



Summer 2017

Evergreen Echoes

www.wa-aklwml.org



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Greetings from

LWML Washington-Alaska District PRESIDENT Marie Chow

Do you know that LWML has a vision statement? It is this: The LWML is the leading group for LCMS women where each woman is welcomed and encouraged to use her unique God-given gifts as she supports global missions and serves the Lord with gladness. What a testament on supporting global missions when we exceeded the 2015-2017 LWML mite goal of \$2,000,000 by \$97,904.23. God has blessed His mission through LWML through us. Praise God!



Dates to Remember:

Evergreen Echoes

Fall Issue DEADLINE:

July 31, 2017 to

EvergreenEchoesEditor@gmail.com



LWML Convention

June 22-25, 2017

Albuquerque, New Mexico



District Retreat

September 29-October 1, 2017

Gig Harbor, Washington

District Convention

June 15-17, 2018

Spokane, Washington

Summer will be here soon! Remember to pray for the LWML Convention in Albuquerque in June and your zone delegate, as she votes on our 2017-2019 mite goal, mission grants, new officers, and proposed bylaw amendments. Invite your zone delegate to attend your society meeting in the fall. We will celebrate LWML 75th anniversary with a parade and party Saturday night. For those attending, remember to cheer those in the parade representing our district!

Before you get busy with your own summer activities, remember to register for the district retreat in Gig Harbor, Washington, September 29 – October 1 and take advantage of the early bird registration fee if you register by August 4. Registration information is found in the bulk mailing that all societies received. Hotel information is on the registration form. (NOTE: The hotel toll-free number has changed. Look inside this issue to find the phone number to use.) You can also find the information on our district website under the “Christian Life” webpage.

As the vision statement states so well, continue to use your time and talent at church, at work, at home, and in the LWML, and encourage others to do the same, so together we serve and share His love with others to His glory.

Serving Christ with You,

Marie Chow

DISTRICT COUNSELOR

Rev. Timothy Winterstein, Senior Pastoral Counselor–East

He is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Many of you are gearing up for the convention in Albuquerque, which you will no doubt enjoy as you see old friends, meet new ones, and rejoice in the Christian fellowship the Lord grants. Our God has blessed us with many good things, but all is bound up in the single, irreversible blessing of God in Christ — His death and resurrection for us.

We are still in the Easter season until Pentecost, which reminds us continually that because Jesus is risen from the dead we live by faith in a completely new reality. The old reality of daily life, struggles, happiness, griefs, and joy still remains. But there is a greater and more significant reality: Jesus has begun a new creation in His own flesh and blood. So, as Paul says, even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature (in Christ) is being renewed day by day (2 Corinthians 4:16). Our flesh clings to us, dragging us into the grave; but Christ is stronger, pulling us with Him into the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting.

So whether it's the small or large blessings of daily life the Lord gives us; the greatest blessing of being baptismally joined to Christ's death and resurrection; the sorrow and struggle of daily life under the burden of sin, sickness, and death; or the grief and pain of losing those we love, our lives are no longer our own but Christ's. The day of resurrection that followed the seventh day is a new eighth day — the eternal day of our Sabbath rest in the risen Christ.

Jesus, the crucified one who is alive forever is the source of all our joy, during these 50 days and always, into eternity. Rejoice in the Lord always! Again, I say, rejoice! Alleluia, indeed!

Leader Development Committee

Charli Hamaker, Chairman

Developing a Leader

What are you doing to develop leaders for LWML? Oops, you did not know (or forgot) that you needed to be doing that. Of course, the time you really remember is nominating time, and no one will step forward to be the president, secretary, Christian Life leader, or whatever for your society.

So what are some of the ways to develop or even find potential leaders? The first is to be able to recognize who among you displays leadership traits, and whether she even knows it herself.

Look around at ladies who are doing things and expressing interest in taking lead roles in your group. Often, certain women really just want to be worker bees. That is very okay because they get the work done, whether it is setting out meals, helping with a fund-raising event, etc. However, sometimes one or two ladies stand out in that they make creative suggestions, or offer to do a project where they make decisions — small or large — to plan and carry out a project or portion of a project. Those women are your potential leaders. And they are excited about taking the lead, making decisions, and following through.

