

September 2015
Volume 72, Issue 2



TIDINGS

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**LWML Convention - Des Moines, Iowa
June 25-28, 2015**

2015 Convention News and Pictures

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*LWML RMD Convention 2016
Colorado Springs, June 10—12, 2016*



2016 Convention Deadlines

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LWML Convention 2017— Salt Lake City
Information is available on the back page

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."

The Time is Now!

The summer is quickly passing away! In June I attended the LCMS RMD Convention in Aurora, CO and gave a 5 minute presentation and power point about LWML. I had a pastor there ask to visit with me a minute and I thought, "Uh oh, what have I done now?" He expressed concern to me about future generations of women in the church and their stance as devoted Christian wife, mother, and church worker considering all the changes taking place in our country with its laws. He volunteered to help, and supported the role of faithful women workers in the church and the work of LWML. Wow! What a reinforcement and "God send" at a totally unexpected time. I thank God for our pastors, their support, and their nurturing of LWML and our mission to share the love of Christ throughout the world.

Then it was completing the preparations for the 2015 LWML Convention. I pray that each of you who were a part of the 2015 Convention - personally attending or attending by live stream - were blessed with the bountiful array of both the spiritual and emotional "nourishing" shared at the convention. This issue of the ***Tidings*** will highlight some of what was experienced at the convention. I would like to share some of the "sowing" and "nourishing" that I was blessed to experience.

No matter what mode of travel, there is usually some kind of challenge that happens. This convention trip was no different - it was exciting to finally arrive in Des Moines! That achieved, the Board of Directors Meeting held the two days before the convention was a beginning for us to focus on the purpose of the conven-

tion. As we were nourished by the Word during the LWML BOD meeting, we focused on the idea that there are always "turning points" in life. This was exemplified through Jonah. When God tells you what He wants to do through you, you face a "crisis of belief" just like Jonah. Do we go God's way or our way? The way we live our life is a testimony to what we believe about God. An encounter with God requires faith, and encounters with God are "God-sized." How we respond to these encounters reveals what we believe about God, and true faith requires action. As with Jonah, we may not make the "right" decision when it's the time to "sow", but God is gracious and merciful in His forgiveness to us. He will nourish us and strengthen us to do His will so we can "step out" in that "crisis of belief" to share our faith with confidence and do His will.

Then the Convention began. It was a thrill to walk with our two LWML RMD Young Women Representatives, Leah Bauder and Jennifer Weber, and to carry our LWML RMD banner! It was a joy to see Lesley Nordmeyer recognized as LWML RMD "Unsung Hero" and Gerri Passmore as our H2H Sister Trainer. Our delegation consisted of our delegates: Beth Nagy, Betty Brunner, Sue Giddings, Barb Wertz, Kay Moeller, Kim Goetsch, Becky Ryder, Judy Piepkorn, Jill Clark, Jeannette Kuehnert, Sharon Breshears, the YWRs, and our Jr. Pastoral Counselor, Pastor Mark Nierman. Bible Study Leader, Rev. Michael Matill shared that we should never assume that others have heard the Word. Everyone is a Christian missionary. Being a follower of Jesus Christ is our **job**; our **task** is other things

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Reflections on the 2015 LWML Convention

*Pr. Mark Nierman
Junior Pastoral Counselor*

It was a joy to attend the 2015 LWML Convention in Des Moines, IA. The convention theme, as you well know, was: Bountiful! Sow – Nourish – Reap. As I entered the convention floor I could see the stage had been decorated appropriately with pots, flowers and soil all around. In the center was a cross filled with good soil. Over the course of the convention I watched this display change, as from that good soil green leaves began to grow, then full stalks of corn appeared, and finally it was harvested and only the stumps remained. As I watched this transformation I couldn't help but think upon one of my favorite hymns: "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come." The second stanza reads:

All the world is God's own field,
Fruit unto his praise to yield;
Wheat and tares together sown,
Unto joy or sorrow grown.
First the blade and then the ear,
Then the full corn shall appear.
Lord of harvest, grant that we
Wholesome grain and pure may be.
(LSB 892:2)

It was great to be gathered for worship, devotions and Bible study throughout the convention. Each day our gathering focused on the convention theme: Bountiful! Sow – Nourish – Reap. It is through God's Word planted in us that He has brought us to faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and it is through his Word that he continues to sustain us in this faith and life. To hear His Word proclaimed in the worship services, sing hymns that are rich in the proclamation of God's love, and to be in His Word together was time well spent.

