

Contents

President.....	2
Pastoral Counselor.....	3
Gospel Outreach VP.....	4
Servant Resources VP.....	5
Christian Life VP.....	5
Gifts of Love	6
Quarterly Renewal Form.....	7
Call for Banner Designs.....	8
Mission Servants Committee	8
More Fall Rally Notes.....	9
A Happening in the District	10
Call for YWR's.....	11
Are You Ready for Convention?	11
Contacts.....	12

LOVE

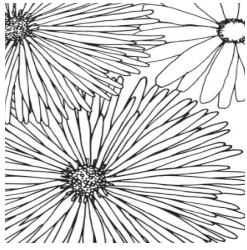
Love, it is a fitting theme for our January/February issue of *Tidings*. We show and experience love in diverse ways. As Christians we see God's love exhibited in Jesus' life and death on the cross so that we can have grace, forgiveness of our sins, and eternal life. In our lives we show love to our families, friends, and even strangers. In this issue of *Tidings* we hear of love from the perspectives of our contributors. What is your favorite "love" verse from the Bible?

Young Women, don't miss out on your free ticket to the National Convention in June. There you will see lots of love between LWML sisters, experience God's love in worship and song, and share the gifts God has lovingly provided for you through offerings and ingatherings. The RMD can send two young women representatives. See page 11 for further information.

Artists, please share your God given talents to design a banner for President Shelley to carry at the convention. Every district carries a banner lovingly designed and made by our talented women. LWML has much to celebrate at its 40th Biennial Convention. Highlights of the convention are the Mites in Action Speakers sharing how our contributions help share the Gospel to the ends of the earth. District wide, be sure to note the current status of our Mission Grants. We are thankful for the loving donations given to spread the Gospel through your gifts to such missions as Lutheran Valley Retreat, the Concordia seminary student's co-op, and University Lutheran Chapel.

Don't forget to order your *Quarterly* subscriptions by February 28th. You won't want to miss out on the great Bible studies and articles. Thanks to Mission Servant Chairman, Linda Harsh, for her timely suggestions for local ingatherings and outreach. Thanks to Janet Krogh for sharing her zone's "80" and to Shelley Stewart for sharing news about their Advent celebration.

Love and Blessings in 2023!



Shelley Stewart

PRESIDENT

LOVE

Love is complicated. Almost everyone would agree. There are so many kinds of love: friend love, romantic love, family love. As Christians we are called to set the example and love everyone.

Remember that old song at camp "They Will Know We Are Christians By Our Love"? Or the verse: *by this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.*? John 13:35 Why would this make us stand out? Because love is hard.

I had a professor in college that theorized that the divorce rate is so high in the United States because of Disney. He thought that we all grew up with Disney movies, and our view of love and marriage is no longer realistic. The Disney version is all rainbows and butterflies, he said, and we don't know how much work really goes into love. I don't know if this is true or not, but I do know that love is a choice. When we wake up, we choose to love the spouse next to us. When our child is pushing us to our limits, we choose to love them. When our friends are not acting like friends should, we choose to love them. When that car cuts us off in traffic, we choose to love. That doesn't mean we're not irritated, aggravated, and at the end of our ropes. But the choice we make next is what defines us. There are plenty of people that would give in to the road

rage, the self-righteous anger, the tantrum, or withhold forgiveness and reconciliation. We see it everywhere, and if that is our example, that is what we do. But if Christ is our example, we will do what He would have us do. It's not easy.

When I think of loving like Christ would, I automatically think of "The Love Chapter" in the Bible, 1 Corinthians 13. *Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.* 1 Corinthians 13:4-8. In a Bible Study once, we were encouraged to substitute our name for the word "love" in the verses. It almost made me laugh at how preposterous it was! Those statements are nothing like me! Then we substituted the name of Jesus in the statements. That was sobering.

How blessed and fortunate we are that God chooses to love us. He chooses to save us. And He chooses to spend eternity with us in heaven. What an example!

A NEW COMMANDMENT

Jesus said, *A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another.* John 13:34a

I wonder if Jesus paused at this point for effect. I can imagine some awkward glances darting back and forth between the gathered disciples, because to "love the Lord your God" and "love your neighbor as yourself" was already well known among them as the summary of God's Law. What was so "new" about love?