How do you get them involved at the society level, and then later, zone, district, or even national level? Sometimes a woman holds back from lack of encouragement or knowledge. If you are a leader in your society and you recognize a potential leader, take her under your wing and find out what she needs to step out in faith. Offer reinforcement — your help. Educate her about LWML. For instance, take her through the LWML website. Reassure, inspire, cheer, praise, and pray — God is our Leader. He is in charge and will walk hand-in-hand with all who seek His assistance.



This summer the Lutheran Women in Mission will celebrate a milestone of 75 years of serving the Lord with gladness at the 37th Biennial LWML Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, June 22-25, 2017.

Whether attending the convention or celebrating from a distance, everyone is invited to participate in the legacy of the LWML by contributing a gift to the 75th Anniversary Thank Offering which is designated for the LWML Endowment Fund.

Your gift will help the LWML more fully carry out the mission of sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Generous and ongoing gifts to the LWML Endowment also make it possible for earnings to be used for training and equipping leaders in the LWML.

Donations may be given online at www.lwml.org/donate-endowment-fund or mailed to the LWML office at 3558 S Jefferson Ave, St Louis, MO 63118. Note the donation as LWML 75th Anniversary Thank Offering.

Are You Ready for the Saturday Night Diamond Dazzle?

**IT IS TIME TO *Celebrate* THE LWML 75TH ANNIVERSARY
ON SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 2017 AT 7:30 P.M.**

The celebration starts off with a joy-filled parade led by LWML President Patti Ross, LWML Past Presidents, and specific individuals from our own district: District President Marie Chow, District Past Presidents, current Young Woman Representatives, Heart to Heart Sisters, District Leaders, and the Pastoral Counselor.

If you plan to be there, you will play a large part in this parade. When "Washington-Alaska" is announced, those from our district will make lots of noise by using a clacker as the Washington-Alaska contingent make their way through the convention hall. You can get the clacker from Party City. Check out this webpage to get more information: www.partycity.com/products/purple+clacker+necklace.do. The product has SKU 468779 with a web price of \$1.99. If you do not have a Party City close by, you can contact MaryLynn Huntwork at [via the District Webmaster at lwml.wa.ak.webmaster@gmail.com](mailto:lwml.wa.ak.webmaster@gmail.com) to see if she can buy one for you and you can reimburse her at the convention.

VICE PRESIDENT OF GOSPEL OUTREACH

Cristina McAnulty

Gigi Lutz, Mission Grants Committee member

He is Risen! Alleluia!!! Greetings from Alaska and many blessings to all. I pray that you have all enjoyed this Easter season with family and friends. A favorite Bible verse is *For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life* (John 3:16). Thank you to all the women of the LWML Washington-Alaska District and the women from all districts for the blessing of achieving and surpassing the 2015-2017 biennium LWML mission grant goal of \$2,000,000. Received beyond the goal was \$97,904.23.

A statement from LWML President Patti Ross: “Praise and thanksgiving to God! Through Mite Box offerings and generous responses to our Lord’s blessings, LWML will be able to fund all 19 grants chosen by the Des Moines convention in 2015. In humble adoration and with praise to our faithful God, we dedicate these dollars to Him for the work of missionaries and ministries around the world who work to spread the saving message of Christ's love and forgiveness.”

Updated district mission grant information can be found at www.wa-aklwml.org with highlights and prayers. Use this information to spotlight mite collections. You will also find the Mission Grant Proposal Form and Mission Grant Proposal Instructions on the same webpage if you would like to propose a mission grant to be considered for the 2018-2020 biennium.

Even though LWML has reached its biennium goal for 2015-2017, the district still needs to meet its mite goal of \$170,000 (mission grants total \$90,000) by June 2018. Continue to send in mites to support the mission grants! **All mites** collected in societies and zones **MUST** be sent to District Financial Secretary Donna Chow. Be sure to share this information with treasurers in each society/zone.

