



Fall 2022

Evergreen Echoes



www.wa-aklwml.org



Greetings from

LWML Washington–Alaska District
PRESIDENT Carolyn Holbrook

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Dates to Remember:

Evergreen Echoes

Winter Issue DEADLINE:

October 31, 2022

EvergreenEchoesEditor@gmail.com



District Retreat

Sept 29- Oct 1, 2023

Clover Island

2023 LWML Convention

June 22-25

Milwaukee, WI

“Prayer changes things.” Perhaps you have used that phrase. When I was asked to be a candidate for the office of President, the Lord and I had many conversations. What do you want me to do, Lord? The answer: “Trust me.” Okay. I’ll leave it to you, Lord. I will pray about where you want me to serve. Of course, I had several plans I thought were great. Short-term mission trips. Work with my zone churches. Volunteer opportunities. I was surprised to learn He planned for me to serve Him as the District President. So, if the Lord leads you to it, He’ll see you through it. Perhaps He is planning something special for YOU! Sometimes He surprises you. Yes, prayer does change things!

The Convention in Wenatchee was what I call “A mountain-top experience.” From the opening worship service led by Rev. Dr. Paul Linnemann, the Bible studies with Carol Coerber, and the Keynote Speaker, Deb Burma, to making connections with so many friends and making new ones, the exhibits and displays show the wonderful work of our missions and mites, to the singing with the Glad Song entertainment group the convention was uplifting, motivating, and inspiring. Thank you, Lord, for providing so many opportunities.

Did you know the Glad Song offering raised \$ \$2,997.94 for mites? WOW! And the Sunday offering which went to the New Hope Food Bank was \$2,384.96. Thanks be to God! And thank YOU, generous and loving LWML members!

Now that I’m down from the mountain, I’m back in the trenches. I have wonderful, capable people with whom to work on the district and zone levels. I’m excited to see what the Lord is planning for the next four years. I hope to see many of you at zone rallies in the future and I can’t wait for the District Convention in 2024 in Everett. And there is the National LWML Convention in Milwaukee next June! So, let’s get out your calendars and start saving those dates! God has plans for us!

Carolyn Holbrook, President

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

Pastor Brian Bowes

Counselor – East (Junior)

Greetings to my new “family”, the amazing Sisterhood that is the WA-AK District of the LWML!

As I write this introduction to who I am (I’m not sure y’all know what you’ve gotten yourselves into!), I am still smiling for memories of the recent convention and am humbly overwhelmed at this privilege that has been afforded me – to serve as your Eastside Counselor.

Some of you know me as the recent indentured servant of the Nominating Committee (boy howdy, am I enjoying being out of the cellar  ). Yet, remarkably enough, that doesn’t tell my story. So, here goes – I was born in Athens, Greece finally settling in Okanogan, WA in 1969 where I graduated from high school in 1981. I became involved with ministry in 1986, providing pulpit supply as a layman in my local congregation. The word got out, and because of my relationship with a local church camp (Camp Ortoha), I was asked by other congregations to provide pulpit supply during vacancies and vacations. This would ultimately lead to becoming a Licensed Lay Deacon, a role that I had for nine years before becoming ordained through general colloquy in December 2015.

I currently serve Our Savior-LC, Okanogan (my own “Nazareth”) and Hope-LC, Tonasket.

I met my long-suffering wife, Jayne, as an 11-year-old camper at the camp. We have been married for 15 years and she is what makes me the person, pastor, and man of God that I am today! We have two grown daughters. That’s it in a nutshell! I’m sure other things will be revealed as we grow together in the work set before us by our heavenly Father. I am so excited to be in this role, to be a part of a ministry that our Lord Jesus Christ has called and gifted you to be His hands and feet – putting His love, care, and compassion – in action!

So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God. Romans 5:11

I am looking forward to my role in this tremendous, integral, life-changing, and God-pleasing ministry!

Pastor Brian Bowes



LWML WA-AK District Friends,
The peace of the Lord be with you.

