



Summer 2015

Evergreen Echoes

www.wa-aklwml.org



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Important Dates to Remember:

Evergreen Echoes
Fall Issue
DEADLINE: JULY 31, 2015

LWML Washington-Alaska District Retreat
Leavenworth, Washington
September 25-27, 2015

District Biennial Convention
Everett, Washington
June 17-19, 2016

Greetings from the LWML Washington-Alaska District President Marie Chow



It has been wonderful and a pleasure to attend a couple of zone events in April over on the east side of the mountains since I had not been there as a district representative before. I love it – women worshipping together, women in the Word, and women in fellowship! Those are just a few reasons why I love LWML so very much. Another is LWML’s love for missions, especially collecting mites for mission. This was indeed demonstrated by exceeding the LWML mite goal of \$1,830,000 for the 2013-2015 biennium. The total was

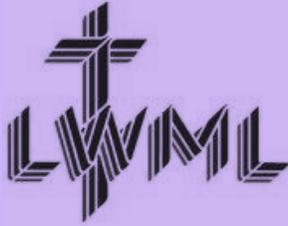
\$1,851,348.67. At the end of February, it was determined that we still needed \$225,766.16 to make the goal. We collected \$247,114.83 in March. God has blessed His mission through LWML by way of us. Praise God! Summer is around the corner! Remember to pray for the LWML Convention in Des Moines in June and your zone delegate, as she votes on our 2015-2017 mite goal, mission grants, new officers, and proposed bylaw amendments. Live streaming will be available, so get some people together and watch some of the convention using your electronic device. Remember that Des Moines is two hours ahead of most of our district. Invite your zone delegate to attend your society meeting in the fall.

Before you get busy with your own summer activities, remember to register for the district retreat in Leavenworth, Washington September 25-27. Registration information is found on pages 6-9 of this issue or the bulk registration mailing that all societies received. Hotel information is on the form. You can also find the information on the website under the “Christian Life” webpage.

If you are in Portland at the LCMS Northwest District Convention June 11-13, you will find me at the LWML booth. If you will not be there, encourage your pastor, delegate, and youth delegate to stop by and say “hi!” I am so thrilled to be sharing the booth with LWML Oregon District President Carolyn Stucky and LWML Utah-Idaho District President Linda Larson.

It is a blessing to continue to serve Christ with you and others as we share our gifts and our talents at church, in our community, and in LWML, working together for God’s purpose.





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.



How About We Pray

Pastor Mike Wenzel, District Counselor-Senior

Our celebration of Easter has come and is not yet complete for this year (as of the 5th Sunday of Easter), and I say to you: HE IS RISEN! Hoping you are thinking and saying "HE is risen indeed; Hallelujah!"

At Trinity Lutheran in Olympia, we have been working through the letter of 1st John as a sermon series and asking ourselves what it means to be Easter people, those who proclaim and confess Jesus as Savior and Lord. When we consider what our God has done for us it would seem to be an easy thing to follow Jesus where he leads us as his children, but don't we find that at times this can be a difficult thing to do? There are so many voices in the world that work hard to turn us away from the kingdom of God by the means of false teachings, by being tempted to follow the messages we sometimes find in our ears!

The question arises: What are the children of God to do in the face of the challenges that are placed before them? Worry? No. Give up? Hope not!

How about we pray!

Matthew 6:9-13 gives us a prayer we can pray to our Father in heaven.

1 Thessalonians 5:17 says we should rejoice always and pray without ceasing.

Acts 4:23-31 shows us where the believers pray for boldness in their service to the Lord. (and)

Luke 10:2 and following speaks of praying earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.

Praying is a wonderful way for us to begin, persevere, and serve our Lord with gladness. What a great vocation we have been called to; to serve the Lord of life in everything we do!

I thank the Lord daily for placing his Word, his direction for my life, and for giving me sisters and others, members of LWML to share my Christian walk and challenges within our common service to God.

God bless you and your service to God. He is risen. Hallelujah indeed!

Christian Life

My Redeemer Lives!