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

Scholarship Committee

Judy Ikerd, Chairman

Applications for scholarships for the school year 2017-2018 have arrived and have been acknowledged. The committee is now reviewing them and will be sending its recommendation to the Executive Committee to review.

There are two ways that funds support scholarships. One is a mission grant funded with mite dollars. The other is from donations and memorials specifically given for scholarships. Recipients of these scholarships are grateful for the assistance and continue on to serve the Lord. You can continue to support the recipients through your mites and through donations to the scholarship fund.

A recent recipient of an LWML scholarship, Rick McCafferty, is now serving as a Vicar at Anchorage Lutheran Church where he conducts the liturgy and writes sermons. Last fall Rick traveled to New Mexico and, in partnership with Vicar Tim Norton and the Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in Navajo, participated in a cultural exchange week. Rick led a five-day seminar. Rick is involved in a prison ministry to assist incarcerated women, and in Bible studies for men. The Washington-Alaska LWML scholarship has helped Rick to obtain the skills to serve God in many ways.

Archivist-Historian

Nancy Wyckoff

Our History, Back “In the Day”

How *Evergreen Echoes* began:

- Winter of 1947 – A district supplement to the *Lutheran Woman’s Quarterly*, called “Northwest Lutheran Missionary Leaguer,” edited by Mrs. Amelia Nickles, the first President.
- The *Washington Lutheran Missionary Leaguer* was the name in 1956.
- April 1957 – The district supplement is now known as *Evergreen Echoes*. There had been 12 names suggested — five having the name Evergreen, with *Evergreen Echoes* being submitted by Mrs. Melvin McIntyre.
- Most editors served two to three years, but in the fall of 1976, Mrs. Lola Caldwell began as Editor of the *Evergreen Echoes*, and served for 16 years, the longest term to date!

LWML Washington-Alaska District Retreat

September 29 – October 1, 2017
Best Western Wesley Inn & Suites
Gig Harbor, Washington



And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him (Col. 3:17).

**Come learn about your vocation as a child of God
and the blessing He is to you and through you!**

2017 District Retreat Hotel Registration Update

For hotel reservations at the Best Western Wesley Inn & Suites, you can reserve your room by one of the following ways:

- book online by using this link:
<http://book.bestwestern.com/bestwestern/groupSearch.do?groupId=7N9DZ0D8> OR
- call the hotel directly at **1-888-462-0002**.

Tell them you are with the Lutheran Women's Missionary League Washington-Alaska District so that you get our block room rate of \$134.99 plus 13.1% tax per night for four people per room. There is a limited number of family-size rooms that sleep up to six. There will be a \$10 charge per person per night for the fifth or sixth person. Our room block will be released on September 1. Please make your reservation early so you are able to obtain a room.

Note: The retreat registration form in the bulk mailing does not have the correct toll-free number. Please use the correct number above, which is also given on the registration form on the next page of this newsletter.



**LWML Washington-Alaska District Retreat
7 PM September 29 - Noon October 1, 2017
Best Western Wesley Inn & Suites
Gig Harbor, Washington**

Name _____ Are you under 35? _____ or under 18? _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Email _____
Church _____ Zone _____ First Time Retreat Attendee? _____

Retreat Registration Fee \$75 per person

*****Early Bird Special - postmarked/paid by August 4, 2017 pay only \$65 per person*****

☐ **MEALS:** Your retreat registration fee includes two meals - Saturday lunch and dinner. Friday dinner is on your own.
(Saturday and Sunday breakfast are provided by the hotel and included in the room reservation.)

IF a special meal is required, please choose an option: _____ gluten-free _____ dairy-free _____ low sodium
(The catered meals will be nut-free; by not checking an option above you will receive the standard catered meal.)

Retreat Registration deadline is September 1, 2017.

Please make checks (\$75 or *early bird special* \$65 per person) payable to LWML Washington-Alaska District. You will receive a confirmation email or letter which will include a map, a list of items to bring, and other important information. No retreat registration refunds will be given after September 1.

☐ **HOTEL:** The retreat registration fee does not include hotel room lodging.

