

Tidings

A Publication of the Lutheran Women's
Missionary League Rocky Mountain District

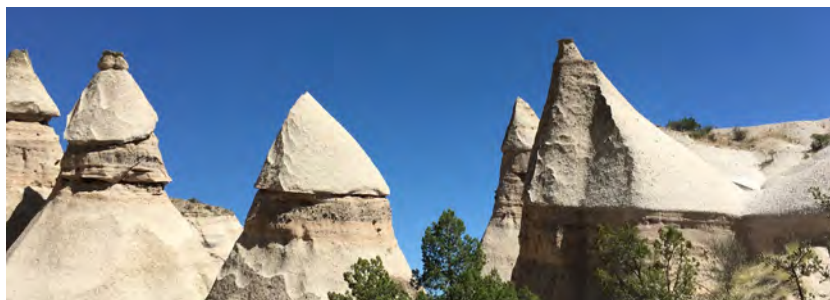
Volume 73, Issue 4

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QR code to direct you to the Rocky
Mountain District website or
lwmlrmd.org



Calling all Young Women

Looking for an all-expense-paid* trip to beautiful Albuquerque, New Mexico? Look no further than the 2017 LWML National Convention!

When: June 22–25, 2017

Where: Albuquerque, NM

Who: YOU!

Two lucky applicant entries can join in this exciting gathering of Lutheran Women, practically for free. *Convention registration, meal plans, and partial room and board will be covered by your District LWML Board. As for getting to sunny New Mexico, there will be plenty of opportunities to join in with other women of surrounding areas who would be happy to carpool together.

YWRs will get a chance to bond with other YWRs from all over the country! Share wonderful experiences, make new friends, and come together to worship Our Lord!

All you have to do is fill out the form on page 11 and send to Kelsey Hall, Committee on Young Women Chairman, by **January 18, 2017**.

Winners will be selected at the Board of Director's meeting in February 2017 and will be contacted with more information at that time.

We hope to see you there!

And from one ywr to another...what to expect at the convention.
<http://www.lwml.org/ywr-tips>



Kelsey Hall
Young Woman
Representative
Chairman



Postings from
Sylvia

"I will say of
the Lord, 'He is
my refuge and
my fortress, my
God, in whom I
trust.'"

—Psalm 91:2

GIFTED to be a Gift

Did you receive a gift this past Christmas? Were you joy-filled? God's joy-filled Gift to all is Jesus, our Savior. He's the "reason for the season" just past, and our faith in Him gives us the hope of salvation that can keep us joyful throughout the new year ahead. In love and friendship, we often give gifts to others. Earthly gifts can bring us temporary joy, but Jesus, our heavenly Gift, provides an eternal joy that we can experience in all the times of our lives—we can count on God's unchanging love and commitment to us, His children. God said, *I will never leave you nor forsake*

you. (Joshua 1:5) What comfort and joy we have knowing we are His, and He is in control of all that happens. In LWML, we strive to share not only our material gifts with those around us, but we seek to share God's Gift of salvation throughout the world. We look forward with hope and joy to this coming year as we seek ways to share the joyful gift of His love with others, trusting in His loving care and commitment to us, enabling us to be a gift to others. **Joyful New Year!**

Sylvia

Thank You

Thank you to the ladies and members of Bethlehem, Lakewood, CO for hosting the Executive Committee Meeting in 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 the Elected Zone Officers

We thank you for your willingness to serve your Lord through the LWML! The zone presidents are as follows:

Four Corners: Anita Palenschat

North Central: Beth Nagy

Northeastern: Joline Christensen

Northern: Christie Peebles

Northern New Mexico: Cindie Corvin

Pecos: Judy Piepkorn

Rio Grande: Anita Werner

South Central: Shelley Stewart

Southern: Jeanette Kuehnert

Western: Donna Cochran

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

Thank you,

Sylvia

The Certainty of Faith

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. 1 John 3:1a (ESV)

As a pastor I have often heard, as I am certain you have also heard within your circle of friends and acquaintances, “If I could only be certain. I want to be certain of the future. I want to be certain I am a child of God. I want to be certain of my faith, my forgiveness, my eternal life. There seems to always be something missing in my life and I live in uncertainty and doubt. I can’t seem to come to that joy which I see so many others say that they have!” Maybe you have whispered something similar to that yourself.

