

ACCENT

On Lutheran Women's Missionary League
English District

VOL. LIV, No. 45

Spring 2011



Theme: "Being With Jesus — Living on the Edge"

Scripture Verse: *They realized that they had been with Jesus ... 'For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.'* - Acts 4:13b and 20 (NKJV)

If you haven't started making your plans to attend the 34th Biennial LWML Convention from June 23-26, 2011, in Peoria, Illinois, there's no time like the present. You will want to be there for all the excitement of this convention under the theme **Being with Jesus – Living on the Edge**. Plan to make it a week's vacation and take the whole family. There are many great activities planned such as Camp BWJ (Being With Jesus) for the children. More information is in the Winter issue of *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* and on the website at www.lwml.org.

An inspirational opening worship service is planned with Rev. Ken Klaus, the speaker of The Lutheran Hour, as the proclaimer. He will share many insights for what it means to "live on the edge."

Author Deb Burma, is the keynote speaker for the convention. You will be encouraged as Deb challenges you to "live on the edge" in different ways.

While you're at the convention, check out the Servant Events on Thursday. Sign up with all your girlfriends!

Bible study leader Dr. Reed Lessing has planned dynamic

Bible study sessions that will be centered on the theme of the convention "**Being with Jesus – Living on the Edge.**" Come and hear mission speakers demonstrating how they also "live on the edge."

Don't miss Katie Stam, Miss America 2009, playing on stage on Friday evening June 25, 2011. Katie Stam, as inspirational speaker, and entertainers Sibling Harmony will rock the house.

The Mites in Action speakers — Rev. Jeff Johnson, Paul Miller, and Rev. Paul and Becky Shaw—will challenge you as they share their stories of "living on the edge."

Participants attending the convention will be able to reach out with care and compassion with **Gifts from the Heart**. Agencies in Peoria, as well as Orphan Grain Train, have been chosen to receive the gifts from your heart. You will be directed where to place your items when you register. A list of items to bring is on page 4 in this issue of the ACCENT.

A visit to the exhibits will allow you to learn more about the missions and ministries of the LCMS and enjoy some shopping at the LWML store.

You will want to bring your best smile as you join the other women from your district on Thursday for your district's official convention photo. Let's all show up for this one.

And don't worry about missing your regular exercise when you're at convention. You will have a great opportunity on Saturday morning to participate in the Mission Pledge Walk.

You definitely will want to be there for all the excitement of this convention, **Being with Jesus—Living on the Edge**. Register today and we'll see you in Peoria!!

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“LWML CONVENTIONS—FULL OF OPPORTUNITIES!”

Shirley Holle, President
shirleyh@longrealty.com



What do you think about the LWML conventions you have attended? I think about wonderful times, great worship, incredible mission stories and so much more.

I have been to four national conventions, two conventions in the Rocky Mountain District, four in the Oklahoma District and four in the English District. Each convention stresses knowing Jesus as our Savior and telling this good news to others. I always ask myself, “How can I do a better job of sharing my faith?”

Attending the conventions is an opportunity for Bible study to gain new insight from God’s Word. It is a time of servant events that enable us to help others and show compassion for the less fortunate. It is an opportunity to listen to missionaries tell of their work, their struggles and their joy. It is an opportunity of singing with a crowd of thousands. It is a chance to hear what has been accomplished with all the mites that were collected. It is a time to reconnect with friends from all over the country and to make new ones. You will certainly have your quota of hugs every day.

My first convention in Kansas City stands out in my mind. I still have the magnet on my refrigerator from that convention so many years ago. As the convention concluded, the enormous cross that hung at the front of the convention hall all weekend came down through the crowd to lead us out. The theme was *Live by God’s Design* with a second line *Led by the Cross of My Lord Jesus Christ*; a wonderful vision.

I would love to meet many of you from the English District at the next convention in Peoria from June 23-25, 2011. Look for the English District sign and come have your picture taken with the English District group. I encourage you to attend – to experience this powerful witness of what the love of Christ can do in people’s lives. And then I would love to see a great multitude of you at the English District Convention in Tucson, AZ April 20-22, 2012. Plan to make it a vacation and stay longer – April weather is wonderful in Tucson. The theme for convention is: **Rejoice...Bloom...Shout for Joy**. “*The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom, it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy.*” Isaiah 35:1-2a (NIV) Start making plans now to attend, it will be here before we know it!!