One of the most enjoyable parts of the convention was the surprise of running into

so many people that I know and love, but haven't seen for a long time. Just walking around the convention center created opportunities for a reunion with someone from my past. How good it was to see some familiar faces. Several classmates from both my undergraduate and seminary days were around. I even had the joy of seeing my childhood pastor and his wife (Pastor Jim and Mona Mueller). I have very good memories of Pastor and Mona Mueller. It was Pastor Mueller who taught me the catechism and confirmed me in the faith so many years ago. He played an important role in my decision to become a pastor. Seeing so many familiar faces and old friends made me thankful for how God has nourished me by providing friends and family to share God's Word with me, growing together in Christ.

Then, of course, there is the mission, as once again the ladies of the LWML committed themselves and their mites to support the spread of the Gospel throughout the world. How wonderful to be gathered among such mission minded people! I pray that the Lord will bless the many missions which the LWML has pledged to support. May He bless the work that is done in His harvest field, and may His Word produce abundant fruit as people hear of the forgiveness of sins and life which is ours in Christ Jesus so that a bountiful harvest may be reaped.

Even so, Lord, quickly come,
To thy final harvest home;
Gather Thou Thy people in,
Free from sorrow, free from sin,
There, forever purified,
In Thy garner to abide:
Come, with all thine angels, come,
Raise the glorious harvest home.
(LSB 892:4)



Mission Grant Recipients for the 2014–2016 Biennium

Judy Delve
VP Gospel Outreach

	<u>Granted</u>	<u>Paid</u>
Kingdom Kids	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
University Lutheran Chapel, Boulder, CO	\$ 6,000	\$ 3,000
Orphan Grain Train Collection Center—CO West	\$ 5,000	\$ 2,500
Rocky Mountain District – Debt Assistance	\$ 7,500	\$ 5,000
Concordia Seminary, Fort Wayne, Food and Clothing Co-op	\$ 7,500	\$ 2,500
Hispanic Ministry Northeast Colorado	\$ 5,000	\$ 3,000
Roadrunner for Christ, Inc.	\$ 5,000	\$ 2,500
Ysleta—Mariachi San Pablo	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000
Revitalizing the Mission at Navajo, New Mexico	\$ 7,000	\$ 3,500
Biblical Orthodox Lutheran Mission	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000
Trinity/HOPE—Haiti	\$ 5,000	\$ 3,000
Project: Pastoral Education, West Africa	\$ 6,000	\$ 3,000
Mission Central, near Mapleton, Iowa	<u>\$ 5,500</u>	<u>\$ 3,000</u>
	\$78,500	\$ 50,000

We have paid 3 grants in full! Praise the Lord! Keep these grants in your prayers so our mites will have accumulated enough to be able to disburse more funds.

Remember to start applying for Mission Grants to be considered at our 2016 District Convention. Those forms are available on the website, and the deadline is November 1, 2015. Address any questions to the VP of Gospel Outreach as listed on the back page of the *Tidings*.

Ysleta—Mariachi San Pablo

From our Mariachi San Pablo friends at Ysleta -



The group performed 31 of its goal of 40 summer community care serenades, many of them performed at local nursing homes and assisted living facilities, reaching approximately 800 people. This included a belated June birthday visit to the home of 101 year old Eugenia Delgado.