It is self-evident that you can’t have joy and peace through your faith if you are not first certain about your relationship to God as His child, just as the Apostle John says you have. If you are certain, well then, you have the joy and peace to confidently say, “Abba! Father!” You have the certainty of salvation that belongs to a poor sinner.

“I hope I am a child of God.” That should probably read with a question mark because that isn’t the same as being CERTAIN! You know that you have had hope in things that have failed before. This isn’t like hoping the tulips come up next spring after such a warm and dry fall. Your forgiveness and eternal life are at stake! How can you be CERTAIN?

First, you can never be certain of being a child of God if you build your faith on anything you have done. “I have repented of my sins!” And then here comes the doubt. “Have I repented enough?” Around and around you go trapped in a daily routine of devil inspired self-torture. Or, “I had a deeply moving religious experience once. Was it deep enough?” Do you see that you can never get to the bottom of all this? There is always doubt about ENOUGH.

It doesn’t even help when people say wonderful things about you, does it? “You are certainly a child of God! You have always lived by the Bible. You have always been at church. And oh my goodness, you are involved in every charitable cause up to your elbows!” There we go again. Have I done those things enough? What can help with the CERTAINTY of faith?

If anyone would have asked the Apostle John, “Are you a child of God?” he would have answered positively, “Yes I am!” And not because John was an apostle. It was because of the certainly of faith he was made an apostle. Not a pastor you know is certain of their faith because they are a pastor. It is because of the certainty of their faith that God made them pastors through a congregation’s Divine Call.

Here is why you can also be certain that you are a child of God. And the Good News is, that it’s not about you. It is FOR you. The reason that you are tempted by the devil to doubt everything from your repentance, faith, motives, and so on, is because none of it is perfect. Those can’t be perfect because you are not perfect. The only thing that is perfect and the only thing that can never be doubted, is the blood our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ shed for us. His blood is the only thing that benefits our life on earth and the only thing that could be offered up to give us eternal life in heaven. If your faith is based on your faith in Jesus’ blood shed for you, then BE CERTAIN of your being a child of God, and therefore just as certain of your inheritance with God. Jesus has enough of His perfect blood for you, for me, and for all people to live as children of God and to die as children of God. Of that, you can be certain!

This is the work that God has given the LWML, to share that Good News!



Pr. Trent Christensen
A Note from the
Junior Pastoral
Counselor



Judy Delve
VP Gospel
Outreach

Mission Grant Recipients for the 2016–2018 Biennium

	Granted	Paid
University Chapel, Boulder, Colorado	\$8,000	\$4,000
Concordia Theological Seminary Ft. Wayne Food Co-op	\$10,000	
Pastor Debt Assistance/LCMS RMD	\$10,000	
Operation Barnabas/Comfort Care Congregations	\$2,000	\$2,000
Sewing Mission Society – India	\$2,500	\$2,500
Casting Burdens for Burdened Campers/LVR	\$5,600	
The Table at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Lakewood, CO	\$5,000	
Biblical Orthodox Lutheran Mission	\$10,100	\$2,000
Siberian Lutheran Mission Society	\$10,000	\$5,000
Trinity/HOPE	\$5,000	
Project Pastoral Education, West Africa	\$10,000	
Lifting Up the Fallen/Mariachi San Pablo YSLETA (partial)	\$1,250	\$1,250
Training Vicar Tim Norton/Navajo, NM (partial)	\$1,250	\$1,250
TOTAL	\$80,700	\$18,000

