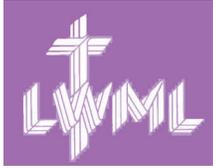


January 2015

Volume 71, Issue 4



Plan **NOW** to attend the 36th Biennial Convention in Des Moines, IA. Set aside June 25-28, 2015 for this spiritually and emotionally uplifting time! Convention information is now available in the Winter *Lutheran Women's Quarterly*, or go to the www.lwml.org website.



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Lutheran Women's Missionary League
36th Biennial Convention
Thursday, June 25 – Sunday, June 28, 2015
Iowa Events Center – Des Moines, Iowa

Convention Theme

Bountiful! Sow • Nourish • Reap

The convention theme is based on the following Scripture passage: *And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work* (2 Corinthians 9:8 NIV).

Convention Goal Statement

Through Christ's bountiful love and blessings of Word and Sacraments, I am equipped by the Holy Spirit to work in my Father's harvest field.

Convention Objectives

Convention attendees will be:

- Fed by God's Word and Sacrament
- Nurtured through worship and fellowship
- Equipped to sow, nourish, and reap in the Father's field

Convention Logo Explanation

The brown line represents mankind as a newly plowed field open to receive God's bountiful blessings. As God nourishes His people with His Word and Sacraments, the Holy Spirit nurtures faith in Christ Jesus who, by His death on the cross, gives salvation and forgiveness to all believers and empowers them to serve as His light (depicted by the sun) to the world. The two green lines represent the abundant fruits produced through His grace by God's people. The three lines together depict an open Bible. In response to His grace, mercy, and bountiful blessings we thank, praise, and share our Father's love.

For up-to-date information, visit www.lwml.org/conventions

Gleanings From Sylvia



Luke 10:2 and He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into His harvest."

Starting Over

Have you ever made so many mistakes you just wanted to "start over?"

The New Year definitely provides us an opportunity to "start over" by making some changes and additions to our lives. Even greater, is our opportunity **each day** to start anew. We are exceptionally blessed as Christians to be able to *start over*. The Bible tells us that each day we are a **new creation** in Christ (2Cor 5:17). As a forgiven sinner in Christ, we can "let go" of all the "old" trials and tribulations of the day – and be refreshed with the peace and joy of knowing that our Savior, Jesus, has control of the world and our lives. Because of that forgiveness, we can "let go" of our sin and guilt. Through faith, by the power of the Holy Spirit, we can begin each day newly refreshed and invigorated in body and soul; enabled to share the love of Jesus in thought, word, and deed! Throughout this New Year, we rejoice in Christ's gift of "start overs" and share that joy with others. Happy Start Overs!

Blessings throughout this New Year,

Sylvia

Thank you to the ladies and members of Summit of Peace, Thornton, CO and Eternal Savior, Lafayette, CO for hosting the Executive Committee Meetings in July and November. The EC appreciates the hospitality of the churches all around the Denver area as they provide meeting places, food, and equipment needed to plan and organize for the activities and events in the LWML-RMD.

Welcome to all the elected zone officers of the LWML-RMD! We thank you for your willingness to serve your Lord through the LWML!

The Zone Presidents are:

Four Corners: Sue Giddings

North Central: Beth Nagy

Northeastern: Betty Brunner

Northern: Kim Goetsch

Northern New Mexico:

Charen Stafford

Pecos: Judy Piepkorn

Rio Grande: Jill Clark

South Central: Shelley Stewart

Southern: Jeanette Kuehnert

Western: Sharon Breshears

Change of Officer Forms: Please send your zone and society change of officer forms to Beth Shroff, Business Manager. We need those asap to update our zone and society rosters! Thanks.

Looking Forward:

The LWML-RMD Board of Directors meeting will be held on February 20-21, 2015 at Faith Lutheran Church, 4785 Elm Ct, Denver, CO 80211 (near I70 and Federal). The BOD meeting begins at 1pm on Friday, February 20th, and will end about 3 pm on Saturday, February 21st.

Connected by the Power is the theme based on Romans 15:13. There'll be Bible study, planner activities, fellowship, sharing of information and resources from the vice presidents and other EC members. Sandy Wendelin will have a presentation as part of our meeting time on Saturday, February 21st.

Continued on page 3

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

*Pr. Mark Nierman
Junior Pastoral Counselor*

God in man made manifest! That is the repeated line from the joyful Epiphany hymn *Songs of Thankfulness and Praise* (LSB 394). The word manifest means to appear or reveal. God has appeared, made Himself known to us, in the person of Jesus Christ. He is God in the flesh, that we may see and know His love for us.

