



Evergreen Echoes

LWML Washington-Alaska District

Spring, 2013

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EVERGREEN ECHOES SUMMER DEADLINE: APRIL 30, 2013



Mission Statement of the LWML

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.

DISTRICT PRESIDENT MARYLYNN HUNTWORK

How does God see you?

Quietly I sit at my desk, gazing onto the blank document. I realize the deadline is fast approaching. What shall I write about? What shall I say? I don't want to make mistakes. What will readers think? I am concerned about how others will see me. I want to look and sound good. What will they see when this article is published?



Our family visited the Oregon Coast last year; we faithfully packed binoculars confident we would see whales, eagles, fishing boats and ships in the night. Each grandchild would wait impatiently for his or her turn to see whatever it was the adults could see out there! The binoculars were constantly focused and refocused so each person could see the sights through his or her own eyes. Sometimes the thick fog stopped anyone from seeing past the safety fence on the cliff.

In Romans 5:10 (NIV) the Apostle Paul writes, "For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, how much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life." A personal, loving relationship between God and humans has been restored by Christ. God sees us through the binoculars. The clarity is changed because instead of thick fog obstructing the view, Jesus stands in front of the binoculars with His pure white flowing robe. God sees us through Jesus. We are washed clean because of Christ's sacrifice for sinners. We don't have to worry about how God sees us, Jesus took care of that. We don't need to worry about what to say, how to look, how to act, God has it written down and the Holy Spirit will guide us. God commands us to "Prepare the way," to be messengers of the Word, to proclaim the gospel to everyone.

I pray you are prepared to attend, "Quenched! By the Water," the 35th LWML Biennial Convention Pittsburgh, June 27-30, 2013. Prepare to be inspired and uplifted by gifted speakers and leaders.

Cont. on page 2

Tresident's article cont.

It is with love and thankfulness that I "Serve the Lord with Gladness" alongside of you.

Love in Christ, MaryLynn Huntwork, LWML WA-AK District President

And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other. Matthew 24:31

LWML

LWML Offers Early Discount Registration for 2013



Registration for the 35th Biennial LWML Convention to be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, June 27-30, 2013, will open on February 1, 2013. For the first time, **early discounted registration** is offered for registration entered online, or postmarked by March 14, 2013.

The LWML Convention is centered on the theme, "Quenched! by the Water," and is based on the Scripture passage, [Jesus said:] " ... but whoever drinks of

the water that I give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life'(John 4:14).

Register today for this exciting experience! Go to www.lwml.org/conventions where all the details are available at "Convention Central" including the latest convention news and instructions on how to register for the convention online. All the registration information is also available in the Winter 2012 issue of the Lutheran Woman's Quarterly on the convention insert pages. To send your registration by mail, simply fill out the required information, enclose your check or credit card number, and mail to the address indicated.

"Pittsburgh — WOW!" is being heard around the country as preparations continue and thousands make plans to gather at the convention to worship, select grants, elect new officers, and participate in events, such as Servant Connections, Tee Up 4 Mites Golf Outing, Mission Pledge Walk, and the LWML Neighborhood Block Party."

Updates on the convention will be available at www.lwml.org/conventions. Please check this site frequently for new posts on the convention.

Edie Norris, Public Relations Director LWML Office



The season of Lent provides the opportunity to reflect on Jesus' suffering and sacrifice, His life, death and resurrection, LWML mission grants share His love and His story with others. One example is Pastor Daniel Jacobs' service to the "Crow Indian Ministry" in Montana. You Mite Box is your opportunity to help serve them as well!

Christian Life Lent Comes Early This Year!

(You must read this first part with your best Paula Dean voice)

I stood in my PJ's, drinking my first cup of coffee, looking out my kitchen window over my porcelain Baby Jesus and right past my stained glass rainbowscowling at my neighbor who offended me months ago. In that picture I was not the wise man looking for Jesus - following His light and word. I was not the angels singing, "Glory to God in the highest and peace on earth goodwill to men!" No. I was the very sinner that Baby Jesus died on the cross to save. I sinfully overlooked Jesus - right past the rainbow of promise to the fleck in my neighbor's eye. Suddenly, I grimaced with the realization of the pain from the log in my own eye! The Word of God came to me. "For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God." 2 Corinthians 5:21. Lent came early.



