



ACCENT

On Lutheran Women's Missionary League

VOL. LIV, NO. 63

English District

SUMMER/FALL 2017



A LOGO FOR 2017 AND BEYOND

The LWML has moved forward with a new logo pictured above.

 The **heart** represents the love and giving nature of God through His children.

 The **drop** symbolizes the blood of Christ or a tear of compassion.

 The **cross** above all else clearly shows purpose behind all that we do in the LWML.

Through this identity, the hope is to empower members through deeper connections, tradition, and the desire to serve God. The symbol was created with this in mind; one that represents the members of both the LWML and the church.

Our logo is the center of our brand. It embodies our organization. How it is used and applied plays a critical role in how the organization is perceived.

Our prayer is that this new logo will help women take a first look or even another look at the LWML, and will give our faithful members a sense that their organization is looking towards the future and ready for 75 more years of mission outreach.

A Style Guide and Brand Guidelines are available on the LWML.org website listed below.

www.lwml.org/logos-style-sheet

LWML English District Banner



LWML 75th Anniversary Convention

PRESIDENT PATTI'S MESSAGE: ENGAGE, ENCOURAGE, EQUIP, AND ENJOY!

President Patti shared some of the ways the LWML has engaged the membership and the women of the church: increasing social media, hiring a marketing/communications manager in the office so the LWML message is consistent, designing a new logo, increasing the media presence of LWML, and adding an LWML app. "We tried to increase people's knowledge of LWML and that we are alive and well!"

The President closed by looking ahead. "God would not have kept us going for 75 years if He didn't think we were worth the trouble. I look forward to the future of the LWML as we continue to proclaim Jesus Christ above all in all that we do. I invite you to enjoy the future with me!" (Excerpts from The Diamond Times—Convention Newsletter)

If you would like to read more, see more, or hear more, go to the LWML.org website and click on Convention Central. It's all there waiting for you to ENJOY!

“I Want to Share a Story!”

Jan Simmons, LWML English District President

janlwml@yahoo.com



Greetings to my brothers and sisters of the LWML English District in the name of Jesus Christ, who is above all. *Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name.* Philippians 2:9

This *Accent* article, following the national LWML convention, is always based on some aspect of the convention. In order to do that I would like to tell a true story. It started on my trip home. I was waiting in the security line at the airport only to find out I was already TSA approved, however, my driver's license had expired. Fortunately they let me proceed through security anyway. We were waiting for our first flight when they announced a 15 minute delay, to add extra fuel to the plane, to allow for circling the Denver airport due to thunderstorms and high air traffic. Of course there were moans from the gate, but I was thankful it was only 15 minutes. We arrived in Denver with no further delays; prayers answered. While waiting for our next flight, the plane arrived at the gate in plenty of time to unload and reload for an on-time departure. However, once again, it was announced the plane would be delayed an hour because of mechanical problems, and of course, another sigh from the gate area. Then we noticed the flight attendants, pilots, and all passengers quickly unloading the plane, along with two firemen, and we decided a new plane and a little delay was not so bad. Even if we had to spend the night, maybe we could see some of Denver. So we took a walk around the airport, switched gates, and got a brand new plane, followed by a very smooth flight and landing; once again giving thanks to God. By now it was almost midnight and we were exhausted. When I got home I noticed that I only had one of my checked bags, and I knew I took two off the luggage carousel and out to the arrival passenger pick-up area. Immediately I called airport security; fearing my bag would be on the morning news surrounded by a bomb squad because it was left unattended in front of the airport. To my relief the police had not found a bag, so I figured it must have been stolen! The bag contained most of my daughter Jenna's, (one of our YWR's) and my items from convention, such as the Bible Jenna received as a YWR, devotional materials, all the informative materials received from the exhibitors, and LCMS materials. At first I was very upset, since all my notes and gifts were missing, then I realized something. If a person deliberately picked up my bag thinking it was filled with expensive jewelry and clothes, they would see Jenna's Bible, the devotional materials, and other items of witness. I then prayed that the Holy Spirit would fill the heart of the person who took the bag and bring them to the saving grace of Jesus Christ. Then I was not so sad, and able to get some sleep until the morning when I could call the airport and find out if my bag had been found. The good news is that an honest person found my bag and returned it to Southwest baggage claim. I was able to retrieve it the next day. I felt the bad news was; a missed opportunity to witness about Jesus. I realized how important it is to use every opportunity, whether good or bad, to share the good news about Jesus by witnessing "His Love" through our actions. And of course the good news was, I got my bag back, praise God!