I love the season of Epiphany. Beginning with the star which led the magi to Bethlehem, the season of Epiphany focuses on how Jesus reveals Himself as true God in our midst. He does this not only through His teaching, but also through His miraculous works. He is making himself known by Word and deed. I can't help but think of Hebrews 1:1-2 which says, "Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son."

God is speaking to us through his Son. Through Word and Sacrament He continues to manifest Himself. He reveals Jesus to us. He shows us that he is God's Son and that His perfect sacrifice redeems us from sin, death, and the devil.

As I look over the mission grants for the 2014-2016 Biennium, I pray that the Lord will use our mites to manifest Himself through each of these ministries.

Whether it is telling children about Jesus through the work of Kingdom Kids, proclaiming Christ to Muslims through the Biblical Orthodox Lutheran Mission, bringing Christ to the students at University Lutheran Chapel in Boulder, or making him known through the many other missions designated, we pray that God's Word will have free course. Though each mission is unique, they all have one common goal; to make the love of God in Christ Jesus known. May the Word of God prosper in each of these missions.

I love the final stanza of hymn 394. It reminds us that it is in God's Holy Word that we see Jesus Christ, and it directs to look in faith to the day of the "great epiphany" still to come – the day when our Lord shall return to gather His Church on the last day. Until that day, let us continue to seek Him in His Word and proclaim Him boldly to the lost, that they too might join us with songs of thankfulness and praise.

*Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord,
Present in Thy holy Word –
Grace to imitate Thee now
And be pure as pure art Thou
That we might become like Thee
At Thy great epiphany
And may praise Thee, ever blest,
God in man made manifest.
(LSB 394:5).*



Continued from page 2

Zone Presidents are asked to invite one other member of their zone board that has not previously attended a Board of Directors Meeting and also bring the rally dates for the fall of 2015.

Mission Grant Recipients for the 2014–2016 Biennium

*Judy Delve
VP Gospel Outreach*

	<u>Granted</u>	<u>Paid</u>
Kingdom Kids	\$ 5,000	\$ 2,500
University Lutheran Chapel, Boulder, CO	\$ 6,000	\$ 0
Orphan Grain Train Collection Center—CO West	\$ 5,000	\$ 0
Rocky Mountain District – Debt Assistance	\$ 7,500	\$ 0
Concordia Seminary, Fort Wayne, Food and Clothing Co-op	\$ 7,500	\$ 0
Hispanic Ministry Northeast Colorado	\$ 5,000	\$ 0
Roadrunner for Christ, Inc.	\$ 5,000	\$ 0
Ysleta—Mariachi San Pablo	\$ 8,000	\$ 4,000
Revitalizing the Mission at Navajo, New Mexico	\$ 7,000	\$ 3,500
Biblical Orthodox Lutheran Mission	\$ 6,000	\$ 3,000
Trinity/HOPE—Haiti	\$ 5,000	\$ 0
Project: Pastoral Education, West Africa	\$ 6,000	\$ 0
Mission Central, near Mapleton, Iowa	\$ 5,500	\$ 0
	\$76,500	\$ 13,000

The prayers and Mites are coming in, women of faith! In the last two months we were able to give partial funding to YSLETA – Mariachi San Pablo, the Mission at Navajo, New Mexico and the Biblical Orthodox Lutheran Mission.



Mission Grant Update – University of Colorado Lutheran Chapel

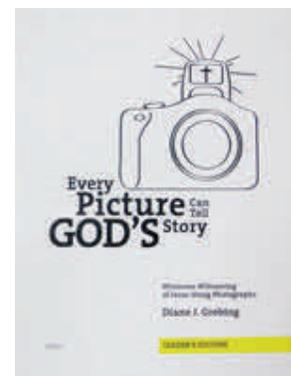
As the school year is in full swing (have already had Thanksgiving break as of this writing, and anticipating Christmas) we focus this month on the University of Colorado Lutheran Chapel in Boulder, Colorado. This writer was blessed to hear Pr. Daniel Burhop, shepherd of this student group, at a recent LWML Fall Rally. How excited he is to share the love of Christ with these young members, who act in the roll of elders and leaders in this congregation. They meet at least weekly, and local congregations support them when they can with Sunday night suppers, giving them both physical and spiritual food. The women at this recent rally also provided gift cards and tracts for disbursement to student visitors to the chapel.

