36th BIENNIAL CONVENTION
LUTHERAN WOMEN’S MISSIONARY LEAGUE
JUNE 25-28, 2015 • DES MOINES, IOWA
Convention Highlights

Wednesday, June 24, 2015
5 – 8 p.m. Registration Open

Thursday, June 25, 2015
7 a.m. – 7 p.m. Registration Open
9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Servant Connections
9 a.m. – 6 p.m. Exhibits Open
12:30 – 2:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
2:30 – 4 p.m. Delegate Orientation
4 – 6 p.m. District Caucuses/District Photos
6:45 p.m. Pre-Service Music
7 p.m. First Meeting
Worship Service with Communion
Proclaimer: Rev. Gregory Seltz
Convention Offering #1: 2015-2017 LWML Mission Goal

Friday, June 26, 2015
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
Banner Procession: District Presidents and YWRs
Bible Study: Rev. Michael Mattil
Business Session
Adoption of Mission Goal 2015-2017
Mites in Action Speaker
11:30 a.m. Exhibits Open During Lunch Break until 2 p.m.
12 p.m. Noon Info Gatherings
2 p.m. Singing
2:15 p.m. Third Meeting
Greetings from Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison
Keynote Address: Rev. Dr. James Lamb
Mission Grants Presentation and Voting
Mites in Action Speaker
Convention Offering #2: Discovering Disabilities – Including ALL of God’s Children, Lutheran Special Education Ministries, Farmington Hills, Michigan
5 – 6 p.m. Mission in Motion Pledge Walk
5:30 – 7 p.m. Dinner
7 – 9 p.m. Bountiful Bash – A Party with a Purpose!

Saturday, June 27, 2015
7:30 a.m. – 9 a.m. Exhibits Open
8 a.m. – 2 p.m. Camp Insta Friends
8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Singing
9 a.m. Fourth Meeting
Banner Procession: Past Presidents, Young Woman Representatives, Unsung Heroes, Heart to Heart Sisters
Bible Study: Rev. Michael Mattil
Report of the President
Convention Offering #3: Cabins for Christ’s Children, Lutheran Valley Retreat, Colorado Springs, Colorado
Mites in Action Speaker
Introduction of Candidates
Exhibits Open During Lunch Break until 2 p.m.
12 p.m. Special Interest Luncheons
2 p.m. Singing
2:15 p.m. Fifth Meeting
LCMS Mission Speakers
Election of Officers
Installation of Nominating Committee
Invitation to Salt Lake City 2017
Dinner Recess
7 p.m. Entertainment: Dr. Dina Vendetti and Jan Struck
Recognition of Executive Committee
Recognition of Special Appointed Personnel
Recognition of LWML Departments
Recognition of Heart to Heart Trainees
Recognition of Young Woman Representatives

Sunday, June 28, 2015
8:45 a.m. Singing
9 a.m. Sixth Meeting
Mites in Action Speaker
Recognition of Des Moines Host Committee
Worship Service
Proclaimer: Rev. Keith Piotter
Gifts from the Heart Dedication
Installation of Officers
Convention Offering #4: Family of God Mission, Detroit, Michigan
Welcome to Des Moines!

We are pleased to welcome you to the 36th Biennial Lutheran Women’s Missionary League (LWML) Convention. We are eager for you to experience the program planned and prepared by the 2015 LWML Convention Programming Committee and hosted by members of the 2015 Convention Host Committee from Iowa East District and Iowa West District. We know you will grow through inspiring worship and songs, be uplifted by Bible studies, and motivated by mission speakers. We hope you will take advantage of opportunities to meet new people and renew old friendships, and enjoy and learn from mission stories offered by the exhibits and other convention activities. We pray you will enjoy the convention as you are equipped to sow, nourish, and reap in the Father’s field.

This convention manual provides many details you will need for your convention experience and will serve as a concise summary of the 2013-2015 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 bag, including the first issue of the convention newspaper, the convention activity locator, and other items to help you enjoy this convention.

Need help or have a question?

- The LWML Information Booth has two locations – both near the Escalator on the 2nd and 3rd levels of the Iowa Events Center (IEC). They are staffed to answer any questions you may have.
- The Message Center will be located in the pre-function Corridor B north of Lost and Found.

Again, welcome! We are glad you are here.

LWML 2015 Convention Programming Committee and 2015 Convention Host Committee
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- Inside Back Cover
THE TIME IS NOW

The Time is NOW to support missions around the world through our mites and gifts for the spread of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The Time is NOW to intentionally share our faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and our LWML story with the women in our lives wherever and whenever He has need of us. The Time is NOW to look to the future of the LWML!

Look for BIG Ideas in this convention manual from the 2013-2015 LWML Executive Committee on how this initiative could be shared throughout our LWML (identified with the light bulb symbol). Begin to think “outside the box” and be creative. Share at least one BIG Idea with a sister in Christ today!

GOD’S WORD + MISSIONS + SERVICE + FELLOWSHIP

The Time is NOW is an initiative to help the LWML refocus on our basic common core values for almost 75 years: being in God’s Word, missions, service, and fellowship. It is imperative, even urgent, that women share with other women the contagious joy that results from participating in the LWML. The Time is NOW!

Convention Information

Announcements – Only announcements of an emergency nature will be made during meetings. Other announcements may be posted in the Message Center, located in the Pre-function Corridor, north of Lost and Found, second level in the Iowa Events Center (IEC).

Blood Donations – Donations are available by pre-registration only. If you are scheduled to be a blood donor, please go to the Pre-function Ballroom Area on the fourth level near the Grand Ballroom at the time of your donation on Thursday, June 25.

Child Care: Camp Insta Friends – Child Care and Youth Activities, available by pre-registration only, are located in Board Rooms 1, 2, 3, and 4, Mezzanine Level.

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 on the second level, South Pre-function Corridor.

Convention Polo Shirts – You may purchase a convention logo shirt (if supplies are available) at the Info Tables Area on the second level, Pre-function Corridor B.

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

Des Moines Convention Highlights - Des Moines Convention Highlights will be available as a free download from www.lwml.org immediately following the convention.

Emergencies – Contact an usher or hostess in case of accident or illness while at the IEC. The First Aid rooms, located outside of the Exhibit Hall A, second level and Grand Concourse, East end, third level of the IEC, will be open during the hours of convention meetings and activities.

Exhibits and Displays

The Field of Bounty

A variety of exhibits, including many hands-on, interactive activities, are located in Exhibit Hall A, second level. Included are displays sponsored by LWML Committees, featuring new LWML products and resources, as well as banners from each district. District banners will be displayed after the morning session on Friday until 2 p.m. Saturday.

The Field of Bounty Exhibit Hall will be open as follows:

- Thursday, June 25, 2015: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.
- Friday, June 26, 2015: 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- Saturday, June 27, 2015: 7 – 9 p.m.
- Thursday, June 27, 2015: 7:30 – 9 a.m.
- 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Gifts from the Heart Items – These may be brought to the collection and packing area, Room 108 on the first level when you register. Please bring all items by noon Friday, June 26, so they can be distributed to local agencies.

Identification – Your badge is your admission to all meetings and all convention events. Please complete the reverse side of your convention badge with your appropriate medical information in case of emergency.

Information Desk – Two locations in the IEC, one in the Info Tables Area located on the second level, Pre-function Corridor B, the other on the third level in the corridor near the 2nd and 3rd floor escalator. A Message Center is available to post and check messages on the second level, Pre-function Corridor north of Lost and Found.

Lost and Found – Lost and Found is located on the second level, Ticket Office South, Pre-function Corridor.

LWML Store – The LWML Store is located in The Field of Bounty Exhibit Hall A, second level.

Meals – For those who purchased catered meals, the Thursday box supper will be available to enjoy in the district caucus rooms. The Friday box salad lunch can be enjoyed at one of the various Info Gatherings. Saturday Special Luncheons can be enjoyed in various locations in the IEC (see daily newspaper for locations). Friday and Saturday dinner will be served in the Grand Ballroom, located on the fourth level of the IEC. Concessions will be open beginning Wednesday.

Mission Pledge Walk – The Mission in Motion Walk will begin at 5 p.m. on Friday, June 26. Gather in the Pre-function Corridor, second level, main (Center Street) entrance of the IEC. The walk will follow the Principal Riverwalk near the banks of the Des Moines River beginning by crossing over the Women of Achievement Bridge. The path will be identified and spotters will be present to direct you. Check-in at the table in the Info Tables Area in Pre-function Corridor B, second level, to pick up your shirt, turn in your completed Acknowledgement/Release form, your pledge sheet, and your donations after you have registered for the convention.

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 Room 321 on the third level. 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 should be picked up at the Registration Area located on the second level, Pre-function Corridor South end. Registration will be open as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, June 24</td>
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<td>8 a.m. – 2 p.m.</td>
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Seating – Please follow the instructions of the ushers at all times. Special seating areas are designated for presenters and their families, special guests, physically and hearing impaired attendees.

Servant Activities: Servant Connections – Servant Connections are on Thursday, June 25, in the Grand Ballroom on the fourth level of the IEC. 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 or by completing an Acknowledgement /Release form, paying a $10 fee and receiving a name badge on site. Please report and receive your memento at the check-in table marked Servant Connections at the Info Tables Area, Pre-function Corridor B, located on the second level.

Transportation – Hotel Shuttles, from the downtown and airport LWML hotels, will be in service two hours before sessions begin and two hours after sessions conclude. Shuttles can be accessed using the East Lobby entrance of the IEC on Third Street. District Charter Buses, serving as convention shuttles, will arrive and depart from the West Plaza entrance on Fifth Avenue.

Wheelchairs – Wheelchair rental (with prior arrangement) is located on the second level, East entrance of the IEC near the escalators.
Convention Personalities

Worship Leaders

**Rev. Gregory Seltz,** speaker of The Lutheran Hour® radio program, is the designer and proclaimer for the Thursday opening worship service. Before joining Lutheran Hour Ministries, Seltz most recently served as the Director of the Cross-Cultural Ministry Center, as well as Professor of Theology at Concordia University in Irvine, California. Rev. Seltz has served our Lord and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) in many capacities, including mission starts for schools and churches in a variety of cultural settings. He has served on many committees and boards, published a number of doctrinal books, and written Bible studies. He and his wife, Marie Yvette, have one daughter, Devin.

**Rev. Keith Piotter,** pastor of Our Savior Lutheran Church in Bettendorf, Iowa, is the proclaimer for the Sunday worship service. Piotter is married with four children, and he states his faith, family, and friends are the greatest arena for experiencing God’s love. He is a trained presenter for the Lutheran Hour Mission University School of Witnessing; has led teams of short-term mission trips to India, Haiti, Alaska, Honduras, and New York City; and has led disaster relief efforts to Puerto Rico, New Orleans, Mississippi, Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, and Indiana. He is active in prison ministry. His daily walk with the Lord has led him to the firm conclusion God would have us live as Easter people - joy-filled, grace-centered, and Gospel-motivated. Rev. Piotter will speak on part of the convention theme – REAP.

Keynote Speaker

**Rev. Dr. James Lamb,** Executive Director of National Lutherans For Life, grew up in southern Minnesota, married his childhood sweetheart, RoxAnne, and has been blessed with two sons, a wonderful woman they claim as their daughter, and six grandchildren. Lamb served in the United States Air Force before entering the seminary, and then served as senior pastor at St. Paul, Garner, Iowa, for fourteen years. During this time he also served as circuit counselor, Zone LWML Counselor, and on a variety of other boards and committees. He presently serves on the Sanctity of Life Committee for LCMS Life Ministries. He speaks nationally and internationally focusing on the God-given value of human life. He is the author of numerous sermons, devotionals, brochures, articles, and essays connecting God’s Word of Life to life issues. Dr. Lamb and RoxAnne live in Marshalltown, Iowa.

Bible Study Leader

**Rev. Michael Mattil,** pastor of Grace Lutheran Church in Denison, Texas, served as national Pastoral Counselor for LWML from 2007-2011. He has also served as circuit counselor and LWML District Pastoral Counselor. Prior to coming to Denison, Mattil served Mount Calvary Lutheran Church in Watonga, Oklahoma. One of Mattil’s most meaningful Scripture verses is Philippians 4:19, which his father, Rev. Frederick Mattil, would insert into the letters he wrote his son in college. Married to his best friend, Cheryl, the Mattils have been blessed with three beautiful daughters, three sons-in-law, and four grandchildren. Rev. Mattil will speak on two parts of the convention theme – SOW and NOURISH.
Convention Personalities

Song Leader

Dr. Dina Vendetti, grew up in the Lutheran school system and has been serving Lutheran schools for over 30 years. If you’ve seen Dr. Vendetti at previous conventions, you are probably smiling and looking forward to seeing her passion and enthusiasm once again. She serves as principal, choir and bell choir director at St. John’s Lutheran Church and School in Dover, Delaware. She has received Dover’s Great Person Award as well as Central Delaware’s Chamber of Commerce Small Business Person of the Year. She knows her Savior and says, “To quote a song title, ‘How Can I Keep From Singing?’”

Mites in Action Speakers

Tim Hetzner serves as President of Lutheran Church Charities, of which K-9 Comfort Dogs is a ministry. He served in parish ministry for 24 years as a Director of Christian Education. The last 20 years, Tim has served as Director of Discipleship and Good Samaritan Ministries at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Palatine, Illinois. He also has served on the district board of directors, the mission board, and board of youth ministry. He currently teaches a Bible study with over 450 students from 26 different churches. Each year Hetzner leads study tours in the Middle East. Tim and his wife, Jackie, have four children.

Rev. Jeffery D. Nehrt received his Divine Call to serve as pastor of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Greenville, Illinois, in 1993. This included Prison Ministry at the Federal Correctional Institution in Greenville. Following training with Rev. Maurice Alms and Rev. Jim Rivett, he began serving the Greenville Main Prison Institution and Work Camp in 1994 ministering to both male and female inmates. In his ministry, he leads Bible studies and provides Word and Sacrament ministry. Pastor Nehrt has served as president of the Prison Family Hospitality Group. He has supervised training, including training deaconess candidates for prison ministry. Pastor Nehrt is currently serving as Public Relations Representative for Prison Ministry for the Southern Illinois District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Carly Hatcher, Executive Director of Mission Opportunities Short Term (MOST) Ministries, oversees the operation of its programs and services and serves as a Team Leader, taking short-term teams to international mission fields several times a year. Before joining MOST Ministries in 2004, Carly served as a missionary with the LCMS in Russia, Panama, and Bolivia. Carly has been involved with mission work for sixteen years in over forty countries. Carly lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan, with her husband, Robert.

Rev. Dr. Tilahun Mekonnen Mendedo, seventh president of Concordia College, Selma, Alabama, has served the church as an evangelist, youth leader, elder, Bible School teacher, project director, and as curriculum advisor and school administrator for the Theological Training Centers in Ethiopia. Dr. Mendedo, a native of Ethiopia, has also served as the pastor of Faith Lutheran Church in Mobile, Alabama, and has taught as an Adjunct Professor of Philosophy at the University of South Alabama and Spring Hill College in Mobile. Through his leadership several churches have been established, and several confessional books have been translated into Ethiopian vernacular languages. He is married to Aberash Aklilu, and they have three children.
Convention Personalities

Rev. Frederick Reinhardt, missionary in Nairobi, Kenya, is based out of Nairobi, Kenya, where he has served since February 2011 as the area facilitator for French-speaking Central and East Africa. In this role, Rev. Reinhardt works with the African leadership of the various French-speaking Lutheran church bodies in Rwanda, Burundi, Republic of Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Madagascar, Cameroon, and the Portuguese-speaking countries of Angola and Mozambique. He also coordinates contact with emerging Lutheran groups that are interested in partnership with the LCMS or requesting theological training. Previously, Rev. Reinhardt served in northeastern Togo, from 2000 to 2007, which included his two-year vicarage. Then, from 2007-2010, he was based out of Senegal as the French-speaking West Africa area facilitator. Rev. Reinhardt’s home congregation is Immanuel Lutheran Church in Pensacola, Florida. He is a “second-career” pastor and missionary, having enjoyed a 21-year career in the civil and foreign service before starting at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis in 1997.

Deaconess Kathryn Ziegler, serves the Lord through The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) as a missionary in the Dominican Republic. Deaconess Katie’s service includes teaching and mentoring Dominican women who are studying to become deaconesses. Additionally, she visits with and teaches people within the communities where she serves. Deaconess Katie was born, baptized and raised in Omaha, Nebraska. Her home congregation is First Lutheran Church, Papillion, Nebraska. She has been a member of the LCMS her entire life and considers it a blessing to share in the body of Christ overseas. Katie holds an associate degree in baking and pastry from Metropolitan Community College; a bachelor’s degree in psychology from Concordia University Nebraska, Seward; and a master’s degree in theology and diaconal training from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne. Furthermore, her most prized possession is the name of her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ placed upon her in the waters of Holy Baptism. Deaconess Katie is blessed to share that identity with those she serves in the Dominican Republic, a joyous ministry started during her deaconess internship in 2012. In her free time, Deaconess Katie enjoys hiking, running, walking, biking, traveling, music, baking, reading, and hosting parties.

Hold an “Advent by Candlelight” evening in December, and invite one woman to attend with you. Sit at specially decorated festive tables and enjoy the fellowship!
President of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

The Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison serves as the chief ecclesiastical officer of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (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. Before becoming president, Harrison served for nine years as the executive director of LCMS World Relief and Human Care. During that time, this agency coordinated mercy outreach efforts after Hurricane Katrina, the tsunami in Asia, and the earthquake in Haiti. Harrison has authored, edited, and translated numerous articles and several books. He also served as pastor in Iowa and Indiana. Harrison and his wife, Kathy, have two sons. They are members of Village Lutheran Church in Ladue, Missouri, where he serves as assistant pastor. Our LCMS president is an avid banjo player and instrumentalist; and he even makes guitars, banjos, and mandolins!

Humorous Interrupter

Jan Struck is delighted to have been given a lifetime of bizarre experiences and an ability to see humor and irony in her life journey. She is retired from her career as a trainer/consultant in the field of healthcare technology and feels blessed to serve the Lord as a speaker, leading Bible studies, workshops, and women’s retreats throughout the United States and Canada. Jan shares her experiences as a single parent after divorce and the joy of a second marriage with a combined family of six children, eleven grandchildren, and a legacy of laughter.

Luncheon Speaker

Gary Thies, Director of Mission Central, took a leap of faith in 1994, quit his job as bank president, and became the first LCMS Mission Development Counselor. In that role, he visits LCMS congregations and individuals to inform and excite them about missions and to encourage them to adopt, financially and through prayer, a specific mission project or missionary. Gary has traveled to 67 countries worldwide and presented a realistic picture of how God calls men and women from all walks of life. There is no question about Gary’s enthusiasm for the Lord and missions. Gary and his wife, Maxine, live and work at Mission Central, in the middle of a cornfield, in Mapleton, Iowa.

Easy to Access! Easy to Share! Learn how to access the great LWML resources for meetings, personal devotions, and Bible study on the Internet. Share the excitement of www.lwml.org with a friend!
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. No convention discussion or decision may be released for publicity purposes unless first approved by the President and the Public Relations Director.
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.

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**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

Bountiful! Sow • Reap • Nourish

The Time is NOW ... to Serve and Prepare

Thursday, June 25, 2015

9 a.m.– 3 p.m. ................................................................. Servant Connections
9 a.m.– 6 p.m. ................................................................. Exhibits Open
9:30 – 10:30 a.m. ............................................................... Banner Rehearsal
12:30 – 2:30 p.m. ............................................................... Choir Rehearsal
2:30 – 4 p.m. ................................................................. Delegate Orientation/Introduction of Candidates
4 – 6 p.m. ................................................................. District Caucuses
4 – 6 p.m. ................................................................. District Photos
6:45 p.m. ................................................................. Pre-service Music

The Time is NOW ... to Worship

7 p.m. ................................................ CONVENTION OPENING & FIRST MEETING
Opening of Convention ......................................................... Kay Kreklau, President
Lighting of the Convention Candle .................. Alexis Kreklau, granddaughter of the President
The LWML Processional Cross .................. Christopher Kreklau, son of the President
LWML Banner ........................................... Nicole Kreklau Larson, daughter of the President
Banner of the Host LWML Districts ............... Joan Berquist, Iowa East District President and
Ann Carrick, Iowa West District President
LWML Executive Committee Procession
Ecclesiastical Procession
Celebration Service with Communion
Proclaimer ................................................................. Rev. Gregory Seltz
Convention Offering #1 .................................................. 2015-2017 LWML Mission Goal
Recession ....................................................... LCMS Clergy and LWML Executive Committee

The Time is NOW ... to Celebrate LWML

Friday, June 26, 2015

8 a.m.–5 p.m. ....................................................... Camp Insta Friends Child Care/Youth Activities
8 a.m. Singing ................................................................. Dr. Dina Vendetti, Song Leader
8:15 a.m. ................................................................. SECOND MEETING
The Time is NOW ... to Celebrate our Districts
LWML Banner ......................................................... Kay Kreklau, President
District Banner Procession ....... LWML District Presidents & Young Woman Representatives
Presentation of Colors ..... Central Iowa Division of the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps

The Time is NOW ... to Honor our Country

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.

Convention Offering #1
LWML Mission Goal
2015-2017
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.
Convention Program

The Star Spangled Banner ................................................. District Presidents serving from 2012-2016
O say, can you see, by the dawn’s early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight’s last gleaming
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,
O’er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming
And the rockets’ red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O’er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

Pam Spilker, Central Illinois | Bunnie Koelsch, Florida-Georgia
Karen Morrison, Kansas | Debbie Greene, Louisiana-Mississippi
Willie Marie Henry, Michigan | Ramona Stevenson, Mid-South
JoNette Brogaard, Minnesota North | Christine Wallace, Montana
Linda Fees, Nebraska North | Leslie Colligan, New England
Paulette Huber, North Dakota | Ann Marie Bollas, Ohio
Susan Brunkow, Oklahoma | Carolyn Stucky, Oregon
Karen Duprey, Pacific Southwest | Laura Bergmann, SELC
Arlene Naasz, South Dakota | Judy Paulson, South Wisconsin
Lois Teinert, Texas

Call to Order................................................................................. Kay Kreklau, President
Opening Prayer ............................................................... Kaye Cairns, Chairman, Christian Life Committee
Welcome ...................................................................................... Host Committee LWML District Presidents
Joan Berquist and Ann Carrick
Welcome to Des Moines................................................................. Frank Cownie, Mayor of Des Moines, Iowa

The Time is NOW ... to be in God’s Word
Bible Study #1 ........................................................................ Rev. Michael Mattil
Introduced by Eden Keefe, Vice President of Christian Life

Credentials Report ................................................................. Barbara Volk, Recording Secretary Pro Tem
Proposed Convention Rules ............................................... Barbara Volk, Parliamentarian
Appointment of Minutes Review Committee

The Time is NOW ... for Structure
Amendments to the Bylaws .................................................. Charlotte Kroemer, Chairman, Structure Committee
Prayer .................................................................................... Kaye Wolff, Chairman, HOPE Committee

Electronic Voting—Bylaw Amendments

The Time is NOW ... for Finance
Report of the Treasurer ...................................................... Lois Anderson, Treasurer
Financial Report ............................................................................ Kelley Young
LWML Director of Finance & Administration

The Time is NOW ... to Respond to His Blessings
Mission Goal 2015-2017 ....................................................... Lois Anderson, Treasurer

Friday, June 26, 2015 continued

Voting Body
Board of Directors voting: _____
Past Presidents voting: _____
Delegates voting: _____
Total voting: _____

Non Voting Body
Appointed Personnel & Committee Members: _____
Other Registrants: _____
Grand Total: _____
Convention Program

Friday, June 26, 2015

Prayer.........................................................Sue Pfeil, Chairman, Gospel Outreach Committee
Electronic Voting—Mission Goal

The Time is NOW ... for Mites in Action
Mites in Action Speaker .......................Tim Hetzner, President of Lutheran Church Charities
Introduced by Nancy Bogenhagen, Vice President of Communication

Announcements ........................................Marilyn Schroeder, Chairman, Host Committee
Closing Prayer................................. Sherrie Smith, Chairman, Leader Development Committee

LUNCH RECESS

The Time is NOW ... for Fellowship
Exhibits Open During Lunch Break until 2 p.m.
2 p.m. Singing.......................................................... Dr. Dina Vendetti
   Song Leader
2:15 p.m. .................................................................. THIRD MEETING
Opening Prayer ...................... Janet Hurta, Chairman, Information Technology Committee

The Time is NOW ... to Recognize our LCMS President
Greetings..........................................................Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, President
   The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

The Time is NOW ... to Celebrate Life
Keynote Address..............................................Rev. Dr. James Lamb
   Introduced by Pat Reichert, Vice President of Special Focus Ministries

The Time is NOW ... to Choose Mission Grants for 2015-2017
Mission Grants Presentation........................................ Shelley Moeller
   Vice President of Gospel Outreach
Prayer..........................................................Sharon Roegge, Chairman, Mission Grants Committee
Electronic Voting—Mission Grants

The Time is NOW ... for Mites in Action
Mites in Action Speaker .............................. Rev. Jeffery Nehrt, Prison Ministry
   Introduced by Lori May, Contracts Administrator

The Time is NOW ... to Respond with our Offerings
Convention Offering #2..........................Discovering Disabilities –
   Including ALL of God’s Children
   Lutheran Special Education Ministries
   Farmington Hills, Michigan
   This offering will provide educational events and supportive consultation to equip congregations and/or schools to reach out and include children/families with disabilities in their congregations in the United States.

