

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

#### March/April 2020 Volume 76, Issue 5

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facebook.com/LWML.RMD



You can come away to the mountains this June and join other Lutheran women in Bible study, singing, fellowship, and be a part of history. We will come together for our 50th convention to decide on bylaw changes, to choose mission grant recipients, to vote for officers, and to celebrate with a banquet on Saturday night.

At convention, come and join Diane Rahe, our Heart to Heart Sister Trainer, and the Heart to Heart Sister Committee to learn more about welcoming women of all cultures into your church and LWML. We are all sisters in Christ. Come and share your ideas as well as learn new ways to connect will all women and share the love of God. Email President Debbie for more information or to reserve your space.

In this issue of the *Tidings*, you will see who's coming to convention. You will also learn more about the three enrichment sessions happening Saturday afternoon.

Registration form is available on page 11 as well as on the *lwmlrmd.org* website. Please note that if you want to reserve a \$119 condo, you must make the reservation by calling 888-811-8202 and using group code CG9LWML for convention rates. *§* 

#### March To Do List

- □ Submit *Quarterly* Subscriptions
- $\square$  Remit Mites for the 2018–2020 biennium
- $\Box$  Save \$20 by registering early for convention



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 Thess. 5:16-18

2018–2020 Biennium Theme Verses Spring is just around the corner. As the weather warms up and new life begins to sprout on the trees and in the flower beds, hope stirs again. The possibilities are endless. What will your spring and summer bring?

In January, I traveled to St. Louis and attended the very first Presidents Assembly in St. Louis. After the bylaw changes implemented at the Mobile Convention, the District Presidents are no longer part of the LWML Board of Directors. We no

longer handle much of the day to day business so our meeting included more discussion about issues that face our districts, zone, and groups. What a joy to spend three days in fellowship,

song, worship, and discussion with mission-minded men and women. We are still discovering what our new role will look like, but the time spent with President Debbie, the Board of Directors, and the District Presidents was a wonderful time of encouragement and renewal. We will meet again next January.

I was appointed to serve as an advisory member of the LWML BOD Visioning Committee. Over the next 18 months, this committee will be reviewing the LWML Mission and Vision Statements. Words are so important—they have great influence on how we are perceived and how our values are communicated to others. I am honored to be able to serve on this committee and look forward to the time I will spend working with members of the Visioning Committee and President Debbie. Please pray for this committee as we work on this important task.

In February I traveled to Phoenix to attend the Best Practices in Ministry Conference. I attended many interesting sessions and spent

time with many of our district pastors. I worked at the LWML booth and enjoyed the sunshine with two of my favorite ladies—Deb Burma and Debbie Larson.

Summer will be here before we know it. Our district convention is right around the corner. Are you ready to join us at the Keystone

Convention, June 5–7, 2020? We will be celebrating our 50th Convention and joining in Bible study led by Deb Burma. LWML President Debbie Larson will also be joining us. Come away to the mountains to BE STILL. I can't wait to see you. Registration forms and hotel and condo information can be found on the website. *§* 

## Debbie

P.S. The 3 Dets of Convention had an early get-together in February. Enjoy the preview.

## Stillness in the Season of Lent

Spring will soon be upon us, at least as far as the calendar is concerned. Depending on where you live within our District, Spring might already have sprung, or cabin fever might be setting in. With Spring comes thoughts of cleaning the house and getting outdoors - gardens and lawncare, spring sports and vacation plans, and of course, the allergies that come with the season. After the doldrum days of winter, spring brings about a busy time for many. When you add all the normal activities of our lives – like work and family. doctor's appointments and school activities, and everything else going on -Springtime can seem out of control.

The Church just entered the Season of Lent. Many of our congregations add Midweek Lenten Services, and some add soup suppers. Church choirs are preparing for the celebration of The Resurrection of our Lord. Confirmands might be busy finishing up instruction before Confirmation. Lent brings about a busy time in the Church.

