# The Eastern District



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District

Zone

Society

Together
Serving
the Lord
with
Gladness
For
70 Years



I had a busy, but wonderful autumn. There were changes in my husband's and in my work situations. There were LWML events to attend. There was information gathering and contacts to be made for the LWML 2021 Convention Bid. There was harvesting and leaf raking (we had a bounty of peppers this year and as always, lots of leaves to clean up). The list can go on. First, a few "thanks" to some Eastern District (ED) Zones. Thank you to Anthracite, who organized another excellent Retreat at Camp Pioneer. As always, I find it to be a great way to focus on His Word and have refreshing fellowship with my LWML Sisters. Thank you to the Genesee, Niagara, and

Central New York North Zones for inviting me to attend your Fall Events. It was inspiring to see what other Zones do for their Fall Events. I especially liked the focus of the "Body and Soul" versus a business meeting at the Genesee Event. It was a joy to be with the Niagara ladies as they celebrated their 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary. At the Central New York North rally the speaker was a linguistic missionary who has been writing God's Word in a currently unwritten language. I am excited to see what other Zones have in store for the spring, so please consider inviting me to your Spring Events.

Here is a brief update on what's happening at the District level. We had our first Executive Committee Meeting at the onset of Retreat. It was a long meeting, but we accomplished much. Following the meeting, we made preparations to attend the ED Church Workers Convention at Willow Valley in November. As part of this preparation, we updated the LWML ED Brochure. I can't wait for you all to see it. The LWML ED, along with New Jersey, Ohio, and English Districts, has put in a bid for the 2021 LWML Convention in Pittsburgh, PA. We are currently waiting to hear the decision of the LWML Convention Selection Committee. The 2016 LWML ED Convention committee is off and running. The Spring LWML ED Board of Directors meeting will be March 13-14, 2015 in Canastota, New York. I will be sending out a "save-the-date" letter in December, followed by a "Meeting Notice" in January.

Now, it's that time of year when we are all busy, preparing to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

"So, don't get tired of doing good. Don't get discouraged and give up, for we will reap a harvest of blessing at the appropriate time. Whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone, especially to our Christian brothers and sisters." Galatians 6:9-10

I find it especially joyous helping others this time of year. My home church sponsors a couple of families through our County Social Services. We show our Christian love in buying gifts and food. Our LWML Society also has an annual Christmas Dinner where we invite all the women of our congregation and usually some special invited guests. This year we are inviting the women of The Opportunity Shop (local Food Pantry) and all the women of our LWML Zone.

I pray that you all had a wonderful Advent, a Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year, and that you keep ...

Walking in His Light, Kathy

Serve the Lord with Gladness...Psalm 100:2

#### COUNSELOR'S

#### Words from Senior Counselor—Rev. Cory Eckstrom

CORNER



Dear sisters and brothers in the Lord, I wish you all a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and a blessed Epiphany!

This year has drawn to a close and 2015 is here. I find myself visiting many people in the hospital and have been in and out of hospitals myself. I hear these questions very often, "how do you feel today?" "Are you in pain?" "On a scale of 1-10, what number would give your pain?" I wonder what would happen if we were to ask our church the same questions? We know for a fact that people wait too long to go to the doctor, and we certainly know as Christians, that people wait too long to talk to God or their pastor

about our problems of sin. So, here is a chance to reflect and to consider these things in your hearts, just as Mary did. How is your pain? What ails you?

Ever had a nerve pinch? What an understatement that is medically! I'd rather call mine a nerve punch! Whatever nerve is being pinched or compressed, every single muscle and nerve bundle further down the line will be activated and/or misfire. Pain, muscle spasms, immobility, no sleep, and even your ability to do daily tasks is limited or impossible. This can be applied to our sin too, following the analogy, and similar results too. People in and out of our churches are desperately injured and pinched because of their sins and the consequences from it. The Bible discusses it this way: we are dead in our sins, cut off from God, and there is no hope to save ourselves from our pinched, aching, and disabled way of life. God offers hope, he sent His son down into a world dead in their relationships with Him, and introduced the Great Physician Jesus.

Jesus, like our modern doctors, begins by assessment and proper treatment. Jesus models what to do. Take time to read His Word. Attend church in an honest way. Tell your loved ones that need what God offers, about the relief from the pains and guilts of life. Many of our children and grandchildren don't attend church, because they are damaged by their sin and don't even know enough to consider a relationship with God important enough to help themselves. We must, just like Gabriel, announce it, and be there to explain it further. Mary doubted the plan of salvation, and was reassured. We also say in our hearts that God's plans are impossible. The final statement of Mary, who was given hope instead of the fear and shame of sin, truly from God, she says "let it be unto me as you said." What a wonderful gift to give Mary; hope, acceptance, belief, trust. Copy Mary's example when you see family and friends over these many holidays. With God's help, even the greatest, painful sin can be alleviated and a newer, spiritually healthier life will be the result, all to the glory of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

Pastor Cory J. Eckstrom



The 36th Biennial Convention of the Eastern District LWML June 10-12, 2016

Holiday Inn, Binghamton, New York "Take My Hand and Lead Me" (Psalm 25:4-5)

Show me your ways, Lord, teach me your paths. Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long. (Psalm 25:4-5)

It is with great pleasure that we ladies of the Central New York South Zone of the Eastern District have started on our walk to the 2016 Eastern District LWML Convention in Binghamton New York. We are right in the middle of our district and we can't think of a reason you wouldn't come. The Holiday Inn in Binghamton has promised us rooms and it's exciting to think that the Mite Walk in 2016 is planned for the River Walk just behind our hotel; newly redone since the 2011 flood. What better way is there than for us to walk out into our God's beautiful creation as we say "Take My Hand and Lead Me" (Psalm 25:4-5). So mark your calendar now — June 10-12, 2016— for as our National organization reminds us Now Is the Time!

Ruth Mueller, Convention Chairman

#### **Mission Grants**

I am happy to let you know that the first grant of the 2014-2016 biennium for \$5000 for Supplies for Lutheran Campus Ministry of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania has been funded. Please give generously to MITES so that we are able to fund all our grants.

Following is an excerpt from the Pittsburgh Lutheran Campus Ministry newsletter showing some of the great work this mission grant recipient is doing.

#### **Ruth Mueller, Mission Grant Chairman**



CAMPUS MINISTRY IN PITTSBURGH -GOD'S MISSION THROUGH YOU

Pastor Andrae wishes to thank the ladies of the LWML so much for the generous grant. It will be put to good, God-pleasing use.

"Thankful to God for the Campus Ministry" by Matthew Marge, Ph.D. candidate, Carnegie Mellon University I met Pastor Eric Andræ at the Fall 2007 at Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) while I was in my first year as a PhD student. My first impression was that he was a genuine, faithful Christian that cared deeply about connecting Christ with today's youth. That's best displayed in his leadership of campus ministry, which I can confidently say has positively impacted my life.

When I first started at CMU, my faith had been waning. I had a good feeling about Pastor Andræ back then, and Campus Ministry in general, and not before long I started attending services. ... Campus Ministry helped me reestablish a relationship with the Church. Being the face of Campus Ministry, Pastor Andræ has proven time and time again to be a devoted Lutheran Pastor. I also attend the Campus Ministry Bible study. This has been a great opportunity for me to revisit the key principles we can gather from the Bible, and in general connect topics we face today di-

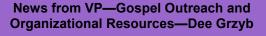


rectly to Bible passages. Finally, being a member of Campus Ministry provided me the experience of a lifetime - I am thankful to God for the opportunity to be part of Campus Ministry here at First Trinity. To show my thanks to Campus Ministry, I hope that living a Christian life and being a good example will help the people I encounter throughout life to understand what it means to be Lutheran, and moreover what it means to be Christian.

IA note from Pastor Andræ: On 17 October, I had the privilege of marrying Matthew and his bride Boyoung Park, a native of South Korea and on 23 November, Matthew was confirmed and Boyoung was baptized and confirmed (see photo ). Another day of victory for God's kingdom and your campus ministry!]









Let me introduce myself. My name is Dee Grzyb and I was elected at the 2014 Eastern District Convention to the Vice Presi-

dent of Gospel Outreach and Organizational Resources (GOOR). YES it is a long title!

One of my goals during my term will be to find out how our district can better serve its zones and societies. I began this process by attending the Pittsburgh Zone Rally and the Genesee Zone Rally in October. It was a pleasure District. for me to attend both rallies. At each rally I distributed a survey to all LWML attendees. The survey had several questions regarding how the district can better serve your needs and goals. I did receive some feedback which was very helpful, however, President Kathy Pavelock and I felt that an easier and more expedient way to accomplish this



would be to develop an on-line survey using Survey Monkey. As of this writing it has not yet been completed. My target date for completion is by the end of January. I will send it to you via email so that you can complete it and return it to me. The results of the survey will be shared with the Eastern District Board and published in the LINK.

If you haven't heard, we have paid the first grant--\$5,000 for supplies to the Lutheran Campus Ministry of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. We are well on our way of reaching our Mission Grant Goal of \$29,949.09. Thank you for your generosity.

I look forward to serving as VP of GOOR of the Eastern

If there is anything you would like to discuss with me, please do not hesitate to email me at degrzyb@msn.com or contact me by phone - 716-393-3670.

I wish you a Happy New Year filled with the gifts of His love, joy, peace and grace.

Dee



#### NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATIONS—BETH QUINN

Winter weather has come early this year. And for many of you it was a lot of snow. Personally I like winter and the whiteness of snow reminds me that we are whiter than snow as redeemed believers in Jesus Christ (Psalm 51:7). Several of you have contacted me above decreasing or increasing the number of Quarterlies you need. Below is some information I'd like you to pay attention to regarding the Quarterlies.



LWML QUARTERLY SUBSCRIP-TIONS: It's time to review the LWML Quarterly subscriptions. In January, I will send the Zone Presidents and Treasurers a list of the societies/individuals that receive Quarterlies. I am asking them to contact

each society (or individual) in their zone to confirm the information concerning the number of Quarterlies a society receives and to make sure the mailing address for the LWML Quarterly is correct. After each zone has verified their lists, I am requesting that they return the confirmed list to me. The deadline for submitting these lists is MARCH 1, 2014. Meeting this deadline helps me meet the national deadline of April 1, 2014. Decreases in LWML Quarterly subscriptions can be made only once a year. Increases and changes of address can be made anytime during the year. All payments should be sent through the Zone Treasurers (see below).

**LWML QUARTERLY PAYMENTS:** Societies/ individuals are still asked to send in their donation for the LWML Quarterly to their **Zone Treasurer**. The rate for the LWML Quarterly is set by the Eastern District LWML Board of Directors and is currently \$8.00 per subscription for less than 10 copies to the same address and \$6.50 per subscription for 10 or more copies to the same address. This rate includes the cost of the Quarterly plus a \$1.50 contribution towards the cost of the Eastern District LWML LINK newsletter.



Who doesn't like a sale. The LWML office has items on clearance. Sale prices are good through February 1, 2015, or until inventory is depleted. Find all sale and discontinued items on the Shop LWML page

of their website at www.lwml.org/store.

One copy of the LINK is emailed or mailed to Society Presidents. Society Presidents are asked to share the District LWML LINK with their members either by making copies available, posting a copy at church, or forwarding the LINK via email. If you currently are getting hard copies mailed to you, we'd appreciate emailing as this saves money for the LWML. Send your email address to Bev Wicher at <a href="mailto:lwmllink@gmail.com">lwmllink@gmail.com</a>. The LINK can also be used to glean LWML news to include with church publications. <a href="mailto:lwmlink@gmail.com">lmportant Fact</a>: These donations enable the District to use your mite box offerings more effectively for mission grants!

Keep Us Updated

the Eastern District LWML Directory up-to-date please send me all changes to names, addresses, phone numbers and emails of pastors, soci-

ety presidents, and zone officers to me as soon as possible. Directories are published in February (even numbered years) March (odd numbered years) and are distributed at the Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings. By sending the changes as soon as they occur allows me to keep the Directory up-to-date.

Rejoicing with you in the Savior's birth
Beth Quinn - 610-761-0263 - beth@quinnfamily.net



#### 2015 Convention

Des Moines, Iowa - June 25-28, 2015

Bountiful! Sow • Nourish • Reap

And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work (2 Corinthians 9:8)

The Time is NOW... to register for the LWML Convention. Those who register between February 2 and March 14, 2015 will receive a discounted rate on their registration fee. Join us June 25-28, 2015, in Des Moines, Iowa for the LWML Convention. Be fed by God's Word and Sacrament. Be nurtured through worship and fellowship. Be equipped to sow, nourish and reap in the Father's field. Registration forms and more information can be found in the winter issue of the Lutheran Woman's Quarterly and online at www.lwml.org.

## News From Around The Zones

#### **BUFFALO ZONE**



The Buffalo Zone held their Fall Rally at Hananiah Lutheran Church in Buffalo. We had about 30 women attend. It was wonderful to meet the

women from Hananiah. They joined in our meeting and treated us to a beautiful assortment of cakes and treats. After our meeting we took a tour of the church led by Deacon Diggs. It is amazing how we saw our Mites at work as they transformed a vacant building into a much needed worship center. There are plans for a new and larger sanctuary and classrooms. In addition to their weekly worship and Bible studies they also provide food, clothes, lunches, and employment help to the community. God has certainly blessed their efforts. We look forward to having the women join our zone activities.

#### Karen Blackmon, Buffalo Zone President

#### PITTSBURGH ZONE

The Fall JOYSHOP/Zone RALLY of the Pittsburgh Zone was held at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (South Hills), Pittsburgh on Saturday, September 27, 2014. An ingathering of imperishable food items were brought for Good Shepherd's Food Bank. The opening devotions. based on Christ's encouragement "to proclaim Him from the roof tops" as found in Matthew 10:27 were led by Rev. Sean Walters, pastoral counselor.