What do you do when you come home from a convention? Share the love of Christ with those you meet. It does not mean you need to go to a foreign country. It means love your neighbor. It means bringing (not just inviting) someone to church or to one of your LWML activities. You have witnessed God’s love in your life. Use that story to tell someone what God has done for you.

I encourage everyone to commit to giving more mites. We may be struggling but we have so much more than most of the world. We made a commitment at the last convention to fund several projects. Let’s back up that commitment with action.

And please, plan to join us at the national convention in Peoria in June and take your own memories home to share with all those you meet...wonderful times, great worship, incredible mission stories and so much more...►

Subscribe to receive daily Mustard Seed devotions by email at www.LWML.org..

Convention offering recipients have been chosen!

The four designated recipients selected for the convention offerings collected in Peoria are:

- ✦ Convention Offering #1—LWML Mission Goal 2011-2013
- ✦ Convention Offering #2—Three Mission Central projects, Mission Central, Mapleton, Iowa
- ✦ Convention Offering #3—Amigos de Cristo Mission Outreach Project, Sedalia, Missouri
- ✦ Convention Offering #4—Specific Ministry PASOR Program (SMP), Concordia Seminary, St. Louis and Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne

“Grants at Work!”

Margaret Stuenkle, Vice President Gospel Outreach
rstuenkel@aol.com



At our 2010 District LWML convention last spring, we voted to have Trinity/Hope as the first recipient of one of our grants for the biennium. This is one of the wonderful things we do in convention. I am pleased to report that we have completed that grant to Trinity/HOPE for the feeding of school children, thanks to your mites. Following is the e-mail I received from Cheryl Coleman who wrote the grant for Trinity/Hope.

Dear Mrs. Stuenkel,

I received your check for \$3000 on Wednesday, January 12, 2011. Thank you and the ladies of the English District for supporting Trinity/HOPE with this wonderful gift! The children at First Lutheran School of Les Cayes, Haiti, are being fed a hot nourishing noon meal every school day and they are being FED with the Holy Precious Word of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ every day also! With your generous assistance, they will continue to receive these precious gifts from God.

Thank you so very much!

*In His Name, Always,
Cheryl Coleman
Grant Writer, Trinity/HOPE*

May we continue what we started in convention and fund our next grants for training a Bible translator for the Bokyi people in Nigeria and for the food bank at our own Concordia seminary, our second and third proposed grant recipients.

As I write this article, I have just received a mailing from The Lutheran Heritage Foundation which is publishing the children's books for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Latvia, our fourth grant project. The letter says that they have translated and published the first children's book, *God Teaches Me His Commandments*. The letter said that this was done based on the projected mites we, the district LWML, expect to collect. They did not want to delay its printing. The funds we send will be applied retroactively to this publication, according to the letter. In fact, included with the letter was a copy of the book in the Latvian language and on the copyright page of the book is an acknowledgement of the

English District LWML's funding of this publication. Won't it be great to be able to fulfill this grant?

May God bless the gathering of our mites to His honor and glory. ►

Our Mission Goal for the 2010-2012 biennium is \$15,000

1. **Trinity/Hope (Feed Lutheran Children in Haiti) - \$3,000—PAID.**
2. **Bible Translation at the Theological College of Northern Nigeria - \$3,000.**
3. **Concordia Seminary Food Bank—\$3,000.**
4. **Children's Books for Evangelical Lutheran Church in Latvia—\$3,000.**
5. **Uniforms for Nakuru School, Kenya—\$2,400.**
6. **Let the Children Come—Let the Children Sing, Detroit, MI.—\$600.**

EQUALIZATION FOR THE ENGLISH DISTRICT CONVENTION IN TUCSON, ARIZONA 2012

It is time to begin thinking about Equalization payment for the English District Convention in Tucson, Arizona in 2012! The Executive Committee raised the amount of Equalization to \$200 per delegate to cover the increased expenses of travelling.