As we travel into Lent and on to Easter - "Prepare the Way" - as in the opening words of the 2013 LWML Prayer Service "Joyful, Joyful!"

Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray.

Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise.

Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.

And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up.

And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.

Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed.

The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. (James 5:13-16)

The Lord is Risen! ... (...go ahead say it LOUD! you know you can't help yourself!)

Your sister in Christ

Cheryl L. Beyer, VP Christian Life

Christian Life Support

Many zones and societies are having trouble filling the Christian Life positions so I am hoping that we can pool together to encourage others to join our ranks.

We have important work to do...but remember it's God's work; and He always provides. We want to know what you are up to and how we can help. Please feel free to contact me with a phone call or email! And don't forget to check out the Christian Life Web pages on the LWML and soon to be updated WA-AK Web sites! www.wa-aklwml.org



Check out the Christian Life section of the LWML website:

http://lwml.org/ christian-life/ index.php



"HOLY HOLY HOLY"

And one called to the "Holy, holy, holy, is The whole earth is full



other and said: the LORD of hosts; of His glory!"

Isaiah 6:3

Come learn what the Bible teaches about Angels!!!

Three Pastors are our Speakers and Leaders!

Mark your calendar! Save the date!

WA-AK District Retreat

Wesley Inn - Gig Harbor

September 27-29, 2013



Start planning your
"Zone-mazing
Entertainment"
and Auction Gift Baskets!



Recycling news



Recycling Rumble returns! Funding Factory pairs us up with another organization and the one with the most qualified items sent in between Feb 13th and April 30th receives a 25% bonus. Last year our team earned the 25%, so

LET'S RUMBLE!

February goal: Tell at least two people about FF and how they can help us. There was one shipment for which we hadn't been given credit (info was lost). I bugged them politely until they gave us about \$35 (average for our shipments).

Funding Factory accepts all cartridges with a minimum of 10 cents awarded. So collect old Digital Cameras, Laptops, GPS systems, MP3 Players, ink and toner cartridges (no toner tanks). Pack items together following the 20/20 rule: at least 20 items OR at least 20 lbs. but no more than 40 lbs. Wrap cartridges in newspaper so no ink will leak onto the electrical items. More information at www.fundingfactory.com

Judy Peraino, Recycling Coordinator

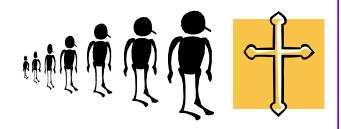
Finding Resources?

Whether you want to expand your own leadership skills, or "lead others to leadership," LWML offers great resources to assist you. When you visit www.lwml.org, click on 'Resources' at the top of the home page. Then on the list, click on 'Developing Leaders (formerly Leader Helps).' The list there is full of new ideas and recently revised inspirations. You will find Bible studies, programs for meetings, opportunities for personal growth, and much more.

Does your society want to encourage new church members to be part of LWML? "Welcoming New Members...into Your Church Family" can help. You can use "Personal Development" as a group activity, or to discover more about yourself. "Gifted for Service" is a wonderful Bible study on spiritual gifts.

Put together enough "LWML Servant Resources Kits" to use in your Executive Committee meeting. If you need to recharge, go through "Motivation is Contagious," or read "Flowering LWML Leaders." "Follow the Leader" is the LWML Leader Development Committee newsletter published on the LWML website to support and encourage us in our faith (and leadership) walk.

With Jesus as our leader, we can share His grace and glorify Him while we serve those around us. May the Lord grant us the wisdom to use His resources wisely.



Your District Leader Development Committee
Margaret Ebert
Marilyn Schaefer, Chairman

PLEASE COPY THIS ISSUE FOR THE LADIES IN YOUR CHURCH! PRINT IT IN GRAYSCALE FOR COPYING ON THE COPY MACHINE OR PRINT OUT ALL THE COPIES IN COLOR. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE ISSUES VIA E-MAIL, PLEASE CONTACT THE CIRCULATION MANAGER, DENISE CRAWFORD.

