



Volume 69, Issue 6
May 2013

TIDINGS

Lutheran Women in Mission

Rocky Mountain District



What's this PING thing?

PING is an acronym for **P**repare, **I**nspire, **N**ourish and **G**o. PING was the theme of a leadership training session led by the national LWML that President Carol von Soosten, Rio Grande Zone President Anita Werner and Western Zone President Amy Schultz attended last October in St. Louis. Many creative ideas were supplied, and then encouraged to be shared with every zone in each district.

Ever think of reaching out to a lady at your church you don't know very well? It can be kind of intimidating. What if you just invite her out for a cup of coffee (or tea, or a diet coke...)? See if she has any prayer requests, get to know her a little. PING's *Just a Cup of Coffee* presentation explores ways to do this that are less threatening.

Need an idea for an activity? Tired of the same old, same old? How about a mystery theme, where you meet in a secret destination or solve a puzzle to search out your Bible study!

Are there groups in your congregation that you could reach out to? Maybe a Bible study group that meets during the day would work for "seasoned" ladies who don't go out at night or for young mothers whose kids go to bed and can't get a babysitter. How about starting a group on a Saturday morning for working women? The *LWML 102* presentation from the PING workshop will get you thinking outside of the box for ways to reach women of all ages and interests.

Like a sonar's "ping," God searches us out, invests in us and nurtures us where we are. He shows us His saving grace and encourages us to enable other women to use their God-given talents to share this Good News.

What can your society or zone do to enable the women around you? How best can we "serve the Lord with gladness"? Contact Amy Schultz (Western Zone) or Anita Werner (Rio Grande Zone) for more information on these PING presentations that were shared with our district leaders at the Board of Directors meeting this past February in Denver.

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Carol's Corner

LWML RMD 2012-2014 Vision Statement



Reach
Everyone
As
Christ's
Hands



Dress For Success

Recently a friend of mine was interviewing for a new job. She went out to purchase a new suit and shoes so she'd look her best during the interview. The phrase, "Dressed for success" came to mind as she was describing her adventures in hunting and purchasing just the right wardrobe items.

It brought to mind the Bible verses from Colossians 3:12-14 and how we need reminders each and every day to dress for success as Christians. Each day we are faced with such a variety of situations and people. Are we presenting our self wearing our "Child of God" outfit? Are we clothed in kindness, humility, meekness and patience? Do we show mercy and grace? Are we forgiving and loving?

I don't know about you, but when I get dressed tomorrow I'm going to do a quick review of the verses from Ephesians 6:10-20 to "put on" all the pieces of my faith and be ready for another day as a child of God. Oh, and by the way, I'll also put on a smile as my remembrance and celebration of our risen Lord! 😊

From the President's Notebook:

Thank you to Thrivent Financial Flatirons Group for allowing us to use their office space for our April Executive Committee meeting. We were conducting a video web meeting and they generously made their technology and internet connections available for our use.

Thank you again to the ladies of Zion Lutheran in Brighton, CO for hosting the February Executive Committee meeting and the 2013 meeting of the Board of Directors.

PING Update

The last few issues I've talked about **PING** – **P**repared, **I**nspired, **N**ourished, and ready to **G**o. At our Board of Directors meeting we heard from Amy Schultz and Anita Werner about ways to get together without a formal meeting. They also shared ways to talk with another woman to invite her to an event or to just get to know her better. Is there someone in your congregation you can REACH out to? Sometimes a smile, a hello, or an offer of help is a wonderful ice-breaker. Can we **Reach Everyone As Christ's Hands** right in our own congregation? You bet!

Pittsburgh Convention Information: Remember to check for location information about our RMD caucus and our district picture in the first day's *Convention Newsletter*. If we find out the room number or name ahead of time, we'll post it on our website and facebook page, and share it with each zone delegate. Check with your zone president for any updates.

