



ACCENT

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On Lutheran Women's Missionary League
English District

Winter 2007



32nd Biennial LWML Convention

Theme: ROCK! Rest On Christ the King

"In you, O Lord, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness. Turn your ear to me, come quickly to my rescue; be my rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me. Since you are my rock and my fortress, for the sake of your name lead and guide me." (Psalm 31:1-3)

Goal Statement:

Secure in Jesus, my rock and fortress, I step out in faith to declare His praise and serve others.

Objectives:

All convention attendees will

- rejoice in the security they find in God's Word and love
- celebrate the oneness found in Jesus, our King
- confidently and boldly share the Gospel message
- be led and guided by the Lord to their personal avenues of service

You Are Invited!
June 21–June 24, 2007

The women of South Dakota officially invite you to the 2007 Convention of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. When you arrive in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, June 21 – 24, 2007, you will experience a convention with a ROCK solid guarantee to be in the Word, inspiring, educational, exciting and fulfilling.

Our theme **ROCK! Rest On Christ the King**, compels us to trust our Lord as we rest in the security of His love and Word. We will celebrate our oneness in Jesus, our King, confidently sharing the Gospel and will be led and guided by our Lord to personal avenues of service.

The 2007 Host Committee is working on details to make your convention experience very worthwhile. We invite you to come to Sioux Falls for the convention sessions, the exhibits, the LWML store, Bible studies, singing, meeting old friends, the Pledge Walk, Mission Grants, making new friends, food, LWML hugs, missionaries and the opportunity to witness your faith to those you meet along the way!

Tours will give you a glimpse of Sioux Falls. Try the "Wheels", "Historical", "Wildlife/Nature" or "Cultural" tours. Tours are planned with the entire family in mind. If you have time, see the Corn Palace, the Redlin Gallery, sample the ice cream at the SDSU Dairy Bar or see the Dells of the Sioux River.

Your children attending Camp ROCK may enjoy Terrace Park Aquatic Center, the Washington Pavilion of Arts and Science, The Kirby Science Discovery Center, the Great Plains Zoo and Delbridge Museum of Natural History and the Butterfly House

If shopping is your thing, the Empire Mall boasts over 180 stores, enough to fill an afternoon for sure! Museums, art galleries, historic neighborhoods and shops featuring everything from Native American to African Art are abundant.

Eating out can be an adventure in international cuisine! Don't worry about finding a place to eat; with over 500 restaurants, your only dilemma will be which to choose.

We invite you to come to eastern South Dakota and experience Sioux Falls, one of the nation's best "micro-metropolises". Our friendly people will make you feel at home. Join us as we **ROCK! Rest On Christ the King!**

Pat Reichert
Host Committee Chairman

“Commit to the Lord!”

Connie Johnson, President
connieandbruce@msn.com

“Comfort and Compassion”

Ruth Crowl, Vice President
Recrowl@comcast.net

“Commit to the Lord whatever you do and your plans will succeed.” Proverbs 16:3

January brings a new year and a fresh start. The end of the prior year is often spent in planning sessions, reflecting on accomplishments of the past year and setting goals for the coming year. It is a time to make resolutions and to focus on what is important for our future.

Your English District LWML board met this past Fall and adopted goals for the new biennium. I would like to share those goals with you.

- ✦ To nourish women of all ages through the Word so their lives may reflect the love of Jesus.
- ✦ To reach out to people of all cultures as we learn together and share in the mission of the LWML.
- ✦ To increase mite giving through mission awareness.
- ✦ To establish more LWML societies in English District congregations.
- ✦ To train more women to be leaders in the English District LWML.

How can we, as a district accomplish these goals?

WE CAN:

- Study God’s word and ask for his continued guidance
- Thank Him for the many blessings he has faithfully showered on the LWML
- Join in prayer with our LWML sisters at noon each Monday
- Renew our vow to serve diligently in building God’s Kingdom here on earth.
- Reach out to all those around us, inviting them to serve with us

When our Lord calls you to serve Him, answer that call gladly saying, “Here am I; send me!” Isaiah 6:8b. ►

To give or receive comfort and compassion is an experience we have all had at one time or another. The dictionary says comfort means to give strength and hope, to cheer, to ease grief or trouble, and to console. Compassion is described as sorrow aroused by suffering or the misfortune of another with a deep urge to help.