You are responsible to make your own hotel reservations! Get your hotel reservation in early so you and your roommates can take advantage of our special block room rates and availability. The block room rates start at \$134.99 + tax of 13.1 % **per night**. Your total price for two nights will depend on how many people are sharing your room. You might want to have three or four to a room to reduce costs. There are a limited number of family rooms available that sleep up to six people. (NOTE: THERE WILL BE A \$10 CHARGE PER PERSON PER NIGHT FOR THE 5TH/6TH PERSON.) If you need help finding a roommate, contact the registrar. The registrar will do her best to assist you.

Room Reservations: Please call the Best Western Wesley Inn & Suites at 1-888-462-0002 to make your reservation. Tell them you are with the Lutheran Women's Missionary League Washington-Alaska District so that you get our block room rate. Our room block will be released on September 1. Please make your reservation early so you are able to obtain a room.

☐ **TRAVEL INFO:**

_____ I will be traveling by car with _____
_____ I will be traveling by plane.

Send registration form and retreat registration payment to Registrar Kathie Winterstein at 3435 Donnelly Dr. SE, Olympia, WA 98501. Questions? Call Kathie at 360-491-3543, or email at jkwin@comcast.net.

Heart to Heart Sisters Committee

Allison Akahoshi, Chairman

At the 2010 district convention in Spokane, Washington, four Sudanese ladies from King of Kings Lutheran Church in Renton, Washington, attended as our Heart to Heart Sisters. These ladies spoke English; but only one was confident in speaking and singing. The Sudanese were new to King of Kings. Pastor Matthew Both started his ministry there in October 2008 and was ordained in 2009.

On Palm Sunday of this year, I attended their church service. The Sudanese at King of Kings speak Nuer so the entire service was in Nuer. The men sat on one side of the sanctuary, and the women and children sat on the other. A difference I noticed was that the women participated more than they did when they first started their ministry. They were the drummers and song leaders! Young female teens did the visuals. Of course, the teens were more interactive with me since they were English speaking. Their hymns were in Nuer; but I recognized Rock of Ages! Several times during the service, members of the congregation stood up to pray or speak. Pastor Both was on fire when he preached! He said "Alleluia" a lot; they responded with "Alleluia!" One woman said she was sorry there was no one to interpret for me. I told her I understood "Alleluia" and "Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are One" and that was enough!

At the 2016 district convention in Everett, Washington, two more English-speaking Sudanese ladies were among our Heart to Heart Sisters. One lady has already approached me because she wants to become a Heart to Heart Sister next year. ALLELUIA!

Teen Committee

Elizabeth Cook, **VICE PRESIDENT of SPECIAL FOCUS MINISTRIES**

Are you the mom of a teen girl? Fantastic! There is an opportunity for you to bond more and to help your teen find out how much fun she can still have once she is no longer a teen! The Washington-Alaska District retreat in September will be a wonderful time to learn about what we are called to be and a time to connect with other ladies of the district! The Teen Committee would love to have you and your daughter join us for the weekend of faith, fun, and fellowship!

Convention Committee

Carolyn Holbrook, Co-Chairman

Linda Isaacson, Co-Chairman

"We've Been Working on Convention"... remember the song from the district convention in 2016? Well, time is flying, and the Convention Committee hopes that you are all planning to attend the 2018 district convention in Spokane, Washington, June 15-17, 2018. The theme is "Rooted in Christ ... Flourishing in the Faith" from Colossians 2:6-7.

See you there!

**Please copy this issue
for the women in
your church!**

For black and white copies, print the pages in grayscale for copying on a copy machine. Or print out all the copies in color!

If you would like to receive colored newsletter issues via email, contact Circulation Manager Denise Crawford. Her contact information is on **the roster page**.



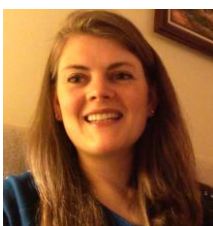
Young Women Committee

Marilee Ryan, Chairman

As Chairman, I am excited and honored to introduce our Washington-Alaska District's two Young Woman Representatives who each will be attending her first LWML convention this June in Albuquerque!



