



Fall 2021

Evergreen Echoes

www.wa-aklwml.org

Greetings from

LWML Washington–Alaska District

PRESIDENT Marilee Ryan



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Dates to Remember:

Evergreen Echoes

Winter Issue DEADLINE:

October 31, 2021

EvergreenEchoesEditor@gmail.com



LWML Convention

June 22-25, 2023

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

District Convention

July 8-10, 2022

Wenatchee, Washington

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Lexington, Kentucky was filled with joyful people "running the Race...Looking to Jesus" during the 2021 LWML convention in June. Twenty-nine people from the Washington-Alaska District attended the convention. Our district delegation consisted of 10 zone delegates, two YWRs, and our Junior Pastoral Counselor. There were 2,800 + people in attendance. One woman even traveled 630 miles by bicycle!

The convention started Thursday evening with a communion service led by LCMS Michigan District President, The Rev. Dr. David P. E. Maier as Proclaimer. We heard from many mission speakers during the convention. Past LWML President Linda Reiser was the keynote speaker. Humorist Interrupters Jan Struck and Abby Goehring as Gertie and Marcy kept us laughing with their convention observations and generational differences. New bylaws and a mite goal of \$2,150,000 were approved. Also approved were 28 mission grants. Over 1,000 people took part in the Photo Finish Mission Walk from Triangle Park to Thoroughbred Park and were cheered on by the presence of comfort dogs. The Mission Pledge Walk brought in \$88,417.42. Tee Up for Mites brought in over \$23,000!

During the Saturday morning processional, Young Woman Representatives and Heart to Heart Sisters (with help from many others) carried flags representing all the countries where LWML mites have helped in missions. In Praise to the LORD! Deaconess Heidi Goehmann led our Bible study based on Hebrews 12:1-2.

We were entertained Saturday night by Cumberland Gap band led by bluegrass singer Billie Renee Johnson. They had us dancing in the aisles!

Way too much happened at convention for me to do it justice in this article. I encourage you to please go to www.lwml.org and click on "News and Events" and then on "Convention Central" for links to the Live-stream sessions, photos, newsletters, etc. You will not be disappointed!

The next LWML convention is in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in June 2023. Plan now for attending.

May your work with LWML be blessed as we Go Forth in Peace and with Praise to the LORD!

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



District Counselor

Rev. Kevin Schubkegel,

Junior Pastoral Counselor – West

It is a privilege and joy to watch, support, and serve with you Northwest gals. Thank you for the great joy of “running the race” with your representatives in Lexington. As I was told it would be, in anticipation before we went, it was a joyous and inspiring event. I heard that it was smaller of national conventions, with registration limited to 2,000 up until a few weeks before its start, however, it was by far the largest Divine Service I have ever Communed and served in, with some 2,700 worshipping together, and served with 60 pastors. The content was doctrinally (Biblically) sound, and presented by skilled and artistic ministry professionals, many of them popular, published authors. Wow!

Life and ministry are not usually on such a grand scale in our churches, weekly Bible studies, and homes, however. Most of us serve in small congregations with our unique contours and quirks. We don't look like models and published authors that make magazine covers. We're just regular sheep in the flock going about our daily vocations in the business of caring for our families, congregations, friends, customers, and clients. Daily feeding, cleaning, building, and supplying don't seem so exciting or glorious at first glance. We regular folks mostly look like the average person next to us. There is a profound difference, however, in the Baptized. God's Spirit, through His Word, allows us to see the opportunity today to serve one, as serving Christ, the very true Son of God, who died for me. He who loved and served us continues to do so. He even chooses to love and serve *through* us. What He does changes everything. He plants us in our unique roles where He, Himself, perfectly gifts us and helps us. Even in our difficulties and painful experiences, He is at work. In Word and Sacrament, He fills and empowers us. There He is, for us and with us. Rejoice in the Lord Jesus, everywhere, today, and always!





Special Focus Ministries

Carolyn Holbrook, Vice President

I was blessed to attend training for the Heart to Heart Sisters program before the LWML Convention in Lexington, Kentucky. The group came from around the country, and from a variety of cultural and ethnic backgrounds. The Heart to Heart Sisters program is an intentional effort to ensure that multicultural women participate in the fellowship and work of the LWML. My goal is to assist our local LWML groups to learn more about this wonderful program as we serve the Lord with gladness.