During the 40 days of Lent, Church services take on a penitential tone. We contemplate our sins and our need for a Savior. We remember our Lord's suffering and death for us and our salvation. We repent of our sins, and give thanks to God for the grace that He has shown us through Jesus.

Three months from now, the women of the LWML will gather in Keystone, Colorado for our 50<sup>th</sup> Convention. Hopefully, Spring will have come to the mountains by early June! The theme of our Convention is "Be still" which comes from Psalm 46:10:

"Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

During this Lenten Season, spend time in the Word of God. Take time out of each day to read the Bible and contemplate Jesus' love for you. If your congregation has a Lenten Devotion, take one home and use it individually or with your family. If your congregation doesn't have one available, ask your Pastor for a recommendation. As you study, remember those words of Psalm 46: Know that the Lord. He is God. He has come down to carry your sins and your burdens upon Himself. He bore those sins to the cross as He died for you. And He rose from the dead, He declared victory over sin, death, and the devil for you. Be still, and trust in Him. He will take care of you. He already has. ¥



Pr. Jonathan G. Schultz

JUNIOR PASTORAL COUNSELOR

In Christ's Service





Amy Schultz

VP GOSPEL OUTREACH

	Granted	Paid
Intern at Navajo Reservation in New Mexico	\$9,600	\$9,600
Trinity/HOPE	\$5,000	\$5,000
University Lutheran Chapel, Boulder	\$6,000	\$6,000
Messiah Lutheran Campus Ministry at Colorado Mesa University	\$6,000	\$6,000
Fostering Faith in the Forest (LVR)	\$5,000	\$5,000
St. Andrew Lutheran Church Plant	\$6,700	\$5,000
Biblical Orthodox Lutheran Mission	\$7,500	\$7,500
Lutherans for Life Post-Abortion Crisis Hotline	\$5,000	\$5,000
The Table at Bethlehem Lutheran Church	\$5,000	\$5,000
Financial Assistance for Concordia Theological Seminary Food Co-op	\$8,000	\$8,000
To Establish Lutheran Seminary in Sierra Leone	\$10,000	\$10,000
Lutheran Books for Missionaries around the World	\$5,000	\$5,000
Dominican Republic Disability Ministry (partial)	\$3,514	\$3,514
TOTAL	\$82,314	\$80,614

2018–2020 Biennium Mission Grants Recipients



Becky Meyer MISSION GRANTS COMMITTEE

## The Table & Trinity HOPE

Food brings people together on many different levels. The gospel of Luke is filled with stories of Jesus doing his ministry around food. In Psalm 136:25 we read: *he who gives food to all flesh, for his steadfast love endures forever*.

Meeting physical needs in order to build relationships that open the door for witnessing about God's love is what both of our feature Missions for this month are all about.

Located in Lakewood, Colorado, The Table, which began in 2009, supports the working poor and homeless populations on the west side of the Denver Metro area. One night a week, members of Bethlehem Lutheran Church gather with 125–200 people who live in the surrounding community. There is a time of food and fellowship followed by a time of worship. Incorporating both food and worship allows The Table to feed attendee's body and soul. Volunteers from Bethlehem assist with the service, the music, and cooking and serving the meal, but the food and worship materials are completely by donation. The \$5000 grant from the LWML RMD, which has been paid in full, has helped fund some of these costs.

Approximately 62% of Haitians suffer from malnutrition. Through Trinity HOPE, the Lutheran Churches in Haiti provide 560,000 hot lunches per month to children at 148 Christian schools. For nearly 50 percent of those served, this will be the only meal they eat in a 24-hour period. As their physical nourishment is provided through

Continued on page 5.