The JOYSHOP speaker was Kyle Uhlig, who served this past summer on the Synodical Medical Mission Team in Kenya. He faced overwhelming challenges AND opportunities with courage and trust in the Lord.

During the RALLY, Dee Grzyb, representative of LWML Eastern District, gave an informative report. Other reports from zone members were also given and decisions made; all of the 2014 Prayer Service offerings will be given to "Operation Lifeline," a project for the military. In 2015 the Prayer Service offerings will be given to the Synodical Medical Mission. A monetary donation of \$65 from the zone treasury was voted to be given in memory of Henrietta Maurhoff.

#### PITTSUBURGH ZONE CONTINUED

Newly elected zone president Deaconess Nancy Lingenfelter from St. John, Munson and Ruth Greer from Calvary, Murrysville will be delegates to the National Convention in Des Moines in June 2015.

The Spring JOYSHOP/RALLY will be held at St. Luke Lutheran Church, Cabot on Saturday, April 24, 2015.

**Deaconess Nancy Lingenfelter Pittsburgh Zone President** 

#### PHILADELPHIA ZONE

Happy New Year to all! We pray that your Christmas Season was filled with love and joy as you celebrated the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ!

The Fall Rally, hosted by the Philadelphia Zone of the English District was held at Bethany Lutheran Church in Ewing, New Jersey on Saturday, Novem-



ber 1. There were 60 people in attendance! The theme was "Matters of the Heart" based on John 15:12-21. Pastor Fred Gerlach led the worship service and Bible study. The ladies of Bethany put on a skit

to let us know about the English District Convention coming up in 2016. The ingathering was items to fill Thanksgiving food baskets in the Ewing area.

We will have a Philadelphia Zone board meeting on Saturday, March 28 at Christ Memorial Lutheran Church in Malvern, Pennsylvania. Our Spring Rally will be Saturday, April 11 at a location yet to be determined. Watch the Spring LINK for more details.

We are looking forward to a great LWML National Convention in Des Moines, Iowa, June 25-28. We hope to see many of our LWML sisters there!

Susan Bell, Philadelphia Zone President

The mission of the Eastern District Lutheran Women's Missionary League is to assist each woman of the district in affirming her relationship with the Triune God so that she is enabled to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the world

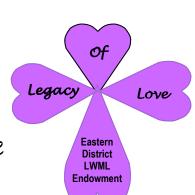
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#### Christ's love shining through you



LWML EASTERN
DISTRICT

Legacy of Love Endowment



As we begin the New Year with ideas, wishes and challenges I pray this past Christmas season gave you an opportunity to reflect on the many blessings you have received from our Lord and Savior. If you are wondering how you could share those blessings there are many ways and one of them is either sharing a gift now or remembering the Eastern District LWML in your estate planning. If you would like to make a gift now please forward it to our district financial secretary, Susan Bell at 814 Dover Court Place, Downingtown, Pa 19335.

The Eastern District endowment will allow us all to let our light shine for Jesus for generations to come through scholarships and leadership training. If you have any questions or would like to talk more about ways to do this please do not hesitate to contact me. Rebecca Bessell, rlb54@rochester.rr.com, 585-415-6368

# UPCOMING AVENUE Calendars

March 13-14, 2015

EC & Board of Director Meeting, Canastota, New York

June 25-28, 2015

LWML National Convention Des Moines, Iowa

Sept. 18, 2015

Executive Committee Mtg. Camp Pioneer

Sept. 18-20, 2015

Fall Retreat-Camp Pioneer

June 10-12, 2016

Eastern District LWML Convention—Binghamton, NY

#### Report of the Financial Secretary—Susan Bell

April 1, 2014 – December 31, 2014

Mites: \$22,575.01

Memorials given in honor of (from September 1,

2014 - December 31, 2014):

All those who unselfishly serve the Lord

In the LWML

Confirmation Class at CMLC

Kathy Ippolito

Memorials given in remembrance of (from Septem-

ber 1, 2014-December 31, 2014)

Henrietta Maurhoff Marcia Bell Snepp

Treasurers are asked to forward money from their zone on a monthly basis so our mission grants can be paid in a timely manner and to assure that all are funded.

#### **Executive Committee**

#### President

Kathy Pavelock, 8200 State Route 13, Blossvale, NY 13308 315-245-1590 KMPavelock@aol.com

#### Vice President Communications

**Beth Quinn,** 558 Westwind Drive, Berwyn, PA 19312 610-644-8401 beth@quinnfamily.net

#### Vice President Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources

**Dee Grzyb**, 56 Hanover St., Lancaster NY 14086 716-393-3670 degrzyb@msn.com

#### Vice-President Christian Life/Special Focus

**Karen Devan**, 6438 Lake Shore S., Canastota, NY 13032 315-762-4222 <u>DPDevan@aol.com</u>

#### Recording Secretary

Ruth Wurster, 4646 Abbott Rd., Orchard Park, NY 14127 716-649-0796, dfcrew@verizon.net

#### Financial Secretary

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#### Treasurer

**Darlene Byrns** 1712 Blossom Road, Rochester, NY14610 585-288-5568 <u>Darlene248@aol.com</u>

#### **Senior Pastoral Counselor**

Rev. Cory Eckstrom, 49 Hamlin St., Cortland, NY 13045 607-591-5919 coryecks@aol.com

#### **Junior Pastoral Counselor**

Rev. Kristian Bjornstad, 60 E. Parker St. Scranton, PA 18509 570-343-9828 <a href="mailto:yourpeace@verizon.net">yourpeace@verizon.net</a>

#### Appointed By the President

#### Parliamentarian

Gretchen Putzman, 148 Heather Hill, West Seneca, NY 14224 716-674-8859

#### Planner

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#### **Appointed By the Executive Committee**

#### Editor

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**Deaconess Nancy Lingenfelter**, 225 Dogwood Drive, Apt. 302 Philipsburg, PA 16866, 814-342-1713 <a href="mailto:nllingenfelter@gmail.com">nllingenfelter@gmail.com</a>

**Trudy Sallach**, 5465 Patton Street, Erie, PA 16509 814-866-7662

#### Appointed by Board of Directors

#### **Mission Grants Chair**

Ruth Mueller, 3600 Old Vestal Rd., Vestal, NY 13850 607-797-8453 <a href="mailto:rdvmm@aol.com">rdvmm@aol.com</a>

#### Mission Grants Co-Chair

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Rebecca Futty, 509 Lennon Way, West Chester, PA 19380 484-319-2398 <a href="mailto:rebeccafutty@gmail.com">rebeccafutty@gmail.com</a>

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#### Structure Chair

Robin Swanson, 940 Creek Rd., Sugar Grove, PA 16350 814-489-3411, tr72 qo@hotmail.com

#### Structure Co-Chair

Vacant

#### Special Focus Chair

**Teri Devan,** 10 Homestead Ct., Clinton, NY 13323-1040 315-734-1372, FlaqDayTld@aol.com

#### Special Focus Co-Chair

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#### Leader Development Chair

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#### Leader Development Co-Chair

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#### 2014 District Convention Liaison

**Bev Wicher**, 19 Vernon Drive, Cheektowaga, NY 14225 716-913-4140 <a href="mailto:lwmllink@gmail.com">lwmllink@gmail.com</a>

#### Eastern District Recycling Fundraiser Chairman

Claire Carlson, 5282 Oakridge Dr. Hamburg, NY 14075 716-649-4678, patchtroop546@aol.com

#### Legacy of Love Chairman

Rebecca Bessell, 7048 Benedict Beach Hamlin, NY14464 585-964-7844 rlb54@rochester.rr.com

#### Webmaster

Kathy Pavelock, 8200 State Route 13, Blossvale, NY 13308 315-245-1590 <a href="mailto:kmpavelock@aol.com">kmpavelock@aol.com</a>

#### **Zone Presidents**

#### Anthracite Zone

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#### Cattaraugus-AlleganyZone

Georgia Henry, 4873 Miller Rd., Ripley, NY 14775 716-252-6676

#### Central New York North Zone

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315-339-1979 <u>lbahr@twcny.rr.com</u>

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607-227-2681 marbomail@gmail.com

#### Genesee Zone

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#### Niagara Zone

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#### Philadelphia Zone

Susan Bell, 814 Dover Court Place, Downingtown, PA 19335 610-518-0681 <a href="mailto:susanbell557@comcast.net">susanbell557@comcast.net</a>

#### Pittsburgh Zone

**Deaconess Nancy Lingenfelter**, 225 Dogwood Drive, Apt. 302 Philipsburg, PA 16866, 814-342-1713 <a href="mailto:nllingenfelter@gmail.com">nllingenfelter@gmail.com</a>

#### **NEW E-MAIL FOR LINK**

Please change my e-mail to <a href="mailto:lwmllink@gmail.com">lwmllink@gmail.com</a> for all LWML correspondence.

Please send all news articles and information for publication to:

Bev Wicher 19 Vernon Drive Cheektowaga, NY 14225 E-mail: lwmllink@gmail.com

Please note this is a new e-mail

#### The next deadline is March 1, 2015

The Link is published four times each year.

April 1, July 1, October 1, January 1

Deadlines to submit articles:

March 1, June 1, September 1, December 1



## EASTERN DISTRICT LWML RECYLING FUNDRAISING RECYCLING INK CARTRIDGES, CELL PHONES, ETC.

We continue support our Eastern District operating fund by recycling. Please continue to save your ink cartridges, cell phones, etc. as listed below to help us with this effort. This is an ongoing continued effort to help offset our costs and make more funds available for Mites.

**DO:** \* Save name brand ink cartridges \* Save ink jet and especially laser jet cartridges \* Save Cell Phones, Pagers, PDAs, DVD Video Game and Portable Players, I-Pods, MP3 Players, Digital Cameras, Laptop Computers, GPS Systems, scientific/ graphing calculators, Tablets, eReaders and iPads. Please note these do not have to be in working order \* Bring to any zone meeting, rally, workshop or event \* Bring to any district meeting, event, retreat or convention.

**DON'T:** Save anything with the words:

\* Toner \* Remanufactured \* Refilled \* Save generic brand names ink cartridges \* Save printers or large computer monitors

**DO:** Contact District Recycling Coordinator Claire Carlson at 716-649-4678 or at patchtroop546@aol.com if you have any questions. Please note the contact person for only Central New York North Zone is Pat Clark. Please contact her at patsy-jeanclark@gmail.com.



Thank you so much for continuing to save your stamps. In December 127 pounds of stamps, including 68 pounds from the Pittsburgh area, were delivered to the Canadian Bible Society. Your generosity is overwhelming and so appreciated. Remember to continue to save your stamps—one pound of stamps equals one Bible.



Bev Wicher
Eastern District LWML Editor
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E-mail lwmllink@gmail.com

# The Eastern District Lutheran



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District

Zone

Society

Together
Serving
the Lord
with
Gladness
For
70 Years



"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven ..." Ecc 3:1

While preparing this article, I look out the window and see four feet of snow on the ground, glistening in the 10 degree wind chill. The winter has been long and cold, making the coming of Spring all that much sweeter. I think you will agree with me that "The Time is NOW" for Spring to burst forth!

"The Time is NOW" for other matters as well.

Preparations for Des Moines 2015 LWML Convention: Registration has been open since February 1<sup>st</sup> and ends on May 12<sup>th</sup> (early registration ends on March 14<sup>th</sup>). There is a Grant Proposal on the Ballot from our Eastern District, Genesee Zone. LINC Rochester is requesting \$100,000 for "The Threefold Cord": Community Ministerial Support to Strengthen Families in Extreme Poverty. In addition to me, LWML Eastern District is being represented by 10 Delegates representing 8 of our 9 Zones, 2 YWRs (Rebecca Futty, Philadelphia Zone and Kelly Morrison, Genesee Zone), Rev. Kristian Bjornstad, as our Pastoral Counselor, and many others attending as alternates and guests. If you are unable to attend the Convention, please pray for the LINC Rochester grant, the YWRs, Pastors, delegates and guests who will be attending.

Helping the women in your life: I hope many of you have taken the pledge from the <a href="https://www.lwml.org">www.lwml.org</a> website. This is my pledge for all the women in my life, including you: "I am committed to helping LWML make an impact on the next generation! I am dedicated to sharing my heart for Jesus Christ, caring for my sisters in my society/ congregation/community/zone/ district, and helping them use their gifts to serve the Lord. I am glad to be a part of LWML, and I invite the women in my life to consider learning more about LWML with me."

In support of this commitment, I have reached out to the pastors in my circuit with the hope of teaming with them to encourage Lutheran women in my Zone to find out about LWML. My prayer is to use this experience to equip the LWML Eastern District Zone Presidents to do the same in their communities. How about you? How are you sharing and caring for the women in your life?

<u>Planning for LWML Eastern District Retreat</u>: The Niagara Zone is busy with preparations for the Fall Retreat. Donna Pyle is planned to be our speaker, who will provide an in-depth Bible study based on "Laborers in the Vineyard" from Matthew 20. Registration will open May 1<sup>st</sup> and Pioneer Camp and Retreat will be handling Registration in its entirety.

"The Time is NOW" to continue our walk in the Light and to reflect His Light to the women in our lives. Won't you join me in this adventure?

Walking with you in His Light, Kathy Pavelock

Serve the Lord with Gladness...Psalm 100:2

### COUNSELOR'S

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### Sharing the Easter Joy with our Confirmands and Young People

After witnessing the ED LWML board of directors in action the other week I am acutely aware that there is no one more dedicated to the Lord's work than you, the beautiful women of the Lord. I so appreciate your encouragement to me and I am so glad for all that you do in Jesus. In 2 Corinthians St. Paul writes that he is confident "that on the day of our Lord Jesus you will boast of us as we will boast of you." I certainly look forward to the day when I too will "boast" of you and my congregation... I will say in the presence of all the saints of heaven: "Look! The children of God! I knew them! See how they shine in glory! See

how the resurrected Jesus has covered their sin! See how he has raised them up for wondrous works of mercy, peace and love in a world so desperate for the blessings of God." And the chorus of "Alleluias" will thunder and shake the whole heaven!

