



Filled with His Will



Evergreen Echoes

LWML Washington-Alaska District

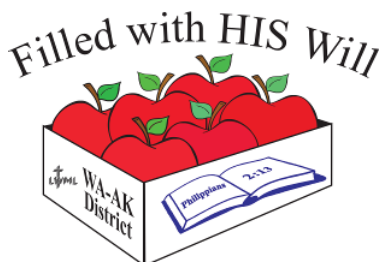
Summer, 2014

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EVERGREEN ECHOES Fall

DEADLINE: JULY 31, 2014



Mission Statement 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.

Greetings from the LWML WA-AK District President

Filled Buckets...

Greetings, from the windy desert, just south of the snowcapped mountains. It is amazing how fast these four years have traveled by me so quickly. I had so many things on the bucket list to accomplish, only a few left undone. Now a house burned down wasn't on that list, but it happened and God helped us through it all. He prepared us for the plan he had. He made sure my bucket was filled with His will at all times.



The Bible refers to our today's "bucket" as containers, jugs, vessels, and baskets. How often do we go to the cupboard and find not enough flour or oil in the container to make something to eat. Elijah went to the widow of Zarephath, wanting water in a vessel and to eat a morsel of bread. He told her that neither the jar of flour, nor the jug of oil would ever be empty until the Lord sends rain upon the earth. 1 Kings 17:8-16. Her bucket was filled and never empty. She didn't keep it in the jug; she poured it out and shared the nourishment.

Like the widow, Christians let their light shine for all to see. It is not hidden under a basket but placed on a stand to give light to others. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Matt. 5:16. God's Word isn't just for you inside that bucket, pour it out.

Sometimes the bad finds its way into our buckets; with God's Word and guidance we can sort it out and throw it away. In the parable of the net, Matthew 13:47-49, fish of every kind were gathered, men drew the net ashore and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous.

God watches over those who are His. The past four years I gathered things into my bucket and with God's help, He continually filled my bucket with faith, love, kindness, compassion, mercy, grace, prayer, confidence, encouragement, leadership, and salvation. He calls me to reach into that bucket and share the Word with others. I am part of this Filled Bucket Brigade, are you? Thank you for the honor of leading this compassionate LWML District.



In His Service together, MaryLynn Huntwork



LWML Washington-Alaska District Board

Recycling News

We have earned a total of \$17,709.00 for convention expenses with \$1,982.64 earned during 2012-2014. Contests: In Recycle Rumble, from Jan. to April, we were paired with JFK Rehabilitation Center in NJ. As of April 26, the score was WA-AK 596 to JFK 104. The winner receives 25% more on the qualified units sent in. District contest: S. Columbia Zone's recycling efforts won them the gift card and gift basket for earning the most per society - \$11.90. Congratulations!

From 2003 to March 2014, out of 418 WA organizations we are Number 1 in two categories: units sent in and qualified units. We are also number 1 of 1,590 "Other organizations" in category total qualifying units!! Keep up the good work.

Items can be mixed with the guideline of 20/20 – 20 items or between 20 and 40 pounds. Pack to keep items from leaking or being damaged.

Advertise this project to your congregation and friends. Other businesses can be asked to help support us, also. www.fundingfactory.com has more information.

"The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world and all who live in it; for he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters." Psalm 24:1
—Judy Peraino

Forms needed for the convention and other convention-related items may be downloaded from the district website:
www.wa-aklwml.org

PLEASE COPY THIS ISSUE FOR THE LADIES 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 ISSUES VIA E-MAIL, CONTACT THE CIRCULATION MANAGER, DENISE CRAWFORD. THIS IS THE BEST WAY!

District President



Marie Chow – Lake Washington Zone

Marie has been an active LWML member for 22 years. In her church she served as a Sunday School teacher, Congregational Vice President, and Financial Secretary. She also served on Altar Guild and in several other areas. In her Society she has served in all areas including as a Young Woman Representative. At the Zone level she has served as Secretary-Treasurer and a Convention Delegate. In the WA-AK District she has served as Planner, Vice President of Servant Resources, Nominating Committee Chairman, and Recording Secretary. For LWML Marie served on the 2009 LWML Host Committee, Leader Development Committee member, and Meeting Manager.