## **All Things New**

It seems we just finished Christmas, and already we're preparing for Easter! That must have been kind of how it felt for Mary, Jesus' mother. One minute she was cradling her baby, the next he was preaching and performing miracles! The old man, Simeon, in Luke chapter 2 Song of Simeon, rejoices at seeing the Salvation but tells Mary that a sword will pierce her soul also. (Luke 2:35) And did it ever! We try to protect our children, hurt when they hurt, keep them from making mistakes if we can. Mary had to see her Son be scourged, mocked, and crucified. As a mother I can't even

imagine how horrible that was for her! Jesus knew the outcome, but his mom didn't! Even if she had, would she have agreed to let it happen? Thank God that it did happen, so we could all be saved - Jesus' mom included! Out of something horrible came something wonderful. God promises to do this with us – the horrible, disgusting sinners that we are. In Revelation 21:5 God says "Behold, I am making all things new." What we were, and what we did doesn't matter. Because of Jesus' sacrifice we are made new. Perfect. That is something to celebrate! *¥* 



Shelley Stewart

RESOURCES

## Approaching Deadline for Scholarship Applicants

Students in the Rocky Mountain District planning on going into church work and will be in college/ seminary for the 2020/21 school year, can apply by May 1, 2020 for a scholarship.

Each school year, we offer 10 \$500 scholarships to students studying to be church workers. This is an ongoing mission our mites fund. A

#### The Table & Trinity HOPE continued from page 7.

this program, the children and some of their families are coming to faith in Jesus through the teaching in the schools. Trinity HOPE has assigned one specific school to benefit from the support of the LWML RMD. The Scholarship Endowment Fund will one day sustain this mission grant. Information about the scholarships are available on our website as well as how to designate a gift toward the Scholarship Endowment Fund. Thank you for your continued support of this mission grant through your prayers and mites.



Sue Frauenfeld SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE



Remember to send your mites each month to our RMD Treasurer: LWML RMD Chris Bostron, Treasurer PO BOX 1424 FORT MORGAN, CO 80701

\$5000 paid-in-full grant provided approximately 20,000 meals at this school.

What a privilege we have to support these nurturing ministries with our Mites! *§* 

## **2020** Convention Personalities



LWML Representative DEBBIE LARSON

LWML President Debbie Larson is pretty sure she has the best job in the world. "Representing the women of the LWML is a privilege beyond measure," she says, "and I am honored to serve beside these women and call myself their sister in Christ."

Debbie has held most offices on the local level of LWML. On the district level, she has served as the LWML North Dakota District president, convention co-chairman, vice president of mission grants,

Bible Study Leader DEB BURMA



Friday Worship Proclaimer PASTOR ROGER SCHLECHTE

Deb Burma has a passion for sharing Christ's love in a creative, engaging style, meeting women in their everyday moments to engage them in God's Word. She is a sought-after speaker for women's conferences and retreats, and a CPH author of Bible study books, devotionals, and Christian living resources, including her latest, *JOY: A Study in Philippians*, bestselling

Rev. Roger Schlechte is the District President of the Rocky Mountain District—LCMS since 2018. In addition to serving in congregations in Colorado, he also served in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

At the time of his election in 2018, he was serving Resurrection in the City (formerly Mount Calvary Lutheran Church) as Intentional Interim/Rebirthing Pastor. The disciples at Resurrection in the City (RITC) made the bold decision to close Mount Calvary and re-birth as a new congregation with a new vision and mission. news editor, and recording secretary. On the national level, she has served as Director of Marketing, Public Relations Director, and Vice President of Organizational Resources. In 2019 at the Mobile Convention, she was elected LWML President.

Married 42 years and counting, Debbie and Scott have two children, and three grandsons. Scott and Debbie moved from North Dakota to Colorado in 2017. *§* 

Living a Chocolate Life, and Beautiful Feet, among others. Deb is a follower of Jesus, a pastor's wife, and a mom. She's a blogger, women's ministry leader, and a self-proclaimed coffee/chocolate connoisseur who calls Nebraska home, following adventures residing in five other states! Most of all, Deb is a child of God in Christ. *¥* 

Because of his life-long passion for reaching those who do not know Jesus, and his most recent work with RITC as they served their neighborhood, the Rocky Mountain District's focus became clear—Know the Truth; Understand the Culture; Live the Faith.