Equalization helps get our delegates to the convention by paying transportation expenses. Each zone and society is responsible for sending delegates and this fund helps pay their way if they have paid into the fund. ***Each zone is entitled to one delegate and societies two delegates.*** We must all participate for the Equalization Fund to work properly. Those delegates who live close to the convention site and have minimal transportation expenses must pay the \$200 per delegate, to help defray the cost of those far away. *That's what makes it equal!*

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the convention. Please start sending in your Equalization payments now. Remit to: Elsiena Velazquez, 2121 S. Pantano Rd. #326, Tucson, Arizona 85710

“Together in Peoria!”

Sarah Reinstadtler, Vice President Human Care
srein8@verizon.net



With winter almost behind us, and all the ice, snow, and frigid temps in every state, Spring cannot come soon enough for me!!! I don't know about you but after this long winter I need to be ENERGIZED physically, mentally, and most important of all, spiritually!!! I always look forward to getting ENERGIZED at LWML conventions. And what do you know, there's one right around the corner in Peoria, IL in June.

I'll be totally honest with you, I went to my first convention to get away from home and daily responsibilities just to have time to myself. However, God always has a purpose for all things under Heaven. I got ENERGIZED alright, I came home with a new and improved life! I was a better wife, mother and Christian woman than the one that left a few days earlier. I had a better view of who I was in Christ, and what He wanted for my life. Many years later I know what I am doing now, at church, in my community and through the LWML is directly related to that very first selfish escape weekend, to an LWML convention, *“I alone know the plans I have for you, plans to bring you prosperity and not disaster, plans to bring about the future you hope for.”* Jeremiah 29:11

This year is the national LWML convention in Peoria IL. I'm excited about going to this convention and especially that I'm going with some of my zone and English District ladies. Being together with several thousand Christian woman, I know everyone will feel the Lord's anointing in and around Peoria.

Have you ever had a do over event? An event that you want to do over again, and one you want to share with all those you know. Well I want a do over...and I want to take all of you with me. Join us at the national convention in Peoria, Illinois this June and I promise you'll come home a new person, ENERGIZED physically, mentally, and most important of all, spiritually!!! By the time you get home you'll be ready to share the GOOD NEWS of salvation with everyone you meet. I promise! ►



Gifts from the Heart Ingathering at Convention

And they realized they had been with Jesus.
“For we cannot but speak the things we have seen and heard.” Acts 4:13b and 20

Quilts: Any size for Orphan Grain Train (pack in heavy duty clear plastic bag)

New Bath Towel/Hand Towel/ Washcloth

(pack in clear plastic zip lock bag)

- 1 Bath towel
- 1 Hand towel
- 1 Wash Cloth
- 1 Christian Tract or Bible Verse (inside the bag)



Men's, Women's, and Children's Underwear in the Original Packaging (label correctly)

1 Christian Tract or Bible Verse (securely taped onto package)

New Children's Picture Bible (English) or Arch Books

Kits—Men, Women or Children (mark which one)
(all items are to be NEW and regular size—not travel size)
(pack in a clear plastic zip lock bag)

Men: Men's Socks, Stick Deodorant, Disposable Razors, Toothbrush, Bar of Soap, 1 Christian Tract or Bible Verse (inside the bag)

Women: Women's Socks, Stick Deodorant, Hand and Body Cream, Toothbrush, Bar of Soap
1 Christian Tract or Bible Verse (inside the bag)

Children: Children's Socks, Box of 8 Crayons, Safety Scissors, Christian Coloring Book, Christian Story Book, Toothbrush

The God of love my Shepherd is,
And He that doth me feed:
While He is mine and I am His,
What can I want or need?

Surely Thy sweet and wondrous love
Shall measure all my days;
And as it never shall remove,
So neither shall my praise.

“LWML Super Bowl!”

Jan Simmons, Vice President Servant Resources
simmfarm@comcast.net

“The Fellowship of Thousands!”