Convention Offering #2
Discovering Disabilities – Including ALL of God’s Children
Lutheran Special Education Ministries
Farmington Hills, Michigan

The Time is NOW ... to Respond with our Offerings
Convention Offering #2..........................Discovering Disabilities – Including ALL of God’s Children
   Lutheran Special Education Ministries (LSEM)
   Farmington Hills, Michigan
Announcements ........................................ Marilyn Schroeder, Chairman, Host Committee
Closing Prayer................................. Deaconess Betty Knapp, Chairman, Mustard Seeds Task Force

MISSION IN MOTION PLEDGE WALK 5-6 p.m.
DINNER 5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Convention Program

The Time is NOW ... to Party with a Purpose
7 – 9 p.m. BOUNTIFUL BASH – A Party with a Purpose!
Entertainment and Interactive Exhibits

8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Camp Insta Friends; Child Care/Youth Activities
8 – 9 a.m. Exhibits Open
8:45 a.m. Singing Dr. Dina Vendetti
Song Leader

9 a.m. FOURTH MEETING
Opening Prayer Carol Schmidt, Chairman, Christian Resource Editors Committee

The Time is NOW ... to Welcome our Past Presidents
LWML Banner Nicole Kreklau Larson

The Time is NOW ... to Cheer our Unsung Heroes
Procession Past LWML Presidents
LWML Unsung Heroes

The Time is NOW ... to Celebrate Diversity
Mission Flag Presentation Young Woman Representatives
Heart to Heart Sisters
Camp Insta Friends Kids & Child Care Workers

The Time is NOW ... to Sing Praises

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.

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” (reference page 82 in manual) Dr. Dina Vendetti

The Time is NOW ... to be in God’s Word
Bible Study #2 Rev. Michael Mattil

The Time is NOW ... for the President’s Report
Report of the President Kay Kreklau
Introduced by Lois Anderson, Treasurer

The Time is NOW ... to Respond with our Offerings
Convention Offering #3 Cabins for Christ’s Children, Lutheran Valley Retreat, Colorado Springs, Colorado
The offering will be used to purchase materials /beds for cabins burned in the 2002 Hayman fire.
The Time is NOW ... for Mites in Action
Mites in Action Speaker .................................................. Carly Hatcher, MOST Ministries
Introduced by Carolyn Blum, Vice President of Organizational Resources

The Time is NOW ... to Meet the Candidates
Report of the Nominating Committee .................................................. Rae Ann Spitzenburger,
Chairman, Nominating Committee
Introduction of Candidates
Announcements .......................................................... Marilyn Schroeder, Chairman, Host Committee
Closing Prayer .................................................. Nancy Graf Peters, Chairman, Quarterly Editor-in-Chief

LUNCH RECESS
Exhibits Open During Lunch Break until 2 p.m.

The Time is NOW ... to be Fed Physically and Spiritually
Special Interest Luncheons
2 p.m. Singing.................................................. Dr. Dina Vendetti, Song Leader
2:15 p.m. .......................................................... FIFTH MEETING
Opening Prayer .................................. Katy Gifford, Chairman, Mission Servants Committee

The Time is NOW ... to be in Mission
LCMS Office of International Mission (OIM) .................. John Fale, Executive Director OIM
Introduced by Shelley Moeller, Vice President Gospel Outreach
Special Missionary Guests .................. Deaconess Kathryn Ziegler, Dominican Republic
Rev. Frederick Reinhardt, Kenya
LCMS Office of National Mission (ONM) ............ Rev. Bart Day, Executive Director ONM
Special Guests .................................. Deaconess Dorothy Krans, Director,
LCMS Recognized Service Organizations
Rev. Ross Johnson, Director, LCMS Disaster Response
Rev. Mark Wood, Director, LCMS Witness and Outreach Ministry
Prayer .................................................. Rev. John Heckmann, Senior Counselor

The Time is NOW ... to Celebrate Leadership
Electoral Voting—Officers
Installation of Nominating Committee 2015-2017 .................. Rev. Dr. Robert Roegner
LWML Junior Pastoral Counselor
Invitation to 2017 LWML Convention: Salt Lake City, Utah; June 22-25........ Lois Anderson,
Chairman, 2017 Host Committee
Announcement of 2021 LWML Convention Site............... Marie Chow, Meeting Manager
Announcements .................................. Marilyn Schroeder, Chairman, Host Committee
Closing Prayer .................................. Brandi Bucholz, Chairman, Committee on Young Women
DINNER RECESS/SPECIAL DINNERS

The Time is NOW ... to Laugh, Sing, and Celebrate!

7 p.m. .............................................................................................................SIXTH MEETING

Entertainment: ..................................................................................................Dina and Jan

Introduction: Marguerite Christman, Convention Manager

Introduction of Executive Committee

Introduction of Special Appointed Personnel and LWML Committees

Recognition of Young Woman Representatives

Recognition of Heart to Heart Participants

8:45 a.m. Singing .......................................................................................... Dr. Dina Vendetti, Song Leader

The Time is NOW ... to Pray

9 a.m. ..............................................................................................EIGHTH MEETING

Opening Prayer .................Margo Dupre, Chairman, Heart to Heart Sisters Committee

Final Credentials Report .......................................... Barbara Volk, Recording Secretary Pro Tem

The Time is NOW ... for Mites in Action

Mites in Action Speaker ......................Rev. Dr. Tilahun Mekonnen Mendedo

Introduced by Marie Chow, Meeting Manager

The Time is NOW ... to Say Thank You

Recognition of Des Moines Host Committee.........................Marilyn Schroeder, Chairman, Host Committee

Announcements ........................................Marilyn Schroeder, Chairman, Host Committee

Closing Remarks ............................................ Kay Kreklau, President

Installation of Officers ......................Rev. Dr. Robert Roegner, LWML Junior Pastoral Counselor

The Time is NOW ... to Celebrate the Future of the LWML

Presentation of the President’s Pin

The Time is NOW ... to Celebrate in Worship

Worship Service

Proclaimer ..................................................Rev. Keith Piotter

Gifts from the Heart Dedication .......Katy Gifford, Chairman, Mission Servants Committee

Convention Offering #4.................................Family of God Mission - Detroit

The Time is NOW ... to Begin a New Biennium

Closing Remarks .................................................LWML President 2015-2019

Adjournment.........................................................LWML President 2015-2019

Find out how LWML is involved in social media. See what’s happening on Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest. Get involved! “Follow,” “friend,” “like,” and most importantly, “share” with your sister in Christ.
Bible Study Day One

Sow

Sow what?

Who can do it?

Who should do it?

What seeds are you slinging?

The Parable of the Sower tells us that there will not always be ________.

This work is something we all do ______________ as Christians.

God makes it grow.

If there is going to be something to reap, you must ________!

Bible Study Day Two

Nourish

If there is going to be something to reap, you must __________

If there is going to be something to reap, you must __________

What happens to plants when you neglect/ignore/do nothing?

Parable of Fig Tree (Luke 13:6-9)

Those nourished have every opportunity to __________ and __________.

Who needs to be nourished?

God supplies the nourishment

How can you nourish others?
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 e
Rationale: to conform to grammatical agreement and current practices.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT: Strike meetings and insert meeting
IF ADOPTED WILL READ: to the pre-convention Board of Directors meeting for selection,

ARTICLE VI - DUTIES OF OFFICERS, Section 1 c (President)
and in all subsequent references: Art. X, Section 1 a; Art. XI, Section 1; Art. XVI, Section 1
Rationale: to conform to change in name of position title.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT: Strike Business Administrator and insert Director of Finance & Administration
IF ADOPTED WILL READ: The President shall: c. be responsible for supervising the Director of Finance & Administration;

ARTICLE VI - DUTIES OF OFFICERS, Section 4 c (Vice President of Gospel Outreach)
Rationale: to conform to current terminology and practices.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT: Strike Grant Evaluation and Selection Meeting and insert Mission Grants Selection Committee
IF ADOPTED WILL READ: The Vice President of Gospel Outreach … shall: c. chair the Mission Grants Selection Committee

ARTICLE VI - DUTIES OF OFFICERS, Section 8 b (Treasurer)
Rationale: to conform to current practices.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT: Strike prepare the budget of the organization with the Finance Committee and insert review with the Finance Committee the proposed budgets of the organization as prepared by the Director of Finance & Administration
IF ADOPTED WILL READ: The Treasurer shall: b. review with the Finance Committee the proposed budgets of the organization as prepared by the Director of Finance & Administration.

ARTICLE IX - SPECIAL APPOINTED PERSONNEL, Section 1
Rationale: to conform to listing of positions in other articles.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT: Strike the before Archivist-Historian Strike the before Parliamentarian
IF ADOPTED WILL READ: The special appointed personnel shall be Archivist-Historian, Contracts Administrator, Convention Manager, and Parliamentarian, appointed by the President, and shall:

ARTICLE IX – SPECIAL APPOINTED PERSONNEL, Section 4 b (Convention Manager)
Rationale: to clarify responsibilities.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT: Strike prepare and insert assist in the preparation of and review Add with the Director of Finance & Administration
IF ADOPTED WILL READ: The Convention Manager shall: b. assist in the preparation of and review the convention budget with the Director of Finance & Administration.

ARTICLE X - BOARD OF DIRECTORS, Section 4 b
Rationale: to conform to current practices.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT: Insert new b (old b becomes c, etc.)
IF ADOPTED WILL READ: The Board of Directors shall: b. approve the budget of the LWML;
ARTICLE X - BOARD OF DIRECTORS, Section 4 n
Rationale: to conform to current practices

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:  
If adopted will read:  
Insert new n (old m becomes o)  
The Board of Directors shall:  
n. approve mission grant proposals for the convention ballot;

ARTICLE XI - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, Section 1
Rationale: to conform to current practices.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:  
If adopted will read:  
Add at the request of the President  
The Director of Finance & Administration shall attend meetings in an advisory capacity at the request of the President.

ARTICLE XI - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, Section 3 e
Rationale: The term “LWML Office staff” includes all personnel employed in the Office, so there is no need to single out specific personnel.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:  
If adopted will read:  
Strike the LWML Business Administrator and  
The Executive Committee shall:  
e. consider and approve the job descriptions of and employ the LWML Office staff;

ARTICLE XI - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, Section 3 l
Rationale: to clarify responsibilities and conform to current practices.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:  
If adopted will read:  
Strike proposed mission grants and insert mission grant proposals  
Strike for the convention ballot and add subsequent to approval by the Mission Grants Selection Committee  
The Executive Committee shall:  
l. consider and approve mission grant proposals subsequent to approval by the Mission Grants Selection Committee.

ARTICLE XIII – DEPARTMENTS AND STANDING COMMITTEES, Section 6 a (3) (Committee on Young Women)
Rationale: to conform to current practices.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:  
If adopted will read:  
Strike (hereinafter referred to as YWR)  
The Committee on Young Women … shall (3) direct and promote the Young Woman Representative program;

ARTICLE XIV - SPECIAL COMMITTEES, Section 1
Rationale: to conform to current practices and changes in terminology.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:  
If adopted will read:  
Strike and  
Add and Mission Grants Selection  
The Special Committees shall be Convention Site, Finance, and Mission Grants Selection.

ARTICLE XIV - SPECIAL COMMITTEES, Section 3 (Finance Committee)
Rationale: to conform to current practices and changes in terminology.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:  
If adopted will read:  
Insert and the Director of Finance & Administration after Pastoral Counselor  
The Finance Committee, consisting of the Treasurer as chairman and three (3) or more additional members, with a Pastoral Counselor and the Director of Finance & Administration as advisers, shall:
## ARTICLE XIV - SPECIAL COMMITTEES, Section 3 b

Rationale: to conform to current practices.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT:**

| Strike prepare and insert review |
| Insert proposed before organizational |

**IF ADOPTED WILL READ:**

The Finance Committee…shall:

b. review and recommend the *proposed* organizational budgets;

## ARTICLE XIV - SPECIAL COMMITTEES, Section 3 c

Rationale: To clarify responsibilities

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT:**

| Strike Convention Manager |
| Insert Director of Finance & Administration |

**IF ADOPTED WILL READ:**

The Finance Committee…shall:

c. review and recommend the proposed convention budget as prepared by the *Director of Finance & Administration*.

## ARTICLE XIV - SPECIAL COMMITTEES, Section 3 d

Rationale: to conform to current practices.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT:**

| Add new d |

**IF ADOPTED WILL READ:**

The Finance Committee…shall:

d. prepare job descriptions for the LWML Office staff for approval by the Executive Committee.

## ARTICLE XIV - SPECIAL COMMITTEES, New Section 4 (Mission Grants Selection Committee)

Rationale: to conform to current practices.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT:**

| Add new Section 4 (old Section 4 becomes Section 5) |

**IF ADOPTED WILL READ:**

**Section 4**

The Mission Grants Selection Committee, consisting of the Vice President of Gospel Outreach as chairman, the members of the Mission Grants Committee, the two Pastoral Counselors, and the President shall select the mission grant proposals, which will appear on the convention ballot subsequent to approval by the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE XVI - LWML OFFICE, Section 1

Rationale: to conform to new terminology and current practices.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT:**

| Strike including the LWML Office |
| Insert by the Finance Committee after prepared |

**IF ADOPTED WILL READ:**

A Director of Finance & Administration shall be employed to oversee the business operations of the organization. The job description for the Director of Finance & Administration shall be prepared by the Finance Committee and approved by the Executive Committee.

## ARTICLE XVI - LWML OFFICE, New Section 1 d (Director of Finance & Administration)

Rationale: to clarify responsibilities.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT:**

| Insert new d (old d becomes e) |

**IF ADOPTED WILL READ:**

The Director of Finance & Administration shall:

d. prepare the budgets of the organization, with assistance from the Treasurer, Convention Manager, and Finance Committee;
ARTICLE XVI - LWML OFFICE, Section 1 e (Director of Finance & Administration)
Rationale: to conform to current practices.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT:**
Add at the request of the President

**IF ADOPTED WILL READ:**
The Director of Finance & Administration shall:
e. attend meetings of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors in an advisory capacity at the request of the President.

ARTICLE XVI - LWML OFFICE, Section 2 (Office Staff)
Rationale: to conform to new terminology and current practices.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT:**
Strike directly
Strike a. The job description for the LWML Office Manager shall be prepared and approved by the Executive Committee.
and b. Job descriptions for the office staff shall be prepared by the Business Administrator for approval by the Executive Committee.
Add Job descriptions for the Office staff shall be prepared by the Finance Committee for approval by the Executive Committee.

**IF ADOPTED WILL READ:**
The LWML Office staff shall be employed by the LWML and be responsible to the Director of Finance & Administration.
Job descriptions for the Office staff shall be prepared by the Finance Committee for approval by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE XVII - MISSION GRANTS, Section 2 b
Rationale: to clarify responsibilities, to be consistent with other sections of the Bylaws, and to conform to current practices and terminology.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT:**
Strike officers and insert International Center staff
Insert Selection between Grants and Committee
Strike to following proposals
Insert , which will after proposals
Add and the Board of Directors.

**IF ADOPTED WILL READ:**
After consultation with LCMS International Center staff, the Mission Grants Selection Committee shall select the mission grant proposals, which will appear on the convention ballot subsequent to approval by the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XIX - FINANCES, Section 3 b
Rationale: to conform to GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles) provisions. Audits check for accuracy and full representation of financial activities, whereas reviews give limited assurances that an organization’s financial statements match its financial claims.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT:**
Strike A review and insert An audit

**IF ADOPTED WILL READ:**
b. An audit of the financial statements shall be conducted by a certified public accountant at the end of each biennium.
Candidates for Office

PRESIDENT
Shari Miller, East Helena, Montana (Montana District)

LWML: Strategic Plan Facilitator, Convention Programming Committee Secretary, Brand Project Task Force Chairman, Visioning Committee Chairman, Website Design Team, Recording Secretary, Interdepartmental Chairman, Inspiration 2012-PING (song leader) and Leadership for Tomorrow Committees, Christian Resources Editors Committee Chairman, Christian Growth Committee Chairman, news release writer, Bible study author.

DISTRICT: President, MMV Consultant, Nominating Committee Chairman, Structure Committee Chairman, Young Woman Representatives Committee Chairman, newsletter editor, Christian Growth Committee Chairman, convention speaker, song leader, and Bible study leader.

ZONE: Vice President/Christian Growth, workshop/retreat organizer.

LOCAL: LWML Coordinator, Vice President, Christian Growth, publicity, Effective Society Planning, Women's Events leader and planner.

CHURCH: Stephen Minister, adult and children's choir director, organist, contemporary worship pianist, women's Bible study leader, VBS/midweek/Sunday school teacher, Altar Guild.

COMMUNITY: Helena Chamber Singers, Symphony Chorale, teacher’s aide.

EDUCATION: Parish Worker Degree, St. John's College, Winfield, Kansas; continuing computer education.

OCCUPATION: Administrative assistant and volunteer.

VISION STATEMENT: My vision for the LWML is that it be a vibrant and vital organization of mission-minded women whose primary purpose is to reach out with the Good News of salvation in Jesus Christ both locally and globally. I see the LWML nurturing, challenging, equipping, and encouraging each sister in Christ to grow in her faith and joyfully use her gifts and abilities in service “wherever and whenever He has need” of them as the Holy Spirit empowers her life through Word and Sacraments.

PRESIDENT
Patti Ross, Tulsa, Oklahoma (Oklahoma District)

LWML: Vice President of Christian Life, Leader Development Committee, Inspiration 2012 (PING) Chairman, Convention Task Force Chairman, Finance/Endowment Committee, Visioning Committee, Governance Committee, Interdepartmental 2010 Committee, Planned Giving Council, Oklahoma City Convention Host Committee Hospitality Chairman.

DISTRICT: President, Mission Service Chairman, Public Relations Committee, Convention Planning Committee, Retreat Planner/leader.

ZONE: President, Secretary, Zone workshop planner/presenter, Zone Fall Fest Mission Speaker.

LOCAL: President.

CHURCH: Vacation Bible School teacher, social ministry chairman, hand bell choir, banner committee, congregation board of directors secretary, congregation secretary, pastoral call committee, building fund campaign chairman.

COMMUNITY: Lutheran Braille Workers board of directors, LCMS Camp Lutherhoma board of directors, Tulsa Braille Work Center volunteer, Assistance League of Tulsa, Family Advisory Council, St. Francis Hospital, mission trips to Guatemala City, Latvia, and Nicaragua.

EDUCATION: B.S. in Nursing, University of Oklahoma.

OCCUPATION: Retired registered nurse.

VISION STATEMENT: As LWML women, we are serving God, our church, and our communities with heartfelt Christian joy while carrying out the LWML mission statement. Inspired by God’s Word and recalling His promises, we promote mission awareness, mission support, and mission work to reach out with the saving Word of Jesus Christ to all God's people, wherever and whenever He calls us, all the while serving with love and gladness.
Candidates for Office

**VICE PRESIDENT OF ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES**

Debbie Larson, Bismarck, North Dakota (North Dakota District)

LWML: Public Relations Director, Marketing Team Director, Christian Life Committee, Faith Aflame Task Force.

DISTRICT: President, Vice President of Mission Grants, Newsletter Co-editor; Recording Secretary, Convention Co-chairman, Travel Coordinator for the Oklahoma City and Minneapolis conventions.

ZONE: Christian Life Chairman.

LOCAL: President, Vice President, Funeral Committee, Christian Life Chairman, Secretary.

CHURCH: Board of Education Vice President, Board of Education member, funeral co-coordinator, Sunday school teacher, small group Bible study leader, co-editor of church directory, Board of Evangelism member and Vice President, director of annual Living Last Supper drama.

LCMS DISTRICT: North Dakota District Planning Council.

COMMUNITY: Library Book Sale volunteer, Martin Luther School Board of Directors, public school volunteer art teacher.

EDUCATION: Attended the University of North Dakota.

OCCUPATION: Retired office manager; full-time volunteer.

VISION STATEMENT: *I see the women of the LWML stepping out in faith, responding to His love with grateful hearts and true joy. As Lutheran Women in Mission share Christ’s love and message with the whole world, I see lives transformed for Christ.*

Edie Norris, Gig Harbor, Washington (Washington-Alaska District)

LWML: Public Relations Director, 2009 Convention Host Committee, Christian Life Committee Chairman, Christian Resources Editor Committee Chairman, Quarterly Resource Editor, Program Resources Committee.

DISTRICT: Meeting Manager, MMV Consultant, Meeting Manager/Planner, Public Relations Director, Treasurer, Secretary, Financial Review Task Force.

ZONE: President, Leader Development Chairman, Mission Service Chairman, Bylaws Chairman, Christian Growth, Member Development Committee, Effective Society Planner Facilitator.

LOCAL: President, Secretary, Mission Service, Christian Life, Member Development, Christian Growth, Treasurer.

CHURCH: Women’s Bible study leader, Altar Guild, Outreach Committee Chairman, Choir, Board of Education Chairman, Preschool Task Force Chairman, Vision Task Force Facilitator.

LCMS DISTRICT: NW District Disaster Response Team, Convention Committee, Mission Fair Task Force, Pastors’ Wives Retreat Chairman, Linking Congregation and Communities Consultant, Ohio District Pastors’ Wives Retreat Chairman.

COMMUNITY: Ardondale Woods Welcoming Committee, Alliance of Women Owned Businesses, Eagle Point Chamber of Commerce Bylaws Chairman/Parliamentarian, Eagle Point Community Association, Antwerp Preservation Society Public Relations Chairman.

EDUCATION: Attended Allen Hancock College and Angelo State University.

OCCUPATION: Full-time “professional church volunteer.”

VISION STATEMENT: *Firmly grounded in the Word, Lutheran Women in Mission continue to confidently seek God’s guidance in an ever changing world. This organization persists in incorporating diverse groups of women, prayerfully encouraging each of them to find a ‘home’ in the LWML and to purposefully use their gifts with care and compassion in boldly proclaiming the unchanging love of Christ Jesus in their church, communities and around the world.*
Candidates for Office

VICE PRESIDENT OF SPECIAL FOCUS MINISTRIES
Nikki Tyrrell, Taylor, North Dakota (North Dakota District)

LWML: Marketing Team Coordinator, HOPE Committee, PING presenter, Gospel Outreach Committee Chairman, Media and Marketing Committee, Leader Development Committee/YWR Committee.