Through out our adult life many times we have to make hard decisions and hope with the help of God, we make the right one. We deal with parenting, job choices, finances, aging parents and relatives, sickness, death, and spouses who have taken ill. We give comfort to all those we love and care about; we reach out with a compassionate heart and in a surprising turn we receive comfort and compassion from others. God tells us to cast our cares upon Him. We pray and place everything in His hands. He is our refuge and gives us peace. God gives us the strength to cope.

The next time you find yourself giving comfort and compassion or are in need of some comfort and compassion yourself, read one of my favorite scripture verses, Psalms 62:1-2. “My soul finds rest in God alone; my salvation comes from Him. He alone is my rock and my salvation; He is my fortress, I will never be shaken.” Thank you Dear Lord! ►

Make yourself available to God and He'll give
you a life of adventure.

"Make Christ Proud!"

Pat Gilde, Vice President Gospel Outreach
Patglt@aol.com



I confess - I am an Idol junkie. On his final night of American Idol, winner Taylor Hicks sang the song "Do I Make You Proud?" This title often comes to my mind when performing tasks whether it be for church, family or community. I want to make someone proud of what I have done. We should all consider this when we go into our "Monday World." Do we make Christ proud of how we go about our daily activities so we are a reflection of Him? Do we make Christ proud of how we show our love for others?

I, on behalf of you, am *proud* to proclaim that we have shown Christ's love by sending checks for the first two of our six mission grants for this biennium. We have paid \$2,500.00 to Alaska Mission for Christ, Chugiak, Alaska and \$3,000.00 to Leif Camp & Family of the Lutheran Church of Ingria, Russia. Our next project to be paid, when we have sufficient mites, is Food for Thought, a Place of Refuge in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Our grant will help them purchase Bibles and devotional material for the women there. Let us constantly remember in our prayers these projects we have voted upon to support. We still have a long way to go to see that the grants are paid. PLEASE don't forget to fill your mite boxes.

The Mission Grant Proposal packet for the 2008 District convention is being mailed this month. Go into your Monday World and "let not the needy be forgotten, nor the hope of the poor be taken away." Talk to your sisters in the LWML about a need they may know of; complete the mission grant proposal and mail it in. Make Christ proud! ►

*Some lives, like evening primroses,
blossom most beautifully in the
evening of life.*

Charles Cowman



Our Mission Goal for the 2006-2008 biennium is \$15,000

1. **Alaska Mission for Christ, Chugiak, Alaska - \$2,500.00 PAID**
2. **Life Support - Leif Camp & Family, Ingria, Russia - \$3,000.00 PAID**
3. **Food for Thought, A Place of Refuge, Milwaukee, Wisconsin - \$3,000.00**
4. **Mission Senders - Long Term Volunteer Program, LCMS - \$3,000.00**
5. **HIV & AIDS Ministry, Lutheran Church in South Africa, LCMS - \$3,000.00**
6. **Scripture Use and Literacy, Kpelle People, LBT, Liberia - \$500.00**

When I say good morning I mean:

G-od
O-ffers us His
O-utstanding
D-evotion to
M-ake us
O-bedient and
R-eady for a
N-ew day with Him.
I-nspire others please, and
N-ever forget
G-od loves you!

Anonymous

"Three Wise and Caring Women!"

Candace (Cares) Mueller, Vice President Human Care Resources
candacepm1@msn.com

This Christmas I purchased a CPH book for the young women on my gift list. It is a children's book, "Three Wise Women of Christmas" written by Dandi Daley Mackall, and illustrated by Diana Magnuson. I inscribed in their books, that my prayer to them is that God will continue to lead them on their journey to become a wise woman.

I am certain you can figure out who these three wise women described are: Elizabeth, Mary and Anna. All three are wonderful examples not only of wisdom, but also caring. Elizabeth was full of **compassion** and **kindness** not only in light of her own very surprising pregnancy but also for Mary who came to her with an even more amazing story about her pregnancy. And, of course Mary is the epitome of **humility**, acquiescing to Gabriel's assertion that nothing is impossible with God. And her **gentleness** is exhibited throughout the Gospels as she ponders and participates in her son's ministry and mission from his Heavenly Father. But, last but not least is Anna...whose decades of worshipping, fasting and praying at the temple...is **patience** exemplified. As an 84 year old, she announced to all who were awaiting the Messiah, that she had seen Him and she was thankful to God. She was not content to rest on her laurels. She made sure the Good News was passed on. What a trio of biblical women, young, middle aged and old who serve as godly examples of wise and caring women, putting God's will ahead of their own.

