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Missionary League
Rocky Mountain
District

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Tidings

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Connected.... In the words of Jesus found in John 15:5....*I am the vine, you are the branches*. Paul also tells of our connectedness in Romans 12:4...*So we, though many, are one body in Christ*. Being connected in Christ, as the grapes are connected to the vine, has been a challenge for many at this time. Churches and their various organizations have chosen in many cases to remain closed, sending out the Word via You Tube and Facebook; meeting over Zoom as well. We all want to stay connected in spite of the challenges.

Donna Cochran writes that the ladies of Immanuel in Paonia, Colo. have been blessed to be able to meet at church for Bible study and meetings. In Durango, Colo., the ladies of St Paul's met for dinner at a local barbecue place in July. They also met in June at a member's back yard for prayer and Bible readings. Tanya Hall has been hosting a twice a month Bible study at her church over Zoom. Mary Marten who is planning to lead a study on *Patience*, had a lesson in patience while ordering from CPH. Many others are making ready for their Zone Rallies in September and October.

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hello@lwmlrmd.org



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Are you hungry for connectedness? In this issue of *Tidings* you can find ways to be connected, most without even leaving home. Be part of your zone rally, join Brenda Sima for Donna Snow's Bible study, *Facedown Worship*, add your name/email to Janet Krogh's Prayer Circle, Feed your Mite Box, connect with our missions around the world, and find the LWML RMD on Facebook and Instagram, or check out the National LWML or LWML RMD websites for devotions, news, and mission inspiration. We need connection in Christ, it is part of who we are as Christians.

There is one body and one Spirit, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all (Ephesians 4:4-5).

STAYING CONNECTED...

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Debbie Yocky

PRESIDENT

*Let the word
of Christ
dwell in you
richly*



*Colossians
3:15-17*

*Biennium
Theme Verse*

The year 2020 continues to be a year of uncertainty. Fall is one of my favorite times of the year. I love the fresh start of a new school year. I love the cooler fall weather and the changing leaves and I love traveling to Fall Rallies. This year will not be the same. As I write this so many things are still uncertain. We do not know when we will be able to gather as we used to in schools, churches, or restaurants. We do not know what the future holds, but we do know who holds our future.

I have been working with the Zone Presidents to plan fall events. Watch for up to date information from your zone president. Each Zone faces unique challenges and each rally will be different to meet the needs of each area of our district. I will not be traveling this fall but will stay connected to our zone and individual groups in any way that I can.

Most of your local groups don't meet during the summer and some haven't met in person since March. I pray that you are finding ways to stay connected with your LWML sisters. Some groups are small enough to safely gather in person. Others have started meeting for Bible study using Zoom or Skype. We are all searching for ways to connect while we are separated. Bible study is one of the best ways to stay focused on what is important and true. I have been so blessed by spending time in the Word online with old and new friends during this uncertain time.

The LWML Rocky Mountain District will be offering an online Bible study led by our Vice Presidents. Our first study will be Donna Pyle's study *Facedown Worship*. This Bible study has been translated into Russian and will be translated into Ukrainian using funds from one of our mission grants approved by the

delegates at our June Convention. What a blessing to connect with Christians around the world by gathering together to complete the same study. Christian Life Vice President Brenda Sima will host our first Bible study. Our Bible study will begin on Monday, September 21st and we will meet on the first and third Mondays of the month. More information will be available soon.

Please continue to prayerfully gather mites to support our district and national mission grants. You may have heard about the coin shortage. Some banks are even paying for coins! I think LWML ladies are part of the problem—too many coins sitting in Mite boxes at home rather than being deposited in our LWML accounts. Do your part to alleviate the coin shortage—send in your mites!

Share some creative ways your group is collecting mites. Here are some of my ideas. Does your church do an outside service or drive up service? What about a drive through mite collection or mite offering parade? Maybe your group could meet for a picnic in the park and collect mites. Our new treasurer, Yvonne Steeby, is ready to receive your mite offerings. Visit the website for the new address and updated remittance form. During these uncertain times, the work of LWML continues. We continue to pray and support missions through our mite offerings. We continue to care for the physical needs of those around us as we make masks, gather supplies, and contribute to food banks and other needs in our communities. We continue to lift each other up in prayer and friendship in whatever ways we can. Dear sisters and brothers in Christ — stay safe and stay in the Word.

Debbie

Happy Vocation Day!

Pr. Jonathan G. Schultz

SENIOR PASTORAL
COUNSELOR

I doubt that you will hear anyone wish you a Happy Vocation Day on Monday, September 7th. If you happen to say that to someone else, they will probably look at you as if you have gone crazy. It is far more likely that someone will greet you with the phrase, “Happy Labor Day” while you spend time resting from your labors (if you are fortunate enough to have the day off of work).

