



Spring 2019

# Evergreen Echoes

www.wa-aklwml.org



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## Dates to Remember:

*Evergreen Echoes*

Summer Issue DEADLINE:

April 30, 2019 to

[EvergreenEchoesEditor@gmail.com](mailto:EvergreenEchoesEditor@gmail.com)



**38<sup>th</sup> Biennial LWML**

**Convention**

June 20-23, 2019

Mobile, Alabama

**District Retreat**

September 27-29, 2019

Red Lion Hotel

Richland, Washington

**District Convention**

September 25-27, 2020

Great Wolf Lodge

Grand Mound, Washington

## Greetings from

LWML Washington-Alaska District **PRESIDENT**

**Marilee Ryan**



March — you've most likely heard the expression that March comes in like a lion and goes out like a Lamb.

That's true for where I grew up: Minnesota. In Alaska, spring is called "break up." The snow melts from the mountains and yards; the ice melts from the lakes, rivers, and frozen puddles; and the roads are sloppy and dirty from all the gravel put



down during the winter. Not a pretty time in the beautiful state, but with the longer days comes the hope for the coming season.

The month of March also brings us St. Patrick's Day with its depiction of a pot of gold at the end of the

rainbow. Think about this — the rainbow represents God's promise to the world — the pot of gold may be found through our mites.

The LWML biennium ends on March 31 and we're racing to the finish with heartfelt prayers that our mission goal will be realized. Through our prayers and our faith in God, we trust that He will provide the funds needed to support all our mission grants.



I married into an Irish clan (Ryan is a good Irish name), but I can't say that I know much about the luck of the Irish. I do know, however, what luck is - Living Under Correct Knowledge. From where does our correct knowledge come? It comes from God's Word.

*For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding; he stores up sound wisdom for the upright; he is a shield to those who walk in integrity (Proverbs 2:5-7).*

Spring comes with the hope of renewal and revival. I'm excited to see sprouts of flower bulbs emerging: reborn after their winter rest.

Our truest Hope of spring is Easter! Because of Jesus' "rest" in the tomb, we are renewed and revived with the promise of eternal life. Because of His suffering for all our sins, rising from the dead, and ascending into heaven; we can be assured, through our faith in God's promise of joining Him for eternity.

No, not luck; but Living Under Correct Knowledge!

Wishing you Easter Blessings and God's grace.

*Marilee Ryan*

## DISTRICT COUNSELOR

Rev. Richard Loppnow, Junior Pastoral Counselor – East

*(When the priests came out of the Holy Place ... and when the song was raised, with trumpets and cymbals and other musical instruments, in praise to the LORD, "For he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever," the house, the house of the LORD, was filled with a cloud, so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled the house of God (2 Chronicles 5:11-14).*

"In praise to the Lord!"

You may have heard it said that the mission of the church *is* mission. Not so, per se; the Bible makes clear the church has many purposes. The most basic, primary one is to gather together in worship and praise: gather together in the name of our Lord. In so doing, Matthew tells us, we welcome Jesus Himself into our midst.

But evangelism is certainly part of our call: mission work. We do this locally; all our activities which touch people outside of our church building serve such a purpose. We also do this individually whenever we, openly as Christians, put a good foot forward and act as people worthy of emulation. This bears fruit, some of which we'll see only in heaven.

We also do this as a Synod: this June, in Mobile, Alabama. Please keep our 2019 Synodical LWML Convention in your prayers. We ourselves will pray, praise, and guide our national mission of bringing the message of salvation to the lost of our own and other lands. Above all, we will give thanks to our Triune God — for you and your efforts on behalf of His Gospel — but especially for a humble manger, a cross of sorrows, and a triumphantly empty Easter morning tomb!

And now, the forgiven sinners have a place with God.

In praise to the Lord!



*Evergreen Echoes* is published quarterly by Lutheran Women's Missionary League Washington-Alaska District, an auxiliary organization of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod.