He enjoys gardening, hiking, and traveling. When he is in the city, he tutors a 5th grader at Resurrection in the City's SOAR tutoring/mentoring program.

Pastor Schlechte is married to Karen; they have three sons, five granddaughters, and two grandsons. *¥* 

Beth Shroff is the music director at Christ Lutheran Church and School in Albuquerque, N.M. She has served as our song leader or accompanist at many district conventions. Her days in the LWML RMD began as the YWR to the LWML Kansas City Convention in 1995. Since then she has served on the Committee on Young Women and is currently serving as *Quarterly* Business Manager for RMD. Beth was born and raised in Southeast Texas, and began using her musical talents in church and Lutheran school at a young age. She attended Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas, and earned a B.M.Ed. degree.

### Without Christ, I am nothing.

God gave Pastor Trenton D. Christensen life February 1954 and birth that November at Brush, Colorado and the Lord God baptized him into a Covenant promise of the forgiveness of sins and a new and eternal life through Holy Baptism into Jesus Christ in May of 1955. Blessed with a wife, Joline and two daughters, Alyssa and Holly, the

Pastor Jonathan Schultz has served in the Rocky Mountain District for the past 11 years in Utah and Colorado. He previously was the LWML RMD Pastoral Counselor from 2012–2016, and is enjoying a second stint as Jr. Counselor. Pastor

<sup>°</sup>Chelsey Pelzman is Beth's daughter. Chelsey was born and raised in Albuquerque, N.M., before attending college at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Tex., where she earned a degree in Human **Development and Family Studies.** She is currently attending law school at the University of New Mexico. Chelsey sang in the Texas Tech choir and continues to sing at Christ Lutheran and with New Mexico Symphonic Chorus in Albuquerque. Her effervescent personality and music talent combines with her mother's joy for the Lord-their beautiful music will enhance our worship and convention time. *¥* 

Lord also called him to be a pastor, proclaiming the Gospel for Jesus Christ in 1995 though His church at St. Paul, Fairview and Zion, Powhatten, Kansas. The Lord God called Pastor Christensen to serve His church in Northeastern Colorado and the Rocky Mountain District since 2000 at St. Paul, Julesburg, Colo. and also Zion, Big Springs, Neb. from 2006. *§* 

and his wife, Amy, have 5 kids, ages 12 to 2. He is undoubtedly enjoying some stillness at Keystone. He is currently the pastor of Mount Calvary Lutheran Church in Estes Park, Colo. *¥*  Music Leaders BETH SHROFF & CHELSEY PELZMAN



Sunday Worship Proclaimer

PASTOR TRENT CHRISTENSEN



Sunday Worship Liturgist PASTOR JONATHAN SCHULTZ



Nora Sotak MISSION SERVANTS COMMITTEE

Serving with Janet Krogh, Linda Ballenthin, and Margaret Blazek

## 2020 Ingathering — Gift Cards from the Heart

Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. Exodus 20:12

Why am I using this Bible verse for the Mission Servants article? My mother, Virginia Nielsen, worked on the Mission Service committee years ago when Pauline Groerich was District President. She is also my mother — so I try to listen to what she has to say. She thinks our convention ingathering should be more "hands-on."

Mom did get on board and bought gift cards, but would have much rather bought pacifiers and receiving blankets to complete layettes, or lip balm for our deployed military, or cut fabric for lap robes. I am sorry, Mom, maybe for future conventions you can make lap robes again. After prayerful consideration by the Mission Servants Committee and the Board of Directors, it was decided that we are gathering gift cards. Our three mission recipients (Navajo Mission, Ysleta Lutheran Mission, and Lutheran Valley Retreat) seem very happy with the promise of gift cards. Please, everyone follow my Mom's cue and buy gift cards for this convention.