Grace Macduff from Pasco, Washington, is 21 years old. She attends Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Kennewick in Blue Mountain Zone. She is the oldest of eight children and was home schooled through high school. Her church participation includes music, altar guild, being an acolyte, Vacation Bible School (VBS), and fellowship hour. Grace is a hair stylist in Kennewick. She is excited to be serving in LWML as a Young Woman Representative (YWR) and hoping for a better understanding of how the Lord is working through LWML.



Amy Young is 36 years old and lives in Bellingham, Washington. She attends Trinity Lutheran Church in Bellingham in Mt. Baker Zone where her husband Andrew is the Youth and Family Minister. They have two boys, ages two and four. She has a background in human resources and law and is currently enjoying being a stay-at-home parent. Her church participation includes the Board of Education, VBS, Sunday school, Christmas program, and teaching. Amy is grateful to serve as a YWR, and to learn and grow in the work of LWML.

We pray for their inspired, joy-filled time at the convention and look forward to getting to know Grace and Amy better with their participation in district activities.

Mission Servants Committee

Marilyn Schaefer, Chairman



City Gates, an agency serving the needy and homeless in the Olympia, Washington area, was the recipient of our Gifts from the Heart ingathering at the March 2017 LWML Washington-Alaska District Board of Directors meeting. Phil Prietto from City Gates told us about the various programs and services provided for their clients. Much has been done, and much more is needed! We joyfully filled Phil's van "window high" with clothing, blankets, hygiene and personal care items, and food. Cash of \$60 was also given. We are so blessed to share!

Details for the Gifts from the Heart to be brought to the district retreat in Gig Harbor from September 29-October 1 are still being finalized. Look for more information in the next issue of *Evergreen Echoes*.

We are so blessed to be able to share His Gospel and our material goods with others. All glory and praise to our Triune God!



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.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Donna Chow

2016-2018 Mites
as of April 30, 2017

Goal:
\$170,000.00

Total Mites
Needed:
\$81,590.34

Total Mites
Deposited:
\$88,409.66

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Janet Rust, Director



What a beautiful resource LWML members have in the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*!

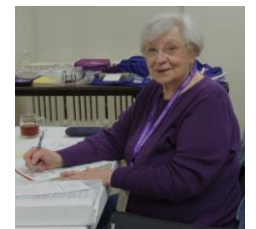
Recently at South Columbia Zone's Joyshop at Faith Lutheran Church in East Wenatchee, Washington, Mim Schwich shared stories of her friendship with the late Elizabeth "Betty" Duda, LWML Past President. In

addition to her own personal comments, Mim shared many facts about Betty's life serving the Lord. What was her resource for these facts? The *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*, Spring 2017 issue!

Many societies use the *Quarterly* as a Bible study resource. That use is invaluable to each new or seasoned student of God's Word, but the magazine has much to offer in its articles as well. Each issue has a letter from the Lutheran Women's Missionary League President, updates on mission grants, Lutheran Women in Action, events, and even LWML shopping. Read cover-to-cover the wonderful, informative, faith-sharing, and uplifting articles that LWML provides in this magazine publication. Find how LWML sisters have solved concerns (always with the Lord's guidance, of course!), what brings them joy, and how they have served the Lord with gladness. Warm feelings and blessings will result.

Need more copies of the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*? Contact the *Quarterly* Manager by using the contact information on the roster page.

March District Board Meeting in Olympia



Societies and Zones:

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

VICE PRESIDENT OF CHRISTIAN LIFE

Rhonda Ries

And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation" (Mark 16:15).

My husband (Pastor Jeffrey Ries) and I just returned from a wonderful trip to South Africa. Jeff was asked to lead a retreat for the LCMS missionaries living in West Africa. These missionaries primarily live in Ghana, Burkina Faso, Togo, and Nigeria. Two dozen missionaries gathered in Cape Town, South Africa, for four days which gave them a chance to engage in the Word, have fellowship, and share experiences.