Congratulations YWRs:

The Board of Directors selected Maranda Huss from Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, Aurora, and Jennifer Gumaer from Ascension Lutheran Church, El Paso, TX as the two Young Woman Representatives from the Rocky Mountain District to the LWML Convention in Pittsburgh. Please keep them in your prayers that they have a spiritually inspiring convention experience and that God leads them to use their gifts to His glory.

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Sisters in Christ-

Yesterday's events at the Boston Marathon have left many people stunned. I sat here in my study at church poring over the newsfeed and videos that continued to come in throughout the day and into this morning. Paying attention to the chatter on social media sites like *Facebook* and *Twitter* gave more depth to what had happened. I watched friends and acquaintances that were either in Boston or knew people in Boston communicate back and forth and let each other know they were safe. But in the midst of even that joy, there was sorrow. Why did this have to happen? How evil did someone have to be to plant those bombs?

Similar questions were posed to Jesus when the blood of some Galileans was mixed with their sacrifices by Pilate's soldiers (Lk. 13:1-5). In a word, the Jews wanted to know why. Were they, those killed, worse sinners than others? No. What kind of secret sins did they commit to deserve their slaughter? They are sinners just like us.

That is why Jesus responds in the manner that He does. Jesus says, *Repent*. We are poor miserable sinners. We live in a sin fallen world, one that is unfortunately, beset with tragedy and heartache.

But though we live in the midst of trials and tribulations one thing is true,

Jesus lives! He died that our sins would be buried. The Father raised Jesus from the grave proving the sufficiency of Jesus' sacrifice. It is this sure and certain comfort that we can share with those who are broken hearted and down trodden; with the entire sinful world.

And is that not what the LWML is all about? From the LWML

Pledge, "We consecrate to our Savior our hands to work for Him, our feet to go on His errands, our voice to sing His praises, our lips to proclaim His redeeming love, our silver and our gold to extend His Kingdom, our will to do His will, and every power of our life to the great task of bringing the lost and the erring into eternal fellowship with Him. Amen." We are called to share the Good News, to give our mites in support of Gospel missions and to tell others ourselves about the hope that is in us even during times of tragedy.

Isn't that why we support the work of the University Lutheran Chapel in Boulder? Or why we want to help the Mende to read Holy Scripture or to provide sermons for the Zulu? It is! So let us continue our fervent work with prayer and joy so that others may know the hope within us.

Trials and Tribulations

Pastor Storck
Senior Pastoral Counselor

In Memory of RMD servants.....

Vice President of Human Care Deb Kruger who received her crown of glory on April 19, 2013

Western Zone Pastoral Counselor Rev. Jeff Ryan — The Good Shepherd of the Sheep called His under-shepherd Rev. Jeff Ryan home to heaven on Thursday April 18, 2013

Know Your Mission Grants

Judy Piepkorn
VP Gospel Outreach

Mission Grant Recipients for the 2012-2014 Biennium

	<u>Granted</u>	<u>Paid</u>
Training African Pastors for Gospel Outreach in Africa	\$ 7,000	\$ 3,000
Trinity/HOPE Haiti	\$ 5,500	\$ 5,000
Religious Life Curriculum Illustration Costs	\$ 8,000	\$ 6,000
Sunday Sermons for the Zulu of South Africa	\$ 5,000	\$ 3,000
Concordia Seminary, St. Louis Food Bank	\$ 7,000	\$ 3,000
Rocky Mountain District – Debt Assistance	\$ 7,500	\$ 4,000
Concordia Early Childhood Learning Center	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Concordia Seminary Graduate School		
International Student Support	\$ 5,000	\$ 2,000
Outreach Resource Centers	\$ 5,000	\$ 2,000
Support for University Lutheran Chapel – Boulder, CO	\$ 6,000	\$ 0
Helping Blind People See Jesus	\$ 4,000	\$ 0
God's Word in Their Heart Language –		
Teaching the Mende to Read Scriptures	\$ 4,450	\$ 0
Fostering Faith in the Forest	\$ 3,000	\$ 0
	<u>\$72,450</u>	<u>\$33,000</u>

\$33,000

Mission Grant Update

Judy Piepkorn,
VP Gospel Outreach

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis Food Bank Update

The Food Bank at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis has been growing this year. A total of 263 students and their families are registered at the Food Bank. About 200 students use the Food Bank on a monthly basis. This includes 83 singles, 180 married couples, and 173 children for a grand total of 616 people receiving an assortment of foods that provide a well-rounded supplement to a well-balanced diet.