Siberian Lutheran Mission Society

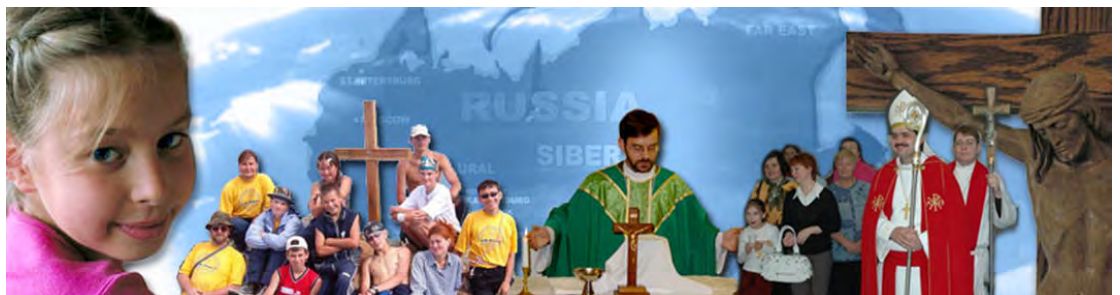
Imagine living in a place where Christianity was outlawed for so long that entire generations of believers never had a pastor. Today's Siberian Lutherans come from a long line of faithful ancestors, but for much of their own lives, Christianity was outlawed. There are so few churches in such a large geographical area that the pastors that serve God's people here often travel hundreds of miles, crossing several time zones, to get from one congregation to another.

Today, the Siberian Lutheran Mission Society is working to

help support our brothers and sisters in Christ in Siberia. Funds are raised to purchase Bibles, VBS materials, and altar ware, as well as support the pastors that serve these remote locations. None of Russian church bodies support the Lutheran Church in Siberia, so any help from fellow Lutherans is appreciated. The mercy work involved is also supported by

our prayers and gifts, helping the pastors share the Word of God and care for their flocks in body and soul.

Please keep our Siberian Lutheran brothers and sisters in your prayers, and continue to support the collection of our Mighty Mites, which are helping provide traveling funds for these pastors to reach God's people in this remote place.



On Call

Do you know someone whose job requires them to be on call? Perhaps a firefighter, doctor, or nurse? They wait for that phone call and quickly get to the job. It's likely to be an emergency and the employee knows that.

They expect to be called and provide what is needed. Even your pastor is on call!

Let's for a moment think outside the box and picture your life on call for God.

Are you willing to answer an emergency call for the Lord? Maybe you do it all the time, or you're thinking of new ways to serve in the new year. Would you answer the call if you were presented with one in a moment's notice?

Or would your knee-jerk reaction be that God would get someone else?

There are many situations in life that have been presented to you to have an "on call" posture, and you chose to serve! Bless your heart! Jesus counted on you to serve, and you responded His way. What a wonderful trust you have in God to help another person.

There are plenty of situations in the Bible of people responding to God's call.

Queen Esther comes to mind, and of course, Jesus answered the call!

Isaiah 6:8, *Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "whom shall I send?" And, "who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"*

Also, 1 Samuel 3, when Samuel answered the LORD, *"Here I am."*

God chooses you at different times and in different situations to respond with joy as being His hands and feet. We need each other whether it's to join a committee or lead one, join the choir, teach the little children, or wash windows!

You can be sure there are many ways to help your congregation in the new year and be someone's answer to an "on call" situation.

In his book, *Called*, Mark Labberton quotes

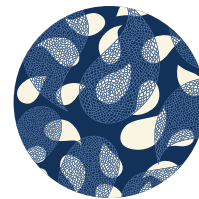
theologian Frederick Buechner: "The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet."

Be sure to volunteer in the new year with a glad heart. We need each other, and we are stronger when we work together touching others with Christ's love!

Be sure to check out the free downloads under "Leader Development." One is, "Volunteers in Christ's Ministry." In addition,

there is a Leader Development newsletter, *Follow the Leader*.

May Jesus bless you and your family in the new year, and thank you for serving Our Lord and Savior.



Darlene Markle
VP Servant
Resources



**The place God calls you
to is the place where
your deep gladness and
the world's deep hunger
meet.**

—Frederick Buechner





Beth Nagy
VP Christian Life

Preparation

Advent is a season of preparation—preparation to celebrate the first coming of Christ as a baby in a manger and to look forward to His return on the Last Day. Sometimes as we busily make all our preparations, we lose sight of why we are preparing. We prepare our houses and our meals, but forget to prepare our hearts to hear the age-old message of Christmas.

Let us remember to keep our eyes focused on the manger, but see the cross that made our salvation possible. Don't let the preparation block the message.

This is also true as we prepare for the 2017 convention. We are busy doing many things in preparation, but as we do let us keep Jesus Christ Above All.