Labor Day is typically spent grilling, lamenting the end of the summer, and looking forward to the beginning of a new school year. Yet, Labor Day also gives us an opportunity to give thanks to God for the vocations that He gives to us. “But what is a vocation?” you might ask. Saint Paul explains it like this: *Let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him, and to which God has called him* (1 Corinthians 7:17). A vocation is a calling from God. God calls us into various positions, offices, and responsibilities, which are the vocations He gives us to do.

When we think of vocation, we probably think about our work — the job we do to support ourselves and our families. Some people love their jobs; other people find it drudgery. However, vocations extend far beyond the things we do to earn an income. Each of us have multiple vocations in the home, in the church, and in the country.

Within the family, God calls us as parents, children, and siblings, to name a few. Parents care for their

children when they are young, and children often care for their elderly parents.

Within the church, God calls us as pastors and hearers. Pastors preach the Word of God and administer the Sacraments; hearers hear that Word and care for their pastor and congregation. God may also call us to a position of responsibility as a Sunday School teacher, a church officer, or to some other office.

Within the country, God calls each of us as a citizen. Some have authority as leaders in our government. As citizens, we pray for those in authority, and choose our leaders through elections. Likewise, the leaders of our government are given the task of protecting and defending the citizens.

God is at work through these vocations. God works through us to serve our neighbor. And we serve God through our vocations, as Paul writes in Colossians 3:23–24: *Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. **You are serving the Lord Christ*** (emphasis added). We gladly fulfill the vocations that God has given us to do, knowing that He is at work in our lives and our callings.

So on this Labor Day, rejoice and celebrate the vocations that God has given you.



Amy Schultz

GOSPEL OUTREACH
VP



The Word of Christ Dwelling Richly in Ukraine

Donna Pyle Snow has written many Bible studies for the LWML, and now they are being translated into other languages. This grant will be used specifically to translate one portion of this Bible study series into Ukrainian to offer a Eurasian global media resource through WORDRUS Mission Society's internet outreach. These studies would foster spiritual growth

through Bible Study for lay people throughout Eurasian Lutheran churches and communities to spread the Gospel, to learn sound doctrine, and to teach Christ-centered insights for life. It is very exciting to share in this ministry and study God's Word along side our Christian brothers and sisters all over the world!

Feed Your Mite Boxes

Be sure to remind your treasurer to send in the mites you are collecting. Our regular contributions of Mites have made a difference! So far we have one Mission Grant Paid in Full and two others that have been partially paid.



Mites

Remember to
send mites to
our treasurer:

Yvonne Steeby
LWML RMD
TREASURER
PO BOX 1657
Alamogordo, NM
88310

Kingdom Kids' Camp at
Lutheran Valley Retreat:
\$5,000

Concordia Theological
Seminary Food & Co-op
Financial Assistance:
\$8,000

God Cares About You –
"Children's Weekend
Food Bag Ministry":
\$8,000 | \$4,000 Paid

Mercy Meals of Colorado
Springs:
\$5,000

Interns at Shepherd of
the Valley Lutheran
Church, Navajo, NM:
\$9,000

Support for University
Lutheran Chapel,
Boulder, CO:
\$8,000

Introducing Muslims to
the Savior — Lutheran
Heritage Foundation:
\$5,000

Filling Haitian Tummies
Opens Ears to the Gospel
— Trinity HOPE:
\$5,000

Bringing Christ's Light to
Those Living in Darkness
— Lutheran Braille
Workers:
\$8,000

The Table at Bethlehem
Lakewood, CO:
\$5,000

Faith Connections &
Resources for People
with Disabilities —
Bethesda:
\$6,000

Reaching the Hispanic
Community of Commerce
City, CO:
\$7,996 | \$4,000 Paid

**LWML Global Bible
Studies by Donna Pyle:
\$3,964.28 | Paid in Full**

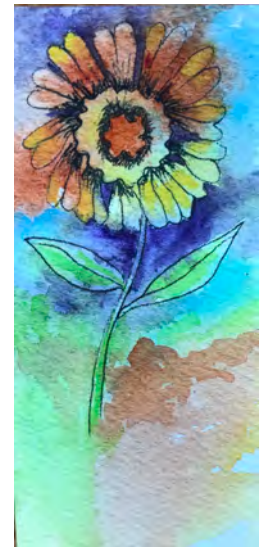
**\$83,960.28 | \$11,964.28
14.25% Paid**