The reality of Easter is almost upon us. The thrill of the Resurrection lifts our hearts and points us to the skies. Who are we to keep this to ourselves? Let us increase the boast - even to the present day! Paul looked at every person he came in contact with through the eyes of Jesus. He saw them all as precious and loved by the Lord and he devoted himself to encouraging everyone in the faith. He said plainly that they were his Joy! They were beauteous in his sight and he loved to extol their virtues and gifts.

As a pastor, can I ask a special favor of you beautiful partners in the Gospel? I really have a heart for our young people. They are precious. But the one thing that I think is so lacking (in at least my church) is a lack of biblical boasting - a lack of personal, eye to eye, encouragement and appreciation of our young people. Of course everyone needs this biblical boasting and encouragement, but I believe our young people need it the most.

Coming up to Easter and then especially Confirmation Sunday. Take one or two aside and share a small gift or cross. Kneel down, look that young person in the eye. Take them by the hand. Smile at them! Actually take the time to tell them in just a short couple sentence how you think the world of them and how much more even the Lord thinks of them. Tell them how the forgiveness and love of God has made a difference in your life. Tell them that you are praying for them. You really can do this to the kids you don't even know!

There was a young kid some years ago that a beautiful LWML woman took time for and did this. It made an amazing difference in his life. That kid was me. And I am looking forward to boasting of her in the Lord for all eternity. It will be wonderful.

#### He is Risen! Indeed! Pastor Biornstad

God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. [Romans 5:8 (NKJV)]

#### **Mission Grants**

#### GRANT FORMS AVAILABLE NOW!!

#### **DUE OCTOBER 15, 2015**

Forms can be obtained from your Zone President, Ruth Mueller, our Mission Grants Chairman or the Eastern District LWML Website www.east-dist-lwml.org

DON'T DELAY GET YOUR FORMS IN TODAY

The Lord has blessed us with funding into this year. Grant 2 has now been paid (see the article on page 3) and we will be paying Grant 3 shortly. Please keep your pennies, nickels, dollars and more coming into the Eastern District Mites as there is just a 10 months remaining to complete all seven of our Grants. As the Lord has blessed you, even so you have the opportunity to thank Him with your Mite offerings.

If your society has not yet received the application forms for the next biennium, call your zone president TODAY. The completed forms must be back to Ruth Mueller's on or before October 15, 2015!!

**Ruth Mueller, Mission Grants chairman** 

#### **GRANTS IN ACTION**

Progress Report on LWML Grant "Christ-Centered Cancer Care Ministry" Grant 2 Awarded to St. Mark Lutheran Church, Reported by Richard Krause

Activity on the above project was started before the grant was approved and before funds were available. Now that funds are available, it is appropriate to summarize what has transpired since the project was started.

Marketing of the opportunity to help cancer patients has been conducted via formal announcements to St. Mark Lutheran Church Council meetings, newsletter articles, discussions with several outside organizations, and by much personal one on one contact. This activity has led to over 30 discussions with cancer patients, other churches, Camp Good



Days and Happy Times, LINC of Rochester, and other cancer care organizations. The result so far from this effort has been 20 patients connected with Phil's Friends, thereby receiving care packages and weekly mailings of encouragement.

Some feedback follows.

- **Gretchen**---We have been such a great blessing in providing this support. She is very thankful for our support. She keeps all the mailings and reviews them often. She looks forward every week to a mailing. Being alone, each mailing is like the only hug she gets and feels like a warm blanket because someone cares.
- **Regina**---This is a wonderful thing we are doing and please keep up the ministry. Her husband used the blankets every day and shared the contents with his grandkids. He received only three mailings before he died but it was comforting to get them because they had few visitors to encourage them.
- **Maya**----This is a three-year-old girl who has been through many operations and hospital stays. She really enjoyed the kid things in the care package. Her mother says she now wants to go get the mail everyday to see if there is something for here, particularly the Phil's Friends' mailings.
- **Lydia---**This is a great ministry that you are doing. I enjoy and appreciate the care and thought involved. Please keep up the good work.
- **Bill**---This gentleman suffered from cancer many years and was pleased to receive the care package. What he enjoyed even more were visits.
- **Kathy**---This woman was surprised and very pleased to get her care package. Her friend was the one that connected us with Kathy. She felt good that she could do something supportive for her friend. Kathy appreciates the weekly mailings and would be pleased to continue getting them

It is obvious to us that these patient contacts have at least an indirect positive impact of families and friends.



Pastor Andrae baptizing Sonal

#### CAMPUS MINISTRY PITTSBURGH BRINGS ANOTHER STUDENT TO CHRIST THROUGH BAPTISM

Sonal Nanda was raised in a Hindu family, the daughter of immigrants from India. On 18 January 2015 (Epiphany II) she became a Christian through the saving waters of baptism (Titus 3:4-7).

Sonal started coming to Lutheran Student Fellowship and First Trinity because she was invited by some of her friends. Here are some of her comments about her new Christian faith:

Why were you baptized and confirmed? What does this mean? I was baptized and confirmed because I came to believe the words of the Creed and how it was explained in Luther's Catechism. God has given me the gift of forgiveness and I have become a part of the First Trinity community.

How does the Christian faith impact your life? Knowledge of and faith in Christ has given me a sense of intellectual, as well as emotional peace. With my doubts lifted and questions answered, there is now a comfort in my life for which I will always be thankful.

Campus Ministry Pittsburgh continues to do great work for God's Kingdom.

Bonswa!!! Well it is February 25, 2015 and here I sit in the "frozen tundra". It

is hard to believe that I have been home a full week from Haiti. My trip began on the 9th and concluded on the 17th. I traveled this year with Jenna Fretthold's team, she being a

first time leader. Again God was truly amazing and everything was taken care of for us in the "big picture". We were safe, even through the unrest in Port au Prince, our flights were on time and good, we bonded well as a team, we sang beautiful harmonies accompanied by a guitar and "Easter egg maracas", we did VBS in Maniche, and Les Cayes, we went to church in Ka Maurice (a tarp tied to 4 poles), and we learned about the culture of Haiti as we visited restaurants, and guest houses. I was able to take again 50+ scarves to Jeanne Moise for use in her other Lutheran women's groups, now of which there are 8! Praise God for the work she is lead to do, educating the women while instructing them on the Bible and



it's words of wisdom and strength. Thank you to all who donated scarves for me to take, as you can see in the picture they wear them whenever they gather and do the Lord's work. Each time I see them, it warms my heart that we all are united under God's grace and love! And each time I return to Haiti, I see the improvements everywhere that mission teams, the UN and other organizations, are doing to improve their lives with education and support. I pray that God will again open a door of opportunity to travel to Haiti in the future.

Sharon Wolff-St. Paul, Batavia, NY

#### News from VP—Gospel Outreach and Organizational Resources—Dee Grzyb



#### HAPPY EASTER!!! HAPPY SPRING!!!

Easter is my favorite time of the year. It is the time for resurrection, rebirth, renewal, hope, rejuvenation and regrowth. After a long winter I look forward to Eastertime with all its traditions, flowers, inspirational sermons and music.

In the Winter Quarterly I wrote that one of my goals as VP of Gospel Outreach and Organization Services would be to send a survey to Zone Presidents to complete. The following questions were:

- WHAT COULD THE LWML EASTERN DISTRICT DO TO HELP YOU BE IN THE WORD, MISSION MIND-ED, SERVICE ORIENTED, AND/OR IN FELLOWSHIP WITH YOUR SISTERS IN CHRIST? (In other words, what are your specific needs, i.e. child care, elder care, transportation, etc.)
- WHAT ARE SOME REASONS YOU ATTEND (OR NOT ATTEND)LWML DISTRICT/ZONE/SOCIETY EVENTS?
- WHAT MAKES YOU WANT TO RETURN OR CONTINUE YOUR SERVICE TO LWML?
- HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE THE WOMEN IN YOUR LIFE TO BE IN THE WORD, MISSION MINDED, SERVICE ORIENTED AND/OR IN FELLOWSHIP WITH YOUR SISTERS IN CHRIST?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR RESPONES!!! I have received at least 6 responses. In fact one Zone President sent it to all the societies in her zone. This month I am going send the survey to all societies in the Eastern District.

In each quarterly LINK I will share some of the responses I received to help encourage women to be involved with LWML. They are:

Offer babysitting services, women love service projects, community outreach (mitten trees, activities at the Lutheran Home, service to immigrants to our area) go out to dinner with members of your society, have a "SPA" day as an event, one group started a "lunch bunch" group for anyone who wants to go out to lunch one Sunday a month, sponsor a Cafe Chocolat, a bible study and chocolate experience that challenges our ladies to appreciate God's grace over chocolate!!

If you have any ideas or if there is anything you would like to discuss with me, please do not hesitate to email me or contact me by phone - 716-393-3670.

I wish you a Blessed Easter filled with the gifts of hope, renewal and rejuvenation in your life.



#### NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATIONS—BETH QUINN

Thank you everyone who provided updates to the District Directory and changes to the Quarterlies. Many hands make light work. Continue to provide changes to me as they occur so I can keep the Directory up to date.

Regarding the Quarterlies most Zones reported a decrease in Quarterlies. **Pittsburgh Zone** has three societies now receiving Quarterlies: Ascension, Bethel, and Grace Universal. Shepherd in the City, Mission Church in **Philadelphia**, will also be receiving the Quarterly for the first time. St. Paul's Hilton, **Genesee Zone** and Grace Hop Bottom, **Anthracite Zone** increased their amount of Quarterlies. Praise the Lord for continuing to use this excellent resource!

At the recent Executive/Board of Directors meeting, Bev Wicher and I had some time to talk with the Zone Presidents regarding the LINK and how it is used. The LINK is our Eastern District newsletter of what is happening throughout the LWML in our Zones and Societies (And what you are now reading).

Here is some of the feedback:

- Share with Circuit Pastors
- Encourage societies to share with their members
- Distribute to members via email to read and post at their churches
- · Keeping people informed
- For communication
- Facebook
- Find out what is going on

We also received some ideas for making the LINK better. These ideas will be considered for future issues. Each of the Zone Presidents was given a list of the societies/church in her Zone and if they receive a copy of the LINK via email or hard copy. Your Zone President will be connecting with you to inquire if you can move to email mailings of the LINK instead of hard copy. This saves the District money in postage and copying expenses. Send your email addresses, comments, suggestions to Bev Wicher at <a href="mailto:lwmllink@gmail.com">lwmllink@gmail.com</a>.

Do you print out the LINK and post on a bulletin board? Are the photos clear? If not, open the LINK document (it is in PDF format). Use the steps below whenever printing black and white copies.

Select Print

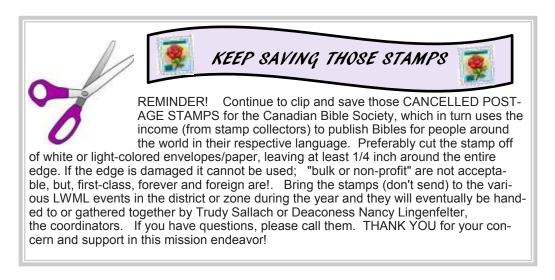
A Print box will appear

At the top is the Name of printer, Copies and then an option Print as Grayscale Select the Grayscale option (check in the box)

Then print away. Contact me if you any issues with this

I will be working with Rebecca Futty, Christian Life Chairman, and Claire Carlson, Public Relations, updating our promotional materials. Claire has a new brochure that can be used in the Zones and Societies. Contact Claire for the brochures

Rejoicing with you in our Risen Savior—Beth Quinn - 610-761-0263 - beth@quinnfamily.net





# Christ's love shining through you LWML Eastern District

## Legacy of Love Endowment

Easter blessings to everyone. What a great time to think about all the opportunities we have to further the Lord's work in the Eastern District LWML and beyond. We have opportunities every day to share God's love at our home, work place, community and home congregation.

This may be the year to prepare a will or update one that was written some time ago. What a perfect time to add ministries that may have not been a focus in the past.

If your society or zone is preparing the years events and you would like to hear more about putting some plans in place please drop me a note or give me a call I would love to join you and share more about returning God's blessings.

The Eastern District Legacy of Love endowment will allow us to let our light shine for Jesus for generations to come through scholarships and leadership training. If you have any questions or would like to talk more about ways to do this please do not hesitate to contact me. Rebecca Bessell, <a href="mailto:rlb54@rochester.rr.com">rlb54@rochester.rr.com</a>, 585-415-6368





#### 2015 DES MOINES CONVENTION

June 25-28, 2015
Des Moines, Iowa
"Bountiful! Sow • Nourish • Reap"

And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work (2 Corinthians 9:8)

Have you heard the news? When we gather under the theme Bountiful! Sow ·Nourish · Reap, our Keynote Speaker will be Rev. Dr. James Lamb from Lutherans for Life and our Mites in Action Mission Speakers will be Carly Hatcher from MOST Ministries, Rev. Jim Hetzner from Lutheran Church Charities (Comfort Dogs), Rev. Dr. Tilahun Mendetto from Concordia, Selma, and Rev. E. James Rivett, Prison Ministry. The Rev. Gregory Seltz from Lutheran Hour Ministries will be the proclaimer on Thursday evening, and we look forward to Saturday evening entertainment provided by Jan Struck and Dr. Dina Vendetti. Won't you join us?

