

Evergreen Echoes

Fall
2009

Visit our website at www.WA-AK LWML.org



LWML 33rd Biennial Convention Portland 2009: Thanks for the Memories

Eight years of anticipation and invitations. Two years of planning and preparation. Four days filled with worship, fellowship, Bible study, servant-hood and song.

Portland 2009 is now history.

Host workers came from around the Northwest – from Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Utah, Alaska – to roll out the Purple Carpet, in Portland, and welcome our guests. They came from across the country to join us as we gathered to **"Look to the Hills...God Reigns"**. They had a wonderful time. They loved the convention; they loved our sunny weather and our beautiful corner of God's creation; but most of all, they loved **YOU** – each and every smiling, welcoming, gracious one of **YOU!**

Now it's over – everything but the memories and the "thank yous."

Praise and thanks to our good and gracious God for blessing our endeavors and making them a blessing to many. Thanks to each and every one of you – women, men, and teens of the Northwest LWML Districts – for all of your work and support. Thanks for the memories that **YOU** helped create.



Portland 2009: It was truly the experience of a lifetime!!!
Julia Riess, Host Committee Chairman

To my wonderful sisters in Christ in the WA-AK District,

I wish to offer my heartfelt thanks to your response of school supplies. With God's help. We always seem to provide. The only item I had to purchase a number of extras were the pencil cases. Thanks to Walmart and Target, I managed to find them. Also, thank you to the societies that provided backpacks. May the Lord continue to bless all the work that is done in your district. I hope to see you in Peoria in 2011.



God's Blessings,
Karen Clark, Servant Activities Chairman"

Also, a great big thank you to the nearly 300 women who worked at the Portland Convention from the WA- AK District. You are the best!!! And to those societies that gave monetary gifts – we could not have done it without you. May God bless each one of you for your caring heart.

Elaine Nelson
District President



Fall 2009



Look to the Hills!! God Reigns!!! He did in Portland at the LWML Convention and He still does today as we proclaim Him. What a joy we all experienced in Portland as together we worshipped, praised and served God and one another. It was a marvelous time of working together and working hard to carry out the tasks that need to be done in order to have a convention. And all the while we were doing our assigned tasks, the 300 of us there were experiencing a foretaste of heaven - being with God's people.

So now we have come off the mountain. What do we do with this experience? Do we pack it away in our memory bank as a great event in our lives? Or do we let all that we experienced become a stepping stone for a closer walk with God and His people? The keynote speaker,

Ruth Koch, challenged us with a climb up Mount Cambio – the Mountain of Change. Change is something that we have with us at all times in this world. And we in the LWML have it also. We need to adapt to the changing life-styles and needs of the women in our congregations. We need to find the best ways of doing the business of missions and out-reach and service.

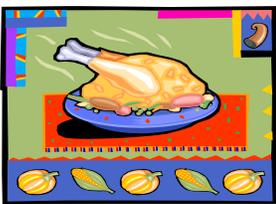
And we need to constantly be in relationship with the Father and His Son, Jesus. President Jan challenges us constantly to be in the Word. We need to daily pray, read our Bibles and meditate on the Word. Then we need to be of the Word. That is changed from the inside out, forgiven and restored by the Holy Spirit. And then we walk with the Lord as we confidently live each day in service to Him, His people and the people who are not yet His. What a joy and what a challenge!!!

May God continue to Reign in your hearts and lives each day as you set aside the things that hinder you from running the race fully and Look to the Hills!!! Your help comes from the Lord!!!!

P. S. I would like to add a personal THANK YOU to our banner – makers – MaryLynn Huntwork, Judy Jeffery and Debbie Good. The banner was and is beautiful. Watch for it at district events. Also, our District table display was put together by our PR Chairman, Gigi Lutz. We will have this at events also. Gigi has a map of our district with each society marked with a sequin. Very clever!!!!

Thank you, gifted women.