Pr. Burhop shared some slides showing the renovations that have transpired and are ongoing after the chapel suffered water damage in the recent past. The result is a much brighter facility and a great place to meet together. Would you please pray for the growth of the chapel, not merely numbers, but for the spiritual growth of each of their members, making them excited to share the love and saving grace of Jesus Christ? *THE TIME IS NOW!*



What's New?

Darlene Markle,
VP Servant Resources



What are your plans for the New Year? Ever wonder how God is planning to use you? God wants to make you a blessing in your home, church, neighborhood and workplace. You are worth everything to Him! How can He do this, and where can I start you ask? Start fresh. Don't go into the New Year with last years' burdens. Instead, pray. Pray and ask Him to help you change if you want more of Him in your life. Surrender all to Him. It takes courage to change, but the list of promises He has waiting for you is worth it!

Pray also that He continues to use LWML as an example to those who follow closely behind. The Young Women Representatives and the Teens are watching.

Saint Paul says it best in 1Corinthians 11:1 which says, *Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.* Our lead-

ership in following Christ is the best example we can give these young women! We continue to set an example by reading and studying God's Word daily, helping and giving to others and meeting together.

Here's a study for Teens that can be downloaded from the LWML online shopping webpage or in print from the LWML store 1-800-252-lwml for only \$7.50 titled, *Every Picture Can Tell God's Story*. It's a winsome witnessing of Jesus using photographs. Also for Teens under the heading, Friends into Serving Him, you can read, LWML is *Not Just for Grandma!*

YWR's can click on www.lwml.org/young_women. Scroll down to Ministries of LWML and read, From One YWR to Another. These are tips that can prepare you for the upcoming convention.

May God use you well in the New Year.

New Facebook pages for the YWRs—lwmlrmd-young women reps and lwmlrmd-teen reps. "LIKE" them and show your support!!!

Dearest Lutheran Women In Mission,

By the time you read this note in the Tidings, the application deadline for National Convention YWRs will have come and gone. What am I writing this note, you may ask. This is a note of encouragement. Encouragement for our wiser sisters, to continue to seek out those young women in your congregations. Get to know them, invite them to coffee, meetings, gatherings, ANYTHING! When the time comes for YWR applications to be sent in for district convention, you will have built a bond with these ladies that will prayerfully last a life-time.

This is also encouragement for our younger sisters, to seek out those mentoring, Proverbs 31 women in your congregation. Invite them to coffee, Bible studies, gatherings, ANYTHING! We need to work together to bridge the "age" gap. We need to seek to share in the joys as well as the burdens of our fellow sisters in Christ.

I pray often for all of you, and I encourage you to pray for one another, even those sisters you haven't met yet. May the Lord bless you and keep you, may He shine His face upon you, and give you HIS peace.

Love and Hugs,

Your sister in Christ,

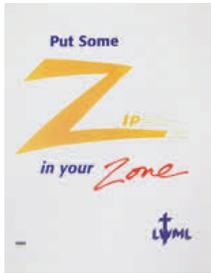
Christy Kunze

YWR Committee Chairman



Lord, Lead Me Outside the Box!

Judy Gordon
Christian Resources Editor



Here it is January and all the anticipation and joy of Advent and Christmas is behind us. Got the winter blahs? Don't know what to do to "jazz up" your LWML activities? Tired of having the same old tried and true meetings? Then check out some of the materials that can be found in your LWML catalog! If you've never hosted a Women's Retreat, think about hosting one in February. "The Greatest of These Is Love", based on 1 Corinthians 13, is an entire retreat package available from the catalog. It provides useful tips on how to use existing LWML materials to create a personalized retreat or program. This topic also works very well in conjunction with Valentine's Day.

Or how about planning and organizing a Servant Event? Not sure what to do...then check out the "Guided Tour to Hosting a Zone Servant Event". Even though some of the materials in the LWML catalog have the word "Zone" in the title, that does not mean that these activities can be used only by your Zone. Most of these ideas work equally well for local societies or can be easily adapted for your use. Also available are the following suggested materials: "Put Some Zip into Your Zone" and "The Planning Zone". You will find icebreakers/community builders, sketches, out-of-the-box ideas, and sample agendas. And don't forget to check out the "Inspirational Resources for Events" available in both hard-copy and on a CD. It is filled with 125 resources including devotions, Bible studies, icebreakers, sketches, and Mission Servant ideas. All of these materials are user friendly and offer suggestions and help for planning activities and events that will be meaningful to women in their walk with their Lord. So take a step out in faith, try something new, and think outside that box!

Happy New Year!