Marilyn McClure, Mission-Ministry Vision Consultant
gdmmac@aol.com

The day I received the reminder to write my article for the Spring *ACCENT* was the day after the AFC playoffs. My beloved Pittsburgh Steelers won and are once again going to the Super Bowl. I am not sure how many of you are football or even sports fans, but pretty much everyone in the city of Pittsburgh is a Steelers fan. For the next two weeks we will hear and see everything Steelers. There will be songs written, poems recited, press conferences, sales of every item imaginable with Steelers logo's on it. Steeler's flags will be flying from flags pools, porch posts and yes even cars. The terrible towel will be swirling around the head of the people of Pittsburgh in hopes of a Super Bowl victory.

The LWML has our own “super bowl” coming soon. It is our national convention in Peoria, June 23-26, 2011. Though we may not have the press coverage given the football Super Bowl, we will have the support of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. While the football players will be empowered by the crowd to win, we will be empowered by Jesus to speak of Him and live a life transformed by His love. You can go to the convention and come home filled with inspiration unlike any experience you can get from a sporting event. There will be new ideas to motivate your zones and society, uplifting speakers and encouraging Bible study. You will witness the voting on over a million dollars of mission grants and the election of new officers. Yes, and like the Super Bowl, you can buy t-shirts, hats and many other items to commemorate your trip to the LWML 2011 Convention in Peoria.

If you have never gone to a National LWML convention, this is the time to go. Experience the theme “*Being with Jesus-Living on the Edge*”, based on Acts 4:13b & 20 and the empowerment that comes with being a part the Christian fellowship of thousands of Lutheran Women at convention. Return home energized, and ready to spread the news of Jesus' love and salvation. It will be an experience you will never forget and have memories to cherish for years to come.

Let's make LWML terrific towels for the national convention and twirl them around the heads of the people in Peoria praising God for our LWML Super Bowl!!▶

**We were pleased to share
with you not only
the gospel of God
but also our own lives.**

1 Thessalonians 2:8

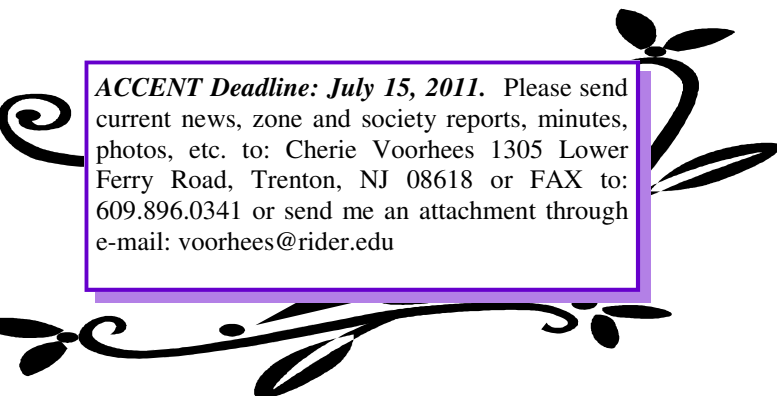
This past year and a half I have had the privilege of serving on the Convention Planning Committee (CPC) for LWML. Although I have helped plan conventions on a district level, I never realized how much work and how many people do the work for a national convention. The convention committee itself consists of about 700 people. In addition to that are the women from our national LWML committees who will be working on booths, luncheons, audiovisuals, news releases, and many other details.

If you are looking for a mountaintop experience, the LWML Convention to be held in Peoria, IL, June 23-26, 2011, will certainly be the place to be. If you have never attended an LWML convention, you are in for a treat. In addition to a choir of several hundred voices, Past Lutheran Hour Speaker Dr. Ken Klaus will be the proclaimer for opening worship. Lana Gibbons, an acclaimed song leader is guaranteed to make beautiful music with the thousands of voices that are expected to be there. Dr. Reed Lessing from Concordia Seminary will touch your heart as he leads us in Bible study. Deb Burma will be the keynote speaker. Add to that the testimonies of several missionary speakers and leaders in our church.

There will be servant events for people of all ages, a camp for children complete with field trips and activities to keep them entertained. There will be exercise and a pledge walk by the river. Katie Stam, Miss America 2009, and Sibling Harmony will provide two evenings of entertainment. There will be luncheons with more speakers. Finally, add to that the fellowship of thousands of women who share their love for Jesus Christ and supporting His missions.

