







Dear LWML Eastern District Ladies & Gentlemen:

This past Fall, Beth Quinn & I attended the Anthracite Zone Fall Rally on October 6 at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Mount Pocono, Pennsylvania. Zone President, Donna Dreier presided. It was great to fellowship with these sisters in Christ!

On October 12, Sharon McGaun, Beth Quinn and I traveled to Pittsburgh to share Assembly of Leaders materials with the Pittsburgh and Cattaraugus/Allegany

Zones. Pittsburgh Zone President, Diane Olmstead was a great hostess!

On October 19, I was able to attend the Fall Rally at Grace, Canastota, NY with the ladies of the Central New York Zone. I shared Assembly of Leader materials. At the same time, Beth Quinn and Becca Futty shared Assembly of Leader materials with the Philadelphia Zone at Christ Memorial Lutheran Church which included ladies from the English District, as well!

On February 28-29, we will have the Spring LWML ED Board of Directors meeting in East Syracuse, NY. The meeting notice will be sent out in January. Save the date now and plan an extra day or two to tour the Syracuse area if time allows.



The information and registration materials for the 2020 LWML Eastern District Convention at the DoubleTree by Hilton in East Syracuse, NY can be found in this issue of the LINK. Registration for the Convention is due no later than May 10, 2020. Housing reservations open on January 2, 2020. Room reservations are due by May 14, 2020. If you have never been to an Eastern District Convention, please try to attend this one! You won't be sorry! You will hear about the new mission grants that are proposed, gifts from the heart, a servant event, guest speakers, mite walk, choir and much more!

Together
Serving
The Lord
With
Gladness
For
75 Years

Christmas will be over when you get this, but I pray you all had a wonderful Advent & Christmas season and were able to give to others and enjoy your families. I was able to participate in a gift choosing and wrapping for Veterans to give their loved ones that was very rewarding. I pray you had similar experiences serving others.

Let me continue to challenge you to be in the Word daily and pray for ways you can serve Him at home, church and in your community. If <u>you</u> need prayer, do not hesitate to let me know. My cell number is: 610-937-1483 and my e-mail address is: <u>susanbell557@comcast.net</u>. I am here for YOU!

God bless, Susan Bell

COUNSELOR'S

REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS



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

We let a lot of things in life steal our joy. And if we do not have joy then we won't have peace. Peace and joy go together, but they are not the same thing, even

though they come from the same thing – Jesus Christ.

- St. Paul tells the Philippians that there are three things that they must do in order to have peace, which results in pure joy and causes rejoicing all the time. The three things are:
- (1) "Let your reasonableness be known to everyone." Reasonableness is being thoughtful, patient, and considerate. These three virtues flow from the love of Christ and not from ourselves. We can only possess these virtues because of Christ working in us. This is putting others above ourselves.
- (2) "The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything,". Christ is with us and in us, He is at hand. God knows what you need and we pray in the Fourth Petition of the "Lord's Prayer" to give us our daily bread. (Luther's Small Catechism) Jesus tells us in Matthew 6:33: "Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." Once again, anxiety is dispelled by faith in Christ Jesus, who loves you so much that He died and is risen to give you life, mercy, forgiveness and peace.
- (3) "In everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving" We serve an awesome God who wants to hear our voices. Because of the peace that Christ has won, our heavenly Father wants a relationship with us and to carry out conversations with us. God knows what we need before we ask it, but He wants us to ask Him. He also wants us to acknowledge that He hears us and answers us. In keeping with faith, thank God for answering your prayers before and after God's answer.

When we follow our "Good Shepherd" and we allow the Holy Spirit to work in us, Christ gives us that "peace of God, which surpasses all understanding". And when we have that peace we can rejoice in any circumstances. And when we are in Christ and He is in us, He will guard your hearts and your minds forever. So, go in peace and serve the Lord. Thanks be to God!

Rev. Sean Walters, Senior Pastoral Counselor

NEWS FROM THE PHILADELPHIA ZONE

The Eastern District Philadelphia Zone hosted our English District Philadelphia Zone sisters on October 19 for our Fall Rally. Becca Futty and Beth Quinn shared portions of the Assembly of Leaders materials. Amy Prince, YWR to Mobile and Zone Delegate Lorraine Thomas shared their experiences at the Mobile Convention this past June. Everyone came away with knowing more about the LWML and the excitement of attending a LWML Convention. What are you doing June 12, 13, and 14, 2020? Plan to attend our District LWML convention in Syracuse, NY under the theme Walk by Faith



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

LWML Eastern District 2020 Convention - June 12-14, 2020 - East Syracuse, NY



Are you ready to "Walk by Faith" at the 2020 District Convention? Make your plans to attend this June 12-14, 2020 at the DoubleTree by Hilton in East Syracuse, New York. The Convention Planning Committee is busy taking care of all the details for an inspirational 3 days that you won't want to miss!

"Walk By Faith" is the theme for the 2020 convention and is based on: So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight (2 Corinthians 5:6-7). We don't need

20/20 vision to "see" THAT GOD IS AWESOME! We have faith the Lord will lead and direct us in the right

In the last LINK, we had a photo of the Convention Chair, Co-chair and District Liaison. This time we have a photo of the convention planning committee who met in Auburn, New York on November 9 Check out the Convention Planning Committee servants list provided to the right!



CONVENTION PLANNING COMMITTEE

Chairman - Kathy Pavelock, CNYN Co-Chairman – Judy Morrison, Genesee Secretary – Rebecca Bessell, Genesee Treasurer – Charlene Young, CNYN Registration – Barb Fitzpatrick, Genesee District Liaison – Barb Williams Registration-Barb Fitzpatrick, Genesee Housing & Meals-Karen Devan, CNYN Banner/Logo-Carolyn Krause, Genesee Publicity-Krystal Harmon-Burton, CNYN Properties-Rebecca Bessell, Genesee Tours (local area sites)-Teri Devan, CNYN Displays/Exhibits-Sharla Swann, Genesee Favors/Deco/Entertainment-Linda Bahr, CNYN Hospitality-Calvary-Waterloo, Genesee Mite Walk-Kelly Gilbert, CNYN Totes-Barb McHenry/Kathy Ippolito, Genesee Music-Allison Young, CNYN Photographer-Walter Grzyb Meeting Manager-Debbie Chase, CNYN

You will find in this issue of the LINK, the latest information including, registration information, Gifts from the Heart, tours/local area sites to visit, speakers, entertainment and more!

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

You will find the Convention Registration Form in this issue of the LINK on pages 5 and 6. Registrations are due no later than May 10, 2020. Be sure to take notice that room reservations are different than in the past. YOU MUST MAKE YOUR OWN RESERVATION FOR A ROOM by calling 315-432-0200 or by visiting the hotel website. Check out http://east-dist-lwml.org after January 1, 2020 for a direct link to the hotel website. A block of rooms is set aside



for the LWML Eastern District for \$109 per night plus 8% tax and 3% room tax. The same room rate applies for 1, 2, 3, or 4 people to a room. If your church or society is paying for the room, be sure to provide the appropriate tax-exempt information. Room reservations are due by May 14, 2020.

SELF-GUIDED TOURS

Thinking about coming early or staying late to see some the fun sites in the Syracuse area??? Great idea, isn't it??? How about asking your crew to join you – the more the merrier! Here's just a few of the sites to see. There are a variety of museums from art to local history, several downtown districts with shops and restaurants, a Zoo, and Destiny USA which is a wonderful mall with many attractions as well as shopping. Hopefully this will give you something to think about this winter!! spending some time either before or after the convention in the Syracuse Area.

GIFTS FROM THE HEART



Our Ingathering for the 2020 LWML Eastern District Convention Gifts from the Heart ERA HOUSE recipient will be Vera House. In 2005, the Rape Crisis Center and Vera House combined to become one agency as they had similar missions. The Rape Crisis Center was founded by committed volunteers who saw the need for crisis, support and advocacy services

for adult rape survivors. This mission grew over the years to include services for child victims of sexual assault and their families, preventive education programming and a team of nurses who provide 24-hour response for victims of sexual assault.

Vera House was founded by a group of concerned individuals led by Sister Mary Vera, CSJ who recognized the need for emergency sheltering services for women in crisis. This original mission blossomed into a wide range of domestic violence services including outreach and advocacy, domestic violence education programming, children's counseling, the Syracuse Area Domestic and Sexual Violence Coalition and a domestic violence education and accountability program for perpetrators of violence.

We will be collecting the following full size (not travel size) toiletries / personal care items



*Conditioner—*Shampoo--*Body Wash/Shower Gel Liquid Hand Soap—Deodorant Ethnic Hair care products (olive oil products, cocoa butter lotion, palmers lotion *items in most need



They will also take small denomination gift cards from Target or Walmart and of course, you can always write a check to LWML Eastern District Convention and on the memo line, write 2020 Ingathering

SERVANT EVENT

Our Servant Event this year will be making crosses out of used Christmas / Greeting cards. At the National Convention in Mobile, AL, a connection was made with Don Sundene of the LCMS Prison Ministry. We will need used Christmas/greeting cards (just the front cover). If you have any available, please bring them with you to convention. All other supplies will be provided. These crosses will be forwarded to Mr. Sundene to be distributed to those in need in prisons. We are hoping to bring some comfort to those who have lost their way

SPEAKERS-INTEREST SESSIONS-ENTERTAINMENT

We have a weekend of activities, lots of bonding, inspirational thoughts and of course live entertainment. The itinerary includes keynote speaker Linda Arnold. Linda Arnold is a lifelong LCMS Lutheran woman and former LWML Vice-President, who loves God, her husband Clay, her children and grandchildren, hiking, traveling by RV and riding motorcycles. She has a nursing background and has been on many short-term mission trips. She has much to share with us and can't wait for June 2020!

Linda will lead an interest session and there will be other sessions for Assembly of Leaders (AOL), Women

and Finance, and a special Pastor's Event. There will be a Mite Walk to help fund the new mission grants selected at the convention.

The Saturday entertainment will be Harmonic Collective, a barbershop chorus home for men in the Central New York area and beyond to sing, learn, and fellowship at the highest level.

The 2020 District Convention Committee is thrilled to host the event. Additional details will be shared by your zone president sometime in January or February. Keep watch on the LWML Eastern District website for up to date information at: http://east-dist-lwml.org.

Hope to see you in Syracuse in June! **LWML Eastern District 2020 Convention Planning Committee**



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Saturday Breakfast	\$22						\$
Saturday Lunch	\$28						\$
Saturday Banquet&Entertai	nment \$36						\$
Sunday Breakfast	\$22						\$
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	Total Due for Registration & Meals \$						
Less amount paid by District (for YWR/Speaker/Board only): \$							
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Make checks payable to : LWML Eastern District Convention							
*MAIL completed REGISTRATION FORM and FULL PAYMENT to:							
Barbara Fitzpatrick, Registration Chairman, 17 Newcomb Drive, Hilton, NY 14468 (585-392-4329)							
WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE CONFIRMATION NOTICE: EMAIL OR MAIL (please circle one)							
IF BY MAIL, PLEASE INCLUDE A SELF-ADDRESSED, STAMPED BUSINESS SIZE ENVELOPE WITH YOUR PAYMENT & REGISTRATION							

Reaistration Chairman Only: Received On: Check(s): Amount:

NOTICE

NO LODGING RESERVATIONS WILL BE MADE BY THE CONVENTION COMMITTEE

You must **make your own reservations** for lodging at the DoubleTree by Hilton, 6301 State Route 298, East Syracuse, NY 13057 To make reservations, call **(315)432-0200** or visit **Hotel Website** Link (see http://east-dist-lwml.org for the Hotel Website Link after Jan. 1, 2020) A block of rooms is reserved for the LWML Eastern District Convention for June 11-13, 2020 at the rate of \$109* per night (1, 2, 3, or 4 people).

Reservations must be made by May 14, 2020!

^{*} Plus 8% Sales Tax and 5% Room Tax. If being paid by a church or society all appropriate documents must be provided to the hotel

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PHOTOGRAPHY RELEASE: Photographs will be taken by our Convention Photographer throughout the convention. I hereby give the Eastern									
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Signature Date LODGING INFORMATION FOR YWR/BOARD OF DIRECTORS/SPEAKER									
LODGII	NG INFORM	ATION FOR	R YWR,	/BOARD	OF DIR	RECTORS	S/SPEAK	KER	
Circle dates lodging required 6/11 6/12 6/13 Roommate(s)									
District pays a maximum of 2 to a room or \$54.50 per night, except for speakers and LWML district									
Special Needs for Lodging:									

NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF GOSPEL OUTREACH/ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES—SHARON MCGUAN



THE GOSPEL OUTREACH/ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES TEAM

Vice President Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources – Sharon McGuan, Buffalo Zone
Mission Grants Chair – Cheri Briggs, Niagara Zone
Mission Grants Co Chair – Julie Tapp, Niagara Zone
Leader Development Chair – Rebecca Futty, Philadelphia Zone
Leader Development Co Chair – Allison Young, Central NY North Zone
Structure Chair – Susan Morris, Philadelphia Zone
Structure Co Chair – Robin Swanson, Cattaraugus/Allegany Zone
Stamps for Missions Coordinator – Sharon McGuan, Buffalo Zone

LWML Eastern District Nominating Committee

Sharon McGuan, Chairman Karen Devan, Central NY North Zone Donna Dreier, Anthracite Zone To Contact us. please see page 11 of this LINK



What Is Gospel Outreach?