Sandi Hall – North Columbia Zone

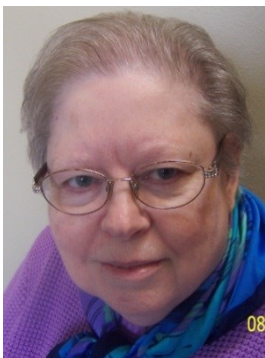
Sandi has been active in LWML for 17 years. Her church activities include VBS, Retreats and Servant Events. In Sandi's community she has volunteered with CareNet, the Homeless Shelter and many others. Sandi has served in most offices in her Society and as Zone President and Zone Human Care. Sandi has served on the Convention Committee, Public Relations and as Vice President of Human Care in the WA-AK District. She also served on the 2009 LWML Convention Hostess Committee.



Marilee Ryan – Mount Baker Zone

Marilee has been active in LWML for 16 years. She attends Bible Studies, VBS, and quilting. She serves on Altar Guild, as Pre-School chairman, and as Council Secretary among others. Marilee works with children of MOPS, volunteers as a tutor and an adult educator. Marilee has served as President, Secretary and Treasurer in her Society. She has served as Zone President in Alaska before moving to Washington. In the WA-AK District she has served on the Retreat Committee, Gospel Outreach committee, Vice President of Christian Life, and Vice President of Gospel Outreach. She also volunteered at the 2009 LWML Convention. Marilee attended LWML Leadership Training and presented that information to various zones.

Vice President of Servant Resources



Sandy Geisler – Inter-Valley Zone

Sandy has been active in LWML for 30+ years and has served in many areas in her church including Congregation Secretary, Board of Education Chair, Sunday School, Parenting Class Facilitator, VBS and Youth Group leader. She is also very active in her community. She has served many areas of her local Society – President, Secretary, and Retreat Leader among them. She has been Zone Vice President and served WA-AK District on the Structure Committee and Host Convention Committee. She also helped at the 2009 LWML Convention. Sandy is competent in composition, editing, data processing and spreadsheets.

Vice President of Human Care



Elizabeth Cook – Rainier Zone

Elizabeth has been active in LWML for 5+ years. She is active in her Society and has served as President. She served on her Zone Bylaw Committee. In the WA-AK District Elizabeth served as the District Young Woman Representative and on the YWR Committee as a member and Chairman. At her home church she sings in the choir. Elizabeth is proficient in Office suite programs.



Carol Lee Drager – Alaska Zone

Carol has been active in LWML for 30+ years. She is also active in her community and has served as PTA President and in the Public Health Service Wives Club. Carol has been active in her society as President and Vice President. She has served several times as Zone president and Vice President. On the WA-AK District Board she has served as Vice President of Gospel Outreach and Vice President of Christian Life. Carol is also active in her church's Sunday School.

Financial Secretary



Donna Chow – Lake Washington Zone

Donna has been active in LWML for 9 years. She has served her church in many capacities including Sunday School teacher and Financial Secretary. She has served on the District Scholarship Committee. Donna has computer skills including many Microsoft office products.



LeeAnn Tibbals – East Inland Empire Zone

LeeAnn has been active in LWML for 29 years. She has served her church as Fellowship Board chair and Sunday School teacher. In her society she has served as President, Secretary and Treasurer and in her Zone as Secretary and President. In the WA-AK District she has been Recording Secretary, Vice President of Servant Resources, Vice President of Gospel Outreach, Editor and served on the Nominating Committee. LeeAnn also served on the 2009 LWML Convention Committee as Staff Services Chairman. She is proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel and Publisher and Power Point.

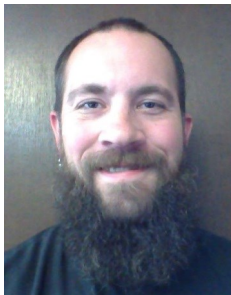
Pastoral Counselor – East (cont. on next page)



Rev. Mark Squire - North Columbia Zone

Pastor Squire did his Vicarage at Chapel of the Cross in St. Peters, Michigan. He serves Salem Lutheran Church, Marlin, Washington, and Zion-Emmanuel in Odessa, Washington. He has his MDiv from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri, and is working on his STM from Concordia. He has worked in his community and church in many capacities. He has attended a zone rally, worked at the LWML Store in St. Louis, and attended two LWML Conventions as an employee. He would enjoy serving as a spiritual advisor to the WA-AK District Board, helping with devotions and worship and serving in any number of areas.

Pastoral Counselor – East Cont.