DISTRICT: Vice President of Mission Grants, Mission Grant Committee, Nominating Committee, Teen and YWR convention programming coordinator, Team Leadership presenter, YWR to Oklahoma City, Human Care Committee.

ZONE: Nominating Committee, Christian Growth Committee.

LOCAL: President, Vice President.

CHURCH: Preschool Board, Vacation Bible school teacher, Constitution Committee, Sunday school teacher, Board of Outreach, Board of Youth.

COMMUNITY: Volunteer High School Speech/Student Congress coach.

EDUCATION: B.S. in Communications from South Dakota State University.

OCCUPATION: Preschool Director/Teacher, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Dickinson, North Dakota.

VISION STATEMENT: The LWML is the place that all women of the LCMS can go to find fellowship, friendship, and opportunities for humble service. The Word of God is where we begin in our service. We are about being in Bible study, supporting the spread of the Gospel through our mites, and serving the Lord and those around us with joy and gladness. God has great work for the LWML, and He will equip all willing servants to do it!

VICE PRESIDENT OF SPECIAL FOCUS MINISTRIES
Kaye Wolff, Southfield, Michigan (Michigan District)

LWML: HOPE Committee Chairman, Gospel Outreach Committee Chairman and member, Mission Advocacy and Grants Committee member, Heart to Heart Sister.

DISTRICT: Leader Development Coordinator, Heart to Heart Sister Program Coordinator.

ZONE: Active member, zone cheerleader, and rally speaker.

LOCAL: Co-chairman, Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary.

CHURCH: Evangelism Committee, Senior Choir, Worship Committee Chairman, Sunday school teacher, Billy Brooks Lutheran Memorial Choir, Stewardship Committee.

COMMUNITY: Volunteer to clean neighborhoods, plant trees, paint, and package food; organizer/builder for Habitat and Thrivent Build Across America; nursing home visits through Project Compassion, Lutheran Hour Ministries Mission U presenter, Concordia Seminary Multi-Ethnic Symposium co-chair, meeting manager for LCMS Black Ministry Family Convocation.

EDUCATION: Attended Oakland Community College and International School of Data Processing.

OCCUPATION: Programmer Analyst/Associate Project Manager, IT Department.

VISION STATEMENT: My vision is for an intergenerational and multicultural LWML, raising up LWML sisters from childhood Sunday school classes. I see mission opportunities and educational programs that excite little girls so that young moms and daughters could encourage one another to grow in service to our Lord. How cool would it be to hear a 7-year-old say, “Mom, let's get going. We are making friendship bracelets for kids in Haiti at the zone rally today.” As we serve beside our ethnic sisters, we can learn more about the people and culture of the places throughout the world where we have provided mission grants. And we must continue to find ways to reach out to all women in the pews in fellowship, sharing Christ's love and message.
Candidates for Office

TREASURER
Melody Rosenwinkel, Alpine, Wyoming (Utah-Idaho District)

LWML: HOPE Committee Chairman, Nominating Committee, Mission Advocacy and Grants Committee Chairman.

DISTRICT: President, PING presenter, Mission trip participant, retreat chairman and Bible study leader, women’s conference chairman.

ZONE: President, Bible study leader, retreat committee, Bible brunch chairman.

LOCAL: President, Vice President, Christian Growth Chairman, Bible study leader.

CHURCH: Choir, Bible study leader, prayer team coordinator, Day School Committee, youth worker.

COMMUNITY: Alpine Mountain Days Committee, Alpine Winter Jubilee Committee Chair, Alpine American Legion Auxiliary, 4th of July Parade Committee, Alpine Food Bank Treasurer.

EDUCATION: Eastern Idaho Technical College diploma.

OCCUPATION: Bank operations manager.

VISION STATEMENT: For the women and men to grow in their walk with our Lord, share what He has done in their lives, and reflect the light of Christ in all they do and say. To realize it is a privilege to share in God’s ministry with mites, a helping hand, a smile, or a listening ear and share His amazing grace and hope at home and around the world.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession, that you may proclaim the excellence of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light (1 Peter 2:9 NASB).

TREASURER
Marilyn Schroeder, Boone, Iowa (Iowa West District)

LWML: 2015 Des Moines Convention Host Committee Chairman, Structure Committee Chairman and member.

DISTRICT: President, Parliamentarian, Structure Chairman, Endowment Committee.

ZONE: Vice President, Secretary.

LOCAL: Vice President.

CHURCH: Financial Secretary, Sunday school teacher, Endowment Committee.

COMMUNITY: Special Olympics usher and volunteer, Humane Society rummage sale cashier, state president of Iowa Business and Professional Women.

EDUCATION: Studied banking at Iowa Banking School and business at Des Moines Area Community College.

OCCUPATION: Recently retired bank Executive Administrative Assistant and secretary to the bank’s Board of Directors.

VISION STATEMENT: My vision for the LWML is to help recruit a new generation of women, all ages and ethnicities, to develop their leadership skills, and to enthusiastically carry out the mission work of the LWML for the future.
Candidates for Office

PASTORAL COUNSELOR
Rev. Robert L. Mundahl, Faribault, Minnesota (Minnesota South District)


EDUCATION: Master of Divinity, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, 1982; B.A. in K-12 Education/Philosophy, University of Minnesota, 1978.

LWML COUNSELOR: Minnesota South District, 12 years; Missouri District, two years; zone counselor, four years.

SYNOD/DISTRICT LCMS ACTIVITIES: Minnesota South District Vice President, Convention Chair, “Fear Not—Go Forward” in Missions presenter, State Laborer’s for Christ representative, LCEF representative; Missouri District Stewardship Development Committee/Task Force, Circuit Counselor.

COMMUNITY SERVICE: Camp Chapel, Peace Red Cross, Faribault Noon Exchange Club, Peace Community Food Shelf, Jefferson Memorial Volunteer, Hillsboro Rotary, volunteer police and hospital chaplain, Lions Club.

VISION STATEMENT: 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.

PASTORAL COUNSELOR
Rev. Larry D. Troxel, Quincy, Illinois (Central Illinois District)


LWML COUNSELOR: Central Illinois District, four years; Peoria LWML Host Committee Pastoral Counselor; two terms as zone counselor.

SYNOD/DISTRICT LCMS ACTIVITIES: Bible study leader on KFUO Radio, for Central Illinois District Convention floor committee, Convention Chaplain, circuit counselor.

COMMUNITY SERVICE: Quincy, Illinois, Symphony Chorus, was one of the founding board of directors for the Green Valley Hospice, Creston, Iowa.

VISION STATEMENT: LWML provides opportunities for personal and spiritual growth, fellowship, and outreach for all women of the church with our Savior Jesus Christ as the clearly visible center of all we do, based solidly and joyfully in His Word.

Encourage others to go on a mission trip! Perhaps you can’t go, but you can identify and encourage … even support … a special woman in your life to tell the Good News about Jesus!
Candidates for Office

NOMINATING COMMITTEE
Sally Aschinger, St. Louis, Missouri (Missouri District)

DISTRICT: Vice President of Christian Life, MMV Consultant, Administrative Assistant, Leader Development Chairman.

ZONE: President, Leader Development Chairman, women’s retreat co-chair, Christian Life Committee.

LOCAL: Vice President, Hospitality Chairman.

CHURCH: Shepherd’s Ministry, Bible study leader, Child Care Committee, Vacation Bible School director.

COMMUNITY: Assisted CFNA (Christian Friends of New Americans), Feed the Children Africa, Nurses for Newborns, Orphan Grain Train, Mission trips to Nigeria and Japan.

EDUCATION: Associate Degree in Management & Communications, Concordia University, Mequon, Wisconsin.

OCCUPATION: Retired LCMS Mission Project coordinator.

VISION STATEMENT: That Christ would stir the hearts of all Lutheran women to be mission-minded and mission-driven servants while serving God boldly and reaching out to others with a joyful and caring spirit.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE
Margo Dupre, Lubbock, Texas (Texas District)

LWML: Heart to Heart Sisters Committee Chairman, member.

LOCAL: Vice President.


EDUCATION: B.A. from the University of Detroit; M.E. in progress from Concordia University, Oregon.

OCCUPATION: High school instructor in a private Christian school.

VISION STATEMENT: My vision for the LWML includes all women of all ages in our congregation. LWML will encourage all women to be in the Word, leading from their Lord. Invite all women to be a part of our mission to use their hands and feet, voice and lips, silver and gold to extend His kingdom through giving mites, Gifts from the Heart, and participating in servant events. Allow change to happen in the LWML, in God’s timing, that allows the history of the LWML to be honored and the future to include meaningful opportunities for all “women in the pew” to be involved.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE
Katy Gifford, Falls City, Nebraska (Nebraska South District)

DISTRICT: Vice President of Servant Resources, Vice President of Human Care, Leader Development Chairman, Teen Task Force.

ZONE: President, Member Development, presenter.

LOCAL: Christian Life leader, Bible Study leader, Servant Event leader.

CHURCH: Youth leader, choir, Sunday school teacher and music leader.

COMMUNITY: High school Band Booster President, 4-H leader.

EDUCATION: B.A. from Concordia, St. Paul; M.A. from University of Nebraska at Kearney.

OCCUPATION: Secondary special education teacher.

VISION STATEMENT: My vision for the LWML is to continue the work that the Lord has charged to us as women working throughout the world to show God’s love and mercy, while intentionally assuring that all women (ages, race, ethnicities and nationalities) within the church are encouraged to actively share their gifts and talents for the mission.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE
Deaconess Betty Knapp, Marquette, Michigan (North Wisconsin District)

LWML: Mustard Seeds Task Force Chair, Christian Life Committee Chairman, Human Care Committee Chairman, Planner.
Candidates for Office

Program Resources Committee.

DISTRICT: Member Development, Public Relations.

ZONE: Christian Growth Chairman.

LOCAL: Staff Liaison for Women’s Ministry.

CHURCH: Youth ministry, campus ministry, parish education, stewardship, social ministry, women’s ministry liaison, music ministry.

COMMUNITY: Various community choirs, Board of Regents for Concordia College, Selma, Alabama, North Wisconsin District Board for Parish Services.

EDUCATION: B.A., Valparaiso University; Masters of Parish Education, Concordia University, Seward, Nebraska.

OCCUPATION: Parish deaconess at Redeemer Lutheran Church, Marquette, Michigan.

VISION STATEMENT: The LWML will continue to enlighten, uplift, inspire, and encourage women as they grow in faith, support others, be witnesses of Christ’s love, and prayerfully support mission work across the street and around the globe enabling us to live out our call to serve in His name.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE
Jan Mauer, Homewood, Illinois (Northern Illinois District)

LWML: Board of Directors.

DISTRICT: President, Nominating Committee Chair, Recording Secretary, Convention Chairman.

ZONE: President, various offices over the years.

LOCAL: Member.

CHURCH: Pastoral Care Committee, usher, Parish Education Committee, Sunday school teacher, Vacation Bible School teacher, Stephen Minister/leader.

COMMUNITY: Lions Club, After School Homework Helper.

EDUCATION: Attended Prairie State College.

OCCUPATION: Retired customer service manager.

VISION STATEMENT: My vision of the LWML is to encourage women to use their talents and gifts to serve the Lord and to encourage their walk with Jesus. To follow His teachings to love one another through mission service.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE
Melissa Salomón, Chula Vista, California (Pacific Southwest District)

LWML: Heart to Heart Sisters Task Force Chairman, Quarterly Spanish Bible study translator, Gospel Outreach Committee Chairman, member.

DISTRICT: Heart to Heart Sisters Program Resource, Hispanic Ministry Resource, LCMS Pacific Southwest District Board of Directors.

ZONE: Heart to Heart Sisters Program Resource, Hispanic Ministry Resource.

LOCAL: Ministry and Mission Resource.

CHURCH: Community Life Director, Mission Planting Team for Concordia Mission.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE
Deb Poese, Rockville, Maryland (Chesapeake District)

LWML: Board of Directors, Charlotte Convention Host Committee.

DISTRICT: President, Vice President of Mission Outreach and Grants, Financial Secretary.

ZONE: Chair, Co-Chair.

LOCAL: President.

CHURCH: Board of Directors Chair, member; Praise Choir; Sunday school teacher; Handbell Choir; Preschool Board of Directors Chair.

COMMUNITY: Treasurer, Friends of Rockville Music, Relay for Life participant (American Cancer Society fundraiser), Rock Creek Elementary School PTA Treasurer.

EDUCATION: M.A. in Math, University of Maryland, College Park; B.S., B.S.Ed. in Math, Truman State University.

OCCUPATION: Director, School of Education, Montgomery College, Rockville, Maryland

VISION STATEMENT: The Lutheran Women’s Missionary League is an organization of women in the LCMS who love God, are excited to share the grace we receive through Jesus Christ, and are connected to each other by our mutual desire to minister to those in need of physical and spiritual comforts, both in our own neighborhoods and around the world.
Candidates for Office

COMMUNITY: Lutheran Community Foundation board of directors, Beautify Chula Vista, City of Chula Vista Civic Engagement Planning.

EDUCATION: J.D. from Loyola Law School, A.B. from Occidental College.

OCCUPATION: Community Life Director, Concordia Lutheran Church and School, Chula Vista.

VISION STATEMENT: My vision for the LWML is that the diverse gifts of EACH woman of the LCMS, young and not so young and in every beautiful color and shade created by God for His specific purposes, are unleashed in a great movement of God so that the impact on the Harvest of the Lord is manifest in every corner of the world!

NOMINATING COMMITTEE
Ginger Starrett, Belvidere, New Jersey (New Jersey District)

LWML: Board of Directors, Pittsburgh Convention Host Committee.

DISTRICT: President, Vice President of Human Care.

ZONE: President, Secretary.

LOCAL: President, Vice President, Secretary.

CHURCH: Altar Guild, Board of Social Ministry, Board of Ministry; Sunday school teacher; youth group leader, FGAL National Youth Gathering, Thanksgiving meal ministry coordinator.

COMMUNITY: Girl Scout leader, Sunshine Committee member at Thomas & Betts.

EDUCATION: Attended Warren County Community College.

OCCUPATION: Planner/buyer at T&B/Elastimold Co.

VISION STATEMENT: As women of the LWML, may we recognize and use those gifts that the Lord has given us to further His Kingdom. That each woman, young and old, be equipped to carry out this mission that He has set out before us.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE
Margie Wickert, Dillsboro, Indiana (Indiana District)

LWML: Board of Directors.

DISTRICT: President, mission trip to Guatemala, Crisis Management Coordinator, Meeting Manager, newsletter editor, Mission Grants Committee, Mission Service Committee Chair and member.

ZONE: Vice President, Christian Growth Chair, Mission Service Chair.

LOCAL: President, Secretary, Mission Service Chair.

CHURCH: Sunday school teacher, Youth Director, National Youth Gathering chaperone, choir, women’s Bible study participant, Pastors’ Wives Retreat Planning Committee and session presenter.

COMMUNITY: Orphan Grain Train, Habitat for Humanity, Camp Lutherhaven Staff, basic life support and advanced cardiac life support instructor, regional and national faculty for the American Heart Association, Hurricane Katrina relief, tornado/flood relief.

EDUCATION: ADN/BSN in Nursing, Purdue University; MSN in Nursing, St. Xavier University.

OCCUPATION: Registered Nurse, Clinical Nurse Specialist; Clinical Director of Outpatient Surgery Center.

VISION STATEMENT: Psalm 118:14 “The Lord is my strength and my song, he has become my salvation.”, Through God’s grace and mercy we are children of God. He has equipped and prepared us to be servants in His kingdom, engaging the field, sowing the seed. As we keep our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfector of our faith, we remain steadfast in His Word and prayer each day and we recognize the opportunities that He places before us to serve Him with JOY and GLADNESS, sharing His Word, our mites, gifts, and talents with people of all tribes and nations so they too can come to know Jesus, our awesome Savior and Lord.

Have more than one LWML group in your congregation! Perhaps groups might create quilts, assist the elderly, or work at a clothing bank or food pantry. Make Bible study a part of each activity. Serve the Lord with gladness!
# Candidates for Office Voting Tally

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<th>Office</th>
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In Memoriam

Alberta Barnes

Alberta Barnes, tenth President of the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League (LWML) passed from this world to her heavenly home on Wednesday, June 18, 2014, in Cleveland, Ohio, at the age of 93. Alberta served as LWML President from 1983 – 1987.

Alberta presided over the 1985 LWML Convention in Ames, Iowa, “Give God Glory — Praise His Name!” That convention still holds the largest registered attendance in LWML history of 8,023 men and women. Her second convention, held in Fort Worth, Texas, in 1987, under the theme, “Radiant With God’s Love,” adopted the record mission goal of one million dollars. During Alberta’s four-year term, many things were accomplished, but she was especially excited about the LWML gift of $100,000, which served as seed money for the first in-depth The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Bible study, LifeLight, published in 1989.

“Alberta was a loving servant who had the distinct history of being a member of only one church in her 93 years. She lived the full circle of Baptism, schooling, confirmation — she was married, worshipped, and was buried at St. John Lutheran Church, South Euclid, Ohio, which her family had helped to establish,” shares Ann Marie Bollas, LWML Ohio District President.

“Before she served as LWML President, she was elected as the first President of the LWML Ohio District, when it was formed in 1964,” Ann Marie continues. “When Alberta fell and broke her femur in early May, she repeatedly stated that it was her goal to be at the district convention this June to celebrate its 50th anniversary. The Lord had other plans and called her to her eternal home two days before the convention opened.”

Current LWML President Kay Kreklau had the pleasure of a recent visit with Alberta. Kay shares, “Alberta loved the LWML with all her heart. Aside from her family, LWML was her life. She was a woman whose purpose was to further the mission of LWML … and she used the many gifts God gave her to do just that. Over the past three years, she uplifted me on many occasions with her notes of encouragement and wisdom. In everything she did, her love for the Lord and His people was evident. I will miss her!”

Come to me ... and I will give you rest (Matthew 11:28).
2015 Proposed Mission Grants

1. Redeeming Life Maternity Home, $100,000
To provide critical housing and program services for the residents and babies around Sanford, Florida, and instill the knowledge that faith, family, and education are the key to living a happy, healthy, hope-filled life. They empower, with God's mercy, the women to live independently: financially, physically, and spiritually.

2. Providing Hope for Detroit, $100,000
An intentional undertaking of the churches in Detroit, Michigan, through Acts 2 Enterprise to reconnect with the communities, evangelizing and spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ through a full range of programs.

3. Outreach in Refugee Camps – Lebanon, $72,000
Outreach to 15,000 at-risk women and children with humanitarian supplies; trucking, storage, and distribution of those items; and funding for printed materials and support staff. This is coordinated locally through the Middle East Lutheran Ministry center in Lebanon where they reach out to camps throughout the Bekaa Valley region of eastern Lebanon.

4. Scholarships for African Students, $100,000
To provide four-year scholarship support for two pastoral students leading to ordination at Westfield House, the House of Theological Studies of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of England. The two pastors would return to their original homeland to spread the Gospel among their people.

5. Healthy Families, $60,000
To continue to move forward with its mission to build and strengthen individual, family, and community life, beginning with pregnant mothers, infants, and children under age five through Lutheran Family Services (LFS) of Nebraska. There are 29 LFS centers from Council Bluffs, Iowa, to North Platte, Nebraska. LFS uses an incentive-based combination of programing including parenting classes, support groups, therapy, and case management, reducing the risk of child abuse and neglect.

6. Opportunities in Uganda, $100,000
To assist in the completion of the final phase of the seminary in Uganda and to continue the work of the Women of the Pearl (WOTP) to teach and put resources in the hands of women and men. The seminary, coordinated by The Lutheran Church Mission in Uganda and WOTP, allows pastors and lay leaders the opportunity to study closer to home.

7. Hispanic Outreach Ministry, $100,000
To build a fellowship building for the expansion of this ministry, bringing to the Hispanic people around Cristo Rey Lutheran Church, East Moline, Illinois, the Good News of Jesus Christ so they can receive His love and blessings through His Word and the activities that the people have brought with them from their native land.

8. Bringing the Gospel to the Lost Sheep of Israel, $100,000
To recruit, train, and deploy indigenous leaders for mission work among the Lost Sheep of Israel in Israel through Apple of His Eye Mission Society in Israel where 90 percent of the over 6 million Jewish people do not confess Jesus as the Messiah.

9. Training Teachers and Leaders, $100,000
To assist the global Lutheran churches in equipping those seeking advanced theological training who will return to their homeland and train countless others to proclaim Jesus boldly. The training of International Confessional Lutheran teachers and leaders would be done through The Graduate School of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

10. Cancer Care Packages – Phil's Friends, $50,000
To finance the cost of cancer care packages, which provide Christ-centered support and hope, for cancer patients across the nation.

11. “We Are God’s Workmanship,” $32,500
To assist in supplementing the expenses of six Saint Paul Lutheran High School (boarding school), Concordia, Missouri, students from impoverished countries who intend to return to their homes as pastors, teachers, missionaries, or in other areas of church work. (Ephesians 2:10)

12. Outreach Mission Rio Grande Valley, $100,000
To implement culturally relevant evangelism to the unchurched, the at-risk youth and families, and the fallen away in the Rio Grande Valley through Fishers of Men. To allow for expansion with: van purchase, church planting, adding graphic editing and audio equipment to video ministry, adding equipment to translation ministry, and starting a Valley-wide Director of Christian Education program.
2015 Proposed Mission Grants

13. Hope and Healing to the Navajo People, $75,000
To implement Gospel-oriented programs for Navajo men, women, and youth to empower and equip them to live victoriously in the midst of their circumstances and to be overcomers, offering better choices for a brighter future. Programs to include: youth camps, after-school enrichment programs, Boys/Girls clubs, trips to share faith with another Native people group, men’s Bible group, abused women’s support group, and women’s health education.

14. Clean Water and Evangelism Ministry, $50,000
To provide sustainable safe water by installing water filters and instruction on hygiene and sanitation. MOST Ministries wishes to share the Gospel and implant the seeds of faith into those of the community.

15. Growing the Gospel, $21,250
Funding for spiritual programs, playground equipment, food, and winter outerwear for at-risk kids will assist the “God Cares About You” Mission which provides a safe and supportive environment for children living in the “war zone” of Albuquerque, New Mexico, where they are taught, fed, and clothed to make them stronger to deal with the daily pressures and stressful situation in which they live.

16. “In Their Hands and Upon Their Hearts,” $50,000
To fund the printing and distribution of Scripture in mother-tongue languages where Lutheran Bible Translator supported translation projects are ongoing or have recently been completed in Botswana, Ethiopia, and Angola/Namibia Africa.

17. THE 72® – WITNESS, $50,000
To fund travel expenses for outreach volunteer field representatives throughout the United States who will partner with congregations to equip members to reach unchurched people in the local harvest field.

18. Helping Hands Initiative, $100,000
These funds would provide construction materials, tools, home repair allotment, Laborers for Christ fees, and financial literacy training for ten home projects for low-income, disabled, and/or elderly residents near The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) congregations. It provides a way for congregations to reach out to their local communities through housing repair services.

19. “God’s Love Bus,” $100,000
To provide funds for purchase of a new wheelchair-modified bus in Detroit, Michigan. Project Compassion Ministries, a Registered Service Organization (RSO), provides transportation for nursing home residents to church and cultural events creating spiritual and social opportunities to combat the adverse effects of depression and loneliness.