Jesus continues: *...just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.* (John 13:34b,)

At this point, I can't imagine Jesus' teaching was lost on anyone. He had just gotten up from the floor, dressed as a common servant, after handling the dirty feet of everyone in the room. There He was, the eternal Son of God and Creator of the universe, casting aside all the power, honor, and glory due to Him, teaching His disciples a very important lesson: In the kingdom of God, true love is revealed in weakness, humility, servitude, and sacrifice. Jesus had been expressing this Godly love from the beginning, but it would be most powerfully expressed not even a day later when He would peacefully yet powerfully

give Himself over to death by the hands of His enemies.

Another element to Jesus' teaching about true, Godly love is implied in the very next verse: *By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.* John 13:35 It's important to remember that sacrificial love is not unique to Christianity. For sacrificial love to be uniquely God's love, it must be carried out in Jesus' name and after His unique teachings and example.

What does this mean for you and me in 2023? It means faithfully gathering together with other Christians to study the Words and works of Jesus so that we are sure we correctly understand His Way. It means drawing hope and strength from the reality that we are already recipients of God's amazing love through Jesus! It means constantly asking ourselves "What would Jesus do," especially in situations where loving our neighbor seems complicated or difficult, and then accepting His invitation to take up our crosses of love and follow Him. God bless us all in these tasks for the advancement of His Kingdom!



Pastor Duane
Meissner

JUNIOR
PASTORAL
COUNSELOR



Andi Noblitt

**GOSPEL
OUTREACH VP**

REMEMBER TO
SEND MITES TO:

YVONNE STEEBY
LWML RMD
TREASURER
PO BOX 1657
ALAMOGORDO,
NM 88310

MISSION GRANTS MITE PROGRESS

	Granted	Paid
Fostering Faith in the Forest at Lutheran Valley Retreat	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Financial Assistance for CTSFW Food & Clothing Coop	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
God Cares About You: Summer Intern Ministry	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000
Trinity HOPE: Feeding Haitian Children Spiritually & Physically	\$ 5,000	
Support for the University Lutheran Chapel, Boulder	\$ 5,000	\$ 2,500
LHF: Providing Lutheran Books to the former Soviet Union	\$ 5,000	\$ 2,500
Worker Wellness for LCMS Chaplain Families	\$ 3,000	
Colorado Mesa University: Outreach	\$ 6,000	
LBT: Old Testament Translation in the Bandi Language of Liberia	\$ 8,000	
Lutheran Hispanic Missionary Institute Infrastructure Investment	\$ 6,000	
Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch: Kruse Memorial Chapel Transformation	\$ 4,000	
LBW: Bringing Spanish Braille Bibles to Central & South America	\$ 8,000	
Equipping MOST Ministries Construction & Repair Teams	\$ 6,000	
POBLO: Cross-Cultural Outreach Ministry Training to RMD Churches	\$ 5,000	
Dominican Republic Disability Ministry	\$ 3,000	
TOTAL	\$ 80,000	\$ 21,000

MISSION GRANT UPDATE

We love because he first loved us. 1 John 4:19 During the Christmas Season it's easier to see God's love in the world. Once we are past Christmas, however, it can be more difficult to find that love as humanity returns to their day to day lives. We must make sure we continue to support those who work to spread God's love every day. In this article I'd like to point you to the assistance that the LCMS gives to church workers and spouses. For more information, please go to <https://www.lcms.org/how-we-serve/mercy/church-worker-wellness>. I would also direct you to the great work that Messiah Lutheran Church is doing to reach out to Colorado Mesa University students. For more information on this program, please go to <https://messiahlutherangj.org/mavericks-of-messiah/>.

In the last quarter of 2022, we were able to send \$2,500 to the University Lutheran Chapel in Boulder and \$2,500 to the Lutheran Heritage Foundation. We thank God for His love that gives us the ability to support these important missions!

MENTORSHIP

How can you show love through leadership? One of the best ways to show love to your fellow members and organization when you are in a leadership position is mentorship. The Young Women's Representative and Teen Representative programs are examples at the national and district levels of ways to mentor women around you. Mentorship is also possible at the local and zone levels as well. The LWML is a fairly complex organization, with a lot of acronyms that we use regularly. This can be intimidating to step into with minimal experience. Mentorship is a way to get newer or less experienced LWML members acclimated to how things work at a new level. Raise your hand if you've had trouble filling a

slate of officers at the local or zone level. One of the ways to equip women to follow God's call into leadership themselves is mentorship. Tackling something new is always better if you have extra support and typically less stressful if you are prepared for what awaits you. Whether you are a leader or considering being one, always go to the Lord in prayer first. If you are in a leadership position, take some time to consider if there are one or two women you could help equip along their journey. If you are considering a leadership role but don't yet feel equipped, contact someone in your local group or zone and see if they would be willing to mentor you. Let's show love to one another as we serve the Lord with gladness.



