

# The Eastern District LWML



Sail into the Future  
Sisters Acting In Love

Lutheran Women in Mission



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A Friend Loveth at all times – Friends Forever, Forever Friends based on Proverbs 17:17 is the theme for the annual Eastern District LWML retreat on September 19 – 21, 2008 at Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center. It’s not too early to think about attending this event. The retreat will be hosted by the Cattaraugus-Allegany and Central New York South zones. Thank you to these zones for volunteering to host the event. Bring a friend!

Have you ever thought about the verse- “A Friend Loveth at all times?” It brings to mind that no matter what, our friends are there for us. Regardless of how I may feel, I know my friends are there to comfort me, love me unconditionally and support me.

I have been blessed with many friends in my lifetime. Some were there for a **Reason**- a broken marriage or the death of my Dad. They provided the comfort I needed. These types stay around for a short time. Many were there for a **Season** – a time in each others lives when we both needed comfort and support. We held on tight until we both felt the healing was complete. Sometimes they end because one of the persons feel they are not getting anything out of the relationship. The **Lifetime** friends seem to endure forever. You may drift apart but when you come back together it’s like you were never apart. I have friends in many chapters of my life who I talk to and relive those hard times we shared and how we have endured. These are the friends who are loyal – they are always there.

What kind of friendships do you have? Reach out to those you haven’t heard from in a long time. You may discover that they are waiting for your call. I look forward to seeing you in September.

### Sisters Acting in Love update

I have visited the Philadelphia and Central New York North zone events. It was nice to meet with the ladies of the zones. I have renewed many friendships with people I haven’t seen in a long time. Thank you to the zone hosts and the opportunity to talk about the LWML and the SAIL program.

When making plans for your Spring events, please include me. I would love to come and talk about the Eastern District LWML.

In His Service,

**Darlene Byrns**  
President, Eastern District  
LWML

*“I can do anything through Him  
who strengthens me” Phil. 4:13*



*Together  
Serving  
the Lord  
with  
Gladness*

*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*

## COUNSELOR'S

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At a recent circuit meeting of Niagara area pastors I asked, "How is the LWML important to your mission as a congregation?"

There was some silence from a few pastors but there also were some very encouraging words spoken.

One pastor said, "I love that everything they do is related to missions."

Following up with those words another pastor said, "Yes. They are the only church group that is focused solely on missions."

At this point another pastor said, "The priorities of the LWML gets everyone else in the congregation thinking about sharing Jesus."

Please do not be surprised to find that pastors do not all agree on the role of the LWML in the congregation. Some of the pastors were silent when I asked this question. One pastor said, "Don't even ask me that question." He responded as if he had a lot to say but did not want to open that faucet.

While pastors may respond differently to the LWML in their congregation, I do not think any pastor would respond negatively when hearing the purposes of the LWML. "The mission of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League is to assist each woman of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod 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."

I simply cannot imagine a pastor opposing a woman who wanted to be in a relationship with the Triune God. I simply cannot imagine a pastor opposing a woman being enabled to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the world.

The second part of the mission statement is not about supporting or enabling women serving in the Office of the Holy Ministry. It is about enabling a woman to live within the promise of her baptism, that she is a child of God. While I cannot imagine opposition to these purposes I know that women in the Eastern District do in fact struggle to elicit support from their pastor.

A word of encouragement to women in the Eastern District from your Junior Pastoral Counselor: If you believe that the LWML is not receiving support from your pastor...talk to him. Outline ways that the LWML supports the mission of the congregation. Give specific suggestions for ways the pastor could more effectively support the work of the LWML. Many frustrations we all may have in our congregations are best reconciled when we speak directly with the people involved.

## NEWS FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee has submitted a list of candidates for office for the 2008-2010 Biennium. The individuals named below have been nominated and have agreed to have their names placed on the ballot.

**Pastoral Counselor**

Rev. Charles St. Onge-Philadelphia Zone  
Rev. Ronald Bright-Pittsburgh Zone

**VP Communication**

Dori Juskalian-Philadelphia Zone  
Donna Coleman-Genesee Zone

**Financial Secretary**

Dana Smith-Central NY North Zone  
Jackie Blank, Buffalo Zone  
Dee Grzyb-Buffalo Zone

**Recording Secretary**

Karen Rinne-Philadelphia Zone

We are thankful to God for these talented nominees and express our gratitude to them for their willingness to serve the Lord and the women of the Eastern District LWML.

The Nominating Committee,  
Rebecca Bessell, Beverly Wicher, Susan Bell

## Mission Grants

## MISSION GRANT NEWS

Janis McDaniels serves the national LWML as Vice President of Gospel Outreach. In a letter dated October 2007 she informs us that "it's not too early to begin researching and writing mission grant proposals for our 33rd biennial convention in Portland, Oregon in June 2009." Grant proposals may be submitted by individual LWML members, local units, zones, districts and Synod boards only. They must be submitted to Janis by September 30, 2008 and must be approved by the Executive Committee of the LWML district in which they originate as well as the District President of the Synod in which the project is located. Since they need to be well-documented, if you have a mission idea, now is the time to start working on it. You may contact me for more information and to receive a copy of the paperwork.

In His service,  
Jackie Blank  
Mission Advocacy and Grants



**2008 EASTERN DISTRICT CONVENTION**

2008 Eastern District Convention, we hope you are planning on attending the 32<sup>nd</sup> Biennial Convention to be held in Rochester, New York at the RIT Inn and Conference Center on June 6-8, 2008. The location of the center is 5257 W. Henrietta Road, Henrietta, NY 14467, 585-359-1800, [www.ritinn.com](http://www.ritinn.com).

The convention theme is from Ephesians 4:16: "From him the whole body joined and held together by every supporting ligament grows and builds itself up in love

as each part does its work" The convention committee selected the theme song titled "Bind us Together" as another focus on our working together in the planning of this event.

This year the convention committee is a joint effort by two zones, the Genesee and Central NY North. This theme is especially appropriate as the two zones come together to meet, plan and work together to the glory of God. We have special entertainment planned for the Saturday evening banquet so we hope you are planning on attending.



**RIT Inn & Conference Center**

### Interest Sessions

**National LWML Rep Janis McDaniels**-will share information from the national level including her position as Vice President of Gospel Outreach.

**Keynote Speaker Marlys Taege-Moberg**-will speak about how scripture calls each of us to be encouragers.

**Mite Walk/Mission pledge walk.** Collect pledges before the convention which will go to our mite goal. The walk consists of a one mile walk around the RIT Conference Center property. Bring your sneakers and your mites.

**MMV-Mission-Ministry Vision** consultants are professionally trained to guide, support and provide resources to women for Christ-centered decision making and implementing processes. Consultants also assist women in creating and enhancing sensitive, relevant and appealing mission outreach in their communities.

**Camp Pioneer Director Linda Gage**-will share with us the many changes that are happening at Camp as well as how your mites have been put to work spreading God's love.

### Tour of Rochester and the George Eastman House

The tour on Friday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, from 12:30-3:00 will include a Motor Coach tour of Rochester with a stop at the George Eastman House. The tour will include the mansion which was the home to George Eastman, founder of the Eastman Kodak Company. The house and its exquisite gardens are a wonderful addition to the extensive photography and film collection. The cost of the tour is \$27.00 per person.

### Registration Form

Also on page 9 of this publication you will find the convention registration form for all guests to use. Whether you plan to join us for the entire convention or on a part-time basis please register early.

Those expecting to attend only the worship services and/or the banquet and entertainment on Saturday evening do not need to pay the registration fee. Please note that a registration form is, however, still required. This will assist the committee with seating arrangements.

All delegates and Board of Directors members are reminded that they will receive special registration forms after the February 2008 District Board meeting and should not complete or submit the guest registration form.

Serving as the steering committee are: Chairman, Rebecca Bessell, Co-Chairman Karen Devan, Treasurer Jean Leverenz, Secretary Donna Coleman, and Counselor Rev. Brian Smith. Barb Williams is serving as District Liaison.

Chairmen of the various committees are Carolyn Krause (Banner), Karen Strussenberg (Displays/Exhibits), Tammy Davidson & Barb McHenry (Favors/Decorating), Linda Behrens (Hospitality), Kathy Ippolito (Housing), Christel Ingham (Meals), Linda Bahr (Music), Lori Hummel (Publicity), Georgette Peterson (Registration), Louise Snyder (Special Needs), Kathy Pavelock (Tote Bags), Kathleen Begemann (Tours), Roxanne Flurschutz (Transportation) and Andrea Dodge (Ushers).

As we grow closer together and nearer to the convention date the committees look forward to everyone's arrival to celebrate with us being linked together in Christ.

### The Genesee and Central NY North Zones



### SOJOURNER HOUSE CONVENTION GIFTS FROM THE HEART

As we are beginning to focus on our upcoming Eastern District LWML Convention in June 2008 and being "Linked Together in Christ" I would ask that you might also begin to focus on being "Linked Together" with Sojourner House in Rochester, N.Y. This will be the recipient of our ingathering for the Convention.

Sojourner House is located in a former convent in Rochester's 19<sup>th</sup> Ward. It provides transitional housing for women in crisis who are committed to rebuilding their lives. Women and their children may live for up to six months at Sojourner House where shelter and basic needs are provided. A structured schedule, shared household responsibilities, family style dinners and enforced accountability are all contributing

factors to help these families form lasting habits to change their lives.

Our LWML Sisters have the opportunity to assist Sojourner House through our chosen convention ingathering. So let's start now ladies to make this another awesome ingathering.

Their current wish list:

journals and planners/calendars for women

New or gently used:

kitchen items (dishes, silverware, service cookware), linens, towels, blankets, comforters –all sizes.

New items:

pillows, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, tampons – all full size

backpacks, construction paper, scissors, markers, crayons, notebooks, binders, pocket dictionaries, thesauruses.

God's richest blessings to you as we prepare for the 2008 Convention.

**In His Love, Karen Devan—Convention Co-chairman and Ingathering Chairman**

**Attention: Society Presidents  
Need to decrease (or increase) Quarterlies?  
Take note of April 1, 2008 deadline!!!!**

**Decreases in Lutheran Woman's Quarterly subscriptions can be made only once a year, and the deadline is April 1, 2008** to contact VP of Communications Katharine Rickus of any such changes for 2008-09.

Note: Increases and changes of address can be made anytime during the year. You can reach Kathi by mail: 250 Rogers Ave., Tonawanda, NY 14150, by phone: 716/695-2959, or e-mail: [RICK4219@aol.com](mailto:RICK4219@aol.com). (Be sure to put LWML in the subject line!) **Better yet, please make use of the Quarterly Order Form included with this issue of the LINK!**



Societies are reminded to help defray the cost of the Quarterlies and ED LWML LINK newsletter expenses by sending contributions to their respective zone treasurers, who will, in turn, send them to the ED LWML Financial Secretary. **If you haven't covered your Quarterlies for the current fiscal year (April 1, 2007 through March 31, 2008), please do so as soon as possible!** Special thanks to all those societies who have been covering their Quarterly subscription costs and LINK contributions to date!

**The Quarterly/LINK rates for the new fiscal year for the Eastern District LWML (April 1, 2008-March 31, 2009) will remain the same as last year: \$7.00 per subscription for 1-9 copies to same address; \$5.50 per subscription for 10 or more copies to same address .** These figures include the cost of the Quarterly plus a \$1.50 contribution towards the cost of the ED LWML LINK newsletter, one copy of which is sent to Society presidents in care of the congregation unless the president has requested the LINK editor to mail it directly to her home. Society Presidents are asked to share the District LWML news with their members either by making copies available or posting a copy at church and also gleaning the LINK for news to include with church publications.

**IMPORTANT FACT:** These donations will enable the District to use your mite box offerings more effectively for mission grants; otherwise the Quarterly and LINK expenses must come from Mite Box receipts!

**P.S. Just a reminder – please also notify Kathi Rickus of any changes in zone or society officers for the ED LWML Directory so it can be kept up-to-date!**

**ATTENTION: LWML SOCIETY PRESIDENTS AND INDIVIDUAL LWML MEMBERS** Please complete the form below as indicated for the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* subscriptions beginning with the Summer 2008 issue – **deadline for orders: April 1, 2008.** Note: If you do not return an order form by the deadline, your order will remain the same as it was for 2007-08.

**This is the only time of the year when decreases can be made in your order!!**

**Eastern District Lutheran Women's Missionary League  
LUTHERAN WOMAN'S QUARTERLY ORDER FORM  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009**

**Please complete form and return by April 1, 2008 to:**

Mrs. Katharine Rickus, ED LWML VP Communications, 250 Rogers Ave., Tonawanda, NY 14150-5273 or E-mail: [RICK4219@aol.com](mailto:RICK4219@aol.com) (be sure to put LWML in subject line!)

Name of LWML Society (or Women's Group if combined) \_\_\_\_\_

(or Individual Member's name if not affiliated with a Society: \_\_\_\_\_)

Congregation \_\_\_\_\_

(name)

(city)

Mailing Address for Quarterlies: \_\_\_\_\_

(Street address)

(City, State and Zip Code)

**# of *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* subscriptions ordered for Fiscal year 2008-2009:** \_\_\_\_\_

The cost of the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* and publication expenses for the *ED LWML LINK* newsletter\* for 2008-09 is

\$5.50 each subscription for orders of 10 or more, or

\$7.00 each subscription for orders of 1-9 copies.

**Payment is encouraged within the first few months of fiscal year 2008-2009.**

**Send payment to your Zone Treasurer and indicate on check "For Quarterlies 2008-2009.**

**Return this completed Order Blank to Kathi Rickus, 250 Rogers Ave., Tonawanda, NY 14150-5273.**

Ordered by: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

\* The subscription rates above include funds to help defray the cost of the ED LWML LINK newsletter, one copy of which is sent to Society Presidents. Payment enables more Mite Box offerings to be available to fund mission grants. Society Presidents are encouraged to share the news in the LINK with their society members by making copies or gleaning information for church newsletters/bulletins.

