

Open My Lips!



O Lord, open my lips and my mouth will declare your praise.
Psalm 51:15

LWML English District 39th Biennial Convention
April 24 - 26, 2020

Welcome to those newly elected to serve on the LWML English District Executive Committee!
Executive Committee members who will serve from 2020-2024:

- Diana Honebrink, Arizona Zone—
VP Organizational Resources
- Barbara Martin Taylor, Pittsburgh Zone—
VP Christian Life/Human Care
- Tonya Blomeling, Western Michigan Zone—
Secretary

Rev. Joshua Ulm, non-zone Ascension Lutheran Church, North Olmsted, Ohio—
Junior Pastoral Counselor

The Nominating Committee who will serve 2020-2022:
Cinda Souer-Chairman, Pittsburgh Zone, Laura Calvert, Arizona Zone and Ruth Crowl, Chicago Zone



The new Mission Goal for the 2020-2022 biennium is \$18,000 (same as last biennium). At every district convention there is a Festival Worship Service. The collection taken at this service goes directly to missions grants for the new biennium. Though the convention was cancelled, we have received \$1,005 in Festival Service donations. Thank you to all who donated to kick-start our 2020-2022 biennium grants! Be sure to keep sending those mites!

Carol Klein, Treasurer



Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
(Philippians 4:4-7).

LWML English District President

Darlene Keca

lwmldarlene@gmail.com

Greetings,

“Open My Lips!” *O Lord, open my lips and my mouth will declare your praise* (Psalm 51:15). The 2020 LWML English District theme will continue to hold a special meaning.

For those who were not directly involved in making the decision to cancel the in-person convention, I'd like to explain the process that resulted in the final outcome. In March 2020, the convention committee co-chairs and the registrar informed me that registration was low. Most of the reasons given for not attending were the uncertainty of safe travel. That information was followed by notification to all district presidents from LWML President Debbie Larson that all members of the LWML board were under travel restrictions. This meant there wouldn't be LWML Representatives attending any of the district conventions. Those two things forced the Executive Committee and Convention Committee to discuss in earnest what was best for all concerned. Fortunately, our district bylaws contained directives should an emergency occur. After the executive committee was in agreement of the cancellation, the Board of Directors needed to approve that decision, which they did. Thus, the planning began on how to best complete the necessary business that would have been addressed in Pittsburgh.

I feel that sharing this is important so that all members understand this decision wasn't made by one person or one committee. The Hilton Garden Inn was very supportive through the entire process. There were NO additional hotel costs due to the necessary change of plans.

The LWML English District Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and Committee Chairmen have done an awesome job. It had been a challenge switching from a convention venue in Pittsburgh to conducting the necessary convention business via Skype, Zoom and emails.

The 66 eligible voters rose to the task of casting their ballots in a brand-new way. Their patience during the process was greatly appreciated. Without your prayers and support this would not have been possible.

The women who willingly accepted the responsibility of counting the ballots were:

Connie Johnson – oversaw this process as the Convention Parliamentarian

Bylaw & Budget Teller – Sara Hilmer, Secretary

Mission Grant Tellers – Marilyn McClure, Arizona Zone and Cinda Souer, Pittsburgh Zone

Officer Tellers – Janet Stechholz, Greater Detroit Zone and Heidi Lieske, Milwaukee Zone

On May 30, 2020, via zoom, Rev. Carlson led us in the rite of the installation of officers. This provided us with the opportunity to welcome those newly elected and thank those whose terms had ended. A sincere thank you to:

Vice President of Christian Life/Human Care – Ruth Crowl (2016-2020)

Vice President Organizational Resources - Diana Honebrink (2018-2020)

Secretary-Sara Hilmer (2016-2020)

Pastoral Counselor Rev. Eric Carlson (2016-2020)

Although not present at the installation, we wish to recognize the Nominating Committee (2018-2020) for a job well done:

Susan Fleischmann, Jan Simmons and Becky Anderson

Continued next page



August 2020

Opportunity to Serve!

We have been blessed that the women holding appointed positions have agreed to accept re-appointment for another two years: *Accent* Editor – Shirley Holle, Archivist/Historian – Pat Zanta, Equalization – Elsiena Velazquez and Webmaster – Cinda Souer. There may be instances when they would appreciate assistance. Please let me know if any of these are of interest to you.