Cheryl L. Beyer, VP Christian Life

Well my friends Holy Week and Easter were a while ago – and how soon we get over the excited Easter morning joy! How soon we fall back into the routine of our lives, but this we know for sure...

"I know that my Redeemer lives; what comfort this sweet sentence gives! He lives, He lives who once was dead; He lives, my ever living head.

He lives to silence all my fears; He lives to wipe away my tears; He lives to calm my troubled heart; He lives all blessings to impart.

He lives, all glory to His name! He lives,

my Jesus, still the same; Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives: I know that my Redeemer lives!" (LSB 461 v 1, 5 & 8)

Every day is a good day because we can sing – I know that my Redeemer lives!

Look for all the exciting retreat information in this issue, on the district web site and in the bulk mailing! Get your registration in by August 1, 2015 to save \$10.

Come Into His Presence! Join us for Worship, Fun and Fellowship! We are so excited and cannot wait to see you in!

Deploying Digital Missionaries

Connie Denninger

Social media has changed the way we will continue to interact around the world. Recently a team has been working together to bring Gospel Light to the visual media of Pinterest. Kingdom Impact Pinners were created to virtually join for this common purpose. Visual highlights or "pins" are used to give views into what "faith-life living" looks like. Each team member gathers their own "Likes" and interests. The top of their boards - like an online bulletin board - highlight topics with Christian perspective, Bible verses, and resources for living as followers of Jesus. Pinterest is a "social" media so conversations and comments are also part of the experience. This allows for mentoring, coaching and resourcing others around the world. LWML stories, resources, people and events can become a "pin" and shared.

Creation and curation are the two basic types of content for most social media. Creation involves the "making" of the initial photo or resource link. Then it is "shared" by fellow team members by pinning or liking. Others might curate- search and discover content. Both levels of involvement are necessary. The 30 members of the Kingdom Impact currently reach over 30,000 followers. Could LWML members be deployed as digital missionaries using social media? There are the story-tellers and those who share- "cheerlead". Pray about where God might be calling you to participate. For more of the story: <http://constancedenninger.blogspot.com/2013/03/kingdom-impact-pinterest.htm>



Gospel Outreach

Stand Tall in Faith

Marilee Ryan, VP Gospel Outreach

Summer is here. Will this season be the "lazy day of summer" like going on vacation, soakin' up the sun, or just time off to relax and do nothing?

The Church season of Pentecost has come and gone – the start of the Christian Church when the "power from on high" came upon the disciples. The disciples, following Christ's instruction, were sent to testify, witness, teach, and baptize. Those who accepted the message devoted

themselves to the apostle's teaching and to fellowship. They continued to meet and break bread together with glad and sincere hearts.

In planning your summer activities, remember to continue to soak up the SON. Following the instructions given to all generations, share the Good News of Christ's love, forgiveness and eternal life with all whom you encounter, wherever your journeys take you.

Can We Help You?

Twyla Mitson, Short Term Missions Chairman

Are you looking for somewhere to serve the Lord? Have you thought of a short term mission? The LWML Washington-Alaska District Short Term Missions committee is ready and willing to help you. We have received a grant for \$5000 to be used over the 2014-2016 biennium to fund short term missions from between \$500 to \$1000 for each applicant.

The application has been sent to each of your society presidents in the bulk mailing. If you have not seen it yet and are interested in applying, please ask your society president for a copy of the short term mission grant application

form. When you have completed the form, send it to me, my email and address are in the District Roster (page 15) and our committee will review it and make a determination as to how we can help you.

We have our first applicant already and are hoping to hear from more of you soon. If you have any questions, Sandi Hall or I will be happy to try to answer them.

This is a wonderful way to serve in the mission field and we are excited to be able to help you. Serve the Lord with gladness!