*Oh Give  
Thanks  
To The  
Lord For  
He Is  
Good*

'Oh, give thanks unto the Lord for He is good.' (all the time) Thanks to all of you who sent notes and cards on my mother's passing. My mother, Ruth, lived 85 years believing that Jesus died for her. Her father was a pastor for 67 years, a classmate of Pastor Karkau, a student of Dr. Pieper. My grandfather, Martin Berner, started the Philadelphia zone of LWML! So, my mother was never far from church and passed on her steadfast faith to me. She will be missed by family and friends and will always be held in high regard by all who knew her. My emptiness and sadness, however, has been filled by Emily Ruth, my first grandchild. Emily was born a month after my mother received her crown of glory and shows me that our Lord never turns us away empty. His abounding love showers on us daily through His Word, His Sacraments, His sunrises and sunsets, and through birth.....the continuation of love and family and the continued hope of life everlasting. God is so very good! **Martha McGlynn, Publicity**

# Upcoming Events

**Be a Good Steward and Help Us Share**

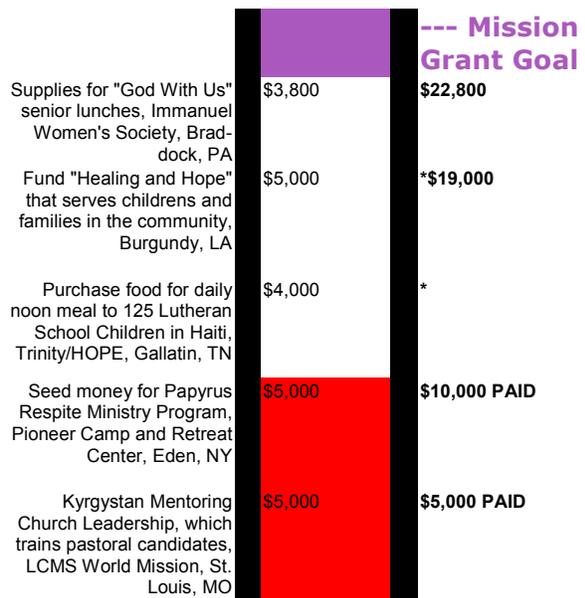
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|--------------------------|--|
| <b>Feb. 8-9, 2008</b>    | Executive Committee/<br>Board of Directors Meeting<br>RIT Inn & Conference Center<br>Rochester, NY |
| <b>June 6-8, 2008</b>    | 2008 District Convention<br>RIT Inn & Convention Center<br>Rochester, NY                           |
| <b>Sept. 19-21, 2008</b> | Fall Retreat<br>Pioneer Camp & Retreat Center<br>Angola, NY  |

**Society Presidents and LWML Representatives:** If you are a society President or LWML contact person for your church, you are a very important person in our distribution of "The Link". This is not intended to be just your personal copy. You have been designated as our contact for your church. Either copy this issue for your society members, post it at church, or glean items from it to submit articles for your congregation's bulletin/newsletter and, above all, remember to inform your members at society meetings. **This is our only form of communication and we are counting on you to get the information out. If you feel your copy should be sent to a different address, please inform the Editor so she can update her records. Thank you for your help.**

**ATTENTION ZONE TREASURERS:** Just a reminder that Zone Treasurers no longer need to send money for "Travel Fund" to the District. This fund is no longer in existence. Please keep that money within your zone to help defray your delegates travel expenses

The Link is now available in e-mail format. If you would like to receive a copy via e-mail, please let me know and I will add you to my list of e-mail recipients.  
**Bev Wicher-Editor** Bevajw@roadrunner.com

**Eastern District LWML  
2006-2008 Mission Grants**



**REMINDER—Grants 3 and 4 must be paid at the same time.** We need \$9,000 before we can pay these grants. We are on our way but please give generously to Mites so that we can get both these grants paid and continue on to the 5th grant before the end of the biennium.

**New Online Store Open For Business**

The new online store is now open for business! Order items from the new catalog directly online with your Credit Card! There are many new items available for purchase, including three new Mustard Seeds: "Begin With God", "Living in Praise" and "Walking with My Lord". Check it out.

\*Grants 3 & 4 will be funded at the same time because they received the same number of votes

**ZONE NEWS WANTED**—Have I heard from your zone? Whether it's Zone activities, Society activities, or just something fun and new you are doing, we'd love to share it with our LWML sisters around the District. Please send let me know what's going on so I can include it in the LINK—Bev Wicher, Editor

News

From Around  
the Zones**FROM THE ANTRACITE ZONE:****QUILTS FOR VETERANS**

In the picture on the left is Gail Mangan of Voluntary Services at the VA Hospital in Wilkes-Barre, PA accepting 14 quilted lap robes and 5 twin size quilts as a gift of love and appreciation from St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Wilkes-Barre, PA and friends of the congregation. This service of love was started by our Lutheran Women's Missionary League. On the right is Judy Grimm, a member of St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Wilkes-Barre, PA. We extend our many thanks to all of our Veterans who have so served our country so faithfully. Our Prayers go out to all those serving our country even now.

**FROM THE PHILADELPHIA ZONE:****CHRIST MEMORIAL CELEBRATES GOLDEN JUBILEE**

The Women's Guild/Lutheran Women's Missionary League of Christ Memorial Lutheran Church, Malvern, PA celebrated their Golden Jubilee on October 9, 2007, just 50 years to the date of their second meeting. It was a night of festivities with current members as participants playing out a skit. The membership was guided by Naomi Barrow and Dolores Heilman, charter members, through the early days when dues were 50 cents/month and the December gift exchange was also 50 cents. Hats and gloves were the attire to conventions and rallies. The LWML Bible study also started 50 years ago and still meets regularly. Special guests included our former pastors and Ms. Mighty Mite. Susan Morris and Beth Quinn were highlighted as Young Women's Representatives for the LWML International Convention in Detroit representing English and Eastern Districts respectively. A LWML Mission Grant of \$5,000 furnished the pews, the current pulpit and lectern. Reverend Mark Heilman was the founding pastor, now retired of Christ Memorial and Reverend Mark Jurkowski is the current pastor. TO GOD BE THE GLORY! Picture courtesy of Beth Quinn



**Naomi Barrow and Dolores Heilman  
Charter members**

**PHILADELPHIA AND ENGLISH DISTRICT FALL RALLY**

The Philadelphia Eastern and English District Zones Fall Rally was held at St. Mark's Lutheran Church on Sat. Oct. 13th. The Opening Devotion was given by Zone Pastoral Counselor, Rev. Charles St-Onge using the Morning Service from LSB 235. Pastor Skee led the Bible study on the theme "Rest on Christ the King" and based his remarks on Psalm 46, "The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress." He gave us a small pebble to put in our shoe to remind us that we will have troubles and a larger prayer rock to take with us to remind us that God is always with us and He is our sure foundation. Darlene Byrns, Eastern District President, was our guest speaker. She gave us a quiz on LWML facts and brought us up to date on LWML news, the National Convention and Eastern District news. She challenged us to reach out to the younger ladies in our congregations to help grow the LWML so we can serve more with gladness. About 55 ladies and a few gentlemen were in attendance. The Philadelphia English District Zone ladies invited us to their Spring Rally on April 5th, 2008 at Calvary Lutheran Church in Mechanicsburg, PA.

**FROM THE BUFFALO ZONE:**

The Fall Rally was held at Salem Lutheran Church on Sunday, October 7. Rev. Evan Gaertner, our District Junior Counselor, brought four young people who are peer ministers in the Lutheran Campus Ministries program. The interesting presentation told of the work being done at the University of Buffalo, Buffalo State College and Niagara University. We are also planning a "Fun Day Sunday" on January 20, to be held at St. Luke Lutheran Church, Cheektowaga. This will be an afternoon of getting better acquainted with our Buffalo sisters, including the ladies from Hanannah Lutheran Church who we hope will be becoming more involved with the LWML. We are happy to announce that Rev. Randy Roselle from Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Clarence is our new Zone Counselor. We welcome him warmly.  
Fern Suckow-Buffalo Zone President

**Executive Committee**

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**Kathi Rickus**, 250 Rogers Ave., Tonawanda NY 14150 716-695-2959 [RICK4219@aol.com](mailto:RICK4219@aol.com)

## Philadelphia Zone

**Karen Rinne**, 81 Oak Knoll Dr., Berwyn, PA 19312 610-889-0938 [Bkrinne@verizon.net](mailto:Bkrinne@verizon.net)

## Pittsburgh Zone

**Charlotte Nist**, 1 Harvest Dr., Cranberry Township, PA 16066 724-776-2036  
[charlottenist@zoominternet.net](mailto:charlottenist@zoominternet.net)

**Next Deadline**

Please send all news articles and information for publication to:

Beverly Wicher  
150 Unionvale Road  
Cheektowaga, NY 14225

E-mail:  
[bevaiw@roadrunner.com](mailto:bevaiw@roadrunner.com)

**The next deadline is March 1, 2008**

The Link is published four times each year.

**Deadlines to submit articles:**

**March 1, June 1, September 1, December 1**

**TOGETHER IN PRAYER**

Don't forget to join your National LWML Sisters "Together in Prayer Every Monday at Noon". Pray for our National LWML, Our Districts, Our Zones, Our Societies and our "Mites" and Mission Grants that they may be used to spread the Gospel of Christ throughout the World. Each month there is a specific prayer emphasis listed on the National LWML Website at [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org) and also in the LWML E-News.



**GUEST Registration for the 32<sup>nd</sup> Biennial Convention**  
**June 6-8, 2008**  
**RIT Inn and Conference Center**  
**5257 West Henrietta Road, Henrietta, NY 14467**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 LWML Zone \_\_\_\_\_ Church \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Mandatory Registration Fee (Non-Refundable)** **REGISTRATION DEADLINE: APRIL 30, 2008**  
 \_\_\_\_\_ \$25 postmarked by April 30, 2008  
 \_\_\_\_\_ \$30 postmarked AFTER April 30, 2008 **REGISTRATION TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**LODGING PRICES:** Please indicate which night(s) you are staying:  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Thursday \_\_\_\_\_ Friday \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 1 person per room \$90.00/night x # of nights \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 people per room \$45.00/night x # of nights \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 people per room \$30.00/night x # of nights \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 people per room \$22.50/night x # of nights \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Specify your roommate(s) below or they will be assigned if 2 or more per room requested.)  
**LODGING TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**MEAL PRICES:** (Gratuity included) Please check meals desired if not choosing meal package  
 Meal package (includes all five meals listed below): **\$105.00**  
 OR  
 Check off individual meals desired:  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Friday dinner buffet \$23.50  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday breakfast buffet \$13.50  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday lunch buffet \$18.50  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday banquet + entertainment \$33.00  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Sunday Brunch buffet \$21.50  
**MEAL TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**TOUR PRICE:** Fri. afternoon City tour/Eastman House stop \$27.00 **TOUR TOTAL(min 35 people)\$ \_\_\_\_\_**  
**GRAND TOTAL DUE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**CHOIR:** \_\_\_ I would like to sing on Sunday. \_\_\_ Soprano \_\_\_ Alto \_\_\_ Tenor (music will be mailed if time permits.)  
 Roommate preference(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Spouse attending: \_\_\_ no; \_\_\_ yes Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Please note any special needs: medical, transportation, dietary, handicapped accessible room, etc.  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Special Interest Sessions:** Please check two.  
 \_\_\_ Session 1 National LWML Rep Janis McDaniels \_\_\_ Session 2 Keynote Speaker Mariys Taego-Moberg  
 \_\_\_ Session 3 Mite Walk \_\_\_ Session 4 MMV Claire Carlson & Jacqui Green  
 \_\_\_ Session 5 Camp Pioneer Linda Gage \_\_\_ Session 6 Pastor Event (Clergy only)

Make checks or money orders payable in full amount to: 2008 Eastern District LWML Convention.  
 Mail to: Georgette Peterson, 10 Hanson Circle, Henrietta, NY 14467 (Phone: 585-359-4491 E-mail: gcp10@frontiernet.net)  
**PLEASE INCLUDE A SELF-ADDRESSED, STAMPED BUSINESS SIZE ENVELOPE** with your registration & full payment if you want your confirmation mailed to you, otherwise your confirmation will be e-mailed to you.

**ONGOING PROJECT -- CLIPPED, CANCELLED POSTAGE STAMPS**

The clipping and saving of cancelled postage stamps for the Canadian Bible Society is ongoing. The enthusiasm and response from our people in the Eastern District has been wonderful! The approximate amount for 2007, mainly from the Pittsburgh Zone --from which Deaconess Nancy Lingenfelter gathers-- has been 57 pounds. However, the approximate total of stamps gathered since mid-2003 (from the Pittsburgh Zone) has been 322 pounds. Accumulated stamps from the other zones, added to that amount would obviously increase the total. This means that for every one pound of stamps that has been sold (for now \$5.00 per pound) 322+ Bibles have been made by the Canadian, as well as the American Bible Societies and distributed to various countries, often in the respective "native language." What a tremendous resource for spreading God's precious Word about the Savior's love and redemption for all.

Please continue to save the various "first class" postage stamps --NO pre-sorted or bulk rate ones-- then clip (leaving at least 1/4 inch around the edge -- a must!) and BRING then to any of the various LWML gatherings throughout the year --like Joy Shops, Rallies, Retreats, Conventions, meetings, etc.

