



Summer 2016

Evergreen Echoes

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Important Dates to Remember:

Evergreen Echoes

Fall Issue

DEADLINE: July 31, 2016 to
EvergreenEchoesEditor@gmail.com



**Washington-Alaska
District Convention**
Everett, Washington
June 17-19, 2016

LWML Convention
Albuquerque, New Mexico
June 22-25, 2017

Greetings from the LWML Washington-Alaska District President Marie Chow



It's District Convention Time!! And what a wonderful weekend it will be!!

We will be together in Everett June 17-19 to worship our Lord, hear from our LCMS Northwest District President as he proclaims the message, receive updates from our LWML President, learn from the recipients of our mites, be uplifted by our Keynoter's message, be fed by God's Word through Bible study, select our mission grants, elect new officers and Nominating Committee, greet old friends, and make new friends. We will also assemble fleece blankets and school kits to show our love for those who need these items and give our Gifts from the Heart to Lutheran Community

Services Northwest. We will have programs especially designed for our young women and multicultural women. Using "God's Gifts for God's Glory" will be our theme and our activity for our time together, and it will be fun and exciting!

In this issue, you will find a summary of information that will be brought up for voting: mission grant proposals, Sunday offering recipient proposals, and candidate credentials. Detailed information for these important decisions, along with the proposed bylaw amendments, were mailed to each society in May. Make sure that you read the information and pray for God's guidance, then let your delegate know your thoughts on what should be selected. Your delegate represents you.

May God bless you as you prepare to attend the convention so you can, at the convention and in your life, use "God's Gifts for God's Glory." I look forward to seeing you there!

Serving Christ With You,
Marie

2016 Convention Chairman's Greeting

This 2016 biennial convention is coming up so fast that it's hard to realize it's just a few short weeks away! There are so many things to look forward to, among them are a visit from the Lutheran Church Charities K-9 Comfort Dog™ Ministry, an amazing Bible study by nationally recognized Christian author Donna Pyle, the Mite Dance Party where we'll be dancing to the oldies, and lots of great inspiration by the beautiful banners, the other speakers, and the exhibits and displays. It will be such a happy reunion between old friends, not to mention making new ones. We'd love to see as many of you as possible to make this convention an uplifting, rewarding walk with our Savior.

Blessings and Joy,
Peggy Lohse
2016 Convention Chairman



LWML Washington-Alaska District Convention June 17–19, 2016

2016 District Convention Personalities

LWML Representative
President Patti Ross

**Bible Study Leader and Keynote
Speaker**
Donna Pyle

**Friday Opening Worship Service
Proclaimer**
*LCMS Northwest District President
Paul Linnemann*

Mites in Action Speakers
*Cathy Benzler, Elwha Ministry-Hope
House*
*Toni Bazon-Forsberg and Shami,
Lutheran Church Charities K-9 Comfort
Dog™ Ministry*
*Jim and Donna Cox, Light of Christ
Community Garden*

Saturday Entertainment
Enrique Henao

2016 District Convention Agenda Highlights

Friday, June 17, 2016
Love in Action Servant Events

Choir Practice
Delegate Orientation
Mite Dance Party
Opening Communion Worship Service

Saturday, June 18, 2016
Bible Study – Donna Pyle
Mission Grants Presentation and Vote
Keynote Speaker – Donna Pyle
LWML Report – President Patti Ross
Mites in Action Speakers
Proposed Bylaw Amendments
Election of Officers
Dinner Banquet – Enrique Henao

Sunday, June 19, 2016
Mites in Action Speaker
*Closing Worship Service with Installation of
Officers*



**It's the Mite Pledge Event
at the 2016 District
Convention
in Everett!**

**Friday, June 17, 2016
at 4 p.m.**

**Sign up on the convention
registration form!**

Candidate Credentials

VICE PRESIDENT OF CHRISTIAN LIFE



Rhonda Ries – Rainier Zone

Rhonda has been an active member of LWML for four years. She has served on the District Christian Life Committee assisting with retreats, conventions, and web Bible studies. Rhonda is president of her society's LWML, is a member of the church council, and serves as chairman of the Fellowship Committee. She has taught Sunday school and VBS. Rhonda is proficient in Microsoft Office programs: Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.



