



Winter 2016

Evergreen Echoes

www.wa-aklwml.org



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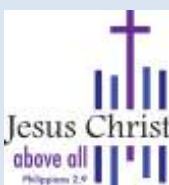
Dates to Remember:

Evergreen Echoes

Spring Issue DEADLINE:

January 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

Greetings from the LWML Washington-Alaska District PRESIDENT Marie Chow



Since the 2016 district convention in June, I was privileged to represent you and brought greetings at two fun events: the LWML-Canada Alberta British Columbia District Convention in July and the Lutheran Laymen's League/Lutheran Hour Ministries Washington-Alaska District Convention in September. It was a joy to be with our Canadian sisters as well as our fellow brothers and sisters involved with Lutheran Laymen's League/Lutheran Hour Ministries in this district.



Newly Elected LWML-Canada Alberta British Columbia District President Linda Horton and me



Lutheran Laymen's League Washington-Alaska District President Glenn Stocker and me

I am also excited to announce our 2016-2018 district theme:



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).*

Special thanks to Allison Smith who designed the theme logo that shows hands raised to God in worship and to serve.

As we prepare and celebrate our Savior's birth, continue to use your time and talent at church, at work, at home, and in the LWML as 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

As I write this, we have just completed one of the most contentious election seasons of my lifetime, with a result that surprised a lot of people. This highlights a couple things for Christians, who are also citizens of the United States. First, we do not know the will of God for any nation. We do know God's will in Christ for people: that they be saved and come to the knowledge of the Truth. We do know God's will in Christ for the entire creation: restoration, the resurrection of our bodies, and our eternal life on a new earth under a new heaven, forever with our God.

Second, the place of the Church in this age and in this creation has not changed: to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus' death and resurrection to and for sinners, and to deliver that very forgiveness by words, water, bread and wine. That Gospel is for every person, regardless of nationality or political identification.

And, third, the role of the LWML and of all Christians has likewise not changed: to love our neighbors as ourselves, in the unique places and vocations where God has put each one of us. We who bear the name of Christ above all, bear His love into the midst of a world that needs Him. And that remains true, regardless of what happens in the next four years.

Rejoice in the Lord! His steadfast love remains forever!

Pastor Timothy Winterstein
Pastoral Counselor—East

Quarterly Manager

LeeAnn Tibbals

Quarterly Renewals for 2017

The renewal letters for the 2017 *Quarterly* issues went out in October to the church addresses. Renewal orders are due by December 12. Subscriptions not renewed by the deadline will not receive the Spring issue in March! Please contact me as soon as possible if the renewal letter was not received. I would not want anyone to miss an issue! This is also the only time that a subscription order can be decreased, although increases can be done throughout the year.

The Spring issue will be arriving around the first of March. Many groups order extra copies to give to ladies in the congregation who are not active in LWML. Extra copies could be personally offered to friends and neighbors also. Would doctors or dentists allow addition to their collections too?

Braille, large print, or taped *Quarterly* issues can be ordered from Lutheran Blind Mission, 7550 Watson Road, St. Louis, MO 63119, or by calling 888-215-2455. These are free, and would be a great item to take to members who may have trouble seeing.

Selected articles from the *Quarterly* are available on the LWML website, www.lwml.org. Find them, and send an email link to a friend far away.

Be sure to watch the winter issue in December for information on the LWML Convention in June 2017.

It will be a wonderful convention—LWML's 75th and the 500th anniversary of the Reformation!

I hope to see many of you there!

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



Lutheran Women's Missionary League 37th Biennial Convention

*Therefore God has highly exalted Him
and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name (Philippians 2:9).*

Save the dates! Mark your calendar for next June 22-25, 2017 to join your sisters and brothers in Christ at the LWML Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico. We will be empowered by the Holy Spirit, through Word and Sacrament, to proclaim Jesus Christ above all.

Go to www.lwml.org/convention for more information. Convention information will be found in the Winter 2016 *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*. You can make your hotel reservations at one of the LWML contracted hotels as early as January 2, 2017!

If you plan to attend, please let District President Marie Chow know via email. Her contact information is on the roster page of this newsletter.

Be prepared to be dazzled at the Diamond Dazzle Celebration Saturday night to celebrate LWML's 75th anniversary! Check out the fun LWML 75th Anniversary updates at www.lwml.org/75.