The Food Bank has been a great blessing to the students at Concordia Seminary for which they are grateful. They are happy to give back to the Food Bank by donating their time to stock donations, pick up the day old bread from St. Louis Bread Company, the parent company of Panera Bread, and sort out coupons. The Food Bank provides not only food, it provides a sense of community to the Seminary. Students don't think of the Food Bank as a "hand out". They see it as a way that people from all over the nation are supporting future pastors. Thank you for supporting your future pastors.



Ponder Others' Needs Gladly

Getting Ready to Write a Mission Grant Proposal

You've heard about PING, now here is PONG.

HOW: "P" is for Ponder. Start your preparation for writing a mission grant proposal with Prayer, Praise, Pondering and Preparation. All of our grant recipients need our prayers for success in reaching out with the Gospel.

WHO: "O" is for Others. The word others is quite aptly defined as "NOT ME". Look to missionaries, ministers, ministries and generally to mankind, all of those for whom Jesus died. What groups do you know that make outreach and proclamation of the Gospel their main objective? If you know of a group, organization or individual for whom this is true, start writing a grant to support their work. One caution, the work must focus on the proclaiming of the Gospel where the Word is actually a part of the mission.

WHAT: "N" is for Needs. Romans 3:12 says, *Share with God's people who are in need* and Philippians 4:19 tells us that *God will meet all your needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus*. These passages tell us the what, in terms of writing a grant proposal. What are the needs of a particular ministry, missionary, group of people who are bringing God's Word to the people Jesus died to save? Let me encourage you to go to the LCMS website and look up RSO's (Recognized Service Organizations) such as Lutheran Bible Translators etc.

WHY: "G" stands for Gladly. Our own LWML motto is "Serve the Lord with Gladness". Since we have been given God's grace, we want to gladly pass on the Good News to others so they may have the gift of salvation. G also stands for Guidelines which you will find on the LWMLRMD.org website under Missions and under Forms. Let me highlight a few important things to consider in writing a grant proposal.

1. The first document is the **Directory of Grant Personnel**. It requires information and signatures to be included with the grant proposal. Specific signatures are required.
2. The deadline for the submission for the next biennium is December 1, 2013 – ladies, this is coming soon. December 1 is only 7 months from now, check **Mission Grant Guidelines**.
3. Nine copies of the proposal are needed: 1 each for submission to the Rev. Bart Day for national missions; Rev. Randall Golter, Mission Executive, head of international missions; 1 each for President Carol, Pastor Stork, Pastor Schultz, and 4 for the Mission Grants Committee members for them to ponder before the meeting in which the grants are selected for the ballot for the convention.
4. The proposals must be Gospel centered/oriented. They may have a human care element but the emphasis is extending the ministry of the Word.
5. Step III gives you the format for writing the proposal. Remember the "Resolved" portion or the "Resolution" should be concise and specific.
6. The proposal must have 5 – 7 photographs in JPG OR JPEG format accompanying the proposal. It is our job to see that these proposals are from recognized and approved LCMS ministries. If you have a project that does not have that status, then you must submit it to the Executive Director of Missions to receive that status or it will not be considered. This is to protect the church from being held accountable for the actions of those who might offend people with whom they are working and to be sure the work is in accord with the plans and projections of the synod.