Pack your walking shoes so you can join us on the LWML Mission Pledge Walk – Mission in Motion. Stroll along the Principal River Walk Path before celebrating with your sisters at the Bountiful Bash Block Party on Friday evening. Involve your friends who can't attend the LWML Convention by asking them to support mites with a pledge. Go to www.lwml.org and download a pledge sheet today.

If you aren't able to attend the LWML Convention in Des Moines, Iowa, you can still participate by coming together in your own churches to watch the opening worship service. Go to www.lwml.org to find the instructions for live streaming via an Internet connection and we can be together in worship... together in God's Word and prayer

## News From Around The Zones

#### **BUFFALO ZONE**

We had scheduled a Sunday Funday for January 11. This is an afternoon we get together and play games or sit and visit. There is no meeting, just fellowship. It helps break up the long winter by sharing desserts, coffee, and our favorite games.

However, we had to cancel our Funday because the weather was too unpredictable. We will meet together on March 21st to discuss our upcoming events. The main focus will be planning our Spring Workshop. Hopefully the weather will cooperate so we have a good turn out.

Karen Blackmon, Buffalo Zone President

#### **GENESEE ZONE**



The Genesee Zone's Spring event will be April 11, from 9:30-2 at Concordia, Brockport. \$5 registration, includes lunch. The theme will be "Bread of

Life" John 6:35 with featured speaker Chet Fery, "The Bread Man".

He is a Sweden, NY resident who has traveled widely for 13 years, giving away free loaves of bread, and

planting seeds of human kindness in his inspirational presentations. He will share with us his 5 point checklist for being strong, focused and balanced, while taking time to like yourself. Special musical guests The Praise Group from Community Lutheran Mission.

Rebecca Bessell, Genesee Zone President

#### **NIAGARA ZONE**



The Niagara Zone will host their annual spring Christian Life gathering on Saturday, April 11, 2015. The event will be held at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Ridgewood, NY beginning at 9:00 a.m. The theme for the day is "Called to Serve." We will be exploring the different generations within LWML and our common call to serve the Lord, no matter our age. The things that make each generation unique, along with life and world differences that impact the different generations, and how we are called to work together in-spite of those differences.

Events for the day include a business meeting, Bible study, brown bag lunch and fellowship time, and in the afternoon a hands-on-servant event where all women can participate. The hands-on-servant event will end a project that began in October. This past fall at the

Zone's 70th Anniversary Celebration, President Barbara Williams launched a special "Gifts-from the Heart" Commemoration In-Gathering. This was done to express our Zone's thankfulness for 70 years of blessings received in the Niagara Zone LWML. The goal was a Zone-wide society and congregational effort to gather the supplies for 70 School Kits and 70 Personal Care Kits to be gifted to Lutheran World Relief. The response has been outstanding and a further update will be provided to the next issue of "The Link".

We once again hope to provide an exciting day for our members that will appeal to all generations of our sisters in Christ in the Niagara Zone. We continue with our motto of "each one, reach one". Please considering joining us and bringing a friend! Barbara Williams, Niagara Zone President

#### PITTSBURGH ZONE

Like most residents in eastern USA, the members of the Pittsburgh Zone are "awaiting Spring" -as the saying goes, "Enough already" -- of these cold, icy, Wintery conditions! Plans and preparations are "in the making" for various Spring and Summer events. The Board of Directors -- executive officers plus a representative from each zone society-- will hopefully have met at Calvary Lutheran Church, Murrysville on March 21, 2015.

The JOYSHOP/SPRING RALLY will be held on April 25, 2015, beginning at 10 a.m. at St. Luke Lutheran Church, Cabot. The information about the ingathering and the agenda for the day are being planned and will be forthcoming.



Each society--God-Given Hats: individually or jointly with another society--is encouraged to use the

2015 Prayer Service, "God-Given Hats", based on 1 Timothy 2:1 - 4; it can be found online at lwml@lwml.org under "LWML Materials."

Thus far, 10 people from the zone are planning to attend the National LWML Convention in Des Moines, Iowa, June 25 - 28, 2015. Then we look ahead to the Retreat at Pioneer Camp in Septem-

May the JOY and HOPE of CHRIST'S RESUR-RECTION fill our hearts and minds -- giving REA-SON to be alert to OPPORTUNITIES for sharing HIS great love for all people! Deaconess N. Lingenfelter

Pittsburgh Zone President

#### PHILADELPHIA ZONE



The Philadelphia Zone is praising God for 67 years of faithful sisterhood in LWML in the Philadelphia area! May we continue to serve the Lord with gladness for years to come!

The Philadelphia Zone Executive Board meeting will be on Saturday, March 21,

2015 at Christ Memorial Lutheran Church. The Philadelphia Zone Spring Rally will be on Saturday, April 11th.



Details at this time are still being worked out.

Within the Philadelphia Zone,

Christ Memorial It called 2. 28th. It

held a one day Women's Retreat called Café Chocolat on Saturday, Feb. 28th. It was attended by about 25 women who enjoyed bible study, making shawls for nursing homes, food & fellowship all with chocolate accompaniment! This idea was given to us by Barb Williams of the Niagara Zone. Thanks, Barb!



#### Susan Bell Philadelphia Zone President



The 36th Biennial Convention of the Eastern District LWML June 10-12, 2016 Holiday Inn, Binghamton, NY "Take My Hand and Lead Me" (Psalm 25:4-5)

As our Lord has reached out to take our hands and lead us in our walk through life, let us gather in Binghamton, June 2016 and use our hand(s) to share and serve one another at the 2016 Eastern District convention. So many opportunities to reach out as God's representatives to His world and serve others as the Lord has so lovingly served us for many years! There is a special peace when the hand of the Lord is upon us and we have the opportunity to give and receive with our sisters of the Eastern District.

Not sure about the hand of God in your life? Please take time to read Matthew 14:29b-31 and with Peter look to our Lord for His hand.

See you there in Binghamton.

Ruth Mueller, Convention Chairman

UPCOMING IVINS

June 25-28, 2015 LWML National Convention

Des Moines, Iow

Sept. 18, 2015 EC Meeting Camp Pioneer

Sept. 18-20, 2015 Eastern District Fall Retreat

Camp Pioneer

June 10-12, 2016 Eastern District LWML

Convention-Binghamton, NY

The mission of the Eastern District
Lutheran Women's Missionary
League is to assist each woman of the
district in affirming her relationship
with the Triune God so that she is enabled to use her gifts in ministry to
the people of the world

#### Report of the Financial Secretary—Susan Bell

April 1, 2014 – February 28, 2015

Mites: \$23,764.56

Memorials given in remembrance of (from Dec. 1,

2014 – Feb. 28, 2015): Marcia Bell Snepp

Eleanor Klutts

Dorothy Blankenbuehler

In Honor of (from Dec. 1, 2014—Feb. 28, 2015 Eastern District LWML Young Women Marian Supparits' 97th birthday Eastern District LWML Young Women

Treasurers are asked to forward money from their zone on a monthly basis so our mission grants can be paid in a timely manner and to assure that all are funded.



September 18-20, 2015
Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center
Theme: "Laborers In The Vineyard"
Matthew 20
Speaker: Donna Pyle
Hosted by the Niagara Zone
Registration opens May 1



We are excited to have Donna Pyle as our speaker as our speaker at the Fall Retreat. Donna Pyle, a soul-stirring, engaging speaker, author, Bible teacher, and worship leader, Donna Pyle has a passion for studying and teaching God's Word. Her clear, down-to-earth style encourages women of all ages to wholeheartedly love, serve, and live for Jesus Christ. Donna has authored 23 Bible studies and traveled throughout the U.S. and internationally to speak and teach from Scripture. She has published two books through Concordia Publishing House: Quenched: Christ's Living Water for a Thirsty Soul and The God of All Comfort. She has authored and recorded two DVD Bible study series in partnership with LWML: Overflowing Abundance and Your Strong Suit. The LWML has published the "Donna Pyle Bible Study Series," which includes eight different downloadable Bible studies for individual or small group study. She was featured in the Spring 2013 Lutheran Woman's Quarterly. For more information on Donna go to her website Artesian-Ministries.org or cph.org/Donna Pyle. **Don't miss this exciting opportunity to be** 

nourished, encouraged and strengthened.

LWML RETREAT CAMPERSHIP—APPLICATION	
A few full-time camperships are being offered for the Fall 2015retreat to first-time attendees or for those individuals having financial need. If you have received a campership in the past you are no longer eligible. The value of the campership is the full cost of the retreat at the full-time registration fee. If you desire a campership and need only consideration for part-time status, please indicate that in your application. An impartial committee will select from those eligible campers who submit a timely application. Notification will take place after the deadline date. Don't delay, act now!	
Name	
AddressCity, State, Zip	
E-mail	
Zone	
LWML Member?YesNo	
Please write a brief narrative (50-100 words) on why you would like to attend the LWML Retreat.  Attach your written statement to this application and mail by <b>August 1, 2015</b> to:	
Mrs. Kathy Pavelock 8200 State Route 13 Blossvale, NY 13308	

All recipients names will be kept strictly confidential

Eastern District LWML 2015 Retreat Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center, Inc. September 18-20, 2015			"Laborers In The Vineyard" Matthew 20 Speaker: Donna Pyle Hosted by the Niagara Zone	
Name:	101	Phone: (	)	
Address:		E-mail:	300	
City:		State:	Zip:	
Home Church:		Church City	/ & Zip:	021
Meals: Day use F	E Registration Fee: ee: (no-overnight stay) (check one) Friday Lodging: Check your room preference below.  Deluxe Cabin \$50.00 or Woodland Cottage \$150.00 (To be paid in full by first registration occupant) Late Fee if postmarked after September 1, 2015	Saturday	Saturday Lunch \$ 11.00 Saturday Dinner \$ 15.00 Sunday Breakfast \$ 9.00 Total Additional Cabin Fee \$25.00 Payment Enclosed	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$
FULL-TIME Includes: Registration Fee, 2 Nights Lodging, 5 Meals and Linens)  Deluxe Cabin \$50 or Woodland Cottage \$150  (To be paid in full by first registration occupant)  Late fee if postmarked after September 1, 2015  \$25.00  Payment Enclose				
Standard		ants required)		19

Family Court P (Deluxe with 1 Double Bed and 1 Bunk Bed with a double on the bottom)

Woodland Cottages (Extra \$150 for weekend. FULL Payment is required with the first occupant registration.)

Woodland Cottage 1, 2, 5, 6, & 7 (Each Cottage -1 Double Bed and 2 sets of Bunk Beds) (Minimum 4 per cottage)

Lower Bunk:

Hearing Impaired:

ROOMMATE CHURCH/GROUP

other: Dietary: NOTE: A non refundable deposit of \$50.00 will hold your place for full-time campers. All requests are on a first come, first serve basis. No

registration accepted before May 1. Balance due must be paid by September 1, 2015. REGISTRATIONS will not be accepted after September 1, 2015.

CANCELLATION: The \$50.00 deposit is non-refundable.

Wheelchair:

CANCELLATION FOR MEDICAL REASONS: This cancellation will be reviewed based upon a written letter of notification to the district president.

NON-SUFFICIENT FUNDS FEE: A charge of \$25.00 will be assessed on all checks returned by the bank.

Scooter:

\*\*Please make Checks or Money Orders payable in the full amount to: Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center \*\* \*Mail completed Registration Form, Deposit and also include a SELF-ADDRESSED, STAMPED Business size Envelope to: Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center, Inc., 9324 Lake Shore Rd., Angola, NY 14006. OR Confirmation emailed

14610

#### **Executive Committee**

President

Kathy Pavelock, 8200 State Route 13, Blossvale, NY 13308 315-245-1590 KMPavelock@aol.com

Vice President Communications

Beth Quinn, 558 Westwind Drive, Berwyn, PA 19312 610-644-8401 beth@quinnfamily.net

Vice President Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources

**Dee Grzyb,** 56 Hanover St., Lancaster NY 14086 716-393-3670 <u>d e grzyb@msn.com</u>

Vice-President Christian Life/Special Focus

**Karen Devan**, 6438 Lake Shore S., Canastota, NY 13032 315-762-4222 <u>DPDevan@aol.com</u>

Recording Secretary

Ruth Wurster, 4646 Abbott Rd., Orchard Park, NY 14127 716-649-0796, dfcrew@verizon.net

Financial Secretary

Susan Bell, 814 Dover Court Place, Downingtown, PA 19335 610-518-0681 susanbell557@comcast.net

Treasurer

**Darlene Byrns** 1712 Blossom Road, Rochester, NY 585-288-5568 <u>Darlene248@aol.com</u>

Senior Pastoral Counselor

Rev. Cory Eckstrom, 49 Hamlin St., Cortland, NY 13045 607-591-5919 <a href="mailto:coryecks@aol.com">coryecks@aol.com</a>

**Junior Pastoral Counselor** 

**Rev. Kristian Bjornstad,** 60 E. Parker St. Scranton, PA 18509 570-343-9828 <a href="mailto:yourpeace@verizon.net">yourpeace@verizon.net</a>

#### Appointed By the President

Parliamentarian

Gretchen Putzman, 148 Heather Hill, West Seneca, NY 14224 716-674-8859

Planner

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Please send all news articles and information for publication to:

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#### The next deadline is June 1, 2015

The Link is published four times each year.

April 1, July 1, October 1, January 1

Deadlines to submit articles:

March 1, June 1, September 1, December 1



## **LWML Prayer Service**

The 2015 LWML Prayer Service "God-Given Hats" is now available at <a href="https://www.lwml.org">www.lwml.org</a>. The Prayer Service is designed to be used at any time, by large or small groups. It is an abbreviated worship service. The theme Scripture passage for this service is 1 Timothy 2:1-4.