The Canadian women, with whom Deaconess Nancy has been in contact and receives the stamps from her, have been most appreciative of the efforts and commitment of our Eastern district people with this project and THANK YOU for the time, effort and support.

If you have any questions or need more information , please contact

Trudy Sallach at 814-866-7662 or Deaconess Nancy Lingenfelter 814-345-5779

Bev Wicher  
Eastern District LWML Editor  
150 Unionvale Rd.  
Cheektowaga, NY 14225  
E-mail [Bevajw@roadrunner.com](mailto:Bevajw@roadrunner.com)

# The Eastern District LWML



**Lutheran Women in Mission**

Sail into the Future  
Sisters Acting In



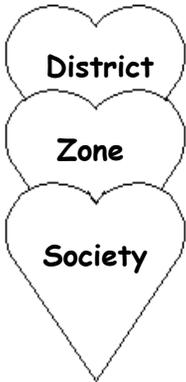
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**Dear Sisters in Christ**

Have you made plans to join me at the 32<sup>nd</sup> Biennial Eastern District Lutheran Woman's Missionary League Convention in Rochester, NY on June 6 – 8? I hope so. I am looking forward to greeting each of you when you arrive. We have made plans for speakers, interest sessions, Saturday night entertainment, Mission Walk, Bible study each day, Mission Grants selected for you to vote on, Election of officers to continue the work of the Eastern District and bylaw changes that need to be made.

The delegate information was distributed at the Board of Director's meeting in February. If your society hasn't received the information, please contact your zone president. Each society can send 2 delegates to the convention to vote on Mission Grants, Election of Officers and Bylaw changes.



The form package includes:

**Delegate /Guest Forms**

- First delegate – green paper
- Second delegate- pink paper
- First Alternate – salmon paper
- Second Alternate – blue paper

Guest registration – white – can be duplicated for others wishing to attend.

Please note the registration **DEADLINE OF APRIL 30, 2008.**

**Delegate Reporting Forms**

- Delegate recording by Society – bright yellow to be sent to President Darlene Byrns, 1712 Blossom Rd., Rochester, NY 14610

Delegate recording by Society – bright orange to be sent to Pat Clark, Recording Secretary, 7293 ST. Rte. 13, Blossvale, NY 13308

Please note the Delegate Reporting **DEADLINE OF APRIL 15, 2008.**

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me at [darlene248@aol.com](mailto:darlene248@aol.com) or call 585-288-5568.

In His Service,  
Darlene Byrns  
President, Eastern District LWML

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

*Together  
Serving  
the Lord  
with  
Gladness*

*"I can do anything through Him who strengthens me" Phil. 4:13*

## COUNSELOR'S

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## UNITED WITH HIM

"If we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His." **Romans 6:5 (ESV)**

Historically, there has always been a connection between the celebration of Easter and the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. In the early Church candidates for Baptism were usually baptized as part of the Easter Vigil. This was not done as a result of mere coincidence or for the sake of convenience; it was deliberately arranged this way to demonstrate the close connection between the Sacrament of Baptism and the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus.

The connection is this: In Baptism we have been united with our Lord and Savior in His death and resurrection, which means that each day we experience a spiritual death and resurrection of our own. Every day we die to sin because in Baptism we have been crucified with Christ. The Easter Epistle for this year puts it in these terms: "You have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God" (Colossians 3:3). Because we have been baptized into the death of Christ, sin and all its en-

ticements should mean nothing more to us than they do to a corpse.

But our union with the Crucified doesn't leave us dead and buried, because He was not left dead and buried. Because He rose from the dead and lives again, we too rise from the death of our sin to live the New Life in Christ--a life characterized by good works motivated by the Gospel of Jesus Christ. While our good works do not have any influence in our standing before God (which is determined solely by His grace), they are nevertheless important because they give testimony to the whole world concerning the power of the Gospel in our lives. In short, our good works show others that the Gospel of Christ has made a difference in our lives. On the other hand, a steadfast refusal to do good works is in essence a steadfast denial and contradiction of our Savior's resurrection.

During this very special time of the year for the Church we celebrate the great mysteries of the faith: Christ has died and risen again. That's not just an old story. It's a story that happens again every day in your life if you have been baptized into Christ. May the crucified Christ be revealed in your forgiveness and may His resurrection be proclaimed in your works--especially as you share the Good News with others for whom He died and rose again!

Pastor Art Litke  
Senior Pastoral Counselor

## Mission Grants

### NATIONAL MISSION GRANT NEWS

Anyone interested in writing a grant proposal to be considered for the 33rd biennial convention in Portland, Oregon in June, 2009 should begin researching and writing the proposal now. Grant proposals may be submitted by individual LWML members, local units, zones, districts and Synod boards. **The deadline for submitting a proposal is September 30, 2008.** Since they need to be well-documented and must be submitted with proper signatures, it is important to start the process early to avoid missing the deadline.

### TEN GRANT PROPOSALS APPROVED

Ten grant proposals, totaling \$30372, were approved by the Eastern District LWML Executive Committee to be on the ballot at the June, 2008 Convention in Rochester, NY. A power point presentation will provide delegates with details about each one. Be sure that your society has a voice by selecting delegates to represent your society.

The Executive Committee determined that a proposal submitted by St. Thomas Lutheran Church, Pittsburgh will receive the Saturday offering. The offering will be used for uniforms, crosses, and tracts for The Mileposters, a tandem cycling group for urban children. To learn more about them go to <http://mileposters.net>.

Pray that God will guide us as we select mission grants to support with our mites.

In His service,

Jackie Blank  
Mission Advocacy and Grants

*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*

**2008 EASTERN DISTRICT CONVENTION**

Rochester, New York—June 6-8, 2008



**Linked Together in Christ**— “From Him the whole body joined and held together by every supporting ligament grows and builds itself up in love as each part does its work.” **Ephesians 4:16**

**NOW** ..is the time to register for the 32<sup>nd</sup> Biennial Convention in Rochester, New York. **The deadline for registrations is April 30, 2008** to be held at the RIT Inn and Conference Center on June 6-

8, 2008. The location of the center is 5257 W. Henrietta Road, Henrietta, NY 14467, 585-359-1800, www.ritinn.com.

The convention theme is from **Ephesians 4:16** “From Him the whole body joined and held together by every supporting ligament grows and builds itself up in love as each part does its work.” The convention committee selected the theme song titled “Bind us Together” as another focus on our working together in the planning of this event. This year the convention committee is a joint effort by two zones, the Genesee and Central NY North. This theme is especially appropriate as the two zones come together to meet, plan and work together to the glory of God. We have special entertainment planned for the Saturday evening banquet so we hope you are planning on attending.



**RIT Inn & Conference Center**

|                                 |             |                              |  |                      |
|---------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|--|----------------------|
| Guest Speakers                  | Bible Study | LWML National Representative | Singing                                | Election of Officers |
| Worship Services/Communion      |             | Servant Event                | Tour of Rochester/George Eastman House |                      |
| Interest Sessions               | Mite Walk   | Vespers                      | Balloting of Grants                    | Special Offerings    |
| Young Women Representatives     |             | Entertainment-ComedySportz   |  | Bylaws               |
| Gifts from the Heart dedication |             | Exhibits and Displays        |  | Room Devotions       |
|                                 |             |                              |  | LWML Store           |

## Convention Speakers

### Marlys Taege Moberg, Keynote Speaker



#### Author of:

She is best known for her books that traces the history of the Lutheran Women’s Missionary including:

- *Women in God's Service (WINGS)* - the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary history of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML), 1992.

*Women in League with the Lord* – Updated LWML history, 2005

**Served the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League in many capacities, most recently has been:**

- Member of the national LWML Nominating Committee, 2003-2005

Editor of the South Wisconsin District LWML *Mission Lamp*, 2001-present; webmaster. 2005-07.

#### Her family includes:

- Wife of Dr. David O. Moberg (married July 1994)
- Mother of three adult children - Linda (died in Tanzania, August 2001), Lauren (Mrs. Marshall Beale), and James; grandmother of Joshua and Andrea Beale and Adam Mohorko.

David, professor emeritus of Marquette University, is the father of Lynette Janssen and Paul, Jon and Phil Moberg and has six grandchildren.

**“I can do all things through him who gives me strength.” *Philippians 4:13***



### National LWML Representative—Vice President of Gospel Outreach Janis McDaniels

Janis McDaniels has literally been “called” to serve in the LWML. During the 1980s, a woman *called* Janis on the phone to tell her she had been elected zone vice president. To this day, Janis still doesn’t remember actually running for that office, but she agreed to serve.

Janis has held many other positions in the LWML over the years. On the national level, she has also been Nominating Committee Chairman, Gospel Outreach Committee Chairman, and a member of the Mission Projects Committee. Janis is also an MMV Consultant and has served the Carolinas District as President and Vice President of Mission Inspiration.

Janis sees the LWML as the benchmark for mission support in the LCMS. Her hope is that every LCMS woman will be actively involved in the LWML in some way, and take an interest in its mission and ministry.

She also envisions the day where we are simply sisters in Christ, despite our differences in color and culture.

## Mite Walk/Mission Pledge Walk



This year as one of the interest sessions, we will be offering the opportunity to participate in a 1-mile Mite Walk similar to National Convention. Before you come to the convention, collect as many pledges as you can, bring the donations with you to the convention. The pledge form will be included with your registration materials. This money will go toward our mite goal. The walk consists of a one mile walk around the RIT Conference Center property. Bring your sneakers and your mites.

## Tour of Rochester and the George Eastman House

We will be offering a tour of Rochester and the George Eastman House on Friday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, from 12:30-3:00. The tour will include a Motor Coach tour of Rochester with a stop at the George Eastman House. The tour will include the mansion which was the home to George Eastman, founder of the Eastman Kodak Company. The house and its exquisite gardens are a wonderful addition to the extensive photography and film collection. The cost of the tour is \$27.00 per person.



## Servant Event – Friday Afternoon June 6<sup>th</sup>



A servant event is scheduled for 1:00-4:00 p.m. on June 6<sup>th</sup>. If you are not taking the tour consider this alternative. Cards for service men and women will be available for a special message for those far away. Also prayer bracelets will be made for the women of the Sojourner House, our Gifts from The Heart recipient. All helping hands are welcomed, no skill required.

## Exhibits/Displays Friday and Saturday

Stop and see the mission exhibits and displays. We will be having an LWML store this year. Many items will be available for purchase. Also the following exhibitors will be in attendance.

### Eastern District LLL

Eastern District Lutheran Church Extension Fund

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center

LCMS Lutheran World Relief/Human Care

Concordia Publishing House

Lutheran Bible Translators

MOST Ministries (Mission Opportunities Short Term)

LWML Store

Eastern District LWML

## SOJOURNER HOUSE CONVENTION GIFTS FROM THE HEART



As we are beginning to focus on our upcoming Eastern District LWML Convention in June 2008 and being "Linked Together in Christ" I would ask that you might also begin to focus on being "Linked Together" with Sojourner House in Rochester, N.Y. This will be the recipient of our ingathering for the Convention.

ering for the Convention.

Sojourner House is located in a former convent in Rochester's 19<sup>th</sup> Ward. It provides transitional housing for women in crisis who are committed to rebuilding their lives.

Women and their children may live for up to six months at Sojourner House where shelter and basic needs are provided. A structured schedule, shared household responsibilities, family style dinners and enforced accountability are all contributing factors to help these families form lasting habits to change their lives.

Our LWML Sisters have the opportunity to assist Sojourner House through our chosen convention ingathering. So let's start now ladies to make this another awesome ingathering.

Their current wish list:

journals and planners/calendars for women

New or gently used:

kitchen items (dishes, silverware, service cookware), linens, towels, blankets, comforters—all sizes.

New items:

pillows, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, tampons – all full size backpacks, construction paper, scissors, markers, crayons, notebooks, binders, pocket dictionaries, thesauruses.

**If you wish to make a monetary contribution any checks should be made out to the LWML 2008 Eastern District Convention**

God's richest blessings to you as we prepare for the 2008 Convention.

**In His Love, Karen Devan—Convention Co-chairman and Ingathering Chairman**

## Banquet and Entertainment Saturday Evening – June 7<sup>th</sup>



ComedySportz will entertain us with their improvisational comedy following the banquet. ComedySportz is light-hearted insanity that appeals to people from every walk of life.

## Congratulations To Our YWRs !



Congratulations to the women selected to represent and serve their zones as the Young Women Representatives at the 32<sup>nd</sup> Biennial Convention. Let us all Celebrate as we stretch out and show how we are all "Linked Together in

Christ!"

CNY North – Kelly Gilbert  
 CNY South – Becky Feuerbach  
 Philadelphia – Jennifer Schwarz  
 Buffalo – Stephanie Carlson  
 Niagara – Tammara Steger  
 Genesee – Ashley Pink

Way to go girls and be sure to introduce yourself at the convention to these amazing Young Women Representatives!

**Beth Scholl**  
**Leader Development**

## **INTEREST SESSIONS**

There will be six interest sessions offered during the convention. Those attending have the opportunity to choose two sessions from the following list:

Session 1—National LWML Representative Janis McDaniels  
 Session 2—Keynote Speaker-Marlys Taeye-Moberg  
 Session 3—Mite Walk  
 Session 4—MMV (Mission, Ministry, Vision)  
 Claire Carlson & Jacqui Green  
 Session 5—Camp Pioneer-Linda Gage  
 Session 6—Pastor's Event—This is a special event for the Pastor's attending.

**Be sure to mark your two choices on the registration form.**

## **Registration Form**



Also on page 8 you will find the convention registration form for all guests to use. Whether you plan to join us for the entire convention or on a part-time basis please register as soon as possible. Also the registration forms are available on the web site [www.east-dist-lwml.org](http://www.east-dist-lwml.org)

Those expecting to attend only the worship services and/or the banquet and entertainment on Saturday evening do not need to pay the registration fee. Please note that a registration form is, however, still required. This will assist the committee with seating arrangements, thank you.