Come Celebrate 75 Years of LWML WITH THOUSANDS OF YOUR CLOSEST FRIENDS!

Come to our Diamond Dazzle Celebration at the 37th Biennial Convention | June 22-25, 2017 | Albuquerque, New Mexico



Oregon District President Carmen Nagel and
Washington-Alaska District President Marie
invite you to the 2017 LWML Convention
in Albuquerque, New Mexico



VICE PRESIDENT OF GOSPEL OUTREACH

Cristina McAnulty

with Gigi Lutz, Mission Grants Committee member

75 YEARS OF LWML MITES IN MOTION

Commemorating the 75th anniversary, LWML has released a new design for the mite box. The mite boxes are available from the district through Corresponding Secretary Linda Miller, or via Concordia Publishing House at www.cph.org/p-31323-individual-mite-box-75th-anniversary-edition.aspx. (The only cost is the shipping expense.) If possible, distribute the new boxes in honor of this wonderful celebration!



The Mission Grants Committee members pray that everyone will continue to support the district mission grants with generous mite donations. Currently, \$9,500 of the district 2016-2018 biennial mission grant goal of \$90,000 has been paid to grant recipients. Updated grant information can be found at the district website, www.wa-aklwml.org, along with grant highlights and prayers. Use this information to spotlight mite collections at district churches.

An important reminder to all: **All MITES** collected in societies and zones **MUST** be sent to the District Financial Secretary Donna Chow. Her mailing information is found on the roster page in this newsletter. Please be sure that this information is known to the treasurer in each society and zone.

The district sends 25% of mites received to LWML to fund the 2015-2017 goal of \$2,000,000 for supporting the missions that were selected at the June 2015 convention in Des Moines. The deadline to send in mites for this current biennial goal is **March 31, 2017**. Currently, mite giving is behind in reaching the goal. Be creative in societies and zones—have bake sales, silent auctions, or simply dedicate a monthly goal for mites. Please be consistent in prayers and sending in mites. Remember that every penny counts and is a blessing to those supported by the grants.

Thank you and continued blessings as we begin another church year and celebrate our Savior's birth.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Donna Chow

2016-2018 Mites as of October 31, 2016





Mission Servants Committee

Marilyn Schaefer, Chairman

Sharing the Lord's Blessings

The Mission Servants Committee is here to help members share the Lord's blessings. At each LWML Washington–Alaska District function or meeting this current biennium, a service organization from the area in which the event is held will receive needed supplies from Gifts from the Heart. At the November

2016 board meeting, canned and packaged foods were gathered for the Tri-Cities Food Bank in Richland, Washington. A total of 310 food items and \$67 in monetary donations were received.

Help is needed in identifying additional recipients for the 2016-2018 biennium. All events will happen in Washington—Olympia, Gig Harbor, Tacoma, and Spokane. Please share suggestions with Chairman Marilyn Schaefer. Her contact information is found on the roster page of this newsletter.

Committee responsibilities also include the Servant Events at the beginning of the district convention to be held June 15-17, 2018. At past conventions, members have done such things as Bible marking, blanket tying, Braille stamping, and card making. New ideas are always welcomed and encouraged. Contact Marilyn if you have any questions or suggestions.

Remember that we are blessed to be a blessing to others.

Scholarship Committee

Judy Ikerd, Chairman

After many years of service as chairman of the LWML Washington–Alaska District Scholarship Committee, Sarah Edwards has retired. We thank her for her many years of dedicated service to the district, the recipients of scholarships, and to the Lord.

The new members of the scholarship committee have been reviewing the process and the documents used. The new school year has just begun, but it is time to think ahead to the next school year. A new application form for scholarships will be available on the LWML Washington-Alaska District website in the near future.

If you know men or women planning to become professional church workers, please encourage them to apply.

Applications and letters of recommendation are due by March 15, 2017. The applications are to be sent to Judy Ikerd; see her contact information on the roster page of this newsletter.