Marilee Ryan – Mount Baker Zone

Marilee has been an active LWML member for 18 years. In her society she has served as President, Treasurer and Secretary. At the Zone level, she has been President, Christian Life Chairman and Event Planner. She has been Vice President of Gospel Outreach, Vice President of Christian Life, and a committee member for retreats and Mission Grants. She has served as

Humorous Interrupter at two district conventions and as a convention delegate. Marilee gave leadership presentations to zones in the district. In her church, Marilee has served as preschool chairman, council secretary, treasurer, Bible study leader, and VBS helper and on Altar Guild. She is skilled in all Microsoft Office applications and has prepared PowerPoint presentations of Mission Grants for five district conventions.

VICE PRESIDENT OF GOSPEL OUTREACH



Sandi Hall – North Columbia Zone

Sandi has been active in LWML for 21 years. In her society she has served as President, Christian Life, Gospel Outreach and Secretary. She has served as Zone President and Vice President, District Vice President of Human Care (currently known as Mission Servants), Short Term Missions Committee member, and the Recycling Coordinator. In her congregation,

Sandi has participated in the 2nd Harvest food distribution, quarterly ingatherings, Altar Guild, and in planning and presenting a women's retreat. In her community, Sandi has been involved with the Athletic Booster Club, the American Legion Auxiliary, the Eagles Auxiliary, and Youth Dynamics. Sandi is proficient in Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Publisher.



Cristina McNulty – Alaska Zone

Cristina has been active in LWML for 11 years. She has served as Vice President of her society, substituted for the Secretary and the Christian Life Chair. She has served as Zone President, Mission Grants Committee member and serves on the Nominating Committee. She has served as the congregational Financial Secretary, assisted with Altar Guild, a women's

Bible study, and coordinated VBS. She has worked as a Special Education Assistant, school office secretary, and served as senior class advisor. Cristina has been a volunteer basketball coach and a cheerleading coach. She is proficient with MS Word, WordPerfect and Excel.

RECORDING SECRETARY



Heather Selset – East Inland Empire Zone

Heather has been active with the LWML for six years. She has served as Secretary and Vice President of her society. She has been Vice President and President of the Zone and Chairman of the District Young Women Committee. She was a Young Woman Representative at the LWML convention in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She has been involved with the music ministry of her congregation serving as pianist, bell choir director, and praise team director. She is a member of the Ministry Leadership Team and the Cross My Art Committee. She types 93 words a minute and is proficient in Microsoft Excel, Word, PowerPoint and Outlook. Heather has maintained and built computers.

TREASURER



Doris Wurl – Inter-Valley Zone

Doris has been an active member of LWML for 27 years. She has served as Society President and Secretary; Zone President, Secretary, and Christian Growth; and District Christian Life Committee Member, Mission Service Chair, Convention Floor Manager, and Host Committee Member. She also served on the Portland Convention Host Committee. In her congregation she has counted offerings, instructed confirmation class and Sunday School, and served on the Evangelism and Christian Fellowship committees. Doris' financial experience includes working in Accounts Receivable-Accounting Department with Agri-Beef Foods for six years invoicing purchases for large commercial customers and employees.

PASTORAL COUNSELOR



The Reverend Daniel Freeman

Pastor Freeman graduated from Concordia College in Portland, Oregon in 1995 and from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis in 1999. He served at the dual parish of Grace Lutheran Church in Three Forks, Montana, and the Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, Ennis Montana, from June 1999 to July 2002. He accepted a call to Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chehalis, Washington where he currently serves. Pastor Freeman is the current Zone Counselor for Rainier Zone. He serves as a volunteer chaplain at Cooks Hill Manor. Pastor Freeman believes mighty things are accomplished by the support the LWML provides through various means to all of the various missions of our church body. He envisions his role as District Counselor as providing pastoral care and support where and when needed.