Jump in with Both Feet! Make a commitment! Give it your all! Take the leap of faith! Decide to attend the 35th Biennial LWML Convention in **Pittsburgh, PA, June 27-30, 2013**. It will be a splashing experience! Look for details in *The Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*—Winter issue or online at www.lwml.org.

JUNE 2013

Gifts from the Heart



[Jesus said:] "...but whoever drinks of the water that I will 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

Participants attending the 2013 LWML Convention in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, will be able to demonstrate the love of Jesus through Gifts from the Heart donations. Agencies in Pittsburgh have been chosen to receive the gifts from your heart. You may bring these items in unlimited quantities. At registration, you will be directed where to drop off your gifts.

Quilts/Blankets – New, adult and baby sizes (pack in heavy duty plastic bag)

Diapers – Size: preemies, 3, and 4

Wipes

Kits – All donations are to be new and regular size. Please pack kit items in a clear plastic zip lock bag (2 gallon size works well). Keep donation items in original wrapping.

BABY KIT

Receiving blankets

Sleepers – preemie/newborn

Onesies – preemie/newborns

Outfits – preemie/newborn

One Christian tract or Bible verse (inside the bag)

MEN'S KIT

Men's boxers (L – XXXL)

Men's T-shirts (L – XXXL)

Men's socks

One Christian tract or Bible verse (inside the bag)

BATH KIT

Bath towel and washcloth

Full size toothpaste

Toothbrush

Women's or men's deodorant

Bath/Bar soap

One Christian tract or Bible verse (inside the bag)

DEVOTIONAL KIT

Bible

Journal

Devotional booklet and pen



www.lwml.org

In Lutheran Terminology — What Does This Mean?

Sylvia Bean
VP Servant Resources

Servant Resources

Do you have young women or teens in your congregation or in your Lutheran Women's Missionary League society or circle that you would like to help understand more about *Lutheran Women in Mission*? Are you struggling trying to lead a meeting to plan events but the group keeps getting "sidetracked"? Are you trying to organize a group of women so they can meet regularly for Bible study, to gather mites, and pray for our mission grant recipients? Well, **Servant Resources** has the information, activities, and materials that can help. There are resources available to inform and acquaint ladies of all ages about *Lutheran Women in Mission* and their projects, including activities to excite, energize, and motivate women to serve their Lord through the LWML.

The **Leader Development Committee** is available to suggest and provide materials to help the executive board of a circle, society, or zone through Bible studies, in sketches, games and organizational materials to prepare an organized, efficient, and fun event and/or meeting. The **Structure Committee** has information that provides direction for zones, societies and circle groups to develop Bylaws, standard procedures, and organizational rules for the administration of their group. The **Committee on Young Women** and the **TEENS Committee** are available to help with information and suggestions for developing groups and/or interest to serve their Lord through the LWML. Contact your Rocky Mt. District Servant Resources Committees to help you. **Leader Development Chairman** is Sylvia Bean, vp.servantresources@rmdlwml.org; **Structure Committee Chairman** is Marilyn Grasz, structure@rmdlwml.org; **Committee on Young Women Chairman** is Shelley Stewart, comygwomen@rmdlwml.org. The **TEENS Committee Chairman** is Renee Lamb, teens@rmdlwml.org. Look on the LWML website for information www.lwml.org and/or go to our district website www.lwmlrmd.org for resources that can immediately be downloaded to help you. Contact us! We're here to HELP!

I was talking to my LWML friend, CORNelia, the other day and she said I looked 'corny'really, can't she see I'm wheat!

I think she's jealous...I'm going to have a 'bushel of fun' at the LWMLRMD Convention, June 20-22, 2014 in Northglenn, CO.



Christian Life

Why Do You Do It?

Colleen Spahr
VP of Christian Life

One of the points made at the PING workshop is to focus on WHY we do what we do, not on WHAT we do. Scripture has the why, so support what you are doing with scripture and give God the glory.