Barbara A. Wertz

With the start of the New Year, many people start making New Year's Resolutions as a way of improving themselves or their life. Instead of giving something up this year, have you ever considered a resolution of gaining? Think of everything you would gain if this year you set a resolution to spend more time in God's Word. Whether reading the Bible, committing to personal or family daily devotions or group devotions; the LWML store can help you meet your goal. Here are a few items consider:

Ready, Set, Change! Author Donald A. Reiner explores topics of change such as location, expectations, lifestyles and relationships in context of our never changing God and His Word. Item # LWML 20280WEB

Our Hope and Future-Are you worried about the future? This Bible study helps you gain insight by replacing worries of the world with God's truth and reassurance. Item #LWML68940WEB

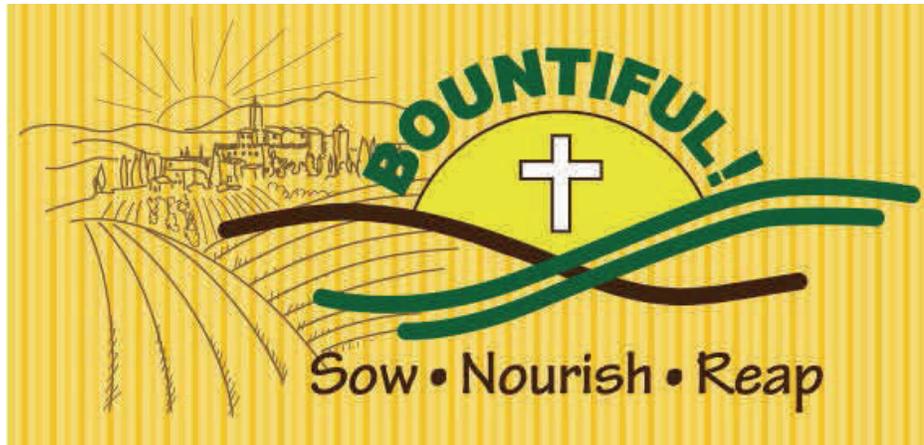
Every Picture Can Tell God's Story-This Bible study is designed to open your eyes to new ways to be a witness of Jesus using your own photographs and experiences to witness. It is designed as a group study. Item #LWML 20422WEB

Roots and Wings: A parents Challenge- Laugh and cry along with humorous author Elaine Bickel as you explore various stages of parent-child relationship. Item #LWML20090WEB

Mustard Seed Devotionals- Personal Development: These mini units stress personal growth in spirit, mind and body. Item #LWML 71400

To order any of these items shop at www.lwml.org or call 800-252-5965.





**ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT
2015 DES MOINES, IOWA BANNER DESIGNS
ARE NOW DUE-JANUARY 15, 2015!!!!**

**THE APPLICATIONS FOR THE
DISTRICT YOUNG WOMEN REPRESENTATIVES
ARE NOW DUE-JANUARY 1, 2015!!!!**

HAVE YOU EVER ATTENDED AN LWML CONVENTION? WHERE IS THE FIRST PLACE THAT YOU GO BESIDES REGISTRATION AND THE LWML STORE? THAT'S RIGHT!!!! THE DISPLAY OF ALL OF THE DISTRICT BANNERS! YOU WANT YOUR PICTURE TAKEN IN FRONT OF THE BANNER WITH THE DISTRICT PRESIDENT AND THE DISTRICT YOUNG WOMEN REPRESENTATIVES! YOU ARE EXCITED THAT IT WILL BE POSTED ON FACEBOOK, TWITTER OR YOUR DISTRICT WEBSITE SO THAT ALL WILL SEE IT.

TO FIND THE DIRECTIONS FOR THE DISTRICT BANNER, GO TO:
www.lwmlrmd.org/form

TO FIND THE APPLICATIONS FOR THE DISTRICT
YOUNG WOMEN REPRESENTATIVES, GO TO: www.lwmlrmd.org/form

**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



2017 LWML SLC Convention Fund Raising Ideas Include....

Our Saviour Ladies Guild from Vernal, Utah is talking about using Thrivent action team funds to put on a fundraiser. Not familiar with this? Any Thrivent member can set up a fundraiser, community outreach, service project, etc, and request funds from Thrivent. Each team can request \$250 to use for supplies, materials, etc. If it's a fund raiser, then the action team keeps all of the proceeds raised, since the Thrivent funds were used for expenses. Each Thrivent member can request \$250 twice a year (2 projects). You can also request a banner, t-shirts, invitations and thank you notes for the event.