Rev. Timothy Winterstein-South Columbia Zone

Pastor Winterstein graduated from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri, and has served two churches in Minnesota before accepting a call to Faith Lutheran. He appreciates the role the LWML plays in mission work and local congregations. He served as a Circuit Counselor in the Minnesota North District. Pastor Winterstein would be happy to contribute to the theological support of the LWML WA-AK District.

Nominating Committee



Linda Huyck – Rainier Zone

Linda has been in LWML for 14 years and has served her Society as President and Secretary. She has also served as Secretary for her Zone. She enjoys visiting shut-ins, serving as an ESL Tutor, reading and writing with elementary school students and assisting with Cub Scouts.



Judy Ikerd – Rainier Zone

Judy has been active for 40 years in LWML. She is active in her community's After School Program as a tutor and has served her local church as a Sunday school teacher, Congregation Vice President and on the Mission Outreach Board. Judy has been active in her Society as President, Christian Life, and Secretary. She has served as Zone Secretary and President.



Judy Jeffery – East Inland Empire Zone

Judy has been active in LWML for 12 years. She serves as Financial Director of the Clearwater River Chapter of Thrivent and serves as Organist for her church. Judy has served as Treasurer of her Society and served the WA-AK District as Corresponding Secretary, Meeting Manager, and member of the Human Care Committee. She is proficient in Microsoft Word and Excel.



Cristina McAnulty – Alaska Zone

Cristina has served 7+ years in LWML. She is active in her church and society, helping with VBS and many LWML activities. Cristina is Vice President of the Alaska Zone and serves on the District Mission Grants Committee. She is also proficient in MS Word, MS Excel, copiers and office phones.

Cont.

**Heidi Penkert – East Inland Empire Zone**

Heidi has been an active LWML member for 30 years. She has volunteered at the Homeless Shelter and 4-H in her community and served as Vice President of her Society. Heidi is active in her church as Sunday School Superintendant, Youth Leader, Secretary and Community Dinner Coordinator. In her Zone she has served as President, Vice President and Christian Growth chairman. She has been active on District Committees including chairing Member Development and the Heart to Heart Committees.

**Pam Rafferty – Inter-Valley Zone**

Pam has been active in LWML for 20 years. She has served her church and community as a Bible Study leader, Sunday School teacher, VBS, Evangelism committee chair and served on her church council. Pam has served as President, Vice President and Treasurer of her Society and Zone President and Vice President. She has been active on the District board as Financial Secretary, Convention Committee, and Meeting Manager. Pam also served on the LWML Convention Host Committee in Sioux Falls. She is proficient in MS Office, Excel and website maintenance.

**Marilyn Schaefer – Mount Baker Zone**

Marilyn has been in LWML for 40 years. She worked in the community with Camp Fire and is active in her church in many areas including Worship Committee, VBS, Altar Guild, Choir and Life Light facilitator. In Marilyn's Society she has served as President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. She has served as Zone Vice President and was a Delegate to the Peoria LWML convention. Marilyn serves as the Leader Development Committee Chair on the District Board.

Structure Committee**Bylaws**

Well, here you are. You have just been elected to an office in your LWML organization. What next? A good place to start is your organization bylaws (e.g., society, zone, district). The information you need to keep your organization running smoothly should be contained in your bylaws. Bylaws should contain a list of officers and lists of the duties of all the officers, as well as the permanent committees. For society officers: when the district convention approaches, you should be able to check to see how to choose a delegate and what expenses are paid for the delegate. For all officers: other helpful information should answer questions about how your organization works.



If your bylaws have not been updated in a few years, now would be a good time to get that done. It sounds like a big job, but there are folks to help you with that. Just contact any of the district Structure Committee members.

We hope to see you at the district convention in Wenatchee and stop by the Structure Committee display.

Your District Structure Committee,
Sandy Geisler
Ruth Ann Shimoi
Marie Chow, Chairman



Convention Speakers



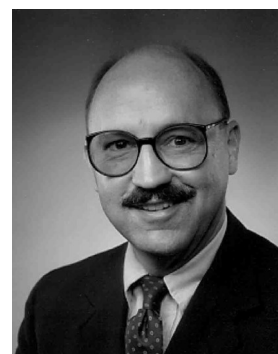
The Rev. Dr. Robert Roegner, LWML Junior Pastoral Counselor, LWML Representative. Rev. Roegner will be our Masters of Ceremonies at our Saturday Evening Dinner Banquet. He thinks highly of the LWML. Because of his passion for sharing Jesus as our Lord and Savior with billions of people around the world, he says he values his involvement with LWML because he loves being around people who match and even exceed his personal desire to save the lost for Christ.