Wow, the LWML District Convention was amazing! Under the umbrella of the Gospel Outreach committee here is what happened:

- 50 Pillows were tied, then were divided up between the Zones for the Presidents to take back and give them to a Care Center.
- Over 100 cards were made which also were divided up and given to the Presidents to distribute.
- 50 Smile Packs for Children of the Nations were put together. I have received a thank you and have been told the packs could be shipped to Sierra Leone in October.
- Hundreds of glasses and sunglasses were donated and are being sent to MOST ministries for their Glasses Missions.
- Hundreds of paper products and personnel hygiene items were donated and given to Grace House of East Wenatchee.
- The Mite Walk raised \$3,005.61.
- The Sunday Morning offering recipient, New Hope Lutheran Church food bank will receive a check for \$2,384,96.
- 13 Mission Grant proposals were approved. Our Mite goal of \$75,000.00 will be funding these missions.

The Gospel Outreach committee was busy and with your support, to God be the glory. Our giving comes from what God has given to us. May this continue.

Ruth Ann Shimoi
LWML WA-AK District
Vice President Gospel Outreach





Special Focus Ministries

Pam Rafferty , Vice President

As your newly elected Vice President of Special Focus Ministries, I am looking forward to serving all ladies in the district including the young women, the Heart to Heart Sisters, and the teens. I am in the process of setting up my committees, transitioning with my predecessor, and praying about the direction the Lord is leading for the next 4 years. I have also been in communication with Carmen Nagel (Oregon District), chairman of the LWML Special Ministries Task Force. Her committee is tasked with developing resources for deaf and hard of hearing, blind and visually challenged, and intellectually and developmentally challenged women in our churches. I look forward to developing relationships and growing our ministry to include all women of our district.

Pam Rafferty

Vice President of Special Focus Ministries

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."(Jeremiah 29:11)



Organizational Resources

Marjorie O'Rourke, Vice President

Be still and know that I am God. - Psalm 46:10a

This has become my go to verse for the last month, and what a month since the convention. I am writing this article on what would have been my mother's 73 rd birthday, July 31st. She passed away just before the convention on June 29, 2022. I have come across this verse repeatedly since her passing. Maybe God is trying to tell me to let go and let Him be in charge, for a change.

Focusing on my new position as Vice President of Organizational Resources has been a helpful distraction. Some days, it feels like I have a pretty good idea of what I am getting into. On other days, I am drinking from a fire hose.

I am looking for ladies willing to work on the Leadership Development and Structure committees. The Leadership Development committee encourages and equips women in the district to increase their leadership skills to do God's work. The Structure committee is responsible for keeping the district bylaws up to date, as well as assisting the zones and societies with their bylaws. I will be working with both committees if you are concerned about being on your own. LWML has a lot of resources we can use for either committee.

If either committee appeals to you or if you want more information about working on them, please feel free to reach out to me at mjorourke9@gmail.com or call me at 406-422-2609.

Thank you to everyone who is considering working on either committee.

Marjorie O'Rourke

Vice President of Organizational Resources



Christian Life

Ruth Zellar, Vice President

Even though our Fall Retreat is over a year away, I am making plans for us to have a great retreat. The date has been set to September 29-October 1, 2023. The Location will be at Clover Island, Kennewick, WA

I have a couple of themes that I will get approval for at our November board meeting. There will be more details in the Spring Issue of the Evergreen Echoes. We are going to have a great retreat!!

Also please keep sending me your prayer request at www.lwml.wa.ak.prayer.request@gmail.com

Please watch for updates on the retreat.
Ruth Zellar



New Nomination Committee

Michele Misener, Chairman

The new 2022-2024 Nominating Committee is getting ready for our responsibilities ahead. We are meeting together via Zoom to start assigning and digesting our tasks.

The committee members are as follows:

Michele Misener (Chair) from Blue Mt. Zone, michelemisener@gmail.com,
Donna Josephson from Alaska Zone, Mrs.Josephson@alsalaska.org,
Emmi Mihalcin from Lake Washington Zone, emmi.mihalcin@gmail.com,
Jacque Morner from Alaska Zone, jacquemorner@gmail.com,
and Nancy Wyckoff from Mt. Baker Zone, twacker2@comcast.net.