Gospel Outreach

Mission Possible - \$33,725 funded



*Keep Recycling
your ink cartage,
cellphones, and
laptops for LWML.*

| | | Paid |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Aid to the WA-AK District Scholarship Fund | \$17,800 | \$7,500 |
| 2. Clean Water and Mattresses for Malagasy Lutheran Hospital | \$ 7,500 | Paid in Full |
| 3. Alaska Mission for Christ | \$ 7,500 | |
| 4. Elwha Ministry – Hope House | \$ 4,000 | \$1,000 |
| 5. Concordia Seminary Food and Clothing Co-op, Fort Wayne | \$ 5,000 | |
| 6. Opportunity Mission Outreach, LWML WA-AK District | \$ 5,000 | \$1,000 |
| 7. Trinity/HOPE feeding program in Haiti | \$ 5,000 | |
| 8. Coffee 4 Kids Honduras | \$ 7,500 | |
| 9. Mighty Fortress Mercy House, Lima Peru | \$ 5,000 | Paid in Full |
| 10. Lutheran Heritage Foundation Sunday Sermons for South Africa | \$ 4,250 | |
| 11. Bethesda Lutheran Communities | \$ 4,000 | Paid in Full |
| 12. Lutheran Library for the Blind | \$ 5,000 | |
| 13. Rev. Dave Horn: Burning Bush League | \$ 4,000 | \$2,000 |
| 14. Transforming Campus Ministry | \$ 4,000 | Paid in Full |
| 15. Light of Christ Community Garden, Federal Way | \$ 3,450 | \$1,725 |
| MISSION GRANT TOTAL | \$89,000 | \$33,725 |

Mite Report

In the past few months, there has been a major emphasis on the LWML mite goal of \$1,830,000 for the 2013-2015 biennium and how behind we are. All glory to God that we surpassed the goal!

Our 2014-2016 district mite goal of \$170,000 is split in the following ways:

Mission Grants: \$89,000
 LWML Mites: \$42,500
 In-Reach or Operations: \$38,500

As of April 30, 2015, we have collected \$86,230.86 for mites. \$21,557.72 goes to LWML and \$64,673.14 will remain with us to pay the district mission grants and district operations.

New grant request forms were sent in the bulk mailing and are available on the district website www.wa-aklwml.org. The deadline for submitting proposals is October 31, 2015. These grant proposals will be voted on at our district convention in June 2016.

What a blessing God has given us for the opportunity to take part in His mission through our monetary gifts in supporting both LWML (national) and our district mission grants.



Heart to Heart Sisters

Allison Akahoshi, Heart to Heart Sisters Committee Chairman

While visiting with women from various congregations, I try to bring up the Heart to Heart Sisters program. I'll ask, "Do you have any ethnic women in your congregation?" First, the answer is "no," after they have thought about it for a minute or so, they still say "no." Then, during our conversation about the Heart to Heart Sisters program and other things and more prodding from me, sometimes I hear something like, "Well, there's so and so; I think she's Japanese or something like that." So again, I am asking you to look around, be intentional and take notice of the ethnic women who are attending your churches.

out. You might be surprised at how you are blessed by what they have to share.

Invite ethnic women to your society meeting or an LWML function. Even though I came from a Lutheran church in California in 2008, I did not know how things worked at King of Kings in Renton. I didn't even know they had a LWML society. Then, one of the women I met invited me to a circle meeting. I went! You may not get a response right away, but do not give up. If you keep inviting, they may decide to try it. Go outside of your own comfort zone and reach out. You can do it!

The purpose of the Heart to Heart Sisters Committee is to motivate, equip and ensure opportunities for women of diverse ethnic groups to serve the church and witness to the world. We want these women to get involved in LWML; but we must first seek them

If you are acquainted with any women in ethnic specific ministries in the Washington-Alaska District, we need to familiarize them with the culture of the LCMS and LWML. We've already had inquiries from Christ the Son of God Lutheran Church, an Ethiopian ministry on Beacon Hill in Seattle.

