Tidings

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

> September/October 2018 Volume 75, Issue 2

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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.

Rocky Mountain District Fall Rallies



Plan to attend your fall rally or another one to join in fellowship with one another and spiritual growth. What a wonderful time of year to join your fellow sisters (and brothers) in Christ.

- September 15: Western, Emmanuel, Rifle, Colo.
- September 15: Northern, Zion, Brighton, Colo.
- September 22: Pecos, Shepherd of the Hills, Ruidoso, N.M.
- September 22: Southern, Immanuel, Colo. Spgs., Colo.
- September 29: Rio Grande, Mission, Las Cruces, N.M.

- September 29: North Central, Faith Lutheran, Denver, Colo.
- October 6: Northeastern, Trinity, Fort Morgan, Colo.
- Ø October 13: Four Corners, Trinity, Gallup, N.M.
- Ø October 20: South Central, Redeemer, Denver, Colo.
- November 3: N. New Mexico, Calvary, Rio Rancho, N.M.



Debbie Yocky
PRESIDENT

Rejoice always,
pray without
ceasing, give
thanks in all
circumstances; for
this is the will of
God in Christ Jesus
for you.

- 1 Theis. 5:16-18

2018–2020 Biennium Theme Verses

September already — where did the summer go? A new school year begins. I have almost always worked in a school setting and as a working mom, my life was ruled by the school calendar. I purchase a new calendar in July, not January. With each new school year there is an opportunity for a fresh start, a chance to begin again. I start each school year by assessing the successes and failures of the past year and implementing new strategies and schedules to be more efficient. This is the time of year when I set goals and make resolutions. The new year stretches ahead with endless potential. Then reality sets in. I still struggle to balance work and home, to pack a healthy lunch, and meet the expectations of my employer, my family, my church, and the LWML.

We all struggle with the demands of life. Some of you face the challenge of caring for aging parents while raising children of your own. Others struggle with health issues or the loss of a loved one. Each day has challenges and heartache. We can't do it alone.

2 Corinthians 5:17 says Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold the new has come. Each day we can begin again — a fresh start! We rely on God's strength to get through each day. We don't have to be perfect — just forgiven.

As we begin this new biennium together, we see new faces in our elected and appointed officers and committee members; we have new mission partners through our mission grants to support with our prayers and mites; and new opportunities to share the love of Christ with a hurting world around us.

What can you do?

Pray for your society, zone, and district leaders.

Pray for our mission grant recipients and give generously. Consider a short time mission trip.

Show kindness to the people in your daily life — a smile and a kind word goes a long way.

Pray about where God would have you serve.

A note of thanks to the women of Rock of Ages, Colorado Springs for hosting the EC during our July meeting. Their kind smiles and LWML hugs as well as wonderful food were a joyful addition to our meeting time.

I look forward to seeing many of you at your upcoming fall rallies.

Debbie

Dear friends in Christ,

When was the last time that you really felt like you were in over your head? That feeling of being in a situation where you knew you had to be, but had no idea what would be expected or how you would accomplish what was set before you is not a friend to many of us. We would rather feel like we are in control, like we know how things are supposed to go. But alas, as I walked into my first meeting of the LWML Rocky Mountain District executive committee, I was pretty certain that I was in over my head.

Being your Junior Pastoral Counselor is a real honor for me, and something that I am excited to do, but I have no illusions that I am going to have a steep learning curve. Though I've seen in part the work of the LWML since I was a child in Kansas, it is something that has been what the other folks do over there that looks like a good thing to do. Even during my time in the Pastoral office, the work of LWML has been that thing that's within reach, but I never really reached out to grab on. But now I find myself thrust onboard by being elected to this position.

And I must say that I am very excited by what I see! Though I walked into a room of strangers, I left at the end of the day feeling like I had a place there and that your LWML district is in very good hands! All of the women that have given of their time to serve are excited and faithful to this calling and work of assisting missions throughout our Synod. There is so much good here to see that I can't wait to see it all.

When I am feeling overwhelmed, I am often reminded of what St. Paul writes to the church in Corinth, But [Jesus] said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect

in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. (2 Corinthians 12:9) Too often we see being overwhelmed by new things or experiences as a sign of weakness. Rather, they are signs of growth. No matter the changes that we face in this life, our God is always with us. Even in our times of weakness, we turn always to Christ for the strength to keep moving forward.

