



“Christmas Foods Around the World” was the event hosted by the LWML of **Christ Church-Lutheran, Phoenix, Arizona**, last December. Connections through heritage, mission trips, or from having lived in a different country were the basis for the various foods that were prepared and presented. The women also shared their own family Christmas traditions. Some interesting facts learned were that Kentucky Fried Chicken is a popular Christmas meal in Japan, and La Posada is a beautiful tradition of Mexico. Other countries included Trinidad, Norway, Thailand, Peru, Denmark, Australia, Germany, and Italy. An offering, matched by Thrivent, was taken for tuition support of three St. Louis Seminary students. After the matching gift from Thrivent, over \$4,000 was raised to help with their tuition.

Pictured left to right: Arleen French, Sharon Nobis, Diane Falaschetti, and Anne Porter.



Last March, the women of **Redeemer Lutheran Church in Parkton, Maryland**, held their second annual quilting bee for the benefit of Lutheran World Relief. After delivering the quilts, they spent the day volunteering with SERRV Fair Trade in New Windsor.

Pictured left to right: (front) Lydia Barclay, Elaine Thompson, Marilyn Seen, Dolly Albright; (back) Ruth Tittel, Sue Lieske, and Dennise Peck. Not pictured: Sharon Dixon and Susan Minton.



The Women's Christian Ministry–LWML of **Immanuel Lutheran Church, Waterloo, Illinois**, hosted their 3rd annual women's Refresh & Renew-Mini Retreat last April. The event's theme, “Waiting on the Lord,” was based on Psalm 27:14: *Wait for the Lord; be strong and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord.* One hundred women of various Christian faiths and ages enjoyed an assortment of delicious breakfast treats, a dynamic Christian speaker, and inspiring musical selections, including their bell choir and a mix of traditional and contemporary songs of praise. Words women used to describe the event were “inspirational, enlightening, fun, and uplifting — superb!”

The **Midcoast LWML** annual retreat, held last January at The Orchard at Caney Creek, Wharton, Texas, featured the four-part Bible study, “Treasured,” based on Romans 5:8. The retreat included prayer, praise, fellowship, and s'mores around the fire pit. A craft session provided each member a bracelet kit to assemble.

Six teenage girls participated with the 32 LWML members in this inspiring weekend, including the ten newcomers pictured left to right: (front) Samantha Beard, Susan Woolley, Cassidy Brzozowski, and Debbie Meyer; (back) Denise Afflerbach, Emilie Koenig, Mary Gail Moody, Julie Heinold, Valerie Engelbracht, and Jessica Boerger.



Celebrating Esther Schoessow Bauers' 100th Birthday! *by Carolyn Blum*

"Happy Birthday!" echoed through the halls and chapel at the care facility in **Milwaukee, Wisconsin**, where Esther Schoessow Bauers and many friends and relatives gathered to celebrate her 100th year of life. A proclamation by Milwaukee's Mayor Barrett declared April 27, 2014, as "Esther Schoessow Bauers Day" in recognition of her service to her church and community.

The party was very special in that it included a worship service with messages from pastors at **Bethany Lutheran Church**, where she has been a member since 1922. Pastor Emeritus Rev. Eberhard Klatt said, "We all need the Esthers in our lives to help us gain a footing as to how we can best honor and glorify God." Current Pastor Rev. Dr. Christian Ikanih remarked that Esther has always lived a life of humble service, giving all praise and honor to Him for any accomplishments that were attributed to her. The opening hymn was characteristic of Esther: "To God be the Glory!"

First and foremost a child of God, Esther has served the Lord with gladness through the LWML during her long life: editing the district newsletter, serving as the LWML South Wisconsin District President, being elected as national LWML Recording Secretary in 1969, and chairing a district committee. She continued her formal LWML service by accepting an appointment to serve as District Parliamentarian from 2006–2008 ... when she was age 94!

Graduating from Milwaukee's Lutheran High School in 1932, Esther was the administrative secretary to several Milwaukee County agency leaders, retiring in 1976. In 1984, at the age of 70, she was married to Harold. They traveled the world, including the Holy Land. She continues to witness her faith and the Gospel wherever she is, currently to visitors and staff at Luther Manor.

Esther's cousin said that each year Esther prays to live to complete all that God wants her to do for Him. She's now praying to reach 101, if He still has work for her to do!

Esther is pictured above with seven other LWML South Wisconsin past presidents.

