



# ACCENT

On Lutheran Women's Missionary League  
**English District**

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Summer 2012



**35th Biennial Convention**  
**Thursday, June 27-Sunday, June 30, 2013**  
**Pittsburgh Pennsylvania**  
Visit [LWML.org/conventions](http://LWML.org/conventions)

**Scripture Verse:** [Jesus said:] "... *but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life*" (John 4:14).

Plan now to join us in Pittsburgh for an exciting experience.

This convention will be hosted by six different districts (Atlantic, Eastern, **English**, New England, New Jersey and SELC). Volunteers from each of these districts have stepped forward and have signed up to help, however, we still need more volunteers. Did you know if you volunteer to work eight hours or more at convention you are eligible for a reduced registration fee? Volunteer forms can be found on our web site at [www.englishdistrictlwml.org](http://www.englishdistrictlwml.org). Workers are needed in many different categories from preparations before the convention i.e. favors, centerpieces, sewing etc. to ushers, child care, hostess, activities and prayer during the convention.

Also, order forms are available to purchase a convention shirt. These shirts are a major fundraiser for the convention to defray costs. No shirts will be sold at the convention so you must purchase

yours ahead of time.

This is the first time six different districts have hosted a national convention. Maureen Consiglio, host committee chairman said, "We are treading in new territory. Together we are becoming a strong unit, led by God to serve His kingdom."

#### Convention Goal Statement:

Quenched by Christ's redeeming grace, I am empowered by the Holy Spirit to be a wellspring of the Father's love.

#### Convention Objectives:

Convention attendees will:

- Glorify the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
- Drink deeply from His Word
- Share His overflowing love

Invite everyone you know to come to Pittsburgh and join you for an exciting experience you will remember for a lifetime!

**ACCENT Deadline: October 1, 2012.** Please send current news, zone and society reports, minutes, photos, etc. to: Cherie Voorhees 1305 Lower Ferry Road, Ewing, NJ 08618 or FAX to: 609.896.0341 or send me an attachment through e-mail: [voorhees@rider.edu](mailto:voorhees@rider.edu)

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## “Rejoice... Bloom... Shout for Joy!”

Shirley Holle, President

[shirleyh@longrealty.com](mailto:shirleyh@longrealty.com)



**I**t was truly amazing and awe-inspiring to stand at the podium at the convention and see so many women and men eager to serve the Lord. You sang with joy in your hearts (and you wanted to sing more). You gave generously for all of the offerings, giving much to the Lord. I saw your tears as you listened to the speakers. There were hugs for everyone, new friendships made, ideas exchanged, questions asked, laughter and moments of quiet reflection (or just relaxing). You were fed at the altar on Friday evening for the forgiveness of your sins and were amazed by the beauty of the desert on Sunday morning. You showered me with your love and prayers and I was humbled.

It was exciting to meet with the First Time Convention attendees. They had many questions and want to be involved. Each society who sent a First Timer - talk with them and see what their interests are and seek ways to involve them. This includes our three wonderful Young Women Representatives!

Now we are all back home involved in daily tasks. Are you finding ways to grow in God's Word? Just as the desert needs water to blossom, so you need Bible study time. I have seen very thin dehydrated prickly pear pads that are just longing for water. Is your soul searching for the living water that Jesus has to offer? Do you have new ideas for Bible study for your society?

I am reading Max Lucado's book *Out Live Your Life – You Were Made to Make a Difference*. There are many ideas in this book that we as individuals can do to make a difference. Check it out to see if there are ideas for your society to do in the coming year. More importantly ask yourself what you can do this week. You are the one God calls to make a difference in someone's life.

On Saturday, June 2 we had a WebEx 2013 Pittsburgh Convention meeting. You can stay up to date on convention information by checking [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org) or [www.englishdistrictlwml.org](http://www.englishdistrictlwml.org) and clicking announcements in the top line of choices. Many workers are needed for the convention and the worker form can be found on our web page. The committees are looking at ways that delegate and convention favors can be made by societies and women not able to attend the convention. As information becomes available I will send it by way of the Executive Committee, the Zone Presidents and our Pittsburgh Promoter, Cherie Voorhees. I thank the many women who have already volunteered to lead or serve on committees.