## Nominating Committee

The 2020 LWML Washington-Alaska District Convention isn't as far away as one thinks. With that in mind, the nominating committee is committed to praying often for people with servant hearts willing to say "yes" to serving in a position on the LWML Washington-Alaska District Board of Directors. We covet your prayers for our committee, and we ask for your help. If you or someone you know would like to serve on the board and is willing to have your or her name stand in nomination, please let one of us on the committee know.

Officers will be elected for the positions of Vice President of Christian Life, Vice President of Gospel Outreach, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and Nominating Committee members. A District Counselor from the west side will also be elected. Please check the district website for the description of the positions.

Sandi Schauer, Chairman  
Betty Rich  
Patricia Cornelius  
Ruth Ann Shimoi  
Betsy McDarment

**Yes, Lord.  
Yes, Lord.  
Yes, Lord, Yes.**



## Organizational Resources

Pam Rafferty, Vice President

### Structure Committee

With a new year comes resolutions, renewed plans for improvement in various areas of our lives, and well wishes for a "Happy 2019." As your zone or society boards meet together, consider reviewing your bylaws to see if they need a "fresh start." It's a great time to see if they reflect how your group is operating! Sample bylaws, which may be downloaded, are available on the district website at [www.wa-aklwml.org](http://www.wa-aklwml.org). Click on the "Structure/Bylaws" tab on the left-hand side. Then, click on the links for the "sample bylaws" for your society or zone. Once revised by your society or zone, send bylaws for approval to the District Structure Committee.

Pam Rafferty, Chairman  
Carol Coerber, Aletha Voges, Chris White



### Leader Development Committee

Please welcome Leader Development Committee Member Michele Misener from Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Hermiston, Oregon. The Leader Development Committee has LWML resources for your society and zone. Contact Pam Rafferty, Vice President of Organizational Resources for additional information.



## Heart to Heart Sisters

Judy Norton, committee member

Recently, Stephanie, a sister in Christ, informed our local LWML group that her doctor had given her an unusual prescription. He told her it was good to give many hugs each day. (Some experts even suggest at least 12 a day for good health.) This doctor, however, went even farther and instructed her to always hug "heart to heart" — your heart touching the other person's heart. This prescription is good for both hearts and increases good health results for two people.

Since that time I have been more aware of "heart to heart" hugs. But what is puzzling to me is that my first inclination is NOT to go "heart to heart" but just the opposite. I have to intentionally look at the other person and think about my action.

The more I've experienced my normal inclination and corrected it, the more I've been struck by this action as a metaphor for our "heart to heart" sisters in LWML. As we embrace women from other cultures, we learn the of the health such a "hug" can bring. Heart to heart is of benefit to all of us!

But, it is not our first inclination. It takes effort and awareness to recognize the "heart" of the other person and intentionally embrace that heart, making ourselves vulnerable as we come together.

I would encourage you to give "heart to heart" hugs to your friends and especially to a person of another culture. I know I will try to do so.

*You are no longer strangers and aliens but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household (Ephesians 2:19 NIV).*



**Save the Date**

**LWML Washington-Alaska District Retreat**  
**September 27 - 29, 2019**  
**Red Lion Hotel Richland Hanford House, Richland, Wash.**



*And indeed our  
fellowship is  
with Father  
and with His  
Son Jesus  
Christ. And we  
are writing  
these things so  
that our joy  
may be  
complete  
(1 John 1:3b-4).*

**Come learn the difference between happiness and joy  
and how to navigate this dark world with the light of Christ.**

**We welcome Keynote Speaker Kim Wagner, author and cancer survivor!**



Kim Wagner has been writing and speaking professionally for 18 years. As a member of the NSA (National Speakers Association), she is known for her entertaining, energetic, and dynamic delivery. Kim shares real-life stories sprinkled with a song or two. She is a singer/songwriter, cancer survivor, friend/fund-raiser for various organizations, and fabric hoarder. However, the roles which bring her the most reward are that of beloved child of God, wife to Lutheran pastor Dave, mother to four adult children, and grandma to four awesome grandchildren. The Wagners live in Bellingham with their two dogs.

## Gospel Outreach News

The year 2019 is finally here!!! Prayers were lifted that everyone had a blessed New Year and 2019 continue with additional blessings to you and yours!