So we plan to request the funds, which come on a visa gift card, and use them for expenses for the fundraiser, then send the proceeds raised to the SLC fund. We've previously used action team money for a church family activity that will be held in a few weeks at church; we're making Advent wreaths. So easy!

Talk to your local Thrivent rep as they would have more information about Action Teams. That's where Our Saviours Ladies Guild in Vernal, Utah got the info - from their Thrivent reps.

So, in a nutshell: Any Thrivent member can apply twice a year. An Action Team can receive a \$250 gift card to use for expenses. If used for a fundraiser (supplies, snacks, etc) then whatever is raised can be kept (or passed on to a charity or fund of choice) instead of using the raised funds to cover expenses.

More info at: <https://www.thrivent.com/actionteam/>. There's also a list there of suggested activities. Obviously, Thrivent wants us reaching out to the community, but they're pretty flexible as to what that means. Amy Schultz hasn't applied for their society, but she has no doubt they will be approved for this activity.

Have you raised funds for the 2017 LWML Salt Lake City Convention Host Committee Expense Fund by using Thrivent? Or do you have other fundraising ideas? Let us know! We have until October 15, 2015 to raise funds. Have you mailed in the suggested amount of \$85 per society? You know you don't have to wait until next October to get it to our District Treasurer, Beth Nagy. Funds raised to date: \$2,273.

The 2017 LWML Salt Lake City Convention Awareness Quilt is about done!!! The winner will be chosen at the February 2015 Board of Directors meeting. Look for the winner announcement in the March *Tidings*.



Five generations of Women in Mission attended the Rio Grande Zone LWML Fall Rally. From left in photo, Virginia Nielsen, Great-Great-Grandmother; Jill Clark, Grandmother; Nora Sotak, Great-Grandmother; Brittanie Clark, Mother; and one month old Olivia Ray Clark.

Southern Zone's Very Own SWEATSHOP!

Only kidding! Thirty ladies from around the Southern Zone gathered for an actual hands on Christian Life Workshop. This was a first in a long time for us.

The theme for the day was “In Love, Serve One Another”. Our scripture for the day was Ephesians 2:10: *“For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” (NIV)*

After giving a few instructions, Marybeth Zurcher, VP of Christian Life, shared a devotion called “Hand Holders”. Work on pillow case dresses, T-shirt diapers, tied fleece lap robes and filling blessing bags began. There was something for everyone – didn’t need to sew.

The second devotion was entitled “Serving”. It talked about Jesus serving, setting an example for us. Because of the serving hearts and hands of our ladies, we pray that those who receive these gifts will be blessed.

Much of the materials for these projects was donated by ladies in the zone. One lady donated around 100 pillow cases. Two other ladies donated 200 or more T-shirts for the diapers. Needless to say we will have another “work day”.

The final dedication devotion was “Who is our Neighbor?” based on the parable of the Good Samaritan. Our neighbors are children in the world who don’t have enough clothing, or someone who needs to stay warm, or needs basic hygiene supplies, or a baby who needs a clean diaper.

Not only did the ladies enjoy time in fellowship with one another, but they enjoyed using their time and skills, no matter what they were, to do the work God prepared for us in advance! Praise be to Him for hearts and hands that are one.



District Officers Serving the Lord With Gladness for the 2014-2016 Biennium

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Chris Bostron,
Nominating Committee Chair
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Heart 2 Heart Sister Program

Applications for a District Representative for the H2H Sister Program has been extended to January 15, 2015. Your transportation for the convention, registration, lodging, and meals would be paid by the district.

What does this mean?

This is an opportunity to train at the National LWML Convention in Des Moines, IA as the representative from the Rocky Mountain District to promote LWML and mission opportunities (this could mean mission grant proposals) to include all ethnicities in our district.

If you think about what the mission of the Young Women Committee is – to promote LWML, the resources available and mission opportunities in which young women can be involved – this is the same focus for the H2H Sister Program but the emphasis is on ethnicities.

We need one person willing to attend the training at convention, and then be willing to share all the LWML possibilities (leadership resources, Bible studies and devotional resources, retreats and other mission information) with the Lutheran women of all ethnic backgrounds in our district. These Lutheran women of diverse cultural background could “plug-in” to LWML as an even better and more productive way to obtain resources that would be available to enable them to use their gifts in ministry to the people of the world as they continue their service in the church and the mission work they are already doing.

Finally, the hope would be to have a Heart to Heart Sister Program at our district convention just as we have for the young women and the teens.

Interested? Contact Sylvia Bean: president@lwmlrmd.org

