019

• Issue #4

Mites In Action

Tanzanian Sewing Center:

Jean Jaskierny shared highlights from Tanzania, where the 2017–2019 \$25,000 mission grant for a sewing center has breathed new life into the African village. The women have taken great pride in their sewing school, which has given them an opportunity to express their love of Christ. “Cold, hard cash is nothing without the dedication to sharing the Gospel,” Jean said. “You are the catalyst for Mites in Action.”

Nursing Students Serving with Mercy

Medical Team: Mites in Action presenter, Stephanie Schulte, will be sharing how God uses our mite offerings for the Medical Mercy Team mission trips. With stories about the power of healing, both physically and spiritually, we will learn how God provides mercy through the teams who travel to third world countries.

Y4Life: Laura Davis Hemminger has a long history with the LWML and thanked the assembly for the volunteers and support for Gospel-motivated voices for Lutherans for Life and Y4Life. The goal of Lutherans for Life is to proclaim that God gives all life value — from the womb to the tomb — and all life is created, redeemed, and called by God.

Y4Life equips youth to share the message of life with friends, peers, and family member through servant events and mission trips, including an annual trip to Washington, D.C. for the March for Life. With the 2017-2019 \$25,000 mission grant, Y4Life will launch Life Teams in 100 Lutheran high schools using training, resources, and support to continue education and growth for life issues.

Women of the Pearl: Lynn Corker, from Women of the Pearl in Uganda, thanks the women of the LWML for changing a nation for generations to come. Their goal is to empower women by educating them in literacy, agriculture, business ownership, hygiene, nutrition, and ministry leadership. The women of Uganda are learning to take back their villages by spreading the love of Jesus to their neighbors. Through the 2015–2017 \$100,000 mission grant, a new seminary and library has been built. There are 150 churches, but only 23 pastors. In 2020, the first class of 24 young men will graduate from the Seminary, essentially doubling the number of pastors in their country, where they share the love of Jesus with great passion.

Encouraging Word

Declare his glory among the nations (1 Chronicles 16:24).

Being fed by God’s Word is our confidence. May you be bold as you go forth in joy and share Jesus’ love with others. In Praise to the LORD!

Gifts From The Heart Updated Count:

8,436 Arch Books

228 Baby kits

262 Sheet sets

1,161 Hygiene kits

926 Bibles

214 Quilts

43 Boxes of Miscellaneous supplies

\$33,630 in Gift card donations

Today’s Sending Service

Join us for the Sending Service, Dedication of the Gifts from the Heart, and installation of the newly elected officers.

Newly Elected Officers

President: Debbie Larson

Vice President of Organizational Resources: Marie Chow

Vice President of Special Focus Ministries: Deaconess Betty Knapp

Treasurer: Karla Koehler

Pastoral Counselor: The Rev. Brian B. Noack

Nominating Committee: Brianne Stahlecker (chairman), Crystal Miller, Mary Harrington, Carrie Brumbaugh, and Sylvia Bean



The LWML goes with you wherever you go! Stay up-to-date on LWML news, find Bible study and devotion resources, keep track of mission grants, and read daily Mustard Seed Devotions — all at lwml.org.

We Quilt; It's What We Do!

Did you know that LWML is the main supplier of quilts for Lutheran World Relief? (We quilt; it's what we do!) ... LWR is on YouTube? ... a new website for LWR is quiltsandkits@lwr.org?

Melanie Gibbons, quilt and kit ministry manager for LWR, thanked the LWMLers for their partnership and for being God's hands and feet to people they will never meet. She often hears from recipients, "Why would someone who doesn't know me help me?"

At the beginning of 2019, LWR entered into partnership with IMA World Health (Interchurch Medical Assistance for World Health); this helps make a connection with health and employment. While LWR can use kits of all kinds, more school kits are needed with the increased importance placed on education as an escape from poverty. LWR constantly evaluates needs throughout the world and explores developing trends for needs. LWR will celebrate its 75th anniversary in 2020.

Ministry to the Armed Forces

Chaplain Craig Muehler, director of the Ministry to the Armed Forces, stated "Twenty-three veterans commit suicide each day." Operation Barnabas is a network to care for one another. He thanked LWML for their support and encouraged prayers.

Susan Knowles, wife of Army Reserve Chaplain Alex Knowles, talked about the stress of the military family left at home during deployment, such as becoming a single parent during deployment and periods of less income. Her church cared and got involved in her family's life. Operation Barnabas has resources to help.

Special Note: Ask Operation Barnabas to come to your district convention or your zone rally to speak.