The reason I am telling this story is because I honestly feel if these situations had happened on any other trip, other than convention, I probably would have reacted totally different. The convention was wonderful; I should say spectacular, from the worship services to the mission speakers, guest speakers, and Diamond Jubilee 75th Celebration. All of our speakers, missionaries, and President Patti emphasized that we are to witness in our everyday life about the love and grace of Jesus. We need to take advantage of these opportunities, whether at home with our families, at work, in our everyday life, and even in airports. It is our **obligation** and **duty** as members of the LWML to share our love of Jesus to the unreached by our words and actions. Please take the time and go to Livestream.com/TheLWML and experience the love of Jesus through the worship services and speakers, plus the Christian Fellowship that those who attended the convention experienced. You could possibly pick a speaker and livestream the speech for one of your future LWML society meetings.

I wish we all could have been there together. I enjoyed being with our LWML English District delegation and sharing this 75th convention with my sisters and brothers in Christ. There were about 40 in attendance from our district; five pastors, two past LWML English District presidents, two YWR's, one H2H, nine delegates, and many guest. Please talk to your delegates and friends who attended and give them an opportunity to share their experience with you, and remember "Jesus Christ above all". ►

“Proposed Amendments”

*Darlene Keca, Vice-President Organizational Resources
d.keca@sbcglobal.net*

“It Was a Great Convention!”

*Ruth Crowl, Vice-president of Christian Life/ Human Care
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Wow!! Albuquerque and Convention - Jesus Christ Above All!

Before convention convened I had the privilege of attending a Structure-Bylaws Seminar. It was very informative learning from the presenters as well as other attendees. Here are some of the topics covered: Review the process for amending district bylaws through the LWML Structure Committee; review how to complete the process, the importance of the LWML Style Sheet, LWML website, and other resources; Basic Parliamentary Procedure and examples of policy and standing rules versus bylaws.

To those of you not familiar with the style sheet as a resource, please spend a few minutes and look it over. The LWML Style Sheet is available on the lwml.org website.

Proposed Amendments to LWML Bylaws:

Special attention was focused on Article XIII- Departments and Standing Committees, Section 1c. Please read the rationale regarding this proposed and adopted amendment. Prior to this amendment, committee chairmen attended and had a vote at the Board of Directors meetings. Keep in mind that the chairmen are appointed and not elected to their positions.

Rationale: Committee chairmen, appointed by the President with approval of the Executive Committee, serve in departments under the direction of the vice presidents. Their primary responsibilities relate to working with their committees to carry out the purpose of the committee. Committee chairmen report to the Board of Directors, and receive input from the Board of Directors, through their department coordinator. Although vital to the operation of the LWML, committee chairmen have no direct role in the function of the Board of Directors.

How does this affect the general operations of the LWML? As explained at convention, this change should allow the Board of Directors to operate more efficiently, plus a potential savings of operating costs. The more members involved at board level, the more contacts via email or electronic messaging are necessary to make decisions between scheduled meetings. The other consideration is that the board will now consist of elected officers (the LWML Executive Committee and the LWML District Presidents). ►

What a great convention! Our speakers were so very inspirational. Ida Mall, past president, was the keynote speaker; Deaconess Betty Knapp was the Bible Study leader; and of course our very own Jan Struck who again was our humorous.