"To those who have been called, who are loved by God the Father and kept by Jesus Christ: Mercy, peace and love be yours in abundance." (Jude 1b-2).

During this unconventional and fearful time of disrupted lives, many are missing their LWML group or zone activities. It is important for us to remember there are still mite goals to be met. LWML is depending on our monthly 25% to continue funding the national mission goal. The LWML English District mission grants have been funded for 2018-2020, but there were new ones adopted for 2020-2022. This may be the time for your groups to make good use of the current technology in order to stay in touch. If you're not sure how to make that happen, approach a young woman in your congregation, chances are she'll know exactly what to do.

In closing I'd like to thank you for your continued prayers and support of the LWML. To quote a portion of The League Pledge: ...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. *Thank you!*

Sincerely your sister in Christ,
Darlene Keca
LWML English District President 2018-2022

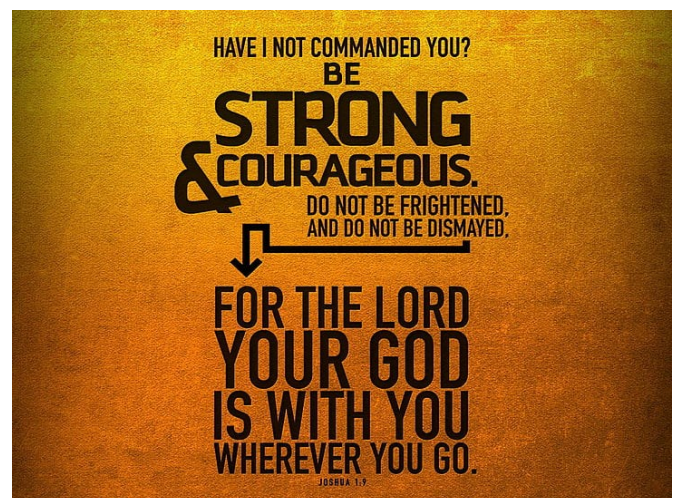
Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers. (Galatians 6:10).

Following each convention the Executive Committee begins the process of appointing individuals who are willing to serve on a committee. If you have ever considered running for a position at district level but aren't sure if you're ready, serving a two year term on a committee may be a good place to start. Listed below are the standing committees, chaired by LWML English District Vice Presidents.

Bylaws – Diana Honebrink
Christian Life/Human Care – Barbara Taylor
Mission Grants – Gail Arndt
Leader/Member Development – Diana Honebrink

Detailed information can be found in the LWML English District Bylaw under Article XI - Committees and Appointed Personal (pages 12-15). The current bylaws can be viewed or downloaded from our website at englishdistrictlwml.weebly.com

If you have any questions or would like to serve on one of these committees please contact Darlene Keca at lwmldarlene@gmail.com. Include the committee you are interested in, along with your name, email and telephone number. Also, it would be appreciated if the subject line of the email shows "LWML ED Committees". Thank you for prayerfully considering this valued position for our district.



VP Gospel Outreach
Gail Arndt

Grant #1 Military Share Food Distribution
Operation Barnabas \$3,000
Calvary Lutheran Church, Mechanicsburg, PA

In partnership with the Central PA Food Bank (CPAFB), the Operation Barnabas Committee of Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church is participating in the Military Share food distribution program. Calvary was the first non-military location selected by the food bank as a distribution point.

The Military Share Food Distribution program provides free nutritious food for active service members, retired veterans, veterans' widows and families of deployed veterans who qualify and are in need. They register by showing a form of military ID and filling out required forms to receive food.