Human Care Corner

Happy New Year to all! I hope this finds you all energized and looking forward to a new year of blessings and new beginnings. I know I am. I have been busy planning a Gifts of the Heart event for our retreat this September in Gig Harbor. Look for more information coming soon.

Please check out the LWML web site or the quarterly to see what the Gifts of the Heart events are for
 Pittsburgh. Each society should choose at least one of the choices (Baby Kit, Men's Kit, Bath Kit or Devotional
 Kit; list of items and instructions are provided) plan to send one kit with your zone delegate to the convention.
 You can use the other items collected for an event in your community.

As the alternate delegate for the North Columbia Zone I will be attending the LWML convention in Pittsburgh this June. I will be happy to transport your items if your delegate is unable to. Contact me, and I will make

arrangements with you.

We will soon be planning servant events, Gifts of the Heart events, Short Term Mission presentations and Friends Into Serving Him® activities for the 2014 district convention in Wenatchee. If you have ideas, please email them to me at sandrahall1918@msn.com. I am always open to new and interesting adventures.

Blessings to all! Sandi Hall, VP Human Care

Greetings to all,

I am still trying to figure out the short-term missions board so we have a short article this time. I will be at the Spring Joyshop for North Columbia Zone in April and am excited to talk about missions both near and far. Remember you are **Blessed to be a Blessing** in someone's life. By being that blessing to someone else, your life will be blessed tenfold. Saying "yes" to God has produced much fruit in the lives of my family and me. To learn more about saying "yes" to God and the benefits please invite me to speak at your Joyshop this spring or let's make a special LWML meeting. --Traci Blank



Counselor's Chat Corner

My wife and I are attending our Northwest Center for Prayer and Renewal retreat at Canon Beach Oregon. This is my fourth journey to this retreat. My friends ask me, "Why do you keep going back to a prayer retreat?" My answer is simple. I could not exist without staying in prayer with God. It may sound extreme to the world around me. They would probably call me a 'prayer nut' and wonder why I am still allowed to walk around free in the streets! (but) I know that nothing could be furloving Father in heaven.

The bible has many references to remain in prayer: give ear to my cry..." or Mark 11:24 "Therefore I you have received it, and it will be yours..." and which belongs to the child of God through prayer.

visit Psalms 39:12 "Hear my prayer, O Lord, and tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe in these words I find myself seeking the blessing

Members of the LWML: You have blessed me by allowing me to be your advisor, so here goes! Stay in prayer constantly. Share with others your "A-HAH" moments from prayer both to help lift up your brother or sister in his or her need or to be lifted up in yours. Please remember that God has called you to pray, and through his grace, live your life in peace.

Loving you as sisters and brothers in the Lord, Pastor Mike, LWML Counselor West

District Structure Committee

2013 - A New Year

2013! A new year. A clean slate. A time to start over and tackle those things that just didn't get done in 2012. It is



a new year for your LWML society or zone, too. This is an opportunity to finish those bylaws that you started to review. Now is a good time to look back and see whether the bylaws as they exist really fit with the way you do things. There are some legal things that may need to be changed: names of officers/committees, the actual name of your society and its relationship to your zone and/or the district, or practices that may have changed over the years. Your bylaws are meant to be a structure that makes it easier to be a functional organization. Look it up. Get it done.

Now, doesn't it feel better to have that behind you? (For help with your bylaws, go to www.wa-aklwml.org and click on the "Structure/Bylaws" button to the left or contact

Vice President of Servant Resources, Marie Chow.)

Your District Structure Committee, Sandy Geisler, Ruth Ann Shimoi, Marie Chow, Chairman

Young Women

Greetings from your Young Women Committee!

One of the things our committee hears regularly is this question: "How do we get more young women interested in attending our LWML events?" There is no easy answer, but our committee is here to help your society and zone answer this question.