Help Wanted: Looking for an Archivist/Historian

LWML RMD is still in need of an archivist/historian. Could this be an opportunity for you to use your gift to serve in this area? You may be a skilled “scrapbooker”, an instagrammer, or a novice with an interest in this area—LWML will train you in the what, when, how, and why of this job; there are also specific directives for guidance helps.

Please let Sylvia Bean know if you would like to serve in this area.



Marybeth Zurcher
Planner
Out of the Box Idea

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him who have been called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28 (NIV)

As the New Year begins and we prepare and plan for everything in our lives let us remember to keep Christ at the center of all that we do. At your next meeting you may want to take a few minutes and have your ladies write on a paper about their plans for the next year in regard to their families, prayer life, church, and LWML. After a few minutes, they can turn the paper over and write how they plan to do this. Have them share their ideas and plans if they so desire.

H2H Sister Trainer

LWML RMD has a Heart-to-Heart (H2H) Sister Trainer for the 2017 Convention. Lupita Pina from Rifle, CO will be our trainer for the Albuquerque 2017 LWML Convention. She will then be working with Gerri Passmore on our district H2H Sister Committee. Congratulations, Lupita!

Treasured Possession: the 2017 Board of Directors Meeting

The LWML RMD Board of Directors (BOD) meeting will be held on February 24–25, 2017, at Ascension Lutheran Church, 1701 W Caley, Littleton, CO 80120. The BOD meeting begins at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, February 24, and will end about 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 25.

TREASURED POSSESSION is the theme based on Exodus 19:5 *Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.* (ESV)

Goal: Be confident that by God's grace we are His "Treasured Possession."

Objectives: That all attendees recognize that:

- a. we are God's treasured children;
- b. empowered by His Word we confidently seek His help; and

c. we are enabled to share His love with others.

There will be Bible study, planner activities, fellowship, sharing of information and resources from the vice presidents and other Executive Committee members.

Committees are invited to attend and will meet to plan for information/resources for our district website and Facebook, as well as, the 2018 Convention.

Zone Presidents are invited to attend and bring the rally dates for the fall of 2017, as well as, the delegate(s) and alternate(s) names and contact information. Our ingathering will be to bring the following: backpacks, notebooks, towels, untied finished quilts, and/or fleece quilt pieces for the 2017 Convention Servant Activity. Included will also be a mite devotion and offering.



Loved
Saved
Empowered

2017 National Convention Servant Activity Collection Count Update

As the wonderful Rocky Mountain District, we have collected the following for the 2017 National Convention Servant Activities:

- 3806 notebooks (need 5000)
- 6678 pens (completed)
- 1335 erasers (completed)
- 358 backpacks (need 563)
- 128 bath towels (need 1350)
- 10 untied quilts (need 68)
- 0 fleece quilt pieces (need 63)

The deadline to receive these items is April 15, 2017. So there is still time to collect the last needed items, which include 1194 notebooks, 205 backpacks, 1222 bath towels, 58 untied quilts, and 63 fleece quilt pieces.

In 1947, just a mere 70 years ago, the 2nd biennial convention (due to the war cancelling the 1945 convention), was held in Chicago, IL, July 18–19. Clara Schmitt was president at the time and the theme that year was our motto, “Serve the LORD with gladness.”



2017 Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico

THE TIME IS NOW to be engaged and encouraged to attend the 37th Biennial Convention. Set aside June 22–25, 2017 for this spiritually and emotionally uplifting time.

We still need approximately 400 volunteer workers. Have you filled out your “worker bee” form yet? This can either be done by printing out the form and mailing it in or by filling out the form online. The information can be

found at www.lwmlrmd.org/call-for-workers/ Remember that family members and friends can also sign up to be volunteers.

We’re still in need of backpacks, quilts, fleece quilt material, towels, and notebooks; see current count on page 7.



Diamond Dazzle Parade

LWML RMD will have available for purchase purple whistles (\$3.00 each) for all RMD attendees. On the Saturday evening of the convention, during the parade, when the Rocky Mt. Past District Presidents are announced, all attendees from RMD will blow their whistles and make lots of noise! Members of the LWML RMD Executive Committee will work to have whistles available for purchase at the zone spring events. However, we will also have some for sale at the convention; Ruth Eberle will have a sack of whistles with her (while the supply lasts) to sell at the convention. The whistles will be \$3.00 each (exact change or check only).