Nominating Committee

Linda Einspahr, Chairman

For election at the 2018 Washington–Alaska District Convention, the Nominating Committee is charged with the task of finding nominees for the following offices and committee:

- † President
- † Vice President of Organizational Resources
- † Vice President of Special Focus Ministries
- † Financial Secretary
- † Pastoral Counselor–East
- † Five Nominating Committee members

Please prayerfully consider candidates who qualify for positions and are willing to serve at the district level. Then, contact Chairman Linda for further instructions. Her contact information is found on the roster page of this newsletter.

Called to be ...

*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!**



*LWML Washington-Alaska District Retreat
September 29 – October 1, 2017
At the Best Western Wesley Inn & Suites
Gig Harbor, Washington*

[More information will be in future issues of the *Evergreen Echoes*.]



District Email Address for Prayer Chain Requests

Send prayer petitions to lwml.wa.ak.prayer.requests@gmail.com. When sending requests that reference someone specific (other than yourself), please make sure you have permission to disclose potentially sensitive information to the group, or keep the request more general in nature to avoid issues of privacy.

You may also use this address to update your contact information or request removal from the prayer chain list.

Vice President of Christian Life, Rhonda Ries, is moderator of prayer requests for the 2016-2018 biennium. Questions or comments can be directed to her using the above email address.

Heart to Heart Sisters Committee

Allison Akahoshi, Chairman

ALERT!

ALERT!

ALERT!

Help is needed to reach out to multicultural/ethnic women in the district's congregations. Before the next convention (by about January 2018), please identify women of diverse cultures in district congregations and encourage them to attend the convention, June 15-17, 2018, in Spokane, Washington. **ALL THEIR EXPENSES WILL BE PAID BY THE DISTRICT.**

In interacting with many members, I hear, "No, we don't have any multicultural women." Well, I discovered we do. We only have to step out of comfort zones and reach out to people we do not know. Last year, I encountered a lady who was Caucasian and had an accent so I inquired further. She was from Germany, and she wants to attend the next convention as a Heart to Heart Sister!

We have congregations consisting of people from countries in different parts of the world that hold services in native languages. But they also speak English! Anyone who knows of a congregation that does this, please send the pastor's contact information to me.

I pray that the Holy Spirit will show us that there are women "out there" who are good candidates to be Heart to Heart Sisters. So when that nudge to speak is felt, be bold and approach them!



Financial Secretary Donna Chow with Reelected Lake Washington Zone President Ruth Ann Shimoi and District Leader Development Committee Chairman Charli Hamaker

Zone News



President Marie and Newly Elected Alaska Zone President Ruth Zellar

Washington–Alaska Committee and Board of Directors Meetings November 4-5, 2016 Richland, Washington Hosted by Redeemer Lutheran Church



PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

Janet Rust, Director



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.

Make a copy of the card below, and keep it handy for researching on the websites. An amazing amount of information and ideas can be found. Alternately, cut out the card since the backside of this page in the card area has been left blank for that purpose when copying or printing on both sides of the paper. Happy surfing!

LWML Web & Email Addresses

Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) Washington-Alaska District	www.wa-aklwml.org
District prayer requests	lwml.wa.ak.prayer.requests@gmail.com
District <i>Evergreen Echoes</i> Editor	EvergreenEchoesEditor@gmail.com
LWML	www.lwml.org
LWML shopping at Concordia Publishing Company (Click Shop LWML in the bottom left corner of the Home page)	www.cph.org
Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS)	www.lcms.org
LCMS Northwest District	www.nowlcms.org

More from the Washington-Alaska District Committee and Board of Directors Meetings in November



Find the order form for the 2017 LWML Convention shirt at www.lwml.org/convention.



Recycling Program Discontinued

THANKS to all who have been faithful in saving ink cartridges and cell phones for recycling. Due to diminished returns for items submitted and accepted, it has been decided to discontinue the district recycling program at this time. If you have any questions, please contact President Marie.

(This space is intentionally blank.)