The Reverend Jeffrey Ries

Pastor Ries graduated from Oregon State University in 1995 and from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis in 2006. He served at New Hope Lutheran Church in Festus, Missouri from 2006 to 2009. He has served at Zion Lutheran Church in Chehalis, Washington since 2009. Pastor Ries has served as Rainier Zone Counselor and as an Iron Mountain Zone (Missouri District) Counselor. He was the keynote speaker for the LWML Washington-Alaska District retreat in 2013. He served on a Floor Committee at the 2013 LCMS Synodical Convention and coordinated LCMS Servant Events in Festus, Missouri and Portland, Oregon. He has served as an on-call volunteer chaplain for a local hospital and worked with fire, police and EMS agencies to develop chaplaincy roles. He is currently becoming established as a volunteer police and fire chaplain in Tacoma. Pastor Ries has been a volunteer coordinator for Habitat for Humanity. He believes LWML support of missions has ministered to those in need and assisted in sharing the Gospel to many. LWML conventions, retreats and rallies allow Lutheran women to grow in the Word of God, encourage one another and receive encouragement.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE



Linda Einspahr – Blue Mountain Zone

Linda has been an active member of LWML for 40 years. She has served as President, Secretary and Christian Growth Chair in her society. She served as President and Secretary of her zone. As Zone President, she was delegate at two LWML conventions and served on the Host Committee at Portland in 2009. Linda volunteered as a tutor in elementary school.



Marilee Griffith – East Inland Empire Zone

Marilee has been active with LWML for about five years. She served as District Mission Servants Committee Chairman. She served as Secretary/Treasurer of the Lydia Circle in her church. Marilee has also been the congregational Treasurer and Secretary. She worked as an Administrative Assistant in Grant County.



Judy Peraino – Mount Baker Zone

Judy has been an active LWML member for 29 years. In her society, she has served as President, Vice President and Secretary. She has worked on the Zone Nominating Committee. Judy has served as the District Recycling Coordinator. She has taught Sunday School and Bible studies, coordinated Vacation Bible School, served on the worship committee and sung in the choir. She has volunteered with the National Alliance for Mental Illness, and Habitat for Humanity. She has served as a Family to Family facilitator. Judy has basic computer skills.



Sherril Robertson – Lake Washington Zone

Sherril has been active with LWML for two years. She has served as President of her society. She has served as the Church Financial Secretary and been involved in the Hearts to Hands Sewing/Crocheting group. Sherril was an elementary school teacher for 22 years. She further developed computer skills while working as a secretary, administrative assistant and data transcriber.



Clare Snoozy – Alaska Zone

Clare has been an active LWML member for 52 years. She has served as society President, Secretary and Treasurer. She has served as the Alaska Zone President and Treasurer. In her congregation, she has been a Bible study leader, youth director and wedding coordinator. She has served as President of her chapter of the Beta Sigma Phi Society, volunteered at the Anchorage Lutheran School and assisted with the Lutheran Social Services of Alaska in Anchorage. Clare has some computer and clerical skills and types well.



Lorna Williams – Rainier Zone

Lorna has been an active member of LWML for 55 years. Throughout the years, she served as society President, Vice President, Treasurer and Archivist. In her church, Lorna serves as head usher, assists in Altar Guild and helps in the kitchen. She has served as Rainier Zone Archivist. She has used her nursing background to assist and help care for many older people.

2016-2018 Mission Grants Proposals

1. **Aid to Washington-Alaska District Scholarship Fund** **\$19,000**
District scholarship funds are used to aid students from our District who are studying to be pastors, deaconesses, directors of Christian education, teachers, and other ministry positions in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.
2. **Bethesda Lutheran Communities Auxiliary – *The Christ Connection – A Prayer Book for Group or Personal Prayer*** Recognized Service Organization of LCMS **\$4,000**
Funds will be used toward publication and distribution in the LWML Washington-Alaska District of 400 or more copies of *The Christ Connection – A Prayer Book for Group and Personal Prayer* for use by people of ALL abilities.
3. **Christ the Son of God Lutheran Church, Seattle, Washington** **\$6,000**
Funds would enable the Amharic language Bible to be distributed and available in the Ethiopian and Eritrean communities for worship at Christ the Son of God Lutheran Church in Seattle.
4. **Christ the Son of God Lutheran Church, Seattle, Washington – Children’s Ministry** **\$1,500**
Funds would be used to purchase a TV, DVD player, videos, and books to facilitate the teaching of God’s Word to the children at Christ the Son of God Lutheran Church in Seattle in their Sunday School and at evangelical conferences.
5. **Espwa Berlancia Medical Transportation, Haiti** **\$7,000**
Espwa Means Hope
Funds will be used to purchase a vehicle that will be used for the work of Espwa Berlancia, specifically for emergency medical transportation and transportation to and from mobile clinics.
6. **Family Promise of Skagit Valley** **\$5,000**
Funds would be used for a day center and to provide assistance to families for obtaining housing, also for clothing, gas, and car maintenance.
7. **Guatemala Mission, Puerto Barrios, Guatemala** **\$5,500**
Funds will be used for construction and maintenance of a community center in Puerto Barrios, Guatemala.
8. **Holiday Hospitality for the Homeless, Tacoma, Washington** **\$2,000**
The goal is to make 400 hygiene kits. Funds would be used to purchase hygiene items and groceries to enable more outreach for the needs of the homeless.
9. **Kitsap Rescue Mission – A Safe Harbor Campaign** **\$5,000**
The funds will help support the complete renovation of their building.
10. **Lutheran Bible Translators, New Missionary Vehicle Fund** **\$5,000**
Recognized Service Organization of LCMS
The purpose of the vehicle fund is to ensure that funds are available to purchase the needed vehicles for new missionaries.