As I "surfed" the LWML website, I headed to the Human Care home page. Please check it out yourself: <http://www.lwml.org/human-care/lutheran-women-in-mission-human-care.htm> And, when I came to the theme verse for the Human Care committee, "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience." Colossians 3:12 (NIV), the three wise women came to mind.

Looking to Lent, I pray you consider actions filled with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. As God's chosen woman, you are dearly loved. Please share this love with others. ►

LOOKING AHEAD!!

The next English District LWML convention will be held April 25—27, 2008 at the Crown Plaza, in Pittsburgh, PA. The theme chosen for the convention is "**With Christ our Rock — Let's Roll!**" our scripture reference is Psalm 31:2b-3. This theme reflects the National theme, "*Rest On Christ the King.*" as shown on the front of this issue.

It's never too early to start planning your trip to the District convention. Mark your societies calendars now and **PLAN AHEAD!!**

A Christian Leader is....

Committed to Christ, to His people and His work.

Faithful in prayer and the study of God's Word.

Humble, remembering that Jesus said, "*And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant.*" She assumes that others are working with her, not for her. She can laugh at herself.

Sensitive, to peoples' needs, reflecting God's love in her concern, warmth and fairness.

Dedicated, to helping others develop their talents for service to the Lord.

Patient, since she realizes that not all people have the same gifts in like measure and that not all ideas will be met with enthusiasm.

Generous, in sharing responsibility, not trying to do everything herself.

Dependable, meeting her commitments promptly.

Flexible, able to adjust to new ideas and situations without losing her composure.

Empowered by God, cheerfully offering her service to others. She chooses loving service as the best way to live her life.

*There's no better gift we can give
others than the hope of heaven!*

"2007 New Year Resolutions!"

Shirley Holle, Vice President Christian Life
shirleyh@longrealty.com



Did you make any resolutions for 2007? Did you write them down? Have you already forgotten them or quit? Did you not even bother to make them knowing you wouldn't keep them? Whatever the reason I say let's start again – we have most of 2007 left to accomplish our goals.

There are five areas of our lives in which to make goals. They are spiritual, family, personal, financial and business. They all need to be moving in a positive direction to have a good life. We are going to consider our spiritual goals now.

Our number one spiritual goal has already been accomplished – eternal life with God! "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and it is not from yourself, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast." Ephesians 2:8-9. Goal #1 accomplished – check it off and remember it daily!

Other spiritual goals can include daily Bible reading and prayer. Warren Buffett, the top investor in the US and the world's biggest philanthropist, read the *Strategic Alliance* twelve times to really know how to make the proper investments. Have we done the same with our Bible so we know the proper way to live, to pray?

Have you made a commitment to be involved in projects in your church? If you haven't, now is the time to say yes. Every morning that God lets us take another breath we have work to do – "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ

Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Ephesians 2:10.

Step out of your comfort zone and try something new – partner with someone to lead a Bible study at an assisted living home, hold an office in your LWML group, mentor a young woman, help at the local pregnancy center, and the list is endless. The idea is to offer hope to someone. The vision is to share Jesus and His love with others.

Have you made a goal to attend the LWML Spring and Fall Rallies in your Zone? Have you made a goal to attend the LWML Convention in Sioux Falls? Have you made a goal to be involved in a local mission? Have you made a goal to learn about new missions and how you can help? Have you made a goal to increase your mite giving?