The Rev. Paul Linnemann, President of the Northwest District – LCMS. President Linnemann will bring greetings from the LCMS – Northwest District. He will officiate at the Opening Worship Service and lead us in Saturday’s Bible Study. Pastor Linnemann and his wife Cindy enjoy being “ministry partners” and have found ways to share whatever ministry God has set before them. Their family motto since 1992 has been Joshua’s words, “As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”



The Rev. Dr. Victor J. Belton will be our keynote speaker and proclaimer at the Friday evening opening worship service. He is no stranger to LWML, having attended two district conventions and the 2013 Convention in Pittsburg, PA. Pastor Belton is greatly humbled by these opportunities to serve and grateful that Jesus has called him to encourage His people at the LWML WA-AK District 2014 Convention as they are “Filled with HIS Will.”

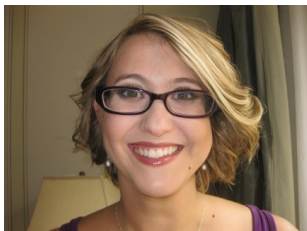
Don Mertes will be representing Orphan Grain Train. He is one of our Interest Session Leaders, “Servant Hands.” He served as Development Officer at Concordia University, Portland, OR and a Board Member, Concordia Lutheran School, Salem, OR. Part of Don’s guiding focus in his ministry is “Development is the use of Scriptural principles of and an understanding of the depths of God’s love and care for His people.”



The Rev. Dr. Gary L. Danielsen will be one of Interest Session Leaders, Operation Barnabas. He is a native of Massapequa and Smithtown, Long Island, New York. He is a Chaplain Colonel United States Army Retired with a long list of duties and offices across the nation. Rev. Danielsen served on the Board for Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services and Lutheran Advocates for Safe Families.

Convention Speakers Cont.

Leesa Yhim will be one of our Mission Luncheon Speakers. Leesa is Lutheran World Relief's Engagement Manager. Her passion is meeting and serving people by helping them engage in God's ministry through generosity and acts of service. Leesa was an overseas missionary in 14 countries and a Christian Education and Missions Minister for 17 years.



Denise Jasmer will be our Mission Opportunity Speaker. Denise has been living in China for the past 5 years, working with an organization called Eden Ministry. She is a nurse and an educator reaching out to at-risk young women, teaching them how to make good choices and to value themselves and their future. She says "I am excited to see what God will continue to do in me and these ministries."

Linda Gage is an LWML Gift Planning Counselor. Linda will be one of our Interest Session Speakers, "What faith legacy will you leave behind?" Linda has been actively involved in gift development and planned giving for 16 years and is a certified Christian Development Executive. Volunteerism has always been important to her, serving in a leadership position in many national and local LCMS Boards and committees.



Steve Zielke will be a Mission Servant Speaker at convention. Steve just completed serving his third year as principal of Lutheran High School in Springfield, IL. Karen and Steve's oldest son, Philip, founded Phil's Friends during his second battle with cancer on his hospital bed in 2005. The Zielke's have witnessed God's hand in action as the organization has experienced steady growth from bringing hope to about one hundred cancer patients a year to the present day totals of over 3000 a week.

Ruth Zellar an Alaskan resident for 42 years will be one of our Interest Session Leaders and Mites in Action Speaker. Ruth works with the Alaska Mission for Christ (AMC) as the servant events' coordinator for the AMC and spends most of her time on the phone with volunteers or picking up volunteers for the scheduled servant events. She shares many stories associated with the volunteers under her wings.



Deaconess Lorraine Hingston Roach, a native of Moscow, Idaho, loves studying God's Word traveling, cultural experiences, and skiing. (She met her husband while skiing.) Her life experiences are varied and exciting. She has lived in Europe, worked in public relations and marketing for the U. S. Dept. of Defense, traveled extensively, helped manage her family's hotel and restaurant businesses, founded a strategic planning and economic development consulting firm. In 2012 she received a Masters of Theology and Deaconess degree from Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, IN. In August 2013 she was part of an LCMS Mercy Medical Team Mission trip to Madagascar.