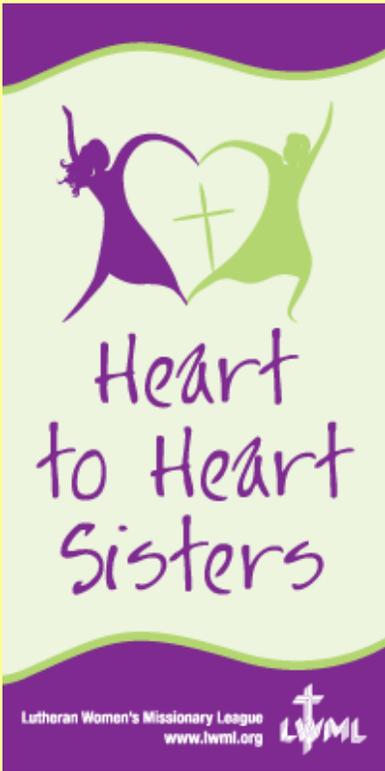
Summertime

Elizabeth Cook, VP Special Focus Ministries



this isn't you? It might be the teens in your congregation or at least the time away from school part. Have you thought about sponsoring a fun service project? Maybe you could help with a car wash with the teens to help raise funds for Nepal! Or something closer to home like picking one or two people in the congregation who could use some help with yard work. Try reaching out to your youth leaders in your congregation to find something you can work on together to help the teens grow in Serving the Lord with Gladness!

We are coming up on the summer months! This means vacations! Time away from school and excitement over the lack of responsibilities, what,





Come Into His Presence

**“Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!” (Psalm 95:2)**

LWML WASHINGTON–ALASKA District Retreat

September 25 – 27, 2015

**BEST WESTERN PLUS ICICLE INN
at the Icicle Village Resort
Leavenworth, Washington**

Come! Join sisters and friends in Christ
for Word and Sacrament, Bible Study, Fellowship, Music
and FUN as we study and explore our “Liturgy”

**Speakers/Bible Study Leaders:
Pastors Timothy Winterstein and Kurt Onken**

**Pack your Bible and Hymnal (LSB),
Suitcase full of imagination and lederhosen!
Bring Some Purple \$5's too!
Don't forget items for the Food Bank Ingathering!**



Come Into His Presence

LWML Washington-Alaska District Retreat
7 PM September 25- Noon September 27, 2015
Best Western Plus Icicle Inn
Leavenworth, Washington

Name _____ Are you under 35? ____ or under 18? _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Email _____

Church _____ Zone _____

Retreat Registration Fee \$90 per person

****Early Bird Special - postmarked/paid by August 1, 2015 pay only \$80 per person****

- ◆ **MEALS:** Your retreat registration fee includes two meals - Saturday lunch and dinner. Friday dinner is on your own. (*Saturday and Sunday breakfast are provided by the hotel and included in the room reservation.*)

Please list any medically required dietary restrictions or allergies: _____

Retreat Registration deadline is August 25, 2015.

Please make checks (\$90 or *early bird special* \$80 per person) payable to LWML Washington-Alaska District. You will receive a confirmation email or letter, which will include a map, a list of items to bring, and other important information. No retreat registration refunds will be given after August 25, 2015.

- ◆ **HOTEL:** The retreat registration fee does not include hotel room lodging.

You are responsible to make your own hotel reservations! Get your hotel reservation in early so you and your roommates can take advantage of our special block room rates. The block room rates start at \$169.00 + tax of 11.4 % *per night*. Your total price for two nights will depend on how many people are sharing your room. You might want to have 3 or 4 to a room to reduce costs. There are a limited number of family rooms available that sleep up to six people. If you need help finding a roommate, contact the registrar. The registrar will do her best to assist you. If you want to split the room bill onto more than one credit card you must call Jeanne' Wilson at the number below to request this *at least one day prior* to the retreat. Jeanne' is the sales manager and is the only one who can do this task.

Room Reservations: Please call the Best Western Plus Icicle Inn at (509) 548-7000 or (800) 961-0162 to make your reservation. Tell them you are with the Lutheran Women's Missionary League WA-AK District so that you get our block room rate. Our room block will be released on August 25, 2015. Please make your reservations early so you are able to obtain a room.