In July, the group travelled to Lodi and Sacramento, CA for concerts. Their 15 day summer tour had them performing in Houston, TX, Mobile, AL, Immoknee and Jacksonville, FL as well as providing all the music for the 5th LCMS Hispanic Convention in Tampa.

Summer performances ended in Albuquerque, NM, playing for congregations at Immanuel and Christ Lutheran Churches. Hundreds more people were touched by these appearances.

The LWML RMD \$8000 mission grant for Mariachi San Pablo has been paid in full, thanks to all you wonderful ladies sending in those Mites!

Mission Goal for 2015-2017 Biennium: \$2,000,000

As part of that goal the Navajo Mission received a \$75,000 dollar grant: **Hope and Healing to the Navajo People**, To implement Gospel-oriented programs for Navajo men, women, and youth to empower and equip them to live victoriously in the midst of their circumstances and to be overcomers, offering better choices for a brighter future. Programs to include: youth camps, after-school enrichment programs, Boys/Girls clubs, trips to share faith with another Native people group, men's Bible group, abused women support group, and women's health education.

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



2015 Fall Zone Rally Dates

- September 12 – Northern: Trinity, Greeley, CO
Western: Redeemer, Delta, CO
- September 19 - Southern: Immanuel, Colorado Springs, CO
North Central: Wheatridge – Co-Hosted with
Our Savior, Commerce City, CO
- September 26 – South Central: Ascension, Littleton, CO
Northern New Mexico: Calvary, Rio Rancho, NM
- October 3 - Four Corners: Shepherd of the Desert, Page, AZ
- October 10 – Rio Grande: Mission, Las Cruces, NM
- October 17 - Northeastern: St. John's, Yuma, CO
- October 24 – Pecos: Immanuel, Roswell, NM

Please remember that the only packets received at the rallies from LWML RMD will be for the zone presidents. There will be “hard copies” of resources/applications included that may be copied and shared with societies not able to access the items electronically. All resources/ applications in the packets and discussed in the newsletter and district report are available at lwmlrmd.org or lwml.org for free download.

Spiritual Nourishment

Darlene Markle,
VP Servant Resources

What a joy it was to attend the 36th Biennial Convention in Iowa where our theme was based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. *“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.”*



Rev. Michael Mattil started the Bible study asking approximately 4,500 women, “What is your task?” He said that our real job should always be planting the seed and that we should let our actions speak loudly of loving Christ! That’s an awesome responsibility! Scripture says we will abound in every good work.



“When we see a need we should be a seed,” Rev. Mattil said. We plant the seed, but God is the one that makes it grow!

Sharing Christ with the women there is like preaching to the choir. I thought, it’s sharing everyday with others in the world that’s challenging! I also started to think about the women in other congregations that cannot attend meetings or for whatever reason, think they are not part of LWML because of not having time to attend meetings. How can they be reached if they are not even reading the *Tidings* to see what is happening, I wondered. What can they do to stay in touch?



There are some churches in every zone that do not have societies. There are some that have only a few faithful LWML members. Most churches have young families and so moms are busy being wife and mommy that it’s nearly im-

possible to attend a meeting. Some wives may be working one or more jobs. There are widows and single ladies too that may like to be a part of LWML and serve God by using their spiritual gifts.

We want all women to be informed of LWML happenings. Our website is one way and “you” are the other way! Perhaps you can encourage those not attending meetings to hear about what is going on in the zone and district. A monthly blurb in your church bulletin may work or even monthly prayers concerning what is happening to your congregation. We need every woman’s prayers and their mites. The missions are being helped by those mite boxes! Go to the lwmlrmd.org website to see what happened at the convention! You will be filled with thanks to God.

Here’s where I’m going... The first week of October LWML will be celebrating 73 years! Plan on having something special to bring attention to all the ladies in your congregation! You can set up a table with cookies and giveaways like an LWML pen, pencil or magnet. Have mite boxes available for them to take and have the individual membership forms that they can fill out. Better yet, help them fill it out! Give them a Quarterly magazine. Try and meet someone new.