The Executive Committee will hold its first WebEx meeting in August. With the use of WebEx, an internet program, we will be able to see and talk with each other and look at information on our computers. This will save money for travel, hotel and meals of over \$2000. We hope to expand its use to include meetings with the Zone Presidents and Zone meetings where there are large distances to cover. The cost is the same whether we hold one meeting or several meetings.

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. I encourage you to live joyfully! **Rejoice...** in the love Christ has shown to us – **Bloom...** in diversity and **Shout for Joy** that all may hear the good news of salvation. We **ARE** the “FACE of the LWML.” ►

### Convention Stage—Many of the cactus plants were from President Shirley's yard!!



## “Rejoice...Bloom...Shout for Joy! The Joy of the Redeemed—Bible Study.”

Rev. Robert Roegner, Sr. Pastoral Counselor  
pastorbob@peacewinghaven.org

*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. NIV*  
Isaiah 35:1-2a

**T**he desert land is blooming. In Isaiah, chapter 34, we had a populous and fruitful country turned into a horrid wilderness. Here in Isaiah, chapter 35, we have in lieu of that, a wilderness turned into a good land. When the land of Judah was freed from the Assyrian army, those parts of the country that had been made as a wilderness by the ravages and outrages the Assyrians committed began to recover themselves, they began to look pleasant again, and to blossom as the crocus! When the Gentile nations, that had long been like a dried up wilderness, bringing forth no fruit to God, received the Gospel, joy came with it to them, (see Psalms 67 and 96). When Christ preached in Samaria there was great joy in that city (Acts 8:8); those that sat in darkness saw a great and joyful light, and then they blossomed, that is, gave hopes of abundance of fruit; for that was it which the preachers of the Gospel aimed at (John 15:16), to go and bring forth fruit, (Romans 1:13; Colossians 1:6). Though blossoms are not fruit, and often miscarry and come to nothing, they are next in order to fruit.

Like the desert thirsting for a refreshing rain, our souls are thirsting for spiritual refreshment. By His grace, God provides the rain for the desert and our souls with His Word and Sacraments that enable us to flourish joyfully and blossom abundantly.

In verses 1 and 2 of chapter 35, Isaiah receives a vision of the coming messianic era and beyond to the end of the world. It refers to God's glory being revealed in the Last Day, which began with the coming of the Savior.

### SEEING WHAT'S THERE

As you reflect on Isaiah's message for God's people in chapter 35, especially verses 1-2a, what would you say is the brightest promise it contains? What does this brightest promise mean for your life? What does this brightest promise mean for your LWML Chapter, Zone, and District?

### FOR LIFE TODAY

From what you see in chapter 35, especially verses 1-2a, how would you describe the quality of life which God wants His people to experience? In practical terms, how would you describe the quality of life which He wants you to experience? How about the quality of life of your LWML Chapter, Zone, or District?

Look ahead to Isaiah 55:10-11, where God reminds us that He sends rain and snow from the sky to water the earth and to nurture life. In the same way, God says that He sends His Words to accomplish specific purposes. From your study so far, what would you suggest are God's primary purposes for the book of Isaiah in the lives of Christians today? (Consider this question in light of Isaiah 35:1-2a).

### FOR GOING DEEPER

The writer of Hebrews quotes from verses 3-4 here in Isaiah 35. Examine that quotation in Hebrews 12:12. For what purpose does each of these Biblical writers use this strong exhortation? (Again, consider this question in light of Isaiah 35:1-2a).▶



## Our Mission Goal for the 2012-2014 biennium is \$15,000

1. Redeemer Crisis Center in Cleveland, Ohio - \$3,000—PAID.
2. Campus Mission at the University of Arizona in Tucson - \$3,000
3. D.O.C.K. Ministry, The Discipling of Christ's Kids, Wyoming, Michigan —\$3,000.
4. Nepali Refugee Ministry in Lancaster, Pennsylvania —\$3,000.
5. Lutheran High School Library Project in Pittsburgh, PA—\$3,000.