## **MISSION GRANTS ON THE CONVENTION BALLOT**



The Board of Directors approved the following mission grant proposals. They will be placed on the ballot for the 2008-2010 biennium and voted upon Saturday morning, June 7, 2008.

1. Materials and advertising for a church plant in the Ridley-Interboro area of Delaware county, PA.  
 Philadelphia Lutheran Ministries \$4000
2. Advertising and materials for a youth/after school center in Juniata Park, Philadelphia, PA.  
 Christ Memorial Lutheran Church \$2800
3. Sewing supplies and materials for turbans and for Christian literature and Bibles to be distributed at two local oncology centers.  
 Grace Lutheran Church, Vestal, NY \$1500
4. Lutheran Campus Ministries on the Niagara Frontier for materials, Bibles, and food.  
 Katharine Rickus \$1500
5. Bibles, books and materials, and tape players for Community Lutheran Ministry Reading & Readiness Program for Tots.  
 Pinnacle Lutheran Church \$2000
6. Camp Restore Victim Aid fund in New Orleans to supply building materials for families who cannot afford to rebuild.  
 Buffalo Zone LWML \$5000
7. A one year academic scholarship for one girl to attend Siyathemba Girls' High School, South Africa.  
 LCMS World Relief and Human Care \$2472
8. 500 Chinese language Bibles and Small Catechisms to reach people in China with the Gospel.  
 LCMS World Mission \$4500
9. Train youth in the Czech Republic in Bible study, leadership skills, pastoral care, evangelism, and mission.  
 LCMS World Mission \$3600
10. Provide 650 men and women in the armed forces with Christian devotional materials for one year.  
 LCMS World Mission \$3000

Please keep the work of the LWML in your prayers. Discuss these grants with your delegates and pray for them as we meet in Convention to vote on these grants. The Mission Grant presentation will be made on Friday night of the Convention, where you will learn more details of each of these grant proposals.



## 2008 EASTERN DISTRICT CONVENTION CANDIDATES FOR ELECTED OFFICE

The Nominating Committee is privileged to present biographies for the nominees who, if elected, have consented to serve the Lord and the Eastern District LWML for the 2008-2010 term of office

### For the Office of Vice President of Communications



#### **Donna Coleman—Genesee Zone**

Donna Coleman lives in Hilton, NY and is a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church and School in the Genesee Zone. She is employed as the school secretary of St. Paul. She has served the St. Paul LWML as Society Recording Secretary, Christian Growth and Membership & Cheer Chairman.

Donna has also held several Zone and District LWML positions. She had been Genesee Zone President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Publicity Chairman, Missions Chairman and Christian Growth Chairman. She has also served as Eastern District Recording Secretary and District Financial Secretary.

Donna and her husband Mark have two wonderful sons, a wonderful daughter-in-law and two beautiful grandchildren. She enjoys reading; working on the computer and watching her grandchildren play sports.



#### **Dori Juskalian—Philadelphia Zone**

Dori Juskalian is a life-long Lutheran who is a member of Christ Memorial Lutheran Church, Malvern, PA where she has served as Nursery Director for the past 4 years. It was not long after joining Christ Memorial Lutheran Church that she became a member of LWML society where she is currently serving a second term as Vice President along with many other duties, such as teaching Sunday school and organizing the Altar Guild.

Dori attended Wittenberg University and graduated with a degree in Spanish and Global Studies, which were useful during her career as an International Sales and Customer Service Manager for CertainTeed Corporation. Communication and organizational skills were essential in servicing customers from all over the globe. Since leaving the corporate world for full-time work as a wife and mother, Dori also works as a part-time professional organizer.

She is married to Michael and has two children, Mikaela (6) and Mikenzie (4).

### For the Office of Recording Secretary



#### **Karen Rinne—Philadelphia Zone**

For the past four years Karen Rinne has served as President of the Philadelphia Zone LWML. She is also currently serving as Christian Growth Chair in her LWML Society at Christ Memorial Lutheran Church in Malvern, PA and sings in the choir. She is Co-Chair of the LWML Bible class which meets every Thursday morning.

From 1970 to 1990 Karen and her husband Bob lived in Kansas City, MO, where Karen was secretary of their church, Calvary Lutheran for four years, then secretary and Administrative Assistant at the Lutheran High School-KC before moving to Detroit in 1990. In Detroit she was active in her church, Historic Trinity and sang in the choir plus for six years served as Chair of a Women's Retreat the Ladies Guild hosted. In October 2000 they moved to Berwyn, PA where they have lived for seven years.

Karen and Bob have four children and ten grandchildren—nine boys and one girl, all under the age of eight and none, unfortunately, live close by. Besides her family, Karen's interests include cooking, reading, writing devotions, leading Bible class and, of course, traveling!

### For the Office of Financial Secretary



#### **Jackie Blank—Buffalo Zone**

Jackie Blank is a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Batavia, NY, where she has taught VBS, served as Youth Group Leader, and served on the Board for St. Paul Lutheran School. She has also been involved with shut-in visitation and working with the quilters at St. Paul.

Jackie has held the office of Secretary, Vice President, President and Christian Growth Chairman in her local LWML society. She has also served as Treasurer for the Buffalo Zone and is currently serving the Eastern District LWML as Mission Advocacy and Grants chairman. She has been a delegate for several District conventions and one national convention.

Jackie has a Master of Science degree in elementary education from SUNY Brockport. She taught in grades 4, 5 and 6 in the Caledonia-Mumford Central School for 32 years, before retiring.

Jackie resides in the town of LeRoy in New York with her husband Cliff. They have two adult children, Jeff and Michelle.



### **Dee Grzyb-Buffalo Zone**

Dee Grzyb is a member of St. Luke Lutheran Church, Cheektowaga, New York. Over the years she has held the positions of Chairperson of the Board of Youth Ministry, Superintendent of Sunday School, Financial Secretary, Treasurer and Chair for the Board of Resource Development (Stewardship) at St. Luke Church.

For the past 25 years Dee has worked in the accounting field as a general accountant, financial accountant, and presently a cost accountant. Her years of accounting experience have benefited me while she held the Financial Secretary and Treasurer positions at St. Luke Church.

Dee has a Bachelors Degree in Business from Daemen College, Snyder, New York.

Although she is unable to attend LWML meetings, because she has been employed full time, her participation is in the form of Mite Box donations. She is very interested in the good works of the LWML and would like to become more involved with their mission. As of August 2007, she elected to reduce her hours of work to part time. This gives her the opportunity to pursue serving as a volunteer. Thus, she will be able to become more involved in the LWML.

### **For the Office of Pastoral Counselor**



### **The Reverend Ronald Breight—Pittsburgh Zone**

Pastor Breight originates from Reedsburg, Wisconsin where he attended St. Peter's Lutheran Church and School during his early years. After studying in the field of electronics technology, he entered the pre-seminary program at Concordia College Wisconsin and graduated in 1985. Pastor Breight and his wife Linda (Giebel) were married that summer. He received a Master of Divinity Degree from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri in 1990.

Pastor Breight's professional background includes serving with the LCMS Board for Communication Services/ KFUO Radio as engineer, producer, and on-air host. He has enjoyed working closely with the South Wisconsin District's Camp LuWiSoMo through which he has heavily promoted camp and youth ministries. Pastor Breight has served congregations in South Dakota and Wisconsin and is currently pastor at Christ Lutheran Church in Pittsburgh.

Pastor and Linda have four adopted sons that make up their personal mission field: Miguel, age 12; Jonathan, age 11; David, age 9; and Timothy, age 4.



### **The Reverend Charles St. Onge—Philadelphia Zone**

Charles St-Onge was born and raised in Canada as a member of the Lutheran Church in America and then the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC, sister to the ELCA). He served on various regional youth ministry committees up until completing a Master of Science degree in engineering and moving to Washington, DC to work. After a couple of years of work as an engineer, the Lord worked significant changes in Charles' life. He left his career and started seminary, he left the ELCA and joined the LCMS, and he married Deborah Follstaedt of Middletown, Ohio, a lifelong Missouri Synod Lutheran.

Charles and Deb served his vicarage year at Memorial Lutheran Church in Houston, TX. In 2003 Charles accepted the call to serve as pastor of St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Ridley Park, PA. In 2007 Charles also became the part-time executive director of Philadelphia Lutheran Ministries. Charles currently serves on the nominating committee of the Eastern District, as LWML zone counselor for Philadelphia Zone, is completing a term on the board of Liberty Lutheran Services and Lutheran Children and Family Services of southeast Pennsylvania, and will be planting a daughter church in southern Delaware County, PA reaching out to 20 to 39 year old unchurched or formally churched people.

Charles and Deb have been blessed by two adorable daughters, Olivia, 3 and Sophia, 1.

The Nominating Committee wishes to thank all our candidates for being eager, willing and ready to "Serve the Lord With Gladness." We ask all members of the LWML to keep each of the nominees for election in your prayers. We also ask all delegates to prayerfully consider each nominee before voting.

Thank You.  
The Nominating Committee  
Rebecca Bessell  
Bev Wicher  
Susan Bell





**GUEST Registration for the 32<sup>nd</sup> Biennial Convention**  
**June 6-8, 2008**  
**RIT Inn and Conference Center**  
**5257 West Henrietta Road, Henrietta, NY 14467**

"From Him . . . the whole body grows and builds itself up in love as each part does its work." Ephesians 4:16

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

LWML Zone \_\_\_\_\_ Church \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Mandatory Registration Fee (Non-Refundable)**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: APRIL 30, 2008**

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25 postmarked by April 30, 2008

\_\_\_\_\_ \$30 postmarked AFTER April 30, 2008

**REGISTRATION TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**LODGING PRICES:**

Please indicate which night(s) you are staying:

\_\_\_\_\_ Thursday \_\_\_\_\_ Friday \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 person per room \$90.00/night x # of nights \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 2 people per room \$45.00/night x # of nights \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 3 people per room \$30.00/night x # of nights \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 4 people per room \$22.50/night x # of nights \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Specify your roommate(s) below or they will be assigned if 2 or more per room requested.)

**LODGING TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**MEAL PRICES: (Gratuity Included)**

Please check meals desired if not choosing meal package

Meal package (includes all five meals listed below): **\$105.00**

OR

Check off individual meals desired:

\_\_\_\_\_ Friday dinner buffet \$23.50

\_\_\_\_\_ Saturday breakfast buffet \$13.50

\_\_\_\_\_ Saturday lunch buffet \$18.50

\_\_\_\_\_ Saturday banquet + entertainment \$33.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Sunday Brunch buffet \$21.50

**MEAL TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**TOUR PRICE:** Fri. afternoon City tour/Eastman House stop \$27.00 **TOUR TOTAL (min 35 people) \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**GRAND TOTAL DUE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**CHOIR:** \_\_\_ I would like to sing on Sunday. \_\_\_ Soprano \_\_\_ Alto \_\_\_ Tenor (music will be mailed if time permits.)

Roommate preference(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse attending: \_\_\_ no; \_\_\_ yes Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please note any special needs: medical, transportation, dietary, handicapped accessible room, etc.

**Special Interest Sessions:** Please check two.

\_\_\_ Session 1 National LWML Rep Janis McDaniels \_\_\_ Session 2 Keynote Speaker Marlys Taegge-Moberg

\_\_\_ Session 3 Mite Walk \_\_\_ Session 4 MMV Claire Carlson & Jacqui Green

\_\_\_ Session 5 Camp Pioneer Linda Gage \_\_\_ Session 6 Pastor Event (Clergy only)

Make checks or money orders payable in full amount to: 2008 Eastern District LWML Convention.  
 Mail to: Georgette Peterson, 10 Hanson Circle, Henrietta, NY 14467 (Phone: 585-359-4491 E-mail: gop10@frontiernet.net)  
**PLEASE INCLUDE A SELF-ADDRESSED, STAMPED BUSINESS SIZE ENVELOPE** with your registration & full payment if you  
 want your confirmation mailed to you, otherwise your confirmation will be e-mailed to you.

## Notes from the Board of Directors Meeting

I am pleased to report that the Executive Committee and Board of Directors of the Eastern District LWML met on February 8 & 9 to work on the plans for the Eastern District Convention to be held June 6-9, 2008 at the RIT Conference Center in Henrietta, NY. Everyone is busily planning a wonderfully inspiring week end for all the delegates, guests and young women reps. Wonderful speakers, exciting interest sessions, good food, a lovely hotel and many surprises await all who plan to attend.

Ten Mission Projects have been chosen for you to consider and you will also choose new officers.

It would be a wonderful time to encourage women in your congregations to become a "first timer". Once you attend, you are hooked for life. It is such a meaningful experience and I urge all who possibly can, to fill out that registration form and get it in by April 20, 2008.

"Linked Together in Christ" based on Ephesians 4:16, theme for the convention says it all. As a group, with the help of God, we can accomplish great things. Come along and join your sisters of the LWML Eastern District and link your hearts with theirs.

**Patricia J. Clark, Recording Secretary**

## ATTENTION ZONE AND SOCIETY PRESIDENTS STATISTICS – LET'S MAKE THEM REAL!

**Zone Presidents** were provided a sample form recently from VP of Communications Katharine Rickus as a reminder that National LWML will be wanting certain statistics from the Eastern District in early 2009 for the National LWML Convention Manual. Zone presidents will need to give a count of zone events during the period July 2007 through June 2009 (with estimates for the latter 6 months). This will include a count of rallies, seminars, workshops, prayer services, zone retreats, servant events, etc.