Mom, don't be upset I talked about you in this article. You were and still are an inspiration to me, your granddaughters, and greatgranddaughters. You are leading us into being *Mission Servants*. I thank the Lord for you. *¥* 

### GIFT CARDS FROM THE HEART BUYING GUIDED

- Most importanly, the gift card amount needs to be on the card.
- Gift cards of any donation are welcome.
   Five and ten dollar gift cards can be given to a person needing help and larger gift cards can be used by the mission to buy their needed items.
- There will be containers for each mission, plus a

container for a combined donation that will be divided

evenly between the three missions. • Costco\*, Home Depot, and Lowes are good places to buy gift cards, or buy nonspecific gift cards (e.g. Visa cards). \*Only Ysleta Lutheran Mission and Lutheran Valley Retreat can use Costco gift cards.

P.S. There will be hands-on activities for Lutheran Braille Workers and Bethesda. Come see what we are doing!

## **2020 Enrichment Sessions**

### Status Quo — or Change for Growth

As Lutheran Women in Mission, we want to mentor and inspire other women. We want to share the Gospel with the lost and hurting. We want to encourage Bible study and mission service in our congregations. Are we accomplishing these goals? What changes in how we do things will bring others closer to Christ? Come with an open mind! *§* 



LWML President

## Visual Faith: Devotional Journaling (Not just Coloring)

Do you have difficulty staying focused when you pray or forget what you just heard in the sermon or read in your Bible? Are you distracted and overwhelmed by life and long to BE STILL? Visual Faith is way of telling stories about God's faithfulness in our lives. Many of us are visual learners and remember better when we can see and touch things as well as listen. Come and learn more about ways you can enrich your prayer and devotional time. *¥* 



LWML RMD VPS AMY SCHULTZ & SHELLEY STEWART

## The Eager Conversationalists: A Hopeful Look at What Prepares Christians for Witness

Jesus called His disciples to go as witnesses throughout the world (Acts 1:8).

But how do you do that when more and more of us every year are reluctant to even talk about our faith in everyday life? The latest research from Lutheran Hour Ministries and the Barna Group has revealed five key characteristics shared by Christians who are comfortable, and even eager, to talk about their faith. Come discover this important EAGER Profile, assess your own readiness for witness, and make a spiritual growth plan.



Lutheran Hour MInistries

DIONNE LOVESTAD-JONES



Enrichment Session

DIONNE LOVESTAD-JONES



Enrichment Session

AMY SCHULTZ & SHELLEY STEWART

#### Convention Personalites continued from page 7.

Dionne Lovstad-Jones joined the Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) staff in February 2014 as a ministry advancement officer. Prior to her tenure at LHM, Dionne was the manager of development outreach with the Lutheran Malaria Initiative. She earned her bachelor's degree in parks and recreation and tourism from the University of Missouri and is a Certified Fund-Raising Executive (CFRE). Her prior work experience includes advancement positions at Valparaiso University and La Lumiere School, and tourism marketing work for the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, and tourism offices in: La Porte County, Ind., Collinsville, Ill., Maryland Heights and St. Charles, Mo. Dionne is married to Howard Jones and has a son, Zachary, who resides in the Chicago suburbs. *¥* 

Amy has been blessed to serve the Lord through the LWML on the Society, Zone and District levels. She loves to attend conventions and catch up with her Sisters in Christ. She is the busy mother of 5 children and enjoys hiking in the mountains. Amy is currently the Vice President of Gospel Outreach of the LWML RMD. Shelley lives in Parker, Colo. with her husband, son, and daughter, and two cats. She is the Office Manager for Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Aurora. In her spare time, she enjoys reading and traveling. Shelley is currently the Vice President of Servant Resources of the LWML Rocky Mountain District. *§* 



Beth Nagy VP CHRISTIAN LIFE



As we start the 40 days of Lent, there are mutliple devotions and Bible studies available on the LWML website, including a Lenten Journaling Template. ≸



Convention Registration & Meal Form LWML Rocky Mountain District Convention, June 5–7, 2020