Sowing will produce reaping! I heard someone say that the word “ear,” is in the center of the word, “heart.” If we listen with our heart we may reap abundantly!

Plan on attending your Fall Rally and ask someone new to join you! It could change someone’s life! You will abound in every good work!

RESOURCES! RESOURCES!

Judy Gordon
Christian Resources Editor

Looking for some new ideas to "pep up" your personal devotions or your LWML meetings and activities? Then check out some of the new materials available in the LWML Catalog.

Three new Mustard Seed Devotions are available: "In Times of Need" shares messages of encouragement for times of need; "The Word: Wisdom for Living" is based on passages from the Bible's wisdom literature; and "The Race of Faith" uses analogies from running/jogging with appropriate Bible passages. Coming soon will be a fourth new Mustard Seed Devotion, "Everyday Celebrations". Remember that some of the older Mustard Seed Devotions can also be ordered in large print.

New Bible studies and devotions include: "Gifts Chosen for You", an eight lesson Bible study where you can learn how your daily tasks/jobs are gifts from God. "A Sparrow's Worth", new from Donna Pyle, can be used as an individual devotional journal or by small groups. Two new flip calendars, "God's Grace for Growth" and "Women in the Pew" provide prayers to guide you as you meet life's opportunities and suggest directives for outreach. Both calendars include Bible passages as well as prayers.

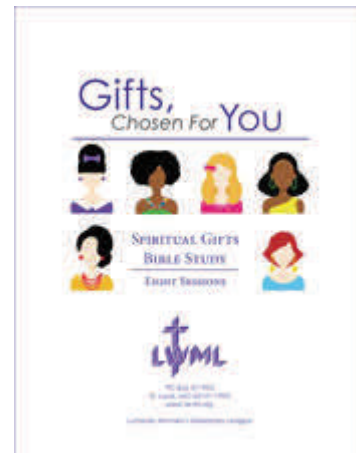
Last, but certainly not least, the **2015-2017 reSOURCEs for Planning Programs** provides two years of thematic monthly icebreakers; devotions (all new); 20 new Bible studies; Mission Servant projects; reference to Mission Grants projects; and some new sketches. This resource is available in printed form (\$23.00) or available as a free download (over 200 pages). This is a wonderful, inclusive resource (with lots of ideas) that is both practical and user friendly! Ladies, the time is NOW to discover what your LWML Catalog has to offer you!

WANTED: WILLING WRITERS

LWML is diligently searching for writers! The written word, no matter the medium, is extremely important and has been since the dawn of civilization. Where would we be had God not sent Moses down from Mount Sinai with the Ten Commandments written on tablets of stone? Where would the church be today had Martin Luther not translated the Bible into German so that the average person could read it? The written word is IMPORTANT! It instructs, it inspires, and it satisfies a need deep inside of us.

Ladies, we need women to write devotions, sketches, litanies, and Bible studies that are appropriate for women of all ages. These need not always be lengthy; one to two pages of material is many times sufficient. Appropriate topics are almost unlimited and devotions built around specific seasons or holidays are always needed. Devotions may appear in print form in various genres, or may be found on the LWML: RMD web site or LWML.org as free downloads.

So pick up a pen and paper, or use that computer keyboard for more than checking your email, and put your God-given talents to work. Completed writing projects should be submitted to your Christian Resource Editor. The time is NOW to try your hand at writing about your faith and sharing your JOY in the Lord!



2015 LWML Convention

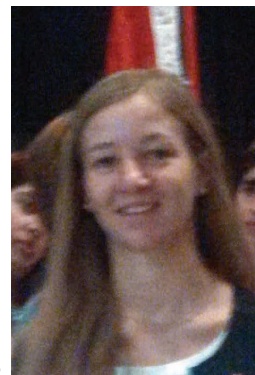


Sow—Nourish—Reap!