Jan Struck again portrayed "Katy Luther" with humor, but this time she quoted many Bible passages that dealt with every woman's day to day challenges. Challenges for which Katy turned to the Bible for understanding, guidance, patience, and comfort. I certainly wish I had a copy of her script.

We heard from many of our missionaries, with their outstanding stories. Also, we listened to LCMS Chief Mission Officer, Rev. Kevin Robson. It was amazing to listen to what his job entails. All work from behind the scenes for LCMS; I wish I had his energy!

I was fortunate and blessed to meet and talk with several of our missionaries, both here at home, and abroad. They all, in some way or another, have received the benefits of your mites, and are so thankful to the LWML!

As some of you know, I write a monthly letter, and I try to include information regarding OUR missionaries, mainly to inform the readers but also to let our missionaries know we are thinking and praying for them. If you would like to be on the list to receive the letter please e-mail me at recrowl@comcast.com.

It was a great inspirational convention, to God be the Glory! ►

HAVE YOU PRAYED TODAY?

Jesus is waiting to hear from you. In Colossians 4:2 Paul tells us *Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.*

ACCENT Deadline: November 1, 2017. 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 at: voorheescf14@gmail.com

“The Lutheran Women in Mission, of Mission, for Mission.”

Diana Honebrink, Vice-President of Gospel Outreach

knirbenoh@juno.com



The Albuquerque convention stayed true to our new name, *Lutheran Women in Mission*. We were indeed Lutheran Women in Mission, of mission, for mission. The Mites in Action Speakers not only informed us of specific ministries being carried out with the help of mites but they inspired us to be personally involved with the mission of spreading the Gospel in our everyday lives. A mission goal of \$2,000,075 helped renew convention goers' zeal to serve the Lord with gladness by returning God's mites to Him. Past president Janice Wendorf stayed true to our mission of mission by moving that a tie in the voting for the final mission grant be broken by funding BOTH grants rather than voting to eliminate one of them. Mission was indeed the centerpiece of the convention.

Sanya Parson, Director of Rebecca's Garden of Hope, 2013-2015 Mission Grant #13, *Christ-Centered Tutoring through Rebecca's Garden of Hope*, spoke passionately about her work with at risk youth, and the development of a training template for other organizations to use as they tutor and mentor at risk youth in their own communities. Attendees were inspired by her story of impacting one child at a time through relationship building.

Steve and Nancy Cohen of The Apple of His Eye Mission Society, 2015-2017 Mission Grant #14, *Bringing the Gospel to the Lost Sheep of Israel*, were equally inspirational as they recounted stories from their years of experience in the mission fields of Russia and Israel. With their customary humor and no-nonsense style, they encouraged all to share the precious Gospel with those that don't yet know Jesus Christ. They also shared the exciting news that our outgoing Senior Pastoral Counselor, Rev. Dr. Robert Roegner and his wife, Church Workers in Mission Task Force Chairman, Kristi Roegner, would be joining them as full time missionaries to Israel.

Vicar Tim Norton of Lutheran Indian Ministries, 2015-2017 Mission Grant #6, *Hope and Healing to the Navajo People*, shared insights into the many challenges of ministering to the Navajo nation, the

majority of which is non-Christian. Poverty, hunger and abuse plague these people in our own back yard but the church is a desperately needed source of physical and spiritual comfort.

Katia Sahyouni of Middle East Lutheran Ministries (Lutheran Hour Ministries in Lebanon). 2015-2017 Mission Grant #7, *Outreach in Refugee Camps – Lebanon*, gave a beautifully heartfelt description of her outreach ministry to students, refugees, youth, orphans and various ethnic groups. Her commitment to Christ is unwavering in spite of a childhood spent running from war in Lebanon.