The stories they shared regarding the challenges they face sharing the Gospel in a culture rich with ritualistic influences were fascinating as well as heartbreaking. Importantly, most of the missionaries who were at the retreat are teaching and training local men at Lutheran seminaries in these countries. God be praised that the church universal is growing because of this teaching! Please continue to pray for these and all missionaries. Their work can be lonely, discouraging, and sometimes dangerous.

Throughout our time there, what struck me was how universal is the Word of God. Despite differences in language and culture, the Gospel remains true and pure. Just as His Word has been proclaimed for more than 2000 years in every land and every time, the Holy Spirit continues to work in the hearts of people everywhere.

I am thankful for the opportunity I had to talk with these missionaries and hear their stories, and it reminded me of how important the work of the LWML is abroad. While this was not an LWML-sponsored trip, I know our mites are being actively used to share God's Word in far-reaching places of the globe.

Thanks be to God!

Mites at Work in South Africa

Below is the body of a letter from Rev. Matthew Heise, Lutheran Heritage Foundation Executive Director, to District President Marie Chow about the use of the \$4,250 grant selected at the 2014 LWML Washington-Alaska District Convention for printing a book of sermons in the Tswana language.

Greetings to you this Christmas season! As we celebrate the birth of our Lord, we are joined by millions of our brothers and sisters in Christ, all around the world.

In 2014, women of the LWML Washington-Alaska District voted at their convention to adopt a Lutheran Heritage Foundation (LHF) mission project called "Sunday Sermons for South Africa." Through your generous support, you've helped LHF to publish a book of sermons in the Tswana language, spoken by more than 4 million people in South Africa.

The LHF office has recently received copies of this book, and because of your generous support of this project we wanted to send you a copy as well. Even as you hold it, this book is being distributed in South Africa, where the rapid growth of the Lutheran Church has meant that there aren't enough pastors to serve all the congregations, much less the mission stations, shut-ins, hospitals and prisons. Because of this, new methods have had to be implemented to make sure that everyone is getting a doctrinally sound message on Sunday. "Sunday Sermons for South Africa" provides high quality, Lutheran sermons for people who aren't near a Lutheran church but who thirst to hear the Word of God.

Thank you for your help in publishing this indispensable tool for the mission field! God's blessings to you as you continue to do His work here in the United States and around the world.

Your servant in Christ,
Rev. Matthew Heise
LHF Executive Director

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Sermons in Setswana on the Gospels of the Church Year

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Book Acknowledgement
of the Mission Grant



Alaska Zone

Ruth Zellar, President

This year the Alaska Zone had its joyshop at Faith Lutheran Church in Homer, Alaska. The theme this year was "On Wings of Eagles," and everywhere we looked, there were eagles. God is so Good!

Our service project was Sole Hope. It is an organization that has groups cut out denim to make the tops of shoes for children in Uganda who do not have any shoes. Those children, because they have no shoes, get jiggers in their feet which lay eggs inside the children's feet. The only way to get the eggs out is to dig them out with a needle or pin. VERY PAINFUL!

We cut out 50+ shoe tops out of denim to be shipped to Africa to be made into shoes. People use old tires for the soles and hire people to sew them together. It cost \$10 per shoe to have them shipped and made in Africa. Our Alaska Zone raised over \$500 in a silent auction to have the shoes made.

If anyone is interested in more information, go to www.solehope.org.

Blue Mountain Zone

Wilma Gardner, President

The joyshop for Blue Mountain Zone was held at Faith Lutheran Church in La Grande, Oregon.

Our Gifts from the Heart were educational toys and items for the pre-school that Faith is starting this fall.



Pictured are members of the school board and officers from the zone.

The theme of our joyshop was based on 2 Corinthians 9:12 that serving is not only helping others but also showing our thanks to God. We had an "apron parade" and many ladies wore aprons and told their stories of serving.

Washington-Alaska District President Marie Chow with Zone Presidents



Inter-Valley Zone Pam Rafferty



Hood Canal Zone President Susan Abbe



Olympic Zone President Cheryl Beyer

ZONE NEWS

East Inland Empire Zone

Heather Selset, President



The ladies of the East Inland Empire Zone enjoyed a fun spring joyshop at Concordia Lutheran Church in Pullman, Washington. Forty-three were in attendance, including Pastor Musegades of Trinity Lutheran Church in Grangeville, Idaho,

who led the morning prayer service, and two students from Lutheran Student Fellowship.