**Society Presidents** will need to provide their zone presidents when contacted for the same time period above with the number of active LWML members. In addition, National wants to know the total number of women involved if others help or participate in society LWML activities.

Every two years it seems to get more difficult to get an accurate accounting of "active" societies and members within our Eastern District, let alone in all of National LWML. If a society provides mite box offerings through their Zone Treasurer, who forwards them to the District, they should be considered "active" and so listed in our ED LWML Directory. Better yet, if their members actually meet during the year and participate in zone and district activities, as well as contribute mite offerings, they would be considered really active!

It's up to Zone Presidents to make the distinction between "active" and "inactive" societies as far as the ED LWML Directory listings are concerned and should notify Kathi Rickus of any changes in this regard.



## GRANTS 3 AND 4 PAID

**Thank You from Trinity/HOPE, Inc.**

Thank you from John Hall, President and Executive Director of Trinity/HOPE, Inc. to the ladies of the Eastern District LWML. Thank you so much for your 2006 convention grant to Trinity/Hope of \$4,000 to help feed the children at the school of First Lutheran in Les Cayes, Haiti. It is truly a blessing. You have "Let the blessings flow...to us and through us."



A Classroom of children attending First Lutheran School in Les Cayes

The children are beautiful, but this can be deceiving. Often a closer look will reveal signs of extreme malnourishment. Most of the children in our Lutheran schools in Haiti only eat 5 to 6 meals at home each week. The children of Les Cayes are fortunate to have a good building which even has a place to prepare the food inside.



The kitchen where food is prepared for the chil-

## Thank You from Pastor Goodine and St. Paul Lutheran School, Burgundy, LA

Pastor Goodine and the people of St. Paul Lutheran School, Burgundy, LA wish to thank the Eastern District for their Grant of \$5000 for partial funding of their Healing & Hope program which serves children and families in the community.

**Executive Committee****President**

**Darlene Byrns**, 1712 Blossom Road, Rochester, NY 14610-2319  
585-288-5568 [Darlene248@aol.com](mailto:Darlene248@aol.com)

**Vice President Communication**

**Katherine Rickus**, 250 Rogers Avenue, Tonawanda, NY 14150  
716-695-2959 [Rick4219@aol.com](mailto:Rick4219@aol.com)

**Vice President Gospel Outreach/ Servant Resources**

**Rebecca Bessell**, 7048 Benedict Beach Road, Hamlin, NY 14464  
585-964-7844 [rb54@rochester.rr.com](mailto:rb54@rochester.rr.com)

**Vice-President Christian Life/Human Care**

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814-342-2715 [Kenwan2@comcast.net](mailto:Kenwan2@comcast.net)

**Recording Secretary**

**Patricia Clark**, 7293 State Route 13, Blossvale, NY 13308  
315-762-5654 [patsyclark@twcnv.rr.com](mailto:patsyclark@twcnv.rr.com)

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**Treasurer**

**Kathy Pavelock**, 8200 State Route 13, Blossvale, NY 13308  
315-245-1590 [kmpavelock@aol.com](mailto:kmpavelock@aol.com)

**Senior Pastoral Counselor**

**Rev. Arthur Litke**, 108 Arden Drive, Glenshaw, PA 15116-1697  
412-486-5962 (home), 412-486-5777 (church) [jstauptiz@msn.com](mailto:jstauptiz@msn.com)

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**Rev. Evan Gaertner**, 736 Cayuga Drive, Niagara Falls, NY 14304  
716-283-1843 (church) [TheRevEv@yahoo.com](mailto:TheRevEv@yahoo.com)

**Appointed By the President****Parliamentarian**

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

**2008 Convention Liaison**

**Barbara Williams**, 6132 Prospect Street, Newfane, NY 14108-1313  
716-778-8824 [Brwcpa421@aol.com](mailto:Brwcpa421@aol.com)

**Planner**

**Karen Devan**, 6438 Lake Shore S., Canastota, NY 13032  
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**Appointed By the Executive Committee****Editor**

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**Stamps for Missions Coordinators**

**Deaconess Nancy Lingenfelter**, 102 Timber Road,  
Morrisdale, PA 16858-8730  
814-345-5779 [f-nlingenfelter@juno.com](mailto:f-nlingenfelter@juno.com)

**Trudy Sallach**, 5465 Patton Street, Erie, PA 16510  
814-866-7662

**Appointed by Board of Directors****Mission Advocacy & Grants Chair**

**Jackie Blank**, 6830 E. Bethany-Leroy Townline Rd.,  
Stafford, NY 14143 585-768-6114 [jblank@flmtgqif.org](mailto:jblank@flmtgqif.org)

**Mission Advocacy & Grants Co-Chair**

**Chris Gasslein**, 316 Andrew Circle, Coatesville, PA 19320  
610-384-6093 [gassleinc@comcast.com](mailto:gassleinc@comcast.com)

**Christian Life Chair**

**Dana Smith**, 8711 Lewis Pt. Rd., Canastota, NY 13032  
315-697-9450 [Bd8711@aol.com](mailto:Bd8711@aol.com)

**Christian Life Chair Co-Chair**

**Karen Kusko**, 550 School House Rd., Morrisdale, PA 16858  
814-345-1743, [karenkusko@hughes.net](mailto:karenkusko@hughes.net)

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**Structure Co-Chair**

**Claire Carlson**, 5282 Oakridge Dr., Hamburg, NY 14075-4050  
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**Human Care Chairman**

**Donna Tugend**, RR 1, Box 139, Kingsley, PA 18826  
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**Human Care Co-Chair**

**Bea Hapeman**, 375 Old Falls Blvd., North Tonawanda, NY 14120  
716-743-4047

**Leader Development Chair**

**Beth Scholl**, 1125 Vienna Rd., PO Box 459, Sylvan Beach, NY 13157  
315-762-1403 [gbds2000@yahoo.com](mailto:gbds2000@yahoo.com)

**Leader Development Co-Chair**

**Barbara Brown**, 35 Browns Lane, Grassflat, PA 16839  
814-933-7252, [bx46@psu.edu](mailto:bx46@psu.edu)

**Zone Presidents****Anthracite Zone**

**Judy Grimm**, 9 Glendale Dr., Mountain Top, PA 18707 570-403-6194 [jacg715@ptd.net](mailto:jacg715@ptd.net)

**Buffalo Zone**

**Fern Suckow**, 99 Rosemont Drive, Buffalo, NY 14226 716-833-0969

**Cattaraugus-Allegany Zone**

**Robin Swanson**, RD 3, Sugar Grove, PA 16350 814-489-3411 [tr72\\_go@hotmail.com](mailto:tr72_go@hotmail.com)

**Central New York North Zone**

**Dana Smith**, 8711 Lewis Pt. Rd., Canastota, NY 13032, 315-697-9450 [BD8711@aol.com](mailto:BD8711@aol.com)

**Central New York South Zone**

**Marti Clark**, 2Thresher Pl, Freeville, NY 13069 607-844-4685 [rclar3@twcnv.rr.com](mailto:rclar3@twcnv.rr.com)

**Genesee Zone**

**Kathy Ippolito**, 45 Schoolhouse Rd., Rochester, NY 14618 585-46-3374  
[kippolit@rochester.rr.com](mailto:kippolit@rochester.rr.com)

**Niagara Zone**

**Kathi Rickus**, 250 Rogers Ave., Tonawanda NY 14150 716-695-2959 [RICK4219@aol.com](mailto:RICK4219@aol.com)

**Philadelphia Zone**

**Karen Rinne**, 81 Oak Knoll Dr., Berwyn, PA 19312 610-889-0938 [Bkrinne@verizon.net](mailto:Bkrinne@verizon.net)

**Pittsburgh Zone**

**Charlotte Nist**, 1 Harvest Dr., Cranberry Township, PA 16066 724-776-2036  
[charlottenist@zoominternet.net](mailto:charlottenist@zoominternet.net)

**Upcoming Events****June 6-8, 2008**

2008 District Convention  
RIT Inn & Convention Center  
Rochester, NY

**Sept. 19-21, 2008**

Fall Retreat  
Pioneer Camp & Retreat Center  
Angola, NY

**Next Deadline**

Please send all news articles and  
information for publication to:

**Beverly Wicher**  
150 Unionvale Road  
Cheektowaga, NY 14225

E-mail:  
[bevajw@roadrunner.com](mailto:bevajw@roadrunner.com)

**The next deadline is June 1, 2008**

The Link is published four times each year.

**Deadlines to submit articles:****March 1, June 1, September 1, December 1**

**2008 LWML Fall Retreat**  
**Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center, Inc.**  
**REGISTRATION FORM**  
**“Friends Forever, Forever Friends”**  
**Rev. David Belasic, Speaker**  
**September 19 - 21, 2008**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ (For Registration Committee Use)  
 Home Church \_\_\_\_\_ Eastern District LWML Zone \_\_\_\_\_

**REGISTRATION RATES:**

|  |                           |                |
|--|---------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Full-time</b> - includes registration, 2 nights lodging, 6 meals and linens |                           | \$128.00 _____ |
| <b>Part-time</b> – 1 night’s lodging at \$35.50                                | <b>Circle one:</b> Friday | Saturday       |
| <u>Registration</u> Fee.....   | # days _____ x            | \$4.00= _____  |
| Day use fee not staying overnight  | # Days _____ x            | \$ 5.00= _____ |
| Meals required (part time only):   | Friday Dinner             | \$ 10.50 _____ |
|  | Saturday Breakfast        | \$ 6.50 _____  |
|  | Saturday Lunch            | \$ 8.50 _____  |
|  | Saturday Dinner           | \$ 10.50 _____ |
|  | Sunday Breakfast          | \$ 6.50 _____  |
|  | Sunday Lunch              | \$ 8.50 _____  |
| Special housing preference (see below)   | Add: additional amount    | \$ _____       |
|  | <b>TOTAL TO BE PAID</b>   | \$ _____       |
|  | <b>Payment enclosed*</b>  | \$ _____       |

**Note: A deposit of \$20.00 will hold your place. All requests served on a first-come, first-served basis. Any balance due must be paid or postmarked by September 1, 2008 or a late fee will be charged. (late fee: \$15.00 for full-time registration; \$5.00 for part-time)**

|                           |
|---------------------------|
| Fri. Registration 3:00 pm |
| Fri. Dinner 6:00 pm       |
| Fri. Program 7:00 pm      |
| Sat. Registration 8:30 am |
| Sat. Program 9:00 am      |

**HOUSING PREFERENCE: (All cabins have shower facilities)**

**Non-Refurbished Cabins**

- \_\_\_\_ Schroeter Circle 1-8 (each cabin – 20 bunks, shower)
- \_\_\_\_ Founders Court (Cabins 17-28) (2 twin beds, 2 occupants required)
- \_\_\_\_ Family Court P, Q, R, S (2 bunks) T (2 bunks, 1 single) (Cabin T is handicapped accessible)

**Refurbished Cabins (Extra \$30 for weekend; this amount can be split evenly among occupants)**

- \_\_\_\_ Refurbished Founders Court 1-4 (queen size bed, futon)
- \_\_\_\_ Refurbished Founders Court 5-8 (1 queen, 1 bunk)
- \_\_\_\_ Refurbished Family Court A (1 double, 1 bunk bed)
- \_\_\_\_ Refurbished Family Court B, C (queen size bed, 2 bunks, 6 occupants)
- \_\_\_\_ Refurbished Family Court J, L, N (one double)
- \_\_\_\_ Refurbished Family Court K, M, O (2 bunks, sleeps 4)

**Woodland Cottage (Extra \$100 for the weekend per cottage; this amount can be split evenly among occupants)**

- \_\_\_\_ Woodland Cottage 4 – New cottages with 1 double and 2 bunks – 4 occupants minimum, sleeps 8

**OTHER PREFERENCES:** Roommate \_\_\_\_\_ Church or Group \_\_\_\_\_

**SPECIAL NEEDS:** \_\_\_ Wheelchair \_\_\_ Lower Bunk \_\_\_ Hearing Impaired \_\_\_ Dietary (specify) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable (in U.S. funds only) to LWML Eastern District 2007 Retreat**  
**Please include a business size self-addressed STAMPED envelope with your deposit and registration form.**

*Send your completed registration form to:*  
**Robin Swanson, RD 3, Sugar Grove, PA 16350**  
**Email: [tr72\\_go@hotmail.com](mailto:tr72_go@hotmail.com)**

\*\*\*If you must cancel, a \$20.00 non-refundable service charge per person will be made.  
 \*\*\*Cancellation for medical reasons will be reviewed based upon a written letter of notification to the district president. A refund, less the non-refundable deposit, will be made.  
 \*\*\*A \$15.00 charge will be assessed on all checks returned by the bank.

**NIAGARA ZONE SPRING GATHERING**

Trinity Lutheran Church/Lockport, NY,  
 Saturday, April 26, 2008  
 10:30-2:00 (Potluck luncheon at noon)  
 Theme: "Celebrating Oneness"  
 Ingathering for Lutheran World Relief:  
 1 bar of bath soap and \$1.00 per person  
 encouraged  
 "No Bake/Bake Sale" donations to be  
 gathered for Zone Travel Fund

**Trinity Erie Shawl Ministry**

The ladies of the Trinity Erie Shawl Ministry Group knit and crochet shawls, which are dedicated and then given to various hospitals, individuals or groups within the Erie area—wherever the Lord presents a need for them. To date, they have dedicated and distributed about forty shawls. The project began at Trinity in the summer of 2007. Pictured are Pat Dougan, Nicole Gaskill, Bev Behringer, Trudy Sallach and Joann Kaufer

**FALL RETREAT**

The Ladies of the Cattaraugus-Allegany and Central NY South zones invite you to attend the annual Eastern District retreat. Plans are underway to make your stay enjoyable. Come and greet old friends and make new ones as we gather under the theme: Friends Forever, Forever Friends based on Proverbs 17:17, "A Friend Loveth at all times." The retreat will be held on September 19 – 21, 2008 at Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center, Hamburg, NY. Our speaker will be the Reverend David Belasic, former President of the Eastern District of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

The **registration form is on page 11** in this issue and can also be found on our webpage: <http://www.east-dist-lwml.org/> under current events.