YWR Reflections on Convention 2015

Leah Baader
YWR Representative



This summer I was blessed to be able to attend the National Convention in Des Moines, Iowa as one of the Young Woman Representatives from the Rocky Mountain district. Upon my arrival in Iowa, the perfect setting for our “*Bountiful! Sow-Nourish-Reap*” themed convention, I was filled with joy that so many could gather in one place to serve our Lord with the organization of the LWML. Earlier this month I was asked to share some of my experiences with those who may not have been able to attend this event, or perhaps those who did attend but took part in different options that the convention hosts offered. Last year (at the district convention) I was given the tip that one way to get to know someone better is to share your “Top Five” (or six!) with them. It is also a way to briefly share my experiences from the June 2015 convention.

Singing of any kind will always be included in my top five. I remember loving the opening worship service last year at our own district convention because of the sheer number of voices lifted in praise to God. If you were at that service in Colorado, imagine it multiplied by ten - there you have the wonder of a National Convention Opening Service (or any of the wonderful singing sessions led by Dr. Dina Vendetti!).

Humor is a way to bring everyone closer together and we had plenty of jokes and laughter at this convention between all the guest speakers, a near rebellion by the woman who typed the closed captions, and the humorous interrupter Frau Elfrieda (Jan Struck). In the midst of business meetings and a very emotional time listening to speakers and discussing mission grants, it is easy to see why humor is planned and inserted into each day of the convention.

The morning of the first day in Des Moines all who arrived before the first session were able to take part in the Servant Activities. There were a variety of activities set out for the participants and anyone could join in at any table – this event was a wonderful time to meet friends of the LWML from all over the nation *and* learn a new idea or two to bring back to home districts.

Looking through the proposed mission grants and ‘deciding’ which among them the national LWML would fund was also one of my favorite experiences. There are so many worthy institutions and ideas that are submitted for each biennium and knowing that our mites go to help fulfill the dreams and goals of those who submit their grants is an empowering feeling. Can you believe the two million dollar mission goal for the 2015-2017 biennium?!

Carly Hatcher, the Executive Director of Mission Opportunities Short Term Ministries, was one of the convention speakers and was also my luncheon speaker on Saturday. Her words were inspiring for many in the room both during the lunch and the convention meeting and led to many questions about the short term missions that individuals may go on to all parts of the world. The work that missionaries do throughout the world and that we can do as missionaries in our own area is admirable. Never before would I have considered myself a missionary, living in a small town in New Mexico, but as another compelling speaker said “*The real missionaries are not necessarily those who cross the seas, but those who see the cross.*” We are all called to be missionaries, bringing the world the Word no matter where in that world we may be.

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2016 LWML RMD Convention

You are invited to attend the 48th biennial LWML RMD Convention at
The Antlers Hotel, Four Cascade, Colorado Springs, CO, June 10-12, 2016.

Come and join us as we celebrate **“God – Our Fortress & Refuge.”** Based on the serviceman’s Psalm, we have selected Psalm 91:2 as our convention theme verse: *I will say to the Lord, “My refuge and fortress, my God, in whom I trust.”*

Our Goal: Rescued in Christ, we are empowered to trust in His victory.

Objectives: That all in attendance

- A. Be fortified by Word and Sacrament
- B. Being armored, stand firm against evil
- C. Be courageous to serve others

Our Friday evening Worship Service Proclaimer will be Pastor Gary Piepkorn. The service will be at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Colorado Springs with Dr. Donald Zimmermann, Organist, and Rev. Dennis Lucero will be our Officiant.

Pastoral Counselors Pastor Jonathan Schultz and Pastor Mark Nierman will be serving in both Worship Services.

Our Bible Study Leader will be Pastor Allen Anderson.