After discussing district news, the ladies broke into groups and rotated to three service project stations throughout the day. One station put together “prayer rocks” to hand out at the members’ churches. Tied to each rock was a cute poem reminding people to pray at night and in the morning. Another station contained bookmarks from the LWML website to be colored and used for outreach or just as “I’m thinking of you” gifts. The last station included items for “finals survival kits” to be given to college students by Lutheran Student Fellowship. The kits contained items like chips, gum, pencils, highlighters, and hand-decorated cards with encouraging messages.

During lunch, the ladies discussed the potential mission grants for the LWML Convention in Albuquerque this June. The day concluded in the raffle drawing for a basket of goodies (a daily scripture calendar; a purple, floral, decorative cross; a coffee mug; mustard seeds; etc.), which raised \$60 for mites, in addition to the offering taken for the day.

East Inland Empire members are already looking forward to the fall rally at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Spokane, Washington, on October 21!

Hood Canal Zone

Susan Abbe, President

I'm praying for YOU, Hood Canal!

When I was elected Hood Canal Zone President in October 2016, I thought, “What’s my vision for the Hood Canal Zone?” It seemed that our zone was declining. I did not see any teens or young women joining our events. The faces I do see are the regulars...and our faces are aging! So, I thought, what can I do as president?

For me, the foundation to everything is prayer. Two verses important to me are: *And he [Jesus] told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart* (Luke 18:1), and *Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you* (Matthew 7:7). These and other scriptures encourage me to make the time for prayer.

How can you pray from a roster? I pray for each society, their officers by name, and the church that society represents. I also pray for our Hood Canal Zone officers. I have been asking God to give us new ideas, strengthen us, and help us to serve the Lord willingly and with gladness. I am waiting and watching to see God’s handiwork because I know God hears and answers prayer. So...I continue to pray for YOU, Hood Canal!

ZONE NEWS

North Columbia Zone

Sandi Hall, President

Greetings from the North Columbia Zone! This has been a busy time with Easter, spring joyshops, and planning for Albuquerque.

Our zone joyshop was held in Brewster, Washington, at Hope Lutheran Church. We had a wonderful Bible study presented by our Zone Counselor Pastor Kevin Moore. The topic was praise based on Psalm 9:1. Pastor Moore showed us ways to praise God for everything in our lives. We sang praise songs led by Jayne Bowes and then enjoyed a delectable lunch with scrumptious desserts.

I also visited the South Columbia Zone Spring Joyshop to invite them to join with us this fall to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Columbia Zone dividing and becoming the North Columbia and South Columbia Zones in 1967. More information will follow as plans are made.

See you all in Albuquerque!



South Columbia Zone

MaryLynn Huntwork, President



Did you know that in 1951 South Columbia Zone was actually called Grand Coulee Zone? It included Grand Coulee, Havillah, Lamona, Marlin, Odessa, Oroville, Tonasket, and Wenatchee. In 1964

the name changed to Columbia Zone adding Coulee City, Soap Lake, Ephrata, East Wenatchee, Quincy, Moana Lake, and Othello. On September 6, 1967, this huge zone split and became North Columbia Zone and South Columbia Zone. The two zones celebrate the 50th anniversary this year. Sandi Hall and Gigi Lutz from North Columbia Zone were present to invite the two zones to share in a celebration in the fall.

On April 29 Faith Lutheran Church in East Wenatchee, Washington, hosted the spring joyshop with 30 women and men rejoicing over "God's Divine Creation." Pastor Winterstein led the opening devotion and Pastor Loppnow, Zone Counselor, gave the closing. Mary Ellen Kirby told about the ingathering for **Friendship Food Drive**, a city-wide program that brings drinks and snacks to children throughout the 22 schools in the area who would otherwise go without on the weekend. Sixty bags were packed with extra items saved for future completed bags. Attendees sewed notions and trims for **Fiddle Quilts** to be given to Bonaventure's Alzheimer's facility in Wenatchee. Ten quilts were made ready for the recipients. Mim Schwich gave a moving tribute to her friend Betty Duda, Past LWML President and a reminder that the mission is "Mites, Serving the Lord with Gladness and Joy." Cheryl Beyer from Olympic Zone presented a Bible study, "God Is into Details."