20. Compass International, $84,000
To provide a 15-passenger van, salaries, and other program costs for an educational program for Hispanics and other international students in Northwest Indiana where the entire family can learn together through the Family Center Ministry. Adult English classes, K-12 tutoring, citizenship classes, and English Learner Preschool are ways families can learn together in a highly cultural and appealing format.

21. “The Threefold Cord,” $100,000
Community Ministerial Support to Strengthen Impoverished Families, LINC Rochester, New York, to show the love of Christ in community ministerial support and to strengthen and meet the unmet needs of families in extreme poverty in the Rochester, New York, area. Funds for personnel and mission program seed money will introduce Christ-centered change and give hope to those who do not yet know Him.

22. “Save Our Cities” Initiative, $100,000
To coordinate, identify, and train urban missionaries, and to provide urban mission support and community development in urban and inner-city settings, which are the fastest growing segment of our nation and greatest opportunity for global mission and multi-ethnic ministry throughout the LCMS.

23. Deaconess Training, $90,000
To provide educational and financial support through the LCMS to our partner churches who have introduced deaconess training programs within their church bodies, and to promote education to underprivileged women who have a passion to learn confessional theological studies and serve the church.

24. Disaster Response Trailers, $80,000
To provide matching funds to 20 congregations within the LCMS to establish a disaster response equipment trailer for use in their respective districts.

25. School Development Project, $62,400
To identify and recruit 20 leadership candidates of the LCMS serving in Lutheran schools and train them through inclusion at three national School Leadership Recruitment
2015 Proposed Mission Grants

and Training events by LCMS School Ministry for placement as administrators in LCMS schools.

26. Rosa Young Academies, $25,000
To vigorously collaborate with congregations in rural, urban, and inner-city communities and provide children with a safe environment for education and spiritual growth; an opportunity to worship together and grow in the Word of God; and witness to one another of God’s love, mercy, and grace through these academies and after-school programs.

27. RSO and Congregational Engagement, $50,000
To provide funding to assist the Recognized Service Organizations (RSO) in the resources and opportunities they provide to help congregations live out the vision of Mercy, Witness, and Life Together. The RSOs are independent of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), but operate ministry programs that foster the mission and ministry of the church reaching out in mercy and love to meet the needs of those who are suffering, poor, sick, or lonely. They address human, social, economic, educational, and spiritual needs.

28. Lutheran Youth Corps, $25,000
To provide scholarships for young Lutheran adults that have been selected as volunteers to serve in areas in which their talents and services are needed (poverty/inner city areas, and areas of disadvantage and/or long-term recovery). Lutheran Youth Corps members are especially trained to live and work and be identified with the people in the community, using their skills and understanding to serve these people in relation to their needs and to the skills and resources available, always being Christ’s witness in acts of mercy for the church and the world.

29. LCMS Global Seminary Initiative, $100,000
To provide scholarships for pastors from emerging and partner church bodies to obtain advanced degrees at the two LCMS seminaries. It also will fund sending LCMS professors and qualified pastors to teach at regional seminaries around the world. Scholarships for students attending in-country seminars, as well as funding for seminars and educational conferences, will be provided.

30. Hanoi School Library Upgrade, $97,000
To supply a library at Concordia International School in Hanoi, Vietnam, with books, resource materials, Lutheran and Christian materials, and furnishings for the new space. Expansion of the library, which will be the first in the country with religious texts available to check-out, will provide for the development of a Summer English Development Program, including a greater number of Vietnamese students. The added space offers more opportunities for outreach programs into the Vietnamese community.

31. Concordia Seminary Buenos Aires Dormitory, $100,000
To provide funding to build a new dormitory by Iglesia Evangelica Luterana de Argentina (IELA) on property currently owned by the 72-year-old Concordia Seminary-Buenos Aires (CS-BA). The IELA has extended the ministry of the Word to the Latin American sister churches in more than six different countries inviting their men to come and study in her seminary. Due to this missional outreach, the current facilities are stretched, and the Argentinean government is requiring different arrangements be made for dormitory use. The five-year joint partnership between The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Office of International Mission and the CS-BA hopes to keep the preparing of men to faithfully serve parishes around Latin America and plant new churches as well as a priority for years to come.

32. Outreach Centers – RGOH, $100,000
To provide funding to supplement staff salaries in 2016-2017 and provide for outreach development, canvassing neighborhoods, develop partnerships with local community resources to better serve transitional neighborhoods, and develop computerized learning centers for children in marginalized neighborhoods. Rebecca’s Garden of Hope, Inc. (RGOH) is growing rapidly, and its goal is to reach thousands of children each year for Jesus, developing safe relationships with them and providing monetary supplemental support to improve the whole person and empower the youth to succeed.

33. Renovation of JEM Seminary Buildings, $120,000
To provide funding to renovate the buildings of Jonathan Ekong Memorial (JEM) Seminary in Nigeria so they are safe and serviceable under the burden of larger student numbers. The buildings, built in the 1940s, are in need of resurfacing the floors and walls, replacing roofs and ceilings, replacing all electrical and plumbing installations, painting, and treating the termite problem. The Lutheran Church in Nigeria is the oldest partner church in Africa of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.
### Mission Grant Selection Tally

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Votes Received</th>
<th>Plurality Ranking</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>1. Redeeming Life Maternity Home, $100,000</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>2. Providing Hope for Detroit, $100,000</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>3. Outreach in Refugee Camps – Lebanon, $72,000</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>4. Scholarships for African Students, $100,000</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>5. Healthy Families, $60,000</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>6. Opportunities in Uganda, $100,000</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>7. Hispanic Outreach Ministry, $100,000</td>
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<td>8.</td>
<td>8. Bringing the Gospel to the Lost Sheep of Israel, $100,000</td>
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<td>9.</td>
<td>9. Training Teachers and Leaders, $100,000</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>10. Cancer Care Packages – Phil’s Friends, $50,000</td>
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<td>11.</td>
<td>11. “We Are God’s Workmanship,” $32,500</td>
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<td>12.</td>
<td>12. Outreach Mission Rio Grande Valley, $100,000</td>
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<td>13.</td>
<td>13. Hope and Healing to the Navajo People, $75,000</td>
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<td>15.</td>
<td>15. Growing the Gospel, $21,250</td>
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<td>16.</td>
<td>16. “In Their Hands and Upon Their Hearts,” $50,000</td>
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<td>17.</td>
<td>17. THE 72® – WITNESS, $50,000</td>
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<td>18.</td>
<td>18. Helping Hands Initiative, $100,000</td>
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<td>19.</td>
<td>19. “God’s Love Bus,” $100,000</td>
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<td>20.</td>
<td>20. Compass International, $84,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>22.</td>
<td>22. “Save Our Cities” Initiative, $100,000</td>
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<td>23.</td>
<td>23. Deaconess Training, $90,000</td>
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<td>24.</td>
<td>24. Disaster Response Trailers, $80,000</td>
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<td>25.</td>
<td>25. School Development Project, $62,400</td>
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<td>26.</td>
<td>26. Rosa Young Academies, $25,000</td>
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<td>27.</td>
<td>27. RSO and Congregational Engagement, $50,000</td>
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<td>28.</td>
<td>28. Lutheran Youth Corps, $25,000</td>
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<td>29.</td>
<td>29. LCMS Global Seminary Initiative, $100,000</td>
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<td>30.</td>
<td>30. Hanoi School Library Upgrade, $97,000</td>
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## Mission Grant Progress Report

### Remaining Mission Grants from the 2011-2013 Biennium

1. Outreach to At-Risk Children-Detroit, Michigan  
   $40,000 - Closed/Moved to 2013 – 2015 biennium
2. Exodus 2:6 Project: Spiritual Care in Disasters-Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma  
   $50,000 – Completed
3. Grace Place for LCMS International Missionaries  
   $75,000 – Completed

### Mission Grants from the 2013-2015

1. Training K-9 Comfort Dogs for LCMS Chaplains  
   $30,000 – Completed
2. Lutheran Children’s Books for Southeast Asia  
   $72,000 – Completed
3. Training Indigenous Pastors and Deaconesses – Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana  
   $100,000 – Completed
4. Rebuilding Nord Est Haiti Lutheran School  
   $100,000 – Completed
5. Jesus Our Savior Lutheran Schools - Winnebago Tribe, Nebraska  
   $58,553 – Balance $58,553
6. I CAN - Serving At-Risk Children With Learning Needs  
   $99,000 – Paid $70,000  
   Balance $29,000
7. Bible Story Books in Sign Language and Written Text  
   $100,000 – Completed
8. Native American Outreach Training Center - Fairbanks, Alaska  
   $95,000 – Completed
9. Strengthening and Expanding Campus Ministry  
   $100,000 – Completed
10. Worship for Shut-Ins  
    $80,000 – Completed
11. Preparing Leaders for a Diverse World - Concordia College, Selma, Alabama  
    $50,000 – Completed
12. Voice of Care Ministry to the Developmentally Challenged  
    $50,600 – Completed
13. Christ-Centered Tutoring Through Rebecca’s Garden of Hope (RGOH)  
    $100,000 – Completed
14. Student Scholarships for MOST Ministries Mission Trips  
    $20,000 – Completed
15. Building Homes and Hope in Haiti  
    $100,000 – Balance $100,000
16. Support for Lutheran Public Radio  
    $40,000 – Completed
17. Christian Educational Support for Children – India  
    $85,000 – Completed
18. Mission Outreach at St. Paul Community Lutheran Church - Pontiac, Michigan  
    $67,767.41* – Completed

*$2,208.41 added to grant #18 reimbursed grant funds from 2011-2013 biennium.  
All grants are paid as they request funds. Grants from 2013-2015 showing an unpaid balance  
have one more biennium to complete their requests.
Story of Mission Grants

All mission grant proposals this biennium were submitted electronically on the LWML website. Lutheran Women’s Missionary League (LWML) women and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) personnel acquire the approval and signatures necessary, as stated in the guidelines. They send nine copies of each proposal by regular mail to the LWML Vice President of Gospel Outreach by September 30th of the year prior to convention.

This biennium 65 grants were submitted. The Vice President of Gospel Outreach reviews each submission to make sure all of the components are present. She prepares a title page, assures the pages are in order, collates, and then sends the proposals to each of the nine people who comprise the Mission Grant Selection Committee: the LWML President, the Vice President of Gospel Outreach, the two Pastoral Counselors, and the Mission Grants Committee. The grant proposals are also made available to designated LCMS officials for their feedback.

Prior to the grant selection meeting, each person on the Mission Grant Selection Committee prayerfully reads the grants and fills out an evaluation form with notes about each grant. Questions are prepared for Synod officials who attend a portion of the selection meeting to give input on the grants. Finally, the selection committee sorts the grants into categories, and makes the selections. For a proposal to reach the ballot, the vote must be unanimous.

Some grants are added to the Grants Bank where they will be made available to the districts when they are choosing their grants. Sometimes grants are suggested for convention offerings. Prayer precedes each reading of the grants and is important throughout the selection process. Grants selected for the proposed ballot are presented to the LWML Board of Directors to be approved for the convention ballot. The ballot is prepared, and voting takes place at convention by the delegates.

We Give Praise and Thanksgiving to God!
His mission through the LWML is reaching around the world.
Report of the President

General activities of the office were performed as required:

- Responded to all correspondence, emails, phone calls, and faxes;
- Wrote thank you notes and letters for gifts to LWML;
- Reviewed and approved materials and publications;
- Signed vouchers and contracts;
- Prepared official calls and agendas for Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings;
- Prepared the agenda and script for the Des Moines Convention;
- Presided over Executive Committee Meetings held by WebEx;
- Presided over meetings of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors;
- Assigned LWML representatives to all district conventions;
- Wrote letters of welcome for new societies to LWML;
- Attended weekly Sunday evening prayer time with Executive Committee;
- Received and shared with the Board of Directors the results of the purePR study;
- Launched the purePR initiative, “The Time is NOW” as a result of the purePR study;
- Received and carried out the results of the LWML Business Task Force study;
- Met with professional financial advisors to the LWML;
- Represented the LWML as a voting member of the LCMS Foundation annual meeting;
- Contracted with Anders CPAs & Advisors to interview and recommend to the LWML Executive Committee for the position of a full-time accountant or CPA;
- Hired Kelley Young to the accounting position in the LWML Office; and
- Supervised the relocation of the LWML Office to a new, updated, and less expensive suite of offices in the Concordia Publishing House building.

Nurturing Faith in Christ

- Participated in daily intentional reading of the Bible following Today’s Light® periodical, various other devotionals, and daily prayer;
- Prayed with the LWML on Saturdays @ 9 a.m.;
- Intentionally memorized Scripture;
- Shared prayer requests with LWML friends via email;
- Wrote President’s Page for each issue of Lutheran Woman’s Quarterly;
- Appointed LWML personnel on the Executive Committee, as well as national committee chairmen and members; called each of the chairmen personally;
- Participated in the LWML Prayer Service;
- Celebrated LWML Sunday with God’s people; and
- Continue to strive to daily trust in our Lord for all things and in all circumstances.

Making Our Mission Meaningful

- Prepared two special Christmas development letters (November 2013 and 2014) emphasizing the difference that LWML grants make in spreading the Gospel;
- Encouraged district presidents in their leadership roles and met with them by WebEx;
- Scheduled phone calls with each of the 21 new district presidents to discuss their goals, joys, and challenges, and assure them of my support and prayers as they began their presidency;
- Led President-to-President Sessions at the Board of Directors meetings;
- Participated in a one day meeting/training of all district presidents prior to the January 2015 Board of Directors meeting;
- Visited The Lutheran Church of the Philippines, Manila, Philippines, and the Lutheran Theological Seminary and Training Center, Baguio, Philippines;
- Visited the Czech Republic to see the church at work with non-partner churches;
- Represented the LWML at the Lutheran Church Extension Fund Conference;
- Represented and brought greetings to the LCMS Convention in St. Louis, Missouri;

“I can do all things through him who strengthens me.
Philippians 4:13"
Report of the President (continued)

- Attended the installation of LCMS President Matthew Harrison;
- Appointed a Finance Committee of non-Executive Committee members;
- Appointed an Investment Committee;
- Appointed a Financial Review Committee to report the findings of the 2013-2015 biennial Financial Review completed by Anders CPAs & Advisors to the Finance Committee and the Executive Committee;
- Appointed a Brand Project Task Force;
- Appointed an Executive Committee Business Practices Task Force;
- Appointed an LWML Board of Directors Structure Task Force;
- Participated in meetings of LCMS Board for National Missions;
- Participated in meetings of LCMS Board for International Missions;
- Enjoyed a cooperation that is continuing with LWML–Canada President Iris Barta;
- Participated in The Time is NOW presentations in the LWML Atlantic District, Oklahoma District, Nebraska North and South Districts, and Texas District;
- Visited the Jesus Our Savior Lutheran School, Winnebago Tribe, Nebraska;
- Visited the Worship for Shut-ins Lutheran Ministries Media Center, Fort Wayne, Indiana;
- Visited The Food and Clothing Co-op, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana; Visited Food Bank, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri;
- Met deaconess students that are recipients of the LWML Grant, “Training Indigenous Pastors and Deaconesses,” at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana;
- Met with Miss Sanya Parson from LWML Grant recipient “Christ-Centered Tutoring Through Rebecca’s Garden of Hope”; and
- Participated in a three-day visioning session with LWML Past Presidents led by Les Stroh, Cornerstone Consulting.

Sharing Encouragement

- Signed vouchers for mission grants completing our commitments for 2011-2013 biennium;
- Signed vouchers for 2013-2015 biennium mission grants as funds are requested and available;
- Received many Personnel Resource Profile forms for possible service on the national level of LWML;
- Celebrated LWML Sunday (2013 and 2014);
- Participated in the LWML North Dakota District Fall Retreat;
- Attended the LWML North Dakota District Northeast Zone Rally;
- Intentionally left copies of the Quarterly in waiting rooms and other prominent reading places;
- Represented the LWML at the following LWML district conventions: Mid-South District, Missouri District, Northern Illinois District, Oklahoma District, Rocky Mountain District, SELC District; and
- Represented the LWML at the Lutheran Laymen’s Convention, Detroit, Michigan.

Executive Committee

- The President represented LWML as listed; other meetings attended by the Executive Committee members are listed in their reports;
- Held seven face-to-face meetings: attended by 15 people – the eight elected officers, two pastoral counselors, three appointed officers, and liaison to the Office of the President of the LCMS. At the request of the LWML President, the LWML Business Administrator or LWML Director of Finance & Administration attended;
- Held 10 Executive Committee WebEx meetings: attended by 13 people – the eight elected officers, two pastoral counselors, and three appointed officers. At the request of the LWML President, the LWML Business Administrator or LWML Director of Finance & Administration and the LWML Contracts Administrator attended;
- Assisted with appointing personnel to LWML committees; approved appointments;
- Administered the business of LWML between regular meetings of the Board of Directors;
- Presented to the Board of Directors for approval of all programs requiring financial support from the districts;
- Participated in a collaborative meeting with LCMS President Matthew Harrison and his staff, along with the LCMS Offices of International Mission and National Mission;
- Evaluated, promoted, and coordinated all activities of LWML, impacting the primary targets and mission statement;
- Developed goals and objectives for Interdepartmental meetings;
- Reviewed, developed, and recommended primary targets for 2013-2015 biennium;
- Approved bylaws amendments for presentation to the voting body at this convention;
- Approved proposed mission grants for the convention ballot;
- Arranged insurance coverage;
Report of the President (continued)

- Supervised the program of work and budget for this biennium; and
- Accepted many assignments in addition to the responsibilities of their positions.

Board of Directors
- Held three meetings: February 2014 in St. Louis, Missouri; January 2015 in St. Louis, Missouri; June 2015 in Des Moines, Iowa;
- Held twelve WebEx Meetings with District Presidents prior to the two Board of Directors meetings and one four-meeting session on The Time is NOW;
- Participated in workshops, President-to-President Sessions, and presentations;
- Transacted the business of the organization between conventions;
- Submitted five nominees for pastoral counselor to the Nominating Committee to select two for the convention ballot;
- Considered recommendations and resolutions;
- Approved recommendations and resolutions for presentation to the convention body;
- Approved mite goal work program;
- Chose recipients for the convention offerings;
- Considered and approved proposed bylaw amendments to the convention;
- Recommended that an LWML Board of Directors Structure Task Force be appointed by the LWML President; and
- Assisted with development and approval of primary targets for the 2013-2015 biennium.

A Word of Thanks from the President

Brothers and sisters, we ask you to show your appreciation for those leaders who work among you and instruct you. We ask you to love them and think very highly of them because of the work they are doing. Live in peace with each other (1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 GW).

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) has been blessed with thousands of “ordinary” women serving as extraordinary servant leaders diligently giving of their time and talent in service to their Lord. It is with thankful hearts that the LWML Board of Directors thanks each woman of the LWML for your dedicated service. The LWML will continue to see the growth and fruits of the harvest of the seeds you have sown for generations to come.

We especially thank the following elected officers for their devotion to the LWML for the past four years as they carried out the duties of their offices:

Vice President of Organizational Resources Carolyn Blum
Vice President of Special Focus Ministries Pat Reichert
Treasurer Lois Anderson
Pastoral Counselor Rev. John Heckmann

Our Lord has blessed the LWML with two-year appointed officers who have served with commitment:

Meeting Manager Marie Chow
Public Relations Director Debbie Larson
Strategic Plan Facilitator Shari Miller

On behalf of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, we offer our sincere thanks to each elected officer, pastoral counselor, appointed officer, special appointed personnel, committee member, task force member, woman, and man in mission throughout the world, and all who have so faithfully served in His name. God has richly blessed the LWML with willing volunteers who trust Him to equip them to share His love. All praise, honor, and glory be to Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen!
Elected Officer Reports

VICE PRESIDENT OF CHRISTIAN LIFE – Eden Keefe

Thanks be to God for the opportunity to serve the Lord and His people through the LWML! The past two years have been quite a learning experience – filled with challenges and rewards. Words cannot express the admiration I have for the women and men associated with this organization, nor the gratitude to a loving Savior who entrusts us with His work and equips us for the task.

As coordinator of the Christian Life Department, I supervised the work of the Christian Life and Christian Resources Editors Committees and the Mustard Seeds Task Force. It was an honor to work with these dedicated chairmen and members and receive support from the Information Technology Committee, the graphic artists, the LWML staff, and the Executive Committee, as products and resources came to fruition. Throughout my first two years of my term I reviewed numerous materials submitted for publication, worked with contracts, and facilitated posting of resources on the LWML website and the distribution of Christian Life email newsletters.

As Vice President, I attended meetings of the Executive Committee, Board of Directors, Interdepartmental, and Information Technology training classes. In addition to general activities of this office, I served on the Brand Project Task Force, Development/Advancement Committee, Governance Committee, Visioning Committee, and ad hoc Today’s Light® Bible Task Force. I was also privileged to attend the 2014 National Rural & Small Town Mission Conference, the 2015 ALDE Conference, a joint meeting with the LCMS Office of National Missions, and six district conventions.

Nurturing Faith in Christ
• Was blessed by faithful worship and Bible classes, prayer time, personal devotions, and journaling;
• Led women’s Bible studies using LWML materials;
• Prepared devotions and prayers for LWML meetings; and
• Coordinated with Rev. Bernhard Seter and Rev. Kristopher Whitby on LWML Prayer Services.

Sharing Encouragement
• Shared The Time is NOW presentation at four district conventions;
• Met with Young Woman Representatives and district board members, when able, at district conventions;
• Supported committee work as committee members reviewed submissions and prepared resources and products;
• Provided encouragement to four district presidents, an LWML prayer partner, fellow EC committee members, and LWML staff; and
• Wrote articles for the LWML home page and 2-Minute Tuesday emails.

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 LWML and Carolinas District mission goals; and
• Engaged in mission service.

Women of all ages and cultures have gifts to share. Use these women … involve them in your special projects … listen to them … encourage them!
Elected Officer Reports

VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATION – Nancy Bogenhagen

It is a blessed experience to work with the wonderful sisters and brothers in Christ of the LWML Executive Committee (EC) as we strive to meet the primary targets for the 2013-2015 biennium: Nurturing Faith in Christ, Sharing Encouragement, and Making our Mission Meaningful. May all Lutheran Women in Mission be enabled to grow in faith and mature in God’s grace, equipped to be joyful servants to His glory!

My sincere thanks and appreciation to the members of the Information Technology Committee for exceptional technology skills shared, to the Official Publication Staff for meaningful and quality issues of the Lutheran Woman’s Quarterly, and to the Graphics Team for sharing their artistic skills in making attractive LWML resources. I thank each of them for their joyful servant hearts!

As an elected member, I attended Executive Committee, Board of Directors, Interdepartmental, and special assignment committee and task force meetings and served on minutes review for these meetings as assigned. It was my privilege to represent LWML at the Utah-Idaho, Iowa West, Nebraska North, and Florida-Georgia district conventions and to join fellow EC members in special meetings with LCMS leaders. I responded to numerous communications addressed to this office.

Specific activities as they relate to the primary targets:

Nurturing Faith in Christ:
• Participate in daily devotions, regular Divine Service attendance, EC Bible studies, The LWML Facebook Bible study, and EC weekly prayer time; and
• In prayer with my heavenly Father for wisdom, strength, peace, comfort, and guidance.

Sharing Encouragement:
• Wrote article for 2-Minute Tuesday, articles for website home page, devotions, and prayers for EC meetings;
• Proofed issues of the Lutheran Woman’s Quarterly;
• Reviewed The LWML Facebook and Twitter proposed posts; monitored activity on our pages;
• Corresponded with District President mentees; and
• Provided oversight of website and its contents and leadership in using LWML technology.

Making our Mission Meaningful:
• Provided updated Personnel Directories of LWML Committee/Task Force/ Special Team members, Special Appointed Personnel, Committee Chairmen, District Presidents, and Executive Committee members;
• Participated in Security Awareness Training and provided oversight of PCI Compliance for LWML;
• Oversaw updates for the LWML Style Sheet; and
• Oversaw online shopping cart and website transitions.