Our Lord graciously has called us to various stations in life. They are the "hats we wear" in His world. We are His children, baptized into Jesus' death and resurrection. We daily

die to sin and rise as new creatures in Christ. Our Lord blesses us to take this amazing identity as His forgiven children into the vocations to which He has called us. This service is designed to give worshipers the opportunity to lift up before our Lord their confessions, their supplications and petitions, and their praises as such prayers relate to the various God-given hats we wear. To Christ be the glory!

Keep saving your ink cartridges, cell phones, lap tops, etc. for the Eastern District LWML.

This is an ongoing continued effort to help offset our costs and make more funds available for Mites.

Contact District Recycling Coordinator Claire Carlson at 716-649-4678 or at patchtroop546@aol.com for more information.

Bev Wicher
Eastern District LWML Editor
19 Vernon Drive.
Cheektowaga, NY 14225
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# The Eastern District Lutheran



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K

**District** 

Zone

Society

Together
Serving
the Lord
with
Gladness
For
70 Years



I'm writing this on June 1<sup>st</sup> and in only 3 weeks, over 40 of us from the Eastern District will be making our way to the LWML Convention in Des Moines, IA, where we have important work to do for the Lord. If you are not able to attend the LWML Convention in Des Moines, you can still participate by watching the opening worship service. I have been told that you can go to www.lwml.org to find instructions for live streaming via an Internet connection where we can all be together in worship (in God's Word and prayer). Niagara and Buffalo Zones are planning a joint gathering to participate. I encourage other Zones, societies and individuals to gather and join us for this most

awesome worship service. The convention goal statement is, "Through Christ's bountiful love and blessings of Word and Sacraments, I am equipped by the Holy Spirit to work in my Father's harvest field." I thank God for providing all that I need, the Holy Spirit for leading me to the harvest field and Jesus for dying on the cross for the forgiveness of my sins. Please continue to pray for the LINC Rochester grant, the YWRs, Pastors, delegates and all those who will be attending.

Before I go to the LWML Convention, I will be attending the Eastern District-LCMS convention at Daemen College on June 19-20 where, in addition to being the lay delegate for my congregation, I will be bringing greetings from LWML Eastern District and manning the LWML Eastern District Exhibitor Booth. I hope to inform and encourage Pastors, Church Workers, and Lay People to take advantage of the great service being done in our district by the LWML and to join us in our mission to assist each women of the Eastern District.

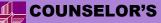
I would like to publicly thank Dorothy (Dottie) Buerger from the Philadelphia Zone for donating her time, talents and treasures to design and make the beautiful LWML Eastern District banner for the Convention. Here is a photo of the banner taken by Susan Bell, along with a description prepared by Dottie:



Walking with you in His Light, Kathy Pavelock <u>LWML Eastern District Banner</u>: "We are blessed to have God's bountiful Grace to shine on us, through the Holy Spirit so that we may sow, nourish and reap in Jesus' name to abound in every good work. The figures represent people of different races, the streaming rays represent the light of God, and the lettering on the people is the Holy Spirit working in us to do the work that we as God's people are to do according to the Word."

Did you notice the sunlight shining on the upper right? Could that be the Holy Spirit encouraging us to "Walk in His Light?"

Serve the Lord with Gladness...Psalm 100:2





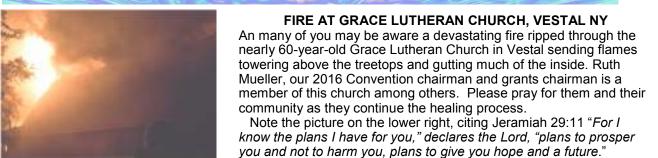
Summer time is a really great time to meet up with people you don't see. Experiences to and from a family event or a church event really stack up for story telling.

We just finished our Eastern District's 2015 convention. It's theme was "Shout It From The Rooftops" How can God's Lutheran Women find a fresh approach to doing the same good works that benefit our neighbor? Work together, not separately. Individuals burn out quicker without support. My confirmand Jamison and I recently tried to move a medium size tree away and free of the

major highway it had fallen on. Quickly, we realized two were not enough. Two more arrived, and another, with a reciprocating saw. Aha! The tool that fits best for the situation allowed us to use our proportionate gifts better. No injuries and a good lesson in teamwork. Societies can certainly feel the pressure to trying to do projects that they were able to accomplish when the group was bigger. Remember your ladies who have the insurmountable task of just living and perhaps not making it to meetings. My mother, past society president at Concordia Lutheran Red Wing, recently found herself facing a leg amputation due to an out of control infection. Very quickly her situation changed after weeks of ineffective treatment. I love her faithful attitude of accepting what could not have been avoided. She would have to learn "shouting from the rooftops" from a wheelchair and with an artificial leg, which is being fitted for as the article goes to print. She relies more on help and teamwork than she has ever had to in her whole life. The teamwork with her required me laying aside my ways to help her and learn to see life from her viewpoint. Not just an altruism, but actually doing so, so I don't make her work more, frustrate her, or even injure her. Wait times have increased, projects have shrunk and multiplied in number. It's time to be patiently gentle, as we include our society members whose needs have changed. Instead of asking of them how they can stay busy, ask them what they need. God bless your creative reengineering of traditional projects and daily prayers for each other!

Please pray for Carole, my mother. Please pray for Linda, a lady who received a 6-12 month life prediction due to cancerous lesions on her organs. She is not a believer and doubts the good news shared with her. She recently began listening closely to the promises her grandson Jamison made at his confirmation. Pray also that the faith into which her youngest grandson, Greyson was baptized into also becomes her profession of faith. Witnessing these grace moments, God is speaking into her life loud and clear. Let those who have ears, listen.... May it ever be so clear to us....

#### Pastor Cory J. Eckstrom, Sr. Counselor, Eastern District LWML







#### **GRANTS IN ACTION**

**Grant 3**— Safe Harbor meeting room for Bible Study and Christian counseling Faith Lutheran LWML Society, Easton, PA \$5,000



Since received their grant money Safe Harbor in Easton, PA has begun work on the Bible Study room at Safe Harbor.



Walls are coming down to expand a former office into the new private Bible Study/ private counseling room.



The room will be dedicated to former Acting director, Jennifer Collins, who was killed in a motorcycle accident in May. Everyone at Safe Harbor is eagerly awaiting completion which will enable Faith Lutheran Easton to expand their ministry at the shelter.



#### Living the Christian Life



I have a story I'd like to share with you. It's about a young Dad and his 9 year old son. The son was playing soccer and Dad was there watching. This particular season the boy's team was unequally matched with most of the other teams they played. The boy's team was sponsored by the church his family attends, while the other teams were clubs that practice regularly and only take the best. As was the case all season the score was great for the

other team, but usually no higher than 2 or 3 for the boy's team. It was close to the end of the season and the coach for the boy's team was totally frustrated that the other teams continued to play their best players and show no mercy to his younger, smaller and inexperienced boys. Now you may be thinking, "that's what happens in sports or maybe the other coach could have given his second string more chance to play or simply - it is what it is." However on this day the boy's coach told his players to stay off the field at the end of the game. He was not about to have his boy's go through a

line saying "good game" when at this point there was very little that was good about the game. Dad and son looked at each other and Dad understood every emotion the coach was feeling. But this was a team sponsored by the church and this was a Dad knowing that he had his son watching him. So Dad put his hand on his son's shoulder and together they walked out onto the field and said "good game" to each member of the opposing team and coaches. Was it an I'm better than you are moment or a teaching opportunity for a boy and his Dad? I think the answer came on the way home when the nine year old son said, "Dad, that was the right thing to do wasn't it?"

I think this little story is an example of living the Christian life. I pray that when I am frustrated with a situation or angry over an outcome that I feel is unfair I too will be able to quietly show that Jesus is the Lord of my life through my words and actions. As LWML sisters and brothers in Christ how blessed we are to have the head knowledge and our hearts filled with Christ's love so that we can live and share our Christian life with others

God's richest blessings always, Karen Devan, VP Christian Life/Special Focus

#### News from VP—Gospel Outreach and Organizational Resources—Dee Grzyb



#### HAPPY SUMMER!

Summer marks the warmest time of the year with the longest days. People shed their heavy coats and stay outside longer than usually. They enjoy the sun on the beach and the shade in the park. They go on vacation to get away and to experience new places and new people in a new environment. Summer is a time of both growth and of stillness; of hard work and of relaxing in the cool of the day. May your days be filled with 'SON-SHINE'!



In the Winter Quarterly I wrote that one of my goals as VP of Gospel Outreach and Organization Services would be to send a survey to Zone and Society Presidents to complete regarding how the Eastern District Board can better serve its zones and societies. Also, questions on how your zone or society gets women involved, motivated and excited to attend meetings, rallies, etc., and what makes them want to return. Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey and for your responses. If anyone else would like to complete a survey please call me (716-393-3670) or email at d e grzyb@msn.com.

Here are some responses to the question: How do you encourage the women in your life to be in the Word, Mission Minded, Service Oriented, and/or in Fellowship with your Sisters in Christ?

- ◆ Conduct a prayer and greeting card/notes mission
- Start having one-on-one lunch dates with sisters who are hurting (aren't we all?)
- Lead a Grief Share program and befriend and follow-up with the individuals who participated
- Try to be friendly, kind, encouraging and welcoming to those I meet.
- Encourage women of the church and in zone to be alert to the yearly agenda of events
- Send reminders of events by communicating via email, sending flyers in the mail or just a personal invitation verbal or written-- can also be utilized.
- Invitation to a Bible Class can also be helpful for the women to stay focused on God's work and mission in His earthly kingdom.
- Being alert to the challenges, the "attractions and distractions" of the world and the devil, BUT being just as aware of opportunities to witness and share God's love and grace for all people."



#### The Time is NOW! NOMINATIONS FOR 2016

Names are now being accepted for nominations to the District offices of *VP of Communications, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary,* 

and Pastoral Counselor (brief description on next page) to be elected at the next District Convention in 2016 in Binghamton, N.Y. A society member or society may submit a nomination to the Nominating Committee. Please prayerfully consider accepting a nomination, or encouraging someone from your society or zone to accept a nomination for one of these positions. Nomination and Consent Forms and the complete descriptions of the duties of office may be obtained from Dee Grzyb, Committee Chair, who can be reached at 56 Hanover St., Lancaster, N.Y. 14068 (716-393-3670) or via email degrzyb@msn.com. Nominations must be in by October 15, 2015. The Nominations Committee also includes Rebecca Bessell (Genesee Zone) <a href="mailto:rib54@rochester.rr.com">rlb54@rochester.rr.com</a> and Vivian Tatem (Central NY South) moma597@yahoo.com.

On a Personal Note: As I was reading the basic facts in the LWML website the following, "It has as its "mission heart" thousands of volunteers who are daily dedicating their lives to making a difference in this world". I was reminded of the time when I was asked to run for the Treasurer position 2010-2014, and again for my present position. It wasn't my doing to point me in the direction of "serving the Lord with gladness" through LWML, it was HIM. He made me realize that I had gotten too comfortable in serving in my church and other local ministries, it was time for me to take the big leap of faith! Just like everyday life there have been challenges. At those time I would turn to one of my favorite Bible passages Psalm 139:7-9, "Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there." It has also brought me the gifts of joy, peace, hope, a sense of accomplishment, new friends. It has been a blessing and a privilege to be a LUTHERAN WOMAN IN MISSION! I am praying that you will take the leap of faith and consider accepting a nomination for one of the positions.

(For complete descriptions, contact Dee Grzyb)



## JOB DESCRIPTIONS FOR POSITIONS AVAILABLE FOR NOMINATIONS FOR 2016

**Vice President of Communication -** Attend the Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings. Receive correspondence from Editor and Public Relations Director. Prepare a written report for all members attending the Exec-

utive Committee and Board of Directors meetings. Coordinator of the Communications Department, which includes the Editor and Public Relations Director. Contact and coordinator of all copyright information for use of music at all district events with reference to our CCLI license. Attend District Convention. Prepare a statistical report for yearly Spring Board meetings including number of societies in each zone and number of new societies. Prepare a written report for the convention manual submitted by the convention manual deadline. Publicize news from national LWML. Maintain mailing lists. Verify the accuracy of the number of Quarterlies for each zone. Confirm with the treasurer the number that is billed from national. Reconcile if needed. Contribute articles to the Eastern District LWML District Newsletter, Keep accurate record of Quarterly needs of their society, increasing or decreasing accordingly. Send copies of all correspondence generated by the Vice President of Communication to the President. Perform duties of President in her absence if the Vice President Christian Life/Special Focus is unable to do so; and any other duties as set forth in the Leader's Manual

**Recording Secretary** - Attend the Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings as well as the District convention. Record the minutes of all meetings of the Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and District Convention. Write any correspondence needed by the Executive Committee or Board of Directors pertaining to the work of the LWML Eastern District. Record the list of delegate's credentials prior to the District Convention. Keep District Convention ballots until instructed to destroy them. Prepare cards as necessary for circulation at the Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings for members with need; and other duties as set forth in the Leader's Manual.

Financial Secretary - Attend Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings. Prepare a written report for all members attending the Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings. Receive all monies from zone treasurers, including mites, memorials, honor gifts, LWML Quarterly contributions and miscellaneous funds, deposit the monies and keep an accurate record of them. Attend the District Convention. Prepare a written report for the Convention Manual to be submitted by the deadline. Send a monthly report of deposits to the President, Vice President Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources and the Mission Grants Chairman. Send to the Vice President of Communications a copy of the quarterly contributions made at the fall and spring Executive Committee meetings. Serve as a member of the Budget Committee, which prepares the Mission Goal Work program for adoption at the District Convention. Submit books for fiscal review at the end of each biennium. Ask the person to write a letter and send to the president (sample in convention manual). Consult with Recording Secretary on motions reflected in Executive Committee or Board of Directors' meetings minutes that may necessitate changes in Standing Rules and/or Bylaws; and other duties as set forth in the Leader's Manual.