When you publicize what you are doing, use scripture to let others know why you do what you do. When our church started ongoing collections for our local food bank, I found this passage in my daily *Today's Light* Bible reading: "*Whoever oppresses a poor man insults his Maker, but he who is generous to the needy honors him.*" Proverbs 14:31. I decided to include this passage with the food drive article in our church's bulletin and newsletter.

When encouraging women to attend Bible study use "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly..." (Col. 3:16a)

Here are a few more examples from scripture that support why we do what we do:

"Serve the Lord with gladness." (Ps 100:2). This one can always be used as it is the LWML motto.

"Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." (Matt. 5:16).

"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them." (Eph. 2:10)

There are more examples in this devotion located on the LWML website: http://www.lwml.org/events/program_helps/docs/who-is-neighbor.pdf

Together With Your Sisters in Christ

Ever feel the urge to get away from it all? Wish you could spend more time with the women of your church in Bible study and fellowship? Then consider the possibility of hosting an LWML Retreat. A retreat does not have to be an over-night experience.....which in today's world can be expensive and difficult to schedule. However, a one-day retreat is very doable.....even in today's fast-paced and busy times.

Planning a retreat is not that difficult if you use some of the excellent materials that LWML has available for you in the *LWML Catalog*. Retreat packages come complete with Bible studies, devotions, and sample schedules. Some include get-acquainted activities, craft suggestions and publicity materials. Pick what would work best for your group and what you hope to accomplish. If you think your group would enjoy having crafts as part of your day, then check out: "The Greatest of These Is Love" (based on 1 Corinthians 13) or "Always Changing, Always the Same". Want to focus on evangelism and being a Christian witness, then "Hooked by Jesus" would be an excellent choice. If you wish to focus chiefly on Bible study then consider one of these topics: "Time For....." based on Ecclesiastes 3:1; "The Committed Christian Woman"; or "Actions Speak Louder than Words, Sometimes" based on James 1: 3,4. You will find other choices and possibilities available in your *LWML Catalog* under the section titled 'Program Helps.'

Having a retreat is a wonderful opportunity to spend time with your Sisters in Christ. Invite all the women of your congregation to attend or invite a sister society to join you for the day. What a great way to get to know each other better, support each other, and share the joy and love of Jesus!

Judy Gordon
Christian Life Committee

MITES — More than Fundraising

Debbie Yocky
Planner

Mites? Why is she talking about mites now? Isn't the deadline for Mite giving over? If our mites were just a fundraising activity it would seem too late to be discussing right now. But mites are our mission, a vital part of who we are as *Lutheran Women in Mission*.

As the mother of two teenagers involved in many extracurricular activities and sports, I am intimately familiar with the term "fundraiser". I have helped sell Girl Scout Cookies, attended carwashes, asked for pledges and helped my children sell everything from candles to nachos to raise money for trips, uniforms, costumes and almost everything under the sun. I know what a fundraiser looks like. At times it is tempting to just pull out the checkbook and ask "How much do you need this time?" rather than sell one more thing.

Mites are not fundraisers. Mites are the way we touch the world around us. We "fund" missions with the pennies, nickels, dimes and even the appropriately colored purple \$5 bill. These funds don't pay for uniforms for a team, but food for hungry children in Haiti, embossing plates for Lutheran Braille Workers, care packages for cancer patients and many other mission grants over the past 70 years.

I recently read the Spring edition of the Ohio District's newsletter. President Ann Marie Bollas wrote an article entitled *Funding the Mission*. She writes "In the LWML, we do not raise funds. I have an LWML Mite Box devotional resource, "Overflowing Love." In one devotion, "Mite, who????", we are called "mite gatherers." I like that term because it connotes action. Whether we tithe, give offerings, thank offerings or memorials (birthdays, anniversaries, good news, holidays, good days, remembrances, etc), we gather our mites together for the purpose of funding the mission to build Christ's kingdom. Our mites over the past 70 years have totaled over \$100,000,000!"