Make a list of written goals you want to accomplish in 2007. Keep them where you can read them at least weekly so you can see what you have accomplished and what you are working on currently. Take action on your goals. In fact, write a list of 101 goals you want to accomplish in your lifetime and see what marvelous things will happen as you live your life blessed by God. It is a good life. ►

The New Year

*The new year is a door
By which we reach new fields
Of service for God
and fellow man:
A door by which we can explore
Wide spheres of usefulness
Our world to bless,
And reap the sheaves God's
Word of witness yields.*

*The new year is a task
Set by the Master of our souls,
A little part of our life's work
below:
And so we ask holy wisdom
which alone controls
Our labor, teaching what and
where to sow:
That the year, at its end,
May show God's glory and our
profit blend.*

*The new year is a book
With many pages, and as yet
all white
On which to write
The history of thought,
and deed, and word
In this new group of days.
We pray thee, Lord,
As thou shalt look upon the book,
When written over, may all be
to Thy praise.*

Anonymous

Visit our English District
LWML web site for the
latest news at:
www.englishdistrictlwml.org

ACCENT Deadline: April 1, 2007.
Please send current news, zone and society reports, minutes, photos, etc. to: Cherie Voorhees 1305 Lower Ferry Rd. Trenton, NJ 08618 or Fax to: 609.896.0341 or send me an attachment through e-mail: voorhees@rider.edu

“Supporting Grants”

Elsiena Velazquez, Treasurer

elseinavelazquez@juno.com

Welcome to the New Year 2007! It’s hard to believe that 2006 is behind us and the new year lies before us..

The English District LWML did very well since convention in 2006. THANK YOU – Western Michigan Zone for all your fund raising and excellent work on the convention. From the balance of the convention funds and some help from Zone Mites, we have paid our first two mission grants: Alaska Mission for Christ and Life Support-Leif Camp & Family. A thank you also goes out to the Milwaukee Zone for their fund raiser with matching funds from Thrivent that was applied to our 3rd grant. If our giving keeps up, and I am sure it will, we will be able to pay off the rest of our grants before the convention in 2008. Thank you ladies for continuing to support these grants through mites and special gifts.

Also, we have received many gifts since the convention for the Leadership Fund and Mites. Memorials gifts have been received in memory of Esther Goebel, Norma Sterns, Brian Dill, Joan Dougherty, June Kurka, Florence Kerns, Claire Boyd, Walter Gienapp, Mr. & Mrs. Oddo, Hilda Steben, Elda Mangone, Marian Markus, and Sandy & Jerry Ros.. Gifts were given in honor of Helen Gienapp, Delores Jung, Betty Hubsch, Florence Droege, Carolyn Keysor, Sylvia Johnson, Clarence & Mary Harms 60th Anniversary, and Rev. & Mrs. Mark Matthews.

You will be receiving your invoices for the Quarterly/ Accent subscriptions shortly. If you have an increase or decrease in the quantity that you are billed for, please let me know right away. Remember increases can be submitted any time during the year, it is only once a year that the decreases are recognized by the National LWML.

As we start this new year let’s make it our goal to send in our mites on a regular basis to support the mission grants that we have chosen. I know with the help of our Lord, we will reach our goals. May the Lord Bless each and every one of you.

Elsiena Velazquez
2121 S. Pantano Road #326
Tucson, AZ 85701—520-731-9475▶

THE UNKNOWN FUTURE

Life is a book in volumes three —
The past, the present, and the yet-to-be.
The past is written and laid away,
The present we’re writing every day,
And the last and best of volumes three
Is locked from sight — God keeps the key.

Author unknown

LWML DIALOGUE

Let’s start a dialogue between our LWML societies and guilds right here in the *Accent*. If you have a question for other societies, need help with ideas for missions, have a suggestion, fundraising ideas, servant events, anything your LWML does that works well, ask here, share here! We want to hear from you, let’s start dialoguing!

Send your questions and input to Cherie F. Voorhees (CF) at 1305 Lower Ferry Rd., Ewing, NJ 08618 or email me at:
voorhees@rider.edu

Dear CF.....

*Pour out what you have to enrich the lives
of others and you will soon find your own
cup running over with joy!*

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Wed., Feb. 14, Valentine’s Day
Wed., Feb. 21, Ash Wednesday
Sun., Mar. 11, Daylight-saving Time begins
Wed., Mar. 21, First Day of Spring
Sun., Apr. 1, Palm Sunday
Fri., Apr. 6, Good Friday
Sun., Apr. 8, Easter Sunday
Sun., May 13, Mother’s Day
Sun., June 17, Father’s Day
Thurs., June 21-24, National LWML
Convention