The purpose of the Gospel Outreach Committee is to engage, encourage and equip women to share their faith in Jesus Christ, their loving Savior, with people of their communities and the world

Gospel Outreach

And in true Lutheran fashion we ask........What does this mean?

God wants us to be our self when sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with others. He has chosen us, and given us the privilege of sharing the joy and excitement of our faith with others. Being a Christian is a Joy and Blessing, therefore the Joy of Jesus in our lives should be evident to all!



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Julie Tapp and I have the great pleasure to inform you that 18 Mission Grants were submitted for review and possible inclusion for the Mission Grant ballot at the 2020 Eastern District Convention! Each application will be prayerfully and carefully considered. We thank everyone who took the time to put a grant together. Please be assured the thought and time taken to write each grant is much appreciated.

Each grant will be reviewed by the Mission Grants Committee, the President of the ED LWML, the Vice President of the Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources, The President of the Eastern District, or his designee, and to others designated by the Executive Commit-

tee. Grants shall be considered for proposals that: truly exhibit a direct mission emphasis; extend the ministry of the Word; and are approved by the LCMS Eastern District President or his designee.

Three weeks before the Winter Board meeting, a listing of the grants and a summary description will be sent to the BOD and Zone Presidents for their review. At that meeting, President Susan Bell will ask the Mission Grant Chairman, Cheri Briggs, to present to the EC and the BOD the grant proposals and be ready to answer any questions. By the time the Spring LINK goes to press, we should have list of the 2020 Convention Mission Grant Projects to share with you.

Please pray for everyone involved in this process and for the decisions being made. To God be the glory! Cheri Briggs, Mission Grants Chairman Julie Tapp, Mission Grants Co Chair

May God Our Heavenly Father so fill our hearts with the love of Jesus that we act, as prompted by His Holy Spirit, to select those missions and ministries He would have us support. To the glory of His Name. Amen.

Mission Grant Progress Report:

Thanks be to God! Our 5th Mission Grant has been paid: \$5,000 Funding to provide perishable food items to seminary students and their families, Concordia Seminary Fort Wayne, Indiana. We pray these foods supplies will be a blessing to the students and their families.

Please give generously to support Mite Grant 6: \$2450 Funding for the Lunchbox Summer Program in Hop Bottom, PA and Grant 7: \$2450 Funding to purchase Bibles for distribution in Nepal and China through Sowers Ministry, Tonawanda, NY. It is our prayer we pay these grants in full so we may rejoice together at our convention in Syracuse!

NOMINATING COMMITTEE NEWS

Sharon McGuan, Karen Devan and Donna Dreier are still busy contacting pastors and LMML members who have consented to serve, if elected, or are still prayerfully considering a nomination for office. Please keep both Candidates and Nominees in your prayers. The following offices will be voted upon at the June 2020 convention in Syracuse, NY.

Vice President of Communication whose duties of service include: Coordinator of the Communications Department, report to the Executive Committee and Board of Directors, maintain a comprehensive mailing list and membership information, receive orders for Lutheran Women's Quarterly, maintain a record of copies and submit a written report for the convention manual.

Recording Secretary, whose duties of service include: Record minutes of all meetings of the LWML District Convention, EC and BOD, Supply minutes of EC and BOD meetings to the LWML District EC and BOD and Convention minutes to all societies, receive delegate credentials prior to the LWML Eastern District Convention, submit a written report for the convention manual, and send a copy of minutes of LWML District Convention, EC and BOD meetings to the National LWML President.

Financial Secretary, bonded at District expense, whose duties of service include: Keep an itemized account, by zone, of all receipts, deposit all monies remitted by the zones, send deposit slips monthly to the Treasurer, submit a financial report to the LWML District Convention, EC and BOD meetings, submit records for financial review annually, and submit a written report for the convention manual.

Pastoral Counselor, whose duties of service include: Serve in an advisory capacity, serve on Standing Committees in an advisory capacity as assigned by President, attend all LWML District Conventions and meetings of the EC and BOD as a non-voting member, attend LWML National Conventions as directed by the Executive Committee, submit articles to the Editor for publication in the LWML District LINK, and submit a written report for the convention manual.

The complete list of Candidates, their pictures and bios will be included in the Spring LINK. We still welcome your nominations!! Please contact Sharon McGuan stmcguan@gmail.com, or 716-803-3767 to make a nomination. If I do not answer my phone, please leave a voice message. Thank You!

MANY THANKS FOR A TREMENDOUS OUTPOURING OF STAMPS!

Kandis Kornwall. Director of the Canadian Bible Societies' "Stamps for Prison" Ministry was amazed. On Monday, November 11 my husband, Tim, and I again went to Toronto to deliver the stamps. Tim kept bringing in bags and boxes of stamps until we filled the lobby of the Canadian Bible Society. Thank you to all LWML members who have submitted stamps this past year! Stamps, like Mites and mustard seeds, are tiny; but in the hands of a loving God, stamps and Mites can do mighty things. This trip we brought in about 120 pounds of stamps. Each stamp works to make up ten pounds of stamps that purchases six Bibles for Canadian Chaplains to place in the hands of prisoners. The Bibles open the door for chaplains to share the

Kandis wrote to us: "Thank you for your donation of used stamps! As you know, your donation helps the Canadian Bible Society to continue to provide the Key to Freedom Bible for prison ministries across Canada. One volunteer noted 'It is my true joy to see, first-hand, the changes Jesus Christ makes in the lives of the incarcerated, as they are introduced to His love and forgiveness through Bible studies, times of prayer, and worship. I have seen many individuals change from despondent and hopeless into, loving and forgiving people.' Because of your time and effort, much is made possible. Thank you."

Good News of salvation. Then, through the power of God's Word, lives change. To God be the glory!

Remember, please cut ½ inch around each stamp. BUT do not throw stamps away if you got a little too close AS LONG AS THE PERFORATIONS are all intact. Also, Kandis mentioned, stamps on dark colored paper are now marketable! Crafters are now buying these stamps. They are using stamps on bright or dark colored envelopes for craft projects, so keep bringing them in!

I hope to receive lots of stamps at our 2020 Convention in Syracuse! May God grant that these little stamps be used to His glory! – Sharon McGuan, LWML ED Stamp Coordinator

Mission Grant Impact Report

Grant 5—\$5,000 Funding to provide perishable food items to seminary students and their families, Concordia Seminary Fort Wayne, Indiana.

The Food & Clothing Co-op of Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSFW), Fort Wayne, plays a key role in caring for the needs of your future pastors and deaconesses. Because of donations from individuals, congregations and other organizations, the Co-op is able to provide clothing, household items and groceries for the CTSFW student body. In fact, the Co-op is currently supplying up to 85% of our student families' monthly grocery needs at no cost to the student. What a tremendous blessing this is for families operating on a student budget.

The Co-op operates as an actual cooperative with each family working an agreed upon amount of time each month to receive points they will use to purchase grocery items.

I give thanks for the mighty saints of the LWML and their "Mighty Mites" for their care of our students as they prepare to be full-time church workers to care for the flock of Christ!

For our fiscal year July 2018-June 2019 we were able to provide:

- 36,296 pounds of fresh produce
- 626 pounds of hamburger plus received the donation of 2.5 butchered cows (approx. 2,159 pounds)
- 2,741 gallons of milk and 878 pints
- Approximately 6,000 pounds of food from the local food pantry
- \$12,225.06 spent at local grocery stores
- 12,398.90 pounds of pork (35 hogs)
- 4,000 pounds of chicken donated by Brakebush Brothers Chicken
- More than 500 dozen farm fresh eggs received from local farmers
- We are currently feeding 435 people (students, spouses and children)



God truly has blessed us with people like you who care and provide for the students and their families as they prepare to work in the harvest field. You are amazing! I can tell you as a former seminary wife (my husband is a pastor) and later as a student myself, the difference you make is great and the the gift of food you provide is something that cannot be expressed in mere words.

We are eternally thankful for you and the ladies of your district. May God continue to bless you all as you help provide for those who will go out and harvest for the Lord. It is important that we are good stewards of the monies donated. In an effort to get the most return on funds spent, the Co-op is a member agency of the local food bank and is able

to purchase case lots of items at just 19 cents per pound.

Many of our students say use of the Co-op has taken away the concern of how they will feed and clothe their family. And this is made possible by your generous gifts, through donations of food and clothing or by filling your mite box so that a grant can be presented. Thank you for what you have done and what you continue to do for the men and women who have answered God's call to serve Him and you.

Deaconess Katherine Rittner, Director The Food & Clothing Co-op of Concordia Theological Seminary



NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATION—BETH QUINN

LWML QUARTERLY SUBSCRIPTIONS

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 zone presidents 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, 2020. Meeting this deadline helps me meet the national deadline of April 1, 2020.

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. Cost per subscription is \$7.00. For example, if your church receives 7 copies, please submit \$49.00 to your zone treasurer so she can forward to the district's financial secretary.



For we walk by faith, not by sight. 2 Corinthians 5:7

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

DIRECTORY CHANGES

Thank you for the updates to the Eastern District LWML Directory. If there are additional updates, 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. Directories are published in February/ March timeframe 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

COPYWRITING/LICENSING FOR MUSIC

Do you include songs in your zone or society events? Are you aware



that like books music (words and score) is copyrighted? If you need help securing permission to use words or music score for your events, I can provide assistance.



February 28-29, 2020

LWML Eastern District
Board of Directors
Doubletree, Syracuse East

June 12-14, 2020 LWML ED Convention
Doubletree, Syracuse East

Sept. 18, 2020 LWML ED BOD Camp Pioneer

Sept. 18-20, 2020 Fall Retreat Camp Pioneer

June 24-27, 2021 LWML National Convention Lexington, Kentucky

Report of the Financial Secretary—Judy Morrison

September 1, 2019 – November 30, 2019 Mites: \$11,049.14

Memorials / Honorariums Given: (September 1, 2019 – November 30, 2019)

In Memory of:
Alice Stofan

Buth Ann Krueger

Given by:
Dorothy Koschmann
Linda Breight
Buffalo Zone

Ann Engelbert St. Paul Adella Society Mary Koroniwsky St. Paul Adella Society

In Honor of: Given by:

LWML Mentors in Linda Breight
My Life

<u>Legacy of Love</u> <u>Given by:</u> In Memory of Buffalo Zone Ruth Hope

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

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Please send all news articles and information for publication to:

> **Bev Wicher** 19 Vernon Drive Cheektowaga, NY 14225 716-913-4140

E-mail: lwmllink@gmail.com

The next deadline is March 1, 2020

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



Susan Bell, Sharon McGuan, Becca Futty and Beth Quinn have had the opportunity to share what they learned in November 2018 at the LWML Assembly of Leaders event at many district events this fall.

September and October were busy months with events at Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, and Central New York North as well as our September retreat. Each event was unique to the audience and covered information on culture and generations, change, leadership, structure/protocol, mission grants, LWML resources and how to engage and maintain volunteers. Our next planned event is March 28, 2020 for Genesee Zone.

Some of the remarks from participants include

- The whole program would be good for our congregation
- I learned how to use the LWML app
- Inspiration about the Lord's work in LWML
- There is change in everything different ways to deal and see change
- We currently do not have an active organized LWML group. I think we can begin again as a Bible Study.
- Understand difference of age in the person I am encouraging to join LWML and myself.
- Be intentional
- Different cultures and generations to show me how to communicate with each group
- How to prepare a mission grant

We are achieving our goal to reach as many of the women in the Eastern District with information about the LWML. Plans for 2020 include sharing the materials presented throughout the district on our website for congregations to use as appropriate. Thank you all for your warm hospitality as we have been received with welcoming arms.

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









Dear LWML Eastern District Ladies & Gentlemen:

Let me start off with very good news! As of March 15, 2020 we have enough mite money to pay off the last 2 mission grants of the 2018-2020 Biennium! Praise God! Thank you all for your contributions over the last 2 years!

I attended the Assembly of Presidents in St. Louis in January led by our new LWML National President, Debbie Larson. Much of the discussion was around District Conventions coming up in 2020. We had our Eastern

District Board of Directors meetings at our host hotel in East Syracuse, NY on Feb. 28-29. Everything looked very hopeful at that time.

With the Coronavirus appearing in the US in March and endangering so many, your Board of Directors considered moving our convention to November, but, with no assurance it would be over by then, it was decided to cancel the convention this year. This decision was made with a lot of prayer and trust in the Lord. It was also made to protect the ladies and gentlemen who would come to the Convention. Please continue to get your delegate names to me by April 15th. We will vote on bylaws, officers and mission grants online or by snail mail. The officers will be installed at Camp Pioneer in September. The Keynote address, opening sermon, mission grant speakers, bible study will be shared with you via e-mail June 12-14, 2020.