Elaine Nelson



We thank God for you all, our sisters in Christ! We praise Him for your willing hearts and joyful service! And we thank each of you. Your generous offerings helped send us to the 2009 National LWML convention. We don't know how to adequately tell you in a few short sentences the joy to be found in a gathering of women with a single purpose - to serve the Lord with gladness at home and abroad - and even more than just the women, the full presence of the Holy Spirit among us. As a Young

Woman's Representative we got to see a slightly different side of the Convention than many of the attendees. I sat with the delegates during all business sessions, and had a specific group to sit with during most meals. We are joyful to report that there were 69 young women from 38 of our 40 districts in attendance. They each have a beautiful heart as they seek ways to serve the Lord. We think the one thing that we got from the convention, was that we saw the big picture. We saw what LWML is all about, missions being God's hands and feet to the world. Our mites truly do mighty things! We know National Convention attendance is expensive, but we would urge each of you to save now for our District Convention next year in Spokane. May the Lord richly bless you as you continue your walk with Him! Love in Christ, Elizabeth Cook & Sarah Werzner, 2009 District YWRs

Carol's Principles of Leadership

Know what you want to teach

Plan how to teach it

Teach it

Then get out of the way

You are a leader!

I am a leader and so are you every day of your life. However, you have a choice as to what kind of leader you will be. You can either lead in a God pleasing way or in a way that will make the devil and his followers rejoice.

To be a more effective leader you must remind yourself who your Leader is. My leader is the Lord Jesus Christ who is my hope of Salvation. To be a more effective leader you must refresh yourself in the Word through Bible study and prayer. May your life show your love, faith and caring.

Carol Lee Drager, Leadership Development Committee



HUMAN CARE

We are God's Tapestry anchored by His grace. What a beautiful way to describe servants of the LORD. Reflecting on this profound statement I related quilts, tapestries and anchors to Webster's definition and the connection with God.

Quilts defined by Webster are bed coverlets of two layers of cloth filled with padding held in place by ties or stitched designs. God the Father is the top layer, God the Son is the bottom layer, God's people are the padding in the middle and God the Holy Spirit ties us together thru God's Word.

Tapestries are heavy hand woven reversible textiles used for hangings, curtains and upholstery and characterized by complicated pictorial designs. God gives each and every one of us hand woven unique gifts; we are capable of faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.

Anchors are devices usually of metal attached to a ship or boat by a cable and cast overboard to hold it in a particular place by means of a fluke that digs into the bottom.

God cast us overboard into the world, to tell the good news; we are anchored in His grace thru His Son Jesus Christ. Sometimes we have to hit bottom to make it work.

An anchor is a reliable or principal support; a mainstay. Jesus is our anchor; He is always there even when we are overboard trying to find our way.

The member of a team (as a relay team) competing last is called

an anchor. Jesus went through life to teach us to be the last member of the team, share our gifts with others and to spread the news of Salvation.

I encourage you to use your gift, find that piece, that corner of the quilt, the thread to the tapestry or part of the anchor and do as God commanded His children.

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. *1 Peter 3:15.* Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always to the very end of the age.

Matt 28:19-20

Thank you for allowing me to give service to the Lord thru the WA-AK LWML Human Care Dept.

Love in Christ

MaryLynn Huntwork VP Human Care

Sandi Schauer Laurie Legler Sarah Werzner

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men. Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.

1 Corinthians 12: 4-7

Thanksgiving

Scholarship Committee of the WA-AK LWML District

The Scholarship Committee is gathering funds to help young women who are preparing for a full-time career in the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. Donations can be made by individuals, groups, churches or special collections. This fund does not get mite contributions, so continue to remember you can support this fund. Memorial gifts are also a great way to remember our women Church Workers. We are currently accepting applications from any woman that is enrolled in a Concordia University. The Zone Presidents will receive the number of scholarship applications as the number of societies in their Zone this fall. A good time to hand these out is at the Fall Zone Rally, if not before. Each society is free to make copies as they see fit or download a copy from our District website. Completed applications with transcripts and recommendations are due by March 15, 2010. We will distribute the money in the fund for scholarships at the District Convention in Spokane in June, 2010. If you know of a possible candidate for a scholarship, please encourage them to apply. For answers to any questions, please contact Sarah Edwards, the new Scholarship Committee Chairman.