Ecclésiastes 3:1 tells us that there is a time for everything. *To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven.* The scripture goes on to list times to be born, die, plant, harvest. In this vein, we tell people that things happen “in God’s time” and not ours. I know for me this has become almost cliché. But here we are, waiting. Waiting to be allowed to go back to school, waiting to go to the store without masks, waiting to be told we’re safe from this virus. Waiting is hard, and I’m not good at it. Last night I was listening to the newest podcast on *LWML On The*

Go, which is a short Bible Study from *The Task-Filled Life* by Jan Brunette. Right now we’re learning about “the God of Delays.” When Paul was in prison, he didn’t get impatient, he learned to be content. He knew he was in God’s hands, and the situation would be resolved in God’s time. This spoke to me in my impatience to get back to LWML events in person, and Sunday School lessons and crafts resuming. All of this is in God’s hands, and it will turn out the way He wants it to. Sit back, relax, and be content in your current circumstance.

Shelley Stewart

SERVANT
RESOURCES VP



Take it to the Lord in prayer...

As LWML Sisters we are together in faith, ministry, and prayer. At this time in our world, we are so blessed to be able to take all our thoughts, wishes, hopes, problems, thanks, worries, and frustrations to our God in prayer. As sisters in Christ, we can also lift up everything to God through our LWML Rocky Mountain District Prayer Circle. We have shared many things within this circle in the past. Are there ladies in your society who would like to be added to this group? Just think how many prayers would be lifted up to our loving God! A quick email with any prayer request can be sent to prayers@lwmlrmd.org. Additionally, if you would like to add your email

address to the prayer circle group, please also send it to prayers@lwmlrmd.org.

We are reminded of the powerful bond prayer affords us through the words of a well known hymn: *What a friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear! What a privilege to carry, Everything to God in prayer! (LSB #770)*

Remember if you already receive emails from LWML Rocky Mountain District, you can update your preferences to tell us which types of emails you would like to receive. If you would like to not receive any emails from us, then choose unsubscribe which removes you from our list. Thank you.

Janet Krogh

PRAYERS



Life Happens



Beth Weber

Gifts of Love
Advocate

Life is what happens when you're making other plans... an old adage that seems so appropriate for Lucille McShane, of Edmond, Okla. Lucille's life in the Lord has taken her from marriage to children to divorce and onto a second marriage with step children and, eventually, her second spouse's death.

Through it all, Lucille stays strong in her Christian faith. She gratefully approaches life with joy and a certain air of freedom.

Life is what happens... Lucille had no idea that she would "give up" her farmland after owning it for so many years. But that's exactly what she did once she understood the benefits of a charitable trust. With the help of her son, Christopher Rudiger, President of Landmark Bank in Wynnewood, Oklahoma, Lucille confidently "signed on the bottom line," and it was a done deal. From then on, LCMS Foundation as trustee of her charitable trust took over and a sale was completed tax free.

The benefits? First is the lifetime income that Lucille receives as the donor which is more than her

previous farm income, and farm expenses are no longer. Second, her children will receive the income for a term of years after the Lord calls her home. Third, since this was a charitable trust, Lucille received a large income tax deduction that can be used up to five years after her gift was made, and she bypassed a capital gains tax. Finally, she takes joy in knowing that her "talent" will eventually be distributed to the ministries nearest and dearest to her—especially LWML from which she has grown so much in her faith.

"I may stew about things for a while," Lucille says, "But I learned a long time ago to let go and let God. It's the only way to live. He always provides, no matter what."

Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor is ready to assist you today, in person, or by video conference.

For more information you can contact Carol von Soosten by email Carol.vonSoosten@lfnd.org or phone (800) 741-4138. You can also contact our LWML RMD Gifts of Love Advocate Beth Weber by email weber4342@acso.net or phone (970) 361-0794.



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

Join Dionne Lovestad-Jones for a ninety minute workshop from LHM (LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES). This workshop had been scheduled as an enrichment session at our Keystone Convention. We are excited to have the opportunity to partner with LHM and offer it as an online workshop experience. The workshop

will be on Monday, November 16, 2020 at 7 PM and again on Saturday, November 21, 2020 at 10 AM. Please plan to join us and invite your friends. Attendees will need to register in advance. Visit our LWML RMD website for more information and to register.

Summer 2021: Lexington, Kentucky

Apply today to be
a Young Woman
Representative for the
LWML Rocky Mountain
District



January 15,
2021 Deadline

Lisa Weber, Committee on
Young Women Chairman
PO Box 187
Ignacio, CO

comygwomen@lwmlrmd.org

If you are an LCMS woman who is between the ages of 22–35 and who has always wanted to visit the serene rolling hills of Kentucky, look no further than the 2021 LWML National Convention!