We will have Retreat this year at Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center in Angola, NY hosted by the Buffalo Zone, Sept. 18-20! Unless God has another plan, this will be our last Retreat at Camp Pioneer. So, come to this one if you can! We will be celebrating 75 years of Camp Pioneer and will have a long-sleeved t-shirt or hoodie that you can order to remember your time in this wonderful place. (The order form for the shirts can be found on page 11 of this LINK) Retreats will continue after this year in a location to be determined.

I wish you a blessed Holy Week and wonderful Easter celebration on April 12th. May you see the miracle of Jesus' rising from the grave as the hope for our troubled world.

Let me continue to challenge you to be in the Word daily and pray for ways you can serve Him at home, church and in your community. If you need prayer, do not hesitate to let me know. My cell number is: 610-937-1483 and my e-mail address is: susanbell557@comcast.net. I am here for YOU!

Together
Serving
The Lord
With
Gladness
For
75 Years

God bless, Susan Bell



Dear ones.

This devotion was written during the Covid-19 outbreak in these United States. There is uncertainty, officials are trying to "flatten the curve" of the pandemic that hit China, Europe and is now on our shores.

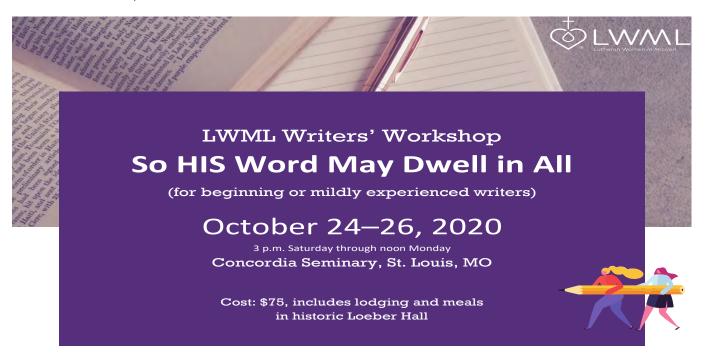
Be at peace, dear ones. The Lord is with you always. Follow good hygiene, honor the government officials as long as they don't infringe onto God's territory. Continue to be fed God's Word and Sacrament. If you're ill, stay home, call your pastor, he's there to

bring the blessed "medicine of immortality" in the Sacrament to you.

People get scared, that happens in our fallen creation. Oh how we look forward in joy to our heavenly home, where there will be no more sin, disease and death.

The Lord be with you always!

Pastor Zimmerman, Junior LWML Eastern District Counselor



Inspiring and equipping writers to share HIS story

Opportunities include:

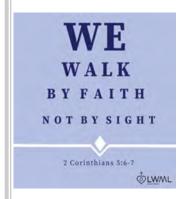
- One-on-one time with authors and doctrinal review experts
- Writing time
- · Chapel services at the Seminary
- Research opportunities at the Seminary library
- Improve writing skills
- Learn how to submit works to LWML for publication
- Become part of a Christ-centered community of LWML writers



Registration open July 1-October 1, 2020 Class limit 20 www.lwml.org

Note: Loeber Hall is not handicapped accessible.

LWML EASTERN DISTRICT 2020 CONVENTION



"Walk By Faith" is the theme for the 2020 LWML Eastern District convention based on: So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight (2 Corinthians 5:6-7).

As you have read elsewhere in this issue of the LINK, the LWML Eastern District Board of Directors have decided to cancel the June 2020 Convention that was to be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton in East Syracuse. The 2020 Convention Planning Committee will continue to meet over the next couple of months to ensure that there is a tidy and organized closure to any outstanding items. We will also be working with the Executive Committee to see about holding some of the planned events from the convention during the Fall Retreat. For those of you who have made room reservations directly with the Double-

Tree, you should have received a cancellation notice. If you did not, please contact Kathy Pavelock at 315-245-1590 or KMPavelock@aol.com. If you sent in your convention registration to Barb Fitzpatrick, you will be receiving a full refund from Convention Treasurer, Charlene Young. Please allow a couple of weeks for this so we can coordinate the lists of registrants.

And so, we maintain this good courage as we continue to walk by faith! Our prayers are with all our Sisters in Christ to remain healthy and to keep your faith strong! Find up-to-date convention-related information on the LWML Eastern District Website at http://east-dist-lwml.org.

NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF GOSPEL OUTREACH/ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES—SHARON MCGUAN

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ: Although our Gospel Outreach, Organizational Resources Team will not be able to see you in Syracuse, we are excited to be sharing news with you! In this LINK, we are delighted to present the proposed 2020-2022 Mission Grants, introduce the Candidates for district office and our new YWR's. We also have some Bylaws and stamp ministry news. Together we confess, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose." Romans 8: 2 We believe He will work all things for the good in this situation. We pray the Lord blesses the communication between the district and your societies through the use of the postal service, email and the LWML Eastern District Website; that every society will have delegates voting from their home and that more women will be aware of the grants, candidates and business of the district than ever before. We also pray that, by God's grace, the "at home" convention material and news we send out to you will comfort you and keep you connected. Amen.

In this LINK:

Mission Grants Chair, Cheri Briggs and Co-Chair, Julie Tapp will share a 2018-2020 Mission Grants Update and introduce the exciting 15 Mission Grant proposals for you and your society to prayerfully consider before convention. The grants will be listed here in the LINK, on the LWML Eastern District web site and in the Convention Manual. Packets with more information regarding the grants will be sent to each delegate from President Susan Bell in your delegate packet. Delegates, if you have a question about a grant, please call Cheri Briggs, Julie Tapp or Sharon McGuan. Our contact information is on page 13 of the LINK.

Also in this LINK, the Nominating Committee will present the 2020 Convention Candidates for LWML Eastern District Office. Sharon McGuan, Karen Devan and Donna Dreier are thankful to the Lord for raising up six wonderful candidates. We ask that you will, along with us, pray for each of the candidates. Again, President Susan will send pictures and complete biographical information regarding each candidate in the delegate packet. It is our joy to introduce the candidates in this edition of the LINK and on the LWML Eastern District Website. Bios and pictures of each candidate will also be included in the Convention Manual.

The Structure Committee, including Chair, Susan Morris and Co-Chair, Robin Swanson, have also been preparing for convention; their efforts have produced several Bylaws changes, approved by the Board of Directors for the ballot at convention, and for delegates to consider and vote upon. These Bylaws changes will also be part of the delegate packet and listed in the Convention Manual.

Our Leader Development Chair, Rebecca Futty and Co-Chair, Allison Young have received four applications for Young Women Representatives for the convention, they are Julie Tapp, Niagara Zone, Ruth Driskell, Pittsburgh Zone Tomaline Harmon, Philadelphia Zone and Melissa Clark, Buffalo Zone. We are so disappointed that they will not be able to join us at convention and hope that they will consider being with us as YWRs in 2022.

LWML EASTERN DISTRICT 2020 MISSION GRANT PROPOSALS

The following grants were received by October 15, 2019 by the Grant Committee and have been reviewed according to the Bylaws and Guidelines and approved by the LWML Eastern District Board of Directors to appear on the 2020 LWML Eastern District ballot. They are presented in the order they were received by this committee. More detailed grant information will be included in the delegate packets

- GRANT # A Request funds for Lutheran Heritage Foundation to translate, publish and distribute Luther's Small Catechism to Ethiopians locally, nationally and internationally.

 \$2,500 requested by LWML Member Barbara Books, Pittsburgh Zone.
- GRANT # B Request for building material for home repairs and follow up Gospel outreach in Central and Northern Chester County by Good Works, Inc.
 \$5,000 requested by LWML Member Susan Bell, Philadelphia Zone
- Request to provide food and hygiene products for over 400 widows in southern Malawi, Africa through Climbing for Christ.
 \$5,000 requested by the Adella Society, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Hilton, NY, Genesee Zone
- GRANT # D Request to purchase gift cards for emergency food and bus transportation for families in McKeesport, Pennsylvania through Sonshine Community Ministries.

 \$1,040 requested by LWML Member Marty Alsing, Pittsburgh Zone
- **GRANT # E**Request to complete a 2nd apartment in a 5 apartment guest house for use by missionaries in Monrovia, Liberia through Reverend Peter Saie, Trinity Lutheran Church, Utica, NY \$5,000 requested by LWML Member Charlene Young, Central NY North Zone
- GRANT # F

 Request to purchase fabric for the ladies at St. Luke LWML in Cabot, PA to make dresses for Dress-A-Girl Around the World. Dresses are distributed in the US and in the Marshall Islands

 \$2,500 requested by LWML Member Britta Gandy, Pittsburgh Zone
- Request to purchase & install a generator at St. Paul church & school building for a Safe Haven with the American Red Cross. Spiritual support & materials will also be given in an emergency.
 \$5,000 requested by LWML Member Linda Gerlach, Niagara Zone
- GRANT # H Request to give 10 high school children a week at a Young Life summer camp full of activities, God's Word and love
 \$5,000 requested by LWML Member Sharon Wolff, Buffalo Zone
- GRANT # I Request to complete funding to purchase and install a vinyl play set specifically designed to be handicapped accessible at Christ Memorial Lutheran School in Malvern, PA \$5,000 requested by Christ Memorial Church, Philadelphia Zone
- **GRANT # J**Request to send 7 Pennsylvania State University students on the Revive Campus Ministry's annual service trip. Each year the trip is planned based on a need in the United States \$5,000 requested by LWML Member Sharon Messler, Pittsburgh Zone
- GRANT # K

 Request to purchase Bibles, devotions, & other materials to further the ministry for those with substance abuse, gambling, anger issues, etc. through Celebrate Recovery at Hope Lutheran

 \$5,000 requested by LWML Member Elizabeth Marks, Philadelphia Zone

GRANT # L Request to purchase 2,600 meals for those in extreme poverty who are homeless or housing insecure in Philadelphia through Broad Street Ministry's Hospitality Collaborative program \$5,000 requested by Philadelphia Zone

GRANT # MRequest to purchase mattresses, box springs, bed frames, pillow(s), bedding and blankets for children in need of a bed through Calvary Lutheran's Barnabas Project in Waterloo, NY \$5,000 requested by LWML Member Susan Beltran, Genesee Zone

GRANT # NRequest to purchase beds, bedding & Bibles for 14 rooms to house men who have completed addiction recovery programs & require support at Cleveland Dream Center in Covington, PA \$5,000 requested by LWML Member Anita Getty, Central NY South Zone

Request to purchase material to sew & other supplies to complete 500 feminine hygiene "kits" by the women at Valencia Days for Girls, Valencia, PA for girls living in poverty around the world.
 \$5,000 requested by Pittsburgh Zone

2020 Candidates for Elected Office

The Nominating Committee is privileged to present biographies for the nominees who, if elected, have consented to serve the Lord in the Eastern District LWML for the 2020-2022 term of office.

VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATION

Sharon Wolff, Buffalo Zone

Sharon is a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Batavia, NY. She and her husband John live in Batavia and have three grown children, Amy, Natalie, and Dineen. They also have six grandchildren. Sharon is a graduate of the School of Radiologic Technology at Strong Memorial Hospital. She worked at an orthopedic office as a Senior Staff Technologist until she retired.

Sharon serves at St. Paul Lutheran in Batavia as President of the congregation, she sings in the Praise Band and plays in the Bell Choir. In the past, Sharon has served on the congregational Ministry Team as Worship Chair and she designed the contemporary worship service for

many years. Her service to the LWML includes: Society President for St. Paul Lutheran Church; Buffalo Zone Secretary; past Eastern District Co-Chair and present Chair of the Special Focus Committee.

God has led Sharon to serve on many mission teams to Haiti. She traveled three times with teams from First Trinity in Tonawanda, NY to Children of Israel Orphanage in Les Cayes. Each of these trips included Vacation Bible School and ministering to upwards of 500 children. In 2015 Sharon traveled with a smaller team to Maniche, conducting Vacation Bible School for 75 children and a Women's Bible Study.

Sharon enjoys reading, singing, gardening, traveling and puzzles.

Robin Swanson, Cattaraugus - Allegheny Zone

Robin and her husband Thomas live in Sugar Grove, PA. She was a lifelong member of Concordia Lutheran Church in Jamestown, NY and currently attends society meetings at St. Paul Lutheran Church, North East, PA. She and her husband Thomas have three children, Christy, married to Ryan, Evan and Ethan. They also have two grandchildren, Bennett and Finn. Robin earned a B.S. from Clarion University in Clarion, PA and an M.S. in Biology from Edinboro University in Edinboro, PA. She is currently employed as a high school Biology Teacher in Warren County.

Robin served as Secretary and Vice President of Concordia Lutheran Church. Her service to the LWML includes: Concordia Society Secretary and President; Cattaraugus- Alleghany Zone Secretary, Treasurer, Vice-President and current Zone President; Eastern District Structure Co-Chair and Chairman. She is currently reprising her role as Structure Co-Chair.