- 11. Lutheran Heritage Foundation, Catechisms and Lutheran Books for Madagascar, Africa** **\$5,000**
 Recognized Service Organization of LCMS
 Funds would be used to print *Luther's Small Catechism* and other Lutheran outreach materials in the Malagasy language for the people of Madagascar, Africa.
- 12. Lutheran Hour Ministries – BREAD Program, Mexico** **\$5,000**
 Funds would be used to support The BREAD Program consisting of workshops, skills training programs, a weekly free meal, as well as spiritual needs for the unemployed, the migrants, and the peasants.
- 13. Lutheran Indian Ministries –Support of Natives on the Olympic Peninsula** **\$6,500**
 Recognized Service Organization of LCMS
 Deacon Tom and Deaconess Cathy Benzler serve the Native American people on the Olympic Peninsula. Funds would be used for books and Christian materials to share at tribal events, contingency fund for special needs of Natives on the Olympic Peninsula Hope House, and transportation, food, lodging, conference fees, and materials for required continuing education for the Benzlers.
- 14. Lutheran Ministry Services Northwest** **\$3,000**
 Recognized Service Organization of LCMS
 Funds will be used to distribute three copies each of *Healing Words*, a spiritual resource, to 470 Lutheran congregations for church pastors and volunteers to use in conjunction with their visitation ministry.
- 15. Lutherans for Life – Y4Life Campus Ministry** **\$4,000**
 Recognized Service Organization of LCMS
 Funds would be used to expand the current Y4Life campus ministry program to include Lutheran high schools.
- 16. Mission Central – Support for LCMS Missionaries** **\$5,000**
 Funds will be used to support missionaries with their orientation, transportation, health and other insurance, language training, housing, salary, office expenses, and education of their children.
- 17. Nuer Bibles for students at Mekane Yesus Affiliate Schools, Ethiopia** **\$5,000**
 Funds will be used to purchase Bibles in the Nuer language to be distributed to the students attending the Mekane Yesus affiliated schools in Gambella and Awassa, Ethiopia.
- 18. Nursing Student Mercy Medical Team, Madagascar – Office of International Mission** **\$2,500**
 Recognized Service Organization of LCMS
 Funds are to aid in the expenses for Concordia University-Irvine nursing students to participate in a mission trip with the Mercy Medical Team to Madagascar.
- 19. Opportunity Mission Outreach, LWML Washington-Alaska District** **\$6,000**
Short Term Missions Committee
 Funds are for financial assistance for an individual LCMS woman in our Washington-Alaska District to participate on a short term mission trip.
- 20. Secondary School, Ouanaminthe, Haiti – Nord Est Haiti Lutheran Mission (NEHLM)** **\$9,000**
 This grant will allow students now attending off campus to continue their Lutheran education in a Christian school with the expense of a 7th grade.

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|---|----------------|
| 21. Sewing Mission Society-India – Office of International Mission
Recognized Service Organization of LCMS
Funds would be used to create a tailoring center for ladies – aimed at teaching Lutheran women students of 18-25 years old, along with widows, the art of garment making. | \$2,500 |
| 22. Shepherd’s Canyon Retreat
Recognized Service Organization of LCMS
Funds would be for a scholarship for two people to attend a week-long counseling retreat for full-time ministry workers who are in the midst of burnout, stress, depression, and conflicts of all kinds. | \$3,500 |
| 23. Trinity/HOPE – Feeding Program in Haiti
Trinity/HOPE provides a vital feeding program to the Christian school ministry in Haiti.
Funds help to provide noon meals for one year to a Lutheran school in Haiti. | \$5,000 |
| 24. Veterans of the Cross
Recognized Service Organization of LCMS
Veterans of the Cross provides small, periodic stipends and pastoral care for church work retirees (or their surviving spouses) who struggle to pay for basic living expenses. | \$2,500 |