Mission Flags Procession

This convention, the number of flags in the procession increased from 71 to 76. The new flags represented Egypt, Jordan, Lutheran Indian Ministries, Madagascar, and Turkey. The flags were carried by YWRs, Heart to Heart Sisters, and other LWMLers. What beautiful reminders of the extent of God's love!

Post Convention Survey

We would love to receive your feedback. A fillable convention evaluation form is available on the LWML App or online. Go to lwml.org/2019-convention

Disaster Response

Need a new mission idea? How about disaster kits? This project involves filling empty 5-gallon buckets with cleaning products to be used in disaster areas. The buckets are sent to collection centers within the district for use within that area or other areas in need. The bucket and cleaning products are purchased locally, donated by members of congregations and/or LWML groups. The total cost of preparing a flood relief bucket is \$25–30. For more information check out www.lcms.org/disaster or contact LCMS Disaster Response at 800-THE LCMS.

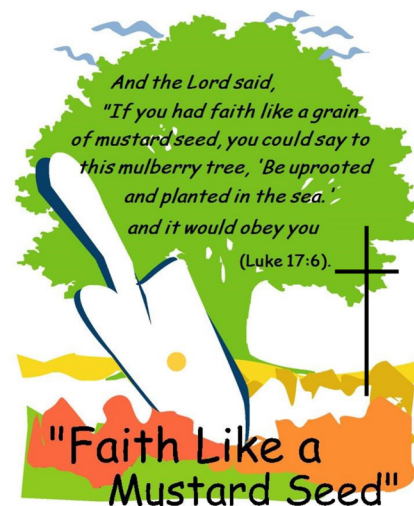


Lutheran Hour Ministries

Although the birthplace of Christianity, Turkey is currently 99% Muslim with only 50 Lutherans. The Rev. Dr. Peter Kirby of Lutheran Hour Ministries explained how we are spreading the Gospel to the people there. They are doing this through satellite programs with positive messages aimed at young adults and children. They have taught children how to be tidy and how to make crafts. They have also sent digital copies of the Bible.

In neighboring Iran, owning a Bible is illegal. Continued support from LWML is critical in furthering the work of Lutheran Hour Ministries.

LWML Sunday Reminder



LWML Sunday 2019



Have you started planning for LWML Sunday? Traditionally, LWML Sunday is observed the first weekend in October, but can be a joyful celebration for your congregation at any time! Visit the LWML website and download resources for this year's theme, "Faith Like a Mustard Seed," written by Rev. Dr. Dean Nadasdy, LCMS Minnesota South District President Emeritus. www.lwml.org/lwml-sunday.

Saturday Night Entertainment

The convention attendees enjoyed a wonderful vocal performance by the Voices of Alabama at last night's session. The University students raised their voices together in PRAISE TO THE LORD as the LWML ladies delighted in their many God-given talents. The group of young, college-aged men and women were a great blessing to our last evening at convention.

Pick up your District Photos

Please pick up your district or YWR photo at the table in the registration area.

Recordings of Presentations:

Manna Recording & Duplication, Inc. has recorded and produced CDs of major presenters. Their booth is located in the Upper Level, near Registration Info Tables. This is one way to share the convention excitement with those at home.

2019 - 2021 Special Grants Selected!

Delegates to the 38th Biennial Convention of the LWML adopted a \$2,100,000 mission goal for the 2019–2021 biennium. This goal, by the grace of God, will fund 21 mission grants as men and women respond in prayer and offerings during the next two years. LWML chose to support the following mission grants, pledging their support with prayers and mites (offerings) given over the next biennium:

1. Water and the Word for Rural Schools in Kenya, \$80,000
2. Teach Me Too—Preschoolers with Learning Needs in Austin (LSEM), \$100,000
3. Mission Outreach for At-Risk Young Women in Africa, \$100,000
4. God's Grace for This Generation (LAMP), \$100,000
5. God's Word Changes Everything (LBT), \$95,000
6. Mobile Medical Mercy Mission Bus for Guatemala, \$100,000
7. Restoring Hope for Detroit Children and Families, \$100,000
8. Lights for Christ Scholarships in Guatemala, \$95,000
9. Wind River Indian Reservation Transportation at Fort Washakie in Wyoming, \$40,000
10. Ministry in Motion at Trinity in Mobile, AL, \$58,000
11. Touching the Living Word (LBW), \$100,000
12. Women's Witness and Mercy Asia — Mission Central, \$100,000
13. Digital Media Development (LFL), 30,000
14. Hope and Healing Hub of Downtown Lincoln, NE, \$50,000
15. Pre- and Post-Seminary Training for Local Church Workers in Africa, \$62,650
16. Preparing Leaders for Tomorrow (LCMS School Ministries), \$80,000
17. Christ for You, Anytime, Anywhere (KFUO Radio), \$60,000
18. Sri Lanka Multipurpose Building Construction, \$50,000
19. Making Jesus Known in the United States Ethnic Communities at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, \$100,000
20. Music Outreach, Classes, and Resources on the Border in El Paso, TX, \$98,400
21. LCMS Deaconess Ministry (LCMS Office of International Mission), \$39,523 (partially funded)

