

Tidings

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Missionary League Rocky Mountain District

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QR code to direct you
to the LWML RMD
website or lwmlrmd.org

 facebook.com/LWML.RMD

 facebook.com/LwmlRmd-Teens

 facebook.com/LwmlRmd-Young-Women-Reps

Thank You

Greetings to each of you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ—the Name that's above all names!

Now that several months have passed since many of us were together in Albuquerque for the LWML convention, we've had time to reflect on the many activities that took place before and during the convention as well as the blessings we received as we served as the hosts.

Many activities took place prior to the convention such as making the dish cloths, scrubbies, table decorations, and gathering items for the servant activities. Your gracious service did not go unnoticed; the making of gift bags and centerpieces, the gathering of school supplies, backpacks, towels, etc., all were an important part of our hosting responsibilities.

Because we had fewer workers than some Host Committees, this caused most of you to work extra shifts. You did this gladly, often asking, "I have finished my shift; where do you need me now?" You served with joy; I thank you for your willingness to forgo many of the convention activities so that our guests could be properly served.

We had approximately 350 workers and 107 of those were first timers. I am excited that hosting a convention provided this experience to so many of you! Take time to share some of those experiences with others.

Many comments from convention attendees were shared with me and other Host Committee members about your happy, friendly, and helpful manner; I pass those compliments on to you. You were the friendly faces that people saw as they asked for help and needed questions answered. Thank you for serving them and our Lord in a manner that reflected His love and kindness.

In Christ's love,

Lois Anderson, Chairman,

2017 LWML Convention Host Committee



Postings from
Sylvia

*Since we have
such a hope,
we are very
bold
—2 Cor. 3:12*

We're now officially in the fall of the year. Now is the time when we get ready for cooler temperatures and weather. We're also beginning those preparations for Thanksgiving and Christmas. In LWML RMD, preparations are in the works for both LWML RMD Board of Directors Meeting and the 2018 LWML RMD Convention. No matter how old we are, what we do, or where we are, we are engaged in preparations of some kind. I encourage you to remember that the most important preparation is that of Bible Study and prayer. Those are the hallmarks of LWML. Daily Bible study provides a time to concentrate on God, His work of salvation in our lives, and His blessings poured out for you and me.

What a joy it is for us to know that 500 years ago, God used a man named Martin Luther who prepared 95 statements that would provide a means for us to get back to God's Word and His plan for salvation instead of having to be weighed down with the expectation and laws of the church and man's traditions and rules. We have the gift and privilege of reading God's Word in our own language, we have hymns and psalms for our use with which to praise and worship our God. We have creeds and doctrine that state firmly what we believe and why. And today we have the opportunity and technical abilities to share that message of God's love throughout the world.

In September and October, we spent time preparing our hearts and minds through Bible study, worship, and prayer at our Fall rallies. Thank you to the hosts, Bible study leaders, speakers, and all who helped prepare and promote these events. Fall rallies are like mini-conventions; each zone prepares spiritual and emotional nurturing for its members. There are always special and fun activities in which to participate that provide

opportunities for the Holy Spirit to prepare our hearts and minds so we are enabled to use our gifts and talents in His service to the people of the world. Rallies provide a time of encouragement and joy as societies have a chance to visit and interact with other societies within their zone. It is with joy and excitement that the District Officers are able to share these rally times with the zones.

I encourage you that the time is **NOW** to make preparations to attend the 49th Biennial LWML RMD Convention, June 8–10, 2018 at the Millennium Harvest House in Boulder, CO with the theme: **Bold in Christ!** The theme is based on: *Since we have such a hope, we are very bold.* (2 Corinthians 3:12)

Our goal: Knowing our hope in Christ, we are bold to proclaim His Word and live in the Gospel.

The objectives are that all in attendance grow in confidence of Christ's forgiveness and life; recognize how God boldly uses us to share the Gospel; and rely on Him with prayer and service.

Join us for this spiritually and emotionally uplifting time of Bible study, fun, and activities. Registration begins in January; check the January Tidings and lwmlrmd.org website for 2018 convention information.

Thank you to Mt. Olive, Aurora for hosting our November EC meeting.

Our Board of Directors Meeting will be February 23–24, 2018 in Lafayette, CO at Eternal Savior Lutheran Church. The Board of Directors includes all elected and appointed District Officers, Committee Chairmen, and Committees. The Nominating Committee Chairman, the Convention Co-chairs, and Convention Registrar are also invited to attend this meeting.

Sylvia

The End is Near!

Closing out the Church Year

The end is near! Before you start thinking that I'm spouting off about some looney end of the world prediction, allow me to explain.

We are nearing the end of the church year. The month of November brings us to the final Sundays in the Church year's calendar. This year the last Sunday in the Church year is November 26, and the new year begins with the first Sunday of Advent on December 3. Pay close attention to the Scripture readings as you gather in worship over the next few weeks. If your congregation uses either the one year or three year lectionary series, you will notice a theme on the end times, the return of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the final judgement. This is an appropriate way to close out the church year. You will also notice that this theme is a part of Advent as we begin the new year.