As a reminder, the LWML Washington-Alaska District mission grant 2018-2020 biennium theme is “Let Your Mites Be a Beacon of Light for Grants.”



Updated grant information, grant highlights, and prayers can be found at [www.wa-aklwml.org](http://www.wa-aklwml.org). Please use this information to spotlight your mite collections at your churches.

**An important reminder:** All MITES collected in your societies and zones **MUST** be sent to the **District Financial Secretary Elizabeth Cook**. Her mailing information can be found on the roster at the end of this newsletter. Please make sure to pass this information on to the treasurer of each society/zone.

The deadline for sending your mites for the 2017-2019 Mite goal of \$2,075,000 is fast approaching! Please inform your society and zone all mite money for the current biennium is due on, or before, **March 31, 2019**. Currently LWML is behind in reaching this goal, so please continue to come up with creative ideas at your societies and zones – have bake sales, silent auctions, or simply make your donations online at the LWML website [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org). Please be consistent in prayers and sending your mites. Remember every penny counts and is a blessing to those we support.

Thank you for your dedication and hard work in supporting our mission grant recipients.

Cristina McNulty, Vice President of Gospel Outreach  
Joyce Berger, Mission Grants Committee Member

✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦

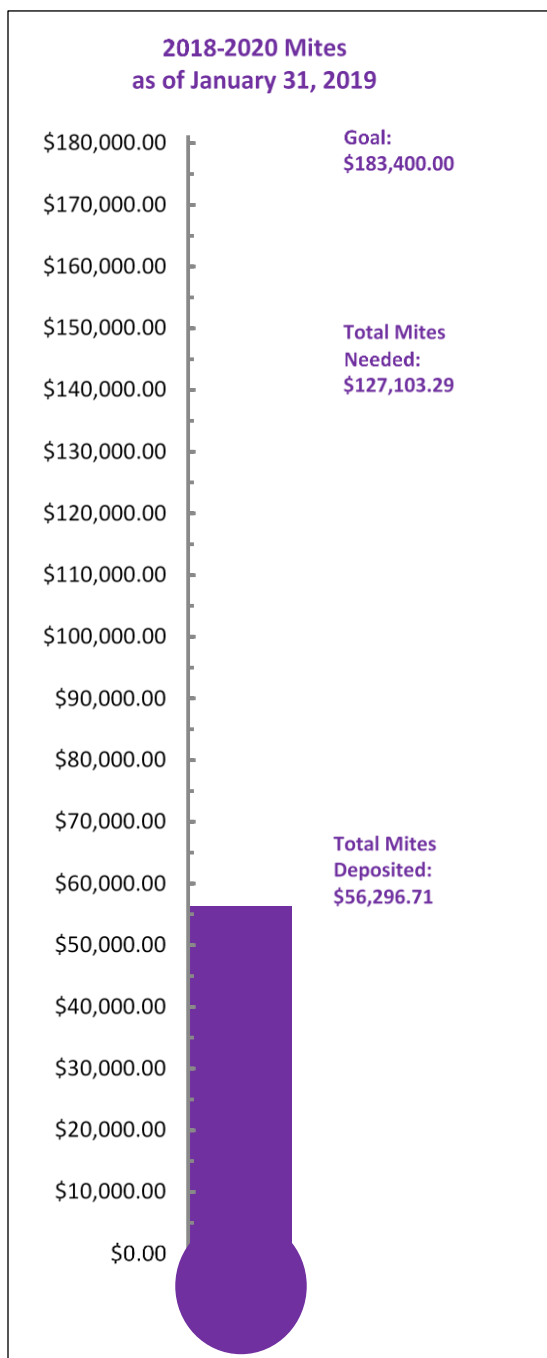
For distribution on the district prayer chain,  
send prayer petitions to:  
**[lwml.wa.ak.prayer.requests@gmail.com](mailto:lwml.wa.ak.prayer.requests@gmail.com)**.  
Vice President of Christian Life Rhonda Ries

✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦



## Financial Secretary

Elizabeth Cook



## Christian Life Committee

Rhonda Ries, Chairman

Do you feel joyful or are you slugging through each day wondering if you'll ever catch a break? Did you know there's a difference between happiness and joy? Happiness is largely fleeting, but the joy we have in Christ endures and sustains us even in the darkest of times in this fallen world.