Some ideas:

- Think outside the box about events that might draw interest from the young women in your church and use them as opportunities to introduce the mission of LWML
- Host a pajama party and share a brief history of the LWML as the "storytime."
- Host a "mom's coffee break" and get to know some of the parenting moms in your congregation.
- Include childcare during your LWML event.
- Plan a six to eight week Bible study geared towards young women.
- "Someone personally invited me" is one of the most common answers young women give when asked the question, "Why did you start participating in LWML?"

Our committee has lots of other ideas, but space here is limited! If your society or zone is interested in reaching out to the young women of your church and you need more ideas, please contact us through the district website: http://wa-aklwml.org/youngwomen.htm



Amanda Haan, Chairman Chris White

Note to LWML Convention, Pittsburgh, June 27-30, 2013

- ♦ Delegate Orientation (Thursday, June 27, 3 p.m.)
- ♦ District Caucus and District Photo (Thursday, June 27, 4-6 p.m.)
- Past District Presidents will meet (Time and place TBA)
- ♦ YWR's Meet and Greet (Thursday, Time and place TBA)
- The daily convention newsletter, "The Ripple Effect" will have information that answers the "who, what, when, where" questions at the convention. Please read it.
- Please let President MaryLynn know if you will be attending the convention.





5. Raising up Native Leaders in Alaska's Interior Lutheran Indian Ministries

\$5,000

To reach the Native Alaskans with the Gospel, disciple them, and identify potential candidates for leadership training to empower them for service, Lutheran Indian Ministries desires to have a Native Pastor living in Alaska. This grant would provide funds, facilitating Rev. David Sternbeck to minister to those living in remote communities in Central Alaska. Pastor Dave has been traveling to Alaska for several weeks every quarter. During this time he has been meeting with indigenous people, leading a Native Bible study, and working with Zion Lutheran Church in Fairbanks. As Pastor Dave has been building relationships, he has identified several Native individuals who are considering theological training. As the ministry expands, Pastor Dave and his wife Rosemary hope to move to Alaska's interior. The grant would help cover a portion of Pastor Dave's travel expenses, lodging, and food.



Dear Heavenly Father, we thank You for calling men to preach Your word, far and near. We pray that the mite gift of \$5,000 is a blessing to Lutheran Indian Ministries and Pastor Dave as he continues to build relationships in Alaska and identifies those who are considering theological training. Watch over Pastor Dave and his wife that they may carry out Your work in the remote communities of Alaska. Amen.



6. Concordia Seminary, St. Louis Food Bank, St. Louis, MO

\$5,000

The Food Bank at Concordia is a vital component of the seminary campus offering staples, produce, bakery goods, personal care, and baby items. All students enrolled at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis share in this benefit, about 500 students and their families each year. Two shopping days per month are available to each student/family. On average, each seminary family (4) saves \$400 per month due to the benefits of the Food Bank. This grant will help to

stock the Food Bank with food and supplies.

We thank and praise You, dear Lord, for the seminaries that prepare men and women to serve. We ask that the mite gift of \$5,000 to Concordia Seminary Food Bank in St. Louis provides the much needed physical support for these men and women and their families, that they may be strengthened and nourished for work in Your kingdom. Amen.

2012 District Scholarship Recipients (Mission grant #1) \$16,000

Seminary Students: Matt Gulseth, Gary Krumdieck, Daniel Merz Undergraduate Students: Patrick Winterstein, Ellyn Hanson, Heidi Blair

Dear Lord, we thank and praise You for those to whom You give the desire to study and train for work in Your Kingdom. Amen.