Volunteers



Not all escalator users received this warm welcome from volunteer Wayne Lotz, but Wayne, a regular attendee

of LWML conventions, is greeting a special convention friend. Though all of us may not have received hugs, we have certainly experienced the warmth and helpfulness of the volunteers in blue shirts. There are more than 450 host committee volunteers all around the convention center. These women and men have put in countless hours both before and during the convention. If you have not had a chance to thank them — not that they would expect it — you may want to do that before you leave. Thank you, volunteers!

Newspaper Staff



Left to right, seated Judy Newell, Daisy Olmstead, Nancy Roberts, Joan Koch; standing Cheryl Rackov, Becky Wehrspann, Stephanie Kollbaum, Andrea Ferguson, Diane Frauendienst, Lois Rhodes

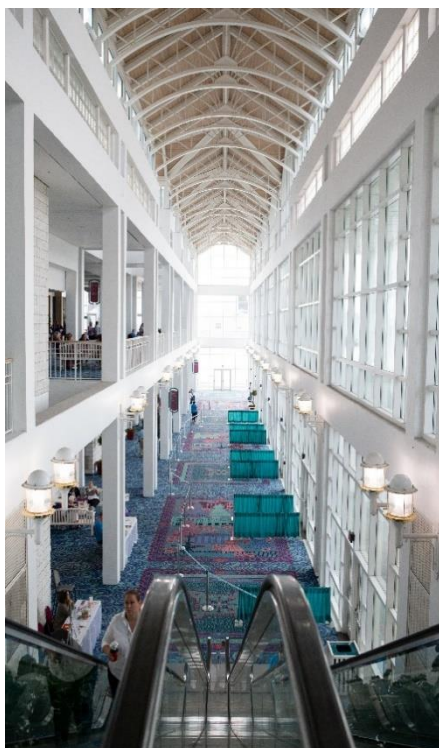
2019 Mobile Convention Offerings

CONVENTION OFFERING #1 — LWML MISSION GOAL 2019–2021. The standing rules of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League Bylaws state that the offering received at the convention worship service shall be designated as a contribution to the mission goal of the LWML..... **OFFERING #1 \$43,693.31**
(UNOFFICIAL TOTAL)

CONVENTION OFFERING #2 — 50% TO EXPANDING THE DISABILITY MINISTRY IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC for children in group homes and government institutions where God's love thrives and **50% to MEDICAL MISSION TEAMS** to provide medical care for the impoverished in developing countries..... **OFFERING #2 \$24,722.60**

CONVENTION OFFERING #3 — 50% TO JAMES STOREHOUSE LOUISIANA to aid in caring for foster-care children and youth and also empower communities to be active in improving the foster-care crisis and **50% to SPIRITUAL CARE FOR UNACCOMPANIED REFUGEE CHILDREN** to help break the cycle of child abuse by improving children, families, and communities by introducing the Gospel of Jesus.

CONVENTION OFFERING #4 — LCMS DISASTER RESPONSE/ COMMUNITY RELIEF to be used for supplies and necessary needs for U.S. communities devastated by natural disasters (tornadoes, fires, hurricanes) during 2018.





Mission In Motion Pledge Walk



The Mission in Motion Pledge Walk was led on Saturday morning by the Excelsior Band of Mobile. There were 848 participants registered to walk, and \$59,612.79 in pledges was collected. To God be the glory!

Installation of Officers

While the nominating committee was installed yesterday, today we will witness the installation of the remaining officers who are new to their positions in the LWML. Please continue to hold these officers in your prayers as they begin their new callings as leaders of our organization. May God continue to bless them and guide them as they start this new journey!

Thank You

Thanks be to God! Your convention newspaper has some behind-the-scene workers. Once an issue is finished, another “team” takes over in making sure the newspaper is correct. Thanks to Nancy Bogenhagen, Mary Jo Stier, Becky Wehrspann, Nancy Graf Peters, and Pastor Mitchel Schuessler for using their proofing talents to God’s glory.

Glory Will

Jan Struck as Glory Mae shared her breakfast table conversations. She discovered what can happen when you ask “Where are you from?” While sitting with the YWRs with their ‘energy to bottle,’ Glory Mae realized that her suggestions for local society projects were not really meaningful, and instead of just thinking about doing mission projects, she shared with Marvalee that she will no longer be Glory Mae, but Glory Will. Surely all of us need to become “Glory Wills” after our convention inspiration!