This is the topic of this year's Washington-Alaska District retreat September 27-29 in Richland, Washington. While the church's job is to prepare us for a blessed death, come hear how to renew the joy given to us in our baptism even on days when we don't feel happy. We have invited author and speaker, Kim Wagner, who recently moved to Bellingham, Washington, to speak and offer some entertainment at the retreat. Kim will share her story of finding joy in Christ even amidst the trials of stage IV breast cancer. Our pastoral counselors will also support the topic with scriptural studies. Throughout the weekend, there will be plenty of fellowship in God's Word!

Save the date and plan to attend the WA-AK District retreat in Richland, Washington, September 27-29, 2019. Registration details will be available in the spring and in the meantime ponder ... Where's the Joy?

### Societies and Zones:

When elections are held in societies and zones, **remember** to send a copy of the updated roster to **Corresponding Secretary LeeAnn Tibbals**. Her contact information is found on the roster of this newsletter.

## Scholarship Committee

Judy Ikerd, Chairman

The Scholarship Committee is excited to announce that the revised application for the 2019-2020 academic year is now available on the Washington-Alaska District web page. Instead of one form for new applicants and another for returning recipients, there is now only one application. Additional information is required from new applicants.

Applications have also been sent directly to this year's recipients. If you know potential candidates, please encourage them to apply for these scholarships. Post graduate students are eligible for up to \$2000 per academic year and undergraduates are eligible for up to \$1000 per year.

The following students are receiving LWML Washington-Alaska District scholarships for the 2018-2019 academic year.

**Rick McCafferty** enrolled in the Ethnic Immigrant Institute of Theology program, which is largely online but requires some time on the Concordia Seminary at St. Louis.

**Hannah Freeman** studies at Concordia Lutheran University at Mequon, Wisconsin. She intends to become a parish musician.

**Michele Musegades Doel** continues her studies at Concordia Seminary at St. Louis to achieve her goal of becoming a deaconess.

**Ben Maxson** enrolled in the Specific Ministry Program online with Concordia Seminary at St. Louis and attends classes on campus a short time each year. He plans to become a minister.

**Kurt Hellwig** graduated from Concordia University in Irvine, California this spring and is attending Concordia Seminary at St. Louis with plans to become a minister.

The LWML Washington - Alaska District assists these students with tuition, prays for, and encourages them as they obtain the education needed to serve the Lord in full time church work.



*Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing (1 Thessalonians 5:11).*



LWML Washington-Alaska Spring 2019 Zone Events			
ZONE	DATE/TIME	LOCATION	CITY/STATE
Alaska	Sat., April 6	Our Redeemer LC	Chugiak, AK
Blue Mountain (Joint)	Sat., April 27	Redeemer LC	Richland, WA
East Inland Empire	Sat., April 27	Shepherd of the Hills LC	Rathdrum, ID
Hood Canal	Sat., April 27	Faith LC	Sequim, WA
Inter-Valley (Joint)	Sat., April 27	Redeemer LC	Richland, WA
Lake Washington	Sat, March 16	Hope Lutheran LC	West Seattle, WA
North Columbia	Sat., April 6	Our Savior LC	Okanogan, WA
Mt. Baker	Sat., April 6	Trinity LC	Bellingham, WA
Olympic	Sat., May 4, 9:30	Epiphany LC	Kenmore, WA
Rainier	Sat., March 30	Immanuel LC	Puyallup, WA
South Columbia	Sat., April 27	Bethel LC	Coulee City, WA

## Rainier Zone

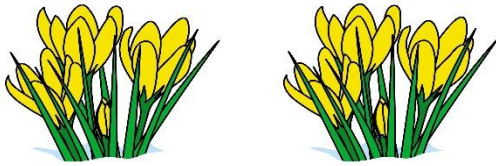
Elizabeth Cook, President

Spring brings to mind new life, new growth, and the joy of the promise of a new resurrected body because of Christ's life, death, and resurrection. The ladies of the Rainier Zone are excited about our spring rally, hosted by Immanuel in Puyallup, Washington. Our theme will be planting seeds. If you don't have a joyshop or rally scheduled for March 30, and would like to join us, you would be welcome!