Marilee Ryan, VP Gospel Outreach, Mission Grant committee members, Joyce Berger and Cristina McAnulty

Ways to contribute to the **Scholarship Fund**

- **Prayer**
- **Individuals**
- **Local LWML Society and Congregation**
- **Group Fund Raiser**
- Monthly pledge to the Scholarship Fund
- **Scholarship Memorial Cards**
- Mission Outreach by a local LWML **Society or Congregation**



Mission Grants 2012-2014 LWML WA-AK District

		mount Paid
1. Aid to WA-AK District Scholarships\$		
2. House of the Lambs of God\$		
3. Lower Elwha Klallam Native American Ministry,\$,
Lutheran Indian Ministries		
4. Helping Blind People see Jesus, Lutheran Blind Mission\$	5,000	
5. Raising up Native Leaders in Alaska's Interior\$	5,000	
6. Concordia Seminary, St. Louis Food Bank\$	5,000	\$2,500
7. Family Promise of North Idaho\$	7,500	Paid in Full
8. Veterans of the Cross, LCMS Development Services\$		\$2,,500
9. Kitchen repair Holy Cross Clinic and Mission House\$	5,500	
Amatitlan, Guatemala		
10. Operation Barnabas, LCMS Development Services\$		
11. Tacoma Seafarers' Center\$		\$2,500
12. Equipping God's Servants, Computers for\$	2,800	
Lutheran Bible Translators		
13. Developing Religious Curriculum for God's People	4,000	Paid in Full
with Disabilities, Bethesda Lutheran Communities		
14. Transportation and Tutoring for the Chin and KaRen\$	1,600	Paid in Full
Burmese Refugees of Spokane, New Vision Lutheran Church		
15. Trinity Lutheran Church, Fort McMurray AB	1,600	
MISSION GRANT GOAL	887,000	\$28,934

Steps for Treparing a Mission Proposal

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Risen Savior!

It is time to develop mission grant proposals for selection at the 29th LWML Washington-Alaska District Biennial Convention to be held in June, 2014. There are many possibilities. Just look around your area, and you may see a mission need

Here are some things to remember when submitting a mission grant proposal:

1. The deadline for mission grant proposals is October 31, 2013. Send two paper copies and one electronic copy to

Marilee Ryan, Vice President of Gospel Outreach 7702 77th PL NE Marysville, WA 98270 marileedr@cs.com

- 2. Be specific in your request. Give all pertinent facts necessary to show that it is a good and valid proposal for a mission grant.
- 3. Read the Washington-Alaska District Bylaws (Article XV) for guidance in submitting a mission grant proposal. **Instructions and forms are available on our website www.wa-aklwml.org.**
- 4. Please submit the mission grant proposal by completing the request form, which will include a resolution. The form can be found elsewhere at this website.

(Cont.)

As of 1/31/13

Steps for Treparing a Mission Proposal Cont.

- 5. Mission grant proposals will only be accepted with a sponsor from an individual LWML member, society, or zone within the Washington-Alaska District LWML. If you need assistance finding a sponsor, contact Marilee.
- 6. The maximum amount requested should be the full figure required for the mission, and the minimum amount should be the least amount that can be received and still be of assistance to the mission.
- 7. Be realistic in the request for grant money. The Washington-Alaska District mission goal for the current biennium of 2012-2014 is \$87,000. See past convention manuals for typical amounts funded.
- 8. Please submit each mission grant proposal on a separate form.

Mission grant proposals not adopted at previous conventions may be resubmitted for this upcoming biennium. The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Mission Board, has already approved these mission grant proposals. When you send the Mission Grant Proposal form, send photos and other images, such as a logo, about the mission on a CD or via email. Paper photographs and brochures cannot be used. The photos will be transferred to a DVD and shown at the convention during the mission grant presentation.

May the Lord be with you as you prepare the Mission Grant Proposals for the 2014-2016 biennium. Ask for His guidance, and start gathering your information right away.

In His service, Marilee Ryan, Vice President Gospel Outreach

In Haiti: Nord Est Haiti Lutheran Mission

Good News! The Boys Move into Their New Home Thank You from Pastor Daniel Paul January, 2013

The boys' orphanage dedication took place August, 2012. Twenty one young men ranging in age from 4 to 12, officially moved in at the end of September. Two of the boys live at the girls' complex. Wilson, age 18, a long-time resident at MADO, remained at the girls' orphanage to provide additional protection. Donis, 20 months, also lives at the girls' orphanage as he needs more care due to his young age.