We hope you will come to Peoria and join your hearts with thousands of women in this awesome experience. Hope to see you there!▶

ACCENT Deadline: July 15, 2011. Please send current news, zone and society reports, minutes, photos, etc. to: Cherie Voorhees 1305 Lower Ferry Road, Trenton, NJ 08618 or FAX to: 609.896.0341 or send me an attachment through e-mail: voorhees@rider.edu



“Trust in the Lord...”

Susan Fleischmann, Treasurer
bfleischmann@verizon.net



Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding” *Proverbs 3:5*

As I reflect on the theme for the upcoming LWML National Convention in Peoria, IL, “*Being with Jesus – Living on the Edge,*” I am reminded of my mother. She was diagnosed with aggressive throat cancer late October and agreed to a radical operation at the age of 79. After three operations and 50 days in the hospital, my mother was called to her Heavenly Home by the Lord on Christmas Eve. Jesus said, “Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.” (*Matthew 5:4*)

Grieving is hard work that takes a toll on your emotions. What blessings and gifts God provides when we are in need - prayers, comfort and care from family, pastor, church family, friends and co-workers. Visions of this difficult time are starting to fade, but precious memories remain. God granted me time with my mother and the strength to comfort her. If we trust in the Lord and keep on moving in faith and prayer, even when we don’t understand or see a way, He will show us the way. We may have sorrow, but we have hope because our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ gave us the ultimate gift of salvation so we can all live eternally.

During a recent Bible study at our church, our Pastor said as Christians we must witness life and mercy together. What better way to do this than at the LWML district and national conventions. I am looking forward to attending my first LWML national convention in June with thousands of other women. What a blessing and gift it will be to renew my faith, strengthen friendships and rejoice with other brothers and sisters in Christ.

2011 Quarterly & Accent invoices were mailed at the end of January. The period covered is summer 2011 through spring 2012. This is the only time that decreases in orders will be accepted. Increases will be accepted any time during the year. If you haven’t returned your invoice and payment, please respond as soon as possible so that orders can be recorded to national properly.

Mites – Please pray that our mite giving is increased. We have only paid one mission grant to date. Collecting and sending mites to me in a timely manner will help to pay our mission grants quicker.

2013 National Convention in Pittsburgh, PA - Each district has been asked to raise \$3,000 to help defray costs for the convention. This amount breaks down to \$53 for each society. Zone presidents and treasurers, please request and collect contributions from each society. If your zone is capable of doing more to offset a zone that is not as active, it would be greatly appreciated. All donations should be sent to me marked for the 2013 convention.

MEMORIALS

In memory of:

Evelyn Hitzke, and Sam Croge
(son of Pat Gilde).

In honor of:

Elsiena Velazquez’s 75th birthday.

Please feel free to contact me by email or phone:

1425 Washington Road

Pittsburgh, PA 15228

412-344-3691 ►

ALL ZONE AND SOCIETY PRESIDENT’S PLEASE TAKE NOTE!!

All updates to the English District directory must be sent in, *with current and new officers*, as soon as your elections have been completed this spring.

Please (a very important please I might add) send all information to our English District Secretary, Mary Rinda by May 15, 2011. You can send the information to Mary at 443 East Park Avenue, Elmurst, IL 69126 or by email to maryrinda@comcast.net. This is essential to enable all of us to have great communication within the English District.

ENGLISH DISTRICT SHORT TERM MISSION TRIP PLANNING

Corrine Compton, the English District VP for Christian Life, has agreed to be the Short Term Mission Coordinator for the English District. If you have ideas for a short term mission trip please don’t hesitate to contact Corrine.

With the cost of travel these days a mission trip within the US would be best. Please let Corrine or myself know if you have a mission in mind or if you are interested in going on a mission trip. Contact Corrine at toniccc@yahoo.com or call her at (773) 721-3348.

Short term mission trips are a great opportunity for service. Four women from the ED went to the Makah Indian Reservation in Washington State two years ago and it was an experience I wish all our LWML sisters could experience on their own. Wonderful and blessed comes to mind whenever I think about it. Please give this opportunity lots of consideration through prayer!

Shirley Holle, LWML ED President