**See you in September.**

**Robin Swanson, Cattaraugus-Allegany and Ruth Mueller, Central NY South Co-chairman**

**STAMPS FOR MISSIONS** We have received a note of thanks from the Canadian Bible Society for continuing to support them with our Stamps For Missions Program. Their ministry of translation, publication, distribution, and encouraging the use of the Scriptures is moving forward with the grace of God. Whenever the Word of God reaches, hearts and lives are being changed. Please continue to support this mission by sending in your stamps. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Trudy Sallach at 814-866-7662 or Deaconess Nancy Lingenfelter 814-345-5779



Bev Wicher  
 Eastern District LWML Editor  
 150 Unionvale Rd.  
 Cheektowaga, NY 14225  
 E-mail [Bevajw@adelphia.net](mailto:Bevajw@adelphia.net)

# The Eastern District LWML



## Lutheran Women in Mission

Sail into the Future  
Sisters Acting In Love



# I N K



Together  
Serving  
the Lord  
with  
Gladness



### Dear Sisters in Christ:

\* The 2008 Eastern District Convention has ended, but there is much work to be done. Stepping out of your comfort zone to help me as I begin to look for volunteers to fill the following positions: Christian Life Co-chairman, Human care Co-chairman, Leader Development Co-Chairman and Mission Grants Co-chairman. Are you willing to help? Just email me at [darlene248@aol.com](mailto:darlene248@aol.com).

\* Needing to collect mites to fund the 9 Mission grants totaling \$25,459. Please send them frequently.

\* Supporting out newly elected officers:

**Vice President of Communications** – Donna Coleman

**Recording Secretary** – Karen Rinne

**Financial secretary** – Jackie Blank

**Pastoral Counselor** – The Rev. Ronald Bright (absent)

\* Keep the Board of Directors in prayer in the coming months as we come together as a new team to "Serve the Lord with Gladness".

\* Come join us – the boat is sailing! Don't let it go without you.

\* A special thank you to Genesee and Central New York Zones who worked together to make this a successful convention.

\* If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me at [darlene248@aol.com](mailto:darlene248@aol.com) or call 585-288-5568 (home) or 585-729-4227 (cell).

**In His Service**  
**Darlene Byrns**  
**President, Eastern District LWML**

*"I can do anything through Him who strengthens me" Phil. 4:13*



L-R: Jackie Blank, Karen Rinne, Donna Coleman



32nd Biennial Convention of the Eastern District LWML  
June 6-8, 2008—Rochester, NY



**THE LAST WORD**

*"Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace at all times in every way. The Lord be with you all." 2 Thessalonians 3:16 (ESV)*

When Bev Wicher offered me the opportunity to write a final "Farewell" article for the LINK, I thought it might be a difficult task--that I might struggle a bit with what to say. But as I sit down to write this (not long after returning home from the Rochester convention) my fear is having too much to say!

What a weekend it was! The fellowship, the worship and devotions, the mission-focused sessions, the banquet (and yes, even the roast!) demonstrated very clearly how we are "Linked Together in Christ"--united in Him in a bond of love and in the task of joyfully sharing His love with others. Each of us has been blessed with unique gifts from God, making it possible for us to accomplish together what none of us could ever accomplish alone--all in the name and to the glory of Christ and all for the sake of those lost souls for whom the Savior bled and died.

Having served as one of your Pastoral Counselors since 2005 has brought me many joys that I would not have otherwise experienced. I was able to attend a national LWML convention. I was privileged be the Bible study and worship leader at two fall retreats at Pioneer. I learned much about the workings of LWML from attending the Executive Committee and Board of Directors' meetings. Above all I was able to be involved in a fellowship of Christians who were able to be about the business of sharing the Gospel both locally and globally, to do it with very little, if any conflict, and to have fun doing it. This is truly a great blessing for the LCMS and the whole Church.

Thanks again to all of you for the opportunity you gave me to serve as Pastoral Counselor for the past three years. It was not only a learning experience; it was a rewarding experience and a time of personal growth in faith and fellowship.

**Pastor Art Litke**  
Senior Pastoral Counselor

YOU  
ARE  
INVITED  
TO

**The 33rd Biennial Convention**  
**June 25-28, 2009**  
**Portland, Oregon**  
For current information: [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org)

*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**

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| September 19, 2008    | Executive Committee Meeting                    |
| September 19-21, 2008 | Fall Retreat<br>Pioneer Camp & Retreat Center  |
| Spring 2009           | Executive Committee/Board of Directors Meeting |
| June 25-28, 2009      | LWML National Convention<br>Portland, Oregon   |
| June 17-20, 2010      | Eastern District Convention<br>Pittsburgh, PA  |

**LWML SUNDAY**  
**OCTOBER 4, 2008**  
Watch for materials coming from national  
this summer  
Encourage your Pastor and  
Church to participate



**NEWS FROM THE 2008 EASTERN DISTRICT CONVENTION**



**Mission Grants**

Ten mission grant proposals were presented to the delegates at the Eastern District convention Friday evening in Rochester, New York. On Saturday morning delegates voted to fund the following projects in this order:

1. **\$3000** to provide 650 men and women in the armed forces with Christian devotional materials for one year. LCMS World Mission
2. **\$2800** for advertising and materials for a youth/after school center in Philadelphia, PA. Christ Memorial Lutheran Church
3. **\$2000** for Bibles, books and materials, and tape players for Community Lutheran Ministry Reading & Readiness Program for Tots. Pinnacle Lutheran Church
4. **\$1500** for Lutheran Campus Ministries on the Niagara Frontier for materials, Bibles, and food. Katharine Rickus.
5. **\$5000** for Camp Restore Victim Aid fund in New Orleans to supply building materials for families who cannot afford to rebuild. Buffalo Zone LWML
6. **\$4000** for materials and advertising for a church plant in the Ridley-Interboro area of Delaware county, PA. Philadelphia Lutheran Ministries
7. **\$1500** for sewing supplies and materials for turbans and for Christian literature and Bibles to be distributed at two local oncology centers. Grace Lutheran Church, Vestal, NY
8. **\$2006** for a one year academic scholarship for one girl to attend Siyathemba Girls' High School, South Africa. LCMS World Relief and Human Care
9. **\$3653** for 500 Chinese language Bibles and Small Catechisms to reach people in China with the Gospel. LCMS World Mission

Voting resulted in 3 ties. Project 1 will be paid first. Projects 2 and 3 were tied and will be paid when there are sufficient mites to fund both. Another tie occurred with projects 4 and 5; therefore they will also be funded when sufficient mites become available for both. The last tie was for projects 8 and 9, which will both receive partial funding, when grants 1 - 7 have been paid.

Giving generously to your mites, and turning them in often will enable the grant recipients to receive their funding and carry out their missions. Treasurers can help by sending in mites monthly. May God bless all of you as you share His gifts with others!



Thank you for allowing me to serve in Mission Advocacy and Grants for the past four years. It has been a very rewarding experience that I shall always treasure. I have been blessed through this work and by all of you!

**In His service—Jackie Blank—Mission Advocacy and Grants (through June 2008)**



Donna Coleman VP Communications  
 Karen Rinne Recording Secretary  
 Jackie Blank Financial Secretary  
 Rev. Ronald BRIGHT Pastoral Counselor

**NEW OFFICERS ELECTED**

The delegates to the 2008 Eastern District LWML Convention elected the following officers to four-year terms:  
 VP Communications—Donna Coleman  
 Recording Secretary—Karen Rinne  
 Financial Secretary—Jackie Blank  
 Pastoral Counselor—Rev. Ronald BRIGHT

We wish to thank outgoing officers Kathy Rickus—VP Communications, Pat Clark—Recording Secretary, Donna Coleman—Financial Secretary, Jackie Blank—Mission Grants and Rev. Arthur Litke, Pastoral Counselor for the time they have given in service to the Lord through the LWML

The nominating committee wishes to thank all the other candidates who were willing to run for office Dori Juskalian—VP Communications and Dee Grzyb—Financial Secretary and hope they will come forward to serve the LWML again in the future.

- Rebecca Bessell**
- Susan Bell**
- Bev Wicher**



# Convention Happenings

## SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPEAKERS



**Rev. Dr. John Brunner**  
Eastern District President



**Marlys Taege-Moberg**  
Our Keynote Speaker



**Janis McDaniels**  
VP Gospel Outreach  
National LWML

**Convention Offerings**  
**Offering 1—\$915**  
 Eastern District LWML Treasury  
**Offering 2 —\$669**  
 St. Thomas tandem cycling group  
**Offering 3—\$890**  
 Lutheran Bible Translators  
**Mite Walk - \$1840**  
 Money to go toward Mite Goal

We thank our speakers who each inspired us to be “Linked Together In Christ.

**Rev. Dr. John Brunner** shared a message from the Eastern District LCMS

**Marlys Taege-Moberg**, our keynote speaker and noted author of many books for the LWML, shared her message on “Bind Us Together” stressing that this is how our church can be if we work together. She challenged us to be even more so we can accomplish what our Lord wanted for us when He placed us in our mother’s womb.

**Janis McDaniels**, Vice President of Gospel Outreach from national, brought us news and greetings from National LWML President Jan Wendorf



Some of the Zone banners displayed at the Convention



### Young Women Representatives

Pictured above are the Young Women representatives, representing various zones of the District, who joined us this weekend. It is our hope that each of them enjoyed new friends, and had their faith strengthened. We hope to see them become active in the LWML and maybe someday will be an officer in the Eastern District.

### GIFTS FROM THE HEART FOR SOJOURNER HOUSE

Pictured are items collected for Sojourner House, which provides transitional housing for women in crisis from the Rochester area who are committed to rebuilding their lives. We thank the generous ladies of the LWML who have once again “given from their” hearts for this worthy cause.



### CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

- \* Marlys Taege-Moberg addressed the body as Keynote speaker.
- \* Janis McDaniels extended greetings as Vice President Gospel Outreach on the National level.
- \* In-Gathering Project for the Sojourner House, temporary living options for women and children in need.
- \* Saturday afternoon interest sessions were conducted along with a Pastor's Event.
- \* For the first time we had a Mite Walk as one of our Interest Sessions. We were able to raise \$1840 to start off our Mite goal thanks to this event.
- \* Entertainment for the Saturday evening banquet was provided by "Comedy Sportz"
- \* Martha McGlynn, Public Relations Director, served as Master of Ceremonies with a special "roast" for retiring Pastoral Counselor, Arthur Litke.
- \* Rev. Arthur Litke conducted Bible study on Saturday morning and Sunday morning Bible Study was conducted by Rev. Evan Gaertner.
- \* The next Eastern District LWML Convention will be held on June 17-20 2010 in Pittsburgh, PA and will be hosted by the Pittsburgh Zone. The theme will be "I lift up my eyes to the hills, where does my help come from My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth."
- \* The next National Convention will be held, June 25-28, 2009 in Portland, Oregon.



More Zone banners displayed at Convention

#### FROM NEW VP-COMMUNICATIONS—DONNA COLEMAN

**SOCIETY/ZONE OFFICER CHANGES:** Please send any society and zone officer changes as soon as they become known. This will allow me to keep our District directory up to date. Changes can be sent to;

Donna Coleman  
542 Burritt Road  
Hilton, NY 14468

E-mail: [dcoleman851@aol.com](mailto:dcoleman851@aol.com).

Include "LWML" in the Subject line.

#### NATIONAL STATISTICS TIME.....

.....is approaching for the 2009 National LWML Convention Manual! Districts will need to report figures for the National biennium April 1, 2007 – March 31, 2009 (with estimates for any zone events through June 2009).

**ZONE PRESIDENTS** – In early January 2009 will be asked for the following information: number of zone units, number of societies, number of district events within the zone. District events include rallies, workshops, prayer services, joy shops, conventions, servant events, etc. Any zone event is considered a district event when counting for this statistical report. You will need to estimate such events through June 2009.

**SOCIETY PRESIDENTS** – you will need to assist your zone president by providing the number of active LWML members plus other women in the congregation who might help occasional with ministry (i.e. attend Bible Studies, participate in mission projects, etc.). This count is for the time period of April 2007 – March 31, 2009 (again with estimates through June 2009).

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU** to all those societies who have covered the cost of their Quarterlies for the past fiscal year of 2006 – 2008. Remember for the Quarterly, any increases in your order or changes in address can be forwarded to me (contact information is below) at any time. Decreases can only be made in the spring of the year.

Donna Coleman  
542 Burritt Road  
Hilton, NY 14468

E-mail: [dcoleman851@aol.com](mailto:dcoleman851@aol.com).

Include "LWML" in the Subject line.

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**Planner**

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Vacant

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Vacant

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**Leader Development Co-Chair**

Vacant

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**Cattaraugus-Allegany Zone**

Georgia Henry

**Central New York North Zone**

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[charlottenist@zoominternet.net](mailto:charlottenist@zoominternet.net)

**Next Deadline**

Please send all news articles and information for publication to:

Beverly Wicher  
150 Unionvale Road  
Cheektowaga, NY 14225

E-mail:  
[bevajw@roadrunner.com](mailto:bevajw@roadrunner.com)  
Please put LWML in subject line

**The next deadline is September 1, 2008**

The Link is published four times each year.