Many of the boys are attending school for the first time and as a result, several of the 10-12 year olds are only in kindergarten. When asked what they like most about their new home, the majority respond, "I have the possibility to attend school." In November, the boys excitedly shared that they all knew the French alphabet. The boys are encouraged to speak French (language of the upper and educated class) and are developing healthy study habits.

Nightly devotions are held to foster their faith. They also attend Sunday and week-day church services and Bible studies held at the girls' orphanage complex. Each older boy is responsible for a younger child which includes caring for him, ensuring he brushes his teeth, bathes properly, and knows his lessons. The boys assist with household chores and garden work. The boys' orphanage complex has many avocado and guava trees which the boys enjoy harvesting and eating.

It is a blessing to see Pastor Daniel Paul's dream of opening a boys' orphanage come to pass. Thank you to the many people and organizations that helped.

- Emily Bartelheimer

Friends Into Serving Him®

On these cold winter days, it is nice to think of the summer sun, warm on my face. Summer isn't that far away and neither is summer, 2014. Have you talked to your teen girls about going to the 2014 District Convention in Wenatchee? Planning has begun for what the teens will be doing—Bible study, service events, fellowship and, of course, lots of fun! It's not too early to start talking to your girls and identifying your responsible adult to accompany the girls. See you in Wenatchee.

Julie Funfar, Chairman (Friends Into Serving Him is part of the Human Care Committee.)

Lutheran Women's Missionary League Washington-Alaska District 2012-2014 Biennium Theme

And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.

Matthew 24:31



Like the angels that God sent to His chosen so are we sent as messengers to share with others our story of faith and trust in God's love, grace, mercy, and salvation through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Lutheran Women's Missionary League
Washington-Alaska District will be
Messengers of God. With the power of the
Holy Spirit we will prepare those who will
inherit salvation by going out with
confidence to share Jesus' love through
our mites and actions.

Washington-Alaska Zone and Society Corner

Zion LWML, Jacoma

Serving the Lord with Gladness
Six LWML quilters from Zion Lutheran Church in
Tacoma meet twice a month to create lap quilts which
are given to the residents of the Tacoma Lutheran
Home and to the congregation's shut-ins. Thirty-two
lap quilts were given away in December. They also
make quilts for the congregation's high school
graduates and baby quilts for newly baptized infants.
Well done ladies!

--Shirley Miller



Schedule of 2013 Spring Joyshops

Alaska, April 13, Funny River Lutheran Church, Soldotna, WA Theme: Sweeter than Chocolate, Proverbs 24:141

Blue Mountain, April 20

East Inland Empire, April 20

Hood Canal, April 20

Inter-Valley, April 27

Lake Washington, April 13

Mount Baker, April 13, 9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

North Columbia, April 6

Olympic, May 4, 9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.; Speaker: Kathy Bezler, from Lutheran Indian Ministries

Rainier, April 20, 9:00 a.m.

South Columbia, April 20, 9:00 a.m. Faith Lutheran, East Wenatchee, WA

2012-2014 LWML Washington-Alaska District Roster

President Counselor - West MaryLynn Huntwork

Counselor - East **Vice President of Servant Resources** Marie Chow Rev. Ken Schauer

Vice President of Christian Life Cheryl L. Beyer - Olympic

Vice President of Human Care Sandi Hall

Vice President of Gospel Outreach Marilee Ryan

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LeeAnn Tibbals

Scholarship Committee Chairman

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Short Term Missions Chairman

Traci Blank

Young Women Committee

Chairman Amanda Haan



Please send mites to the Financial Secretary, Deb Jones. Order mite boxes and complete rosters from the Corresponding Secretary, Linda Miller.

District website:

www.wa-aklwml.org

Deadline for next issue: April 30, 2013.

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

Evergreen Echoes

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Angels

 $oldsymbol{A}$ is for Always thinking of others

N is for Numerous kind acts

G is for Going above and beyond

E is for Endless devotion

L is for how much you are Loved