2016 Sunday Offering Recipient Proposals

1. Alaska Mission for Christ
2. Cross My Art
3. Lutheran Women’s Missionary League 75th Anniversary Thank Offering

Mission Servants Committee

Marilee Griffith, Chairman

At the Board of Directors meeting in Everett this spring we collected for the Everett Gospel Mission and the response was terrific! The agency was very excited about the delivery of 411 items of clothing, hats, gloves, towels, toiletries and grocery items. A big thank you to the ladies and gentlemen from Immanuel Lutheran in Everett, who helped us sort and count all the goods on Friday evening!

We’re looking forward to the Gifts from the Heart event at the District Convention in June, where we will gather items for Lutheran Community Services Northwest (LCSN) for their Refugee Resettlement Program. 350 families will be resettling in Washington State in 2016. Basic items collected will help get them started in their new homes. LCSN has supplied us with a list of things that will be needed. Please work with your local society or zone to gather items to be delivered to the convention in Everett.

Our Love in Action Servant Events will take place on Friday afternoon, June 17, in which all convention attendees can participate. We will be tying fleece blankets, also known as “knot blankets,” for the Oasis Teen Center in Mount Vernon and Domestic Violence Services of Snohomish County. At the same time, we will be assembling School Kits for Lutheran World Relief (LWR) with the items that Zone Presidents were requested to provide. We will complete 48 kits to send to LWR in the fall. Please have your designated items to the Everett Ballroom III by noon on Friday!

See you in Everett!



District Theme 2014-2016

God's Empowerment... Our Variety... For God's Purpose

God enables us to boldly and actively use our variety of gifts and talents as we enthusiastically share the Good News and His love with each other, our neighbors, and people throughout the world.

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).

Heart to Heart Sisters Committee

Allison Akahoshi, Chairman

Excitement is growing as we finalize our plans to meet new Heart to Heart Sisters at the LWML District Convention in Everett, June 17-19. We will begin our sessions on Thursday night, the 16th, at 7 p.m. Note: The registration, all food, a shared room, breakfast, and other items are free of cost to the new Sisters. If you have any questions, contact Allison Akahoshi.

We look forward to visits by LWML President Patti Ross and District President Marie Chow during our sessions and a special guest. We will have Heart to Heart Sisters information, multicultural objects to view, and giveaways at our exhibit table. Please greet the new Sisters (who will be wearing purple scarves). Stop to talk to them and be blessed.

Young Women Committee

Heather Selset, Chairman

The time is fast approaching for the Young Woman Representatives (YWRs) to meet at the convention! I've been working to get their schedule balanced between having time together as a group, spending time/sitting with their delegates/societies, and also having some down time to regroup between activities. In our group time, we'll be participating in Bible studies, question and answer sessions, and a service project. For our project, we will be taking plastic bags from various stores and cutting/looping them together into "skeins" of plastic, where they will be crocheted into lightweight, waterproof, temperature-controlled mats for the homeless. The YWRs will also have the opportunity to give the devotion at the Sunday morning session, where we'll announce the winner of a hand-made LWML blanket that you can enter to win at our YWR booth in the exhibit hall. You won't want to miss it!

Public Relations Committee

Janet Rust, Chairman

Oh, I do hope you've registered for the 2016 District Convention! There will be displays and exhibits galore, the LWML Store, and Concordia Publishing House Store. We have lots of new items, everything from note pads to Bible studies, jewelry, and clothing with the Washington-Alaska District logo. Many of the items will make great gifts for your family and friends, and other resources will help you to use "God's Gifts for God's Glory," those gifts that make you God's unique child. Both stores will also be carrying some of Donna Pyle's publications; Donna will be the keynote speaker and will lead our Bible study. After getting to know her, you are sure to want another opportunity to hear her encouragement and words of wisdom in her publications.

Whether it's a tote bag, a scarf, a purple umbrella, a book, or a devotional booklet, we will have it for you. See you soon!