Christina Bean

**SERVANT
RESOURCES VP**

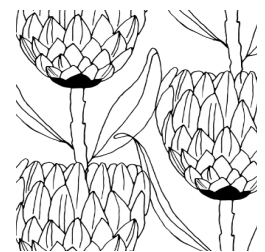
LOVE

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

I am amazed that we have a God who is willing to take on human flesh and is willing to experience the full spectrum of human life. He knows what it is like to grow up in a changing body, to put in a day's work of physical labor, to spend time with friends and family, to mourn the death of a loved one, to be

rejected by society, to die a shameful death on the cross, and to defeat death and the devil, and to rise victoriously from the grave. Why did He do this? He experienced the messiness of life because He so deeply loves us. He loves us!

When life struggles wear us down, be comforted that our God understands what we are going through. He loves us so much that He took on human flesh to save us. Now we can talk with Him at any time because He loves us and is our ultimate comfort.



Christie Peebles

**CHRISTIAN LIFE
VP**



Beth Weber

GIFTS OF LOVE

CELEBRATE GOD'S GIFTS

Sharon was sitting in her pastor's office with tears streaming down her face. Her husband had just been diagnosed with Alzheimer's and Sharon was at a loss on how to handle all the responsibilities of the household that now rested on her shoulders. Her pastor asked her if their estate plan was in place. She hesitated and then said, "We always said we were going to get that done, but now his mental capacity makes it difficult to handle." The pastor shared God's word with her and they prayed, but both realized the challenging road that lay ahead.

It is faithful stewardship of God's resources to be intentional about putting our estate plans in place. Parents with young children should have a minor's trust and appoint a guardian in case something should happen. Throughout the years, the estate plans need to be updated to accommodate changes in family composition and life situations. When

retirement comes along and investments change, it is time for another review. Those pivotal moments of life should act as a catalyst to move us to intentional action.

Now is a great time to celebrate God's gifts to us and pray to the Lord for resolve to get busy with our estate plans after the first of the year. In faith we can be joyful about planning the blessings of our estate plans to benefit the family we love and the ministries we care about. Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can help. Contact Carol von Soosten by email at Carol.vonSoosten@lfnd.org or by phone: 800-741-4138. Or contact Rocky Mountain, Colorado Advocate, Elizabeth Weber at weber4342@acsol.net or cell: 907-361-0794. Or contact New Mexico and Four Corners Advocate, Debbie Yocky, yockyp@comcast.net or cell: 505-259-4315

- Why not put a note in your bulletin at church? Here's one to consider.....

Nearly half of American adults have never created a will. We can provide many excuses. However, the Lord did not place things into your life for someone else to manage. He has chosen you to do that. You will find great joy and satisfaction in putting a plan together, seeing how God is working through you to love and bless others. Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can help.

Contact Carol von Soosten at Carol.vonsoosten@lfnd.org, Elizabeth Weber, Rocky Mountain advocate at weber4342@acsol.net, or Debbie Yocky, New Mexico and Four Corners advocate at yockyp@comcast.net



ORDER FORM FOR *LUTHERAN WOMAN'S QUARTERLY*

PLEASE REMIT NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 28, 2023

Society Name _____

Zone _____

Church Name _____

Church Mailing Address _____

Zip Code (9 digit) _____

Society Contact _____

Email Address _____

Telephone _____

**If the church address is not acceptable for delivery,
attach a note indicating what address should be used.**

QUARTERLY SUBSCRIPTIONS

Quantity _____ (10 or more) at \$6.00 each = \$ _____

Quantity _____ (less than 10) at \$7.50 each = \$ _____

LARGE PRINT SUBSCRIPTIONS

Comes from Lutheran Braille Workers and will be mailed separately.
The subscription price will be sent to LBW as a donation.