**Deadlines to submit articles:**

**March 1, June 1, September 1, December 1**

**TOGETHER IN PRAYER**

Don't forget to join your National LWML Sisters "Together in Prayer Every Monday at Noon". Pray for our National LWML, Our Districts, Our Zones, Our Societies and our "Mites" and Mission Grants that they may be used to spread the Gospel of Christ throughout the World. Each month there is a specific prayer emphasis listed on the National LWML Website at [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org) and also in the LWML E-News.





**Annual LWML Retreat  
Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center  
"Friends Forever, Forever Friends"  
September 19-21, 2008**

The women of the Cattaraugus-Allegany and Central NY South zones are co-hosting the 2008 retreat. We are looking forward to greeting old friends and meeting new ones.

The retreat theme this year is, "**Friends Forever, Forever Friends**" based on **Proverbs 17:17**, "*A friend loveth at all times.*"

We are privileged to have the Rev. David Belasic as our guest speaker. He is a past president of the Eastern District of the Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod.

Our ingathering will be a special collection of mites to help fund the current Eastern District LWML mission grant goal.

We hope to see you all at camp in September for a wonderful time with "forever friends."

**Special note to Society Presidents – please spread news about the Retreat in your church bulletin/newsletter and copy the registration form found elsewhere in the LINK so you can have it available for those interested in attending. We're counting on you to publicize this event which is open to all women. The registration form can also be found on the Eastern District LWML Website at [www.east-dist-lwml.org](http://www.east-dist-lwml.org)**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 1, 2008—DON'T DELAY REGISTER EARLY**

**Serving Him with Gladness**

**Cattaraugus-Allegany, Central NY South Zones**

**LWML Retreat Campership—Application**

Four full-time camperships are being offered for the Fall 2008 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, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Zone \_\_\_\_\_ Church \_\_\_\_\_

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, 2008** to:

Mrs. Darlene Byrns  
1712 Blossom Rd.  
Rochester, NY 14610

All recipients names will be kept strictly confidential



# News From Around the Zones

## FROM THE PHILADELPHIA ZONE

The LWML at St. Phillip's Lutheran Church in Philadelphia, PA was the site of the Philadelphia Zone Spring Rally, held on March 29, 2008. Over 50 ladies enjoyed a wonderful day of Bible Study, bounteous food and a fun-filled talk by nationally known Christian humorist, Jan Struck.



Those of you who have attended the National LWML Conventions will recognize her as Aunt Jane who is always lost and somehow always ends up onstage looking for someone! Jan entertained everyone with her wit and charm and kept everyone laughing and somehow crying at the same time. St. Phillip's LWML President, Elnora Norwood kept the day moving and on schedule with Pastor Alexander's moving devotional, Zone Counselor Pastor St. Onge's extremely interesting Bible study, and Jacqui Greene's wonderful closing devotion. The luncheon prepared by the ladies of St. Phillip's was delicious and everyone left not only physically but also spiritually well fed.

That same night, Jan was the guest speaker at Christ Memorial Lutheran Church in Malvern, PA. Christ Memorial is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and in honor of that, several events have been held throughout the year. After a pizza and salad supper, Jan spoke to a full house on the joys of grandparenting. If you would like to have her speak at one of your events, check out her web site at

[www.struckwithlaughter.org](http://www.struckwithlaughter.org).

Submitted by Karen Rinne,  
President, LWML Philadelphia Zone



Beth Quinn, daughter of former Eastern District LWML President, Dorothy Koschman, recently graduated with a Master of Arts in Organization and Leadership from Immaculata University. Beth is pictured here with her husband, Randy and their children, Maureen and Victor

### Be a Good Steward and Help Us Share "The Link"

**Society Presidents and LWML Representatives:** If you are a society President or LWML contact person for your church, you are a very important person in our distribution of "The Link". This is not intended to be just your personal copy. You have been designated as our contact for your church. Either copy this issue for your society members, post it at church, or glean items from it to submit articles for your congregation's bulletin/newsletter and, above all, remember to inform your members at society meetings. **This is our only form of communication and we are counting on you to get the information out. If you feel your copy should be sent to a different address, please inform the Editor so she can update her records. Thank you for your help.**

## FROM THE PITTSBURGH ZONE

The Orphan Grain Train, Maryland Division would like to help Nicaragua by collecting wedding and bridesmaid dresses to help a local deaconess with her meager income of \$50. She hopes to start a rental business because she is in need of medical supplies and food for her family. Zion Lutheran Church in Accident, MD collects for Orphan Grain Train and if you are interested in helping with this project, please contact Helen Harmon at 301-387-2742 or by e-mail at wharman@gcnetmail.net.

**The Eastern District LWML Pittsburgh Zone** held its "Joy Shop" in April at Calvary Lutheran Church in Murrysville, PA. Pastor Keurulainen was the speaker with the topic "Come, Worship The King." We also had an ingathering of paper products for the Sunshine Kitchen in McKeesport.

The Spring Rally was held on May 4 at St. John's in Millvale. The speaker was Augusta Mennell, Campus Ministry Director for All Saints Lutheran Church and Student Center in Slippery Rock. We held an ingathering for the Center.

The Fall Rally will be at Immanuel at Braddock on October 5

**2nd Vice President—Lois Kolb**

## FROM THE BUFFALO ZONE

Our Spring Workshop was held at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Eden, NY on May 3. A very interesting presentation was made by five members of St. Paul. The ladies did an excellent job presenting an overview of the Bible study entitled "You Matter More Than You Think." It stressed that a loving, touching and caring make a big difference. It fits well with our theme of "Serve the Lord With Gladness".

We were very excited to have our Young Women Representative, Stephanie Carlson, daughter of former District President Claire Carlson, joining us at the Convention. We hope she was uplifted and inspired by the Convention.

Our Fall Rally will be on LWML Sunday, October 5, 2008.

**Buffalo Zone President—Fern Suckow**

The Link is now available in e-mail format. If you would like to receive a copy via e-mail, please let me know and I will add you to my list of e-mail recipients.  
**Bev Wicher-Editor** [Bevajw@roadrunner.com](mailto:Bevajw@roadrunner.com)

**IMPORTANT NEWS FROM NATIONAL LWML PRESIDENT JAN WENDORF:**

As the grim news comes of the levee breaks and continued flooding in parts of Iowa, Missouri, Illinois and Indiana, I know you share my concern for all who are there, especially our LWML sisters. Many of you desire to do "something" in the name of Jesus for those who have suffered greatly.

May I suggest the following things that you and the women of your districts can do:

Pray for those who live in the flood zones and for all who are working to help. Pray in your personal prayer time, with your family members, at LWML gatherings in your society or district, and at noon on Mondays as we join Together In Prayer

If you are moved to contribute you can go the LWML home page ([www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org)) ; in the left column click "Giving." A drop down menu will appear; click "Donate Online," and you will be directed to a Web page with a place to "Click Here to Donate Securely

Online Today." The next page that comes up will ask for information from you; in the middle of that page is a place for "Donation Type." Use the drop down menu there to highlight the category, "Disaster Relief Fund."

Donations may also be sent directly to the LWML; P.O. Box 411993; St. Louis MO 63141-1993. Please mark your donation "Disaster Relief."

Plan to follow through in the weeks and months ahead as people cope with the future. LWML plans to provide assistance in the coming weeks, as we did at the time of hurricane Katrina.

Please let us hear from you. Send any flood related photos or stories to the LWML. You may use the e-mail address: [lwml@lwml.org](mailto:lwml@lwml.org), or the postal address above. We appreciate hearing from you.

When the storms of life come, our foundation is secure because it is built on the rock, Jesus Christ. (See Matthew 7:24-25).

Bev Wicher  
Eastern District LWML Editor  
150 Unionvale Rd.  
Cheektowaga, NY 14225  
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# The Eastern District



Lutheran Women in Mission

# LWML

Sail into the Future  
Sisters Acting In Love



# I N K



**“I made a difference”** is inscribed on a purple bracelet I received at the nursing home where I volunteer since my retirement. It is very rewarding to see the smiles on the faces or the hug you receive for touching their lives. Many people in the home do not have a friendly face to talk to or someone to walk with them down the hallways. In some circumstances this is the only contact they get. Family members may not know how to handle their loved ones in a nursing home setting.

I have the fun job – I run the ice cream Shoppe on Wednesdays for 2 hours each week. Ice cream always put s smile on their faces. I have one gentleman who looks forward to seeing me each week. He puts a smile on my face. I have regulars who can't wait for me to scoop their ice cream.

Have you made a difference in someone's life lately? Very often we go about the business of the day – work, family and home and we may forget the needs of others right around us. The neighbor who is lonely since her husband died and needs a friendly face to talk to her. How about calling a friend that you have not seen or talked to in a long time? She may be waiting for your call. How about the new people who just moved in and haven't been welcomed to the neighborhood? Bake a dessert and welcome them. These circumstances can be changed if we reach out to others in love to make a difference in their lives.

When two or more people come together in the spirit of harmony ...it's like putting LIGHTNING in a Bottle! And when this happens, a difference can be made in the lives of so many throughout our communities and world. Amazing things happen when people come together for an objective or goal.

There is a pull inside each and every one of us to make a difference while we are here. It is up to us to make our time matter. Compassion and Positive Attention are the keys to making a difference.

Please reach out and make a difference in someone's life. You won't regret it.

**Darlene Byrns**  
President, Eastern District LWML

***“I can do anything through Him who strengthens me” Phil. 4:13***

*Together  
Serving  
the Lord  
with  
Gladness*

*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*




**COUNSELOR'S**
**C  
O  
R  
N  
E  
R**


Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

It is a privilege to serve as the newest LWML counselor for the Eastern District! With Pastor Litke finishing his term as counselor, I am able to continue bringing representation from the Pittsburgh/ Western Pennsylvania region. I am new to this part of the United States and am also grateful to be afforded the chance to get to know fellow brothers and sisters in the Eastern District during my time as an LWML counselor.

I am the pastor at Christ Lutheran Church and School of Forest Hills, PA. We have a very active women's group at Christ – the most active I have seen for some time. We have also been blessed with some younger folks getting involved in mission projects and we hope to continue that trend in the future! My wife, Linda, has always enjoyed her time spent in LWML activities. She was a Young Women's Delegate while we lived in South Dakota. Linda has always promoted the mission of this organization wherever we have been. Who wouldn't?

Linda and I have been married for 23 years. We are both originally from southern Wisconsin. I attended Concordia College in Milwaukee and then went on to Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. Linda went to college at Concordia in St. Paul, Minnesota for elementary education. If you visited our home, you would meet our adopted children: Miguel (age 12), Jonathan (age 12), David (age 10), and Timothy (age 4). Yes, all boys!

The main topic of the fall retreat this year was **Friendship**. It is important for us to work together as friends. Friends share common goals. Friends forgive each other for mistakes. Friends allow each other to be who they really are – no masks. Friends - as the very word illustrates - are there until the "end." What better way for us to work together for the good of others and the glory of God? Satan makes judgments and causes separation. Jesus accepts us as we are and binds us together in one holy family.

It was pointed out during the retreat that most people only have a very few true friends in their life. How many do you have? You have at least one true Friend, with a capital "F." In John chapter 15 Jesus says, "No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you **friends**, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you." Truly, what a friend we have in Jesus! You are never alone, never separated from the love of your true and heavenly Friend. You can experience even more of that true friendship when you take it and share it with others who also need a friend, helping them to know the comfort and strength you have received from the Lord. Isn't that what the LWML is all about?

It has been great that I have already made some new friends in my short time as counselor. I hope to make many more as we work together serving the Lord with gladness.

***Because He Lives,  
Ron Breight, LWML Eastern District Junior Counselor***



**A gift from the heart from Eastern District LWML**

Darlene Byrns, President, Eastern District presented a check for \$1200 to Linda Gage, Director of Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center to be used for any

need they may have at this time to help further their mission.

I was glad to be able to present this gift. The money was from interest we accumulated from our savings funds. None of the mite money was used.

## Mission Grants

### 2008 RETREAT

#### GIFTS FROM THE HEART INGATHERING

The 2008 Eastern District LWML Retreat ingathering of mites will be used to fund the current mission grant goal. Generous donations of checks, cash, and coins were placed in the large LWML Mite box throughout the weekend. A total of \$1029.11 was collected. What a blessing all of you are as you serve Him!



#### GRANT 1 READY TO BE PAID

The Eastern District LWML currently has enough Mite money to pay Grant No. 1. We are currently awaiting the necessary paperwork. We will need to raise \$4,800 in Mites before we can pay our next grant. Grants 2 & 3 were tied and will need to be paid together. Please give generously to Mites so we can reach these goals quickly.

KEEP  
US  
UPDATED

## FROM THE VP OF COMMUNICATIONS—DONNA COLEMAN

October is the month for elections in many of our zones and societies, and District VP of Communications Donna Coleman will be waiting for reports of any changes.

**ZONE LEVEL:** If you have a change of officers, either the Zone President or Corresponding Secretary should forward the new information to Donna as soon as possible. Please include names, addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses. This will help in keeping the District directory as current as humanly possible!

**ZONE PRESIDENTS:** Please let Donna know also how the societies in your zone should be considered, namely whether they are "active" or in some cases "inactive" or perhaps even non-existent in some congregations. One way to determine if a society is "active" is if they contribute mites on a regular basis to the zone treasurer. There are currently over 50 congregations within our District with no active LWML participation. Perhaps zone presidents could spread the word about Individual LWML memberships to these congregations. LWML catalogue has Individual Membership Guidelines available (Item 14345 in LWML catalogue) which describes procedures for obtaining individual LWML membership). Sometimes we lose LWML sisters who transfer to other congregations without societies, and perhaps there are women in some of these 50 or so congregations who would like to become a part of the LWML. Think about the opportunity to involve more women in LWML!