It is not fundraising-it is **mite gathering** to fund the mission. We are missionaries to the world through our prayers and mites. We could easily meet our mite goal each biennium if each member committed to "gathering" \$2 a month. We can do that! How can you help to make mite gathering a priority in your society and zone? If you would like new ideas to encourage mite giving, the LWML website at lwml.org or our Rocky Mountain District website are great places to start. Encourage the women in your society to use a mite calendar or set aside a Sunday at your church to gather mites from the congregation. Don't wait for a deadline or a plea for giving to commit to regular and faithful mite giving. Let's all continue to fund the mission.

Remember to send your mites each month to our RMD Treasurer. Her address is:

LWML RMD
Beth Nagy, Treasurer
PO Box 270144
Louisville, CO 80027

Out of the Box!



Scholarship Committee



News Bulletin from the Scholarship Committee!

The deadline for applying for an LWML
Rocky Mountain District scholarship has been
extended to **MAY 1, 2013**.

These scholarships are available to students wanting to attend or
are attending LCMS colleges/universities and studying to become
LCMS church workers.

For more information or an application, contact the scholarship com-
mittee at scholarships@lwmlrmd.org or
check the website: www.lwmlrmd.org/forms

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Mission Grant Deadline – December 1, 2013

It isn't too early to start writing a mission grant for selection at our 2014 LWML RMD Convention. The deadline for submission is December, 1, 2013. Check out the application form on the LWML RMD website or contact Vice President of Gospel Outreach Judy Piepkorn for more details. (See page 5)

Fall Rally Schedule

Here are the dates and locations of the fall rally in each zone. (We'll update you if Eastern High Plains schedules a rally.) Please mark the date and plan to ATTEND your zone's gathering and consider going to one of the other locations. Guests are always welcome! Invite a friend along for a special time of Bible study and encouragement.

- Sept 7 - Northern New Mexico, Good Shepherd, Edgewood, NM
- Sept 14 - Pecos, Grace, Hobbs, NM
- Western, Immanuel, Paonia, CO
- Sept. 21 - South Central, Immanuel, Englewood, CO
- Southern, Rocky of Ages, Colorado Spring, CO
- Sept. 28 - Four Corners, Zion, Farmington, NM
- Oct. 5 - North Central, Summit of Peace, Thornton, CO
- Oct. 12 - Northern, Peace with Christ, Fort Collins, CO
- Oct. 19 - Northeastern, Calvary, Wray, CO
- Nov. 2 - Rio Grande, San Pablo, Ysleta Lutheran Mission, El Paso, TX

Joy in His Service,
Carol von Soosten



POP CULTURE

Tying Together A Celebration Of Aprons

It was a charming little thing: butter yellow with a cheerful periwinkle waistband and border.

Even if the apron hadn't been so appealing, writer EllynAnne Geisel would have bought it. She needed one as inspiration for a story she was writing, and there weren't

many in the secondhand stores of Pueblo, Colo., where she lives. So she plopped down the 10-cent asking price and walked off with the first apron she ever owned.

Ironing it later, she felt an odd, visceral connection. Someone had hand-stitched this thing, someone, she imagined, whose hours of biscuit making and family rearing 40 years ago suffused every thread.

Thus began a passion that in seven years has birthed "Apron Chronicles," a touring

exhibit of aprons, photographs and stories (in Jackson Hole, Wyo., through Jan. 26); Geisel's own historically inspired line of aprons (www.apronmemories.com); and *The Apron Book* (Andrews McMeel, \$16.95), her chatty new compendium of apron stories, history, facts and recipes.

Geisel, 58, also dreamed up an annual "Tie One On Day" to celebrate the humble garment. "There's a place inside me that never grows tired of

the word 'apron,'" says the high-spirited Geisel, who also has an abiding fondness for pink lip gloss.

The North Carolina native says it took only a few turns through the women's club circuit with her collection to convince her that aprons also churned warm memories and a sense of history in others. "Every old apron has a story," Geisel says. "I am the caretaker of people's stories and an artifact guardian."