Quantity _____ at \$7.50 each = \$ _____

Total Remittance for Regular and Large Print Subscriptions \$ _____

Return this form with your check made payable to: LWML Rocky Mountain District

Mail form and check to: LWML RMD Treasurer
PO Box 1657
Alamogordo, NM 88310

Questions/Comments, contact Nora Sotak assistant2treasurer@lwmlrmd.org 575-434-5247



Linda Harsh

MISSION
SERVANTS
COMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN

SANCTITY OF LIFE A MATTER OF THE HEART

What does "sanctity of life" mean? Gotquestions.org says the phrase "sanctity of life" reflects the belief that because people are made in God's image (Genesis 1:26-27), human life has an inherently sacred attribute that should be protected and respected at all times. This year Sanctity of Human Life Sunday is January 22nd. *Blessed for Life* is the Lutherans for Life's theme. Your congregation can observe it on that date or at any time during the year.

For several years, my LWML group has explored a variety of issues surrounding the sanctity of life in our January meeting. This year we are going to focus on elder care with a speaker from our local Senior Center. Other topics have been adoption, race relations, and suicide. January and February are great months to support local pregnancy centers, visit the elderly and shut-ins with valentines and cookies, and participate in other activities that support and protect life. Let's be the hands and feet of Jesus, motivated by the love He has shown us!

ATTENTION ARTISTS

PLEASE SEND
YOUR DESIGNS
TO SUE
GIDDINGS

sueg851@gmail.com

DEADLINE IS
JANUARY 15TH

Let your creative juices flow as you design a banner reflecting the theme, *Celebrate the Lord of Nations*. The Bible reference is Psalm 33:12-13. A design will be selected at the February Board of Director's meeting.

Designs should be vertically oriented. The finished banner will be 3' x 5'. You may not use the convention logo but should include the district name on the front of your design. It may be ab-

breviated-RMD. Please design the banner with light weight fabrics in mind. The banner may be completed by someone other than the designer. Please submit your full color design to *Tidings* Editor, Sue Giddings, by January 15th, 2023. Include with your design a brief description, how it reflects the convention verse/theme, your name, address, and the name of your congregation.

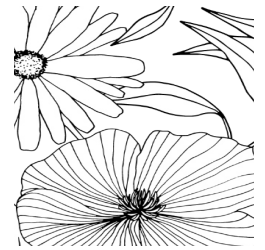


P.S. MORE FROM OUR FALL RALLIES

"Here's your 80"—done! The North Central Zone met October 15 at Gethsemane in Broomfield, CO for their Fall Rally.

With the help of two \$250 Thrivent gift cards, along with generous donations from our sisters in Christ, we assembled

80 Hygiene Kits for Orphan Grain Train. Following a Bible study on "God's Good Gifts" led by Pastor Eli Lietzau, our zone counselor, we heard news from district president, Shelley Stewart on goings-on from around our district. Thank you to everyone for Serving the Lord with Gladness!



FALL RALLY
NOTES

SUBMITTED BY
JANET KROGH





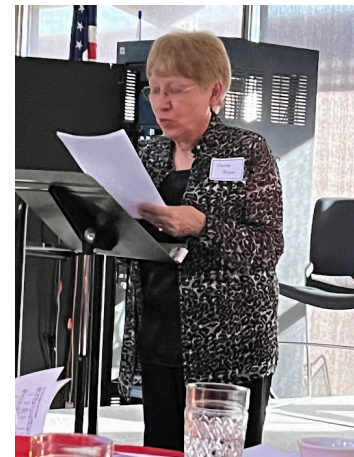
Shelley Stewart

A HAPPENING IN
THE DISTRICT

AN ADVENT PROGRAM

The ladies at Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Aurora, CO held an *Advent by Candlelight* luncheon on Sunday, December 11 th.. Included in their program was an ingathering of items for Alternatives Pregnancy Center.

Advent by Candlelight is a program downloadable from the LWML website. Many seasonal programs and activities are available from LWML, and who doesn't enjoy meeting for lunch?



EXPERIENCE LWML AS A YWR

- Are you a mature young woman, preferably 22-35 years of age, who is a member of the LCMS and has not previously attended a national convention as a Young Woman Representative (YWR)?
- Do you have a deep love for and devotion to your Lord Jesus Christ and will you participate in the full scope of the convention by sitting with your district delegation and participating in YWR activities?
- Will you be able to report on your convention experience to your district, zone, and society? This can be done orally or in written form.
- Would you enjoy traveling to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, June 22-25, 2023?