Enrichment Session Leaders will be: Pastor Gary Piepkorn, sharing how he, as a Military Chaplain, ministered to active military and their families; Pastor Charles Koegh, as a Chaplain ministering to veterans, their needs and how we can help- *Ministering on the Home Front*; Dr. Mary Farley RN -*The Joy of Aging in the Service of our Lord*, and Mr. Chuck Jedele, sharing about short term ministries; and our LWML Representative.

Our Humorist/Interrupter will be Nancy Kraft.

Stay tuned!! There’s more to come. You won’t want to miss this convention.

**The Time is Now..... to plan to attend the LWML RMD Convention,
June 10-12, 2016 at The Antlers in Colorado Springs, CO.**



Mission Grant Proposals for 2016

The next LWML Rocky Mountain District Convention is less than a year away, but NOW IS THE TIME to start considering where we can continue to spread the Word through Mission Grants. Please consider submitting a project or mission that you feel would do this. The Mission Grant Guidelines and appropriate form are posted on the LWML RMD Website or you can email Vice President of Gospel Outreach Judy Delve to obtain them. Note the deadline for submitting a proposal for the 2016 District Convention in Colorado Springs is **NOVEMBER 1, 2015.**

Greetings!

I can't believe it is already September! Time has flown by this summer, but now that we are moving into fall it is time to start gearing up for the 2016 RMD Convention in Colorado Springs! The application for YWR is up on the website and just waiting to be filled out. This is where YOU come in. Please prayerfully begin to talk to the young women in your congregation. Encourage them, tell them stories from past conventions, pray with them, and invite them to fill out the form for next summer's convention. It may seem like a long way off but sometimes these ladies can get overwhelmed and busy near the holiday season, so the sooner the better. Deadline to submit an application is January 15, 2016.

I pray each of you is doing well! Know that you are all loved and appreciated! Praise God for you all, my wonderful sisters!

God's love and hugs,

Christy Kunze

LWML-RMD Committee on Young Women Chair



Begin to think “outside the box” and be creative.
Share at least one BIG Idea with a sister in Christ

The Time is NOW to remember our LWML heritage, recall why you joined LWML, and find someone you can mentor as a future LWML sis-in-Christ.



YWR Reflections

Continued from Page 10

Spending time with other Young Woman Representatives from all over the nation (including my sister!) was an overall ‘top experience’ as well. We spent time together over breakfast, gathered to help in the processions, participated in servant activities, prayed together, laughed together, and made connections with each other that will last for years to come.

I could continue with my list of the “Top Five” experiences I had while at the convention, because there are far more than five that are worth mentioning. So thank you, for giving me the opportunity to have these experiences. Thank you for selecting and sending me to the 2015 National Convention in Des Moines, Iowa. See you in Salt Lake City!

ATTENTION SISTERS IN CHRIST of the LWML ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT!!!
NOMINATIONS NEEDED!!
DEADLINE – DECEMBER 1, 2015

Do you know people with a heart for and a commitment to LWML? Are they ready to broaden their horizons and use their God-given gifts at the district level of LWML? Perhaps it's **YOU!!!**

The Nominating Committee is seeking nominations for the following offices:

Vice President of Christian Life, currently held by Colleen Spahr

Vice President of Communications, currently held by Beth Weber

Recording Secretary, currently held by Sue Mumm

Treasurer, currently held by Beth Nagy

Jr. Pastoral Counselor, currently held by Rev. Mark Nierman, who will move up to Senior Pastoral Counselor

5 members of the Nominating Committee, 9 names are needed from 9 different zones

**Elections will take place at the LWML Rocky Mountain District Convention
June 10-12, 2016, Colorado Springs, Colorado.**

Please send or email your nominations ASAP to Chris Bostron, Nominating Committee Chairman, 307 West Avenue, Brush, CO 80723 or s.bostron@bresnan.net (dot between the s and b).

Thank you for taking the time to prayerfully consider the next leaders in our Rocky Mountain District!