Robin enjoys reading, hiking, bike riding and gardening.

RECORDING SECRETARY



Dee Grzyb, Buffalo Zone

Dee is a member of St. Luke Lutheran Church in Cheektowaga, NY. She and her husband Walt live in Lancaster, NY. They have one daughter, Sue and one grandson, Chris. Dee earned a Bachelor of Arts in Business from Daemen College. Dee is a retired accountant and quality systems analyst.

Dee has chaired the Board of Resource Development and served as Treasurer for St. Luke Lutheran Church. Her Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center service includes chairing the Pioneer Association of Volunteers and a term on the Pioneer Board of Directors.

Dee's service to the LWML includes: Buffalo Zone Treasurer and current Zone President; Eastern District Treasurer, Vice President of Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources. She is the current District Recording Secretary.

Dee enjoys traveling, reading, volunteering and golfing

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Judy Morrison, Genesee Zone

Judy lives in Hilton, NY and attends St. Paul Lutheran Church in Hilton. She and her husband, Clyde, have one daughter, Kelly. Judy attended Hilbert College in Hamburg, NY and received an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Paralegal Studies. She is currently employed as an Administrative Assistant in the Information Technology Department at MVP Health Care, a health insurance company.

Judy has enjoyed serving at St. Paul as Chairman of the Board of Youth and two terms as Congregational Secretary. She currently teaches Sunday School, plays in the Bell Choir and is an

Usher Captain. Her LWML service includes various positions over 30 years with Adella/LWML at St. Paul. She was the Genesee Zone Delegate for the National LWML 2015 Convention in Des Moines, Iowa. Judy is currently serving as the LWML Eastern District Financial Secretary.

Her interests are quilting, reading, traveling and bell ringing.



DISTRICT PASTORAL COUNSELOR:

Reverend James Burch, Central New York North Zone

Reverend Burch is the pastor of Grace Lutheran Church in Canastota, NY. He and his wife Teresa live in Groton, NY. They have two children, James and Charles, and one grandson, Aaron. Taking Mission Training Center courses through Concordia, Pastor Burch became a Licensed Lay Deacon in November 2011. He continued taking LCMS Colloquy courses and was ordained at Grace Lutheran Church on May 18, 2019.

Before Pastor Burch became a Deacon, he served as an elder, congregational Vice President and President at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Cortland, NY.

When not serving his congregation, Pastor Burch enjoys driving a school bus, hunting, fishing and family time. Pastor Burch is glad to see all the ways the LWML is mission oriented. The women are involved and are a main part of their churches. They are dedicated to serve their Lord in any way they are able.



Reverend Jeffrey Nickel, Buffalo Zone

Reverend Nickel has served as Pastor of Holy Cross Lutheran Church since his ordination on July 26, 2015. He and his wife Rachel have two daughters, Natalie and Laura. Pastor Nickel grew up in Alpena, Michigan. He attended Harvard College, followed by the University of Michigan law school. Prior to being called to the ministry and entering Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Pastor Nickel worked as an attorney.

Reverend Nickel enjoys planting trees. He purchases trees from the New York State nursery, plants them and loves to watch them grow. He currently has 45 small trees in his garage, just waiting to be planted in the spring.

Pastor Nickel sees the LWML as a strong mission auxiliary of the Church. And the women of the LWML have, over many years, supported the ministry of the Gospel through their Mites and

mission projects.

Finally, an enthusiastic thank you and an encouraging reminder regarding our LWML Eastern District Stamp Collecting Ministry: SINCE retreat, I have received four large boxes of stamps! I am looking forward to seeing what we collect at the 2020 Retreat. There will be a table with a sign in Hickman Hall saying STAMPS FOR FREEDOM BIBLES. If you can only collect a few stamps, that is ok. The stamps, like our MITES, do mighty things when we work together. Please ask everyone in your congregation to turn in their stamps and help share the Gospel of the Lord Jesus with those in prison.

"I CANNOT IMAGINE THIS MINISTRY BEING AS RELEVANT TO THE LIVES OF THE INMATES WE MEET WITH-OUT THE KEYS TO FREEDOM BIBLES. WE HAVE SEEN MORE MEN SAVED IN JAIL IN THE LAST TWO YEARS THAN ANY OTHER TIME, AND THE CANADIAN BIBLE SOCIETY HAS PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THAT!" – Canadian Prison Chaplain

So ladies, again thank you and please continue collecting!

HERE IS HOW THE USED STAMP PROGRAM WORKS:

Stamps collected are combined to create "charity boxes" and are sold to stamp collectors and vendors. The revenue generated allows the CBS to purchase Bibles for Canadian prisons.

1 pounds of stamps = 6 Bibles for distribution

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COLLECTING:

KEEP THE STAMP ON THE ENVELOPE

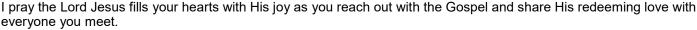
CUT OUT THE STAMP LEAVING ¼ INCH BORDER AROUND THE ENTIRE STAMP, CAREFUL NOT TO CUT THE PERFORATIONS

STAMPS MAY NOW BE ON WHITE, LIGHT AND COLORED ENVELOPES. THE CBS IS NOW SELLING THE STAMPS TO CRAFTERS WHO LIKE THE STAMPS ON COLORED ENVELOPES

ASK YOUR CHURCH, OR SOCIETY TO COLLECT THE STAMPS

IF YOUR CHURCH IS COLLECTING, PLEASE PUT A STAMP COLLECTION BOX IN YOUR CHURCH NARTHEX, OR OTHER DESIGNATED PLACE

ASSIGN A PERSON TO GATHER THE STAMPS AND TURN THEM IN AT ANY ZONE OR EAST-ERN DISTRICT LWML EVENT. IF YOU BRING THE STAMPS TO A ZONE EVENT, YOUR ZONE PRESIDENT WILL GET THEM TO SHARON McGUAN (MY CONTACT INFO IS ON THE LAST



In His Service, Sharon McGuan, Vice President of Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources

The Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources Team

Vice President Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources – Sharon McGuan, Buffalo Zone

Mission Grants Chair – Cheri Briggs, Niagara Zone

Mission Grants Co-Chair – Julie Tapp, Niagara Zone

Leader Development Chair – Rebecca Futty, Philadelphia Zone

Leader Development Co-Chair – Allison Young, Central NY North

Structure Chair - Susan Morris, Philadelphia Zone

Structure Co-Chair – Robin Swanson, Cattaraugus/Allegany Zone

Nominating Committee: Sharon McGuan, Chair; Karen Devan and Donna Dreier

To contact us, please see last page of the LINK.

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



September 18-20, 2020
Pioneer Camp &
Retreat Center
"Can Do With Jesus"



I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me. Philippians 4:13



Our speaker for the weekend will be Dr. Beverly Yahnke, Executive Director for Christian Counsel for DOXOLO-GY (The Lutheran Center for Spiritual Care and Counsel). Dr. Yahnke is a licensed clinical psychologist who has provided consultation to District Presidents, pastors, principals, teachers and congregations for over three decades. She is known throughout the church as a compassionate counselor, articulate speaker, and engaging



COME BE REFRESHED AND RENEWED

FOR

... inspiration, refreshment and encouragement ... Bible study and worship

... free time activities, including prayer walk, craft, time on your own

... Gifts from the Heart collection

...entertainment with piano player Tracy Gerardi

Registration information will be available on page 10 of this LINK

LWML RETREAT CAMPERSHIP—APPLICATION

A few full-time camperships are being offered for the Fall 2020 retreat 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			
Address			
City, State	e, Zip		
E-mail			
Zone			
	LWML Member?	Yes	No

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, 2020** to:

Mrs. Susan Bell 814 Dover Court Downingtown, PA 19335

All recipients names will be kept strictly confidential

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IVIALECOII	Lisa Hoover-Beller, 8692 E. Eden Rd., Eden NY 14057, email lisadq@rocketmail.com, 716-698-3313									
Registrations sent without stamped envelope will receive an email confirmation										

News From Around The Zones

ANTHRACITE ZONE

On October 6, 2019 we had our Fall Rally. Our Savior Mount Pocono, PA hosted the event. There we had a presentation from Joanie Ziegler about the LWML National Convention. We also watched a video from the 2000 Minneapolis, MN LWML National Convention. The video was of Dr. Lester Methuselah — Dr. Martin Luther's last surviving classmate. The video was quite funny and there were many laughs in the audience.

President Susan Bell, VP of Communication Beth



Quinn, and Former President Dorothy Koschmann were also in attendance. Susan and Beth spoke about the Rader Assembly of Leaders as well as encouraged us to find YWRs to participate in conventions. During the busi-

ness meeting Kathy Norris was reelected as Vice President and Margaret Klees was reelected as Secretary. After the meeting was closed we had a delicious meal served by the ladies of Our Savior.

Donna Drier, Antrhacite Zone President

BUFFALO ZONE



On February 1, 2020 we had a "Caring for Children Mission Event" at Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Buffalo, NY – Creating child-themed surgical caps and prayer

cards to be taken to Oishei Children's Hospital in Buffalo. Pastor Eder led us in devotion and prayer. We had 16 women in attendance to sew surgical caps. Sharon Wolff will deliver the 32 caps to Oishei Children's Hospital along with the others that were made during the past year. The women took more caps in various stages of construction to continue working on them at home. Refreshments were provided by the women of Pilgrim Church.

Upcoming Events:

The May 22 Spring event has bee cancelled.

Summer Picnic - Date and venue to be determined.

November 7, 2020: Fall Event at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Clarence, NY. We will be supporting Hearts for the Homeless, a not-for-profit charitable organization, set up in 1990 to feed the homeless in Buffalo, New York. Over the years, the organization has expanded to include collecting textiles, textile recycling and selling lightly used clothes.

Dee Grzyb, Buffalo Zone President

CENTRAL NY SOUTH



Trinity, Wellsboro recently had their annual Family Game Night with families, school students and staff. The pictures show a few of their activities.

We do this to start our "Beat the Wintertime Blues Fest". It was a fun

night and NOT ONE person had a phone out or any electronic devices. It was all fun, and family together-

Anita Getty, Central NY South Zone President

PHILADELPHIA ZONE

Philadelphia Zone is happy to have Tomaline Harmon, Christ Assembly, as our Young Woman Representative for the upcoming convention. Gen Conrad, Christ Memorial is our alternate. We are excited to have four mission grants on the ballot. God is doing awesome things in our zone!

Our Spring Rally is April 25th under the theme Building on a Strong Foundation





MITE UPDATE

We are pleased to advise you that we have received enough Mite contributions to pay the remaining two grants for the 2018-2020 biennium,

program - Hop Bottom, PA and Grant 7 - Bibles for distribution in Nepal & China - Tonawanda, NY. We have met our biennium grant goal of \$28,000.00 and in fact have surpassed it currently by over \$1,000.

Praise God!

LWML Retreat Shirt Order Form

Long Sleeve T \$15



Size	Quantity	
S		
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2XL		+\$2.50/each
3XL		+3.50/each

Hoodie \$25



Size	Quantity	
S		
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2XL		+3.00/each
3XL		+4.00/each
4XL		+5.00/each

First Name:	Last Name:	
Address:		
Email:	Phone:	

Please mail to Buffalo Zone Treasurer Bev Wicher, 19 Vernon Drive, Cheektowaga, NY 14225
Makes checks payable to LWML Buffalo Zone
Deadline to order is July 15
Shirts will be handed out at registration at camp
Any questions contact Bev at lwmllink@gmail.com or 716-913-4140



Charitable Gift Planning Thoughts....

We get preoccupied with paving bills and facilitating family needs that we often overlook that the Lord is giving us opportunity throughout our earthly life to create and grow accumulation of assets that can be directed to ministry long after we are no longer here. Maybe that is the best kind of giving, when credit isn't the goal, but faithful support of Gospel sharing is. Just as you have opened a saving account for vacations or Christmas, or a college fund for children's education, or a retirement account, have you considered creating a "fund" for the future support of ministry? There are many ways to do this and the appropriate plan is the one that the Lord has put upon your heart to respond to the gifts he has provided in your life. We are here to help.

CONTACT INFO:

Rebecca Bessell, Coordinator 585-415-6368 or rlb54@rochester.rr.com

Support the LWML Eastern District Mission Goal!

Donate your THRIVENT Choice \$\$

Lutheran Womens Missionary League Eastern District

All Choice Dollars are designated as Mites

when you shop with an amazonsmile amazon donates.5% of certain purchases to LWML Eastern District.

Visit http://east-dist-lwml.org/events



We wish to thank the Convention Committee and the Genesee and Central New York North Zones for all your hard work you did

planning the convention.

It was a difficult and heart-breaking decision to have to cancel the convention and we wish to acknowledge and thank you.