Special Focus Ministries
Carolyn Holbrook, Vice President

I recently had the wonderful opportunity to experience attending the LWML National Convention in Lexington, KY as a YWR. I loved getting to worship and pray with so many other Lutheran women. I also enjoyed getting to know all the other YWRs and hearing how they are involved in their church communities. I learned a lot during the convention, but there was one specific thing that stuck with me and is still in my mind every day. One evening, while LWML President Debbie Larson was speaking she said, "live a praying life, not a prayer life". She explained that we should use the verb form of this word, "praying", because we need to DO it! So lately, when my life has felt like a race, I've had to step back, look to Jesus, and live a praying life.

Allyssa Burrows, YWR



It is the time! October 31st

Time to seriously start gathering information then submitting Grant requests. I attended the Pre-convention seminar regarding Mission grants. We were encouraged to fund locally. What is in your Zone, what is in our District? Is the grant being submitted Mission in emphasis and does it have a clear Gospel element? While October seems early for submitting the grant proposal, there is a process by which it must be reviewed before it can be accepted to present to the Board and then to the Voting Delegates, at Convention. The Mission grant information and forms for submitting are on the LWML WA-AK District website or you are welcome to contact me:

snowwoman91@hotmail.com or 206-851-7770. Please be in prayer as we fund the Grants we voted on for this past biennium and look forward to the new proposals that God has prepared for us.

Blessings,
Ruth Ann Shimoi
Vice-President Gospel Outreach

**Structure Committee**

Pam Rafferty, Vice President

Being privileged to attend the structure committee seminar at the LWML Convention in Lexington June 24 - 27, I learned of the importance of including a provision for having electronic meetings in our bylaws. This past year brought to light the importance of being able to continue the LWML business even if we are unable to meet in person. For an electronic meeting (where business is conducted) to be deemed legal, bylaws must specifically authorize the meeting, and all participants need to be able to hear the proceedings. While face-to-face meetings are preferred, electronic meetings can be used not only during an emergency but also during inclement weather. They also save travel time, expenses for travel, food, and lodging, and enable those not able to attend in person to participate. If you are interested in sample bylaw wording for your local group or zone, contact the Structure Committee for assistance.

Pam Rafferty, Chairman
Ella Kunkel, Aletha Voges, Committee Members



Scholarship Committee

Judy Ikerd, Chairman

The Scholarship Committee has recommended, and the Executive Committee approved the following Scholarships:

Grace MacDuff is enrolling in a new online program through St Louis Seminary. She plans to become a deaconess. \$1000.

Matthew Both: will attend online classes from the Mission Training Center in Irvine California to become an accredited Missouri Synod Lutheran pastor. \$1000.

Casey Schweim will begin his third year at Concordia in Irvine California to become a Director of Christian Education. \$1000.

Justin Chester will attend Fort Wayne Seminary to become a minister. \$2000

Benjamin Oesch will begin his first year at the St. Louis Seminary to become a minister. \$2000.

Kurt Hellwig will begin his final year at St Louis Seminary. At the end of this year, he will be eligible to become a minister of the Missouri Synod Lutheran Church. \$2000.

MEMORIAL DONATION:

The ladies in a Bible study at St John's Lutheran Church in Spokane, Washington sent \$275.00 to the scholarship fund as a memorial to their friend, Elinor Windler. What a wonderful way to remember a Christian friend. Recipients of scholarships using these funds will continue to spread the good news of our Savior for years to come.

Scholarship Committee
Judy Ikerd, Chairman





This is a picture of the prayer chain station.

Ladies made a "prayer chain" by choosing alphabet beads representing the 1st letter of the names of the family members and friends they most want to lift up in prayer.

The ladies at Mt Olive, Yakima participated in a prayer walk in May utilizing the resources from the WA-AK District Leader Development webpage: <https://wa-aklwml.org/leaderdev.html>

They enjoyed the six stations which included worship, prayers for families, church workers, government and military, mission grants, and ourselves.