So, I invite you to join me in being over my head this year. There are fall rallies taking place all over the district, and there is plenty of work to be done. Even if you've never been involved in the LWML before, now is a great opportunity to get involved. Volunteer to help set up some tables, or run the registration table. Even if you just help with one thing, it is something that helps your sisters in Christ and may give you the opportunity to get involved with this wonderful organization as well. And if you feel like you're in over your head during it, just remember that you aren't alone! But I will bet that you'll love it and you'll be asking what's next.

When you ask that question, you're in luck because next summer is the National Convention in Mobile, Ala. and I hope to see many of you there with us as I'm certain there will be a lot to see and do there that will be eye opening and exciting for both the newly initiated and the more seasoned among us as well. As our district begins planning for the 2020 district convention as well, I can say that there are big things coming and I'm excited to have an opportunity to be involved in this, so to all of you, I say a big thank you and I hope that you'll be patient with me as I learn more about the work and mission of the LWML.



Pr. Quintin Cundiff

JUNIOR PASTORAL
COUNSELOR
In Christ's Service

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Amy Schultz
VP GOSPEL

OUTREACH

Mission Grant Recipients for the 2018–2020 Biennium

	Granted	Paid
Intern at Navajo Reservation in New Mexico	\$9,600	\$2,000
Trinity/HOPE	\$5,000	
University Lutheran Chapel, Boulder	\$6,000	\$2,000
Messiah Lutheran Campus Ministry at Colorado Mesa University	\$6,000	\$2,000
Fostering Faith in the Forest (LVR)	\$5,000	
St. Andrew Lutheran Church Plant	\$6,700	
Biblical Orthodox Lutheran Mission	\$7,500	
Lutherans for Life Post-Abortion Crisis Hotline	\$5,000	
The Table at Bethlehem Lutheran Church	\$5,000	
Financial Assistance for Concordia Theological Seminary Food Co-op	\$8,000	
To Establish Lutheran Seminary in Sierra Leone	\$10,000	
Lutheran Books for Missionaries around the World	\$5,000	
Dominican Republic Disability Ministry (partial)	\$3,514	
TOTAL	\$82,314	\$6,000

Our Mighty Mites are already hard at work! As funds have become available, our LWML RMD has already sent out partial payments on three of our mission grants. Praise God for the many gifts He so lavishly provides for spreading the Gospel!

One of grants that has been partially paid is to support an intern for Rev. Tim Norton, who is serving the Navajo people in New Mexico. Already two different interns have spent time with him this summer. They led VBS, Sports Camp, and Day Camp, which together brought the love of Jesus to 112 children. The interns have also helped by visiting church members, going on hikes and horseback trips

with youth, and have enriched worship with their musical gifts.

Please keep Pastor Norton and the interns in your prayers as they share God's mercy, grace, and peace to the Navajo people. May He continue to provide willing workers and open hearts to receive the Gospel.

The Mission Grants Committee consists of Linda Harsh, Becky Meyer, and Amy Schultz VP of Gospel Outreach. They will serve the LWML RMD this biennium by providing updates on mission grants, website devotions, and helping select next biennium's mission grants. Be looking for information about submitting mission grant proposals in 2019!

Changing Fate

Lately there seem to be a lot of questions like, "If you could change your past, what would you change?" "If you could go back and tell yourself something, what would you say?"

We know the plans God has for us, plans for good and not for evil, but because we are human, God gives us the power of free will, to make decisions that might not be good for us. Sometimes it's hard to see the good while you're in the middle of the storm, but looking back you can see "learning events" as the Army calls them. One thing is constant when we look back, we see God never left our side, even when we made those horrible choices, If we were

to change the fact that they happened, they would change who we are now.

God uses those not-so-smart choices to shape us into the wonderful women we are today. It makes us more compassionate and understanding when a loved one makes a bad choice, and it shows us how to always be present in the hard times. It also helps us comfort and assist those around us, reminding them that God's love never fails, and His mercies are new every morning. Forgiveness for our sins is ready to be given, we just need to take it. There are those around us who are hurting and need this message today. Who can you share it with?



Shelley Stewart

VP SERVANT

RESOURCES

What's new? A common question we ask and are asked. Christian Life has a new Donna Pyle Bible study and DVD entitled "Where Love Abides," a study based on John 15:1–17. Like the other DVD studies, this one is available for loan to individual societies.