June 12-14, 2020 LWML ED Convention

CANCELLED

Sept. 18, 2020 LWML ED BOD

Camp Pioneer

Sept. 18-20, 2020 Fall Retreat

Camp Pioneer

June 24-27, 2021 LWML National Convention

Lexington, Kentucky

Report of the Financial Secretary—Judy Morrison

December 1, 2019 - February 29, 2020

Mites: \$7,238.32

Memorials / Honorariums Given: (December 1, 2019 – February 29, 2020)

In Memory of: Given by:

Sandra Jennejahn St. Paul Adella Society Marion Schultz Immanuel LWML

<u>Legacy of Love</u> In Memory of Susan Bruning Given by: Rev. Alton and

Marge Bruning

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

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Please send all news articles and information for publication to:

Bev Wicher 19 Vernon Drive Cheektowaga, NY 14225 E-mail: lwmllink@gmail.com 716-913-4140

The next deadline is June 1, 2020

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 COMMUNICATION—BETH QUINN

<u>LWML QUARTERLY PAYMENTS:</u> Societies/ individuals are still asked to send in their donation for the LWML Quarterly/LINK to their Zone Treasurer. The rate for the LWML Quarterly is set by the Eastern District LWML Executive Committee and is <u>currently \$7.00</u>. This rate includes the cost of the Quarterly plus a 50 cent contribution towards the cost of the Eastern District LWML LINK newsletter

Please note that the Quarterly prices are increasing from national in 2020. Eastern District bulk subscription will change with the Summer 2020 issue. If you have a subscription directly with national, the price increase occurs with the Spring 2020 issue. Individual subscriptions will be \$7.50.

As my term as VP of Communication comes to an end, I wanted you to know I have thoroughly enjoyed working with you over these past 6 years (I filled an unexpired term of my predecessor and then my own 4 year term). I will miss being on the Executive Committee but I will still be on the Board of Directors as President of Philadelphia Zone. I have been blest by all of you. Thank you.

Walking in Faith not Sight with You. Beth Quinn - 610-761-0263 - beth@quinnfamily.net



2020 LWML PRAYER SERVICE AVAILABLE

The 2020 Prayer Service, written by LCMS Florida-Georgia District President Rev. Dr. Gregory S. Walton, is Living in Love, Bearing Fruit.

Christians are saved to serve. We are chosen and called to bear fruit for Jesus. We do this as we live in His love, not only in our home or church, but also in

the world, where it is often more difficult to love others. We are empowered by the love that Jesus showed us in His sacrificial death on the Cross so that we would have life. Now we are blessed to live in His love, bearing much fruit for His sake. May this prayer service help us take time to reflect on His love for us, our love for Him, and how the fruit we bear is a result of living in His love.

This free, downloadable Prayer Service is now available.

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









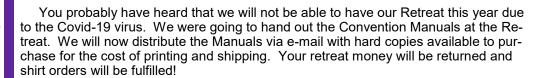
Dear LWML Eastern District ladies and gentlemen:

We did it! We held our first ever virtual convention on our website: east-dist-lwml.org! Thanks to you, we were able to vote, watch videos, read the keynote address, the opening sermon, have two bible studies, see what Care-A-Van Ministries did with their grant money, see what is happening at the National level and read the closing sermon. Of course, we missed seeing and hugging everyone, but God saw us through this 38th Biennial Convention as we Walked By Faith, Not by Sight! You voted in some wonderful grants and we cannot wait to start getting them fulfilled with your mite help! Many of you did mite walks in your

area! Get that mite money in! Thank you so much!

I would like to thank the host committee from the Central New York North and Genesee Zones co-chaired by Kathy Pavelock and Judy Morrison. They have agreed to host the 39th Biennial Convention in Syracuse in June, 2022! I would like to thank Linda Arnold, President Wicher, Pastoral Counselors Rev. Walters and Rev. Zimmerman, President Larson, our National Representative Rev. Brian Noack and many others who helped put this years virtual convention together and I want to thank the delegates who were flexible and easy to work with!

I am humbled and grateful for the opportunity to serve you as your District President for the next two years. I have chosen **Proverbs 15:33** "*The fear of the Lord is instruction in wisdom, and humility comes before honor*" as my theme verse for my term in office. I daily seek God's wisdom and pray that He will guide me in the ways He wants me to go.



I have several co-chairs positions to fill on the Board of Directors. If I call you, please prayerfully consider the job I may be asking you to fill. Many workers make light work! Let us together, "Serve the Lord with Gladness!"

Let me challenge you to be in the Word daily and pray for ways you can serve him at home, church and in your community. If <u>you</u> need prayer, do not hesitate to let me know. My cell number is: 610-937-1483 and my e-mail address is: susanbell557@comcast.net. I am here for YOU!

God bless,

Susan Bell Eastern District President



Together
Serving
The Lord
With
Gladness
For
75 Years





Be Strong And Courageous

Joshua 1:9 (ESV) Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

Joshua 1:9, the beloved confirmation verse. My oldest son, Seth, received this verse from Pastor Gaunt at his confirmation. I remember being so proud, thinking, "What a great verse for my son." But when I read it today, in the midst of our Church and many others reopening after being shut down because of COVID-19 and the destructive riots across our nation, it is really a great verse for all of us.

In the first chapter of Joshua, Moses has died, and God has appointed Joshua to lead the Israelites into the promised land. God tells Joshua three times to be strong and courageous. I have always viewed Joshua as being strong and courageous. In the fourteenth chapter of Numbers, it was Joshua, along with Caleb, who stood up against the tribes of Israel and said in verse 9, "Only do not rebel against the Lord. And do not fear the people of the land, for they are bread for us. Their protection is removed from them, and the Lord is with us; do not fear them." Besides, Jesus' name in Hebrew is Joshua. Jesus leads us, the new Israel, into the promised land of heaven, like Joshua led Israel into the promised land of Canaan.

So, why would God tell this brave man to be "strong and courageous" three times? I think we all need to be reminded of who is really in charge, especially during times of adversity, in which the future is uncertain. Now more than ever our communities need the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. Now more than ever our communities need to be shown the love of Christ. And now more than ever our communities need to experience repentance and forgiveness.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said, "An individual has not started living until he can rise above the narrow confines of his individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity." And "We must develop and maintain the capacity to forgive. He who is devoid of the power to forgive is devoid of the power to love. There is some good in the worst of us and some evil in the best of us. When we who I want to be, and what I can do, and use discover this, we are less prone to hate our enemies."

"Use me, God. Show me how to take who I am, it for a purpose greater than myself." - Martin Luther King Jr.

God gave Joshua strength and courage, God gave Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. strength and courage, and I know that when we put our trust in God, we too will be given strength and courage to help usher in the peace and love of our Lord Jesus Christ into our communities. It is only through Christ Jesus that true healing can begin and peace can be established.

Eastern District, LWML, Senior Counselor - Rev. Sean Walters



It is with great sadness that due to the early closing of Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center and complications due to Covid-19 we have found it necessary to cancel the 2020 Fall Retreat scheduled for September 18-20, 2020 at Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center. All monies sent in are in the process of being refunded.



SHIRTS: We will still be taking orders for the "Camp Pioneer-Thanks for the Memories" tee-shirts and sweatshirts. The order form can be found on page 9 of this LINK. The deadline for ordering is still July 15. They will all be ordered together on August 1 and should be available some time in late August. They can be shipped, if postage is paid, or we will get them to the Zone Presidents as soon as possible after receipt.

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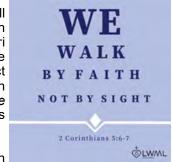
The Buffalo Zone has agreed to host the 2021 Fall Retreat under the same theme "Can Do, With Jesus" knowing "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens Me" Philippians 4:13. We are planning to gather September 17-19, 2021, venue to be determined. Watch for information in the beginning of 2021.

2020 LWML EASTERN DISTRICT CONVENTION

CONVENTION NEWS

On Friday, June 12, 2020, President Susan Bell opened the 38th Biennial Convention of the Lutheran

Women's Missionary League (LWML) Eastern District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS). Over 90 delegates and an untold number of guests participated in the convention June 12th-14th, 2020 virtually by Facebook and the LWML Eastern District Website. The theme for this convention was "We Walk by Faith, Not by Sight" based on the Bible verse, *So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight* (2 Corinthians 5:6-7).



Using a web-based survey tool, delegates voted to approve a 2020-2022 Mission Goal of \$134,400, a Mite Goal of \$61,000, and a Grant Goal of \$30,500.

On Friday, June 12th, President Susan Bell opened the convention with a video from her Church in Malvern, PA. Linda Arnold provided a Keynote address. LCMS Eastern District President Dr. Rev. Chris Wicher delivered a sermon for what would have been for an opening worship service.

For Saturday, June 13th, Junior Pastoral Counselor Reverend John Zimmerman provided a Bible study based on 2 Corinthians 5:6-7. National LWML President Debbie Larson provided greetings and a report to the districts. Care-A-Van Ministries Director Paul Ohlson provided a Mission Presentation. The LWML Eastern District was encouraged to go on a mite walk in their own community to support the 2020-2022 Mission Grants. The LWML Eastern District was also encouraged to support the selected Gifts from the Heart recipient, Vera House in Syracuse, New York.

On Sunday, June 14th, National LWML representative Reverend Brian Noack provided a Bible Study "Walking in Joy." Senior Pastoral Counselor Reverend Sean Walters delivered a sermon for what would have been for a closing worship service. President Susan Bell closed the 38th Biennial LWML Eastern District Convention with a video from her Church in Malvern, PA.

The 39th Biennial LWML Eastern District Convention will be held in June 2022 in Syracuse, New York, hosted by the Central New York North and Genesee Zones.

The next national LWML Convention will be held June 24-27, 2021 in Lexington, Kentucky. The theme is "Running the Race ... Looking to Jesus" based on *Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God (Hebrews 12:1–2).*









NEW OFFICERS ELECTED

The delegates elected the following new officers to serve the LWML Eastern District. They will each serve a four-year term with previously elected and/or appointed officers of the Executive Committee.

Vice President of Communication: Sharon Wolff, Buffalo Zone Recording Secretary: Dee Grzyb, Buffalo Zone

Financial Secretary: Judy Morrison, Genesee Zone

Junior Pastoral Counselor: Rev. Jeffrey Nickel, Buffalo Zone

These officers will serve with previously elected and/or appointed officers of the Executive Committee: President Susan Bell, Vice President of Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources Sharon McGuan, Vice President of Christian Life/Special Focus Linda Breight, Treasurer Beth Scholl, Senior Pastoral Counselor Reverend John Zimmerman, Parliamentarian Gretchen Putzman, Planner Barbara Williams, Editor Bev Wicher, Public Relations Director Kathy Pavelock, Legacy of Love Coordinator Rebecca Bessell, and Archivist-Historian Chris Gasslein.

We wish to thank outgoing officer Beth Quinn, Vice President of Communication and Pastoral Counselor Rev. Sean Walters for the time they have given in service to the Lord through LWML.

MISSION GRANTS

Using a web-based survey tool, delegates voted to approve a 2020-2022 Mission Goal of \$134,400, a Mite Goal of \$61,000, and a Grant Goal of \$30,500. Seven (7) projects for a total of \$ 30,500 will be funded over the next two years. The projects to be funded include:

- 1. GRANT O. Request to purchase material to sew and other supplies to complete 500 feminine hygiene "kits" by the women at Valencia Days for Girls, Valencia, PA for girls living in poverty around the world. \$5,000
- GRANT L. Request to purchase 2,600 meals for those in extreme poverty who are homeless or housing insecure in Philadelphia through Broad Street Ministry's Hospitality Collaborative program. \$5,000
- 3. GRANT C. Request to provide food and hygiene products for over 400 widows in southern Malawi, Africa through Climbing for Christ. **\$5,000**
- 4. GRANT M. Request to purchase mattresses, box springs, bed frames, pillow(s), bedding, and blankets for children in need of a bed through Calvary Lutheran's Barnabas Project in Waterloo. **\$5,000**
- 5. GRANT I. Request to complete funding to purchase and install a vinyl play set specifically designed to be handicapped accessible at Christ Memorial Lutheran School in Malvern, PA. **\$4,000**
- 6. GRANT K. Request to purchase Bibles, devotions, & other materials to further the ministry for those with substance abuse, gambling, anger issues, etc. through Celebrate Recovery at Hope Lutheran, Levittown, PA. **\$5,000**
- 7. GRANT E. Request to complete a 2nd apartment in a 5-apartment guest house for use by missionaries In Monrovia, Liberia through Reverend Peter Saie, Trinity Lutheran Church, Utica. **\$1,500**



GIVE GENEROUSLY TO MITES SO THAT WE CAN PAY ALL OUR GRANTS IN FULL

NATIONAL GRANT PROPOSALS NOW BEING ACCEPTED

Mission Grant Proposals for the 2021 LWML Convention in Lexington, Kentucky are being accepted now. Proposals must first be submitted online to the LWML, preferably before August 15, 2020, and then sent to LWML and LCMS district presidents and/or the LCMS Chief Mission Officer for their signatures. The deadline to submit the hard copies of the proposals for consideration by the LWML Mission Grants Selection Committee is September 30, 2020.