Talking about the end times is tricky business. A lot of people are very fascinated by the subject, and there are a lot of people who enthusiastically teach on the topic, but so much of what is taught is not grounded in what Scripture actually teaches about our Lord's return. In fact, much of it is quite dangerous and destructive.

Much of what we hear in our day comes from teachings that greatly distort God's Word. Concepts like the rapture and a secret return of Christ, though popular among many preachers, are not found in Scripture. Much of what we hear tries to interpret current events and make them fit with the Bible's teaching, but this only leads to confusion and fear. Did you hear of the latest prediction that the world was going to end on September 23, 2017? Didn't happen! That's no surprise. It's always good to remember what Jesus taught. No one knows the day or the hour of His return (See Matthew 24:36).

Certainly there are times when we look at the things going on in this world and wonder how long until our Lord returns. The devil works hard to sow doubt in our minds so that we will forget Christ's promise to return. 2 Peter 3:9 tells us *The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not*

wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

When our Lord teaches about Christ's return, it is a great comfort for the Christian. We need not fear the judgement, for though our sin is great, and we deserve only death, we have one who has conquered sin and the grave for us. Therefore it is with great hope that the church prays "Come, Lord Jesus!" 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 declares this hope saying, *But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore encourage one another with these words.*

The news of our Lord's return is a teaching with which we are to encourage one another. I pray that as you think upon this theme in the coming weeks you will be encouraged in the certainty of God's promise to gather His dearly beloved children to Himself when He returns. What a glorious day that will be.

*Lo! He comes with clouds descending,
Once for ev'ry sinner slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending
Swell the triumph of His train:
Alleluia, alleuia, alleluia!
Christ the Lord returns to reign.
(LSB 336:1)*



Pr. Mark Nierman
A Note from the
Senior Pastoral
Counselor



Judy Delve
VP Gospel
Outreach

Mission Grant Recipients for the 2016–2018 Biennium

	Granted	Paid
University Chapel, Boulder, Colorado	\$8,000	\$8,000
Concordia Theological Seminary Ft. Wayne Food Co-op	\$10,000	\$7,000
Pastor Debt Assistance/LCMS RMD	\$10,000	\$6,000
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	\$2,800
The Table at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Lakewood, CO	\$5,000	\$5,000
Biblical Orthodox Lutheran Mission	\$10,100	\$7,000
Siberian Lutheran Mission Society	\$10,000	\$10,000
Trinity/HOPE	\$5,000	\$2,500
Project Pastoral Education, West Africa	\$10,000	\$5,000
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	\$60,300

Operation Barnabas for Comfort Care Congregations

This grant helps fund a new partnership between Operation Barnabas and the Comfort Dog Program to address the needs of veterans and their families. Operation Barnabas is an outreach of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod’s Ministry to the Armed Forces. The ministry is named after Barnabas, Paul’s missionary companion and aide. His name literally means “son of encouragement.” Providing encouragement is a key component in their ministry to military members, veterans and their families.

One of their goals is to serve as a resource to other organizations that provide care to military families and veterans. Equipping

churches to reach out to veterans with the love of Christ. The transition between military and civilian life is a period of critical adjustment. In addition, thousands of troops are struggling with PTSD. Comfort Dogs are often able to calm individuals and help facilitate conversation. Because of the success of the Comfort Dogs in touching veterans lives, Comfort Dog Congregations are encouraged to join the Operation Barnabas network of care.

The first training session for “Operation Barnabas for Comfort Dog Congregations” took place at First Good Shepherd Lutheran

Continued on page 5.

Praise the Lord

Thank you to the ladies of the LWML for a fantastic convention celebrating 75 years together! All the hard work by the host committees has paid off! The mites collected and the ministries supported are a testimony to the love and devotion LWML sisters have!

Hebrews 10:25 says, *Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.*

As we head into the fall season, may you continue to praise God for all He has done for you and all He will do through you in the body of believers. What a perfect time to start a journal of thankfulness.

Pastor Redeker and Pastor Stevens from Western Zone, reminded the ladies at the Fall Rally what the Bible says in Psalms 147:1:

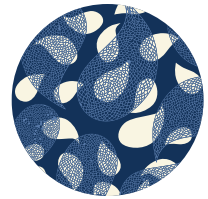
How good it is to sing praises to our God, how pleasant and fitting to praise him!

Praise Him in the tough times. He hears you and He knows your needs. Share the Good News with someone who may be going through a season of grief. Be the friend who listens and understands. Fill your heart and mind with Jesus and watch what He does.

Please keep Nichelle Dykema in your prayers as we support her missionary trip to Peru.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 says, *Give thanks in all circumstances for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*

Check out the lwml.org site for the newest Bible study by Donna Pyle, *From Fisherman to Fisher of Men*.



Darlene Markle
VP Servant
Resources

Continued from page 4.