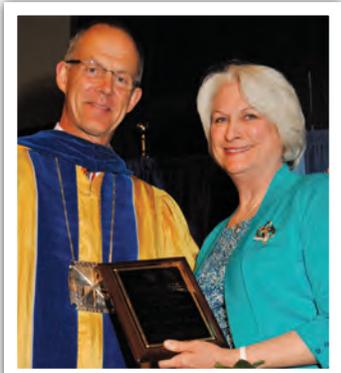


Pictured in the foreground are Rosemary Watson and Lue Purtzer.

St. Peter Lutheran Ladies Guild in Vincennes, Indiana, hosted the Spring Rally for the Evansville East and West Zones. Pastor Kirk Horstmeyer conducted the Bible study, and Rudy Winderlich, Area Director of Bethesda Lutheran Communities, Inc., was the guest speaker. The servant activity for the day was tying 29 lap quilts, which had been assembled by the St. Peter ladies for distribution to shut-in members of their congregation.

Past LWML President **Janice M. Wendorf** (2007–2011) was presented the Christus in Mundo award by Rev. Dr. Patrick T. Ferry, President, at the Concordia University Wisconsin commencement this past spring. The Christus in Mundo (Christ in the World) Award honors individuals for exemplary Christian outreach or service.

Recipients are respected servants in the Church, embodying the values of truth, goodness, beauty, and unity.



Michiko Ishii was excited to receive copies of the *LWQ* that shared the story of her life transformed through Christ (Spring 2014). "I translated the article into Japanese so that our missionaries and our Christian teachers can share at any occasion. On Easter, which will be my 4th anniversary [of Michiko's Baptism], they are going to share it too!"



Arlene Koch, chairperson for this mission project, pictured with finished items

The Quilters and LWML members of **King of Kings Church in Omaha, Nebraska**, sewed 64 girls' T-shirt dresses and over 40 boys' T-shirts and shorts outfits. The donations and profits made from an LWML bake sale paid for the cost of the T-shirts and the material for dress skirts and boys shorts. In June, the items were sent along with King of Kings Student Edge students who journeyed on a two-week mission trip to Mozambique.



The LWML of **St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Forestville, Wisconsin**, along with their congregation, took part in Lutheran World Relief's Basket of Promise. During each Lenten service in 2014, the congregation was asked to bring one item to complete LWR Personal Care Kits, which help impoverished people stay healthy. Forty-one kits were collected! LWML members packed them for shipping, with the assistance of Cub Scout Pack 4112 of Algoma, Wisconsin.

Pictured left to right: June Krauel, Joyce Bathke, Thomas Jackson, Barb Zastrow, Elise Jackson, Nila Schley, and Carole Clark



The children of **Trinity Lutheran Early Learning Center** (Pre-School and K-1)

at **Trinity Lutheran Church in Redding, California**, donated \$100.50 from their "penny wars" to the LWML Mission Grants. For the last four years, during Lutheran Schools Week, the women of Trinity Lutheran Women's Society have invited the children to join them for lunch and a short program. The ladies enjoyed sharing lunch and conversation with the children, followed by reading the Arch Book, *The Widow's Offering*. The program ended with the reading of LWML's *Missionary Mike Coloring Book*, which was used to demonstrate how mites are used around the world to serve people and share Jesus. After dessert, each child received a gift bag containing *The Widow's Offering*, the LWML's *Missionary Mike's Coloring Book*, a child's Mite Box, and a handcrafted cross bookmark.

The picture above was taken at Trinity Lutheran's LWML lunch with Mrs. Keener's Kindergarten/First grade class. During lunch, the children sat along one side and the LWML members sat across from them so they could engage in conversation more easily. Cookies and cupcakes were served for dessert to celebrate LWML member Ima Snell's 94th birthday.

The photo above shows the coins, mostly pennies, donated by the children. Two large jugs, one marked girls and the other marked boys, were used to gather the offerings. The group that collected the most was served ice cream by the others. This year the girls served the boys.

Spring 2015 theme: Sharing the Faith

NEWS! Please send LWML news (and photos!) to **News Editor Pam Knepper** at newseditor@lwml.org or **997 NE Hood Street, Hillsboro, Oregon 97124**, by October 15, 2014. Include name, address, phone, and email address.

PHOTO GUIDELINES that can provide you with help when taking and submitting photos for the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* can be found at www.lwml.org/resources/quarterly.