Special Assignments:
• Member, Development/Advancement Committee;
• Member, Visioning Committee;
• Member, purePR/Brand Project Task Force; and
• Member, Website Design Team.

I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand (Isaiah 41:10b).
Nurturing Faith in Christ
- Daily devotions and prayer with Portals of Prayer, Mustard Seed devotions, and Today’s Light®;
- Weekly worship and Bible study classes on Tuesdays and Sundays;
- Participated in special Women’s Bible Study using Pew Sisters;
- Attended two women’s retreats; and
- Participated in Sunday evening prayers with the EC via WebEx.

Sharing Encouragement
- Prepared devotions and prayers for EC, BOD, Convention Programming Committee, and Mission Grants Selection meetings;
- Represented LWML at California-Nevada-Hawaii, Iowa East, North Dakota, and Michigan district conventions;
- Encouraged Gospel Outreach, Mission Grants, and Mission Servants Committees to reach for exceptional goals;
- Speaker at society meetings and six fall Zone Rallies within Central Illinois District;
- Encouraged and aided women to take mission trips; and
- Wrote 2-Minute Tuesday and homepage articles.

Making our Mission Meaningful
- Served on Governance, Business Task Force, Visioning, and Convention Programming Committees;
- Serve as District Bylaws Chairman for Central Illinois District;
- Became LERT-certified and renewed CPR/AED certification;
- Serve on Rock Island Circuit Hispanic Council, local LWML, choir, and bell choir;
- Served in LWML Office for Office/Store Assessment;
- Processed paperwork, wrote letters, and distributed checks for mission grants;
- Worked with Information Technology Committee on electronic submission of mission grants;
- Received, processed, and evaluated 65 mission grant proposals;
- Prepared agenda, made assignments, and invited LCMS executives to Mission Grants Selection meeting;
- Advised mission grant proposal submitters of the status of their proposal; and
- Prepared Mission Grants ballot for convention.

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).
Elected Officer Reports

VICE PRESIDENT OF ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES – Carolyn Blum

Part of the joy of serving the Lord through the LWML is having the privilege of working with my sisters and brothers in Christ who display a great array of gifts and talents. But anything good that is accomplished is necessarily attributed to God who works according to His plan. Basking in the glow of seeing God in action through us is a beautiful experience! I humbly thank God every day for the privilege of being His servant in the LWML.

As a member of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors, I attended all meetings, handled correspondence, and completed special assignments. As coordinator of the Department of Organizational Resources, I supervised the work of the HOPE Committee, the Leader Development Committee, and the Structure Committee, reviewing and editing documents/articles and PowerPoint presentations, and providing encouragement and assistance. I thank each committee member for her excellent work and the opportunity to learn from her.

Activities as they relate to the LWML primary targets:

Nurturing Faith in Christ
- Studied God’s Word privately, with my church family, and at Concordia University Wisconsin Bible Institute;
- Worshiped, communed, participated in my church choir, read daily devotions, and joined Facebook study;
- Attended society, zone, and district LWML and LCMS Bible studies, retreats, rallies, and H2H Sister events;
- Prepared devotions for meetings, the LWML website homepage, 2-Minute Tuesday emails, Lutheran Woman’s Quarterly, and the LWML 2015-2017 Planner;
- Shared God’s love with Family Promise attendees and residents at Bethesda Lutheran Communities; and
- Prayed for, and with, LWML friends; missionaries; missions; mites; family members; and personal friends.

Sharing Encouragement
- Represented the Executive Committee at the Central Illinois, English, Ohio, and Southern Illinois district LWML conventions; led break-out sessions, and met with Young Woman Representatives;
- Sponsored underprivileged children in Guatemala and Bolivia;
- Attended Women’s Leadership Institute Conference and Lutheran Indian Ministries luncheon/meeting;
- Participated in Lutheran Hour Ministries’ Rural & Small Town Conference in Kansas City and drafted a proposed training session;
- Participated in two special LWML/LCMS collaboration meetings;
- Mentored several district presidents and an LWML vice president;
- Consulted with several LWML societies, suggesting changes to involve more women in the mission and ministry of the LWML and to start new LWML groups; and
- assisted with many website resource inquiries.

Making our Mission Meaningful
- Shared information on mites and mission grants with congregation members;
- Coordinated revision of the LWML Handbook and the LWML Leaders Manual;
- Served as compiler for the 2013 convention feedback;
- Served as Parish Media Team Coordinator at my church;
- Participated in Food Pantry and Giving Tree;
- Served as Vision Sunday Director and photographer for my church’s capital campaign;
- Witnessed to friends, family, people in stores and on airplanes, and service people in my home; and
- Witnessed to the ill, lonely, and bereaved with greeting cards, calls, personal contact, and emails.

Special Assignments
- Visioning Committee member;
- Governance Committee member;
- Interdepartmental Committee member; and
- Brand Project Task Force member.

... they perceived that this work had been accomplished with the help of our God (Nehemiah 6:16b).
Elected Officer Reports

VICE PRESIDENT OF SPECIAL FOCUS MINISTRIES – Pat Reichert

Serving as Vice President of Special Focus Ministries has offered more opportunities for spiritual and personal growth than I could have imagined. I thank God for blessings given and the gifted people He has placed in the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League.

The Special Focus Ministries Department includes the Committee on Young Women, who work to develop resources for young women in the districts and programming at the LWML convention. The Heart to Heart Sisters Committee motivates and equips women of diverse ethnic groups to serve the church and witness to the world. Working with the talented women on both committees has been rewarding as we accomplished much to include more women in the life and work of LWML.

As an elected officer, I attended all meetings, WebEx and face-to-face, of the Executive Committee, Board of Directors, Interdepartmental, and Convention Programming Committee. Normal duties of the office included responding to texts, US mail, email, and phone calls; writing; editing; and duties as assigned by the President.

Specific activities relating to the primary targets include:

Nurturing Faith in Christ
- Actively worshipped, communed and served in my home congregation;
- Daily study of God’s Word in *Today’s Light* ® Bible;
- Daily Mustard Seeds, Lutheran Hour Ministries and *Portals of Prayer* devotions;
- Prayer for Executive Committee, Department of Special Focus Ministries Committees, Board of Directors, all LWML personnel and others on my prayer list;
- Experienced prayer support from all of the above;
- Weekly Sunday prayer time with Executive Committee; and
- Prepared devotions and prayers for meetings as requested.

Sharing Encouragement
- Edited submissions for *Impressions* newsletter, Heart to Heart and Committee on Young Women website pages, devotions, PowerPoints, and all other products and material produced by these committees;
- Encouraged Special Focus Ministries Department Committee Chairmen to write an article for the website homepage and 2-Minute Tuesday;
- Participated in Heart to Heart Sisters and Young Woman Representative Facebook pages;
- Coordinated large group mailings for both committees;
- Kept in contact with District President mentees;
- Met with Young Woman Representatives at District Conventions;
- Coordinated production of the new Heart to Heart banner;
- Coordinated registration, housing and programming for Heart to Heart District Leaders and Sisters;
- Coordinated the work of the Convention Programming Committee; and
- Encouraged women in my congregation to read and use the *Lutheran Woman’s Quarterly*.

Making Our Mission Meaningful
- Wrote feature articles for website homepage as scheduled;
- Privileged to attend the collaboration meeting with LCMS Mission personnel;
- Edited Heart to Heart and Committee on Young Women presentations for this convention;
- Blessed to be the Executive Committee Representative at LWML Carolinas, Kansas, Minnesota South and Wyoming Conventions;
- Found donors for, organized, and delivered Christmas gifts for Center for New Americans clients arriving in Sioux Falls during the six months before Christmas;
- Served as President of Lydia Circle, LWML Board member and Altar Society member at my congregation;
- Served on LWML Business Practices Task Force; and
- Served as Chairman of the 2015 Convention Programming Committee.

Delight yourself in the Lord; and He will give you the desires of your heart. Psalm 37: 4


Elected Officer Reports

RECORDING SECRETARY – Joy Dougherty

What a blessing it has been for me to serve as your Recording Secretary during the past biennium! I anticipated a very rewarding time in office, but my experiences have exceeded my expectations. I am abounding in thanksgiving for the privilege of serving in this position with such dedicated women of faith on the Executive Committee (EC). Attending conventions in the New England, South Dakota, and Nebraska South districts as the EC representative was a highpoint of my time in office. We are all one in the Lord, but He has gifted us to serve Him in many different ways, which became apparent to me among the talented women I met in these districts.

My primary responsibility when attending all Executive Committee (EC) and Board of Directors (BOD) meetings was to take complete minutes, which has been both challenging and gratifying. During the past two years, I also served as chair of the Governance Committee and member of the Interdepartmental Committee, Business Practices Task Force, and Planned Giving Council.

Other activities as they relate to the LWML primary targets for the biennium:

Nurturing Faith in Christ

- Attended Sunday morning worship and commended regularly;
- Was nurtured by the Word daily by reading *Today’s Light* ® Bible, Mustard Seed devotions, and Lutheran Hour Ministries devotions;
- Prepared several devotions for EC meetings, and read several devotional books for EC discussion; and
- Prayed daily for our Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and others who requested prayers.

Making our Mission Meaningful

- Prepared for meetings by reading and studying all reports of the EC and BOD;
- As Governance Committee chair, supervised the revision of the Operating Policies of the Executive Committee and the Standing Policies of the Board of Directors into policies and procedures;
- Requested and proofed reports for the 2015 Convention Manual, asked district presidents to complete statistical forms for the Convention Manual, and completed all convention duties assigned to me;
- Participated with all EC members in a dialogue with LCMS department personnel in August 2014 in St. Louis;
- Attended a training event for Gift Planning Advocates and Supporters in St. Louis in March 2014;
- Was a representative of the Planned Giving Council (PGC) at the Association of Lutheran Development Executives (ALDE) conference in Jacksonville, Florida, in February 2014; and
- Represented the EC at the Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) Sent Conference in July 2014.

Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving (Col. 2:6-7).
Elected Officer Reports

TREASURER – Lois Anderson

Serving as your Treasurer for the past four years has given me memories to last a lifetime! I thank God for giving me this joyful experience and the opportunity to learn and grow as a servant leader. By His words in Isaiah, God has guided me through the work He had planned for me to do to extend His kingdom. I was blessed to prepare and offer reports to keep our membership informed of the mite offerings each month. Visiting other district conventions was one of the highlights of my service on the Executive Committee. I saw God working through many women as they worshipped, prayed, studied God’s Word, and were in fellowship with each other. We are not working alone; He is working through each of us to bring His Good News of salvation to the world.

As an elected officer, I attended all meetings of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors, four district conventions: Eastern, South and North Wisconsin, and Chesapeake. Duties also included being the chair of the Interdepartmental, Finance, and Investment Committees; recording secretary of the Business Practices Task Force and Planned Giving Council; and member of the Development/Advancement Committee.

Specific activities as they relate to LWML primary targets include:

Nurturing Faith in Christ
• Worshipped, communed, and attended Bible class regularly;
• Meditated daily on God’s Word provided by Today’s Light® Bible; and
• Prayed for the Executive Committee, Board of Directors, for district treasurers’ concerns, and for God to guide the work He wants us to do.

Sharing Encouragement
• Shared the mission of the LWML with women in my congregation, zone, and district and encouraged them to use their talents and serve as they are needed;
• Gave news of grants being supported by our mites through the monthly newsletter, Treasured News;
• Wrote a 2-Minute Tuesday article;
• Arranged a gathering of all district treasurers for this convention to share fellowship time with each other;
• Wrote many thank-you notes to donors for supporting the mission of the LWML; and
• Participated in local, zone, and district events; served on the zone and district boards.

Making our Mission Meaningful
• Reconciled monthly mite contributions and posted mite reports on the website;
• Developed new page on website, “Financial Officer Resources,” to help all LWML financial officers;
• Established and monitored other methods of contributing to LWML: PayPal, Thrivent Choice Dollars®, Joyful Response®, Goodsearch, and AmazonSmile;
• Reviewed all expense vouchers from Board of Directors’ members and submitted them to President Kreklau for approval;
• Served as a Gift Planning Advocate for the Utah-Idaho District and arranged visits for the Gifts of Love Ministry Counselor;
• Gathered convention resolutions from district presidents to be presented to the Board of Directors; and
• Accepted the appointment as the 2017 Salt Lake City Convention Host Committee Chair.

fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand (Isaiah 41:10).
Elected Officer Reports

SENIOR PASTORAL COUNSELOR – Rev. John Heckmann

With a heavy heart, I conclude four of the most exciting years of my life. Working with the ladies of the LWML on all levels is one of the highest highlights of my ministry. The enthusiasm with which you carry out the Great Commission is a joy to behold, as is seen in your eagerness to get out there in our heavenly Father’s harvest field to sow the seed of His Word, to nourish that seed, and ultimately, when God gives that glorious opportunity, to reap what we have sown through the power of the Holy Spirit, or to be blessed to reap what others have sown and nourished. Even if you personally never have the opportunity to reap what has been sown, you continue to sow and nourish, knowing that God promises a bountiful harvest.

So, as I am told I have to leave office (I can’t hang on like a bad dream), I thank you for the teaching, mentoring, love, compassion, support, and countless other blessings you have shared with me. What is incredible to behold is how all of these blessings from the hand of God are so easily shared among the women and men of the LWML. What a testimony that is to those who look at us to know that we take to heart among ourselves and even with those who do not yet know Jesus Christ as their Savior, the words of 1 Peter 4:8-11, 8 Above all, love each other warmly, because love covers many sins. 9 Welcome each other as guests without complaining. 10 Each of you as a good manager must use the gift that God has given you to serve others. 11 Whoever speaks must speak God’s words. Whoever serves must serve with the strength God supplies so that in every way God receives glory through Jesus Christ. Glory and power belong to Jesus Christ forever and ever! Amen.

As we have travelled together through many highs and lows, our heavenly Father has been right beside us to grow us into a very closely knit group of believers with one goal in mind, to be used by God wherever and whenever He has need of us to bring the lost and the erring into eternal fellowship with Him. That is a picture of your life as well as a worker in His harvest field.

I could now list all of these things we have done together, but I won’t. Just allow me to copy from St. Paul and share these parting words of encouragement; 11And now, my friends, good-bye! Strive for perfection; listen to my appeals; agree with one another; live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you. 12 Greet one another with the kiss of peace. 13 All of God’s people send you their greetings. 14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all (2 Corinthians 13:11-14).
Elected Officer Reports

JUNIOR PASTORAL COUNSELOR – Rev. Dr. Robert M. Roegner

What a joy it has been to serve you as your Junior 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 producing 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.

You would think that as a busy pastor and missionary in the St. Louis, Missouri, area, taking my time and my energy to serve the LWML would be challenging. Not so! As a matter of fact, 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...” You recognize the task ... you rely on your qualifications as Baptized children of God ... and you take on your responsibility to engage in God's mission through your support of mission grants by the giving of your mites! It doesn't get any better for me than that as your Pastoral Counselor.

Finally, my vision for you this past biennium as well as for the next two years, is that you, the women of the LWML are empowered to be the mission leaders of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. As LWML women, you have competence ... knowing you can do this and are always growing; you have community ... seeing yourselves as a group with a common purpose; you have significance ... knowing that you are making a difference; and you have joy ... in celebrating your competence, community, and significance!

May God richly bless you during these days in Des Moines and beyond as you serve Him in His Kingdom work wherever He calls you to go as Lutheran Women in Mission!

Be a local missionary – get your group involved in something like Project Eyeglasses! Help sort eyeglasses that can be used or recycled for distribution during mission trips. Think of other ways to be involved in missions. Ask your sister in Christ to join you.
Appointed Officer Reports

MEETING MANAGER – Marie Chow

What a pleasure and privilege it has been to serve as the LWML Meeting Manager for the 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 thank and praise God for this wonderful opportunity. It has been a blessing to serve Him with the women and men that I have worked with in LWML.

General activities of the office were performed as required, including responding to correspondence, faxes, email, US 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;
- Attended weekly Sunday prayer time with the Executive Committee as much as possible; and
- 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; and
- 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 President for payment of all meeting billing;
- Monitored travel and meeting expenses;
- Chaired Convention Site Committee;
- Chaired Business Practices Task Force;
- Served as a member of the 2013 and 2014 Interdepartmental Committee;
- Sent and managed travel memo and Acknowledgment and Release forms for all meetings;
- Presented information for district presidents during the District Presidents meeting in January 2015;
- Initiated planning for 2014 and 2015 meetings;
- Set up and hosted most of the Executive Committee WebEx meetings;
- As directed by the President, set up and hosted district presidents WebEx meetings with the President;
- Reviewed documents as requested;
- Arranged lodging and meeting support for Archivist Boot Camp in St. Louis, Missouri;
- Arranged travel, lodging, catering, and meeting support for:
  - Six Executive Committee meetings in St. Louis, Missouri, and Des Moines, Iowa;
  - Three Board of Directors meetings in St. Louis, Missouri, and Des Moines, Iowa;
  - Six Convention Programming Committee meetings in St. Louis, Missouri, and Des Moines, Iowa;
  - Nominating Committee meeting in St. Louis, Missouri;
  - Convention Site Committee meeting in St. Louis, Missouri;
  - Mission Grants Selection Committee meeting in St. Louis, Missouri;
  - Two Gifts of Love Ministry Team Training meetings in St. Louis, Missouri; and
  - 2015 LWML Convention, Des Moines, Iowa.

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).
Appointed Officer Reports

PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR – Debbie Larson

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

Tuesday articles, sketches, Bulletin Bytes, and Facebook posts;
• Wrote or updated EC biographies, LWML Past Presidents’ biographies, and biographies for all convention personalities. Wrote letters to each officer’s and committee member’s congregations, sharing the news of their elections/appointments;
• Arranged for design/printing/production of Des Moines postcard, Mission Grant prayer cards, LWML Sunday resources, annual President’s appeal letter, Mite Marathon flyers, Mite Challenge flyers, Report to the Districts, The Time is NOW pledge cards, business cards, and product order forms;
• Worked with videographer on The Time is NOW Presidents’ video for LWML district conventions, and again expanding it for LWML Sunday;
• Communicated with Marketing Team as they assisted with various programs and promotions of the LWML; and
• Coordinated 2014 and 2015 LWML Sundays.

Making our Mission Meaningful
• Corresponded with the President, officers, and LCMS entities as needed;
• Edited and proofed articles, prepared PowerPoint presentations, prayers, devotions, and reports for meetings, replied to requests for use of LWML logo;
• Represented LWML at two LWML District Conventions; participated in two additional District Conventions;
• Participated in The Time is NOW presentations for five districts and the LCMS/LWML Forum on collaboration;
• participated in assessment of product/resources in the LWML Office and warehouse;
• Exhibited and attended the LCMS Synodical Convention, the Women's Leadership Institute (WLI) Conference, and the Rural and Small Town Ministry Conference;
• Arranged for exhibits/volunteers for the Black Ministry Family Convocation and the Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) SENT Conference;
• Selected and approved new promotional items for the LWML Store;
• Scheduled photographer as requested and took photos at events as needed;
• Served on the Convention Programming Committee (CPC), Interdepartmental (ID) Committee, the Brand Project Task Force, and the Website Design Team, completing all assignments;
• Served as Chairman of the Development/Advancement Committee;
• Collaborated with LCMS in coordinating an LWML One Day Emphasis scheduled for January 25, 2015;
• Attended regular and WebEx meetings of EC, CPC, ID, Development/Advancement, and Marketing Team. Attended all BOD meetings, The Time is NOW presentations, LCMS President’s Leadership Conference, LCMS Collaboration Forum, four LWML District Conventions.

Nurturing Faith in Christ
• Continued in daily Bible study and prayer;
• Participated in weekly prayer with Executive Committee (EC);
• Prepared devotions for EC and Board of Directors (BOD) meetings;
• Attended my LWML District and Zone events as allowed;
• served as District Recording Secretary through June 2014; and
• Attended three weekly Bible studies, served on congregation’s board of education, regularly worshiped, and taught Sunday school.

Sharing Encouragement
• Issued LWML news releases and eNews;
• Arranged several visits to mission grant recipients and interviews with KFUO as requested;
• Wrote text for the Lutheran Woman’s Quarterly “Shop LWML” page and website, including the “Church Workers in Mission” Web page and the “Pray 9@9 … or anytime” Web page;
• Authored Home Page and 2-Minute
Appointed Officer Reports

STRATEGIC PLAN FACILITATOR – Shari Miller

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the Lord and the LWML in the position of Strategic Plan Facilitator. I consider it a privilege to have been the custodian of the mission and vision of the LWML. I have supervised the products and programs of this amazing organization during the last biennium. I give thanks and praise to the wonderful women and men on all our committees who have contributed so much of their time and energy, as together we serve our Lord through the LWML!

The Time is NOW to intentionally look for opportunities to welcome the women in our lives to grow in faith and relationships as sisters in Christ. I thank God for the privilege of observing the joy of being a part of the LWML acted out in the lives of women and men throughout the LWML. It has been an honor to oversee The Time is NOW initiative within the LWML as we look to the future!

General activities of the office were performed as required, including responding to/filing correspondence, emails, texts, and telephone calls.

Nurturing Faith in Christ
• Participate in worship weekly and in Sunday morning adult Bible study;
• Lead a women’s Bible study twice a month;
• Read Today’s Light* and Mustard Seed devotions daily;
• Submitted Bible studies for the Quarterly;
• Prepared devotions for Executive Committee (EC), Interdepartmental (ID), and Board of Directors (BOD) meetings.

Sharing Encouragement
• Chaired the Visioning Committee of the EC;
• Chaired the Brand Project Task Force of the EC;
• Member of the LWML Interdepartmental 2013 and 2014 Committees and completed all necessary duties;
• Member and secretary of the Convention Programming Committee;
• Member of the Web Design Team;
• Completed my duties as LWML Montana District Nominating Committee Chairman and currently serve as Structure Committee Chairman;
• Pray daily for members of the EC, LWML Board of Directors, and national LWML committee members; and
• Participated in weekly prayer with the EC by WebEx.

Making Our Mission Meaningful
• Reviewed numerous LWML articles, news releases, and products;
• Updated product forms for committees; reviewed and approved committee products/programs;
• Served as Acting Recording Secretary as appointed for the EC and BOD;
• Developed and led four Women’s Events in my home congregation;
• Wrote articles, letters, presentations, and scripts at the direction of the President;
• Led singing at all EC and BOD meetings;
• Teach seventh grade confirmation class weekly; and
• Participate musically in worship services – children’s choir director, adult choir director, organist, and pianist.

Meetings Attended
• All 2013-2015 EC and BOD;
• Interdepartmental 2013 and 2014;
• Convention Programming Committee;
• Brand Project Task Force;
• Web Design Team;
• The Time is NOW target LWML district visits to Oklahoma, California-Nevada-Hawaii, Atlantic, Texas, Nebraska North, and Nebraska South;
• LWML Representative at LWML Atlantic and Texas District Conventions;
• LWML Kansas District Leadership Training Event;
• LCMS/LWML Joint Meeting;
• LCMS National Rural and Small Town Mission Conference 2014; and
• LWML Mission Grants Selection Committee (observation only).

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans... to give you a future and a hope (Jeremiah 29:11).
Special Committee Reports

NOMINATING COMMITTEE
– Rae Ann Spitzenberger, Chairman

The 2013–15 Nominating Committee was elected at the 2013 Convention in Pittsburgh for the purpose of preparing a slate of qualified candidates for the 2015 Convention in Des Moines, Iowa. What an awesome, prayer-filled experience we had with God as our guide! We are thankful for all those who submitted nominations, encouraged the nominees, and kept our committee in prayer.