Two young women applicants can join in this exciting gathering of Lutheran Women—practically for free. Convention registration, meals, room, and travel will be covered by your District LWML Board. And how will you get to the Bluegrass State? Arrangements for flying with other representatives from the District may be an option, just ask your Society or Zone LWML Presidents, they would be happy to help.

Young Women Representatives (YWRs) will get a chance to bond with other young women from around the country! Share memorable experiences, meet new friends, and praise our Lord together!

All you have to do is fill out the YWR application and send it to Lisa Weber, Committee on Young Women Chairman.

The 2021 representatives—selected at the Board of Director's Meeting in February 2021—will be contacted with more information.

LEXINGTON,
KENTUCKY

June 24–27, 2021





September TO REMEMBER

GivingTuesday ... a day of giving, typically celebrated on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving. This year the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) is celebrating this event on September 15, 2020, our **LWML September to Remember**.

We remember loved ones, a mentor, an LWML sister, or a pastoral counselor ... someone who kindled our love for doing the Lord's kingdom work. Write a note to someone who inspired you in your walk with our Lord and your support of LWML. We encourage you to share your LWML story of that person on Facebook, donate toward the LWML Mission Goal in honor of that someone special, and pray for our mission grants.



Share your thankfulness on LWML's Giving Tuesday, September 15. You have the opportunity to share your blessings by contributing to the 2019–2021 LWML Mission Goal. Two out of every three people do not know Jesus as their Savior. Your donation can help reach them and will be matched by a generous donor's gift on Giving

Tuesday.

Donate online through LWML Facebook or lwml.org/givingtuesday.

If you are unable to donate online, you may send your contributions to the LWML office at 801 Seminary Place Suite Lo10, St. Louis, MO 63105. Be sure to note Giving Tuesday with your contribution.



Around the
District

While most Zones will celebrate at their Fall Rallies, they will look a little different this year. Due to changing circumstances, at press time, limited information is available. Some rallies will be held in person, while others will be over Zoom and still others will have a hybrid option available. Please check with your society and Zone president for more details. However your Zone chooses to meet, be sure to send some photos or anecdotes that we can use in our next publication of *Tidings*.

Fall Rallies

Kingdom People Produce Kingdom Fruit

LWML SUNDAY

The first Sunday in October is traditionally set aside for the observation of LWML Sunday, but it may be celebrated at any time.

The theme for LWML Sunday 2020 is based on Jesus' words to the chief priests and Pharisees found in Matthew 21:43 that ... *The kingdom of God will be ... given to a people producing its fruits.* As people of the kingdom of God, God graciously nurtures us and generously gives us everything we need to produce fruit for the kingdom during the fruit-bearing season of our lives. In response to God's grace and empowered by the Holy Spirit through Word and Sacrament, Kingdom People (in the LWML) Produce Kingdom Fruit for the season of our whole life on this earth.

All LWML Sunday Materials can be downloaded anytime from lwml.org/lwml-sunday.



Kingdom people produce
KINGDOM FRUIT

"The kingdom of God will be ... given to a people producing its fruits" (Matthew 21:43).