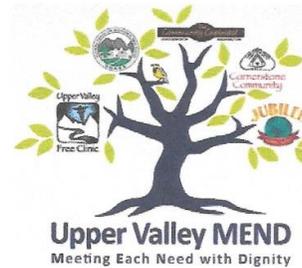
- ◆ **TRAVEL INFO**

_____ I will be traveling by car with _____.

_____ I will be traveling by plane.

Send registration form and retreat registration payments to Registrar Julie Onken at 6705 67th Dr. NE, Marysville, WA 98270. Questions? Call Julie at (360) 659-6038 or email at onken4@comcast.net.

LWML Washington-Alaska District
 Retreat Ingathering
 Leavenworth, Washington
 September 25-27, 2015



Formed as a food bank by area churches in 1983, the Community Cupboard has grown both in size and services in the past 25 years. The food bank provides residents of the Upper Valley with much needed food provisions each month, and is one of the few food banks in the state open five days a week. The food bank is only able to offer these services through the generous donations of food, thrift store goods, volunteer hours and finances from the community. The ministries of the Community Cupboard are truly an outpouring of community spirit!

Food Items:

- Cereal
- Soups
- Canned tomatoes (diced, stewed, sauce, etc.)
- Peanut butter
- Cooking oil
- Pasta
- Tuna
- Beef stew
- Rice
- Canned fruit
- Juice
- Chili
- Canned beans
- Canned vegetables
- Oats
- Dry beans
- Mac & Cheese
- Prepared dinners (Rice-a-Roni, Hamburger Helper, etc.)

Non-Food Items:

- Soap
- Deodorant
- Pet food
- Toothpaste
- Diapers
- Toilet paper
- Toothbrushes
- Feminine hygiene products

Holiday Food Items:

- Rice
- Carrots
- Masa flour
- Dry beans
- Black olives
- Canned green beans
- Canned corn
- Canned peas
- Fruit cocktail
- Cranberry sauce
- Gravy mix

Thank You!



LUTHERAN HERITAGE FOUNDATION

Greetings from the Lutheran Heritage Foundation!

Jen Bagnall, LHF Public Relations

On behalf of LHF, I want to thank the LWML Washington–Alaska District for your faithful support of our mission project, Sunday Sermons for South Africa. With your help, LHF is providing for the translation and distribution of Sunday morning sermons for more than 200 preaching stations, hospitals, prisons, etc. throughout South Africa, where a pastor cannot be present to preach each week.

Below are letters of thanks from LHF's executive director, Rev. Matthew Heise, and from Rev. Peter Weber, a pastor in South Africa who uses the sermons you are helping to translate. We would like to convey our gratitude to the many women of the LWML Washington-Alaska District for your prayers and gifts.



LUTHERAN HERITAGE FOUNDATION

51474 Romeo Plank Rd. • Macomb, MI 48042 • www.LHFmissions.org • (800)554-0723

Translating, publishing, distributing and introducing Lutheran materials around the world

April 10, 2015

Dear Sisters in Christ in the LWML Washington Alaska District,

After this I looked, and behold: a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from a tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" Revelation 7: 9-10

Can you imagine what this day will be like? All of God's children, from every corner of the earth, will be gathered around His throne in Heaven, singing highest praises to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

The Holy Spirit is working through the generous gifts of the LWML Washington Alaska District to call H people to faith in South Africa. With your help, God's Word is now being preached to Zulu and Tswana people who don't have a Lutheran church nearby. Your faithful support has enabled the Lutheran Heritage Foundation to translate and print weekly sermons in the Zulu and Tswana languages, which are then distributed to more than 200 mission stations, hospitals and prisons that need them.

Following is a letter from Rev. Peter Weber, a pastor in South Africa who serves seven different Lutheran congregations. His situation is not unusual, and as you'll read, the sermons your gifts are helping to translate are being put to good use in his congregations. You're welcome to use his letter on your website or in your district publications.

On behalf of the Lutheran Heritage Foundation, I want to thank you for your faithful support of our share mission to place God's Word in the hands of people all around in the world, in their own languages. Thank you most especially for the funds to provide God's Word to our Lutheran brothers and sisters in South Africa.

God's peace be with you.