In October 2014, the committee met in St. Louis, supported by our faithful pastoral counselor, Rev. John Heckmann. 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 2015 issue of the Lutheran Woman’s Quarterly. The list of candidates with more detailed biographies are provided in this manual.

The members of the Nominating Committee would like to thank all of the women and pastors willing to submit their names for an elected position. We gratefully acknowledge the prayers, support, and encouragement we received from our fellow LWML sisters in Christ, and we are honored to have had this opportunity to serve God and the LWML in this capacity.

It is our prayer that God will bless the convention delegates and guide them through the election process. To those elected, may He bless you richly as you serve Him through an elected LWML position. To those not elected, we look forward to seeing the exciting avenues the Lord opens up for you to serve Him with your special gifts and talents.

Rae Ann Spitzenberger (Chairman), Sharon Goertzen, Carli Zygowicz, Leslie Jaseph, Jennifer Huecker

Special Appointed Personnel Reports

ARCHIVIST-HISTORIAN – Barbara Huggins

My twofold goal over this biennium has been to work on all boxes to be interfiled and to promptly file materials as they are received.

• Filed Past President boxes for Virginia Von Seggern and Janice Wendorf;
• Prepared report for and attended the Board of Directors meeting on January 30 - February 1, 2015;
• Filed reports from District Archivists as they were received;
• Answered requests for information from districts and members of the Board;
• Worked with staff of Concordia Historical Institute, President Kay Kreklau, and Meeting Manager Marie Chow on materials for the Archivist Boot Camp;
• Trained 11 District Archivists at the Archivist Boot Camp held at Concordia Historical Institute on January 27–29, 2015; and
• Filed materials received from Convention Programming Committee and Vice President of Gospel Outreach, and research materials for the books written by Marlys Taege Moberg.

I remember the days of old: I meditate on all that Thou hast done (Ps 143:5).
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, “Bountiful! Sow • Nourish • Reap.” It is my prayer that God will bless all who attend this 36th Biennial LWML Convention. May they return home fed by God’s Word and Sacrament, nurtured through worship and fellowship, and equipped to sow, nourish, and reap in the Father’s field. It is hoped, that through Christ’s bountiful love and blessings of Word and Sacraments, they are equipped by the Holy Spirit to work in the Father’s harvest field 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 Des Moines Host Committee attending all their meetings and working closely with the Host Committee Chairman, Marilyn Schroeder;
- 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;
- Served on the 2021 Convention Site Committee;
- Assisted in reviewing and fine tuning the convention site application process;
- Served as the LWML contact with the Iowa Events Center;
- Prepared the convention budget in consultation with the Treasurer and presented to the Finance Committee;
- Carried out all convention contracts following negotiation by Site Selection Solutions and the Contracts Administrator;
- 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;
- Supplied and monitored the District Charter Buses Housing blocks at numerous LWML contracted hotels;
- Assisted speakers, special guests, and staff with their convention arrangements;
- Coordinated the LWML room block at the Des Moines Mariott Downtown hotel with the Meeting Manager;
- Prepared expense vouchers for all convention invoices to be paid; and
- Maintain professional membership in the Religious Conference Management Association and attended two annual conferences.

And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work (2 Corinthians 9:8 NIV).
REPORT OF THE PARLIAMENTARIAN – Barbara Volk

The purpose of the Parliamentarian is to advise on parliamentary procedure on request and to serve as an ex-officio member of the Structure Committee. Serving as Parliamentarian for the LWML has been a joy and an honor. I thank God for this opportunity and for the many women and men I have had the pleasure of working with throughout the biennium.

General activities of the office were performed as required, including responding to/filing correspondence, email, telephone calls, and attending Interdepartmental and Board of Directors Meetings.

Specific activities included:
- Presenting prayers and devotions at meetings as assigned;
- Serving as Parliamentarian for meetings of the Board of Directors and convention;
- Answering parliamentary questions from LWML officers and districts;
- Presenting a program to the District Presidents at the January 2015 Board of Directors meeting on their duties and responsibilities as members of the Board;
- Preparing a 2-Minute Tuesday for November 25, 2014;
- Serving as chairman of a special committee on nominating committee policies;
- Participating in WebEx training;
- Serving as advisory member of the LWML Structure Committee;
- Reviewing the revision of the LWML Handbook;
- Reviewing the LWML Bylaws for amendment at the 2015 Des Moines convention;
- Assisting the Structure Committee with a booth at the 2015 Des Moines convention;
- Reviewing proposed district bylaws amendments;
- Serving as parliamentarian of the LWML Carolinas District; and
- Being blessed as part of a mission trip to Laotchikit, Haiti, and two Mercy Medical Missions to Madagascar.

Meetings attended:
- Interdepartmental Meeting, October 24-26, 2013, St. Louis, Missouri;
- Board of Directors Meeting, February 7-9, 2014, St. Louis, Missouri;
- LWML Carolinas District Convention, September 19-20, 2014, Fort Mill, South Carolina;
- Interdepartmental Meeting, October 23-26, 2014, St. Louis, Missouri;
- Board of Directors Meeting, January 29-February 1, 2015, St. Louis, Missouri;
- Board of Directors Meeting, June 23-25, 2015; and

Give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted. (Isaiah 52:4).

Make a joyful noise to the Lord! Make noise by encouraging everyone (young and old) to put their mites into a purple metal bucket … what a noise, perhaps heard around the world!
Standing Committee Reports

CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMITTEE – Kaye Cairns, Chairman

The purpose of this committee is to provide materials and programs for spiritual growth to enable women to find guidance and encouragement, to be nurtured in their faith in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit as each woman discovers her unique gifts and value in God’s family.

Objectives which were met in this biennium:
- To guide and encourage each woman to recognize her value;
- To equip women with ways to foster relationships with sisters in Christ; and
- To enable each woman to discover and use her gifts in ministry.

Resources Completed:
- CALL (Connecting All LWML Leaders) newsletter sent to our Christian Life Counterparts/District Presidents monthly from the Christian Life Committee;
- Gifts, Chosen For You – Bible study reflections on spiritual gifts using examples of women of the Bible and then tying their journey to our personal journey and how we might use the gifts given to us, authored by Cheryl Matril; and
- A Sparrow’s Worth – A journaling journey through Scripture about our value and worth as dearly-loved daughters in Christ, authored by Donna Pyle.

Committee Activities:
Reviewing and editing submitted manuscripts; attending LWML Board of Directors Meetings; preparing for and attending Interdepartmental Meetings; many email conversations; and assisting with the preparation and presentation of the Christian Life Department’s convention booth.

We are grateful for the guidance and encouragement from the Department Coordinator, Vice President of Christian Life Eden Keefe, and Senior Pastoral Counselor Rev. John Heckmann. Serving on this committee has been a rich and fulfilling blessing and we thank our Lord for the opportunity.

Kaye Cairns (Chairman), Saron Yohannes, Cheryl Hamil

Intentionally be in God’s Word at every gathering with your sisters in Christ – try out a devotion, use a Bible study, or share a Mustard Seed.
Standing Committee Reports

CHRISTIAN RESOURCES EDITORS – Carol Schmidt, Chairman

The purpose of the Christian Resources Editors Committee is to review and update current program helps, solicit authors to produce additional program helps, and produce a two-year meeting guide that provides programming ideas and helps promote growth in faith and relationships with sisters in Christ.

Objectives

- To assist LWML women in planning meaningful, God-pleasing meetings as well as other relevant gatherings;
- To provide accessible group materials for spiritual growth, mostly in digital format; and
- To provide new material for group spiritual growth.

Activities

- Attended Fall 2013 and Fall 2014 Interdepartmental Meetings;
- Attended and prepared materials for the 2013 and 2014 Board of Directors meetings as the chairman;
- Selected a devotion to be posted monthly on the LWML Program Helps Web page;
- Gratefully accepted, reviewed, and prepared for distribution more than a dozen new devotions and Bible studies submitted by gifted LWML authors;
- Renamed, planned, edited, reviewed, and facilitated the production of the 2015-2017 reSOURCES for Planning Programs (RPP);
- Under the umbrella of 28 monthly themes, included in RPP are monthly devotions, Bible studies, and periodic sketches, ice breakers from the HOPE Committee, Mission Servants project suggestions from the Mission Servants Committee, references to chosen Mission Grants, and a cover designed by the Graphic Arts Team;
- Secured for RPP willing writers for 28 new devotions, 20 new Bible studies, and four new sketches;
- Helped facilitate the decision to provide newly approved submissions as well as the 2015-2017 reSOURCES for Planning Programs free for downloading/printing on the Program Helps Web page of the LWML website (The RPP is still available for purchase in print from the LWML Store);
- Reviewed for posting on the Program Helps Web page earlier resources available electronically; and
- Participated with the Christian Life Committee and Mustard Seed Task Force in preparing a joint booth area for the 2015 Des Moines Convention.

Grateful thanks to Eden Keefe, Vice President of Christian Life; Shari Miller, Strategic Plan Facilitator; and Rev. John Heckmann, LWML Pastoral Counselor, for their assistance. A special thank you to those who submitted new material and to those who wrote for reSOURCES. May the resources be widely used and a blessing to those who use them.

Carol von Soosten, Carol Schmidt (Chairman),
Karen Blank
Standing Committee Reports

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE – Janet Hurta, Chairman

Purpose Statement: 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.

Review, update, and maintain LWML website
• Resumed daily postings of Mustard Seed e-devotions on the website archive;
• Updated District contacts with interactive map, and updated District website links;
• Worked to make the website compliant with PCI Security Standards;
• Received and compiled Board of Directors (BOD) and District President reports and posted to BOD section of Member Login;
• Responded to webmaster@lwml.org emails, troubleshooting various questions regarding the website on a regular basis.
• Added images for new products in Shop LWML as requested; Shop LWML moved to CPH, November 3, 2014; and
• Assisted in design of new website launched early 2015.

Facilitate LWML presence in social networking
• Experienced growth of LWML’s presence on Facebook through regular posts and inspirational/sharable graphics;
• Established LWML presence on Pinterest, as a way to share and promote Bible study, devotions, and other items of interest to the public and LWML members;
• Established LWML presence on Twitter, providing daily posts to reflect the news and interest of the LWML;
• Developed plans for photo booth at convention, to promote and teach social media skills;
• Disseminate electronically the news of LWML;
• Maintained the RSS feed, which pushes news to social media accounts and to the “What’s New” tab, keeping viewers updated with current news/updates;
• Sent bi-monthly tips and helps in the form of “2-Minute Tuesday” email notes;
• Added daily posts on www.facebook.com/TheLWML and www.twitter.com/TheLWML;
• Maintained archives of eNews, the Lutheran Woman’s Quarterly, and other committee-generated publications and leadership materials; and
• Received, uploaded, and linked Committee, Task Force, and Special Team materials, BOD information, and News Releases, on a regular basis.

“Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing” (1 Thessalonians 5:11).

Delores McGillivray, Wendy Greiner, Nancy Koschmann Seemann, Janet Hurta (Chairman), Allison Baltzersen, Joy Anderson
Standing Committee Reports

Many, Lord my God, are the wonders you have done, the things you have planned for us. None can compare with you; were I to speak and tell of your deeds, they would be too many to declare (Psalm 40:5 NIV).

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 to:

• be a dynamic witness tool for all women;
• connect women with the mission of LWML;
• provide relevant and timely topics for study and discussion; and
• inform women of LWML news at home and throughout the world.

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 Lutheran Woman’s Quarterly (LWQ) staff.

During the 2013–2015 biennium, the LWQ magazine’s fresh look emerged, thanks to the dynamic artistry of Amy Gill, Quarterly graphic designer. The magazine continues to devote its centerfold to mission stories and updates, giving readers an up-close-and-personal look into our grants at work.

The eQuarterly, the digital version of the Lutheran Woman’s Quarterly, continues under the guidance of LWQ Associate Editor Beth Foreman.

Along with articles from the current issue, archives of past issues, Bibles studies (English and Spanish), and study helps, information on how to subscribe to the digital or print edition can be found online at the LWQ home page at www.lwml.org.

The LWQ staff acknowledges Department Coordinator Nancy Bogenhagen and Junior Pastoral Counselor Rev. Dr. Robert Roegner for their invaluable encouragement and counsel as they supported us in our work together.

Associate Editor and Features Editor, Beth Foreman; Bible Study Editor, Sharon Rapp; Christian Living Editor, Sheila Lutz; Mission Editor, Cheri Fish; News Editor, Pam Knepper; and Graphic Designer, Amy Gill.

Nancy Graf Peters, Editor-in-Chief

LWQ themes this biennium:

• “Finally!” [Spring 2014];
• “Life Out of Control” [Summer 2014];
• “Living Forgiven” [Fall 2014];
• “Saying the Right Words” [Winter 2014];
• “Sharing the Faith” [Spring 2015];
• “Tough Stuff” [Summer 2015];
• “Friends=Sisters” [Fall 2015]; and
• “Then Sings My Soul” [Winter 2015].

(Back) Amy Gill, Pam Knepper, Cheri Fish, Sheila Lutz, (Front) Elizabeth Foreman (Associate Editor), Nancy Graf Peters (Editor-in-Chief), Sharon Rapp

He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear the LORD and put their trust in him (Psalm 40:3 NIV).
Standing Committee Reports

GOSPEL OUTREACH COMMITTEE – Sue Pfeil, Chairman

GO LEARN-GO SERVE-GO SHARE
The Gospel Outreach (GO) Committee’s goal is to assist and communicate with women in the pew with resources and encouragements in order that women may easily share their faith in Jesus Christ with those around them.

Have you ever been given an opportunity to share the Gospel and didn't know what to say? Or, have you ever struggled to find the right words that might lead a person to God’s Word? Pray! Pray boldly! Ask God and then depend on Him for direction and help to say the right thing. It is His work, so be patient! There is no need to be afraid. He will help you, even if it is outside your comfort zone.

The Gospel Outreach Committee has supplied some ways to help! A new product called, Women In the Pew-A Simple Guide to Gospel Outreach, is a 52-week perpetual calendar with prayers, Bible verses, and suggested directives for sharing Jesus with others; and it is available at convention. We’ve added Gospel Outreach 101 to the GO Web page on the LWML website, which features short inspirational stories, encouragements, and a place for you, the woman in the pew, to share your outreach stories. Check out the newly redesigned GO Web page for ideas and devotions that can be shared with women in your church.

Come and visit the GO booth at convention and find out how you can personally connect with mission recipients and missionaries through mail, email, and Skype or even meet one or two in person.

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord God is with you wherever you go (Joshua 1:9).

Sue Pfeil (Chairman),
Emily Rogers, Betty Dietrich
Standing Committee Reports

MISSION GRANTS COMMITTEE – Sharon Roegge, Chairman

Our twofold purpose is to review and select mission grant proposals for the Mission Grants ballot and to inform, encourage, challenge, and motivate women to support the mission grant recipients.

Our Committee has strived to help the women in the pew be aware of how to access and use our resources on the website. With our prayers and devotions, we encourage our women to remember our grants in their prayers and to give God the glory for what has been done through our mites. There are many people hurting in our world, and we pray that, through our grants, many will hear the Good News of the Gospel.

The Committee gives thanks and praise for being able to serve the Lord in gladness in selecting the grants for the 2015 ballot. It has been our joy to work together to help others know of the work of the LWML through the love and compassion of all the mission grant recipients.

This biennium the Committee:
• Provided monthly mission grant devotions, stories, prayers, Bulletin Bytes, and Facebook posts for the LWML website;
• Reviewed, evaluated, and prayed over all the submitted grant proposals and met in January 2015 to select the grants to be placed on the ballot for the 2015 Des Moines Convention;
• As part of the Gospel Outreach Department, helped plan and prepare a Gospel Outreach Department exhibit for the 2015 Des Moines Convention;
• Attended two Interdepartmental meetings for planning;
• Stayed in contact via emails, phone, and WebEx with our Vice President, Shelley Moeller;
• Kept in contact with one another via email and WebEx and in prayer for one another;
• Wrote a synopsis for each grant and prepared resolution pages;
• Introduced a “quick reference” for finding information on the LWML website about Mission Grants;
• Wrote two generic mite devotions for the product reSOURCEs for Planning Programs;
• Wrote a devotion for the LWML website homepage; and
• Wrote a post for the LWML 2-minute Tuesday.

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

Jackie Morris, Sally Handrick, Sharon Roegge (Chairman), Henrietta Gordon, Sherrie Rumpeltes
Standing Committee Reports

MISSION SERVANTS COMMITTEE – Katy Gifford, Chairman

Tasks Accomplished
• Made changes to the website to support the Mission Servants in the LWML;
• Submitted Mission Servant ideas for the 2015-17 reSOURCEs for Planning Programs;
• Worked with Des Moines area Recognized Service Organizations receiving Gifts from the Heart at convention;
• Compiled Bible verses and wrote prayers for God’s Grace for Growth, a devotional resource to encourage women as they grow in ways to make them feel fit;
• Compiled a Kit Toolkit available online which includes various care kits to be used for Gifts from the Heart gatherings or service projects; and
• Developed plans for the convention exhibit and the Bountiful Bash - A Party with a Purpose!

Gifts from the Heart
• Interdepartmental Meetings
  2013 – Collected items for Lutheran Family and Children’s Services of Missouri
  2014 – Collected items for Lutheran Family and Children’s Services of Missouri

• Board of Directors Meetings
  2014 – Collected food and hygiene items for Concordia Seminary Food Bank
  2015 – Collected items and gift cards for Acts 1:8 Mission Society’s Little Bit of Haven home

• Convention
  Worked with agencies and organizations in the Des Moines area to find items that would best help their clients and needs; publicized Gifts from the Heart; and developed a plan for the pick-up or delivery of items given at convention as well as a schedule of workers for receiving items from participants and organizing them for shipment.

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).

Take a prayer walk around your neighborhood at your next gathering and pray for your community, local businesses, and first responders. Follow up these “prayer walking” activities with a “We’re praying for you” letter.

Pam Kercher, Katy Gifford (Chairman), Pat Morley
Standing Committee Reports

HOPE COMMITTEE (HELPING ORGANIZATIONS PARTICIPATE EFFECTIVELY) – Kaye Wolff, Chairman

The purpose of the HOPE Committee is:
• To encourage all women to participate in events and activities that offer warm, welcoming opportunities for women to grow in faith and relationships as sisters in Christ; and
• To strengthen current LWML groups, providing resources that facilitate the connection of women and their embodiment of the LWML mission in various ways throughout their congregations.

Objectives set to meet the stated purpose:
• Listen to the needs of the women in the church pew so that we may support, encourage, and prepare them to participate and grow in the mission of the LWML;
• Rewrite the LWML Starter Kit and make it available online;
• Recommend a variety of meeting options that women of all ages will find attractive to their lifestyles;
• Develop and provide periodic resource information to groups by personal invitation; and
• Support and collaborate with our sister committees to grow and create resources.

Committee activities for the biennium:
• Regular phone conferences for committee prayer, planning, and processing;
• Rewrote and published the LWML Starter Kit as an online product;
• Worked with the Graphics Team and the Information Technology Committee to create a new look and new Web page for the LWML Starter Kit;
• Updated the LWML Member Certificate and made it available online;
• Encouraged the collection of email addresses for Zone Presidents so that they may receive firsthand support information from the LWML;
• Submission of Facebook posts;
• Wrote Ice Breaker to be included in the reSOURCEs for Planning Programs for Events for the 2015-17 biennium;
• Designed a plan for the 2015 Convention Booth and Block Party activity; and
• Started the rewrite of Designed for You as LWML 104 to be a PowerPoint presentation.

Glory be to the Triune God for the privilege and blessing to serve Him and His people!

Janet Taylor, Kaye Wolff (Chairman), Carol Walther
Standing Committee Reports

LEADER DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – Sherrie Smith, Chairman

The purpose of the Leader Development Committee is to support and encourage present and future leaders who embrace the embodiment of the mission, service, and fellowship opportunities of LWML.

Committee Objective:
The objective of the Leader Development Committee this biennium was prayerfully chosen at the Interdepartmental Meeting in October 2013: Centered in Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, women will be identified, equipped, and supported as leaders for joyful and fulfilling service in the LWML.

Committee Activities:
• Updated the Follow the Leader newsletter on a quarterly basis;
• Updated the Leader Development Web page on a regular basis;
• Prayed for District LWML Presidents by name;
• Reworked the Time Management resource and offered it as a downloadable resource;
• Reworked the Volunteers in Christ’s Ministry resource (formerly the Recognition Packet) and offered it as a downloadable resource;
• Offered Putting Zest in Your Zone Events (formerly Put Some Zip in Your Zone) as a downloadable resource;
• Collaborated with the Committee on Young Women to offer Does Your LWML Welcome Young Women? as a downloadable resource;
• Organized existing resources on the Leader Development Web page to make them more user-friendly;
• Promoted Leader Development resources through email alerts to the Board of Directors and district Leader Development counterparts;
• Completed other tasks as assigned by Vice President Carolyn Blum;
• Attended the October 2013 and October 2014 Interdepartmental meetings. The chairman attended the 2014 Board of Directors meeting;
• Prepared an interactive display for the 36th Biennial LWML Convention with the theme, Hooked on Leadership.

The members of the Leader Development Committee have enjoyed this opportunity to work together to serve the Lord. We praise God for the work He has accomplished. We are grateful to our Vice President, Carolyn Blum; Strategic Plan Facilitator, Shari Miller; our Pastoral Counselor, Rev. Dr. Robert Roegner; the Graphics Team; our families; and our LWML sisters. It is our prayer that this work will enable women to be identified, equipped, and supported as leaders for joyful service to their Savior.

Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you (Jeremiah 29:12).

Deb Vinkemeier, Sherrie Smith (Chairman), Pat Funk
Structural Committee Reports

**Structure Committee** – Char Kroemer, Chairman

The purpose of the Structure Committee is to keep the LWML Bylaws and related resources flexible while maintaining the legal status of the organization.

**Committee Objectives:**
- To help women seek opportunities to encourage skeptical users of bylaws to realize the benefit of bylaws;
- To encourage women to value and use structure as an aid to better their organization;
- To review and provide guidance for proposed district bylaw amendments;
- To keep the LWML Bylaws and the LWML Handbook current; and
- To provide current resources and information on bylaws and parliamentary procedures.

**Committee Activities:**
- Communicated with district bylaws chairmen and district presidents regarding procedures for the bylaw review process and assisted each district as proposed amendments were presented;
- Maintained the Bylaws Status Chart, tracking the status of district bylaws, and received and filed copies of newly-approved district bylaws following applicable district conventions;
- Responded to numerous questions/concerns with input from the Parliamentarian and Department Coordinator as appropriate;
- Reviewed and revised, where appropriate, the LWML Handbook;
- Reviewed the LWML Bylaws and submitted proposed amendments for the 2015 convention;
- Reviewed and revised the Structure Committee pages on the LWML website;
- Attended the 2013 and 2014 Interdepartmental meetings in St. Louis; the chairman also attended the 2014 and 2015 Board of Directors meetings;
- Looked at revitalizing and re-energizing societies and districts as to how they relate to bylaws, striving to create a more user-friendly look at bylaws; and
- Created and planned an interactive committee booth for the 2015 Des Moines Convention.

Bylaws are fun! We looked at and reviewed bylaws this past biennium with consideration for how they can be a catalyst for strengthening an organization and be used as a tool of flexibility in providing guidance.

The Structure Committee is pleased to have had opportunities to serve our sisters in Christ and recognizes that The Time is NOW to encourage LWML women to “friend” the organization and embrace structure as a healthy resource and tool. We thank Department Coordinator Carolyn Blum for her patience, thoughtful insight, and ongoing encouragement throughout this process. We also thank the LWML districts, their presidents, and their structure committees for their work these past two years. God’s blessings to all.