Dear Father in Heaven, help us to seek and do your will as we perform our duties to your glory in Jesus' name. Amen
Michele Misener, Chairman



ELECTION RESULTS

Elected at the LWML 2022 District Convention in Wenatchee:

Carolyn Holbrook, President

Marjorie O'Rourke, Vice President of Organizational Resources

Pam Rafferty, Vice President of Special Focus Ministries

Aletha Voges, Financial Secretary

Rev. Brian Bowes, Pastoral Counselor-East

Also: Nominating Committee

Michele Misener, Chair

Donna Josephson

Emmi Mihalcin

Jacque Morner

Nancy Wyckoff

They join the current members:

Ruth Zellar, Vice President of Christian Life

Ruth Ann Shimoi, Vice President of Gospel Outreach

Carla Church, Recording Secretary

Gigi Lutz, Treasurer

Rev. Kevin Schubkegel, Pastor Counselor-West

Please lift these Officers in prayer as they serve the Lord in LWML. These officers are looking for members of the committees which serve under their departments. Please pray how the Lord might use YOU in serving Him in this way!



2022-2024 Mission Grants

Lutheran Women's Missionary League Washington-Alaska District 2022 – 2024 Mission Grants

1. Aid to WA-AK District Scholarship Fund	\$15,000
2. Children of the Nations	\$ 5,000
3. Concordia Seminary, St Louis, Logos Bible Software	\$ 4,000
4. Concordia Seminary, Fort Wayne Food Co-op	\$ 2,000
5. Dominican Republic Disability Ministry	\$ 5,000
6. LCMS Office of National Mission-Nurturing Spiritual Care	\$ 3,500
7. LCMS International Mission, Support for Johanna Heidorn	\$ 5,000
8. Lutheran Braille Workers Production Centers in WA-AK	\$ 5,000
9. Lutheran Heritage Foundation, Bibles for Immigrant Outreach	\$ 5,500
10. Lutheran Hour Ministries, Gospel Outreach Malaysia Radio	\$ 7,500
11. MOST Ministries – Teachers to the World	\$ 5,000
12. POBLO Cross Cultural Outreach to WA-AK	\$ 5,500
13. Trinity HOPE – Feeding Haitian Children Physically and Spiritually	\$7,000
TOTAL	\$75,000





Convention Pictures



More Convention Pictures



LWML Washington-Alaska District 2022 Fall Zone Events

Zone Date Location City, State

Alaska	Sept. 17	Lamb of God Lutheran Wasilla, Alaska
Blue Mountain	TBA	
East Inland Empire	Oct 8	Holy Cross Lutheran Spokane, WA
Hood Canal	TBA	
Inter-Valley	TBA	
Lake Washington	Oct 22	
Mount Baker	Oct. 15	Trinity Lutheran Bellingham, WA
North Columbia	Sept. 17	TBA
Olympic	Oct. 1	Messiah Lutheran Seattle, WA
Rainier	Nov. 5	Zion Lutheran Tacoma, WA
South Columbia	Nov. 5	TBA