## “Mission Goal \$15,000!!”

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

## “Rejoice in the Lord always...”

Susan Fleischmann, Treasure  
suefleischmann@verizon.net

**T**he 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 35:1-2

This is the Scripture verse that inspired our 2012 LWML convention theme – **Rejoice...Bloom...Shout for Joy**. There was definitely **rejoicing** at our meetings at what the Lord has done, and **rejoicing** that we were able to meet our previous biennium goals for funding missions. May we, as members of the English District LWML, **bloom** by gathering mites to meet our new mission goals for the coming biennium. They are as follows listed in the order in which they will be funded:

### **Redeemer Crisis Center in Cleveland, Ohio - \$3,000**

This ministry within the English District provides the necessities of life to the homeless, disabled and seniors. It also shares the Word and prayer with those that are helped. Some of the witnessing is done by means of a seven week youth program and Vacation Bible School.

### **Campus Mission at the University of Arizona in Tucson - \$3,000**

This campus ministry within our English District seeks to prepare students to be faithful witnesses to the Gospel on campus and in their future vocations. The chief methods of outreach are individual student witnessing, information tables, Bible studies, and discussions in Christian apologetics. Funds are needed for Christian books, tracts, conferences, office expenses, and advertising, to name a few.

### **D.O.C.K Ministry, The Discipling of Christ's Kids, Wyoming, Michigan - \$3,000**

Located in western Michigan, this ministry provides a safe and positive afterschool environment for 40-100 teens. Its mission is to introduce young people to positive, Bible-based activities and fellowship. Since many of the participants are from low income families, a snack or meal is offered free of charge.

### **Nepali Refugee Ministry in Lancaster, Pennsylvania—\$3,000**

This ministry of Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church provides practical assistance to Nepali refugees in everyday life activities in the USA such as transportation needs to job interviews, grocery shopping, medical appointments, etc. and provides explanations or interpreters to help them understand what is being asked of them. Bible studies are also conducted as well as classes in gardening, driving, home repairs, etc.

### **Lutheran High School Library Project in Pittsburgh, PA \$3,000**

A grant for this mission would provide Bibles, research and reference materials for a library at the first LCMS High School in Pennsylvania. The purpose of this outreach is to encourage teens in things spiritual at a time when such involvement is at a low ebb.

The total for these five mission projects is \$15,000. We can all **shout for joy** when this goal is reached. ▶

**“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!”** Philippians 4:4

**T**he older you get, the more you encounter change. Changes have been occurring in my professional life. As I try to keep things in perspective, I know that God is working in me to deal with these changes. Through the choices we make, we need to choose to follow Jesus in all situations and then trust that God will guide us with His love, faith and wisdom. Along with changes that have left me a little disconcerted, the Lord granted one of the desires of my heart in the recent marriage of my daughter. The months preceding her wedding were some of the joyous and closest times we have shared as mother and daughter. I pray that she will one day join me in rejoicing at a district or national convention with other LWML brothers and sisters in Christ.

The 35th Biennial Convention held in Tucson, Arizona on April 20 – 22 had all participants rejoicing greatly and shouting for joy. The Festival worship service Friday evening and the Sunday morning sunrise service in the Saguaro National Park were both inspiring, uplifting, and filled with joyful song and praise. There was plenty of laughter throughout the convention and even some tears. The convention committee did a phenomenal job with great attention to detail, and our District President handled her first convention like a pro.

### **Report of convention offerings:**

- ✦ #1 To help fund the first Mission Grant for the 2012-2014 Biennium - **\$955.00**
- ✦ #2 LCMS Campus Mission, University of Arizona - **\$883.33**
- ✦ #3 Heart-to-Heart Sisters Program - **\$690.95**

Praise to God that we were able to complete our first mission grant for the 2012-2014 biennium to Redeemer Crisis Center, Cleveland.