Later in the day, Glory Will shared with Marvalee that she had talked to other ladies about how they involve their society members in service projects. She had personally come up with the idea of starting a choir — the “Sing Alleluia Southern Senior Youth” choir — but immediately regretted her decision when Marvalee pointed out what the initials spelled (S.A.S.S.Y.) — a real problem when printed in glittery letters on t-shirts!

LWML Headed To Lexington

Save the date:

**June 24–27, 2021 our
LWML Convention
will be in fabulous
Lexington, KY!**

Put on your riding hats as you get ready to head to the horse capital of the world. Consider whetting your palate with bourbon truffles, farm to table food like shrimp and grits, or a hot brown (discover what it is when you come to Lexington).

The beauty in the bluegrass area of Kentucky, with its horse tracks, hiking trails, waterfalls, and the Red River Gorge, appeals to the outdoor types, photo buffs, and nature lovers. Historic sites and museums welcome culture and art lovers. You will not run out of things to do!

The 2021 LWML Convention in Lexington is being hosted by three LWML districts — LWML Indiana, LWML Michigan, and LWML Ohio. Stay tuned for more details.

Convention Highlight Videos

Did you miss something at convention? Or maybe there was something that stood out to you and you would just love to watch over and over again! You can go to livestream.com/thelwml to view sessions from this convention as well as the sessions from 2017 in Albuquerque! You can also share your favorite sessions with your friends!

Convention Devotion



One of our LWML 2019 Convention objectives is to “*go forth in His joy!*” Think of your feelings when you prepared to come to our Mobile, AL convention this June. Anticipation, excitement, fellowship, inspiration, and even laughter probably filled those moments. Prayerfully, you volunteered, attended a servant event, walked in the park, gave to Gifts from the Heart, or smiled your way through Southern cooking! Now think of your present feelings. Are you feeling that joy?

Combined with our other objectives, we might feel the down-to-earth writing style of Peter:

Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls (1 Peter 1:8-9).

As we return home remembering all we shared at this convention, let’s ask ourselves:

What inspired you with the most joy? _____

How do you plan on sharing that joy with your family, church and community when you get home? _____

Thinking again of Peter’s words, how did your attendance here move you toward achieving the “outcome of your faith ... salvation?” Consider this Scripture: May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope (Romans 15:13).

We are now more inspired to lead by Christian example, seeking and knowing God’s Holy Word. As Lutherans, we are led by the understanding that our works do not save us — as it says in the LCMS Statement of Scriptural and Confessional Principles: *We confess that “our works cannot reconcile God or merit forgiveness of sins and grace, but that we obtain forgiveness and grace only by faith.”*

As women of the LWML, we are boldly empowered to proclaim the blessings of our faith in our Almighty God through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

We pray: Lord of Salvation, we praise You and glorify your name above all names. We pray that we would go forth and do what You would have us do, keeping us safe in Your love and forgiveness. Amen.



Lutheran
Women
in Mission

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LWML Sets 2019–2021 Mission Goal at \$2.1 Million

ST. LOUIS, June 24, 2019 — The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) welcomed 3104 people with 691 as first timers to the LWML Convention in Mobile, Alabama, June 20–23, 2019, under the theme "In Praise to the LORD!" The convention theme was based on 1 Chronicles 16:23–24a.

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21. LCMS Deaconess Ministry (LCMS Office of International Mission), \$39,523

The voting body elected the following to serve as officers, Counselor, and nominating committee:

Debbie Larson, Rocky Mountain District President	Sylvia Bean, Rocky Mountain District Nominating Committee
Marie Chow, Washington-Alaska District Vice President of Organizational Resources	Carrie Brumbaugh, Wyoming District Nominating Committee
Deaconess Betty Knapp, North Wisconsin District Vice President of Special Focus Ministries	Mary Harrington, North Wisconsin District Nominating Committee
Karla Koehler Treasurer	Crysta Miller, Nebraska North District Nominating Committee
Rev. Brian B. Noack, Atlantic District Junior Pastoral Counselor	Brianne Stahlecker, Nebraska South District Nominating Committee

Lastly, LWML President Patti Ross unveiled the new LWML Mite Box design. The design was shared during the President's report, and was also shared via LWML social media channels and Livestream. For more information on convention highlights visit www.lwml.org/2019-convention.

Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) is the official women's auxiliary of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Since 1942, the LWML has focused on affirming each woman's relationship with Christ, encouraging and equipping women to live out their Christian lives in active mission ministries, and to support global missions.

LWML news releases are available at www.lwml.org

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