**Celebrating
the divine gift
of Jesus
Christ's birth**

More from the Washington–Alaska District Committee and Board of Directors Meetings in November



Zone News



Vice President of Christian Life Rhonda Ries with Newly Elected Olympic Zone President Cheryl Beyer



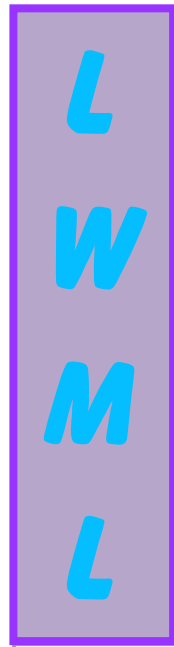
Blue Mountain Zone President Wilma Gardner and President Marie



Vice President of Organizational Resources Sandy Geisler with Newly Elected Inter-Valley Zone President Pam Rafferty



Newly Elected Rainier Zone President Deb Jones with President Marie



Hood Canal Zone Officers: Janis DeVerter, Secretary-Treasurer; Newly Elected President Susan Abbe; Newly Elected Vice President Barbara Thompson



Parliamentarian Mavis Waarvik with Reelected East Inland Empire Zone President Heather Selset



Sights of Albuquerque, New Mexico

LWML Convention June 22-25, 2017



Zone News

East Inland Empire Zone

Heather Selset, President

Spending time with the East Inland Empire Zone ladies is always such a blessing for me! We had 77 in attendance at the fall rally on Saturday, October 29, at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Rathdrum, Idaho. The theme of "Serving by God's Grace," based on 1 Peter 4:10, was highlighted by speaker Charli Hamaker, Leadership Development Committee Chairman for the Washington-Alaska District. We learned a lot from her presentation on "Leader Development: The Three E's" and had the chance to discuss some projects that we have going at our societies around the zone.

The ladies also gathered school supplies for our ingathering, which went to the Lakeland School District in the Rathdrum area. Continuing a recent tradition, the zone board members put together a basket full of goodies for a raffle, which raised just over \$90 for district mites!

We thank outgoing secretary Lisa Davis for her service to the zone, and welcome our new secretary, LaWana Holden. Additionally, I am very blessed by being reelected as the zone president for the next two years. At our spring joyshop April 22 at Concordia Lutheran Church in Pullman, Washington, we will be focusing on a number of service projects. I cannot wait to see what project we will have!



← Heather with Lin Jester of Shepherd of the Hills Church

→ East Inland Empire Zone ladies enjoying the fall rally luncheon



Inter-Valley Zone

Pam Rafferty, President

The ladies of the Inter-Valley Zone were hosted by Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in Yakima, Washington, on October 8 for a very special fall rally. Former Vice President of Christian Life, Cheryl Beyer, presented a memorable program titled "God is in the Details." Cheryl's passion for photography beautifully mirrored God's Word in the story of creation and passages of comfort and assurance. Hearts and crosses seen in our natural world are not accidental but intentional.

Sandy Geisler, Vice President of Organizational Resources, presented the district report from President Marie Chow and encouraged us to seek out potential young women to attend the LWML convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, in June 2017 as our district representatives.

Finally, dozens of items were gathered to help homeless veterans in our area.



North Columbia Zone

Sandi Hall, President

On September 17 we had our fall rally at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Okanogan, Washington. The rally was attended by two pastors and approximately 25 women. Pastor Kevin Moore gave our opening devotion and led us in the pledges. Pastor Brian Bowes led us in a Bible study based on our theme scripture of Romans 3:1-7.

We had a wonderful presentation by Maureen Richardson from the Mount Vernon area. Maureen talked about "Public Policy God's Way." Carol Bowe and Sandi Hall did an invitation skit to invite everyone to the LWML convention in Albuquerque next June.

Elections were held. Sandi Hall will continue as president, Ella Kunkel as vice president, and Deanna Visser as secretary/treasurer. Our ingathering collected backpacks full of school supplies for the Okanogan Family Empowerment Program. A great time was had by all!

To all of you ladies out there, have a wonderful Thanksgiving and Christ's birth season!



See you in Albuquerque!

Olympic Zone

Cheryl Beyer, President

The Olympic Zone Fall Rally was held October 1, at Lamb of God Lutheran Church, Seattle, Washington. The speaker was John Forseth, Program Director of Refugee Resettlement and Placement Lutheran Community Services of Northwest Refugee Resettlement and Placement. This was an excellent presentation explaining who refugees are and the process they must go through to become refugees in the United States. John will go anywhere in the state to make a presentation and bring a wealth of information regarding this important issue and outreach opportunity. Give him a call! John Forseth, (253) 722-5695, 223 N. Yakima Ave, Tacoma, WA 98403 www.lcsnw.org/portland/resettlement.html

As a special ingathering the zone collected 16 "welcome kits" for refugees for John to distribute. The zone also collected items for the Everett Gospel Mission—55 pairs of socks, 16 pairs of gloves, 17 scarves, and 233 hats. Although she would likely decline the recognition, our own 91-year-old Millie Woeppel made 150 of these knitted hats herself! Millie's favorite song is **Hark, the Voice of Jesus Crying** with the line, *Let none hear you idly saying, "There is nothing I can do."*

The Lord is Risen!