**EVERY
ONE
HIS WITNESS**
LUTHERAN EVANGELISM

Every One His Witness

After Easter we will be hosting in the RMD a workshop/seminar prepared and taught by LCMS expressly for LWMLers as a resource to witnessing. This seminar is planned for LWMLers attending the 2017 LWML Convention in Albuquerque, NM. We are organizing this event now with LCMS. This one day seminar which will be held in the Denver area, has a maximum enrollment of 60.

We will ask the area LWMLers to help provide meals and/or transportation for this event. Travel and overnight expenses will be paid for by LCMS and LWML RMD. This will be the only seminar held in our area, so please make plans NOW to attend and be a part of this event. More information will be coming.



Members of Resurrection in the City, Denver, CO delivering quilts to the Denver VA from the convention. Barbara Barth Gail Henderson and Elaine James went with Gerri Passmore.

Thank You Notes

The LWML RMD received thank you notes from several places where quilts and care packages were delivered: Boulder Veterans Center, Boulder, CO; chaplain at the Yokota Airbase, Japan; and the Veterans Center in Rifle, CO.



*400 volunteers still needed for the 2017
National Convention in Albuquerque, NM*



Remember to send your mites each month to our RMD Treasurer.

LWML RMD
Chris Bostron, Treasurer
PO BOX 1424
FORT MORGAN, CO 80701

Convention Banner

There is still time to be the artist or artist team (this could be a collaborative effort) behind our district banner to be carried by our own Sylvia Bean at the 2017 National Convention. The LWML RMD Board of Directors will, at the February BOD meeting, select the design to be used.

Specifications for the banner design can be found in the November 2016 Tidings or at the LWML convention website.

By February 1, 2017, please send your design and other required information to the VP of Communications: Lesley Nordmeyer, 551 Shoshone St., Grand Junction, CO 81504 (email: lnordmeyer@q.com)

Charity Golf Outing

The LWML's TEE UP 4 MITES 4th Biennial Golf Charity Outing will be held Wednesday, June 21, 2017, in Albuquerque, NM. Beautiful Arroyo del Oso Golf Course will be the setting for a morning four-person scramble event. Deadline for reservations and sponsorships is June 12, 2017. Registration form and more information can be found at the LWML convention website.

Convention Tours

In addition to enjoying beautiful Albuquerque, NM during the national convention, special half- and full- day tours have been scheduled as well as extended post-convention tours. Maybe you wanted to see 10,000 square miles (from the top of Sandia) or you were more interested in Los Alamos, NM and the development of the first atomic bomb.. You might be the adventurous type who has always wanted to go up in a hot air balloon. Extended post-convention tours include heading north to Santa Fe, Chimayo, Taos; heading west to Sedona, the Grand Canyon, Las Vegas; or visiting the Navajo lands of Canyon de Chelly and Monument Valley. More information can be found at the LWML convention website.

The LWML convention website:

<http://www.lwml.org/2017-convention>

Young Woman Representative Application

Convention: National 2017

Theme: "Jesus Christ Above All"

Name:

Age:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

1. The LWML motto is "Serve the Lord with Gladness" (Psalm 100:1). How do you do this in your life?
2. What groups and activities are you involved in or have been involved in at your church?
3. What do you know about the LWML? Have you been involved at any level?
4. Why do you desire to be a Young Woman Representative for the district?
5. What do you feel your special interests, talents and gifts are?
6. Will you commit to serve in some capacity in your district after the convention?
7. Your district is making a financial commitment to send you to the LWML convention. It will be an exciting and spiritually inspiring event with very little free time. Do you intend to participate in the full scope of the convention?
8. Please have someone who knows you well, perhaps the person who encouraged you to apply, answer the following question, "Why do you feel this woman would make a good Young Woman Representative?" Have them attach their answer on a **separate** sheet of paper along with **their name and relationship to you**.

Please send the form with responses by **January 18, 2017** to **Kelsey Hall**, Committee on Young Women Chair, to kelseygracehall@gmail.com or by mail to **12143 Bannock Street Unit B, Westminster, CO 80234**.



*Wishing you a very blessed
Christmas and Epiphany
season and a happy new year!*

District Officers Serving the Lord with Gladness for the 2016–2018 Biennium

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president@lwmlrmd.org

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