Brenda Sima is now the Christian Resources Editor on the Christian Life Committee. She would love to hear from you if you have written a devotion, Bible study, sketch or similar item. Please contact her at christianresed@lwmlrmd.org.

New and featured Bible studies, sketches and devotions are available on the LWML website for use in your society meetings. Check them out. New items will also be added to our district website.



Beth Nagy

VP CHRISTIAN LIFE

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Lesley Nordmeyer

VP COMMUNICATIONS

This has been an exciting year for the Communications team. The LWML RMD website had a rocky start but it is now up and running. We had to start from scratch and it is a work in progress. Take a look at it. It is stunning! Many thanks go to Tanya Hall who has been working on the website and creating new forms.

If am pleased to announce that there is a communications committee for this biennium! We had these positions the last two years, but it wasn't a formal committee under the VP of Communications.

Tanya Hall is doing a super job on the *Tidings* as editor. She also has been putting the new website together.

Beth Shroff is the Business Manager. She is the person to whom you send your *Quarterly* subscription information and money. She also sends out the email that lets you know the *Tidings* is available on the website.

Beth Weber is the Public Relations (PR) Director. I know she will keep us informed of the upcoming convention in Mobile, Ala. in 2019 and the RMD convention in 2020.

Emily Geisler is the Social Media Administrator. Emily will be updating the Facebook pages for the RMD, RMD Teens, and RMD YWR pages. She will also be exploring other social media options to get the news out.

The goal of the Communications team is to keep the ladies in the RMD up to date and in the know. We want to hear from you about what your zone and societies are doing to spread the Good News. Keep send photos and articles to me. I and the communications team want to hear from you!



The 2018 LWML Rocky Mountain District Convention in Boulder, CO was themed appropriately using 2 Cor. 3:12: *Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold.* Throughout the weekend LWML members were encouraged to be "Bold in Boulder."

A quick Google search produces several definitions of the word "bold." Bold can represent a person who embodies courage, confidence and is willing to take risks. Recognizing boldness seems simple. We witness acts of boldness every day and as women we are encouraged to be bold in our own lives: to take risks, make a difference, help others, pursue our goals and passions. We are taught to be strong, confident and assured in who we are and what we believe.

After a fulfilling day of fellowship and service work, the Young Woman Representatives (YWRS) gathered together on Friday evening for a devotion. We shared stories of times in our lives when we chose to take risks or make choices that required confidence and courage despite our fears or doubts. As each story was told it was evident that the women who surrounded me were further examples of boldness. These women were mothers, students, homemakers, career seekers, caregivers, wives, girlfriends, sisters, leaders, and followers. Each story spoke of living life with courage, urgency, and the conviction that something should be done. Through a variety of life experiences, perspectives, and personalities, our group illustrated how women can be bold and live boldly.

As I listened to the stories of bravery and courage, I posed a question to this group of women: How often does this boldness in our lives transfer to our relationship with Christ? How often do we approach our faith with confidence, courage and a lack of hesitancy? When do we take risks for Christ? What does

this require? Admittedly I often fail at making this transition: living boldly in life to living boldly for Christ. Our secular world encourages women to strive for equality, pursue their goals and take pride in their accomplishments. As women we are being conditioned to seek power and wisdom from within ourselves. Although these can be worthy messages, our world rarely encourages us to look beyond our own strengths and capabilities, especially when we fail.



Emilee Nieman

COMMITTEE ON
YOUNG WOMEN



Back row (I to r): Emily Geisler, Charlee Kleve; Heidi Norton; Front row (I to r): Emilee Nieman, Brittnie Clark with daughter Olivia, Kelsey Hall, Christian Bean, Sylvia Bean (former RMD president)

Living boldly in Christ is recognizing that our life saving strength comes only from Christ's death on the cross. Praying for boldness and the motivation to seek Christ in all we do can help us achieve more than our earthly goals. He lived his life with urgency, being a witness for God's Kingdom. He approached the cross, physically battered and broken, with the conviction that something should be done. His courageous and selfless sacrifice illustrated the ultimate act of boldness and love.

During the 2018 Rocky Mountain District Convention, hundreds of women gathered together to worship, share stories and give selflessly of themselves to bring the love of Christ to others. In a world that often rejects yet needs Christ's love, women of LWML boldly proclaim it.

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

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