Brenda Wilber—Vice President
Cheryl L. Beyer—President
Norma Kosche—Treasurer
Mary Abdi—Secretary
Pastor James Jenson—Zone Counselor

South Columbia Zone

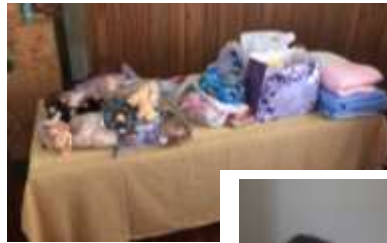
MaryLynn Huntwork, President

South Columbia Zone's fall rally "Bountiful Blessings" was held in Coulee City, Washington, at Bethel Lutheran Church. Forty-two attended to hear Pastor Shawn Neider tell of his experience in Guatemala through the seminary. Ruth Zeller presented a DVD on Alaska Mission for Christ and shared her experiences with the mission in Alaska. Pastor Richard Loppnow, zone counselor, presented our Bible study.

Guests from North Columbia Zone attended so they could bring our host banner from 2014 Convention in Wenatchee. Thank you, Sandi Hall and Sandi Schauer.

We were entertained by mother and daughter violinists, Lisa Smith and daughter Sophia Smith. They live in Ellensburg, Washington, and are members of Bethlehem Lutheran in Yakima. Thank you, Linda Rushton, for sharing your very talented daughter and granddaughter.

Many thanks to the Grand Coulee LWML ladies for helping our ladies at Bethel! Bingo was played in the afternoon, zone EC door prize was given, and MaryLynn Huntwork was elected to continue as zone president. Children's clothing, blankets, and stuffed animals were brought for Care Net and the local firehouse. We thanked President Marie for attending and bringing updates from district and national LWML.



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.

Merry Christmas

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 a colored issue via email, contact Circulation Manager Denise Crawford. Her contact information is on the roster page.

2016-2018 LWML Washington-Alaska District Roster

President

Marie Chow

Recording Secretary

Heather Selset

Treasurer

Doris Wurl

Financial Secretary

Donna Chow

Counselor – East (Senior)

Rev. Timothy Winterstein

Counselor – West (Junior)

Rev. Daniel Freeman

Vice President of Gospel Outreach

Cristina McAnulty

Mission Servants Committee

Chairman

Marilyn Schaefer

Scholarship Committee Chairman

Judy ikerd

Short Term Missions Committee

Chairman

Twyla Mitson

**Vice President of
Organizational Resources**

Sandy Geisler

**Leader Development Committee
Chairman**

Charli Hamaker

**Vice President of Special Focus
Ministries**

Elizabeth Cook

**Heart to Heart Sisters Committee
Chairman**

Allison Akahoshi

Teen Committee Chairman

Contact VP Elizabeth Cook

**Young Women Committee
Chairman**

Marilee Ryan

Public Relations Director

Janet Rust

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Lisa Davis

EvergreenEchoesEditor@gmail.com

Circulation Manager

Denise Crawford

Quarterly Manager

LeeAnnTibbals

Webmaster

Joyce Berger

lwml.wa.ak.webmaster@gmail.com

Vice President of Christian Life

Rhonda Ries

Archivist-Historian

Nancy Wyckoff

Convention Committee

Co-Chairmen

Carolyn Holbrook

Linda Isaacson

Corresponding Secretary

Linda Miller

Meeting Manager

Edie Norris







Nominating Committee Chairman

Linda Einspahr

Parliamentarian

Mavis Waarvik

Key

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

**Send mites to Financial
Secretary Donna Chow.**

**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

Lutheran Women's Missionary League
Washington-Alaska District
c/o Gigi Lutz
17 Fish Hatchery Rd
Republic, WA 99166

Non-profit Org
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Permit 42
Republic, WA 99166

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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).*