The above mentioned Mites in Action Speakers, the presentation of the 34 proposed mission grants for 2017-2019 and the result of mission grant voting to fund 22 of the 34 projects were powerful witnesses of the Triune God's work through LWML, past, present and future. Please take the time to familiarize yourself with the 2017-2019 LWML Mission Grants at www.lwml.org/mission-grants. As Women in Mission, of mission, and for mission, pray for these ministries, tell others of the mission of the LWML, give your mites and talents to further God's kingdom and share the good news of *Jesus Christ above all*. ►



Heart to Heart Sister Teta Deah & English District President Jan Simmons

I WILL CHOOSE TO

find joy IN THE *journey*

THAT GOD HAS SET BEFORE ME.

“Women in Mission...”

Susan Fleishman, District Treasurer

Susan.Fleischmann@mercer.com



For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own. 2 Corinthians 8:3

Almost Heaven, National Convention! The post-convention glow is still upon me. Yes, there were business meetings and by-law discussion, but spending four days worshipping, singing, and praising our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, Above All, with 3,500 other Christians was priceless. The highlights of this convention for me included: Thursday night Opening Worship Service with Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison serving as Proclaimer; luncheon session with Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz, who addressed attendees wearing a purple hat, shoes, shirt and tie; Mites in Action Speakers, witnessing on the impact of mites through mission grants to date in 71 different countries; the jubilant 75th “Diamond Dazzle” celebration; and the closing, Service of Sending Worship.

The Women in Mission of LWML from pockets of love continue to give as much as they are able and even beyond. Donations from this national convention included:

- Convention Offering #1- LWML Mission Goal 2017-2019: \$45,123.55
- Convention Offering #2 – LWML 75th Anniversary Thank Offering for the advancement of the LWML Endowment Fund: \$49,105.84
- Convention Offering #3- Bilingual “Worker Priest” to serve people on the US/Mexico border with Concordia Lutheran Church, Chula Vista, CA: \$39,904.81
- Convention Offering #4 – God Cares About You to support this mission that serves a diverse population living in the poorest area in Albuquerque, NM: \$33,290.56
- Pledge Walk with 1,132 participants: \$73,674.55
- Golf Outing included 12 teams: \$12,550.78
- Mites collected for handmade dishcloths \$1,800

Just a reminder that 25% of your mite offerings sent to English District are mailed to National to assist in completing their mission grants. The LWML National Treasurer reported that all 40 districts came together this past March to remit mites to exceed the 2015-2017 mission goal of \$2,000,000. Check out other ways to financially support National missions at lwml.org/giving-plans. The Women in Mission of our LWML English District are also giving as they are able and even beyond. We have completed five of our six mission grants. Thank you for continually and faithfully remitting your mites. ▶

Our Mission Goal for the 2016-2018 biennium \$16,000

1. **Gospel Hands VBS - \$2,000 (PAID)**
Lutheran Friends of the Deaf,
Mill Neck, New York
2. **Catechisms for Sudan & Sudanese Immigrants - \$3,000 (PAID)**
Lutheran Heritage Foundation,
Macomb, Michigan
3. **Operation Barnabas Committee - \$2,000**
Calvary Lutheran Church, Mechanicsburg,
Pennsylvania (PAID)
4. **It’s All About the Kids - \$3,000**
Lutheran Special Education Ministries,
Farmington Hills, Michigan (PAID)
5. **Missionary Work of Deaconess Rachel Powell - \$3000**
Dominican Republic (PAID)
6. **Grace Community Meals - \$3,000**
Grace Lutheran Church, Wyoming, Michigan

“Thankful to God for the Work of the LWML!”

*Rev. Eric Carlson, JR Pastoral Counselor
pastorcarlsonlcms@gmail.com*



I wasn't sure what to expect when I attended the recent LWML convention in Albuquerque. I was a “first timer,” as my name badge declared. My term as Junior Counselor for the English District began in 2017, just in time for this national gathering of dedicated Lutheran Women in Mission.

What an inspiring and uplifting event it turned out to be! The love of Christ was evident as women enthusiastically greeted me and asked how I was doing as a new attendee. While the event was mostly women, I never felt out of place. It was a very welcoming and comfortable place to be.