Matthew Heise

Rev. Matthew Heise
LHF Executive Director

8th April 2015

Re: The use of the Zulu written sermons

To whom it may concern:

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Over the past fifteen years I have been working together with Pastor Mkhabela in the Umhlangeni parish on the shores of the Indian Ocean, on the east coast of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa.

In our parish we have seven congregations, all of which have only Zulu-speaking parishioners. It is needless to say that we two pastors cannot attend all the Sunday Divine Services which are held on any particular Sunday. This makes our lay preachers very important in our service to the congregations.

We meet once a month to discuss the following month's Sundays. We read sermons together and work with them to prepare the following Sundays. Every lay preacher uses the printed sermons in his preparations for their own sermons. Some read them to the congregations; others use them as a draft to hold their own sermon. We do not have a large choice of Zulu Lutheran sermons, and so this makes these sermons very valuable for our Lutheran church here in the Zulu-speaking diocese of our church. They are easily accessible and easy to use. On the printout, we receive the Gospel reading, the Epistle reading, suggested songs from the hymnbook and prayers to guide us through the particular Sunday and the name of the author of the sermon.

Not only for the lay preachers, but also for me personally it is very enriching and valuable to be able to read other Lutheran sermons in the language that I will be holding them in. Many of the sermons are new and address the situations of today. I have always used these sermons during my preparations of my own sermons.

In 2000, when I was not yet as fluent in Zulu as I am today, I would occasionally read the sermons in the service. Today, I use them in my preparations for my own sermons. Just to have one more sermon to read in Zulu is of great value. I also like writing sermons for this project and normally get assigned two per half year.

I would like to express my greatest gratitude for the work that you are doing, making these sermons available for us in Zulu. God bless and thank you very much.

Yours sincerely,
Rev. Peter Weber
Shelley Beach, South Africa



We want you to volunteer!

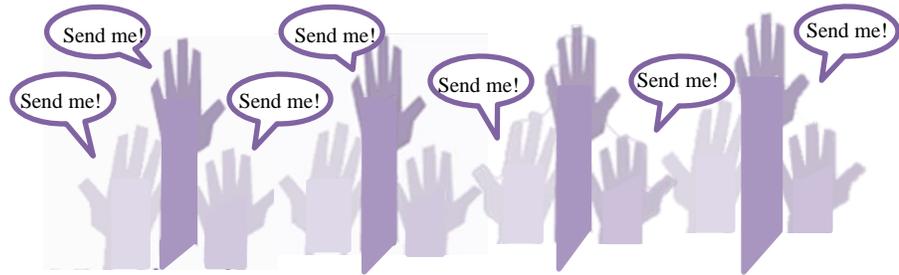
Please copy this issue for the women in your church! Print it in grayscale for copying on the copy machine or print out all the copies in color. If you would like to receive issues via email, contact the circulation manager. (This is the best way!)



Nominating Committee

Up for a Challenge?

Pam Rafferty, *Nominating Committee Chairman*



Who should You send, Lord?

Are you and your society up for a challenge? For our 2016 Washington-Alaska District elections, the District Nominating Committee is waiting to hear from each society with at least one nomination.

We will elect Vice President of Christian Life, Vice President of Gospel Outreach, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Pastoral Counselor-West, and five Nominating Committee members.

Short job descriptions of each office up for election and a nomination form were included in the latest bulk mailing to each society.

When you send us candidate names, the Nominating Committee does the rest – we contact each person and ask that they prayerfully consider serving.

There are so many in our membership who regularly “serve the Lord with gladness” at the society, zone, and district level.

We thank them, and encourage everyone to challenge themselves to try new and different experiences for LWML.

Zone News

Alaska Zone Cristina McAnulty, Zone President

St. John’s in Palmer, Alaska hosted this year’s Joyshop on April 18, 2015. We had 61 women and four men in attendance from places throughout southcentral Alaska. This year’s theme, *Serving Hearts, Serving Hands* by Cassie Jeremias started with the HEART. Our LWML women had a wonderful experience. *Let us not become weary in doing good* (Galatians 6:9) and *For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve* (Mark 10:45) were the Bible verses. We discussed *what’s MINE is HIS, what’s YOURS is HIS, and what’s OURS is HIS* and how our HEARTitude affects our Hands in serving others. The message hit home with everyone and we truly enjoyed it. David Grosz, our guest speaker enlightened us all with the great works accomplished by Alaska Mission for Christ.