We are also privileged to be one of the host zones for the 2020 convention. We join with sisters from the Hood Canal Zone and Lake Washington Zone to begin the preparations for LWML women from all over the district who will gather at Great Wolf Lodge.

I pray your zones are all having an equally blessed start to 2019.





## Lake Washington Zone

Ruth Ann Shimoi, President

Our joyshop scheduled for Saturday, February 9, had to be postponed due to heavy snowfall. The new date has been set for March 16 to be hosted by Hope Lutheran Church in West Seattle, Washington. Our theme is “We Are Family: A Patchwork Quilt of Beauty.” This theme is a service that was printed in the *Lutheran Woman’s Quarterly* of 1994.

On a personal note, I was the Zone President in 1994 and have great memories of that service. Revolving around quilt patterns, I am excited to be bringing it back. I assigned different parts of the service to various societies of the zone. Our service project will be tying no-sew fleece blankets. During the joyshop, we will decide where to donate them.

Our zone is one of the three zones planning and preparing for the District Convention in 2020. Already three of our societies have said what they would like to do. God is good.

## Mount Baker Zone

Doris Hildenbrand, President

Winter grants us the opportunity for quiet inner-reflection and reminds us of our baptism as our immediate surroundings are christened in pure white snow that seems to fall from heaven itself. Our thoughts turn inward. We take time to assess our priorities, renew our focus on our Triune God, and await the reawakening of our temporal earthly world.

As we anxiously anticipate spring’s arrival, three actions occurred behind the scenes in Mt. Baker Zone. Our bylaws committee reviewed and revised our current bylaws. The Executive Committee discussed having “breakout groups” at zone meetings to focus on topics such as Christian Life, roles of officers, and fundraising. Preparations were made by the ladies of Trinity Lutheran Church in Bellingham, Washington, and Grace Lutheran in Blaine, Washington, for our spring joyshop. It will be held April 6 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Bellingham, Washington, with Kim Wagner as a speaker. The members of our zone wish everyone a blessed spring filled with joyous and triumphant rebirth.

*Submitted by Kelsie Ingham, Mt. Baker Zone Treasurer*



## Society Corner

### Faith Lutheran Church

Hood Canal Zone



Faith Lutheran Church of Kingston, Washington, had its annual Christmas Cookie Bake and Bazaar Saturday, December 8, 2018. This is considered a community outreach and a fund-raising venture for various charities of our choosing. We start with creating a Thrivent Action Group and with that we receive “seed money” to purchase baking supplies. All members of our small church are invited to donate bazaar items and bake cookies. Our cookies are packaged attractively in cellophane bags with labels and all sold for \$2 per bag. (We have been told to raise our prices!) We decorate our fellowship hall with Christmas decorations and prepare coffee and spiced cider — in a crock pot so the hall smells like Christmas — and offer it free of charge. We place a table nearby for all to sit around and enjoy fellowship. Community members LOVE this event and look forward to it! We usually make over \$1000!

*Submitted by Susan Abbe*

## Trinity Lutheran Ladies League

North Columbia Zone

Trinity Lutheran Ladies League (TLLL) of Republic, Washington, has a bi-monthly outreach project. The outreach for December/January is usually collecting hats, mittens, scarves, and gloves for schools. There are both a public school and a Christian school in our city. An attempt is made to do this event a couple of times during the school year as the needs are so great. The goal is to supply both schools with these needed items. Congregational members also participate in the TLLL outreach events.

The congregation had a special reverse-Advent-calendar event last year. Trinity Lutheran Ladies League supported this outreach. Congregational and TLLL members collected food — two items of non-perishable food per day during Advent. The Sunday before Christmas two families received enough food for a special Christmas dinner.

*Submitted by Sandi Schauer*

## Beautiful Savior

Rainier Zone

Our ladies of our church in Milton, Washington, love the new life we have in Christ! We also love celebrating life in a number of ways.