It was a blessing to see so many women who love the Lord. This was seen in the wonderful worship service, where I was part of a 60+ pastor team to provide Word and Sacrament. A great Gospel sermon from President Harrison...beloved hymns joyfully sung by thousands... God's gifts flowing in abundance...what a fantastic way to begin!

The theme “Jesus Christ Above All” was more than a nice sounding catchphrase. It permeated every aspect of worship and business and entertainment. Our churches could learn a lot by the way prayers preceded and followed every vote. Jesus Christ was indeed above all, even when conducting the necessary business meetings.

I came away from this thankful to God for all the work of the LWML. I already thought well of the organization, but on this trip, I saw firsthand faithful commitment to our Lord, even at the national level. Offerings were given gladly that fund the spread of God's Word. Decisions were driven by a love for Jesus and a desire to make sure the message of the forgiveness that He won for us on the cross goes to all nations.

Jesus Christ is above all. This Gospel truth rang out clearly at the 75th anniversary convention. As the Holy Spirit continues to inspire and motivate the women of the LWML, may the Good News of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ, continue to be proclaimed with boldness and joy.

Blessings to all of you in the name of our victorious Lord! ►

The LWML Diamond Jubilee Celebration, held Saturday evening, was one of the highlights of the convention. It began with a boisterous parade of past presidents and district leaders dancing down the aisles into the convention room. Music was lively and many participants were dressed in gala attire or outfits representing decades of the past. Everyone received a flashing pink plastic ring upon entering the convention. The program that followed presented a review of the decades with “time traveling” interviews of past LWML presidents. Each decade synopsis was followed by a timely song sung by Rebecca Smith, a wonderfully talented singer. Overall, it was a fun joyous celebration of 75 years of Lutheran Women in Mission!

Sara Neagley, LWML English District Secretary



“LWML English District Young Woman Representative 2017”

Chelsie MacIntosh, YWR

Young Women
IN MISSION

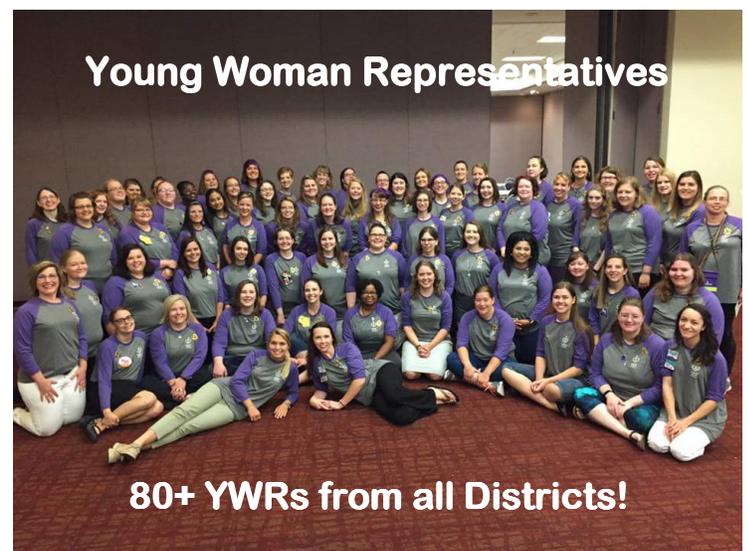
It was my pleasure to serve as a Young Woman Representative (YWR) for my district at LWML National Convention 2017. In addition to the orders of business, the convention was also the celebration of the 75th anniversary of the LWML, so there was a lot of focus on how far LWML has come since it began, as well as what LWML will accomplish during its next 75 years. This was my first ever LWML convention and I couldn't have picked a better year for a great crash course in the history of the LWML. Of course, this year is also the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, so what better year to reflect on what the past can teach us, even as we look forward to the future.