LWML Primary Targets 2009—2011

Growing in the Lord – Through intentional study of the Word, women of today find guidance for their lives and are encouraged in their personal daily walk with the Lord.

Embracing Our Diversity – The body of Christ grows and is strengthened when sisters of every age,

Are you enjoying those “lazy days of summer?” The convention, traveling, visitors, entertaining the bored, out-of-school children - Yeah, right! We all lead interesting and, at times, hectic lives. Take a breath.

I was very busy at work the beginning of July as a new quarter started at the Alaska Literacy Program. I was also supervising a new volunteer amid the chaos of enrolling students. She was overwhelmed and afraid of the job – even of answering the phone. After a few days her fear took over and she decided not to continue. The good news is that she didn’t want to be afraid. She wanted to confront and defeat her anxiety, and she wanted to learn. She came back; it’s not as hectic in the office now and she’s learning. Her self-confidence will grow as a result of her going forward.

Fear can be overpowering, and it’s often worse than actually doing the thing making us fearful. A church sign near my home says “Fear is a dark room where negatives are developed.” There are many clichés and sayings about handling fear and many truths in them:

Feel the Fear and Do It Anyway (a book title); “What God brings you to, God will bring you through;” “God doesn’t promise a smooth ride, but He promises a safe landing”.

The words “do not be afraid” appear in the Bible 60 times. And, we can assuredly rely on the words and promises in the Bible.

class, culture, and ethnic group are sought out to participate actively in the mission of LWML.
Sharing the Heart and Identity of LWML – LWML enables and equips its members and advocates to share with others the vision and direction of LWML as it emphasizes mission outreach locally and globally.

Edie Norris, Public Relations Director

For I am the LORD, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you. Isa 41:13 NIV

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. John 14:27 NIV

So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?" Heb 13:6 NIV

Just as we learn in the Bible to fear not – the words “fear the Lord” appear twenty-three times.

Now fear the Lord and serve him with all faithfulness. Josh 24:14

The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever. Psa 19:9
The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. Psa 111: 10

Blessed are all who fear the Lord, who walk in his ways. Psa 128:1

The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life. Prov 14:27

At Convention, President Jan encouraged all of us to read the Bible everyday. Reading a few chapters each day will get you through the Bible in two years. What a great accomplishment, and great inspiration!

We are Lutheran Women In the Word, Of the Word and Walking with our Lord.

Fear Not,

Marilee Ryan, VP Christian Life

News from our Recycling Queen

WA-AK LWML, you are the most AWESOME district in the USA! We exceeded our goal of \$12,000.00 in May. The last check was \$629.54. Currently we have earned to date \$12,492.10. There is \$333.07 on our account. I will order a check in Sept. for our balance at that time.