Mission grant proposals may be submitted by LWML members, groups, zones, districts, or an LCMS office, according to guidelines prepared by the Vice President of Gospel Outreach. Please check the LWML website www.lwml.org/mission-grant-proposals, for updates and specifics on submitting proposals each biennium.

From the first grant in 1943, millions of dollars have been received to fund Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) Mission Grants. Hundreds of these mission grants became realities because one LWML member or one LWML group learned of a mission need and made the effort to do something special — to submit a mission grant proposal to fund the project. Each woman, each LWML group, is blessed to be a blessing to others by continuing to be aware of the close-at-hand mission needs in her community and writing mission grant proposals for them, as well as remembering LWML and district mission grants in prayer, and supporting them through Mite Box offerings.

For more detailed information on how to submit a mission grant proposal to national, please access the link above or check out our website http://www.east-dist-lwml.org.

News from the Vice President of Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources – Sharon McGuan

What is the work of the Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources Department?

The purpose of the Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources Department is to **engage**, **encourage** and **equip** women to share their faith in Jesus Christ, their loving Savior, with people of their communities and the world.



Gospel Outreach

How is this accomplished?

Good question! Let me try to answer with a glance backward and a look forward.

Glancing backward, I see the grace of God and His bountiful provision in all He has accomplished through the LWML Eastern District in His Name. To God be the glory! If you take a moment to browse through a few past convention manuals and read the dozens of Mission Grants the LWML Eastern District has been privileged to support, it fills your heart with joy. Our gracious God has permitted us to be His **engaged** hands and feet throughout the world. It reminds me of a hymn by Daniel March (1816-1909)

Hark the Voice of Jesus Crying, "Who will go and work today? Fields are ripe and harvest waiting, Who will bear the sheaves away?"

Long and loud the Master calls us, Rich reward He offers free; Who will answer, gladly saying, "Here am I, send me, send me"?

If you cannot be a watchman, Standing high on Zion's wall, Pointing out the path to heaven, Offering life and peace to all, With your prayers and with your bounties, You can do what God demands,

You can be like faithful Aaron, Holding up the prophets hands

Let none hear you idly saying, "There is nothing I can do." While the souls of men are dying, And the Master calls for you; Take the task His gives you gladly; Let His work your pleasure be Answer quickly when He calleth, "Here am I, send me, send me!

In God's hands, our prayers and bounties support gospel oriented missions which change the world. It is true. We may never see, or know that a life changing rebirth has occurred; but God promises, "so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please," Isaiah 55:11 KJV. God's Word assures us as we encourage each other to collect His Mites.

So much for looking backward. We have no time to tarry idly while the souls of men are dying and our Master calls us to ripe fields and harvest waiting. We look forward, as watchmen do. We heed the call of wonderful new Mission Grant Projects! We pray and study God's Word that we might be **equipped** to identify new mission opportunities and submit new projects which lift high the Name of Jesus. Our Mites, like faithful Aaron, hold up hands in mission fields worldwide, pointing out the path to heaven, offering life and peace to all! Therefore, looking backward, or forward, our purpose remains the same: to **engage**, **encourage** and **equip** women to share their faith in Jesus Christ, their loving Savior, with people of their communities and the world. Thank you, Lord Jesus. May we ever harken unto Your Voice with gladness!

Thanks Are In Order

I always thank My God as I remember you in my prayers... Philemon 1:4

Many thanks to the women who served in the Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources Department during the last biennium. Mission Grants Chair, Cheri Briggs and Co-Chair, Julie Tapp. By God's Grace, neither distance between Florida and New York, the Corona Virus nor a cancelled convention got in the way of Cheri and Julie completing their work preparing the Mission Grant materials, ballots or video presentation. To God be the glory! And sincere gratitude to The Reverend Tod Shouse, Pastor of Our Savior Lutheran Church, Zephyrhills, Florida for the use of your equipment as well as assisting Cheri with the Mission Grants Presentation. I also thank Leader Development Chair, Rebecca Futty and Co-Chair, Allison Young for all they have done to engage, encourage and equip the young women in our district. Structure Chair, Susan Morris and Co-Chair, Robin Swanson made Bylaw revisions seem easy, but I know the effort that goes behind such changes and I thank you. Finally, to my fellow Nominating Committee members, Karen Devan and Donna Dreier, thank you for all the prayers and many contacts made as we sought the Lord's direction seeking candidates for office. It has been my privilege to serve with each one of you.

RECYCLED ITEMS AND STAMPS!



Did you know that Financial Secretary, Judy Morrison recorded a receipt of \$572.55 from April 1, 2018 to January 31, 2019 for E-Waste recycled materials? Thank you, E-Waste Recyclers! Alice Pfonner is our Eastern District Recycling Fundraiser Chairman. Please email Alice, alicepfonner@aol.com if you need information concerning ways you, your society or congregation can hold an E-Waste Recycling Drive. Together we can turn old electronics into Mission Dollars!

And of course, Stamps, Stamps, Stamps.... We don't make anything off our stamps, but the Canadian Bible Society uses stamps to purchase Bible for prisoners. These hand delivered Bibles become living water when chaplains share the love of Jesus with a person in prison. Please pray for the chaplains and remember to to keep saving those stamps and recycling items until we can meet together again.

Sharon McGuan, LWML ED Stamp Coordinator

NEWS FROM THE LEADER DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Outgoing Leader Development Chair, Rebecca Futty and Co-Chair, Allison Young have plans to host a Summer Bible Study Via Zoom for the Young Women of the District. If you are an interested young woman, or if you know of a young woman in your congregation or zone, that might wish to join a Zoom Bible Study, please contact Rebecca Futty: rebeccafutty@gmail.com. Rebecca will be sending an email with more information to all society and zone presidents.



Mission Impact Statement Featuring 2018-2020 Mission Grant #7—Thank you from China and Nepal



Nepal Congregation receiving Bibles

Thank you for your continuous prayer and support! I would like to give you an update on what has been happening in Nepal and China because of your giving. Many lives have been touched by the powerful message of hope and love through Jesus Christ. People received salvation and were baptized. Bibles were printed and distributed to men and women who are desperately, but patiently, waiting for them. Rural countryside churches and house church gatherings are growing and branching out like never before. Likewise, governmental control and monitoring, discrimination, imprisonment and persecution toward Christians is on the rise everywhere. Even so, young people are being trained as leaders and will be sent out to plant church and evangelize.

In China. we have distributed over one hundred thousand Bibles and other gospel literature to Christians in both urban and rural communities. Chinese believers desperately need gospel literature and Bibles. Many wait years, even decades for their own copy of the Word of God. Churches were planted in the countryside where they have a better chance of meeting in secret. Sadly, a few pastors were taken by authorities and locked in jail; however, their churches keep on thriving.



Bible Distribution in China



One of two Bible Distributions in Nepal

In Nepal, we have distributed Bibles and Christian literature to Christians in rural and tribal villages (Chepang, Magar and Gurung) where it is difficult to travel. Churches here are small and simply built. We have aided the construction of many buildings in the past that are used for social gatherings, weddings, school, community events and church.

Thank you for doing your part to expand global missions and pray for this part of the world where God is opening new doors and people are experiencing the hope and love of Jesus for the first time. Your faithful support give men, women and children a brighter future.

May the Lord bless you abundantly,

Neil Anderson & the Sower Ministry Team (edited by S. McGuan)

News From Around The Zones

BUFFALO ZONE



The Buffalo Zone participated in a Call for Prayer Day that Robin Swanson, Cattaraugus-Allegheny Zone President requested. Like all of us, Robin feels the sadness, emptiness, and horor of what is happening to our country. The Buffalo Zone chose to pray on Flag Day, Sunday, June 14 at 3:00 PM. Flag Day falls within National

Flag Week, a time when Americans reflect on the foundations of the nation's <u>freedom</u>. The flag of the United States represents <u>freedom</u> and has been an enduring symbol of the country's ideals since its early days.

Bev Wicher, who is part of the Visual Faith Ministries, created a prayer starter and prayer page for us to use:

Lord, we come to you today with heavy hearts. Our world, and especially our country is hurting now, and for many it seems hopeless. But we know that you are with us and will not forsake us. We know you encourage us to pray without ceasing and we trust you. You tell us "Do not fear, I am with You" but right now many of us are living in fear, fear of disease and danger. We ask you Lord, bring peace and safety to our world, let us feel your loving arms around us and help us to have a strong faith, trusting in your promises. Today Lord we especially lift to you.....

We know the Lord hears our prayers, let us continue together in prayer.

November 7, 2020: Fall Event



Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Clarence, NY.

We will be supporting Hearts for the Homeless, a notfor-profit charitable organization, set up in 1990 to feed the homeless in Buffalo, New York. Over the years, the organization has expanded to include collecting textiles, textile recycling and selling lightly used clothes. We will be collecting items and making fleece blankets to donate.

Election of Officers – President and Treasurer will be held that day.

PITTSBURGH ZONE



"SCRAPS TO MASKS:

St. Luke, Cabot, has joined the multitudes of those making masks by using scraps from their Dress A Girl projects. Pieces of left over material, too small to use for dresses, have now become masks to be used when St. Luke begins corpo-

rate worship again. Not wanting to waste anything, the small scraps are put in pillowcases and given to animal rescue facilities for dog beds."



IS THE

TIME

NOW?



Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me (John 14:5–6)

It is an odd exercise to think about things on earth after you depart. Our resurrection faith gives us the boldness to do just that, knowing eternity lies before us. Are your plans for the direction of God's gifts in place, so that family and ministry will be blessed when you are

with Jesus? Your LWML offers free, professional, Christian estate planning services to help you with that. Is now the time?

CONTACT INFO:

Rebecca Bessell, Coordinator 585-415-6368 or rlb54@rochester.rr.com

NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATION—BETH QUINN



At my church I am attending a Sunday Bible Study via Zoom on the Ten Commandments utilizing the Small Catechism. In the fifth commandment, You shall not murder, there is a discussion on who is our neighbor and how we honor God by our actions towards our neighbors.

The catechism cites 'from the moment of conception, every person whom God has created is our neighbor, and especially anyone in need of our help and assistance. We honor God by looking after the physical well-being of

our neighbor by:

Coming to the aid of our neighbor (Romans 12:20) Speaking in a way that helps and defends our neighbor (Proverbs 31:8-9) Treating our neighbor with kindness and compassion (Ephesians 4:32, Colossians 3:12-14)

During the pandemic, I have seen evidence of neighbor helping neighbor through food and monetary donations, connecting with others via phone, text, email, and Zoom, encouraging others through bible study and prayers. The motto during the pandemic 'We are in this Together' has united the American people. We are fulfilling the Lord's command.

The recent events of the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis has outraged our nation. And tears at the unity we have experience. Perhaps you have felt sad, anger, rage about the senseless death and subsequent looting and destruction in many of our cities here and abroad. We have an opportunity to be the person to bring hope by not harboring anger or hatred in our hearts against our neighbor – the police or the looters. Be the light in the darkness of the world as Jesus is the light in our lives. Lift up your prayers to the Lord for all in need.



My term as VP of Communication ends with our convention. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with you over these past 6 years (I filled an unexpired term of my predecessor and then my own 4-year term). I will miss being on the Executive Committee but I will still be on the Board of Directors as President of Philadelphia Zone. I have been blest by all of you. Thank you.

Even in darkness light dawns for the upright, for those who are gracious and compassionate and righteous, Psalm 112:4

Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation. (2017). Concordia Publishing House: St. Louis, MO.

STAMPS FOR MISSIONS

REMINDER: HERE IS HOW THE USED STAMP PROGRAM WORKS: Stamps collected are combined to create "charity boxes" and are sold to stamp collectors and vendors. The revenue generated allows the CBS to purchase Bibles for Canadian prisons.

STAMPS FOR MISSIONS

1 pounds of stamps = 6 Bibles for distribution

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COLLECTING:

KEEP THE STAMP ON THE ENVELOPE

CUT OUT THE STAMP LEAVING $1\!\!/_4$ INCH BORDER AROUND THE ENTIRE STAMP, CAREFUL NOT TO CUT THE PERFORATIONS

STAMPS MAY NOW BE ON WHITE, LIGHT AND COLORED ENVELOPES. THE CBS IS NOW SELLING THE STAMPS TO CRAFTERS WHO LIKE THE STAMPS ON COLORED ENVELOPES

TURN STAMPS IN AT ANY ZONE OR EASTERN DISTRICT LWML EVENT. IF YOU BRING THE STAMPS TO A ZONE EVENT, YOUR ZONE PRESIDENT WILL GET THEM TO SHARON McGUAN (MY CONTACT INFO IS ON PAGE 11 OF THIS LINK)

LWML Retreat Shirt Order Form*PLEASE NOTE SHIRTS ARE MEN'S SIZES*

Long Sleeve T \$15



Size	Quantity	
S		
M		
L		
XL		
2XL		+\$2.50/each
3XL		+3.50/each

Hoodie \$25



Size	Quantity	
S		
М		
L		
XL		
2XL		+3.00/each
3XL		+4.00/each
4XL		+5.00/each

First Name:	Last Name:
Address:	
Email:	Phone:

Please mail to Buffalo Zone Treasurer Bev Wicher, 19 Vernon Drive, Cheektowaga, NY 14225 Makes checks payable to LWML Buffalo Zone

Deadline to order is July 15 (Available sometime late August)
Shirts will be shipped if postage paid or handed out through Zone Presidents
Any questions contact Bev at lwmllink@gmail.com or 716-913-4140

CONVENTION LINKS ON WEBSITE



Did you miss our virtual convention? If so the links are still available on our website for you to read and watch: sermons, Bible studies, Keynote address and Mission Moment are all there for you.