Bountiful Bylaws Sow Resources which Nourish Members for Reaping Order.

*Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding (Proverbs 3:5).*
Standing Committee Reports

COMMITTEE ON YOUNG WOMEN – Brandi Bucholz, Chairman

The purpose of the Committee on Young Women is to produce and facilitate the Young Woman Representative (YWR) program for the LWML convention and to encourage and mentor younger women to connect and grow in relationships as sisters in Christ.

We thank and praise our Lord for the opportunity to serve on this committee together and for all of the young women He has brought to the LWML. We pray that their hearts and minds may be open to the blessings that the Lord has provided to and through the LWML.

Committee Objectives
• Provide a supportive and educational program for each Young Woman Representative attending the 2015 national convention;
• Encourage and mentor past YWRs through the use of Impressions, the Lutheran Woman’s Quarterly, and social media; and
• Provide support, encouragement, and prayer to districts as they educate younger women about the LWML.

Committee Activities:
• Met at Interdepartmental meetings as well as via Skype to prepare programming for the current YWRs;
• Produced Impressions, a quarterly newsletter designed to bring young women together in Christ through heartfelt stories of YWR convention experiences, devotions, and fun group activities. Impressions also serves as a tool to educate young women about the current mission grants as well as different aspects of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod;
• Submissions were made to the Lutheran Woman’s Quarterly for the Young Woman Page including devotions, prayers, and spotlights of young women active in the LWML;
• A Welcome Kit containing LWML products and devotions was created to serve as a gift to present to new women as they are introduced to the LWML;
• A commercial was produced to highlight the new LWML Welcome Kit;
• A database of all district YWR Coordinators was created;
• Communication was maintained between Committee Chairman and district YWR Coordinators;
• The President of the Concordia University System was contacted about the possibility of each university sending a YWR to the LWML convention; and
• The Young Woman page of the website was updated and given a fresh new look.

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing (1 Thessalonians 5:11).

Tish Mindemann, Brandi Bucholz (Chairman), Carrie Brumbaugh
HEART TO HEART SISTERS COMMITTEE – Margo Dupre, Chairman

The purpose of the Heart to Heart Sisters Committee is to motivate, equip, challenge, and ensure opportunities for women of diverse ethnic groups to participate in LWML, serve the church, witness to the world, and grow in relationships as sisters in Christ and to produce and facilitate the Heart to Heart Sisters program for the LWML Convention.

Our committee expresses sincere appreciation and gratitude to Pat Reichert, Vice President of Special Focus Ministries, for her prayers, patience, and invaluable encouragement, support, and guidance as we focused our efforts on refining elements of the Heart to Heart program.

We have been blessed to serve the LWML in response to our Lord and Savior in developing objectives that directly aligned to the LWML mission statement. The committee worked tirelessly together refining the educational components of the training program through processes of review, consultation, editing, and modifying in an effort to maintain a high-quality, pre-convention training experience.

During the biennium, the Heart to Heart Sisters Committee served in the following ways:

- Consulted, reviewed and created the national Heart to Heart Committee Training Program Operational Manual, which provides clarity for the various positions, roles and responsibilities for both the national committee, extended district level participants, and their expected interaction;
- Identified titles, roles, and responsibilities for each national committee member;
- Collaborated with Information Technology Committee (ITC) graphic artists to incorporate the original H2H logo into official letterhead and developed a promotional banner available for purchase by LWML districts;
- Reviewed the candidate application process and revised documents for both District Leader and Sister team members;
- Reviewed and established in writing, roles and responsibilities of Heart to Heart District Leaders and Sisters;
- Collaborated with ITC to develop two downloadable online PowerPoints and an FAQ document to assist with public sharing of knowledge about the Heart to Heart history and program on the national website;
- Collaborated with ITC to revise the Heart to Heart Web page design on the LWML national website;
- Revised the training manual used at the pre-convention program for Heart to Heart candidates;
- Updated, revised, and reproduced all pre-convention training PowerPoint presentations with narration feature for quality assurance;
- Communicated with District Presidents and developed a special PowerPoint presentation designed to educate about Heart to Heart; and
- Attended the 2014 Black Ministry Convocation in St. Louis, Missouri, to promote the Heart to Heart training program.

Bessie Fick, Margo Dupre (Chairman), Kristi Roegner
Team Reports

GRAPHICS TEAM – Melissa Merker, Coordinator
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 80+ LWML projects;
• Met with committees at Interdepartmental meetings in 2013 and 2014 to brainstorm ideas for visual development of products;
• Designed committee newsletters, social media graphics, devotions, Bible studies, Mission Grant materials, logos, LWML Sunday materials, and product designs;
• Promoted professional look for the organization with committee logos, creating an updated LWML Style Sheet and developed Executive Committee biographies; and
• Provided design for LWML Convention projects and printed materials.

The Graphics Team has joyfully shared their God-given 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.

MARKETING TEAM – Nikki Tyrrell, Coordinator
The purpose of the Marketing Team is to provide support by promoting the programs, products, and services of the LWML.

Using the LWML Mission Statement and our committee’s purpose statement, we have:
• Promoted “Pray 9@9 … or anytime!” on Saturday for 9 minutes at 9 a.m. or anytime!
• Prayed for and encouraged each other and the LWML;
• Worked with the Public Relations (PR) Director to continue the program and communications of Church Workers in Mission;
• Contributed Facebook posts for publication;
• Promoted products and programs including, The Time is NOW, to inspire Bible study, missions, service, participation, and fellowship;
• Planned a fun, educational booth for the convention encouraging all participants to connect with others and share Christ’s love; and
• Carried out duties as requested by the PR Director.

The Marketing Team would like to thank Public Relations Director Debbie Larson for her leadership and guidance and all others in the LWML who faithfully and humbly serve Him with gladness.

Nichelle Dykema, Melissa Merker (Coordinator), Laura Kagemann (not pictured)

Nikki Tyrrell (Coordinator) Elloree Erwin

If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and power for ever and ever. Amen (1 Peter 4:11b NIV).
MUSTARD SEEDS TASK FORCE – Deaconess Betty Knapp, Chairman

[Jesus] said to them, “… For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, … nothing will be impossible for you” (Matthew 17:20).

Mustard Seeds Task Force Purpose

Statement:
The purpose of the Mustard Seeds Task Force is to develop and produce Mustard Seed devotions focused on and relevant to the challenges and issues facing women in today's world and culture.

Committee Objectives and Activities:

Women will be nurtured in faith in Jesus Christ through the scriptural messages of Mustard Seed devotions.

Mustard Seed devotions are available as a daily devotion through the LWML website. Subscriptions increased by nearly 1,000 people during this biennium.

Women will, by sharing the messages of Mustard Seed devotions, challenge themselves to utilize them as a tool to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

Two new sets of Mustard Seed Devotions were produced during this biennium designed specifically as devotions to be given away to those who might need an uplifting message or a word of encouragement:

- **Mustard Seeds for Everyday Celebrations** by Jan Struck and Elaine Bickel, provide uplifting messages for everyday joyous occasions – birthdays, anniversaries, births, family meals, and more;
- **In Times of Need Mustard Seeds** by Rev. Larry Krueger, Rev. Mike Mattil, and Rev. Kristopher Whitby, are devotions filled with encouragement for times of need – bereavement, pain, loneliness, illness – and include the promise of heaven stated with words of warmth and reassurance.

Women will encourage each other in their daily faith walk through reading, meditating, and sharing the messages of Mustard Seed devotions.

Two additional new sets of Mustard Seed Devotions have also been produced for personal devotional use:

- **The Word: Wisdom for Living Mustard Seeds** by Marcia Gomulka and Myrna Lou Meyer share messages of encouragement based on passages from the Bible's wisdom literature;
- **The Race of Faith Mustard Seeds** by Amanda Stacy, DCE, use running analogies which correlate with one's daily walk of faith.

The Mustard Seeds Task Force considers it a great joy to have served the LWML in this capacity. We wish to express our appreciation to Department Coordinator Eden Keefe, Counselor Rev. John Heckmann, and Strategic Plan Facilitator Shari Miller for their encouragement and guidance.

MUSTARD SEEDS TASK FORCE

– Deaconess Betty Knapp, Chairman

BUSINESS PRACTICES TASK FORCE

– Marie Chow, Chairman

The purpose of the Business Practices Task Force is to review the recommendations made by the LWML Business Practices Review Task Force (formerly known as LWML Best Business Practice Task Force) and given to the Executive Committee in August 2013, to prioritize and determine recommendations to be given to the Executive Committee, and to be responsible for carrying out any action decided by the Executive Committee.

After research, the committee made the following recommendations to the Executive Committee:

- Hire a CPA or equivalent for at least 32 hours a week for the LWML Office in 1st Quarter 2014;
- Contract Anders CPAs + Advisors to create the CPA or equivalent job description, interview and recommend potential candidates to the Executive Committee;
- A Finance Committee be appointed with four qualified members for a four-year term with one reappointment, and the LWML Treasurer as Chairman, except for at the formation of the committee where two members will have a two-year term with no consecutive reappointment;
- Separate the financials of the LWML Store and the LWML Office beginning January 1, 2014;
- Transfer all LWML financial documents to the LWML Office by January 1, 2014;
- The Governance Committee is charged with rewriting the Board of Directors Standing Rules and the Executive Committee Operating Policies into individual policies;
- Have the Structure Committee propose an amendment to the bylaw under Article XIX, Section 3b to state “An audit of the financial statements shall be conducted by a certified public accountant at the end of each biennium.” The current bylaw is: A review of the financial statements shall be conducted by a certified public accountant at the end of each biennium; and
- A task force be created to investigate the restructure of the Board of Directors to be more effective in participation and decision-making and better stewards of time and money. Rationale: This was recommended by the 2013 LWML Business Practices Review Task Force to review the size and effectiveness of the Board of Directors.

Lois Anderson, Joy Dougherty, Shelley Moeller, Pat Reichert, Rev. Dr. Robert Roegner, Pastoral Advisor, Marie Chow, Chairman

Marcia Gomulka, Deaconess Betty Knapp (Chairman), Myrna Lou Meyer
Convention Programming Committee

Pat Reichert, Chairman

The Convention Programming Committee (CPC) is appointed by the LWML President after the previous convention. We began our work in October 2014. By God’s grace the perfect committee members were appointed. The special gifts each brought to the committee made planning the convention a joy. Because you are here, we have accomplished our goal.

Activities of the CPC with approval of the Executive Committee:

- Theme, Goal Statement, and Objectives written and approved;
- Logo developed and approved;
- CPC budget developed and approved;
- Speakers Contracted and approved;
  - Keynote speaker, Rev. Dr. James Lamb
  - Worship leaders: Rev. Gregory Seltz (Thursday) and Rev. Keith Piotter (Sunday)
  - Bible Study leader, Rev. Michael Mattil (SOW, NOURISH), Rev. Piotter (REAP);
- Mites in Action speakers: Carly Hatcher (MOST Ministries), Tim Hetzner (Lutheran Church Charities – Comfort Dogs), Rev. Dr. Tilahun Mekonnen Mendo (Concordia College, Selma), and Rev. Jim Rivett (Prison Ministry);
- Evaluations from previous convention reviewed and implemented as possible;
- Convention manual designer approved;
- Programming:
  - Friday Noon Gatherings: First Timers, YWR Reunion, Clergy, H2H Sisters Reunion, Men’s Network (LHM), The Time is NOW, Gifts of Love, Planned Giving, Thrivent, Social Media, and Lunch with My Friends;
  - Saturday Interest Luncheons: Jan Struck/Dina Vendetti, Gary Thies (Mission Central), Dr. James Lamb (Lutherans for Life), LCMS Missionaries, Carly Hatcher, Rev. Dr. Mendo, and Rev. Gregory Seltz (Lutheran Hour Ministries);
  - Saturday evening entertainment: Jan and Dina Vendetti, Gary Thies (Mission Central), Dr. James Lamb (Lutherans for Life), LCMS Missionaries, Carly Hatcher, Rev. Dr. Mendo, and Rev. Gregory Seltz (Lutheran Hour Ministries);
  - Special invitation dinners for Heart to Heart, Young Woman Representatives, and Past District Presidents;
  - Saturday evening entertainment: Jan and Dina;
  - Servant Connections planned;
  - Tee Up 4 Mites planned;
  - Mission in Motion Pledge Walk planned;
  - Choir Director and Organist approved;
  - Tours approved;
  - Saturday morning Bible studies;
  - Board of Directors Dinner;
  - District Caucuses and photos;
  - Saturday Special reunions;
  - Receptions;

- Pre and Post-Convention Devotions completed and approved;
- Convention venue/event names assigned: Sonshine Bear, Grace Place Chapel, Servant Connections, Mission in Motion, Camp Insta Friends, Bountiful Bash Block Party, Field of Bounty;
- Convention information for LWML Committees prepared and presented;
- Convention information for District Presidents prepared and presented;
- *Bountiful Harvest Times* approved to be a daily convention newspaper;
- Host Congregation, Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, West Des Moines, Iowa;
- Communion ware approved and contracted;
- Exhibitors, exhibit hours and fees approved;
- *Lutheran Woman’s Quarterly* convention insert completed;
- Website information updated;
- Gifts from the Heart (Luther Care, Orphan Grain Train, Lutherans for Life) approved;
- Crisis Management Form revised;
- Convention evaluation prepared;
- Daily schedule; and
- Convention manual (copyright permissions, graphic artist, content, doctrinal review, proofing);

CPC Meetings:

- October 20 – 22, 2013, St. Louis, Missouri
- November 26, 2013, WebEx
- December 6 – 7, 2013, Des Moines, Iowa (CPC Chairman, President, AV Director and Convention Manager)
- February 2 – 4, 2014, St. Louis, Missouri
- April 3, 2014, WebEx
- May 27 – 29, 2014, Des Moines, Iowa
- August 11, 2014, WebEx
- October 19 – 21, 2014, St. Louis, Missouri
- January 25 – 27, 2015 St. Louis, Missouri
- March 17, 2015 WebEx
- March 20, 2015, Des Moines, Iowa (CPC Chairman, AV Director and Convention Manager)
- April 9, 2015 WebEx

Convention Programming Committee:

VP Gospel Outreach Shelley Moeller, Public Relations Director Debbie Larson, Strategic Plan Facilitator Shari Miller, Convention Manager Marguerite Christman, advisory; President Kay Kreklau, advisory; Senior Counselor Rev. John Heckmann, advisory; Audio Visual Coordinator Rev. Bill Engfehr, advisory; VP Special Focus Ministries Pat Reichert, Chairman
Special Committee Reports

CONVENTION SITE (2021) COMMITTEE – Marie Chow, 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 2014;
• Received letters from seven districts stating that they were willing to co-host the 2021 convention;
• Assisted districts in contacting potential convention sites and submitting proposal forms;
• Reviewed materials submitted by the convention and visitors bureaus from four potential sites;
• Interviewed convention and visitors bureau representatives from four potential sites;
• Prepared comparison chart of four sites for the January 2015 Board of Directors meeting;
• Presented the four potential sites to the Board of Directors meeting in January 2015 to eliminate one site for vote at the June 2015 Board meeting as directed by the Executive Committee;
• Updated the comparison chart of three sites for the June 2015 Board of Directors meeting; and
• Prepared ballot for voting at the Board of Directors meeting in June 2015.

The Convention Site Committee sincerely appreciates the work of the inviting districts and presidents from Carolinas, Chesapeake, Eastern, Indiana, Michigan, New Jersey, and Ohio.

Marguerite Christman
Lori May
Rev. Dr. Robert Roegner, Pastoral Advisor
Rev. William Engfehr, Advisory
Marie Chow, Chairman

Set up a timeline and checklist early for your next LWML gathering. Identify the gifts of your sisters in Christ, and give them responsibilities in those areas. Ready, set, go!
Special Committee Reports

PLANNED GIVING COUNCIL (PGC)

We give thanks to God for the many volunteers and generous donors—those who recognize God as the origin of life, the giver of freedom, the source of all they have and are and will be. They are deeply aware of the truth that “the earth is the LORD’s and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it” (Psalm 24:1). They are grateful for what they have received and eager to cultivate their gifts out of love for God and one another. Therefore, let us give not until it hurts; let us give until it feels good—real good!

The Planned Giving Council is thankful for the blessings of donors who have given because of God’s goodness to them, and for their gifts for LWML’s ongoing, eternal impact ministry. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

The Planned Giving Council met via WebEx each quarter during the past biennium. A training for Gift Planning Advocates (GPAs) and Gift Planning Supporters (GPSs) was held in St. Louis, Missouri, on March 9-12, 2014. The group received valuable training from Phil Meinzen, LCMS Foundation Director of Training, who led a portion of the workshop. They also shared ideas for 2014 District Conventions to promote the Gifts of Love (GOL) Ministry. Another training session was held April 16-19, 2015, in St. Louis.

The Planned Giving Council also recommended to the Executive Committee (EC) the establishment of a Gifts of Love Legacy Circle to honor and thank those who have included LWML in their estate plan. We are happy to report that this was approved and plans are underway to launch this in conjunction with LWML’s 75th anniversary at the 2017 Convention.

The Planned Giving Council exists to support the work of the Gift Planning Counselor and the Gifts of Love Ministry established in 2007 by LWML through a $100,000 grant from Thrivent Financial. Since that initial beginning, the Gifts of Love Ministry has been financially supported by gifts from generous LWML members who truly live Psalm 24:1. We thank the many donors who have supported this Ministry and pray for our Gift Planning Counselor, Linda Gage and our part-time Counselor, Pat Bilow.

Planned Giving Council: Sandy Hardies, GPA Liaison; Joy Dougherty, EC Member; Lois Anderson, EC Member; Rev. John Heckmann, Pastoral Counselor; Allen Helms, LCMS Foundation Sr. Vice President, Advisory; Linda Gage, Gift Planning Counselor; Linda Reiser, Chairman
Special Committee Reports

FINANCE COMMITTEE – Lois Anderson, Chairman

The Finance Committee consists of the Treasurer as chairman and four additional members with a Pastoral Counselor and the Director of Finance & Administration serving as advisors. Members of the Finance Committee were appointed by President Kreklau in January 2014. The purpose of this committee is to review and evaluate all business and financial practices of the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League (LWML). The committee began meeting in January 2014 and has held regular meetings since that time. All decisions of the Finance Committee are presented to the Executive Committee for approval.

Committee Activities:
• Analyzed immediate needs of the LWML Office;
• Developed Accounting Policies and Procedures Manual for use in the LWML Office;
• Developed Position Descriptions for each LWML Office staff member;
• Concluded with the interviewing team’s selection of Kelley Young for the position of Director of Finance & Administration;
• Reviewed the current and proposed Chart of Accounts in detail and performed an analysis of the current financial statements with recommendations given to Kelley Young;
• Approved Lutheran Church Extension Fund’s Joyful Response® recurring gifting program to promote contributions supporting LWML’s mission goal;
• Approved the registration process with AmazonSmile as a public charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases, with all revenue received from this source to be used to support the LWML mission goal;
• Reviewed and approved the 2015 Des Moines LWML Convention budget;
• Updated and approved the position description for the Quarterly Publication Coordinator;
• Revised and approved the Cash Receipts Policies and Procedures as the remote deposit process is now being performed in the LWML Office;
• Accepted the recommendation from President Kreklau to separate the financial and endowment/investment duties of the Finance Committee and to form a separate Investment Committee;
• Drafted and approved the Gift Acceptance Policy, General Guidelines and Implementing Procedures, to assist the LWML to actively seek charitable gifts that will advance our mission;
• Reviewed and approved five Des Moines Convention offering resolutions for vote by the Board of Directors;
• Reviewed and approved the LWML Office Employee Handbook developed by Kelley Young;
• Reviewed and approved the Employee Performance Evaluation forms developed by Kelley Young;
• Reviewed and approved the 2015-2017 biennium budget and mission goal developed by Kelley Young;
• Discussed the need for an Endowment Policy and/or Spending Policy; and
• Discussed setting up a gift recognition program to honor those who support the LWML’s mission.

Finance Committee: Kim Burdett; Janell Harlow; Bunnie Koelsch; Jim Schlie; Rev. John Heckmann, Pastoral Counselor; Kelley Young, Advisory; Lois Anderson, Chairman
INVESTMENT COMMITTEE - Lois Anderson, Chairman

The Investment Committee was appointed by President Kreklau and officially formed in November 2014. The Committee consists of the Treasurer as chairman and three additional members with a Pastoral Counselor as advisor. Members meet as often as necessary to conduct the investment business of the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League. 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 Lutheran Women’s Missionary League’s ministry objectives.

The Committee held four meetings via WebEx and one face-to-face meeting in St. Louis. The Committee has accomplished these activities:

• Reviewed purpose of the Investment Committee and outlined investment plans to be taken;
• Reviewed the Gift Acceptance Policy and gave recommended edits to the Finance Committee;
• Established appropriate investment guidelines;
• Wrote and approved an Investment Policy;
• Published a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the purpose of hiring an investment advisor;
• Distributed RFP to five prospective investment consulting entities;
• Evaluated these proposals and selected several to be interviewed with the Committee in St. Louis;
• Met with representatives from several investment companies on June 8, 2015; and
• Selected one investment firm to manage the LWML’s endowment funds and other investments.

Investment Committee: Sandy Thompson; Lori May; Wayne Price; Rev. John Heckmann, Pastoral Counselor; Kelley Young, Advisory; Lois Anderson, Chairman

Start a Book Club! Connect with sisters in Christ and take that opportunity to share Christ’s love with them.
LWML Office Report

Primary responsibilities of our staff include:
• Providing assistance to the various committees, districts, zones and societies;
• Accountability for financial plans and policies;
• Establishing and maintaining accounting processes in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles;
• Overseeing cash and investment needs;
• Communicating with the Board of Directors regarding financial matters;
• Preparing and presenting financial statements;
• Preparing the operating and capital budgets;
• Handling accounts payable processing and payment;
• Overseeing LWML Store inventory balances;
• Updating the website;
• Maintaining mailing lists and donor database information;
• Overseeing and managing Convention registration;
• Receiving, processing, and recording cash and check receipts;
• Determining product pricing for the LWML Store;
• Maintaining historical records;
• Addressing member inquiries; and
• Attending WebEx meetings for Finance and Investment Committees.

Major achievements of our staff in the 2013-2015 biennium include:
• Redefining roles and responsibilities of our staff in order to focus on the unique strengths and talents that we each possess;
• Transitioning our website to a new platform to better meet the needs of our members;
• Successfully transitioning our product fulfillment to Concordia Publishing House;
• Moving to a new office space that provides an atmosphere more conducive to the business operations for the organization;
• Focusing on controlling costs in all facets of the organization;
• Assisting the Finance Committee with the development of Accounting Policies and Procedures and Gift Acceptance Policy and Procedures; and
• Assisting the Investment Committee with the development of an Investment Policy and the selection of an Investment Advisor.

Kelley Young was hired for the role of Director of Finance & Administration in June 2014. She has more than 15 years of experience performing accounting and administrative functions for non-profit organizations. She has also served in a volunteer role as church treasurer, Parent Teacher Organization president, and dinner auction chairman. Kelley enjoys working for the LWML and looks forward to experiencing the biennial convention for the first time. She has a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting and Business and continues to pursue her Master’s degree in Accounting.

She is a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Edwardsville, Illinois. Kelley and her husband Alan have been married for 27 years and have two children, Marcus (23) and Ashley (19). While Alan was serving in the military, they were fortunate to be able to live in Germany for 2½ years and enjoyed visiting other surrounding countries. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her family, reading, and flower gardening.

LWML Office Staff:
Kelley Young,
Eva Koeller,
Corby Petty,
Carol Iannelli, Karen Andersen

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).
GIFT PLANNING COUNSELOR, GIFTS OF LOVE MINISTRY
Linda Gage

May you be 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 (Colossians 1:11-12).