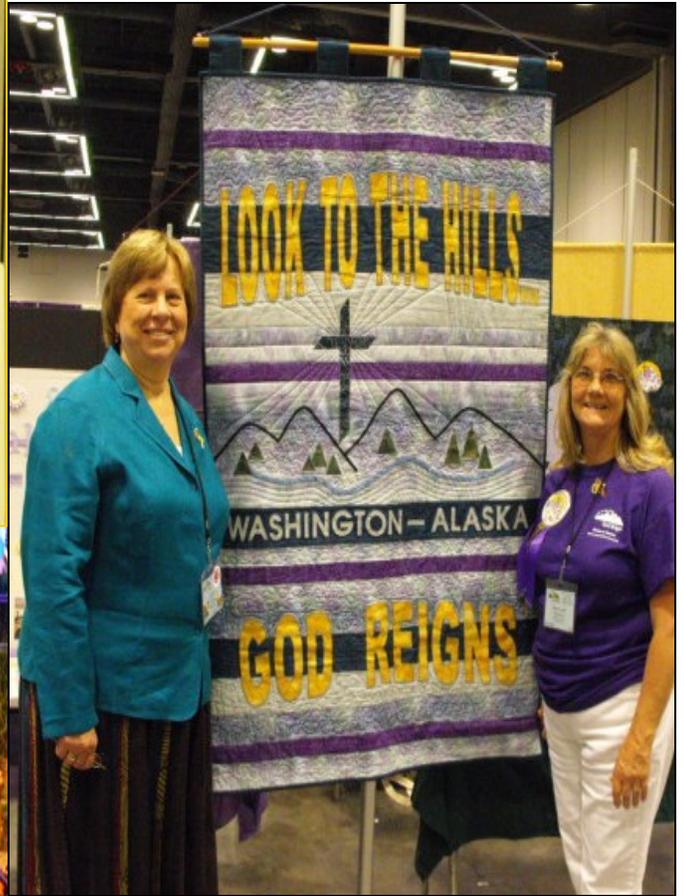
Future \$'s will go toward our next district convention and other needs our board of directors feel are appropriate. If you have thoughts or ideas about needs for our district please let your zone president know so she can give input on your behalf at the board meetings. See you all at the district retreat in Gig Harbor on Sept. 25th!

Submitted by Sandi Hall, Recycling Coordinator





2009 District YWRs carrying the flag of Sri Lanka.
Pictured: Elizabeth Cook & Sarah Werzner



Elaine Nelson and Mary Lynn Huntwork in front of stage and with the WA-AK District banner



ZONE NOTES and RALLY NEWS

The East Inland Empire Zone fall rally is Saturday, October 17, in Lewiston, Idaho, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church at 3707 14th Street. Host societies are from Good Shepherd and Trinity Lutheran in Grangeville, Idaho. Registration begins 9:30am with the meeting from 10am to 3pm. The program will include the presentation from the WA-AK officers on leadership. Lisa Davis, East Inland Empire Zone President

All Saints Lutheran Church, Bellevue, ladies will host the Lake Washington Fall Rally on Saturday, October 17, 2009 with registration at 8:15am followed by breakfast and a program entitled *A Time to...Be a Woman of God*. President Elaine Nelson will be the presenter. Aletha Voges, Zone President

North Columbia Zone

Wow has this year gone fast or what! LWML Convention 2009 Portland was the highlight of our year, what a wonderful experience. I believe we had 9 or 10 ladies from our zone serving at the convention. I was very proud of the representation from our small zone.

We are looking forward to our Fall Rally on Sept. 19 hosted by Immanuel of Havillah. Our theme "God does not call the qualified, but qualifies the called."; using the scripture John 15:16 fits right in with the presentation "Time to be a woman of God" promising to be an enlightening experience with MaryLynn Huntwork. If you happen to be up north, please stop in and join us.

Submitted by Sandi Hall, North Columbia Zone President

Vicar Dustin Tries His Hand at Quilting



Resurrection Lutheran, Des Moines, WA has been privileged to have Dustin Krystowiak spend his year of vicarage in our midst. Truly interested in all aspects of our Congregation, he takes some kindly instruction (and a little kidding) while learning the art of quilting.

Pictured: Meri Beck, Vicar Dustin, and Linda Neilsen

Editor

Call for Nominations for the 2010 WA-AK District Convention

Do you realize that 300 of us were in attendance from our WA-AK District, at the LWML Convention at Portland, June 26-28, 09? *That is wonderful.*

As those of us in attendance watched, and experienced the convention events unfold, perhaps there was felt a call, or a tug, to become more involved in the wonderful adventure of LWML. If this explains you during those days, now is the time to tell your society. Simply ...say, I would like to be nominated or contact the nominating committee with your own name or another's name.