I really enjoyed being able to interact with the other YWRs, district representatives, and current and former district and national presidents. It was so rewarding to meet so many women who have put so much time and effort into serving their neighbors. Some of my favorite parts of the convention, in no particular order, were:

- ✦ The opening Divine Service – speaking the words of the liturgy, singing the ancient hymns of the church, praying together, and partaking of the Lord's Supper with approximately 4,000 other Lutherans was such an awesome experience.
- ✦ The Exhibit Hall – the hall contained different booths which were a great source of information on different mission organizations, as well as the LWML store and the CPH booth, plus the hall was a great place for running into people I knew from other events.
- ✦ The Mites in Action speakers – it was inspiring

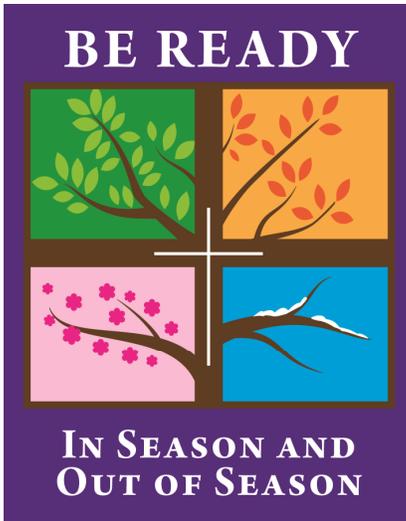
to hear how much our little mite boxes full of pocket change have accomplished through different mission grants all over the world.

The LWML is a great organization for those who ask: “how can I help and serve my neighbor?”, and the convention was the perfect place to get ideas on how to do just that. How we each serve our neighbor is dependent on our own unique talents, but the LWML is a conduit through which we can serve our neighbors both at home and half a world away. Many hands make light work, for the harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Together we sing the words of the hymn, “Here am I. Send me, send me!” (LSB 827).▶





Celebrate LWML Sunday!



It’s time to start planning your worship service and special activities for LWML Sunday.

Traditionally the first Sunday of October is set aside in congregations across the country to celebrate, but it can be celebrated at any time in the Fall. The theme this year is

“Be Ready to Confess Jesus”.

The author of this service, Dr. Lawrence Rast writes “Building on God’s promises, we know that this is our time to be distinctly Lutheran. Since 1942, the LWML has affirmed each woman’s identity as a child of God and her relationship with Jesus Christ, encouraging and equipping Christian women to live out their lives in active mission ministries, and to support missions around the world through their sacrificial gifts of mites, tithes, offerings, and tireless service. Now is our time to “Be Ready to Confess!” faithfully and boldly of Christ’s redemptive work for us and for all the world.”

Everything you need for LWML Sunday is available on the LWML website. Materials can be downloaded for free at www.lwml.org-sunday. Also, bulletin covers in letter and legal size can be purchased.

LWML Sunday is a perfect time to invite all women of all ages to join your LWML society. Make it a special day with information about your zone, district and national missions, servant events and rally’s. Hand out Mite Boxes to your congregation. Sit down with your pastor and talk about ways to engage and encourage your congregation to get involved in the work of the LWML. ►

Engage, Encourage, Equip, Enjoy!

LWML Districts Day

All LWML districts are invited to participate in the first ever “LWML Districts Day” on Monday, August 28. LWML Districts Day will consist of 24 hours of promoting district missions via national LWML social media. This will include highlighting district mission grants that need funding, promoting opportunities and request for servant event volunteers for an event of your choosing in your district, and providing a spotlight on your districts’ accomplishments.

You can join in by sharing posts and tweets to your personal social media pages on “LWML Districts Day.”

Do you have a volunteer project needing volunteers? Do you have one accomplishment you would like to highlight? If you have something you want to promote please send it to our LWML English District President Jan Simmons at:

janlwml@yahoo.com.

We look forward to the first LWML Districts Day on Thursday, August 28, 2017. Check it out!

www.facebook.com/thelwml
www.twitter.com/theLWML.



Katy Luther

*Pray so big and so often
that when God meets you at Heaven’s gate,
He says with a smile,
“Kid, you kept me very busy.”*