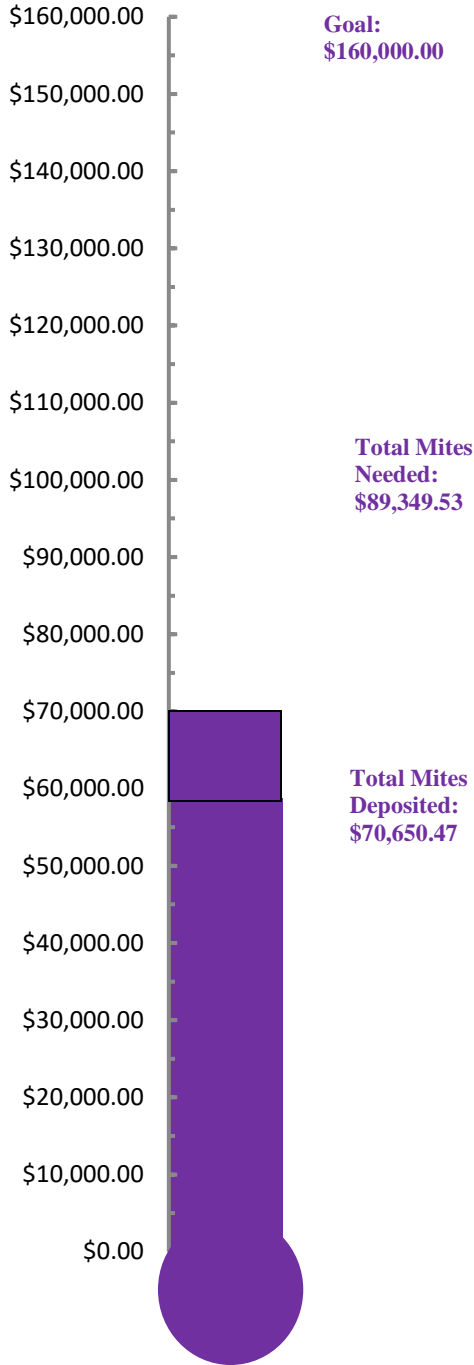
If your group or zone uses the resources, please let our committee know through your zone president or through the contact page on the District website.

Leadership Development Committee
Kelsie Ingham, Michelle Misener, Pam Rafferty

Fall 2021 Zones Events			
ZONE	DATE/TIME	LOCATION	CITY/STATE
Alaska	Fri/Sat, Sept 10-11	Faith LC	Homer, AK
Blue Mountain			
East Inland Empire	Sat, Oct.16	Christ the King, LC	Coeur d'Alene, ID
Hood Canal	Sat, Oct. 2	Faith LC	Sequim, WA
Inter-Valley	Various - TBD		
Lake Washington	Sat, Oct 16 9 a.m.	Pilgrim LC	Bellevue, WA
North Columbia	Sat, Sept 18	Immanuel LC	Havillah, WA
Mt. Baker	Sat, October 16	Zion LC	Snohomish, WA
Olympic	Oct 9, 10 a.m.	Epiphany LC	Kenmore, WA
Rainier			
South Columbia	Sat, Oct 16, 2021	St. Paul's LC	Wenatchee, WA