**Counselor** - Attend all Board of Director and Executive Committee Meetings. Serve the District LWML in an advisory capacity; attend all District LWML Conventions, attend the National LWML Convention as directed by the Executive Committee; submit articles to the Editor for publication in the Eastern District Newsletter, submit a written report for the Convention Manual; serve as the spiritual leaders for the Board and Executive Committee and help with the services at retreat and convention when possible; and any other duties as set forth in the Leader's Manual.

## Keep saving your ink cartridges, cell phones, lap tops, etc. for the Eastern District LWML.

This is an ongoing continued effort to help offset our costs and make more funds available for Mites.

Contact District Recycling Coordinator Claire Carlson at 716-649-4678 or at patchtroop546@aol.com for more information.



## Take my Hand And Lead me!

Ps. 25:4-5 — "Teach me your ways, O Lord...you are my God...I always trust in you."

† Sing to the LORD!! † Share our Gifts from the Heart † Worship our GOD!! † Walk for Mites † Make decisions for Grants of service

† Encourage one another as we grow in Christ!! †

36th LWML Eastern District Convention June 10-12, 2016 Holiday Inn, Binghamton, New York

Hosted by the Central New York South Zone

Questions: Ruth Mueller, convention chairman, 607-797-8453/rdvmm@aol.com

Our committee has been meeting with ideas to share, from a tour and picnic luncheon to a Mite Walk along the confluence of the Susquehanna and Chenango Rivers, from songs in hand in hand with the Lord to Bible studies as our guide through life. We may have lost a local church building, but as



Ruth Mueller, chairman, Anita Getty, cochairman, Bev Wicher, District Liaison

Pastor Bernard said, "We may have lost our building, but the congregation of Grace is strong!" Grace is one arm of LWML Zone CNYS; CNYS is one arm of Grace Lutheran Church. See vou next summer!! Ruth Mueller,



**Convention chairman** 



Convention Committee-Nancy Warner, Marti Clark, Anita Getty, Ruth Nearpass, Bev Wicher, Judy Devantier, Evelyn Neebe, Ruth Schian, Ruth Mueller, JoAnn Walz

#### GRANT FORMS AVAILABLE NOW!!

**DUE OCTOBER 15, 2015** 

Forms can be obtained from your Zone President, Ruth Mueller, our Mission Grants Chairman or the Eastern District LWML Website www.east-dist-lwml.org

DON'T DELAY GET YOUR FORMS IN **TODAY** 

## LWML LINK SERVING District Zone

#### WHY SHOULD I GET THE LINK BY E-MAIL

LINK (Eastern District LWML official newsletter) email instead of snail mail. Why should I care? Answer is: More money for mission grants! If you are receiving a hard copy of the LINK in the mail, consider getting it emailed to you instead. Send your email address to Bev Wicher at lwmllink@gmail.com.

The LINK is an excellent source to use personally, in your Zone or Society and church publications.

## News From Around The Zones

#### **ANTHRACITE ZONE**

On May 2, 2015 we held our Spring Workshop at Lutheran Church of Our Savior in Mt. Pocono. Rev. Rob

Kieselowsky, Director of Philadelphia Lutheran Ministries was our Speaker. The theme was "Jonah, Nineveh and American Mission Work", which emphasized the comparisons of Nineveh and the large cities in America. Philadelphia being one of them. There is much need to share the love of Christ



in these areas of sin, corruption and violence. He told about some of the work they do with helping people to see their need for the Lord and helping them to turn their lives around. We also had a very nice lunch provided by the ladies of the church, with some time for fellowship. Rev. Kim Bode had an interesting devotion on Christ as the vine and us as the branches. Great time was had by all.

Our Fall Rally will be held at Faith Herndon, on Oct. 4th, our speaker is Kristin Vought, who is the Philanthropic Associate at Lutheran World Relief, in this role she develops relationships with individuals and congregations across the east coast and finds ways for them to engage further in LWR's mission. She will be speaking on, LWR's Investment in Women & Gender Equality. We are looking forward to this.

#### **Dawn Corbin Anthracite Zone President**

#### **BUFFALO ZONE**

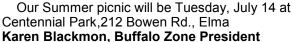


The Buffalo Zone Spring Rally was held May 2 at Salem Lutheran Church. Our speaker was Susan Blish, former missionary in Bolvia for the Church of the Nazerene who led a very interesting Bible study on Exodus 14:1-15:2

based on the book Red Sea Rules by

Robert Morgan, emphasizing that we are all missionaries whenever we are.

Afterwards we tied blankets for the Buffalo City Mission.



#### **CNY SOUTH**

The Central NY South Zone is planning a special event for 7/8/9 (July 8th at 9:00), inviting everyone to a slumber party in front of their own computer where we will all read the July LINK at the same time while sipping a glass of either cold wine or lemonade. People can send

questions/comments to President Marti Clark and she will try to answer them or forward them to someone who can. This event hopefully will be a way for those who don't wish to go to LWML meetings to still get important LWML information via the LINK. This will be followed up by contacting the ladies regarding attending the Retreat, etc.

If you do not have a copy of the LINK e-mail editor Bev Wicher at lwmllink@gmail.com and she will send you a copy via e-mail, or you can access the ED LWML website at east-dist-lwml.org to download it

Marti Clark, CNYS Zone President

#### **NIAGARA ZONE**

Members of the Niagara Zone held their Spring Christian Life Gathering on Saturday, April 11, 2015. Hosted by Immanuel Lutheran Church, Ridgewood, NY the day included a business meeting, Bible Study, lunch and fellowship, and a hands -on-project.

A Bible study was created and led by Pastoral Counselor Keith Knupp and Christian Life Chair, Laurie Bauch. Using the theme of "Called to Serve" members learned that no matter what stage of life we find ourselves in we are all called to serve our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ throughout our lives. How and where we accomplish that is the challenge presented to us. We discussed the different characteristics of women in time stages of life and over the 70 years of LWML. We concluded that we all serve in unique ways and no one generation holds the ultimate answer for the best way to serve. As part of a changing LWML, tolerance for others and their unique circumstances and personal relationships are still the best ways to share the love of Christ and support each other.

The day concluded with the assembling of kits for Lutheran World Relief, using the items for the



kits that were collected during the last six months as a commemoration thank offering for 70 years of blessings. A special dedication litany was held to "Praise God

From Whom All Blessings Flow". A total of 83 school kits, 40 personal care kits, 119 bars of soap and \$245 to cover shipping costs was sent to Lutheran World Relief.

The Zone will be holding its summer picnic meeting on Tuesday, July 14, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. St. Michael Lutheran Church, Wolcottsville will host and our grilling chef will be Pastor Keith Knupp!

The Zone is also super busy preparing for the Retreat in September 2015 at Pioneer Camp. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

Barbara Williams, Niagara Zone President

## More From The Zones

#### PITTSBURGH ZONE

The Pittsburgh Zone met on Saturday, April 25, 2015 at St. Luke Cabot for our Joyshop and LWML Spring Rally. The Ingathering was gathered for Lifeline Pregnancy Center, Butler Pa. Pastor Walters said our opening and morning devotions. A business meeting followed, we discussed the delegates for the National LWML convention in Des Moines and an update from each officer was given. The 2015 LWML prayer service was discussed and the theme will be "God-Given Hats" our calling in God's Kingdom based on 1 Timothy 2:1-4. The Fall Retreat was also discussed, the retreat will be September 18-20, 2015 at Camp Pioneer, Angola, New York. The theme for the retreat will be Labors in the Vineyard with Donna Pyle being the speaker/Bible Study leader. Our

Joyshop activity was stuffing and sewing teddy bears for Children's hospital, Pittsburgh PA. The next zone board meeting will be Saturday, August 22 and



the Zone Fall Rally will be October 10, 2015

Deaconess Nancy Lingenfelter

Pittsburgh Zone President

#### PHILADELPHIA ZONE

The Philadelphia Zone Executive Board met on Saturday, March 21, 2015 at Christ Memorial Lutheran Church. The Philadelphia Zone Spring Rally was on Saturday, April 11th at Shepherd of the City Lutheran Church in Philadelphia. Their pastor, Rev. DeGroot led the opening worship service and our Zone Counselor,

Rev. Sims led the bible study based on the theme, "A Truthful Witness Saves Lives" from Proverbs 14:25. Our guest speaker was Rev DeGroot who talked about his work at Shepherd of the City, a mission church of Philadelphia Lutheran Ministries (PLM). The ingathering was items to help the mission work at Shepherd of the City including cleaning sup-



plies, bibles & catechisms. We had a great time of fellowship, worship and sharing God's love with our sisters and others.

We are looking forward to a wonderful Fall Rally with our English District sisters at Christ Memorial Lutheran Church on Saturday, Nov. 7th. Melissa DeGroot will be our guest speaker talking about the Deaconess Program and Women's Roles in the Church. Rebecca Bessell will also be there to talk about gift planning. Hope to see you.

Susan Bell Philadelphia Zone President

# UPCOMING IVE IS

Sept. 18, 2015

EC Meeting Camp Pioneer

Sept. 18-20, 2015

Eastern District Fall Retreat

Camp Pioneer

June 10-12, 2016

Eastern District LWML
Convention-Binghamton, NY

The mission of the Eastern District
Lutheran Women's Missionary
League is to assist each woman of the
district in affirming her relationship
with the Triune God so that she is enabled to use her gifts in ministry to
the people of the world



#### Report of the Financial Secretary— Susan Bell

April 1, 2014 – May 31, 2015

Mites: \$31,384.15

Memorials given in remembrance of (from March 1, 2015 – May 31, 2015):

Dolores Fenton Marie Pavelock Mary LaFeur

In Honor of (from March 1, 2015—May 31, 2015

Eastern District LWML YWR's

Treasurers are asked to forward money from their zone on a monthly basis so our mission grants can be paid in a timely manner and to assure that all are funded



September 18-20, 2015
Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center
Theme: "Laborers In The Vineyard"
Matthew 20
Speaker: Donna Pyle
Hosted by the Niagara Zone
Registration opens May 1



and strengthened.

We are excited to have Donna Pyle as our speaker at the Fall Retreat. Donna Pyle, a soul-stirring, engaging speaker, author, Bible teacher, and worship leader, Donna Pyle has a passion for studying and teaching God's Word. Her clear, down-to-earth style encourages women of all ages to wholeheartedly love, serve, and live for Jesus Christ. Donna has authored 23 Bible studies and traveled throughout the U.S. and internationally to speak and teach from Scripture. She has published two books through Concordia Publishing House: Quenched: Christ's Living Water for a Thirsty Soul and The God of All Comfort. She has authored and recorded two DVD Bible study series in partnership with LWML: Overflowing Abundance and Your Strong Suit. The LWML has published the "Donna Pyle Bible Study Series," which includes eight different downloadable Bible studies for individual or small group study. She was featured in the Spring 2013 Lutheran Woman's Quarterly. For more information on Donna go to her website ArtesianMinistries.org or cph.org/Donna Pyle. Don't miss this exciting opportunity to be nourished, encouraged

#### LWML RETREAT CAMPERSHIP—APPLICATION A few full-time camperships are being offered for the Fall 2015retreat to first-time attendees or for those individuals having financial need. If you have received a campership in the past you are no longer eligible. The value of the campership is the full cost of the retreat at the full-time registration fee. If you desire a campership and need only consideration for part-time status, please indicate that in your application. An impartial committee will select from I those eligible campers who submit a timely application. Notification will take place after the deadline date. Don't delay, act now! Name Address Citv, State, Zip E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Zone LWML Member? Yes Please write a brief narrative (50-100 words) on why you would like to attend the LWML Retreat. Attach your written statement to this application and mail by August 1, 2015 to: Mrs. Kathy Pavelock 8200 State Route 13 Blossvale, NY 13308

All recipients names will be kept strictly confidential

	. WITH	September 18-20	0, 2015	10	Hosted by the Niago	ara Zone
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Address:				E-mail:	10	
City:				State:	Zip:	
Home Church:				Church City	& Zip:	THE HALL
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registr 2015. CANC	ration acce	pted before May 1. B	alance due must be paid by Sep it is non-refundable.	tember 1, 2015. REGISTR	IATIONS will not be accepted aft pon a written letter of notifi	er September 1,

SuFastern District LWML 2015 Retreat

"Laborers In The Vineyard" Matthew 20

\*\*Please make Checks or Money Orders payable in the full amount to: <u>Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center</u> \*\*

\*Mail completed Registration Form, Deposit and also <u>include a SELF-ADDRESSED, STAMPED Business size Envelope</u> to:

Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center, Inc., 9324 Lake Shore Rd., Angola, NY 14006. **OR** Confirmation emailed \_\_\_\_\_\_.

NON-SUFFICIENT FUNDS FEE: A charge of \$25.00 will be assessed on all checks returned by the bank.