We run a baby bottle campaign in support of CareNet of Puget Sound every February. Our whole congregation comes together and helps support them. Every year, CareNet helps women navigate the challenges of unexpected pregnancy and encourages them to choose life.

In the past few years, the women of Beautiful Savior have enjoyed a garden outing in the spring. We choose a local nursery to visit and peruse the plants, then eat lunch together as we talk about the many blessings God has given us and the plans for our gardens.

We hope that your society is finding ways to celebrate the reminder that Christ brings new life!

*Submitted by Elizabeth Cook*



In October, the LWML Society at St. John Lutheran Church in Palmer, Alaska, displays the quilts members have worked on all year. Then, they box them up and send some to Lutheran World Relief and others to local charities like Red Cross and women's shelters.

In all they made and distributed 72 quilts to keep people warm in God's love. They meet every Wednesday morning from September to June.

*Submitted by Ruth Zellar*

## St. John Society

Alaska Zone



During the beginning of Advent, the ladies of our society hosted Advent by Candlelight. In past years, our Christian Life Chairman has written the program. However, this year, we discovered an "Advent by Candlelight" booklet available for download on the Concordia Publishing House website. Amazing what resources one can find online! Ladies of our church host tables and provide a dessert as well as place settings and table decorations. Our society President and Christian Life Chairman hosted the afternoon's program, "Angels: Messengers and the Message," which included education information, Biblical readings, a skit, and singing Christmas carols. We included as many ladies as possible and even had the pleasure of being led in "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" by three girls from our congregation: a glimpse at the future of LWML!

*Submitted by Kelsie Ingham*



# 2018-2020 LWML Washington-Alaska District Roster

**President**

Marilee Ryan

**Recording Secretary**

Heather Selset

**Treasurer**

Doris Wurl

**Financial Secretary**

Elizabeth Cook

**Counselor – East (Junior)**

Rev. Richard Loppnow  
Our Savior Lutheran Church

**Counselor – West (Senior)**

Rev. Daniel Freeman  
Peace Lutheran Church

**Vice President of Gospel Outreach**

Cristina McNulty

**Mission Servants Committee Chairman**

Linda Davelaar

**Scholarship Committee Chairman**

Judy Ikerd

**Short Term Missions Committee Chairman**

Ruth Zellar

**Vice President of  
Organizational Resources**

Pam Rafferty

**Leader Development Committee Chairman**

Pam Rafferty (see above)

**Vice President of Special Focus Ministries**

Carolyn Holbrook

**Heart to Heart Sisters Committee Chairman**

Allison Akahoshi

**Teen Committee Chairman**

Sharon Westman

**Young Women Committee Chairman**

Grace Macduff

**Public Relations Director**

TBD

**Evergreen Echoes Editor  
(and Circulation)**

[EvergreenEchoesEditor@gmail.com](mailto:EvergreenEchoesEditor@gmail.com)

**Quarterly Manager**

Judy Jeffery

**Webmaster**

Joyce Berger

**Vice President of Christian Life**

Rhonda Ries

[lwml.wa.ak.prayer.requests@gmail.com](mailto:lwml.wa.ak.prayer.requests@gmail.com)

**Archivist-Historian**

Nancy Wyckoff

**Convention Committee Chairman**

Susan Abbe

**Corresponding Secretary**

LeeAnn Tibbals

**Meeting Manager**

MaryLynn Huntwork

**Nominating Committee Chairman**

Sandi Schauer

**Parliamentarian**

Carol Coerber

## Key

- Christian Life Department
- District Counselors
- Gospel Outreach Department
- Organizational Resources Department
- Public Relations Committee
- Special Focus Department

Send mites to **Financial Secretary Elizabeth Cook**. Order Mite Boxes from and/or send any roster changes to **Corresponding Secretary LeeAnn Tibbals**.

## ***Evergreen Echoes***

Lutheran Women's Missionary League  
Washington-Alaska District  
Republic, WA 99166

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### **2018-2020 Theme Verse**

*Let your light shine before others,  
so that they may see your good works  
and give glory to your Father Who is  
in heaven  
(Matthew 5:16).*