Church in Las Vegas. Chaplain Steven Hokana provided information to the Comfort Dog team about the many issues that they will encounter as they take their Comfort Dog, Lois, to meet with veterans. The members of the Comfort Dog team appreciated the guidance of Chaplain Hokana. They were also thankful that Chaplain Hokana was able to do this as a result of the LWML grant to improve the Comfort Dog Program in the ministry to our veterans. More events are being scheduled through the United States. Please keep this outreach to veterans and their families in your prayers.

Praise the Lord, this \$2,000 grant has been paid in full!





Beth Nagy
VP Christian Life

As I was thinking about what to write for this issue of the *Tidings*, a short devotion I read blessed me, so I decided to share it with you. It is from a small devotional book entitled *Be Blessed* written by Jane L. Fryar.

The Lord said to Moses... "This is how you are to bless the Israelites." Numbers 6:22–23

Imagine a camping trip—a camping trip lasting forty years! To those of us who have grown fond of our society's creature comforts, life in a tent for four decades seems, well, challenging!

The Old Testament details events of the forty years ancient Israel spent camping in the desert learning to know, love and trust God. But despite the hardships, a bright thread of hope winds its way through each account. Everywhere we look, we see assurances that God loves His people with a fierce and committed love.

As if to underscore that hope, Numbers 6

includes an explicit expression of blessing commonly referred to as the Aaronic benediction.... *The Lord bless you and keep you* (v. 24).

"Be blessed!" God says through Moses and Aaron.... The covenant-making God who led Israel through deserts and oases also leads us through the spiritually dry and spiritually lush times in our lives.

"Be blessed!" He says as He kneels like a tender friend beside us to wipe away our tears. "Be blessed!" He says as reminds us His promises to *meet all our needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus* (Philippians 4:19). "Be blessed!" He exclaims as He forgives all—each and every one—of our sins because of His Son's death on the cross. When this God says, "Be blessed!"—we are!

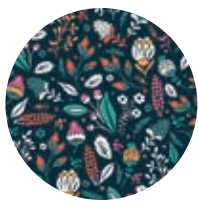
This was a great reminder to me. Be blessed!



Marybeth Zurcher
Planner

Thanksgiving is quickly approaching. What a wonderful time to remember how much our Lord has blessed us. How about at your next meeting take a few branches from a tree and put them in a pot. Make some cut out leaves and tie a string on it. During your meeting suggest the ladies reflect on the blessings they have received from our Lord and write them on a leaf. Secure the leaves to the tree. Pray

a prayer of thanksgiving to Our Lord. There is also a beautiful devotion called *Now thank we all our Lord*. This idea can be found in the Resources 2017–2019 on the lwml.org site in the November 2018 ideas. Don't forget to browse this wonderful resource and use your creativity. *Oh give thanks to the Lord; call on his name, make known among the nations what He has done.* Psalm 105:1. NIV



Nominating
Committee

Willing Servants Needed

Positions needing candidates for the 2018–2022 biennia include District President, VP of Gospel Outreach, VP of Servant Resources, Jr. Pastoral Counselor, and members (9) for the Nominating Committee. To receive the job descriptions for each of these positions or to

submit a name, please contact Beth Weber at nomcom@lwmlrmd.org.

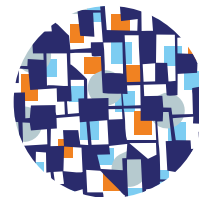
Please prayerfully consider volunteering or running for an LWML RMD office. It's another way to serve the LORD with gladness.

RIO GRANDE

MISSION SERVICE QUILTERS



The Mission Service Quilters, a part of Trinity LWML in Alamogordo, NM asked and received \$250 in “Seed” money from Thrivent Financial to buy batting for the quilts we will make and send to Ysleta Lutheran Mission in El Paso, TX. These women, posing with our rolls of batting, have a heart to be “Women in Mission.”



In the Zones

NORTHEASTERN

WOMEN’S RETREAT

On August 26, 2017, the Women of Zion held a women’s retreat at Zion Lutheran Church in Holyoke, CO with 85 ladies in attendance. Deb Burma, the guest speaker, presented her Bible study devotion on Beautiful Feet. We celebrated the day with special music from the Hispanic Ministry Pastor Pedro Jofre, his wife and son, and Music Director Marcia Dalton. The retreat included breakfast, lunch, a group craft, foot and hand treatments, and a fun bingo icebreaker. It was a wonderful day of fellowship.



SOUTH CENTRAL

2017 FALL RALLY



Mites

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

LWML RMD

Chris Bostron, Treasurer

PO BOX 1424

FORT MORGAN, CO 80701

2018 CONVENTION DEADLINES AND BRIEFS

TEENS

Submit your forms to your zone president by January 1, 2018.

YWRs

Submit your forms to your zone president by January 1, 2018.

NOMINATIONS

Think of how you can serve, even encouraging a sister in Christ. See more information on page 6.

BANNERS AND INGATHERING

It's baby quilt time. Remember that the banner could be used for one of the completed layettes.

Information is available at lwmlrmd.org/convention.

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