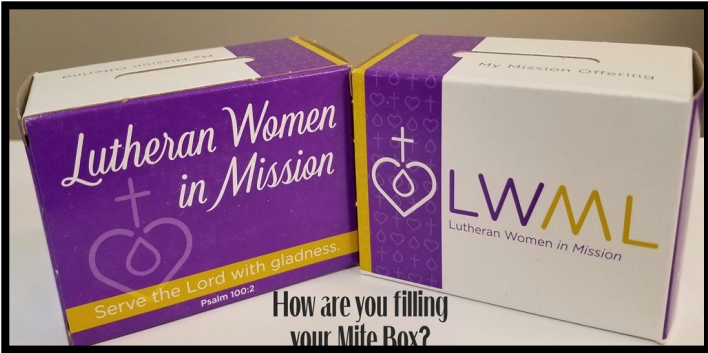
While the specific items may vary, each month eligible families will receive fresh produce, one quart of fresh milk, one dozen eggs, a meat product and a box of shelf stable pantry staples such as soup, pasta, sauce and cereal. When available, fish and poultry products may also be included. This averages \$60-\$80 dollars' worth of food per family registered.

As a distribution site, we are responsible for paying a portion of the costs incurred by the Food Bank for products that they have to purchase. The average monthly cost to Calvary is \$210. We also supplement the distribution when needs are seen with additional items when funds are available. As an example, we used a Thrivent Action Team grant to purchase paper products on a one-time basis.

Our program is experiencing significant growth in the number of participants. Initially the cost of the program was offset by a small grant from the Food Bank. Also, donations from local Chapters of the Military Order of the Purple Heart and the Disabled American Veterans have been of assistance. However, continued funding is needed to allow us to sustain the program as it continues to grow.

Since the program started on October 2017, Calvary's Operation Barnabas Committee has distributed 24,833 pounds of food to veteran families, and paid \$3,893 to the CPFEB for our share of the food distributed. Additionally, members of the committee and friends from the Congregation have volunteered 546 hours to this effort.

The vision of Operation Barnabas is that every military-connected person lives in the hope and peace of God's love and mercy as revealed in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.



Junior Counselor Rev. Joshua Ulm

Rev. Joshua Ulm was born in Cleveland and raised in Mentor and Medina. He is a 2018 graduate of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis and sole pastor at Ascension Lutheran Church and Early Childhood Center in North Olmsted, Ohio.

He married his wife, Mary, in 2013. They have been blessed with three children: Hannah, Joseph, and Bethany. Pastor Ulm's passions include preaching, helping families raise Christian kids, and life ministry. In his free time Pastor Ulm likes to watch Cleveland sports, play board games, and have fun with his family.

Pastor's favorite Bible verse is Psalm 32:1- *"Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven; whose sin is covered."*





**Archivist
Pat Zanta**

Please pray for...

MISSION GRANTS 2020–2022

Mission Goal: \$18,000

*Military Share Food Distribution—
Operation Barnabas -Calvary Lutheran
Church, Mechanicsburg, PA—
\$3,000*

*MOST Ministries Clean Water Filters
(Mission Opportunities Short Term)
Ann Arbor, MI—\$3,000*

*Epiphany Lutheran Church Food
Truck, Epiphany Lutheran, Door, MI—
\$3,000*

*Restoring Hope through Outreach
Programs, Mt. Calvary Lutheran
Church & Camp Restore, Detroit, MI—
\$3,000*

*Soldiers of the Cross, LCMS Mission
Advancement, St. Louis, MO—\$3,000*

*Chaplain Scholarships for Medical
Mission Trips, LCMS Mission Advance-
ment, St. Louis, MO—\$2,500*

*Grief Share—Grief Recovery Support
Group Program, Catalina Lutheran
Church LWML Society, Tucson, AZ—
\$500*

Greetings from Tucson!

Marilyn McClure and I have been sorting through our District's archives. This is very interesting work as we see God's blessings through the LWML over the years. We were disappointed to miss sharing a District history display at the Spring Convention but look forward to doing so at a future gathering.

As your Zones have Fall Rallies in whatever way possible, you can save programs, handouts, and photos for your Zone archives. While sorting our Arizona Zone archives, we have learned how helpful it is to label photos with names. We welcome any questions that your Zone Archivists may have.

May God bless you with health as you serve the Lord with gladness and in new ways during this unusual time.

Pat Zanta, Archivist
Tucson, AZ
edlwmlarchives@gmail.com



To receive a copy of the ACCENT by email send your email address to cactuslwml@gmail.com. This list is only used for distribution of the ACCENT. When emailing, every effort is made to keep the list secure.

If you want your name removed from this mailing send your email address to: cactuslwml@gmail.com.