District Counselor

Pastor Michael Wenzel, Senior Pastoral Counselor-West



Mission Statement

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.

To the Ladies (and Men) Beloved in the Lord of the LWML:

As my time in office as your pastoral counselor comes to an end, let me thank you for the opportunity to serve you. You have charged my spiritual batteries as I have seen your service to God and the people around you. I have seen selfless giving through your gifts of Time, Talent and Finances. God has blessed you greatly. Your gifts of Love to the Lord have been magnificent! As you complete the projects you have placed before you, rather than sitting on your laurels, you continue to establish new mission projects and begin anew to follow the example your Lord set for you of service.

In a way, it makes me think of the disciples who were walking on the road to Emmaus, in particular to the time when they had realized that the Lord had been opening Scripture to them. They said: "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road...?"

That is what I believe you have going for you in the LWML. You are in league with our Lord. You understand by faith what your mission is (in part) in God's kingdom and your hearts burn within you as you live in the love of the Lord. You are joined one with the other in service in the family of God. Don't ever stop.

Keep up the good work. Know that, as a brother in Christ, you have my love as well, as we work for our God in his kingdom.

In His Service, and Yours, Pastor Mike

Christian Life Committee

Cheryl L. Beyer, Vice President of Christian Life

Remember Your Baptism!



Baptism was instituted by Jesus! The Holy Spirit is received in Baptism and we are united with Christ. In our Baptism we are adopted as a child of God, our sins are forgiven and we are given power to resist sin and to live for God! Amen! However, we all have those moments when all we can do is groan deep within. In those moments remember we are united with Christ! *Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God* (Romans 8:26-27). The very Holy Spirit joined with us in our Baptism, intercedes for us. We are never alone. The Spirit helps us in our weakness. What wonderful solace and grace! Let's remember our Baptism daily. Let's begin and end each day "In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen." Powerful stuff and our rock solid foundation. From this solid foundation, we can graciously use **"God's Gifts for God's Glory"** as we know that **"God enables us to boldly and actively use our variety of gifts and talents as we enthusiastically share the Good News and His love with each other, our neighbors, and people throughout the world."** And we are never ever alone in this mission. See you all at the District Convention in June!

The Lord is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

Zone News



Blue Mountain Zone

Wilma Gardner, President

The Blue Mountain Zone Joyshop was held at Bethlehem, Kennewick on April 23. Our guest speaker was Chariss Warner, the Women and Children's Director of the Tri-City Union Gospel. We had an ingathering of gifts for the Mission. The district representatives were Sandy Geisler and Pam Rafferty. Societies in attendance were Hermiston, Richland, Pasco, Walla Walla, and Kennewick.



East Inland Empire Zone

Heather Selset, President

The East Inland Empire (EIE) Zone had a wonderful Spring Rally! Hosted by Christ the King, Coeur d'Alene, 71 attended for fellowship, gathering of items for Union Gospel Mission's women and children's ministry, a presentation by Pastor Jon Muhly about the conditions in Russia, and we also saw to various business matters. Speaking of business, you'll notice I called it the "Spring Rally." For the longest time, our zone has just had two "Rallies" a year, not a Spring "Joyshop." At this gathering, we decided to mix it up!

Starting this fall, we will have a "Fall Rally" with a business meeting and a speaker, like normal, and in the spring, we will have a "Joyshop" that focuses more on service projects and activities! The ladies have been given the task of brainstorming over the summer for what we might do next spring. I'm excited for the changes coming about for the EIE Zone!



Lake Washington Zone

Deaconess Ruth Ann Shimoi, President

The LWML Lake Washington Zone met on Saturday, April 30. Our theme was "Just a Cup..." The PowerPoint presentation was downloaded from the LWML (national) resources page. While the full title is "Just a Cup of Coffee," we decided to shorten it because not "everyone" drinks coffee. The direction the topic took us was "relationships." Taking the time, over a cup of... to meet a new woman. All of us are part of God's kingdom and to share the joy is what we are to do. In our "busyness," how good are we at meeting a new person and then taking time to meet her?

All Saints Lutheran Church was the host church and as you can see by the pictures, the tables were amazing; our take-home favor was a teabag with a saying on the tag. Two examples: "Jesus is good to the last drop," and "Lord, help me out of hot water." Our youngest attendee was five, soon to be six. We are looking forward to the district convention and making new friends.