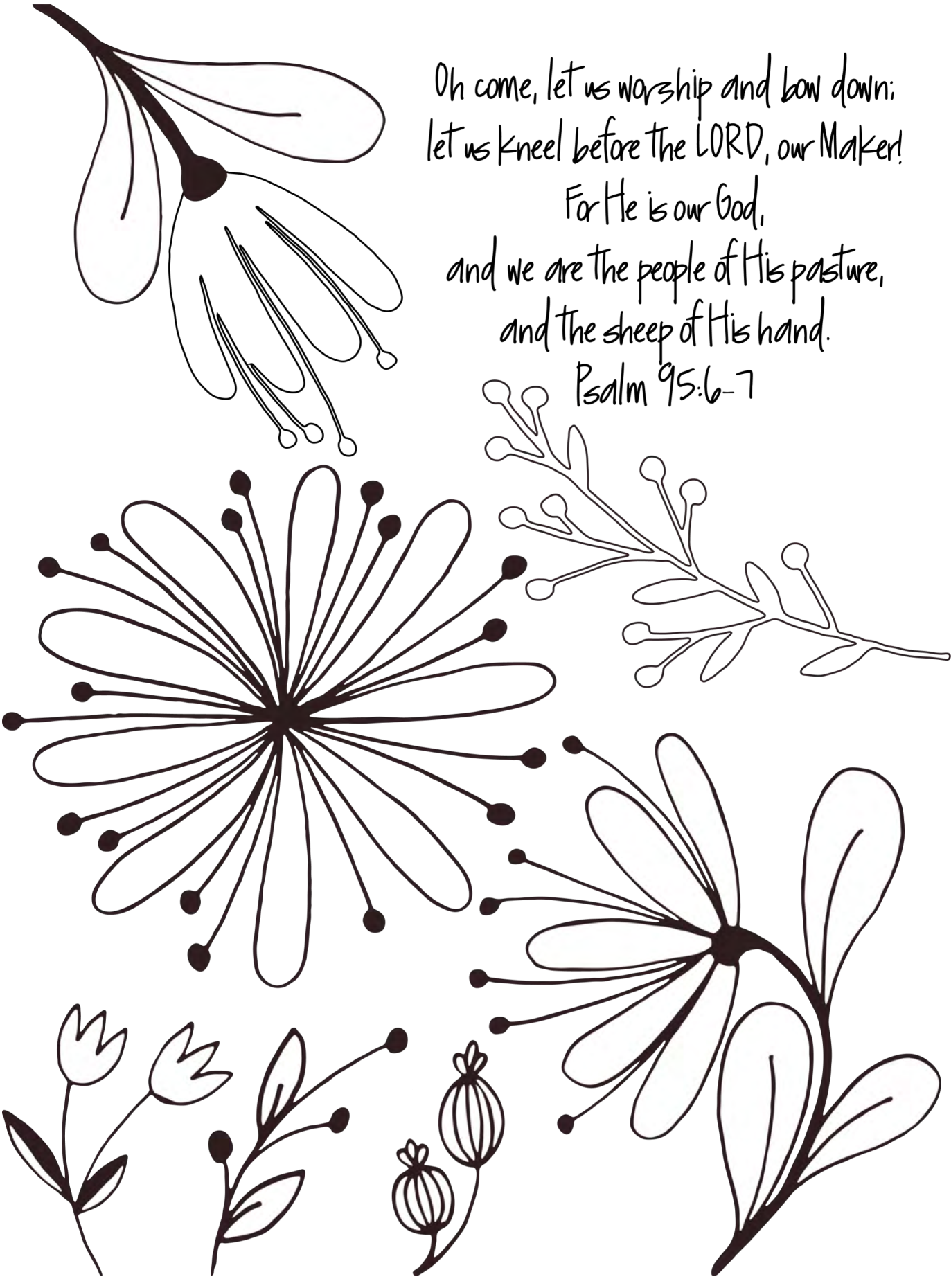
Hi! My name is Brenda Sima, and I am your new Vice President of Christian Life for the LWML Rocky Mountain District. I didn't introduce myself to you in the prior *Tidings* but many of you have familiar faces. Let me tell you just a little bit about myself. I was born and raised in western Nebraska, and indeed, after nearly 41 years living in Durango, Colo., I still pay homage to my alma mater's, the University of Nebraska's, Cornhuskers! I have attended, with my husband Ray, St. Paul's Lutheran Church here in Durango for the past 38 years. I have been active in our local LWML, the Four Corners' Zone, and served on the Christian Life committee in our LWML Rocky Mountain District, and I am honored to serve as LWML Rocky Mountain District Christian Life vp for the next biennium. I have been active through my years as a member of St. Paul's Lutheran in the choir, as director of the Bell Choir, and as a co-leader of Joy Class, a program for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and the people that support them. As Jesus says in John 15:5: *I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me, and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.* God indeed works through each of us to enrich our lives and our relationship with Him. Following are some ways for you to get involved and inspired in the LWML:

1.) Come! You are invited to worship in spirit and truth, study

scripture, pray together, share God's love with others, and learn new ways to follow our Shepherd. I will be leading an online Bible Study from Donna (Pyle) Snow's Bible Study Series, Study No. Five, entitled *Facedown Worship*, a study of Psalm 95:6-7: Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker; for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care. (NIV) This online study will be held on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month, starting on Monday, September 21st, at 7:00 PM. There are four lessons included in this study, and each will last approximately an hour. Join us on Zoom for a new avenue to get into God's Word!

2.) The upcoming LWML Writers' Workshop that was to be held at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, MO is cancelled at this time. Stay tuned for more information about this event. My goal is that together we can create new Christian Life writings for both our LWML Rocky Mountain District website and for our LWML publications. If you like to write, LWML is always looking for resources, Bible studies, and devotions. If you have material to share please contact me and don't forget to visit our LWML Rocky Mountain District website for lots of devotions and Bible studies that you can download, print, and use as needed.

Until next time...



Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

For He is our God,
and we are the people of His pasture,
and the sheep of His hand.

Psalm 95:6-7

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