Check out the convention link at

http://www.east-dist-lwml.org/Convention2020.html.

LOOKING FORWARD TO LEXINGTON



The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) invites all women and men to the 39th Biennial Convention Thursday, June 24–Sunday, June 27, 2021, Rupp Arena at Central Bank Center, Lexington, Kentucky.

Many LWML members have not had the opportunity to hug their LWML sisters this summer at LWML district conventions that have been canceled due to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19). Now is the time to plan to come to Lexington next summer and reunite with all those friends. Mission speakers are always a highlight of LWML conventions. Bible studies, a mission walk, special interest lunches, and networking with missionaries from around the world draw participants from across the nation. Consider organizing group travel from your district, and don't forget your Kentucky derby (hat)

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept. 18-20, 2020 Fall Retreat—CANCELLED

Camp Pioneer

June 24-27, 2021 LWML National Convention

Lexington, Kentucky

Sept. 17-19, 2021 Fall Retreat

Report of the Financial Secretary—Judy Morrison

March 1, 2020 – May 31, 2020 Mites: \$5,780.83

Memorials / Honorariums Given: (March 1, 2019 – May 31, 2020)

In Memory of: Given by:

Barbara Books Arlowyn Prince Sue Beehler Dorothy Koschmann Dorothy Koschmann St. Paul Adella Society

<u>In Honor of:</u> <u>Given by:</u>

Sharon McGuan,

Beth Quinn and

Susan Bell

Genesee Zone

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

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Vice President of Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources

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Junior Pastoral Counselor

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Vacant

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Please send all news articles and information for publication to:

Bev Wicher 19 Vernon Drive Cheektowaga, NY 14225 716-913-4140

E-mail: lwmllink@gmail.com

The next deadline is September 1, 2020

The Link is published four times each year.

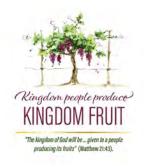
April 1, July 1, October 1, January 1

Deadlines to submit articles:

March 1, June 1, September 1, December 1

*

LWML SUNDAY



Kingdom People Produce Kingdom Fruit

The first Sunday in October is traditionally set aside for the observation of LWML Sunday, but it may be celebrated at any time.

The theme for LWML Sunday 2020 is based on Jesus' words to the chief priests and Pharisees found in Matthew 21:43 that ... The kingdom of God will be ... given to a people producing its fruits. As people of the kingdom of God, God graciously nurtures us and generously gives us everything we need to produce fruit for the kingdom during the fruit-bearing season of our lives. In response to God's grace and empowered by the Holy Spirit through Word and Sacrament, Kingdom People (in the LWML) Produce Kingdom Fruit for the season of our whole life on this earth. 2020 LWML Sunday materials will be available July 1, 2020. Rev. Larry Krueger from Waco, Texas is the author of this year's service.

To ensure availability and delivery, all LWML Sunday orders should be placed before September 1, 2020. All worship and devotional materials have received approval from LCMS Doctrinal Review.

For more information and links to items available for download and purchase go to the LWML Website at $\underline{\text{https://www.lwml.org/lwml-sunday}}$



LWML NATIONAL NOMINATIONS

LWML National is looking for Nominations for the following positions:

VP of Christian Life

*

VP of Gospel Outreach

VP of Communication

Recording Secretary

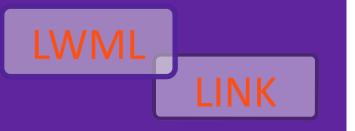
Nominating Committee

Do you know a woman equipped and eager to serve in one of these offices? If so check out the LWML website at https://www.lwml.org/nominations for more information

how to nominate, including guidelines and the necessary forms. The deadline for nominations is August 15, 2020

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







Dear LWML Eastern District Ladies & Gentlemen:

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all (2 Corinthians 13:14)

With a humble heart, I would like to thank everyone in the Eastern District who prayed for me, sent me a card, e-mail or text and/or donated to the Memorial Fund that supports our YWR's, at the passing of my father of 93 years, Dr. Bill Stuart. He loved the Lord, his family and every animal he treated. He will be missed.

On August 22, I attended the Memorial Worship Service for Carsten Bjornstad at Peace Lutheran in Scranton, Pennsylvania, dear father of Rev. Kris Bjornstad who was our Pastoral Counselor from 2014-2018. Talk about a servant of the Lord! Even in sadness, it was great to see Pastor Bjornstad and hear his wonderful daughters play the organ and violin! Senior Pastoral Counselor, Rev. John Zimmerman and his wife, Krista, were also there from the Anthracite Zone.

While we will not have an LWML Eastern District Retreat this year, the Buffalo Zone is busy finding a place and planning next year's retreat for, hopefully, the 3rd weekend in September 2021! The very appropriate theme is "Can Do with Jesus" referencing Philippians 4:13. Put it on your calendar and plan to attend! You should receive your long-sleeved t-shirt or sweatshirt for 2020 soon. Your Executive Board met via Zoom on August 19 to plan for future events and ways to serve the Lord with Gladness.

Another date to put on your calendar is June 24-27, 2021 which is the LWML National Convention in Lexington, Kentucky under the theme "Running the Race... Looking to Jesus." As they say in the south, "y'all come"!

Let me continue to challenge you to be in the Word daily and pray for ways you can serve Him at home, church and in your community. If <u>you</u> need prayer, do not hesitate to let me know. My cell number is: 610-937-1483 and my e-mail address is: susanbell557@comcast.net. I am here for YOU!

God bless, Susan Bell

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit." (Matthew 28:19)



75 Years





COUNSELOR'S

Servants Not Judges of the Word





In the central message of the Bible, God promises us new life on the basis of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. God's promises alone create faith in Jesus Christ. Jesus Himself declares that all the Scriptures are God's own words, completely dependable in all that they teach, and without error.

Jesus uses the Old Testament Scriptures as God's Word. He repeatedly affirms Scripture as authoritative with phrases like "It is written" (Matthew 4:4, 7, 10) and "Have you not read?" (Matthew 19:14). And He assures us that "Scripture cannot be broken." (John 10:35)

As the Son of God, Jesus claims the same authority for Himself, saying, "But I say to you..." (Matthew 5:22, 28, 32), or "Truly, Truly, I say,..." (John 6:47, John 5:47), or

explicitly claiming His words to be "spirit and life" (John 6:63 and John 8:31-32).

When God called the Old Testament prophets, He gave them authority to speak, and put His own words in their mouths as they declared, "Thus says the Lord...." Then God Himself fulfilled the prophecies that He inspired them to speak, authenticating the truth of His own words. In the same way, Jesus called and authorized His apostles to be His witnesses to speak His Word, guided by the Holy Spirit. Just before Jesus' ascension into heaven, He told them, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." – Acts 1:8 (see also Luke 10:16; John 14:26; 2 Peter 1:16-21; 1 John 1:1-4).

When we hear someone claim to speak in the name of God, we should go to the Holy Scriptures to test and discern whether they are truthfully speaking God's Word. "They received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so." (Acts 17:11).

We don't always understand everything in the Bible immediately. About the Holy Spirit-inspired letters of the apostle Paul, Peter said "There are some things that are hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures." (2 Peter 3:16)

To understand the meaning of the Bible properly, the Holy Spirit's guidance is crucial. This means prayerfully reading with eyes of faith. "Give me understanding, that I may learn Your commandments." (Psalm 119:73) Because Scripture is given in human language, to properly read and understand it, we humbly use human reason in terms of the text's grammar, logic and context. Thus, we humbly use our human reason as a servant of the text to understand God's Word.

Unlike all other books (which are written by humans who err), the Scriptures are God's inspired, inerrant Word. The Scriptures are just as holy and truthful ("inerrant") as God is. Therefore, it is wrong for us to judge the text of God's Word to deny or question its truthfulness. "Let God be true though everyone were a liar, as it is written, 'That You may be justified in Your words, and prevail when You are judged." (Romans 3:4, quoting Psalm 51)

As human beings who err, we're tempted to turn away from God's Word when we don't like it – mostly, when God calls us on the carpet for something sinful we've done... or something sinful that our human nature wants, contrary to God's instruction. "For a time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths." (2 Timothy 4:3-4)

The truth is we humans all need a Savior because we all have erred. "None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God." (Romans 3:10-11, quoting Psalms 14 and 53)

The Good News is that God has sent us a Savior – Jesus, the Messiah. "But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name." (John 20:31) May our Triune God bless your reading, hearing and believing His holy, life-giving Word.

Rev. Jeffrey D. Nickel, LWML Eastern District Junior Counselor



HOW ARE YOU SERVING DURING THE PANDEMIC

Life changed on March 13. A stay at home order was placed. At first, many of us felt lost. Some of us used the time to serve. Our church made about 1,000 masks to send to health care workers, Concordia Lutheran Ministries, the Atlantic District and for members needing them. We were creative in finding ways to continue serving our Lord.

How are you doing? I have heard some good things about groups continuing ministry.

Our God calls us to serve even in these times. Keep looking on the LWML website for ideas to continue building our faith. Consider doing virtual Bible studies. Perhaps

more can join you because they can do it from the comfort of their home with no need of childcare. God bless you as you serve the Lord with gladness.

Linda Breight, Vice-President Christian Life and Special Focus

News from the Vice President of Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources – Sharon McGuan



What is the work of the Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources Department?

The purpose of the Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources Department is to engage, encourage and equip women to share their faith in Jesus Christ, their loving Savior, with people of their communities and the world.



Introducing the 2020 -2022 Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources Team

Vice President of Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources – Sharon McGuan
Mission Grants Chair – Julie Tapp
Mission Grants Co-Chair – Susan Morris
Leader Development Chair – Allison Young
Structure Chair – Robin Swanson
Stamp Coordinator – Sharon McGuan

Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. 1 Corinthians 12:27

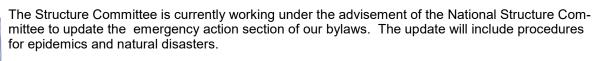
Julie Tapp, Niagara Zone, former co-chair of the Mission Grant Committee Chair, also former district and national YWR, is looking forward to serving as Mission Grants Committee Chair. **Susan Morris**, Philadelphia Zone, former Structure Committee Chair is excited to join Julie as Mission Grants Co-Chair, helping to engage members, societies and zones in the Mission Grants process.

Leader Development Chair, **Allison Young**, CNY North Zone, former district YWR and past Leader Development Co-Chair, is committed to continuing her outreach to the young women of our district. Allison eagerly anticipates "the day young women can meet in person" at our next district event.

Robin Swanson, Cattaraugus/Allegheny Zone, former Structure Committee Co-Chair, is currently serving the LWML as Cattaraugus/Allegheny Zone President and will now begin service as the Structure Committee Chair. **Dori Juskalian**, Philadelphia Zone has agreed to join Robin as Co-Chair of the Structure Committee.

Please keep the work and leaders of the **Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources Department** in your prayers. It is our prayer that we faithfully serve the Lord Jesus and His people through our service to the Eastern District LWML.

Structure Committee



2020 Updated Bylaws are on our website. They can be found at http://www.east-dist-lwml.org/ The link for the bylaws is just under the Facebook icon/link.

Zone presidents please make a copy of the Bylaws for yourselves and inform your society presidents that they are available for download.

Robin Swanson, Structure Chairman





Greetings in Christ! My name is Allison Young, and I am the new Chair of Leader Development. I have been an active member of LWML for 8 years, and currently serve as my church's society president and Chair of Christian Growth for the Central New York-North Zone. I attend church at Trinity Lutheran in Utica, NY and teach grades 3-4 in our Sunday School, direct the Christmas pageant, serve on the Altar Guild, and sing in the choir. Outside of church, I am in my ninth year of teaching. I teach K-6 music and 5th/6th chorus at Ridge Mills Elementary School in Rome, NY. I also stage manage 5 productions a year for community theaters and high schools and teach violin and piano lessons. In 2016 I was the Young Woman Representative for my zone to the LWML Eastern District convention in Binghamton, NY. It was my first convention, and later that year I attended my first retreat at Camp Pioneer. Both of those events made me want to be more involved in LWML and the work God is doing through this wonderful organization. In 2017

I traveled to Albuquerque for the national convention. It was an experience I will never forget. I love talking about it and encourage anyone who hasn't been to a national convention to attend one. It was one of the most powerful spiritual experiences of my life. I love helping out with LWML, especially through Leader Development and the YWR program. National is currently putting together some great ideas for the YWRs. As soon as I have that information I will get it to all the Zone presidents. Until then, please be actively seeking and praying for a YWR candidate from each society. I look forward to working with all of you over the next biennium!