We had two wonderful organizations, *MY House* and *Alaska Family Services* that received our ingathering of toiletry items, clothes and gift cards. The wonderful sermon delivered by Pastor Morner tied in nicely with our theme. I am looking forward to our upcoming Fall Retreat in Seward this September. Thank you to all the wonderful ladies in our Zone – without you and your Servant’s HEARTitude, we could not exist!

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
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Blue Mountain Zone

Wilma Gardner, Zone President



Pastor Todd Schroeder, Zone President Wilma Gardner, District President Marie Chow, and Pastor Mark Bertermann

The Blue Mountain Zone Joyshop was held at Redeemer Lutheran in Richland on April 18, 2015.

Our theme was based on *But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ* (2 Peter 3:18).

We had a worship service led by our zone Pastoral Counselor Pastor Mark Bertermann and Redeemer's Pastor Todd Schroeder. Terry Strege led a

Bible study based on our theme and members of our host church served a fantastic lunch.

We collected canned food for the Richland food bank. The highlight of the morning was the district report delivered by our own District President Marie Chow. She updated us on the district business and it was a pleasure for many to meet her for the first time.

East Inland Empire Zone

Heather Setset, Zone President



The East Inland Empire Zone had 62 at the Spring Rally! Our theme was "Surrender," and we used *Submit yourselves, then, to God* (James 4:7a). While our speaker, Aletha Voges, was unable to come, her message about surrendering to God's will was beautifully delivered by Grace Miller from St. John's. The women raised \$375 towards mites! This came from Aletha's book, *My*

Will, Gods Response Gods Will, My Response, all of the profit from the sales for the day were donated, a raffle for a basket of LWML purple goodies, and the offering. Thank you, Aletha, for your service to God's people! Our ingathering of hygiene items/clothing went to Our Sister's Closet, Spokane YWCA. They help women struggling with difficult situations prepare for job interviews, work, and school. Thank you ladies for your donations! Our Fall Rally is at Faith Lutheran in Deer Park (date TBD). We hope to see you there!





**District Theme
2014-2016**

**God's
Empowerment...
Our Variety...
For God's Purpose**

God enables us to boldly and actively use our variety of gifts and talents as we enthusiastically share the Good News and His love with each other, our neighbors, and people throughout the world.

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone (1 Corinthians 12:4-6).



Hood Canal Zone Denise K Crawford, Zone President

The Hood Canal Zone held its Spring Joyshop at Faith Lutheran Church, Kingston, Washington on Saturday, April 18 with 30 women and two men present. Our theme was *Sharing JOY With Your God-given Gifts*.

A communion service was held with Pastor Brian Thomas, Interim Pastor at Faith, officiating, and Pastor James Wilbur assisting with communion. The sermon centered on the variety of possibilities that are encompassed in using our "gifts" and how using our gifts overflow onto others and bless them as well as blessing us. Pastor James Wilbur, Hood Canal Zone Pastoral Counselor, blessed the Joy Shop mission effort ingathering of non-perishable foods and necessity items collected for ShareNet of Kingston.

Cheryl Beyer, VP of Christian Life, brought greetings from district and shared district upcoming events.

Ginni Holder, Zone Christian Life Chair, led our Bible Study which focused on biblical insight into using our God-given talents to share joy.

The women of Faith served a wonderful baked potato bar with dessert for lunch. Afterwards, everyone joined in fashioning FUN HATS, displaying each person's own particular gifts. It was such a fun joyful activity. A number of women shared about their hats explaining what the various decorations meant to them and how it represented their life in terms of gifts and sharing.