#### **Executive Committee**

President

Kathy Pavelock, 8200 State Route 13, Blossvale, NY 13308 315-245-1590 KMPavelock@aol.com

Vice President Communications

Beth Quinn, 558 Westwind Drive, Berwyn, PA 19312 610-644-8401 beth@quinnfamily.net

Vice President Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources

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Vice-President Christian Life/Special Focus

**Karen Devan**, 6438 Lake Shore S., Canastota, NY 13032 315-762-4222 <u>DPDevan@aol.com</u>

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**Junior Pastoral Counselor** 

**Rev. Kristian Bjornstad,** 60 E. Parker St. Scranton, PA 18509 570-343-9828 <a href="mailto:yourpeace@verizon.net">yourpeace@verizon.net</a>

#### Appointed By the President

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Planner

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**Trudy Sallach,** 5465 Patton Street, Erie, PA 16509 814-866-7662

#### Appointed by Board of Directors

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Rebecca Futty, 509 Lennon Way, West Chester, PA 19380 484-319-2398 rebeccafutty@gmail.com

Christian Life Chair Co-Chair

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Structure Chair

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Structure Co-Chair

Vacant

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Special Focus Co-Chair

**Bea Hapeman,** 370 Old Falls Blvd., North Tonawanda, NY 14120 716-525-1046, gottabeeme3691@live.com

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Legacy of Love Chairman

Rebecca Bessell, 7048 Benedict Beach, Hamlin, NY 14464 585-964-7844 rlb54@rochester.rr.com

Webmaster

14610

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#### **Zone Presidents**

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Cattaraugus-AlleganyZone

Georgia Henry, 4873 Miller Rd., Ripley, NY 14775 716-252-6676

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Pittsburgh Zone

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Please send all news articles and information for publication to:

Bev Wicher 19 Vernon Drive Cheektowaga, NY 14225

E-mail: <a href="mailto:lwmllink@gmail.com">lwmllink@gmail.com</a>

#### The next deadline is September 1, 2015

The Link is published four times each year.

April 1, July 1, October 1, January 1

Deadlines to submit articles:

March 1, June 1, September 1, December 1



#### NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATIONS—BETH QUINN

Summer time comes with longer days, outdoor events, and opportunities to praise God for His beautiful creation. "I will proclaim the name of the Lord. Oh, praise the greatness of our God!" (Deut. 32:3)



Welcome to Amazon Smile.

#### Customers shop. Amazon gives.

At the retreat last year Amazon Smile was introduced as another opportunity to contribute to Eastern District LWML. It is up and running. Do you shop on Amazon? Set up your account today so Eastern District LWML can receive 0.5% of the price of eligible Amazon Smile purchases. First you need to establish us as your donation recipient than shop away. Check the Eastern District LWML website for specific instructions under the current events tab: http://east-dist-lwml.org/Events.html.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: If you need to increase and/or change an address please send it my way.
These updates can be submitted anytime during the year. All payments

ted anytime during the year. All payments should be sent through your Zone Treasurer.

DIRECTORY CHANGES: To keep the Eastern District LWML Directory up-to-date please send me all changes to names, addresses, phone numbers and emails of pastors, society presidents, and zone officers to me as soon as possible. The next update will be distributed in September at the Executive Board meeting. By sending the changes as soon as they occur allows me to keep

For information on receiving the LINK by e-mail—see page 6

Enjoy your summer and I look forward to seeing you at retreat in September.

Beth Quinn – 610-761-0263 – beth@quinnfamily.net

Bev Wicher
Eastern District LWML Editor
19 Vernon Drive.
Cheektowaga, NY 14225
E-mail lwmllink@gmail.com

# The Eastern District Lutheran



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**District** 

Zone

Society

Together
Serving
the Lord
with
Gladness
For
70 Years



I recently attended an event at one of the Seneca Lake Wineries. It was a beautiful late summer day and I learned a few new facts about that vineyard, in particular. I found it fascinating that Seneca Lake is very deep and as such, keeps the air quite temperate on the eastern shore both in summer and winter. Some of the vines on this vineyard are over 40 years old and still producing bountiful fruit, mostly due to the growing conditions. Some of the fruit was ripening and will be ready for harvest in a few weeks. Harvesting of the grapes can be quite labor intensive, since many need to be handpicked. I am planning to visit this vineyard again in October to help with the harvest. So I will literally be a "Laborer in the Vineyard." I am not going to be hired for

this work, but rather just experience what it is like to harvest grapes. Related to this personal adventure, many of us will meet at the LWML Eastern District Retreat, September 18-20, 2015 where Donna Pyle will lead us in study of Matthew 20, "Laborers in the Vineyard." I hope to see

many of you there while we study God's word and are in fellowship with our Sisters in Christ.

Since the last newsletter, over 40 of us from the LWML Eastern District attended the LWML Convention in Des Moines. As always, the National convention was inspiring, uplifting and awesome as ever. We have a new National President, Patti Ross and nineteen (19) new mission grants to fund with our mighty mites. I encourage you all to view the photos



and videos of the convention at http://livestream.com/LWML2015. There will be no CD's sent to attendees, but I have been told that the videos including the convention highlight photos will be available at this website for quite some time. My favorite session was Friday Afternoon including the greetings from LCMS President Harrison followed by the Keynote Speaker, Rev. Dr. James Lamb. If technologically possible, you may wish to show this video and/or the 7 minute convention highlights at your Fall Rallies/Workshops/Gatherings.

Our 2016 LWML District Convention Committee from Central NY South under the leadership of Ruth Mueller, have been hard at work in Service to our Lord, planning and making preparations for our convention in Binghamton, NY in June 2016. Our keynote speaker will be the immediate LWML past-president, Kay Kreklau. Past-president Kay was unable to attend an Eastern District convention during her tenure as president, but is thrilled to be our keynote speaker in 2016 under the theme of "Take My Hand and Lead Me" based on Psalm 25:4-5. The Lord has

most certainly been leading and teaching us His ways as we plan for this event. Please keep the committee in your prayers as they continue to be lead by the Lord!

Walking with you in His Light, Kathy Pavelock



Serve the Lord with Gladness...Psalm 100:2

# COUNSELOR'S COUNSELOR'S COUNSELOR'S COUNSELOR'S

#### Changes are coming. . .

This pastor's article a brief one, but I hope a helpful one. Just as the leaves are changing on the trees, it seems as though the values, visions, and hopes are changing around us in our homes, community and the world. One place changes also threatens to change are in the church. We are dismayed when courts makes decisions that are not taking into consideration the Biblical view of marriage. While we hold those truths about God's desire for men and women, our children, grandchildren, and great-grand children seems to live their lives in silence or quiet rebellion away from the church. We continue to hear sad and terrible things going on with the unborn, the disabled, the

poor, and the elderly just to name a few. If these things weren't obvious enough, even the way people talk is changing.

How about the LORD? Does He change? Look up 1 Samuel 15:29, Psalm 55:19, Malachi 3:6, & James 1:7... He does not change like us...in fact, our tendency is to change away from Him towards our dark and sinful ways. This society we live in is indeed strange. It will not tolerate intolerance. The people today want the church to stand up and confess but it does not want to actually commit to anything actively. It is confusing, but the Lord is not confused. Let's pray to the God who does not change to guide and put us back on track with Him. Let's pray for those in our midst that we know and make a real attempt to reach out to them, bother them, love them...

"I am the LORD, I do not change." God bless your families.... Pastor Cory J. Eckstrom



### Christ's love Shining Through You Eastern District Legacy of Love

Mark 9:6 "For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified." Soon enough, the disciples' terror turned into joy for when Jesus is with us, there is no need to fear. He loves us and cares for us and will never abandon us. That assurance is the basis of all generosity – for only those who are set free from worry can learn the joy of giving.

Generosity Adds Value to Life

Many of the happiest people in life are those who are generous. Being generous is not a self-taught trait. It is a gift that was given to us by a Creator, who is even more generous than we can imagine.

People who give their time live outside of themselves. They give but they also receive. As they give away their time, it has a way of giving to them.

People who give their talents know that it is a privilege to step in, to help in ways that only they can. They see their abilities as gifts that have allowed them to make the world a better place; to create something of value to others.

Still others give their treasures, whether in small or large amounts. They are passing on what was given to them to manage and enjoy. They want to share and make a difference in the lives of others. As Jesus said, it is truly more blessed to given than to receive.

For the Christian, being generous is a powerful way to live out their baptismal calling to live in Christ and be the hands, arms and care of a loving Savior. Generosity adds value to life. Generosity is as much 'for you' as it is 'from you.' How can we help you with this process.

Your Partners, In Christ:

Rebecca Bessell, Legacy of Love Eastern District Endowment Chair

585-415-6368

Linda L. Gage

LWML Gift Planning Counselor

800-741-4138

#### News from VP—Gospel Outreach and Organizational Resources—Dee Grzyb



Now that summer is gone and fall is in the air. Every season has its upside; however, autumn has a particular beauty to it. Fall's season colors the world with every imaginable autumn color from God's masterstroke of palette and brush. During fall, the beauty of nature is like a dream world, a fantasy.





#### 2015 National Convention in Des Moines, Iowa - Sow, Reap, Nourish!

I had the privilege of attending this convention in June serving as a delegate along with Jackie Blank from the Buffalo Zone Eastern District. Although we are entitled to have two delegates attend the convention, this is the first time in years that has happened. From the opening of the convention on Thursday evening to Sunday morning when we left there were so many meaningful, awesome moments for me. Seeing my Sisters in Christ from the Eastern District and those from all over the country who came together

to do the job of spreading the Gospel as Lutheran Women In Mission. The service on Thursday evening began with the sowing of corn seeds, the lighting of the convention candle, the processional cross, and all those who processed to the service itself. Bible readings were read as well as the words of the distribution of communion in English and Spanish. Our very own counselors of the Eastern District - pastors Bjornstad and Eckstrom were also helping with the distribution of communion. I was awestruck by the message given by The Rev. Gregory Seltz, speaker of The Lutheran Hour, the beautiful music of 400 volunteers serving as the bell and voice choir who had practiced for the first time that afternoon, to the conclusion of the service that evening. There were so many inspiring moments for me; one in particular that moved me was the message by Pastor Seltz of The Lutheran Hour - these words, in particular, caught my attention..... "We are called by the Son of the living God to be a servant in his army to make an



eternal difference in people's lives. Do not let any of the circumstances in your life define you, depress you or dissuade you because you have been baptized and you have been sent in His name for others. Just be who you are what he has called you to be redeemed, restored and reconciled in the name of Jesus. Be the person who He made you to be."



#### The Time is NOW! NOMINATIONS FOR 2016 LWML Sisters, I need your help!!!!!

The time is now to submit names for nomination for the following District offices: VP of Communications, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary and Pastoral Counselor to be elected at the June 2016 Convention.

A society member or society may submit a nomination to the Nominating Committee. Please prayerfully consider accepting a nomination, or encouraging someone from your society or zone to accept a nomination for one of these positions. Nomination and Consent Forms and the complete descriptions of the duties of office may be obtained from Dee Grzyb, Committee Chair who can be reached at 56 Hanover St., Lancaster, N.Y. 14068 (716-393-3670) or via email de grzyb@msn.com. Nominations must be in by October 15, 2015. The Nominations Committee also includes Rebecca Bessell (Genesee Zone) rlb54@rochester.rr.com and Vivian Tatem (Central NY South) moma597@yahoo.com.

(For complete descriptions, contact Dee Grzyb)

VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATION - Attend the Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings. Receive correspondence from Editor and Public Relations Director. Prepare a written report for all members attending the Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings. Coordinator of the Communications Department, which includes the Editor and Public Relations Director. Contact and coordinator of all copyright information for use of music at all district events with reference to our CCLI license. Attend District Convention. Prepare a statistical report for yearly Spring Board meetings including number of societies in each zone and number of new societies. Prepare a written report for the convention manual submitted by the convention manual deadline. Publicize news from national LWML. Maintain mailing lists. Verify the accuracy of the number of Quarterlies for each zone. Confirm with the treasurer the number that is billed from national. Reconcile if needed. Contribute articles to the Eastern District LWML District Newsletter, Keep accurate record of Quarterly needs of their society, increasing or decreasing accordingly. Send copies of all correspondence generated by the Vice President of Communication to the President. Perform duties of President in her absence if the Vice President Christian Life/Special Focus is unable to do so; and any other duties as set forth in the Leader's Manual

**RECORDING SECRETARY** - Attend the Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings as well as the District convention. Record the minutes of all meetings of the Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and District Convention. Write any correspondence needed by the Executive Committee or Board of Directors pertaining to the work of the LWML Eastern District. Record the list of delegate's credentials prior to the District Convention. Keep District Convention ballots until instructed to destroy them. Prepare cards as necessary for circulation at the Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings for members with need; and other duties as set forth in the Leader's Manual.

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY** - Attend Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings. Prepare a written report for all members attending the Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings. Receive all monies from zone treasurers, including mites, memorials, honor gifts, LWML Quarterly contributions and miscellaneous funds, deposit the monies and keep an accurate record of them. Attend the District Convention. Prepare a written report for the Convention Manual to be submitted by the deadline. Send a monthly report of deposits to the President, Vice President Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources and the Mission Grants Chairman. Send to the Vice President of Communications a copy of the quarterly contributions made at the fall and spring Executive Committee meetings. Serve as a member of the Budget Committee, which prepares the Mission Goal Work program for adoption at the District Convention. Submit books for fiscal review at the end of each biennium. Ask the person to write a letter and send to the president (sample in convention manual). Consult with Recording Secretary on motions reflected in Executive Committee or Board of Directors' meetings minutes that may necessitate changes in Standing Rules and/or Bylaws; and other duties as set forth in the Leader's Manual.

**COUNSELOR** - Attend all Board of Director and Executive Committee Meetings. Serve the District LWML in an advisory capacity; attend all District LWML Conventions, attend the National LWML Convention as directed by the Executive Committee; submit articles to the Editor for publication in the Eastern District Newsletter, submit a written report for the Convention Manual; serve as the spiritual leaders for the Board and Executive Committee and help with the services at retreat and convention when possible; and any other duties as set forth in the Leader's Manual.

Please keep the Nominating Committee in your prayers

#### **GRANTS IN ACTION**



#### GRANT 4—Support for inner city Mission Project for Hananiah Lutheran Church

WHAT A PRIVILEGE!! On August 18, my husband and I went to Hananiah Lutheran Church, 900 Genesee St., Buffalo to present a check to Deacon Diggs from the Eastern Districct Lutheran Women's Missionary League. Back in June 2014, the grant proposal for Hananiah was accepted to be on the ballot at the ED LWML Convention and received enough votes from the delegates for a grant of \$4,700. At long last, enough little Mite Box donations throughout the District added up so the grant could be paid!