"See you Saturday, and do not forget to wear an apron!" All the women of Ascension Ladies Guild were invited to the annual Spring brunch in early March. So what if Mother Nature did not know it was Spring and dumped a bunch of snow on us? A week later, we were ready to gather in fellowship and faith with our LWML friends. We heard devotions and poems on how God's love covers us like an apron, protecting us along our way. Everyone wore a special apron, and shared stories of where it came from; Who made it? How old is it? What is its unique story? Nevertheless, the very special emphasis was the gathering of Mites at this brunch. (Someone even called it our own March Madness for Mites!) The total gathered topped \$1,000 on our special day of friendship, wonderful food, many laughs, and, of course...hugs. God is good!!

Linda Achziger
Ascension Lutheran Church, Littleton, CO

Rays of SonShine



District Officers Serving the Lord With Gladness for the 2012-2014 Biennium

Carol von Soosten, President
president@rmdlwml.org

Colleen Spahr, VP Christian Life
vpchristianlife@rmdlwml.org

Judy Piepkorn, VP Gospel Outreach
vpgospeloutreach@rmdlwml.org
, VP Human Care

Sylvia Bean, VP Servant Resource
vp servantresources@rmdlwml.org

Sue Mumm,
Recording Secretary
recordingsec@rmdlwml.org

Beth Nagy, Treasurer
treasurer@rmdlwml.org

Rev. Timothy Storck,
Senior Pastoral Counselor
srcounselor@rmdlwml.org

Rev. Jonathan Schultz,
Junior Pastoral Counselor
jrcounselor@rmdlwml.org

Beth Shroff,
Corresponding Secretary
correspsec@rmdlwml.org

Cindy Stahly, Meeting Planner
meetingplanner@rmdlwml.org

Lesley Nordmeyer, Tidings Editor
tidingseditor@rmdlwml.org

Beth Shroff,
Publications Manager
tidingsbusmgr@rmdlwml.org

Beth Weber,
Committee on Communication
communication@rmdlwml.org

Beth Weber,
Public Relations Director
publicrelations@rmdlwml.org

Debbie Yocky, Planner
planner@rmdlwml.org

Mary Lu Dietzman,
Archivist/Historian
arch/hist@rmdlwml.org

Susan Weimer, Parliamentarian
parliamentarian@rmdlwml.org

Nancy Kraft,
Convention Coordinator
convcoordinator1@rmdlwml.org

Sue Frauenfeld & Susan Weimer,
Co-Convention Chairmen con-vchrman@rmdlwml.org

Anita Werner & Sue Avis,
Co-Convention Registrars
convregistrar@rmdlwml.org

Crista Teter,
Christian Resources Editor
christianresed@rmdlwml.org

Cheryll Graves
Scholarship Endowment Fund
scholarships@rmdlwml.org

Sonja Bell,
Special Gifts Endowment Fund
Coordinator
spgiftsendfund@rmdlwml.org

Marilyn Grasz
Structure Committee Chair
structure@rmdlwml.org

Shelley Stewart,
Committee on Young Women Chair
comygwomen@rmdlwml.org

Renee Lamb,
Teen Committee Chair
teens@rmdlwml.org

Jan Bloss,
Nominating Committee Chair
nomcom@rmdlwml.org

2013 LWML Convention Offering Recipients

If you send convention offerings with your delegates to the Pittsburgh convention this summer, here are the recipients selected by the LWML Board of Directors:

- Offering #1, LWML Mission Goal 2013-2015 Biennium
- Offering #2, *split between the following*: Camp Bethesda, Bethesda Lutheran Communities, Cypress, Texas and Lutheran Center for the Blind, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- Offering #3, LCMS Disaster Response—Hurricane Sandy Relief
- Offering #4, LWML Heart to Heart Sister Program

*New
Web
Page
Address*

www.lwmlrmd.org