North Columbia Zone Sandi Hall, Zone President

North Columbia Zone had a wonderful Joyshop on April 11 in Republic at Trinity LCMS. Our opening devotion by Pastor Ken Schauer was inspiring. Brian & Jayne Bowes gave a beautiful presentation based on our theme "Make Love Your Aim" based on Philippians 2:1-5. They spoke about God, love, marriage and how they all work together when put in the right

order. We were laughing and crying the whole time. We all felt blessed. Afterward our zone pastoral counselor, Pastor Kevin Moore, led us in a closing devotion and the LWML pledge. We had a delightful lunch with butterflies and wind chimes as door prizes and table favors! All had a wonderful time. The women at Trinity did an awesome job with lunch and beautiful butterfly decorations. Thank you, ladies!

Olympic Zone Mary Abdi, Zone President

The Olympic Zone's 2015 Joyshop on April 25 was truly a happy and informative event! Lamb of God Lutheran Church hosted Rev. Ron Norris. He spoke on his fascinating role as the Northwest District Disaster Response Coordinator. We

collected 124 health kits for our ingathering to be given to the Department of Health and Human Services. Thank you Ladies, for your donations. The wonderful women at Lamb of God served a delicious lunch. I am looking forward to seeing you at our Fall Rally!

Zone News

Rainier Zone

Judy Ikerd, Zone President

On April 25, 2015, 56 women and four pastors gathered at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Federal Way for Rainier Zone's Spring Rally. They worshipped together, participated in a Bible study based on the theme verse from Ezekiel 34:26, "Showers of Blessings," and showered St. Luke's with child-friendly food for their program of providing food for low-income children on weekends.

Pastor Kurt Onken from Marysville told about the Lutheran Heritage Foundation. The LHF translates Lutheran materials such as Luther's Small Catechism and the Book of Concord into different languages so people speaking diverse languages are able to access them. Most of those present were unaware of this mission until Pastor Onken's presentation.



St. Luke's program for providing food for low-income children over the weekend benefits from the Ingathering at the Rainier Zone Spring Rally.



Concordia LWML

Nancy Wyckoff, Society President



Concordia LWML has started a fun new addition! At the end of our meeting/Bible study, we are now offering a craft for anyone who wants to stay a while longer.

For March we made shamrock pins, April was butterfly pins, and May will be paper tulips. The picture shows three ladies wearing their butterfly pins. Unfortunately, some of us forgot to wear them for the picture, but have been wearing our pins at other times. What fun!

Trinity Olympia

Judy Ikerd, Society President



At April's meeting, Chaplain Paul Peterson from the Tacoma Seafarer's Center told members of Trinity' LWML how the gospel message can spread to different countries when a seafarer receives information in his or her native language. The center provides transportation to allow seafarers to shop; access to computers and phones so they can communicate with family; hats, gloves and socks to keep heads, hands and feet warm; and Snickers bars and other candy to sweeten their life.

Chaplain Peterson presented each member of Trinity's LWML with a baseball cap labeled "Tacoma Seafarers Center, USA" and containing the anchor and cross logo of the organization.

District Board of Directors Meeting

Thank you, Mount Olive of Yakima, Washington for hosting the District Board of Directors Meeting, this past March. Thank you, Betty Alm for writing the litany and Pastor Mike for leading us in the litany. We give thanks to God that we are able to share His hope through these gifts of 12 boxes of disposable diapers (totaling 725), 12 cloth diapers, 35 pairs of socks, shirts, pants, 33 two-piece outfits, 10 sleepers, 29 onesies, 32 bottles, 24 bibs, 6 blankets, 3 towels, 3 boxes of nursing pads, 496 baby wipes (various boxes), 11 bars of soap and 12 lotions for LifeChoices in Yakima. Thank you all for your open hearts and "Serving the Lord with gladness"!



2014-2016 LWML Washington-Alaska District Roster

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Please send mites to the Financial Secretary Donna Chow. Order mite boxes from and/or send any roster changes to Corresponding Secretary Linda Miller.

Key

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

Evergreen Echoes
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Happy
4th of
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The New District Theme Logo!



The fleur-de-lis cross is used to signify the fruits of the cross, i.e., the Lord's gifts of life and salvation and the empowerment to live as His Spirit-filled people. The hands show diversity and alternate between those that are reaching to receive in a tangible way and those that are extended outward to serve.