Society Corner

Ladies Aid, Immanuel Lutheran, Everett

Kay Thomsen, Secretary

On April 14, Ladies Aid of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Everett, Washington prepare cookies and ice cream sandwiches for Cocoon House, an Everett shelter for homeless teens.

Please copy this issue for the women in your church!

Print it in grayscale for copying on the copy machine or print out all the copies in color.

If you would like to receive a colored issue via email, contact the Circulation Manager. (This is the best way!)

A special thank-you to Elizabeth Cook who put together this *Evergreen Echoes* issue!



(L to R): Linda Rodgers, Charlene Leese, Barbara Kunkel, Janet Bernhardt



(L to R): Joanne Dye, Charlene Leese



Recycling

Judy Peraino, Recycling Coordinator



If you want to bring your recyclables to the convention in June, I will gladly take them. Earnings are down, but I believe we can increase them once checking the qualifying lists becomes familiar.

Please go to www.fundingfactory.com or www.greenhippo.com to compare your cartridges and laser toners (plus cell phones, tablets and small electronics at Green Hippo) with their qualifying lists. I have found that Green Hippo accepts more than Funding Factory.

For more information and registering, please go to www.greenhippo.com. Smartphones, iPads, and tablets are worth more than cartridges.

Thank you very much for your support.

If you have any questions or would like shipping labels, my contact information is in the roster.

Memories of a Mentor

Mary Abdi

Editor's Note: In reflecting on a life well lived in Glad Service to the Lord, Mary Abdi shares some moments with Past District President Betty Ross that helped her shape her own work in Serving the Lord with Gladness. Past District President Betty Ross went to the Lord in January 2016.

In spite of deteriorating health, Betty decided she wanted to go to the LWML Washington-Alaska District Convention in Wenatchee in June, 2014. Although the convention center was a beautiful location, it was large; I worried that it would be too much walking for Betty, so we took a wheelchair just in case.

The first morning of the convention, I was just about ready to leave my room. I thought I'd better give Betty a call and then help her over to the convention center. I called her on her cell phone. It rang for some time. I worried with every ring. Oh dear! I hoped everything was all right! Finally, I heard Betty's voice. It sounded like a lot of people were in her room! She said, "Oh hi there! I decided to walk over with my friends! I'm at the convention center—where are YOU? You better hurry up! There are some beautiful displays here!" That was pretty much the theme for my convention experience that year—running to keep up with Betty!

Betty was always a forward thinker. We share the same quality of being big idea folks! Sometimes, we would leave various LWML meetings at different levels where the words "we can't..." were uttered by some. On the way home, Betty always would have the "we can" idea! Quite often, we, the LWML, did break through a limitation to complete a job. Whether for raising money for a mission project, or reaching out to the church youth, or putting together a zone event, Betty plowed ahead; and with the help of our dear heavenly Father and many helping hands of faithful LWML sisters in Christ, the job would become completed.



For more ideas on how to be a mentor, please visit:

<http://www.lwml.org/free-resources/2015/10/mentoring-resources>

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

2014-2016 LWML Washington-Alaska District Roster

President
Marie Chow

Recording Secretary
Peggy Lohse

Treasurer
Karen Schuster

Financial Secretary
Donna Chow

Counselor - Senior
Rev. Michael Wenzel

Counselor - Junior
Rev. Timothy Winterstein

Vice President of Gospel Outreach
Marilee Ryan

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Order mite boxes from and/or send any roster changes to
Corresponding Secretary Linda Miller.

Key

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

If you would like to email any of the above personnel that does not an email address listed, please send your email to lwml.wa.ak.webmaster@gmail.com and our Webmaster will direct it to the correct person. Thanks!

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Lutheran Women's Missionary League Washington-Alaska District 30th Biennial Convention

June 17–19, 2016

Holiday Inn – Everett, Washington



Convention Theme

God's Gifts for God's Glory

The convention theme is based on the following Scripture passage:

*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).*

Convention Goal Statement

Knowing that God empowers everyone with different gifts, service, and activities,
I seek to use those gifts, service, and activities to minister to others,
so that others may know and experience the love of Jesus.

Convention Objectives

Convention attendees are given opportunities for and motivated to:

- Praise and worship God for His love and His gifts;
- Use their varieties of gifts and talents in service to Christ; and
- Share the love of Christ and the message of salvation in Christ alone to those near and far.