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, Gifts of Love has stewarded countless gifts to LWML (immediate and deferred) for the sake of the Gospel.

I am blessed to serve as the full-time Gift Planning Counselor across the nation with Pat Bilow serving part-time in Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana. Together we 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.

Gift Planning Advocates (GPA) and Gift Planning Supporters (GPS), who have received specialized training and support, help to expand awareness within their districts. The eleven GPAs and four GPSs set up cottage meetings and individual appointments for the Gift Planning Counselors by personally contacting LWML members in their districts: Chesapeake, Eastern, English, Florida-Georgia, Michigan, Minnesota South, North Dakota, Ohio, Pacific Southwest, Southern Illinois, and Utah-Idaho. These volunteers meet with me quarterly by webcam to share with each other the Gifts of Love marketing that has been accomplished in their areas.

LWML is pleased to announce a new Gifts of Love Legacy Circle to honor and thank those who have included LWML in their estate plan. Their plan 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. Plans are underway to launch the Gifts of Love Legacy Circle in conjunction with LWML’s 75th anniversary at the 2017 LWML Convention in Salt Lake City, Utah. We look forward to welcoming many of you into the Gifts of Love Legacy Circle.

You may wonder, “How can I help?” Consider putting a Gifts of Love article in your newsletters; share the website, www.lwmlgiftplan.org, with others in your society, zone, or district; and invite our Gift Planning Counselor, an Advocate, or Supporter to be a presenter at your next event. You will provide our 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.

Gifts of Love Ministry Team
Front row: Joy Dougherty, Linda Gage, Linda Reiser, Ruth Ann Arbeiter, Pat Schutte
Second row: MaryKay Mages, Karen Bartos, Marge Bruning, Rebecca Bessell, Cheryl Keithly, Pat Bilow, Mary Rinda, Barb Virus, Peg Henderson, Linda Koch, Bonnie Karch,
Not pictured: Lois Anderson, Sandy Hardies, Dottie Sincebaugh, Kay Kreklau, Allen Helms, Rev. John Heckmann
CONVENTION HOST COMMITTEE

2015 HOST COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
Marilyn Schroeder (IWD)
Boone, Iowa 50036

TREASURER
Carole White (IWD)
Waterloo, Iowa 50701

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR
Kathryn Sprecher, Coord. (IWD)
Des Moines, Iowa 50311

PRAYER CHAIRMAN
Karen Menz, Chmn. (IWD)
Perry, Iowa 5022

PUBLICITY
Deb Matasovsky, Chmn. (IWD)
Storm Lake, Iowa 50588

SECRETARY
Joanne Hartman (IED)
Waterloo, Iowa 50703

STAFF SERVICES
Nancy Goddard, Chmn. (IWD)
Council Bluffs, Iowa 51503

CREATIVE ENHANCEMENTS COORDINATOR
Laura Woebbecking, Coord. (IED)
Gladbrook, Iowa 50635

ACTIVITIES
Diane Rabe, Chmn. (IED)
Blairstown, Iowa 52209

DECORATIONS
Denita Krause, Chmn (IED)
Delaware, Iowa 52036

MUSIC
Julia Dlouhy, Chmn (IED)
Newton, Iowa 50208

FACILITY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR
Sharon Andrensen, Coord. (IED)
Betendorf, Iowa 52722

PROPERTIES
Martha Hartwig, Co-Chmn. (IED)
Robins, Iowa 52328
Kim Meyer, Co-Chmn (IWD)
Pleasant Hill, Iowa 50327

USHERS
LouAnn Knaak, Chmn. (IED)
Manchester, Iowa 52057

WORSHIP SUPPORT
Janice Johnston, Chmn.(IED)
Wapello, Iowa 52653

GUEST SERVICES COORDINATOR
Judy Westergren, Coord. (IED)
Marion, Iowa 52302

CHILD CARE
Nancy Medick, Chmn. (IED)
Elkhart, Iowa 50073

FOOD SERVICES
Vickie Ozburn, Chmn. (IED)
Lisbon, Iowa 52253

PACKET MATERIALS REGISTRATION
Helen Huedepohl, Chmn. (IED)
Williamsburg, Iowa 52361

TOURS
Linda Berghoefer, Chmn. (IED)
Hampton, Iowa 50441

TRANSPORTATION
Betty Borchardt, Chmn. (IED)
Riceville, Iowa 50466

PERSONNEL RESOURCES COORDINATOR
Tracy Stetzel, Coord. (IWD)
Casey, Iowa 50048

PERSONNEL DATA MANAGEMENT
Jan Steffen, Chmn. (IWD)
Cumberland, Iowa 50843

PASTORAL COUNSELOR
Rev. Roy Berquist (IDE)
Fairbank, Iowa 50629

PASTORAL COUNSELOR
Rev. Steven Turner (IDW)
Algona, Iowa 50511

HOSPITALITY
Jane T. Shever, Chmn. (IWD)
Battle Creek, Iowa 51006

SPECIAL DRESS
Barbara Huseman, Chmn. (IWD)
Aurora, Iowa 51005

DISTRICT PRESIDENTS
Iowa East (IED)
Joan Berquist
Fairbank, Iowa 50629

Iowa West (IWD)
Ann Carrick
Dexter, Iowa 50070
Board of Directors Executive Committee

Board of Directors District Presidents

District President Class of 2018

Top row, left to right: Sylvia Bean, Rocky Mountain; Arlene Price, New Jersey; Crystal Miller, Nebraska North; Christie Steffens, Missouri; Danyne Six, Wyoming.
Bottom row, left to right: Marie Chow, Washington-Alaska; Linda Larson, Utah-Idaho; Brenda Schoenbeck, Southern Illinois; Mary Harrington, North Wisconsin; Barbara Belanski, Northern Illinois.

District President Class of 2018

Top row, left to right: Carolyn Smith, Carolinas; Ann Carrick, Iowa West; Edith Collis, Chesapeake; Joan Berquist, Iowa East; Kathy Pavelock, Eastern; Margaret Hesemann, Minnesota South.
Bottom row, left to right: Jan Simmons, English; Emily Rogers, Indiana; Judy Lessmann, Gulf States; Lynnette Campbell, California-Nevada-Hawaii; Lillian Biddle, Atlantic.

District President Class of 2016

Top row, left to right: Pam Spilker, Central Illinois; Ramona Stevenson, Mid-South; Willlie Marie Henry, Michigan; Debbie Greene, Louisiana-Mississippi; Christine Wallace, Montana.
Bottom row, left to right: Karen Morrison, Kansas; JoNette Brogaard, Minnesota North; Bunnie Koelsch, Florida-Georgia; Linda Fees, Nebraska South

District President Class of 2016

Top row, left to right: Judy Paulson, South Wisconsin; Laura Bergmann, SELC; Karen Duprey, Pacific Southwest; Susan Brunkow, Oklahoma; Leslie Colligan, New England; Ann Marie Bollas, Ohio.
Bottom row, left to right: Paulette Huber, North Dakota; Arlene Naasz, South Dakota; Carolyn Stucky, Oregon; Lois Teinert, Texas.
New LWML Member Societies

Welcome to the following new societies that have been accepted as members of the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League during the 2013-2015 biennium.

Carolinatas District
Holy Trinity LWML
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
Statesville, North Carolina
Sisters United
Center Grave Lutheran
Kannapolis, North Carolina

Chesapeake District
Hearts in Service
St. Paul Lutheran Church
Mechanicsville, Maryland
Lutheran Ladies of Ladysmith
Christ Lutheran Church
Ruther Glen, Virginia
Society of St. Monica
Lutheran Church of the Redeemer
Baltimore, Maryland
Women of Unity United
Unity Lutheran Church
Norfolk, Virginia

California-Nevada-Hawaii District
Faith-In-Mission
Faith Lutheran Church
South San Francisco, California

English District
LWML Caring Hearts of Peace
Peace Lutheran Church
O’Fallon, Missouri

Florida-Georgia District
LWML Society of Bethlehem Lutheran
Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Fort Myers, Florida
Women of Peace
Peace Lutheran Church
Decatur, Georgia
Women of Grace
Grace Lutheran Church
Destin, Florida

Gulf States District
Ladies of The Good Shepherd LWML
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Gulf Breeze, Florida
Resurrection LWML
Lutheran Church of he Resurrection
Pensacola, Florida

Indiana District
Las Galileas
Emmaus Latino Church
Indianapolis, Indiana

Iowa East District
New Hope Women in Mission
New Hope Lutheran Church
Charles City, Iowa

Iowa West District
Christ Our Savior LWML
Christ Our Savior
Norwalk, Iowa

Kansas District
Eve Circle
Hope Lutheran Church
Shawnee, Kansas

Minnesota South District
Our Saviour’s Lutheran Hmong
Women Ministry
Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church
Hmong Ministry
St. Paul, Minnesota
Women’s Overflow Outreach
Hosanna Highland Campus and
Community Church
Mankato, Minnesota

Missouri District
Esther Circle
St. Paul’s Lutheran Church
Sedalia, Missouri
Hannah Circle
St. Paul’s Lutheran Church
Sedalia, Missouri

Nebraska North District
Ladies In Fellowship Together (LIFT)
Grace Lutheran Church
Wayne, Nebraska

Northern Illinois District
St. Paul’s Ladies Aid
St. Paul Lutheran Church
Beecher, Illinois
Women of the Word
Friends in Christ Lutheran Church
Morris, Illinois

Rocky Mountain District
Faithful Flock - LWML
Faith Lutheran Church
Johnstown, Colorado
Grace Fellowship LWML
Grace Fellowship Lutheran Church
Gypsum, Colorado
Women of Faith - LWML
Family of Faith Lutheran Church
Falcon, Colorado

South Dakota District
The Lutheran Women’s Missionary
League of St. Peter’s Lutheran Church
St. Peter’s Lutheran Church
Wentworth, South Dakota

Texas District
Bethel LWML Outreach Society
Bethel Lutheran Church
Dallas, Texas
Christ the King LWML
Christ the King Lutheran Church
Cuero, Texas
Joy
Mission Liberty Hill Lutheran Church
Liberty Hill, 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

*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:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>East</th>
<th>North</th>
<th>West</th>
<th>South</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atlantic</td>
<td>Iowa East</td>
<td>California-Nevada-Hawaii</td>
<td>Florida-Georgia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carolinas</td>
<td>Iowa West</td>
<td>Montana</td>
<td>Gulf States</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chesapeake</td>
<td>Minnesota North</td>
<td>Nebraska North</td>
<td>Central Illinois</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern</td>
<td>Minnesota South</td>
<td>Nebraska South</td>
<td>Southern Illinois</td>
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<td>Northern Illinois</td>
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<td>Pacific Southwest</td>
<td>Louisiana-Mississippi</td>
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<td>South Dakota</td>
<td>Rocky Mountain</td>
<td>Mid-South</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wyoming</td>
<td>Texas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contact district personnel and information by going to the LWML website [http://www.lwml.org/districts](http://www.lwml.org/districts)

**THE ROTATION CALENDAR:**

- 2015-North
- 2017-West
- 2019-South
- 2021-East
- 2023-North
- 2025-West
- 2027-South
- 2029-East
- 2031-North
- 2033-West
- 2035-South
- 2037-East
Songs

1. 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.

Lenny LeBlanc & Paul Baloche ©1999 Integrity's Music. CCLI #11336346

2. 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.

Text: Elmer A. Kettner, Tune: Public Domain

3. We Are Marching in the Light of God
We are marching in the light of God,
We are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God,
We are marching in the light of God.

We are marching, marching, we are marching,
Marching, we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, marching, we are marching,
Marching, we are marching in the light of God.

We are singing...
We are dancing...
We are praying...

African Folkson. Andrew Maries ©1987 CCLI#11336346

4. Amazing Grace
Amazing Grace - how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind but now I see!

The Lord has promised good to me,
His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
His grace has brought me safe thus far,
His grace will lead me home.

When we’ve been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise
Than when we’d first begun.

Lyrics by John Newton/John P. Rees/Excell, Public Domain, LSB License #100013815

5. Living Water
Refrain:
Living water flow through me
Wash my soul set my thirsting spirit free
Living water flow through me
Bring the life, Jesus, only You can give
Bring the life, Jesus, only You can give

I stand amazed You saw my need
By the mercy of Your grace Your love saved me
And You gave the only thing
That could fill my heart for all eternity

Refrain
Katherine Tooley, ©2002 Cross in Heart Music Co, permission granted for use for all LWML purposes.
Songs

6. Give Thanks
Give thanks with a grateful heart.
Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ, His Son.
(repeat)

And now, let the weak say, “I am strong,”
Let the poor say, “I am rich,
Because of what the Lord has done for us.”
(repeat)

Give thanks, give thanks.

Text: Henry Smith, ©1987 Integrity’s Hosanna! Music CCLI #11336346

7. He is Lord
He is Lord, He is Lord,
He is risen from the dead and He is Lord.
Every knee shall bow, Every tongue confess
That Jesus Christ is Lord.

Anonymous, Public Domain

8. Here I Am to Worship
Light of the world You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made this heart alone adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

(Chorus) So here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You’re my God
and You’re altogether lovely
Altogether worthy Altogether wonderful to me

King of all days, Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came to the earth You created
All for love’s sake became poor (Chorus)

And I’ll never know how much it cost
to see my sin upon that cross
And I’ll never know how much it cost
to see my sin upon that cross (Chorus)

Text: Tim Hughes, © 2002 Thank You Music, CCLI #11336346

9. Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying
Lord, listen to Your children praying
Lord, send Your Spirit in this place
Lord, listen to Your children praying
Send us love, send us pow’r, send us grace

Text: Ken Medema, ©1973, Hope Publishing, CCLI #11336346

10. 10,000 Reasons
(Chorus) Bless the Lord oh my soul
Oh my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before
Oh my soul
I 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

Bless the Lord oh my soul
Oh my soul
Worship His holy name

Sing like never before
Oh my soul
I worship Your holy name (repeat 3x)
Sing like never before
Oh my soul
I worship Your holy name (repeat 3x)

Text: Matt Redmann, ©Thankyou Music, Said and Done Music, sixsteps
SHOUT! Music, Publishing worshiptogether.com songs, CCLI #11336346
Songs

11. You Are My All in All
You are my strength when I am weak,
You are the Treasure that I seek.
You are my All in All.
Seeking You as a precious jewel,
Lord, to give up I’d be a fool.
You are my All in All.

Taking my sin, my cross, my shame,
Rising again I bless Your name.
You are my All in All.
When I fall down, You pick me up;
When I am dry, You fill my cup.
You are my All in All. (Chorus)

(Chorus) Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name.
Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name.

Text: Dennis Jernigan, © 1991 Shepherd’s Heart Music, Inc. CCLI #11336346

12. We are an Offering
Chorus
We lift our voices, we lift our hands
We lift our lives up to You
We are an offering
Lord use our voices, Lord use our hands
Lord use our lives, they are Yours
We are an offering

Verse
All that we have, all that we are
All that we hope to be
We give to You, we give to You

Chorus
We lift our voices, we lift our hands
We lift our lives up to You
We are an offering, we are an offering

Text: Dwight Liles, ©1984 Word Music, Inc. CCLI #11336346

13. Spirit of the Living God
Spirit of the living God
Fall afresh on me
Spirit of the living God
Fall afresh on me
Break me, melt me, mold me, fill me
Spirit of the living God
Fall afresh on me

Text: Daniel Iverson, © 1963 Birdwing Music, CCLI #11336346

14. It’s a Great Day to Praise the Lord
It’s a great day to praise the Lord
It’s a great day to praise the Lord
It’s a great day to praise the Lord
Walking in the light of God
Walk, walk, walk -- praise the Lord
Walk, walk, walk -- praise the Lord
Walk, walk, walk -- praise the Lord
Walking in the light of God.

It’s a great day to serve the Lord (3x)
Sliding in the light of God
Slide, slide, slide, slide -- praise the Lord (3x)
Walking in the light of God

It’s a great day to love the Lord (3x)
Snapping in the light of God
Snap, Snap, snap, snap - praise the Lord (3x)
Walking in the light of God

It’s a great day to praise the Lord
It’s a great day to serve the Lord
It’s a great day to love the Lord
Walking in the light of God
Walk walk walk walk - praise the Lord
Slide slide slide slide -- praise the Lord
Snap snap snap snap -- praise the Lord
Walking in the light of God.

Frank Atcheson, ©1980 Candle Company Music, CCLI#11336346

15. Lift High the Cross
(Refrain) Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod,
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. (Refrain)

Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine. (Refrain)

All newborn soldiers of the Crucified
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died. (Refrain)

O Lord once lifted on the glorious tree,
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee. (Refrain)

Let ev’ry race and ev’ry language tell of Him
Who saves our lives from death and hell. (Refrain)

So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! (Refrain)

Text: George W. Kitchens, ©1974 Hope Publishing Co. Used with Permission, LSB License #100013815
Songs

16. Come, All You People
Come all you people, come and praise your Maker,
Come all you people, come and praise your Maker,
Come all you people,
Come and praise your Maker,
Come now and worship the Lord.

With One Voice #717, ©1986 World Council of Churches, All rights reserved. Used by permission.

17. Halle, Halle, Halle, Halle, Hallelujah
Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!
Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!
Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Hal Hopson, ©1989 Hope Publishing Co, CCLI Song #11336346

18. For the Fruits of His Creation
For the fruit of all creation,
Thanks be to God.
For His gifts to ev'ry nation,
Thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping,
Silent growth while we are sleeping,
Future needs in earth's safe-keeping,
Thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labor,
God's will is done.
In the help we give our neighbor,
God's will is done.
In our world-wide task of caring
For the hungry and despairing,
In the harvests we are sharing,
God's will is done.

For the harvests of the Spirit,
Thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit,
Thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us,
For the truths that still confound us,
Most of all, that love has found us,
Thanks be to God.


18. Lord, I Lift Your Name on High
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


19. Here I Am Lord
I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard My people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin,
My hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear My light to them?
Whom shall I send?

(Refrain) 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, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them, They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak My word to them
Whom shall I send?

(Refrain)

I, the Lord of wind and flame
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them,
My hand will save
Finest bread I will provide,
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give My life to them,
Whom shall I send?

(Refrain)

Text: Daniel L. Schutte, Text and music ©1981 OCP. All rights reserved.
Used with permission.
Songs

Abide With Me! Fast Falls the Eventide!
Abide with me, fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Text and Music: Public Domain

Beautiful Savior
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.

Text and Music: Public Domain

Holy, Holy, Holy
Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Text: Reginald Heber, Public Domain, LSB License #100013815

How Great Thou Art
O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder,
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made.
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder;
Thy pow’r throughout the universe displayed.

(Chorus)
Then sings my soul, my Savior, God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior, God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

Text: Carl Gustaf Boberg, © 1981 Manna Music, Used With Permission,
LSB license #100013815801.

Just as I Am, without One Plea
Just as I am, without one plea
But that Thy blood was shed for me
And that Thou bidd’st me come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text and Music: Public Domain

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood,
From Thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure,
Cleanse me from its guilt and pow’r.

Text and Music: Public Domain

The Church’s One Foundation
The Church’s one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
She is His new creation by water and the Word.
From heav’n He came and sought her to be His Holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.


What a Friend We Have in Jesus
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.

Text: Joseph Scriven, Public Domain, LSB License #100013815

Hold a “For Women Only” event in your church for all sisters in Christ! Spend time once or twice a year in Bible study, crafting, singing, and eating. Invite the women in your life to join you in the fellowship!
Acknowledgments

The Lutheran Women’s Missionary League gratefully acknowledges:

Thrivent Financial, for its full underwriting of the production, duplication, and distribution costs of the convention highlights and mission grants video;

The Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF), St. Louis, Missouri, for its underwriting of the production cost of the convention tote bags and sponsoring a breakfast for the LWML District Treasurers;

Greater Des Moines Convention and Visitors Bureau for support of the hotel shuttle buses;

Lutheran Braille Workers, for providing sight-saving convention manuals;

Allen Organs of Iowa, located in New Hope, Minnesota; Chris Wallace, for providing the Allen three manual organ;

Rieman Music, Urbandale, Iowa, for providing a Baldwin Grand Piano;

Iowa Events Center, Des Moines, Iowa, for providing a Yamaha Grand Piano;

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;

Concordia Lutheran Ministries, Cabot, Pennsylvania, for its grant to support the servant activities in the “Servant Connections” at this convention;

The LCMS Iowa District East LCEF and an anonymous donor for the funding of the thirty-five communion sets – crafted by Tyler Sandstrom, From Miry Clay Pottery, Dayton, Iowa;

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; Rev. Bart Day, Executive Director of LCMS Office of National Mission Rev. John Fale, 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;

Members of Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran, West Des Moines, Iowa, for their gift providing the communion wine and wafers for the convention’s opening worship service;

Thrivent Financial for sponsoring a breakfast for the LWML District Presidents and District Pastoral Counselors;

LCMS Foundation for sponsoring the LWML Board of Directors’ Dinner;

Concordia Publishing House for donating a devotional booklet for each convention attendee;

Thrivent Financial, for providing convention notepads and pencils;

The Greater Des Moines Convention and Visitors Bureau for providing support for convention programming;

Grateful thanks to all the “TEE UP 4 MITES” golf outing sponsors, hole sponsors and participants in making this a success in gathering funds for LWML Mites.

Cover Design and Graphic Editor: Nichelle Dykema
A Recipe for Giving the Perfect Gift

TAKE STOCK of your “pantry”
• Think of all God has given you.

COMBINE Thankfulness & Prayer
• How will you respond to God’s gifts?

STIR UP Your Emotions
• The Holy Spirit stirs an emotional response in His children to share the Good News - then He takes our offerings and leads others to Jesus!

ROLL OUT the Possibilities
• How can you impact others with Christ’s love, right where you are?
• You can be a missionary for Christ through your gifts!

PREPARE to make an impact!
• The Perfect Gift is Jesus Christ – and your gifts to the LWML will, by the grace of God, share Jesus with the world!

A Joyful Response
LWML Mission Statement
The mission of the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League is to assist each woman of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in affirming her relationship with the Triune God so that she is enabled to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the world.

Because of men and women like you:
The LWML has funded over $100 million in Mission Grants around the globe and in more than 50 countries since 1942. 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 … LWML … for partnering with us in our mission and making a difference in the lives of children who are at-risk.”
James R. Krone,
President/CEO Lutheran Special Education Ministries

"I want to personally thank you for your faithful support. Your support allows Lutheran Church Charities to continue to touch lives with the presence of Jesus Christ.”
Tim Hetzner,
President of Lutheran Church Charities

Gifts of Love – Planned Giving
• 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.

A Command from God
He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation” (Mark 16:15).

Joyfully Give …

… and know God will work miracles!

Giving Opportunities
Fill Your Mite Box!
• As you give, pray for all mission grants.

Joyful Response*
• An electronic, automated method for contributions.

LWML Endowment Fund
• Earnings from this fund are used to train and equip LWML leaders, provide programming, and carry out the LWML mission.

See how LWML mission grants make an impact at www.lwml.org.
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<td>39</td>
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<td>Washington-Alaska</td>
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<td>97</td>
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<td>Wyoming</td>
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<td>51</td>
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<td>519</td>
<td>4,257</td>
<td>4,892</td>
<td>87,808</td>
<td>3,002</td>
<td>$5,508,925</td>
</tr>
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</table>
And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work” (2 Corinthians 9:8 NIV).

CONVENTION GOAL STATEMENT
Through Christ’s bountiful love and blessings of Word and Sacraments, I am equipped by the Holy Spirit to work in my Father’s harvest field.

CONVENTION OBJECTIVES
Convention attendees will be:
• Fed by God’s Word and Sacrament
• Nurtured through worship and fellowship
• Equipped to sow, nourish, and reap in the Father’s field