COMMITTEE ON YOUNG WOMEN CHAIRMAN

SEND YOUR
APPLICATION TO:

[Christina Bean
beancm88@gmail
.com](mailto:beancm88@gmail.com)

If you answered "Yes", please apply today to be a YWR. Talk to your society president, or find the information and application on the LWML website. Two young women from the Rocky Mountain District can join 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. At the convention you will have an opportunity to bond with other young women from around the country! Sharing memorable experiences, meeting new friends, and praising God with Lutheran women of all ages are just a few of the things you will be a part of.

The Rocky Mountain District Board of Directors will review all applications at their Board of Directors meeting in February 2023. Please fill out an application and send it to Lisa Weber, ywr@lwmlrmd.org, or Lisa Weber, Committee on Young Women Chairman, PO Box 187, Ignacio, CO 81137.

Hurry! The deadline is January 30, 2023. The chosen representatives will be notified after February 11 and given more information regarding registration and travel details.

GET READY FOR CONVENTION

If you haven't already noticed, all the material you need to attend the 40th Biennial LWML Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin is included in the Winter 2022 issue of the Lutheran Women's Quarterly. Meal plans, hotel information, travel tips, activities, programs, as well as speakers and convention personalities can be found there. You can also access the information at the LWML website. Join LWML convention hosting districts—North Wisconsin, Northern Illinois, and South Wisconsin—to *Celebrate the Lord of Nations!*

EARLY
REGISTRATION

JANUARY 9–
MARCH 14, 2023

REGULAR
REGISTRATION

MARCH 15–MAY
10, 2023

contact us

PRESIDENT

Shelley Stewart

president@lwmlrmd.org

CHRISTIAN LIFE VP

Christie Peebles

christianlife@lwmlrmd.org

COMMUNICATIONS VP

Tanya Hall

communications@lwmlrmd.org

GOSPEL OUTREACH VP

Andi Noblitt

missions@lwmlrmd.org

SERVANT RESOURCES VP

Christina Bean

resources@lwmlrmd.org

RECORDING SECRETARY

Margaret Blazek

secretary@lwmlrmd.org

TREASURER

Yvonne Steeby

treasurer@lwmlrmd.org

JR. PASTORAL COUNSELOR

Pastor Duane Meissner

jrpastoralcounselor@lwmlrmd.org

SR. PASTORAL COUNSELOR

Pastor Pete Scheele

srpastoralcounselor@lwmlrmd.org

ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

Mona Book

assistant2president@lwmlrmd.org

ASSISTANT TO THE TREASURER

Nora Sotak

assistant2treasurer@lwmlrmd.org

TIDINGS EDITOR

Sue Giddings

tidings@lwmlrmd.org

PLANNER

Becky Meyer

planner@lwmlrmd.org

PARLIAMENTARIAN

Barbara Wertz

parliamentarian@lwmlrmd.org

CONVENTION COORDINATOR

Chris Bostron

events@lwmlrmd.org

CONVENTION CO-CHAIRMAN

Nancy Kraft & Colleen Spahr

convention@lwmlrmd.org

RETREAT CHAIRMAN

Belinda Burmeister

retreat@lwmlrmd.org

CONVENTION REGISTRAR

Joey Schilling

registrar@lwmlrmd.org

ARCHIVIST-HISTORIAN

Susan Avila

arch-hist@lwmlrmd.org

PRAYERS

Janet Krogh

prayers@lwmlrmd.org

SOCIAL MEDIA ADMINISTRATOR

Lori Schick

socialmedia@lwmlrmd.org

PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR

Beth Shroff

pr@lwmlrmd.org

MISSION SERVANTS

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Linda Harsh

missionservants@lwmlrmd.org

SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRMAN

TBD

scholarships@lwmlrmd.org

COMMITTEE ON YOUNG WOMEN CHAIRMAN

TBD

ywr@lwmlrmd.org

TEENS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

TBD

teens@lwmlrmd.org

HEART TO HEART SISTERS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Heidi Norton

h2h@lwmlrmd.org

NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Sue Frauenfeld

nomcom@lwmlrmd.org

STRUCTURE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Marilyn Grasz

structure@lwmlrmd.org

*And the peace of God,
which surpasses all
understanding,
will guard your hearts
and your minds
in Christ Jesus.*

Philippians 4:7

connect with us

Facebook
[LWML.RMD](#)

Instagram
[lwmlrmd](#)

Website
[lwmlrmd.org](#)

Email
hello@lwmlrmd.org