**SOCIETY LEVEL:** If there has been a change in the President or LWML Representative in your congregation, please forward that information also.

Lutheran Woman's Quarterly – Any increases in subscriptions or changes in address of where the Quarterlies should be shipped should be sent to Donna Coleman at any time. (Just a reminder, decreases in orders can only be made once a year with the next deadline of April 1, 2009.) Hopefully societies have been able to cover the cost of their 2008-09 subscriptions or will do so before March 2009.

**STATISTICS:** It's never too early to begin keeping track of the statistics that are required by National LWML. Society presidents need to be ready to report to their zone president in two years how many women are involved with their local LWML and Zone Presidents, in turn, need to report on number of zone activities for the biennium July 2007 through June 2009.

Send all information to: Mrs. Donna Coleman  
VP of Communications  
542 Burritt Road, Hilton, NY 14468  
E-mail: [dcoleman851@aol.com](mailto:dcoleman851@aol.com) (LWML in subject line, please)



## GREETINGS FROM THE VP-GOSPEL OUTREACH SERVANT RESOURCES—REBECCA BESSELL

As fall approaches and we see the changes in the landscape and weather and all of our societies and zone activities become activated again after our summer break I think of the changes that I have gone through in the first two years in office as the District VP. It has been challenging at times but always rewarding when I think about the things I have experienced and how it has strengthened my life with increased bible study and prayer. I am thankful for the opportunity to serve the District

LWML in this position.

I would like to challenge each of you to think about your involvement and to ask yourself if now is time to use the talents and gifts God has given you. Some of those gifts you may not even be aware you have but what a comfort to know you are never alone. When I struggle I refer to Romans 5 and Joshua 1 and remind myself I can do this with the help of the Lord.

*Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit, and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord: and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone, 1 Corinthians 12:4-6*

The Eastern District of the LWML is continually looking to seek out those who wish to share their talents and interest as we together "Serve the Lord with Gladness" I have included the talent survey sheet (found on page 4) which I ask that you take a moment and prayerfully consider how you can serve.

You may return this to me via US mail, 7048 Benedict Beach Road, Hamlin, NY 14464 or email ([rlb54@rochester.rr.com](mailto:rlb54@rochester.rr.com)). I would love to hear from you. Thank you and pray as the seasons change so do we. God is good!

Linked together in Christ,  
Rebecca Bessell

**TALENT BANK – SURVEY SHEET  
LUTHERAN WOMEN IN MISSION  
EASTERN DISTRICT**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Congregation: \_\_\_\_\_

Zone: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: Please prayerfully consider your service to the Lord and out LWML Eastern District.

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Return to box as indicated or mail to:  
Rebecca Bessell  
7048 Benedict Bch.  
Hamlin, NY 14464  
585-964-7844

**OFFICES HELD**

**PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY**  
**SPECIFY ZONE                      SOCIETY                      CONGREGATION**

|                |       |       |                |       |       |
|----------------|-------|-------|----------------|-------|-------|
| President      | _____ | _____ | President      | _____ | _____ |
| Vice President | _____ | _____ | Vice President | _____ | _____ |
| Secretary      | _____ | _____ | Secretary      | _____ | _____ |
| Treasurer      | _____ | _____ | Treasurer      | _____ | _____ |
| Christian Gr.  | _____ | _____ | Christian Gr.  | _____ | _____ |
| Mission Ch.    | _____ | _____ | Mission Ch.    | _____ | _____ |

**TALENTS / INTERESTS**

**PLEASE CIRCLE ALL THAT YOU WOULD CONSIDER**  
**ELECTED OFFICE                      COMMITTEES / POSITIONS**

|                                     |                                |                    |                  |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Business / Accounting               | President                      | Archivist          | Historian        |
| Computer                            | Vice President Human Care      | Christian Life     | Human Care       |
| Historian                           | Vice President Communication   | Bylaws             | Planner          |
| Music                               | Vice President Gospel Outreach | Editor             | Public Relations |
| Secretarial                         | Recording Secretary            | Mission Grants     | Nomination       |
| Banners                             | Financial Secretary            | Retreat Planning   | Convention Plans |
| Secretarial                         | Treasurer                      | Parliamentarian    | Deaf Interpreter |
| Writing / Editing                   |                                | Leader Development |                  |
| Pastoral Counselor suggestion _____ |                                | Other: _____       |                  |

# Upcoming Events

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Spring 2009       | Executive Committee/Board of Directors Meeting  |
| June 25-28, 2009  | LWML National Convention<br>Portland, Oregon    |
| Sept. 18-20, 2009 | LWML Retreat Camp Pioneer<br>Speaker Jan Struck |
| June 17-20, 2010  | Eastern District Convention<br>Pittsburgh, PA   |

## STAMPS FOR MISSIONS



A special thank you to all who have gathered cancelled stamps for the Canadian Bible Society during the past months. After a delivery of 35 pounds was made this past May, 2008 to the Hamilton, Ontario headquarters, a letter was received from Rev. Dennis

Hillis, Director of the South Central Ontario District. It reads as follows:

"We would like to thank you for the used stamps which were brought to the office of the Canadian Bible Society. After the sale of these used stamps, the money is used to translate and distribute God's Word to people around the world who are hungry to read the Bible in their own language. Without the faithful support of God's people, it would be difficult for the Society to continue in this work. Thank you so much for caring."

More recently, on July 28, 2008, an additional 28 pounds (mainly from the Pittsburgh Zone) were taken to the Hamilton headquarters. You are encouraged to "continue the good work" on behalf of this particular mission outreach. Your efforts and time are very much appreciated.

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

## Be a Good Steward and Help Us Share

**Society Presidents and LWML Representatives:** If you are a society President or LWML contact person for your church, you are a very important person in our distribution of "The Link". This is not intended to be just your personal copy. You have been designated as our contact for your church. Either copy this issue for your society members, post it at church, or glean items from it to submit articles for your congregation's bulletin/newsletter and, above all, remember to inform your members at society meetings. **This is our only form of communication and we are counting on you to get the information out. If you feel your copy should be sent to a different address, please inform the Editor so she can update her records. Thank you for your help.**

The Link is now available in e-mail format. If you would like to receive a copy via e-mail, please let me know and I will add you to my list of e-mail recipients.  
**Bev Wicher-Editor** [Bevajw@roadrunner.com](mailto:Bevajw@roadrunner.com)

## NEWS FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING:

### NEW CO-CHAIRMEN ANNOUNCED

President Darlene Byrns announced that Ruth Wurster has agreed to be Co-chair of Mission Grants and Terri Devan has agreed to be Co-chair of Human Care. Beth Scholl is to be Co-chair of Leadership Development.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDS FOR CHRISTIAN LIFE AND STRUCTURE CO-CHAIRMEN

Co-chairs for Christian Life and Structure have yet to be filled. Come join us as we Serve the Lord With Gladness. This is not a big time commitment, we only meet twice a year. If you are interested or want more information on what is involved contact Darlene Byrns or the respective Committee chairmen, contact information is on page 7 of this Link.

**2009 RETREAT**— Central New York North will be the host Zone and the speaker will be Jan Struck. The theme will be from 1 Peter 5:7 "Cast all your Cares On Him".

### YWR'S FOR NATIONAL CONVENTION

We were reminded that Young Women Rep names nominated for the National LWML Convention need to be in by Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> of this year. Each Zone should nominate one and then one will be selected from our District to attend. The ages are 22-35. If you know someone who might be interested, please contact President Darlene Byrns.

## News

## NIAGARA ZONE

Niagara Zone Fall Rally  
 Saturday, October 11, 2008, 10:00-2:30  
 St. Mark Lutheran Church  
 1135 Oliver St., North Tonawanda

Wellness Theme: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, (s)he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" 2 Cor. 5:17 (NIV)  
 Speakers: Dr. Joy Staggers-Deberny and

Parish Nurse Mary Dries Ingathering: School supplies for Afghanistan children as suggested by Chaplain Alex Knowles, currently deployed in Afghanistan Potluck luncheon with entertainment Elections of Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Christian Life Chairman, Counselor and Delegate/Alternate to 2009 National LWML Convention.

## From Around

## the Zones

## BUFFALO AND NIAGARA ZONES

## DONATIONS FOR LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

*Since 1945, United States Lutherans have provided material resources - quilts, kits, and soap - for people in need throughout the world. Women, children and men deeply appreciate these gifts of comfort.*

Lutheran Churches in the Buffalo and Niagara areas have worked hard at sewing quilts, putting together kits, and buying soap. On May 15 twenty-one churches delivered their donations to St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Sanborn. 1243 quilts, 71 school kits, 56 health kits, 7 layettes, and 465 pounds of soap were loaded by volunteers onto a large trailer owned by Kent Coble, who also volunteered his time driving to the Lutheran World Relief warehouse in New Windsor, Maryland. The Niagara and Erie Chapters of Thrivent paid expenses involved in making the delivery to Maryland.

*In the past 18 years 23402 quilts plus soap and kits have been donated by these congregations. "And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" Micah 6:8*

## GENESEE ZONE

The Genesee Zone hosted an LWML Autumn Seminar on October 4th entitled *Seasons of a Woman's Life* at St. Mark Lutheran Church, Mendon, New York. *Seasons of a Woman's Life* is a seminar that explored the developmental and spiritual issues of life's stages. This combination of lecture and discussion based on Ecclesiastes 3:1-9 was led by Patricia M. Pakan, Ph.D. Pat, a dynamic, entertaining and experienced lecturer, is a former member of St. Mark and resident of Mendon. Pat's energetic, heartfelt style of presentation provides accurate information that is applicable to daily life. In addition to the main presentation, there was a special guest appearance by "nice Jewish girl" turned Christian Ethel Chadwick. Ethel's radio ministry called *Blessings and Bangs* (Saturdays 8-9AM on 990AM and 102.7 FM WRCI) is a ministry of Messianic Congregation Shema Yisreal, a congregation of Jews and Gentiles who have found faith in Messiah Yeshua.

A presentation of the **mission grants** approved at the recent LWML Eastern District Convention along with generation of ideas for societies to raise **Mites** to fund these grants rounded out the program.



### TOP TEN CLUES THAT YOUR LOCAL SOCIETY MIGHT NEED AN MMV\* CONSULTANT

(With apologies to David Letterman, we offer the following concerns.)

You know your local society may need an MMV\* Consultant if:

10. When someone mentions "going On-line", you all think about laundry rather than communication technology.
9. When you select new officers, it has to do with rotation among the four of you rather than election from the 40 or more.
8. When you mention having a mixer, and the group thinks "for coffee cake batter", rather than "assimilation into your ladies' group".
7. When you ask someone from church if she's read "the Quarterly", and she's thinking "stock portfolio" rather than "mission awareness".
6. Strong support has to do with panty hose rather than missionaries and seminarians.
5. Your group's only "mission outreach" is the bake sale at the county fair.
4. Telling the "good news" means the Tigers have won a double header rather than sharing the truth about Jesus to the kids in the neighborhood.
3. When you discuss growth of the group you are talking about waistlines rather than spirituality.
2. You ask someone from the congregation about "Mites", and they start a discussion about allergic reactions rather than mission projects.
1. You sincerely desire to assist women in creating and enhancing sensitive, relevant and appealing ministries in your local congregation.

Written by national MMV consultants. – This was shared at the Rochester convention. - Please contact Eastern District MMV consultants Claire Carlson at [patchtroop546@aol.com](mailto:patchtroop546@aol.com) or 716-649-4678 or Jacqui Green at 215-473-1421, [jacquig2@verizon.net](mailto:jacquig2@verizon.net) We would love to come to help your group.

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**Philadelphia Zone**

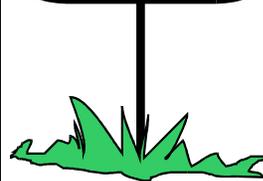
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**Next Deadline**

Please send all news articles and information for publication to:



Beverly Wicher  
 150 Unionvale Road  
 Cheektowaga, NY 14225

E-mail:  
[bevajw@roadrunner.com](mailto:bevajw@roadrunner.com)

**The next deadline is December 1, 2008**

The Link is published four times each year.

**Deadlines to submit articles:**

**March 1, June 1, September 1, December 1**

**TOGETHER IN PRAYER**

Don't forget to join your National LWML Sisters "Together in Prayer Every Monday at Noon". Pray for our National LWML, Our Districts, Our Zones, Our Societies and our "Mites" and Mission Grants that they may be used to spread the Gospel of Christ throughout the World. Each month there is a specific prayer emphasis listed on the National LWML Website at [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org) and also in the LWML E-News.



## **The 33rd Biennial Convention**

**June 25-28, 2009**

**Portland, Oregon**

**Theme: *Look to the Hills...God Reigns***

Psalm 121:1-2 (NIV) *I lift my eyes to the hills—where does my help come from?*

*My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.*

Isaiah 52:7 (NIV) *How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!"*

### **Look to the Hills!**

**LOOK!** Look for the LWML to meet next June under the banner “Look to the Hills... God Reigns” — the theme of the 33rd Biennial Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Convention in Portland, Oregon, June 25-28, 2009. It has been 56 years since a national LWML convention has been held in Portland, so you should be booking planes, trains, automobiles (and definitely chartered buses) to attend. It’s the opportunity of a lifetime! Begin making plans now, reserve the date and find some travel friends. Visit [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org) for more information

### **Post Convention Cruise News**

The response to the invitation by Azumano Travel to take the post convention cruise to Alaska following the Portland Convention has been outstanding. We have now filled our initial group of cabins and the travel agency has been able to secure additional ones for us. Space is still available! Call Lisa now (800-634-2306) to avoid disappointment. Rates may be higher than first offered. Join your sisters for a trip of a lifetime! Check the LWML Web site [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org) under Convention for more information.

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