God – Our Fortress and Refuge
I will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my fortress,
My God, in whom I trust.” Psalm 91:2

From Teen Rep to Team Leader

What better way for a teen to become acquainted with the LWML than to experience an LWML Rocky Mountain District Convention from the inside out! To feel the Power of the Holy Spirit through the gathering of His people in worship, witness, prayer and mission is an excellent way to motivate our youth to continue as LWML Leaders and to support the mission of proclaiming the Gospel of Christ to the entire world.

The Teen Committee is creating an outstanding program for the TEEN REPS and the TEEN GUESTS who attend the 2016 LWML Rocky Mountain District Convention. We encourage each zone to select and sponsor a teen to represent them at the 2016 convention in Colorado Springs. We further encourage each local congregation to sponsor at least one teen to represent their local LWML group. It will be a great investment in the future of your church LWML to send a teen to participate with the women and other teens who attend this event!

The teens will participate with the adults in the group worship and in programs with the speakers and workshops. There will also be a separate teen program which will include Bible study, group discussions, social activities, crafts and service projects. The teens attending the convention should be accompanied by an adult, preferably their mother or another relative.

Attached is the LWML Teen Application for the LWML Rocky Mountain District Convention at the Antlers Hotel in Colorado Springs, Colorado, on June 10-12, 2016.



LWML RMD Teen Representative Application

Name _____ Age (13-17) _____

Birthday _____ Baptismal Birthday _____ Current Grade _____

Address _____

E-Mail _____ Phone Number _____

Mother or other relative attending with Teen _____

Church Name and Address _____

Zone _____ Zone President _____

LWML ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT CONVENTION 2016

God – Our Fortress & Refuge

Bible Verse: *I will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress, my God in whom I trust."*



Psalm 91:2

Goal: Rescued in Christ, we are empowered to trust in His victory.

Objectives: That all in attendance:

Be fortified by Word and Sacrament

Being armored, stand firm against evil

Be courageous to serve others

As a Teen Representative for my zone or local congregation, I will be mindful of the objectives of the LWML RMD 2016 Convention and will participate in the activities that are offered to me. After attending the convention, I will be a teen advocate for LWML by reporting on my experience at the convention to my zone rally in the fall and to my local congregation.

For the purpose of selection, I am submitting a statement of why I want to attend the LWML RMD 2016 Convention and a letter of recommendation from an LWML member or church staff person who knows me.

Please submit this form to your Zone Board by December 15, 2015.

The Time is Now!

Continued from Page 2

but foremost is to live, think, act, and profess our faith. We are constantly to be “slinging” the seed God wants us to share and not spare the amount “slung.” God makes the seed grow; we just keep planting. Everything that’s planted needs “nourishment.” If nourishment is provided, things will grow and thrive. God is a kind and merciful “Gardener” who gives nourishment to us even though we don’t deserve it. Nourishment gives opportunity to flourish; there can be no nourishment if nothing’s been “sown.” Christ cherishes and nourishes the “church” – **you**. The Sacraments provide that “nourishment” and assurance that we are God’s dearly loved family. Baptism connects us to Jesus through the Holy Spirit, and we are continually nourished through Communion and His Word. When we are nourished, we can share that nourishment with others in word and deed. God’s message of love and salvation is so good we can’t help but “sow” it; we also need to “nourish” it. God will give the “growth.”

Reverend Matt Harrison, LCMS President, encouraged LWMLers be “who we are and spread the Gospel.” God will open doors for us to be useful in Christ’s hand.

Reverend Dr. Lamb shared that we are all **unique**; we are one in seventy (70) trillion chromosomal possibilities! God’s “umbilical cord” connecting us to Him is His Means of Grace: baptism, the Sacraments and His Word, and we “float” in the bountiful grace of God, certain that He is in control of our life. Living in God’s bountiful grace, our life has value because we are created, redeemed and called by God. He paid dearly the price to get us back. Living in God’s bountiful grace we are assured of God’s forgiveness – no matter what. His bountiful grace is lavished on us so we can share His bountiful grace with others.