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Keystone Resort and	Conference Center.	. 21966 U.S. Hwy. 6, PC	D Box 38, Keystone, CO 8043	5
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General Instructions	PERSONAL INFORMATION			
Please print in black or blue ink.	Pada Nama			
Please check box:	Badge Name First			
If you are a First-Time Attendee	Mailing Address			
If you are a Teen				
	CityState	7;	n	
All registrants, including delegates, be	State	Z1	Р	
sure your zone name is listed, and the full	PhoneFax			
TOTAL remittance is enclosed. Incomplete	1 Holic1 ux			
forms will be returned to you. A letter of confirmation will be sent by e-mail or	Email Address			
regular mail to all who register by May 1,				
2020. This form is for <b>CONVENTION</b>	Society			
<b>REGISTRATION &amp; MEALS ONLY</b>	/			_
	ChurchZone			_
Please check one appropriate category for				
registration type:	REGISTRATION AND MEAL CHOICES			
○ A: General Registration				
© B: Society Delegate	□ Pastor Registration	Fees		Total
© C: Society Alternate	Early Registration (Postmarked by April 1, 2020)			
© D: Zone Young Woman Representative	Registration (after April 1, 2020 or on-site)		\$	
© E: Zone Teen	□ Spouse Registration (Name)		\$	
© F: District Board Member (voting)	□One-Day Attendance: □Friday □ Saturday	\$ 50.00	\$	
© G: District Board Member (non-voting) © H: District Committee Member				
(non-voting)	Meal Package: 2 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 2 dinners (includes Sat banquet)			
© I: Past District President, living in	Spouse Meal Package	\$120.00		
district (voting)	Friday lunch for Young Woman Representatives only			
© J: Past District President (non-voting)	Friday lunch for Teens only			
© K: Pastor (No Registration Fee)	□ Saturday banquet dinner only			
Due to room and food commitments	□ Spouse Saturday banquet dinner only	\$ 35.00	\$	
there will be <b>NO</b> refunds after June 1, 2020.	Total for Degistration	and Maala	¢	
	Total for Registration	and means	Φ	
	ENRICHMENT SESSIONS			
Everyone may attend all the Enrichment				
Sessions. Please mark the order of your attendance preference with the letter of	A. Debbie Larson, LWML President			
the Enrichment Sessions. Due to room	B. Amy Schultz and Shelley Stewart, LWML Rocky Mountain District VPs			
size and safety issues, please attend the	C. Dionne Lovstad-Jones, Lutheran Hour Ministry Regional Ministry Facilitato	r		
Enrichment Sessions in the order listed				
on your badge.	My order choices for Enrichment Sessions are: 1 2 3	3		
To decrease wait time during sign-	SPECIAL NEEDS			
in, please fill out a current copy of the Meeting and Events Participation	□ I need a signer □ I am willing to sign			
Information, Acknowledgment, Waiver,	<ul> <li>☐ I need a signer</li> <li>☐ I am willing to sign</li> <li>☐ I need large print</li> <li>☐ I need braille</li> </ul>			
and Release Form, which will be emailed		SE.		
with your registration confirmation,	□ I have dietary restrictions/considerations:	Sale .	M2	h.
and bring it with you to the registration				-
table in Keystone in order to receive your	□ I need wheelchair access			
registration packet and nametag.	$\Box$ I have other needs:			2
		F		
Blank copies of the form will be available	5 M	2. 1 3		
at the registration table; your wait time	Make checks out to: LWML RMD	RE	s-t	TTTT
will be longer. Mail registration forms to: Joey Schilling,				
			4.5	
Duplicate this form for your records	5006 W. Hinsdale Circle, Littleton, CO 80128			0
- apricate this torm for your records				Volume

# District Officers Serving the Lord with Gladness for the 2018–2020 Biennium

Debbie Yocky, president president@lwmlrmd.org

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Sue Giddings, RECORDING SECRETARY recordingsec@lwmlrmd.org

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