... All ladies you saw on the stage or in presentations began with the first small step; when they listened to the Holy Spirits lead at some point in their life to become alive for LWML, which is truthfully living for Jesus, our Lord and Savior.

The offices we are filling are:

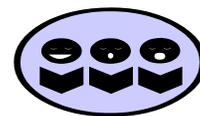
- President
- Vice President Servant Resources
- Vice President Human Care
- Financial Secretary
- Nominating Committee (needs 5)

Please respond before Sept. 30, 09

Follow your Heavenly Fathers lead,
Betty Alm,
Chairman, WA-AK, Nominating Committee



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"Make a Joyful Noise"
Convention Choir



I recently found myself at our local car dealership to have the oil changed on my truck. To kill the time I began to wander the dealership, which is a pretty normal thing I do. As I walked around the dealership I began to notice “what was” is no longer the “what is.” This dealership used to be filled with trucks, all kinds of truck and every SUV imaginable. Those days long gone, and fuel efficient cars now sit in place of those SUVs and trucks. These new cars have stickers explaining the global and environmental impact to our world. Now understand, I don’t have a problem with this -- I have always wanted to preserve our environment, and strive to recycle and look for ways not to abuse the creation that God has entrusted to us.

The car salesman, who I had to instigate a conversation with, (Remember the days when you stepped out of your car and were immediately surrounded by salesmen?) explained to me this is all about our carbon footprint. A **carbon footprint** is “the total set of GHG (greenhouse gas) emissions caused directly and indirectly by an individual, organization, event or product.” Did you know you could go online and punch in numbers to give you your footprint, in regards to your house, travel, car, etc.?

This “footprint” should be at or below the standard set. In effect, you want to have the smallest footprint possible. Every day we hear about being “green,” using recycled materials, and striving to maintain the smallest impact to our environment. Well all this got me to thinking, especially after having the opportunity to attend the National LWML Convention, what is our “spiritual footprint?” What is our impact in our society, neighborhood, and/or community?

In fact, our “spiritual footprint” should be bigger rather than smaller! One thing that is of great importance is to not waste opportunities. We need to speak of the great joy we receive through the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. For those ladies

who attended the convention, don’t let the excitement, the enthusiasm, the faith boost you received at the convention go to waste. Place in to practice what you heard, heed the challenge to be in the Word, to share God’s Word and promise through our lives, vocation, and every day activity. Faith and life is not just a Sunday morning activity, it is rooted in Word and Sacrament, promise and salvation, devotion and prayer.

Our “spiritual footprint” is one that we can measure as well. Remember the words of the Savior, Jesus from the Gospel of St. Matthew, “*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.*” and again in the Gospel of St. John, “*I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.*”

God’s message of salvation is one that is to be freely spoken and seen in our lives, not by our doing, but through the Holy Spirit who empowers us each day. The “spiritual footprint” we follow is the very footprints of our Lord Jesus. Where he walks, we walk. Where he trods, we trod.

“Let us ever walk with Jesus, follow His example pure, Through a world that would deceive us and to sin our spirits lure. Onward in His footsteps treading, Pilgrims here, our home above,

Full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Father’s bidding.

Faithful Lord, with me Abide; I shall follow where you guide. (*LSB, 685, v. 1*)



Rev. Mario E Ancira, Milton, WA

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Debbie Good

VP of CHRISTIAN LIFE
Marilee Ryan

VP of HUMAN CARE
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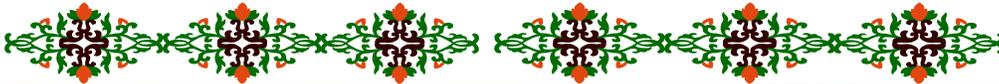
2010 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN
Mavis Waarvik



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