The women from Grace Lutheran Church of Moses Lake, Washington, were recognized. The church closed its doors April 30 when it merged with Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Ephrata, Washington. The women will continue to serve the Lord through the LWML.

SOCIETY CORNER

LWML Society

Trinity Lutheran Church, Olympia, Washington
Rainier Zone

Martin Luther is coming to Trinity Lutheran Church in Olympia, Washington. Trinity Lutheran Church, with support of the LWML society, has invited Allan Lemke to present his original one-man portrayal of Martin Luther on June 11, 2017, at 3 p.m. This presentation is sponsored by Lutheran Ministry Services and is free. The LWML society will provide refreshments. This is an opportunity for you to hear about the life of Martin Luther. Arrive early to get a good seat.

Submitted by Judy Ikerd, President



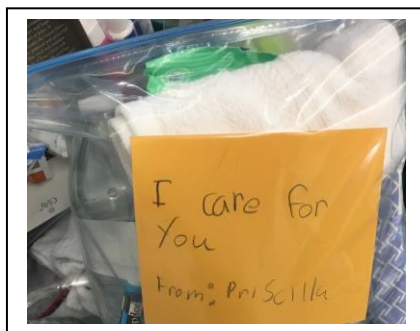
Trinity LWML

Trinity Lutheran Church, Mount Vernon, Washington
Mount Baker Zone

Donuts for Dough

On Sunday, March 19, the LWML of Trinity Mount Vernon held a mites fundraiser, offering freshly fried donuts with a variety of toppings to the congregation after worship. Plain, cinnamon sugar, powdered sugar, and maple-frosted donuts, along with fresh, hot coffee helped to raise \$232.00 for the 2015-2017 LWML biennium mite goal! Yum!

Submitted by Linda Davelaar



Dorcas Circle

All Saints Lutheran Church
Bellevue, Washington
Lake Washington Zone

The Dorcas Circle is a mission circle ministering to our church family, the local community, and the world.

Last year the Dorcas circle embraced the idea of "CARE Pax" (Christ's Arms Reaching Everyone; Pax is Latin for "peace") shared by the LWML at Pilgrim Lutheran, Bellevue. In 2016 Dorcas circle assembled 24 CARE Pax which congregation members have available in their vehicles to give to homeless individuals seen at street intersections, etc. throughout our region. The packs include small toiletries, clippers, soap/hand sanitizer, washcloth, water bottle, Christian tract, protein bar, etc.

In February 2017, Dorcas teamed up with the Sunday school children and collected items for 48 kits. We were focusing on "loving our neighbor." The kids had a great time putting the kits together. They even wrote some letters to include with the kits.

Other projects of Dorcas circle includes collecting soap for Lutheran World Relief (LWR), collecting food for the food bank, collecting food and gifts for Hope Link at Christmas, assembling school kits for LWR, and taking care of our All Saints families with cards and meals when they are in need.

Submitted by Lisa Gasiewicz

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**Send mites to Financial
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**Order Mite Boxes from and/or
send any roster changes to
Corresponding Secretary
Linda Miller.**

If you would like to email any of the above personnel who does not have an email address listed, please send your email to **lwml.wa.ak.webmaster@gmail.com**. The Webmaster will direct the email to the correct person.

Evergreen Echoes

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LWML Washington-Alaska District Theme for 2016-2018



God uses us and the gifts He has given us
to serve and share
His love with others
to His glory.
*As each has received a gift,
use it to serve one another,
as good stewards of God's varied grace ...
in order that in everything
God may be glorified through Jesus Christ
(1 Peter 4:10, 11b).*

Evergreen Echoes is published quarterly by Lutheran Women's Missionary League
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