President Kay shared that **the Time is Now** to: study and read the Bible daily, discover our gifts, and share God’s Word. She encouraged all to support missions, encourage missionaries, and learn about the mission grants. We should look for opportunities to offer friendship, support and encouragement to all women, seek ways to serve God, welcome women to grow in their faith, share God’s story, and be intentional. We take joy in service because we are able to give service.

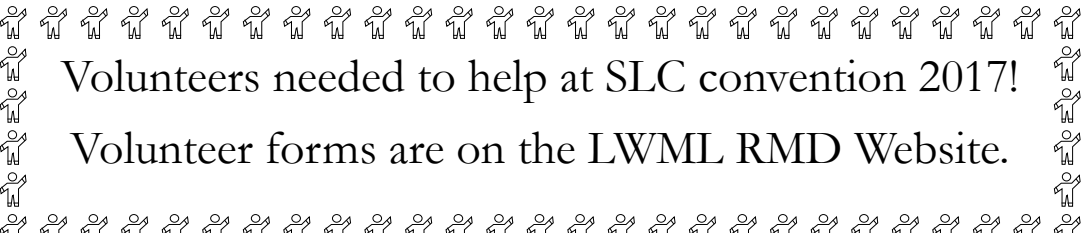
The Time Is Now for us to reap the bountiful sowing and nourishing from the convention. We are to go forth with confidence and courage to faithfully study God’s Word, and share the salvation of Jesus Christ in all we do and say! Now that’s asking a lot, but as we look forward to our fall rallies and our 2016 Convention – God will provide further nourishment and guidance for us to do His will as we serve the Lord with gladness.

Thank Yous: I’d like to thank the ladies from Mt. Hope, Boulder (April EC Meeting) and Zion, Brighton (August EC Meeting) for their gracious hospitality in hosting our EC meetings. Thank you to Cindy Stahly who has served as the Meeting Manager; her expertise and help made my job easier. Thank you for all the prayers and expressions of love, care, and joy expressed to me over the birth of my granddaughter, Isabella Audrey Yu. Thank you to all those who have been elected and/or appointed to serve on the LWML RMD Executive Committee and Board of Directors – the offices and committee positions are filled!

Welcomes: LWML RMD welcomes and congratulates Beautiful Savior LWML at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Broomfield, CO. They are a newly established society in the Northern Zone. Also welcome to Jennifer Weber as she works with Cindy to begin the duties as Meeting Manager.

Blessings,

Sylvia

Volunteers needed to help at SLC convention 2017!
Volunteer forms are on the LWML RMD Website.

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Fundraising Idea to Send Society Members to Salt Lake City 2017

Keeping Christ in Christmas

This fundraising idea could enable more ladies from your society to attend the Salt Lake City Convention in 2017. Proceeds from the sales could be used to help with registration and/or other convention expenses so we'll have lots of RMD volunteers to help at the 2017 LWML Convention in Salt Lake City, UT. The item is a durable magnet that shares the message to "Keep Christ in Christmas." It can be used on the back of a car, displayed near the license plate, or other areas on the car, or it may be displayed in other areas where there is a magnet backing source. You could sell them this year as well as next year and help spread the message to "Keep Christ In Christmas." The magnets are made available through the Knights of Columbus; Marguerite Chrisman suggested this idea; her local society sold these last year to help raise funds to send some of their ladies to the LWML Convention in Des Moines. The magnets sold well; over 350 of them. They began selling at the end of September and sold them through Christmas. At the \$5 suggested price, they make nice gifts or stocking stuffers.

The magnets come packaged 200 per case and the case price is \$290 plus \$20 shipping. When you sell the full case you profit about \$690 per case. Marguerite thought this a great fundraiser in getting out a great message to "Keep Christ in Christmas." When getting low on magnets to sell, you can order more. The case quantity amount nets the most profit. You might want to check this out to see if it could work for your group. Go to www.kcnativitysets.com