To Be



Convention Pianist



Cheryl Rolf is a graduate of Concordia University, Chicago. Cheryl will be our pianist at convention. She has served St. Paul's in the Wenatchee Valley for the last eleven years. She teaches the Young Fives class, Early Childhood Lead Teacher, Elementary Choir Director, Elementary Band Director, Adult Choir Director and main organist for worship services at St. Paul's Lutheran church.

Convention Choir Director

Pam Duggan will be our choir director and song leader at convention. Pam is a lifelong Lutheran and the choir director in many churches in the local area. She attended Concordia College, Portland and Central Washington University where she studied organ. Pam earned from CWU a major in education, a minor in music and a Masters of Social Work from Eastern Washington University.



The Wenatchee Valley Applearies will be our Saturday Evening Dinner Banquet Entertainment. You won't want to miss this local musical artist group. They have roots as a Sweet Adelines group. They perform throughout the year at various local events and in the spring they are a part of the International Choral Festival which features Canadian and Washington State groups.



Short-Term Missions

The Short-Term Missions will have a table exhibit at the convention this year. What we hope to do is inspire people to join the board and help with various projects. I also plan to have a board up with pictures of my trip to Africa and other mission trips. The table will have information about how to get involved with missions. I hope everyone will stop by the table to check it out.

June 19 I will be putting my 17 year old on a plane to Uganda, Africa, as part of a mission team. I'm very excited for her. It was my dream that my daughters would embrace missions as I have. Thank you Lord!

Serving Him, Traci Blank Short-Term Missions

The Willing Messenger

Please e-mail pre-convention articles for the convention newsletter, "The Willing Messenger," to Gigi at gigilutz@yahoo.com by **June 5, 2014.**

Maps, room designations for events, activities, etc. are appropriate for the newsletter. A mailing will be sent out to WA-AK District Committees regarding this request.

Preparing to “Prepare the Way” at Convention!



The members of the Young Women Committee have been busy preparing for the LWML Washington -Alaska District Convention to be held in Wenatchee from June 20-22. Have you registered?

We are working on a jam-packed program of activities for Young Women Representatives (YWRs) attending convention! Young women will have opportunities to meet and get to know each other during a Friday evening dinner as well as at breakfast and devotions each morning. We will help with the Gifts from the Heart and servant events, participate in a special processional, meet special guests attending the convention, and present a devotion to the convention body on Sunday morning. And there is much more!

Women ages 18-35 can participate in the Young Women Program by registering for the convention as a Young Woman Representative on your registration form. If you have questions about attending the district convention as a YWR, please contact Amanda Haan at amanda.haan@yahoo.com or 509-378-8492.

Over 35? Please encourage the young women in your society and church to attend the convention in Wenatchee, and show them where to mark their registration form to participate as a Young Woman Representative! We look forward to seeing you in Wenatchee in June!

Your Young Women Committee,
Amanda Haan, Chairperson
Chris White, Heather Selset, and Andromeda White

Christian Life

Alleluia! Alleluia!

A Note from the Easter Bunny:

Hi there friends,

Seriously, do you really think I am the Easter Bunny? Well in truth, I am a real bunny and I live in the woods near Lake Goodwin. My photo is used on Easter cards telling of Jesus – so I am, in fact, a real Easter Bunny. Let's not forget that Jesus died and rose again for the sins and salvation of you human types. Let's thank the Lord! He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia! —Sincerely, The Easter Bunny



PS: Now let's sing!

“Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to heaven and voices raise: Sing to God a hymn of gladness, Sing to God a hymn of praise. He who on the cross a victim for the world's salvation bled – Jesus Christ the King of Glory, Now is risen from the dead.

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Death at last has met defeat: See the ancient powers of evil in confusion and retreat; Once He died, and once was buried: Now He lives forevermore, Jesus Christ the world's Redeemer, Whom we worship and adore.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory be to God on high: Alleluia to the Savior Who has gained the victory; Alleluia to the Spirit, Fount of love and sanctity! Alleluia! Alleluia! To the triune Majesty!” Amen

LSB 477

May this song be stuck in your heads until we all meet again at the Convention in Wenatchee – see you soon!

Easter Blessings,
Your sisters in Christ, The Christian Life Committee
Cheryl L. Beyer, VP Christian Life

Leadership Development

Mentoring Resources

Oh, there are so many resources available from LWML! Go to the homepage at www.lwml.org for the latest information on missions, resources, ministries, events, and giving. For our “local” news, activities, and support services see the LWML WA-AK District website at www.wa-aklwml.org.