Sharing the Gospel: Using Those Little Canceled Stamps



Stamps, Stamps, Stamps.... Thank you for continuing to collect your stamps during this time! As soon as I can cross the border, Tim and I will deliver the car load of stamps I have received from all of you. We don't make anything off our stamps, but the Canadian Bible Society uses stamps to purchase Bible for prisoners. These hand delivered Bibles become living water when chaplains share the love of Jesus with a per-

son in prison. Please continue to pray for the prisoners and chaplains and remember to keep saving those stamps until we can meet together again. Many thanks!

Remember, please cut ½ inch around each stamp. BUT do not throw stamps away if you got a little too close AS LONG AS THE PERFORATIONS are all intact. Also, Kandis mentioned, stamps on dark colored paper are now marketable! Crafters are now buying these stamps. They are using stamps on bright or dark colored envelopes for craft projects, so keep bringing them in!

Sharon McGuan, LWML ED Stamp Coordinator

EASTERN DISTRICT MISSION GRANTS UPDATE



Our first Grant O, Valencia Days for Girls, \$5,000 for purchasing material and other supplies to provide 500 feminine hygiene kits for girls around the world, living in poverty, has been paid. This grant was sponsored by LWML women in Valencia, PA. We thank God that, together, we have been able to pay this grant. To God be the glory! We pray that each kit is a blessing to the person receiving it and points them to Jesus, the Redeemer of all.





Our next Grant L, requests \$5,000 for the Broad Street Ministry Hospitality Collaborative in Philadelphia to purchase 2,600 meals for those in extreme poverty, finistry homeless, or housing insecure. As we approach the colder months and Thanksgiving Season, let us keep



this grant in our prayers. LET US GIVE GENEROUSLY, that this grant might be paid as we demonstrate the love of Jesus, who died for all.

News from the Vice President of Communication—Sharon Wolff

Hello! I am **Sharon Wolff**. I am your newly elected VP of Communication for the next 4 years. I look forward to the challenge of learning about this position and all that it entails. I currently serve as President of the S. Paul Batavia LWML and also as the Buffalo Zone Secretary.

My good friend Bonnie Sugrue and I have been doing an impactful bible study on **TRUST**. Boy it sure is evident that during this pandemic, there are times were my total trust in God can come into question. There are moments of despair, moments of mourning, moments of sadness, moments of loneli-

ness all shadowed by my questionable trust. **Psalm 62: 8** says "Trust in, lean on, rely on, and have confidence in Him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts before Him. God is a refuge for us (a fortress and a high tower). Selah" These days during the social distancing and disconnect it is not hard to forget that God does have a purpose for our lives, individually and together. Our purpose as women of LWML is to serve in any way that God directs us, and to also gather as societies, zones, and even at district levels to support and build each other up in our faith. **Trust, is faith in action**. It is reaching that person who is depressed and sitting at home. It is that zoom event that may connect 3 -40+ people. It is that postcard or card mailed to someone who is near and dear to you or the card of encouragement to someone suffering from illness, or of great loss. It is sharing the love of

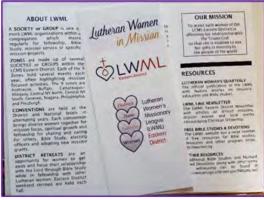
Jesus in whatever way God directs us to. I would like to encourage you or challenge you to reach out to the churches in your zones....see if you can share prayer concerns or some special needs or just be a connection. Let's put our faith in to action and **TOTALLY TRUST GOD** to see us through these trying times, as we continue to be His hands and feet and voice sharing the good news of salvation through our Savior Jesus Christ.



A gentle reminder to have your societies send their mites!!!! We have District grants and National grants that are dependent on those mighty mites. God's word says that he will multiply our giving, so let's continue to pray for our mite giving.

Please send me any changes in the District Directory and for quarterly subscriptions. I will send out the updated Directory after our September EC/BOD meeting. My email address is swolff3@rochester.rr.com

Sharon Wolff, VP of Communication Praise God from whom all blessings flow.



NEW LWML EASTERN DISTRICT BROCHURES!

Brochures were prepared earlier this year with the intention of distributing them at the 2020 Convention. If you would like a few copies of these professionally printed brochures, please contact Kathy Pavelock,

KMPavelock@aol.com.

You can also print your own. A PDF copy of the brochure is on the district website page, http://www.east-dist-lwml.org/officers.html. To print them, download a copy, open the file, select the Print option, set your printer options to print double-sided - flip on short edge, print, and fold.



The Buffalo Zone has agreed to host the 2021 Fall Retreat under the same theme "Can Do, With Jesus" knowing "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens Me"

Philippians 4:13. We hope to gather September 17-19, 2021, venue to be determined. Watch for information in the Winter LINK.

News From Around The Zones

BUFFALO ZONE

As a result of the Covid 19 virus, the Buffalo Zone Fall Event, that was to be held at Holy Cross November 2020, was cancelled. In place of the Fall Event, the Buffalo Zone is hosting a Fall Zoom LWML Bible Study. Jackie Blank from St. Paul Batavia will be facilitating the study. There will also be time to fellowship online and join in joyful singing.

Although most groups in the Zone have not been able to meet in person, many of our MEETINGS societies have been serving in many different ways:

St. Paul, Batavia - The LWML women have been busy and staying connected. We have continued to meet via zoom for the socialization of it and to remain connected. Jackie Blank continues to lead us in Bible Study on the first Tuesday of each month by zoom. The remainder of Tuesdays we continue to have prayer connection via zoom as well. We have gathered to clean, garden, provide for the Blessing Box, and support each other in worship and in prayer. Our devotion team has connected via zoom and has prepared our devotions for the upcoming year. Our September gathering will be on zoom, as it is truly not safe as yet to gather in Memorial Hall. Worship will be in the sanctuary on September 20, 2020. We continue to gather our mites and also are encouraged to send in our collection monies each month beginning in September, as those funds will get dispersed in December as mission giving locally. Our officers for the next calendar year remain the same. Our guilters are checking our different avenues for our quilts and our school kits and also the personal care kits donated by the District EC/BOD. God continues to bless us with good health and growing spirits. We look forward and pray about gathering in person once again.

Sharon Wolff, President St. Paul Batavia

<u>Pilgrim Lutheran, Kenmore</u> - Esther Circle continues to meet on Zoom the second Monday of the month. We met September 14 at 12:30 pm. The Terri Lynn sale of nuts and candy will be conducted over the next two months. The Esther Circle is donating quarterly this year to "The Buffalo Burrito Project." The LWML meetings are being held on Zoom for the time being. Mites continue to be collected for the mission projects that were selected in June. Thank you to all for continuing to support the Lord's work through the LWML.

Carol Obot and Sue Holway, Co-Presidents Pilgrim, Kenmore St. Paul's Lutheran, Eden has a Tender Love Club (TLC) that makes hand-made items to be donated to those in need. We accept items that are sewn, knitted, or crocheted. Our donations include quilts, lap quilts, baby items (hats, blankets & sweaters), cheerful pillowcases, turbans, and hats. Our "Made with Love" items go to Roswell Park, Sisters Hospital, Cornerstone Manor, Hospice, Camp Pioneer, to the Southern Tier and to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation

Lisa Beller, LWML Representative, St. Paul, Eden

St. Luke, Cheektowaga has supported the following causes with our profits from the Bake Sale in April 2019...The Priscilla project, the Duke's Missionaries in Peru, Friends of the Night People, and Haven House. Also, with the help of our very generous congregation, we Sent Birthday gifts to the homeless families at the Buffalo City Mission.

Sue Bethin, President St. Luke, Cheektowaga

GENESEE ZONE



St. Paul Hilton—The congregation did a collection and we transported 5 boxes

of personal care items to Vera House the 2020 LWML convention ingathering.



St Paul ladies at work cutting the crosses with a Bible passage on the back that Judy sent on to her contact in St Louis for the prison ministry. This was another convention Item... servant event. There were 9 of us and the month before we met outside and next

month we are going out to dinner. Rebecca Bessell, St. Paul, Hilton

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

PHILADELPHIA ZONE

Thank you to all the delegates voting for FOR YOUR SUPPORT! three grants in the Philadelphia region at our June District Convention. These

include Broad Street Ministries - food for the homeless, Christ Memorial Lutheran School - playground set, and Hope Lutheran Church - Celebrate Recovery ministry to those in recovery. God has already blessed each of these ministries and will continue to see His gospel furthered through them. In these times where we may not be gathering in person, continue to support your mites by sending to your zone treasurers. Beth Quinn, Philadelphia Zone President





Almost every area of our lives has been disrupted during this calendar year (and we are less than 2/3 of the way through). One thing is always constant and that is our life earned by Jesus's life, death and resurrection. Responding to your uncertainty about everything else in this world, maybe now is the best time ever to be putting your first estate plan together with a will or trust, planning gifts to family you love and ministries you care about. Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can help you get ready to talk with your attorney.

For help thinking this through, contact us, your LWML Gift Planning Counselor Advocate or Counselor to see how we can assist you with expressing your faith through your Christian Estate Plan. LWML provides free, professional Christian estate planning services.

CONTACT INFO:

Rebecca Bessell, Coordinator 585-415-6368 or rlb54@rochester.rr.com

NATIONAL MISSION GRANT NEWS

By now, the National Mission Grant Committee has received all the mission grant proposals from around the country. Please keep the National Mission Grant Committee in your prayers as they prayerfully vet grants to present to the National Executive Commit-



tee for consideration for the 2021 Convention in Lexington, Kentucky.

As of September 28, 2020, the total for the September to Remember special appeal is \$100,726.48! Thanks be to God! The total collected to date nationally for the 2019 -2021 Mission Goal is \$1,418,968 of the total \$2,100,000 goal. You can continue to check the progress of the 2019 -2021 National Mission Grant Goal by going to their web site LWML.org.





SERVE WHILE STAYING AT HOME!

Are you looking for ways to Serve while staying at home? We continue to collect e-waste and stamps to support the LWML Eastern District mission work. For questions, contact Alice or Sharon.

Don't throw it away!

The LWML Eastern District will take e-waste and cancelled stamps to support Missions!







For information contact:

e-waste: Alice Pfonner,alicepfonner@aol.com stamps: Sharon McGuan, stmcguan@gmail.com

Or visit http://east-dist-lwml.org/events

UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb.26-27, 2021 EC/BOD Meeting

June 24-27, 2021 LWML National Convention

Lexington, Kentucky

Sept. 17, 2021 (Tentative date, place

To be determined)

EC Meeting

Sept. 17-19, 2021 (Tenative Date, place

to be determined)

Fall Retreat

June 10-12, 2022 LWML Eastern District

Convention

East Syracuse, NY

Report of the Financial Secretary—Judy Morrison

June 1, 2020 – August 31, 2020 Mites: \$5,150.98

Memorials / Honorariums Given: (June 1, 2020 – August 31, 2020)

<u>In Memory of:</u> <u>Given by:</u> Ginny John Dee Grzyb

Eleanor Schwalm Waneta Lingenfelter,

Concordia Cabot Campus

LWML Dorothy Koschmann

Arline Schane Dorothy Koschmann
Bill Stuart Waneta Lingenfelter

Dorothy Koschmann

<u>In Honor of:</u> <u>Given by:</u> Beth Quinn. Susan Bell

Pastor Walters, Cheri Briggs, Kelly Gilbert, Susan Morris, Sharon Wolff, Becca Futty

LWML Counselors Rebecca Bessell

Legacy of Love Given by:

Rebecca Bessell

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.

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Please send all news articles and information for publication to:

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E-mail: lwmllink@gmail.com

The next deadline is December 1, 2020

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



ONNECTING Are you trying to figure out ways to stay connected to your society, zone or district during this Covic-19 Pandemic? Check out the LWML website at https://www.lwml.org/covid LWML has compiled ideas and resources for you to use to stay connected at this time.

A Time for Everything — Ecclesiastes 3:1–8

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

- a time to be born, and a time to die;
- a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;
- a time to kill, and a time to heal;
- a time to break down, and a time to build up;
- a time to weep, and a time to laugh;
- a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
- a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together;
- a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
- a time to seek, and a time to lose;
- a time to keep, and a time to cast away;
- a time to tear, and a time to sew;
- a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
- a time to love, and a time to hate;
- a time for war, and a time for peace.

Do these verses from Ecclesiastes describe the year 2020? With a COVID-19 pandemic, civil unrest, economic fluctuations, job uncertainty or upheaval in working conditions, changes in education, and disruption of church and religious activities, the world is indeed in tumultuous times!

What are we — Lutheran Women in Mission — to do? How do we stay connected to each other in fellowship, remain connected to His Word, and continue to connect to others through service?

WE CARRY ON!

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