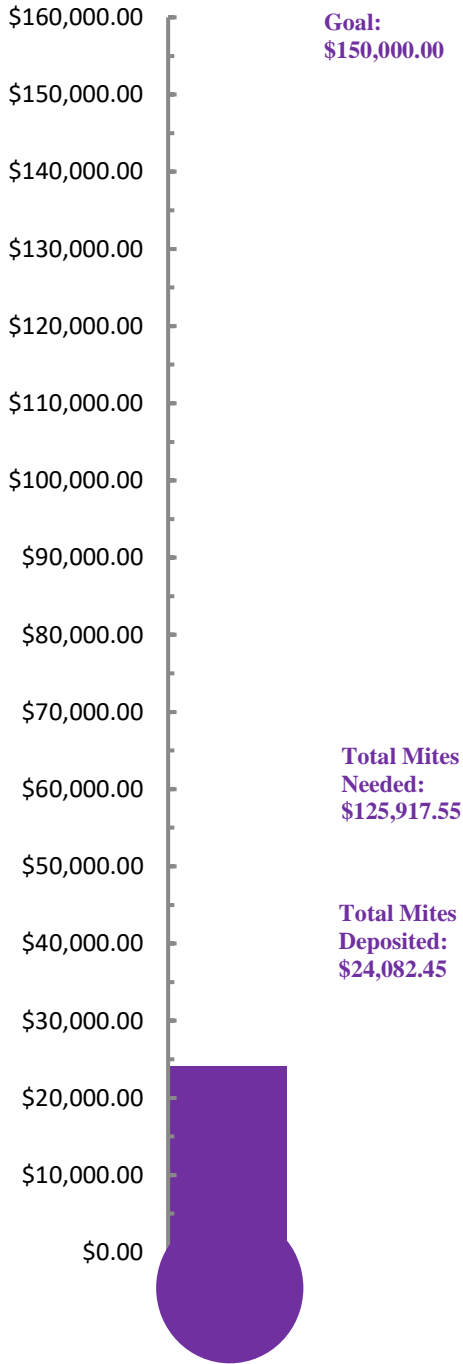
Financial Secretary

Aletha Voges



**Mission
Giving**

2022-2024 Mites as of July 31, 2022



FINANCE REPORT

Four applicants for scholarships from the LWML Washington/Alaska District were approved by the Executive Committee. All recipients are planning to become full-time church workers and are enrolled in Missouri Synod Seminaries. The home congregations for each of these recipients are located within the WA-AK District.

Matthew Both is enrolled in the Mission Training Center in Irvine, California. He is currently working with Ethiopian and Sudanese people in Renton. He hopes to improve both his English and his knowledge of Lutheran theology so he can teach God's word clearly and correctly.

Justin Chester will be attending his second year at Fort Wayne Seminary and plans to become a minister. His home church is Messiah Lutheran Church in Marysville, Washington. Justin is married and has two young children.

Grace MacDuff's home church is Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Kennewick, Washington. She will be attending her second year at St Louis Seminary taking online courses. Grace is studying to become a deaconess.

Benjamin Oesch will begin his second year at St. Louis Seminary. His home church is Messiah Lutheran Church in Marysville, Washington. He intends to become a minister.



Rainier Zone

The Rainier Zone will be having its fall rally on Saturday, November 5, 2022, at Zion Lutheran Church, 3410 6th Ave., Tacoma, WA 98406. This is a very important meeting as we will be electing a new zone president since I cannot continue due to my election to an elected district office. Please pray for the person who is going to take my place as zone president. More information will be coming out about the rally after the zone board meeting on Saturday, August 27, 2022, at Zion Lutheran Church in Tacoma.

Marjorie O'Rourke
Outgoing Zone President
Vice President of Organizational Resources

2020-2022 LWML Washington-Alaska District Roster

District President
Carolyn Holbrook

Recording Secretary
Carla Church

Treasurer
Gigi Lutz

Financial Secretary
Aletha Voges

Counselor – East (Senior)
Rev. Kevin Schubkegel

Counselor – West (Junior)
Rev. Brian Bowes

Vice President of Gospel Outreach
Ruth Ann Shimoi

Mission Servants Committee Chairman
Linda Davelaar

Scholarship Committee Chairman
Judy Ikerd

Short Term Missions Committee Chairman
Patrice Cornelious

**Vice President of
Organizational Resources**
Marjorie O'Rourke

Leader Development Committee Chairman

Vice President of Special Focus Ministries
Pam Rafferty

Heart to Heart Sisters Committee Chairman
Kelsie Ingham

Teen Committee Chairman

Young Women Committee Chairman
Erin Black

Public Relations Director
TBD

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Ruth Zellar

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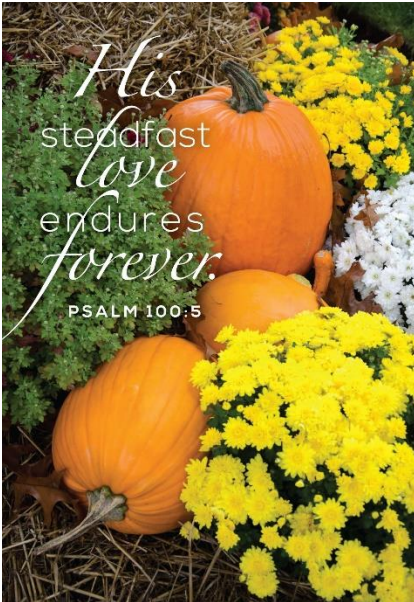
Nominating Committee Chairman
Michele Misener

2022-2024 Convention Chairman
Doris Hildenbrand

Parliamentarian
Carol Coerber

Evergreen Echoes

Lutheran Women's Missionary League
Washington-Alaska District
Ruth Zellar
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



2022 - 2024 Theme

"Be Strong and Courageous"

"...be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)