Check out the section, Developing Leaders (formerly Leader Helps) under the Resources tab on the LWML website, which currently lists 17 helps in downloadable (and free) PDF format to aid us in preparing our LWML sisters to share our “mission” with other women in our congregations.

Elections may be coming soon in your society or zone. Afraid to take a position? No need to be concerned! The predecessor is your perfect mentor. Want someone else to serve in your position? Be a mentor! Check out the time-tested and wonderful Woman to Woman Mentoring program, which encourages intentional mentoring. The Mentoring Resource Kit brings a variety of activities together in a united program that is “designed for retreats, workshops, or a series of meetings” to assist you, your society, or zone to provide helps in mentoring. It includes visual aids for presentation, a Bible study, and a mentoring meal suggestion. Download and print the following segments for use in your chosen activity.

- | | |
|---|---|
| * Helpful Resources for Mentoring PowerPoint Script | * Helpful Resources for Mentoring PowerPoint Presentation |
| * Naomi and Ruth Bible Study Participants Guide | * Naomi and Ruth Bible Study PowerPoint Presentation |
| * Naomi and Ruth Bible Study PowerPoint Script | * Mentoring Brunch |
| * Mentoring Match Up Game | * Mentoring Match Up Game Answer Key |

With guidance from the Holy Spirit we can use these studies and activities to encourage our society members to share God’s grace, their faith, their knowledge, their talents, and their commitment to the mission of the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League.

Your Leader Development Committee
Margaret Ebert
Marilyn Schaefer, Chairman

Counselor’s Chat Corner

TASTE THE GOODNESS

It has been said that 82 percent of households of North America own a barbeque grill. I am told that 97 percent use their grills at least one time a year. What do the other three percent do with their grills? I have read that 92 percent of the people around us own a Bible, but only 37 percent read the Bible.

The culinary barbecue creations are special delights for our taste buds. The food and cooking skills are gifts from God for people to enjoy. This is true of barbeque, and it is also true of God’s Word, the Bible. Just as the barbeque feasts are good to our tastes, so in God’s Word we taste the sweet forgiveness of sins through Jesus. The Psalmist states “Oh taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him.” Psalm 34:8. I invite you to taste the good food of summer and the good news in the Bible.

-Ken Schauer, Sr. Counselor, Eastside

Human Care

Greetings in the name of our Risen Savior, Jesus Christ!

I am looking forward to "Being Filled With His Will at the LWML WA-AK District Convention in June, I hope you are too! If you haven't registered please do so. We have seven **Love In Action Servant Events** planned. Two greeting card projects will be sponsored by the Mount Baker Zone, Drops of Blood pins sponsored by the North Columbia Zone and quilt tying by the South Columbia Zone. I would like to have attendees from the other zones who are not sponsoring a servant event to contact me by email sandrahall1918@msn.com soon, so I can assign you a servant event to hostess on Friday or Saturday. Other servant events planned are cross bookmarks, rekindle kits and packing bags of hope for cancer patients with Phil's Friends.

We also have the **Gifts of the Heart Ingathering for Solomon's Porch**, look for the table next to the Servant Events hosted by the YWR and LWML Teens. This will be for helping the homeless teens in the Wenatchee area. All zones have been asked to provide items from the wish list at www.acts512.org, this is Solomon's Porch web site.

While at the convention be sure to visit the **Human Care display table** in the exhibit hall and pick up your gift.

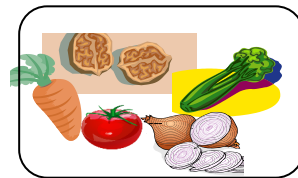
This has been a busy time making final plans for the convention. Many prayer requests have been sent. I have attended the convention planning meetings, and the board of directors meeting for our district. I could not do any of this without the support of my Human Care Committee members Sandi Schauer, Betty Alm and Judy Jeffery. Thank you ladies.

See you in June!
Sandi Hall, VP Human Care Dept.