### **MEMORIALS**

In memory of Jeannette Mullen

Enjoy your summer, and please remember to continue to send in your Mites to your zones to assist with our district and national mission grants. ▶

# “ Christian Life Walk!”

Pat Gilde, Vice-President Christian Life/Human Care  
patqlt@verizon.net



The convention in Tucson was wonderful from the opening services to that uplifting sunrise service in the desert. Several weeks have passed since the convention when I was elected VP of Christian Life/Human Care by a slim margin over Ruth Mayer. It was humbling because I have worked with Ruth for many years and knew of her strong devotion and work ethic for the LWML. I will do my best to be as effective a chairperson as I know Ruth would have been.

Human care takes on many forms. On the LCMS World Relief website it says “Mercy - “demonstrating the unconditional compassion and love of God in Jesus Christ through works of mercy.” You could say Human Care and Christian Life have some of the same attributes (which may be a reason the two committees were made into one) and only have to look in the Bible for references on human care and leading a Christian life to support this.

The following will be your homework. You can read these Bible verses at your society or zone meetings as your devotion. You may want to consider reading a verse each day at home.

- Ephesians 4:32
- John 13:34
- Proverbs 19:17
- Proverbs 21:13
- 1 John 3:17-18
- Proverbs 28:27
- Galatians 6:9-10
- Matthew 25:34-40
- 1 Thessalonians 5:11



There are more verses you can look up that will help you in your Christian Life Walk. Take a daily walk through your Bible and get to know God. I have the Bible on my Nook so it is always with me.

I will be emailing zone and society presidents prayer requests, and ways we can fulfill what Christ wants of us as stated in the Bible verses above. Together we will do a Christian Life Walk. And I ask you to please share with me any thoughts or prayer requests. Email me at patqlt@verizon.net.

Rejoice, bloom and shout for joy!►

*Lord God, make me beautiful inside  
and out today as you work through me to  
love and serve those around me.*

## The LWML English District Executive Committee

President	Shirley Holle
Vice-President Resources	Stacie Garland
Vice-President Christian Life/ Human Care	Pat Gilde
Vice-President Gospel Outreach	Margaret Stuenkel
Secretary	Mary Rinda
Treasurer	Susan Fleischmann
ACCENT Editor	Cherie Voorhees
Senior Pastoral Counselor	Rev. Robert Roegner
Junior Pastoral Counselor	Rev. Kenety Gee
Equalization	Elsiena Velazquez
Historian	Marian Unruh
Nominating Committee Chair	Sarah Reinstadtler
CO on Young Women Chair	Leigh Ann Bozung



### Mustard Seed DEVOTION

Who invented the Smiley Face?

The merger of two insurance companies in 1963 left many employees unhappy. Mr. Ball was hired to create a spirit of enthusiasm in the newly – formed company. In about ten minutes he sketched out what is now known as the happy face and was paid \$45 for his work.

Decades later, the smiley face continues to appear on a host of items. Looking at it brightens us up. Its simplicity makes it easy to duplicate and adds to its charm.

We can have real smiles on our faces when we remember the God who created us. In fact, He wants us to be joyful and happy, fully relying on Him to take care of our needs. Jesus, true God and true Man, gave us this life assurance when He died on the cross for us.

*The LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy (Psalm 126:3).*

This is a Mustard Seed Devotion. You can receive daily Mustard Seed devotions in your email everyday by going to [www.LWML.org](http://www.LWML.org) and sign up. Lutheran women of all ages, stages of life, races, locations and cultures find guidance, encouragement and inspiration from these daily devotions.

**Lutheran Women's Missionary League— English District  
35th Biennial Convention - April 20 - 22, 2012 in  
Tucson, Arizona—CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS!**



*Friends Forever*



↑ *Convention Co-Chairs!* ↓



*Servant Events*



*Banner Procession*



*Voting*



*YWR's*



*Invitation to Chicago 2014*



*Mrs. Roger's & Mr. McFeely*



*Saturday Night Banquet*



*Cowboy Doug & Lasso Sue*

Video clips and pictures are available on our LWML English District Web site: [www.englishdistrictlwml.org](http://www.englishdistrictlwml.org)