Financial Secretary
Elizabeth Cook

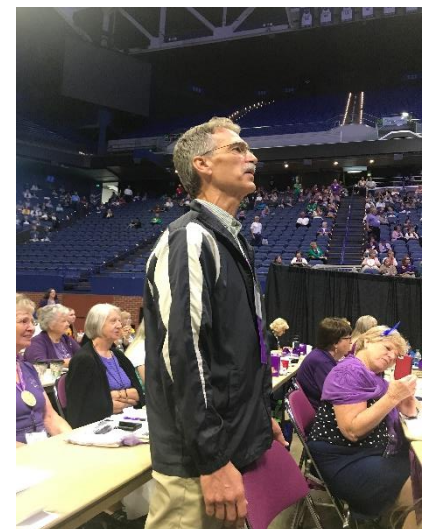
**2020-2022 Mites
as of July 31, 2021**

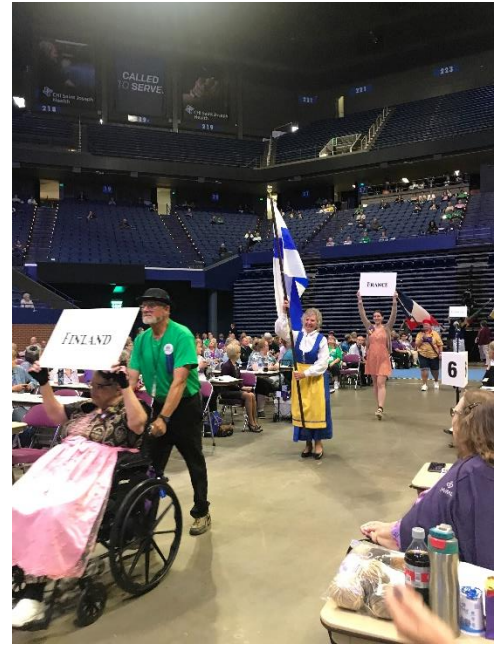


FINANCE REPORT



Pictures from LWML Convention in Lexington, KY 2021







Alaska Zone

Ruth Zellar, President

Greetings Ladies,

The Alaska Zone is planning a Fall Rally on September 11, 2021. It will be held at Faith Lutheran Church in Homer, Alaska from 9:00-4:00 PM. What a joy to gather with our sisters in Christ. The theme is Fishers of Men, and our Bible passage is Matthew 4:19. I look forward to being in Homer again. In my opinion, Homer is one of the most beautiful places in Alaska.

Alaska Zone President
Ruth Zellar



Lake Washington Zone

Ruth Ann Shimoi, President

Lake Washington Zone
Dear Sisters,

We were able to "Zoom" our 2021 Spring Joyshop, and it was great. I know I expressed my gratitude to "all" the technical help received from so many and for the great participation of those who joined. Since the Joyshop, and before the Fall Rally, I have been forwarding emails received from Marilee and/or the National LWML. I was able to have an "in-person" meeting of the board before heading to Lexington. We were so energized!! We were on a "roll" for our Fall Rally.

It will be held on Saturday the 16th of October at Pilgrim Lutheran Church, Bellevue, WA.

Our theme is "Exercising in God's Word: Spiritually, Mentally and Physically"
Hebrews 12:12

Ruth Ann Shimoi
Lake Washington LWML Zone President

2020-2022 LWML Washington-Alaska District Roster

District President
Marilee Ryan

Recording Secretary
Carla Church

Treasurer
Gigi Lutz

Financial Secretary
Elizabeth Cook

Counselor – East (Senior)
Rev. Richard Lopnow

Counselor – West (Junior)
Rev. Kevin Schubkegel

Vice President of Gospel Outreach
Ruth Ann Shimoi

Mission Servants Committee Chairman
Linda Davelaar

Scholarship Committee Chairman
Judy Ikerd

Short Term Missions Committee Chairman

**Vice President of
Organizational Resources**
Pam Rafferty

Leader Development Committee Chairman
Pam Rafferty (see above)

Vice President of Special Focus Ministries
Carolyn Holbrook

Heart to Heart Sisters Committee Chairman

Teen Committee Chairman
Doris Hildenbrand

Young Women Committee Chairman

Public Relations Director
TBD

**Evergreen Echoes Editor
(and Circulation)**
Ruth Zellar

Quarterly Manager
Judy Jeffery

Webmaster
Joyce Berger

Vice President of Christian Life
Grace Macduff

Archivist-Historian
Nancy Wyckoff

**Convention Committee Chairman 2020-
2022**
Linda Miller

Corresponding Secretary
LeeAnn Tibbals

Meeting Manager
MaryLynn Huntwork

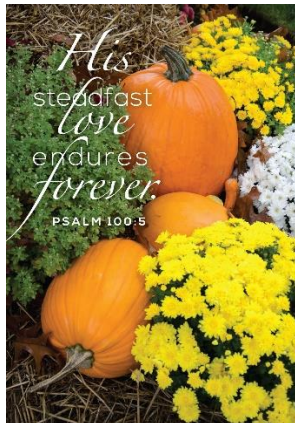
Nominating Committee Chairman
Jayne Bowes

Parliamentarian
Carol Coerber

Send mites to **Financial Secretary Elizabeth Cook**. Order Mite Boxes from and/or send any roster changes to **Corresponding Secretary LeeAnn Tibbals**.

Evergreen Echoes

Lutheran Women's Missionary League
Washington-Alaska District
Ruth Zellar
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Wasilla, AK 99623
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



2020 - 2022 Theme

Go Forth in Peace

*Let your eyes look directly forward,
and your gaze be straight before you
(Proverbs 4:25).*

*Brethren, I count not myself to have
apprehended: but this one thing I do,
forgetting those things which are behind,
and reaching forth unto those things
which are before (Philippians 3:13 KJV),*