Gospel Outreach

I hope you are all enjoying a beautiful spring with God's creation blooming forth. It is very interesting to look for God's "signature" on all that He's made...even the food that He provides for us. Take note of some of these signatures. A **sliced carrot** looks like an eye. It is helpful for eyes. A **walnut** looks like a brain, and helps to support brain health and function. **Celery** reminds us of bones and contains 23% sodium just like our bones. Sodium is pulled from our bones if we don't get enough, so eat your celery. **Tomatoes** are excellent for our hearts, are usually red and have four chambers like our heart. A **sliced onion** looks like our cells and help to remove waste material from our cells. We know what an Awesome God we have, but there are many who haven't quite realized that. What a marvelous outreach opportunity to share these signs with others. Genesis 1:29. "Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food...I give every green plant for food." And it was so. We thank and praise you, our Loving Father.



And thank you all for your support in reaching this biennium's mission goal. All grants are **paid in full**, with only \$4,000 for scholarships left to pay when tuition is due.

More students have applied for scholarships starting in the fall, and we have twenty-one grant proposals to vote on at the convention. **The information about the grants was in the bulk mailing.** It has been exciting preparing for the grant presentations, the committee display, and the mite walk.

I look forward to seeing you in Wenatchee in June, meeting you for Walkin' Wenatchee on Fri afternoon at 4:00 and giving you your special walk participation gift. And, of course, participating with you in all the convention activities.

Marilee Ryan, VP Gospel Outreach



Mt. Olive Lutheran, Yakima

The LWML WA-AK District was well represented by the four ladies at the installation of Pastor Kenneth Williamson at Mt. Olive Lutheran on February 16, 2014.

Pictured; First Row: Pam Rafferty, District Meeting Manager; MaryLynn Huntwork, President, Tina Gilkey, Inter-Valley Zone President; Ella Kunkel.

Middle Row: Pastors: Jack Flachsbart; Larry Meyer; Ken Williamson; Mark Griesse.

Back Row: Pastors: Jon Mau and Dan Kunkel and Deacon Don Petersen.

Concordia LWML, Oak Harbor celebrating a “Mitey Muffin” Sunday.





Apron Retreat

To ward off winter blues, the LWML at Trinity Lutheran enjoyed an apron retreat. When one thinks of aprons, one tends to think about food and hospitality. Aprons to be donated to Camp Ortoha were decorated, and cookies were baked to be taken to people serving time in the local jail.

Each person was told ahead of time to bring her favorite apron and be prepared to share the story of why that apron was important to her. They were also told that if they didn't own an apron or forgot to bring one, an apron would be provided, and the person would have to make up a story of the apron's importance.

Pictured above: Front Row: Gigi Lutz, Charli Ann Hawn, Sandi Hall, Paula Lutz. **Back Row:** Sandi Schauer, Trudy Hawn, Sally Eastwood, Val Macintyre, Kathy Bremner, Esther Merrill, Donna Bremner, Julianne Carpenter.



Left: Sandi Hall, Val Macintyre, and Trudy Hawn listen as Paula Lutz shares the story of her gorgeous apron. The apron, with fine cut-out hand work, originally belonged to Paula's grandmother.

Right: Esther Merrill listens as Julianne Carpenter shares a made-up story—a story told with such sincerity that even the person who lent her the apron was in awe that the apron so perfectly fit Julianne's story.



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Mt. Baker Zone Joyshop

The theme of the Mt. Baker Zone Spring Joyshop on April 26 was "Showers of Blessing" based on Ezekiel 34:26 - ... *and I will send down the showers in their season; they shall be showers of blessing.* Fifty seven women and Zone Counselor Reverend Warrens Berger gathered at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Snohomish (Maltby) for a Bible study on the blessings of Baptism. Each society presented a verse from Scripture along with commentary relative to God's blessings. Beautifully and cleverly decorated umbrellas with images, symbols, Bible verses were used as a visual aid for each presentation. An umbrella contest was held. The society from Trinity Lutheran, Mt. Vernon, took the prize for their umbrella; it graphically depicted the blessings that came from the fire that destroyed a large part of their church.

The ingathering was for new clothing, shoes, socks, and backpacks for the Nord Est Haiti Lutheran Mission orphanages in Ouanaminthe. A huge carload was collected and delivered to Lamb of God Lutheran Church in Snohomish from which the mission team will depart for Haiti in summer. Praise God!

-Joyce Berger



**** Rev. Paul and his wife, Cliney, from the Haiti Mission are expecting a baby girl about June 8. Praise God for this new life.—Pastor Sam Wiseman**

Left: Ladies from Trinity Lutheran, Bellingham presented "A showers of blessing" skit.

Right: Part of the umbrella display at the Joyshop.