#### The grant breaks down as follows:

Monthly pantry supplemental food items, \$1200; Website design and development, \$1300; Signage for windows in front of Hananiah, \$700 Ministry enhancement equipment, \$1500.



The congregation currently provides food for up to 175 individuals and is available to share what they have four times a week and for emergencies. They receive donations from the Food Bank of WNY, along with individual donations and yet, on August 18, their refrigerator was empty!!!! LWML societies and congregations in

the Buffalo are encouraged to support Hananiah Lutheran Church as they minister to the neighborhood.

#### **Mission Grants**

## LAST CALL FOR MISSION GRANTS!!

#### **DUE OCTOBER 15, 2015**

Forms can be obtained from your Zone President, Ruth Mueller, our Mission Grants Chairman or the Eastern District LWML Website www.east-dist-lwml.org As of September we only had one grant request in, please consider mission outreach happening around you and get your requests in today.

#### MISSION GRANT UPDATE

Grants 4 and 5 have now been paid. Grant 4 to Hananiah Lutheran Church, Buffalo NY for their inner city mission and Grant 5 to Grace,

Canastota, NY for the Opportunity Center. We have two grants left to go and \$1,250 for Grant 2 because they were not ready, totaling \$7,749.09. Please give generously to Mites so that are

Grants can be paid in a timely fashion.

#### News from VP—Christian Life/Special Focus—Karen Devan

#### PERSEVERANCE



Earlier this year we had a momma robin visit our front porch. She promptly decided that the space behind the light next to our front door was the perfect place for her nest. I tried to explain to her that it was not a good place for a nest because when she laid eggs or had babies the nest would be disturbed by people going in and out of the front door. She would not be a SPIRITUAL PERSEVERANCE good neighbor if she chirped at people coming and going or worse yet if she flew at them trying to protect her eggs or babies. Momma robin lis-

tened politely and then flew off her nest to our front lawn as I took the nest down. She chirped and squawked at me but the next day there she was sitting on a new nest behind our light. Plan 2 – my husband took the nest down and as we used to say to our children - there was no discussion. Plans 3,4,5,6 didn't work either until we found an old pail and put it on top of the light. Not real attractive but momma robin couldn't get behind it to start her nest again. Finally perseverance won out so after a week or so we took the pail down. Well, you guessed it. Three or four days later I see momma on our front lawn and she just looked at me as if to say, "I really want my nest there." and sure enough, it was back. The nest came down, the pail went up and stayed for almost three weeks and momma made her nest in a tree next to our driveway. No problem – a win, win situation for all.

This little episode with momma robin made me think of the Christian life we lead. Do we persevere when we are confronted with a stumbling block? Do we keep encouraging even though we may feel like it's useless? Do we ask God to be part of our decision making? Is our attitude one of gratitude that others can easily see in us? Do we share the Good News with our words, actions and deeds? This Fall may we challenge each other in adding one extra activity to share Jesus with someone, whether it's a friend, a neighbor, a cashier at your favorite store, a child or anyone you can think of. God's blessings to you during this beautiful season and happy sharing.

#### **News From Special Focus Chairman Teri Devan**

Summers are a wonderful time to refresh and renew ourselves. Now it's getting time to start again with the school year beginning but hopefully with enthusiasm and ready for the challenges of the world. We can conquer both of those through our LWML.

This summer I had the privilege to go to Arizona for a month. I don't have TV, just a radio. My way of life is different than it is at home. I attended a different church this year where my neighbor goes. She invited me to go to Helping Hands, so I accepted knowing that this was their version of LWML. Wow! There were so many things going on in one fellowship room! Beautiful quilts for the babies in the morgue. The people who work there practically run the ladies that deliver them down when they see them coming. There is also quilt tying, sewing and cutting. These little quilts are given to the police department. They give them to children in difficult situations, and adults too. Those quilts are requested often to be sure they keep coming. Pillows were being sewn and stuffed. I am not sure where they were going. And there's even more going on at home and other days. There were busy, busy hands everywhere you turned; all to help those in need, who put a special focus of how to help.

This only goes to show several of the many places we have in our communities that need the work of the LWML. At our Rallies, as well as the district conventions, we learn about services provided in those communities that we



can aid thru gifts from the heart. Accept the challenge of finding those organizations that could benefit from the Special Focus of LWML. They won't be out there with signs or advertisements but are quietly getting along with whatever comes their way. Sometimes in the newspaper you'll find a wish list of needs for these organizations. Why not contact them and see what connection you can make? What does your group do that could help these groups? I pose to you the challenge to seek ways to provide that Special Focus in your communities. I will be inquiring about this for the Board of Directors Meeting in the winter.

Have a great time serving the Lord. I hope as fall sets in you are refocused on the ways of LWML and are renewed with the sprit to do the work of the Lord.

Teri Devan, Chairman—Special Focus



### Take my Hand And Lead me!

Ps. 25:4-5 — "Teach me your ways, O Lord...you are my God...
I always trust in you."

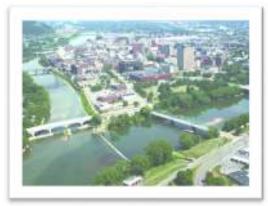
Be inspired by Keynote Speaker Kay Kreklau, LWML Past President

† Worship our GOD!! † Sing to the LORD!!

† Share our Gifts from the Heart

† Walk for Mites † Make decisions for Grants of service

† Encourage one another as we grow in Christ!! †



36<sup>th</sup> LWML Eastern
District Convention
June 10-12, 2016
Holiday Inn, Binghamton, New York
Hosted by the Central New York
South Zone

Questions: Ruth Mueller, convention chairman, 607-797-8453/ rdvmm@aol.com



The logo and banner were created by Mr. Ed. Mohring. The rights to the logo were purchased from 123.rf and depicts the people of the world reaching to Christ. The banner will embody this logo with the addition of the painting "God's Gift" by religious artist Mark Missman which show the image of Jesus extending His welcoming hand to the people of the world. It is Ed's hope that the banner and logo will reflect that the Missouri Synod believes, teaches and confesses that in Christ alone there is salvation—by grace alone, through faith alone, on the basis of Scripture alone. To share this message with the world is the mission of the church and the LWML.

#### **FAITH EASTON, PA**



Using the LWML Sandwich of Great Value Devotion, the women of Faith Easton, and our honorary "Mr. LWML", Carl Cooper, joined in reading Bible verses and building a sandwich of great

value using the suggestions in the de-

votion. Each woman brought a brown bag with the ingredients for her preassigned Bible Verse, read the Bible verse and gave the item to the woman assembling the sandwich. Once the sandwich was completely built, we prayed, and shared this delicious sandwich of the bread of life.



#### ST PAUL, HILTON, NY



St. Paul, Hilton, NY's Sunday School had a collection and packed health kits that were transported to Des Moines for

the LWML National Convention. They packed 27 kits. These were just a few of the kids that helped.

## lews From Around The Zones

#### **ANTHRACITE ZONE**



We are looking forward to Kristin utheran Vought who will be the speaker at Faith Herndon, for the Fall Rally. She will be speaking on Lutheran World Relief's Investment in Women & Gender Equi-

ty: LWR works with small-holder farmers across the world. The majority of the farmers they work with are women, and she will talk about why LWR has made a strong investment in women and gender equity programs. She will share stories of women famers and how their lives have dramatically improved through LWR's work.

In May for our Spring Workshop we will be having missionary Alvina Federwitz, who has been in Liberia for the last 42 years. She works with Lutheran Bible Translators. She will be retiring and moving to North Carolina. It should be interesting to hear what she has experienced.



Dawn Corbin, Anthracite Zone President

#### **BUFFALO ZONE**

LWMLer's are a hearty group of women. Proof of this was shown during our summer picnic. A big storm was coming just when we were supposed to meet. It wasn't feasible to cancel so we went ahead with it. To our amazement around thirty women came. We had a great time. Good food, good friends, good fellowship, and the rain stopped! It actually turned out to be one of our best picnics.



Our Fall Rally is on October 4th at Faith Lutheran Church in Elma. Ruth Wurster will

give a presentation on her trip to a Bible School in Alaska. We will have an ingathering of money to help them purchase a sewing machine.

We hope to see everyone during the retreat at Pioneer Camp.

Karen Blackmon, Buffalo Zone Rally

#### **GENESEE ZONE**

Saturday, August 22, 2015 the Genesee LWML board held an LWML 101 event and invited all the societies in our zone to come and learn about LWML, who we are, what we do and ask how can we help you. There were 16 of us enjoying the fellowship together as we discussed what is going on in our societies, zone, district and national. We used the power point presentation that LWML provides.



Some of us also had an opportunity to tour the food distribution operation at Hope Lutheran Church in Greece which is Grant 7 of the 2014-2016 grants, which will be funded when enough Mites

have been collected. The director came to our presentation and we had time to share with him how and where the money comes from which will fund this grant. Great

Rebecca Bessell, Genesee Zone President

#### PHILADELPHIA ZONE

The Philadelphia Zone sent 4 ladies to the National LWML Convention in Des Moines in June. Susan Morris went as our delegate. Dorothy Koschmann went as our alternate delegate. Rebecca Futty went as one of the YWR's from the Eastern District and Susan Bell went to enjoy the convention and sing in the choir. Dottie Buerger was not able to attend but she made the beautiful banner that Kathy Pavelock and the 2 YWR's marched with at the Convention.

At our June Society Meeting. Linda Knoll was installed as the new society President at Christ Memorial Lutheran Church. Praise God for Linda's willingness to serve the Lord in this way!





We just returned from a wonderful LWML Retreat hosted by the Niagara Zone. Susan Bell, Chris Gasslein, Dorothy Koschmann, Linda Knoll and Rebecca Futty were able to attend from the Phila-

delphia Zone. It was so great to be able to have the worship service outside in the chapel facing Lake Erie!

The Philadelphia Zone Executive Board will meet on Saturday, Oct. 17th at Christ Memorial Lutheran Church. The Philadelphia Zone Fall Rally will be on Saturday, Nov. 7th at Christ Memorial Lutheran Church in Malvern, PA. The Philadelphia Zone English District ladies will be joining us! Our guest speaker will be Deaconess Melissa DeGroot telling us about the work of deaconesses and women's roles in the Lutheran Church. Rebecca Bessell will also be here to talk about gift planning. If you are in the area, please plan to at-

Susan Bell, Philadelphia Zone President

#### PITTSBURGH ZONE

The Pittsburgh Zone LWML Rally will take place on Saturday, October 17, 2015 at Calvary Lutheran Church, 4725 Old William Penn Highway. The rally will begin with registration at 10:00am-10:30am. The registration fee will be \$7.00. Please RSVP to Mrs. Marty Alsing, her email is DNA181@aol.com or by telephone 724-744-4556 by October 11.



The speaker for the LUTHERAN HERITAGE rally will be Rev. Herbert Schumm, the rep-

Pantry

resentative from Lutheran Heritage Foundation, sharing its "mission outreach" in the world. A special offering will be collected for LHF. A noon luncheon will follow. A business meeting will follow lunch.

The in-gathering will be for Murraysville "loaves and fishes" food pantry. The food pantry is in need of soup, saltine crackers, cereal and oatmeal, pan-

cake mix and syrup, peanut butter and jelly, pork and beans, canned salmon, tuna, and spam, canned fruit and juices, canned vegetables, hamburger and tuna helper, macaroni and cheese, spaghetti and sauce, rice, in-

stant potatoes, pasta, jello and pudding.

Carrie Hahn,

2nd Vice President Pittsburgh Zone

#### **HISTORIC MISSION GOAL ADOPTED!**

Delegates to the 36th Biennial Convention of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML), held June 25-28, 2015 in Des Moines, Iowa, adopted a historic \$2 million mission goal for the 2015-2017 biennium. One convention attendee, Karen Lougheed, Fargo, North Dakota, smiled and stated, "This mission goal is huge, but we will reach it with God's help. We're the ladies in purple and we know God will provide!" The LWML, by the grace of God, will fund 19 mission grants on the

The mission of the Eastern District Lutheran Women's Missionary League is to assist each woman of the district in affirming her relationship with the Triune God so that she is enabled to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the



June 10-12, 2016 Eastern District LWML

Convention-Binghamton, NY

March 11-12, 2016 **Board of Directors** 

Binghamton, NY

Sept. 16-18, 2016 LWML Retreat

Camp Pioneer

June 22-25, 2017 **LWML National Convention** 

Salt Lake City, Utah

#### Report of the Financial Secretary—Susan Bell

April 1, 2014 – August 31, 2015

Mites: \$37,203.22

Memorials given in remembrance of (from June 1, 2015 - August 31, 2015):

> Ken Heimlich Elaine Weil Ann Rosetta Irene Walck Lois Seeley Madeline Hess Luella Longer Shirley Gaupp

Treasurers are asked to forward money from their zone on a monthly basis so our mission grants can be paid in a timely manner and to assure that all are funded.

#### **RECYLING**



Please keep saving ink cartridges, laser jet cartridges, cell phones, etc. Please bring to any zone or district event. A special thank you to Niagara zone especially Kathy Laird-Burkett and Alice Pfonner who gave

us seven huge boxes of items for recycling. Any questions on our recycling program, please contact District Recycling Coordinator Claire Carlson at 716-649-4678 or patchtroop546@aol.com. Thank you.

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Vacant

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#### The next deadline is December 1, 2015

The Link is published four times each year.

April 1, July 1, October 1, January 1

**Deadlines to submit articles:** 

March 1, June 1, September 1, December 1

Donna Pyle on the beach







Shadows on the beach wall

Casting our Cares into the Lake

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