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ADVENT

As we head into November and December, we experience the close of the church year as well as the beginning of the church year. Pastor Scheele does a good job of explaining this in his article.

Be sure to share the joy of this season as well as share the treasures of your time and talents. The Rocky Mountain District Nominating Committee is looking for a few good women and one man to share their God given gifts, step out of their comfort zone, and take a leadership position in the LWML.

Speaking of sharing, Andi Noblitt and Yvonne Steeby need your help with collecting mites for our current mission grants and proposing new grants for the 2024-2025 biennium. If you are having trouble feeding your mite box, Yvonne has a few ideas to help you with that. Linda Harsh is also hoping you will share the Gifts from the Heart information in your congregation and society.

Anita Palenschat from the Christian Life Committee has written a lovely prayer which you may share as you begin to celebrate the Advent season in your homes.

Our Fall Retreat in Glorieta was a highlight in September. Featuring Donna Snow, as our Bible study leader, and visual faith aficionado, Debbie Yocky, the retreat touched many hearts. Be sure to let Belinda Bermeister know if you have suggestions for our next retreat. The events planning committee will begin plans for it soon! As fall recedes, find joy in our advent seasons.

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*From heaven above to earth I come
To bear good news to eve-ry home
Glad Tidings of great joy I bring
Where of I now will say and sing.*

Martin Luther 1535



Shelley Stewart
PRESIDENT

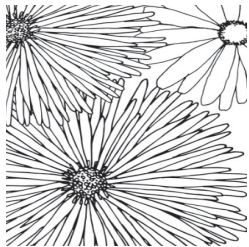
SHARE THE JOY

This might be my favorite season. When Advent comes, it brings spiced cider, colder weather, lights, and evergreen scented everything. Have you ever asked "why?" On a podcast I was listening to the other day, the Pastor urged us not just to "go through the motions." Think about why our traditions are important to us. Advent means "coming" according to the Oxford Dictionary, and is the season when we prepare our hearts and minds for Christ to come into our lives and hearts.

If you didn't have the candlelight service on Christmas Eve at church,

would you miss it? Why? If you didn't have a big Christmas dinner with your family, would you miss it? In my family, we never miss a meal; we would reschedule for sure! The point is the fellowship and sharing, not the meal itself. The point of the evergreen is the unchanging Christ and His love for us.

As we begin the preparation of Advent this year, stop to ponder the meanings. This is a wonderful, joyful time! Share this joy with those around you, but also share the why—the Why is Jesus.



SUE
FRAUENFELD
**NOMINATING
COMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN**

HAVE YOU BEEN CALLED?

Have you been contacted via phone, text, or email, about using your time and talents in the Rocky Mountain District LWML, or closer to home in your society or zone? Please answer the call. We need a few good women and men to share their God given gifts in the RMD! Perhaps you have not been contacted, but have considered one of the positions that we are seeking nominations for at the 2024 convention! Please give this over to prayer. Have no fear—our wonderful District members enjoy mentoring and bringing new officers "up to speed". At the 2024 convention we will be voting on Christian Life VP, Communications VP, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and five members of the nominating committee. We will also choose our Jr. Pastoral Counselor. Brief position descriptions can be found on page 9. Contact me with any and all questions! Sue Frauenfeld, cell 720-364-6187, email sjbf321@msn.com.

THE ADVENT AND THE FINAL ADVENT OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR

As we move into the months of November and December we move into the months looking forward to something far greater than what we have today. Though we don't usually call the month of November a time of advent, it is because throughout the month of November our scripture readings lead us to look for the coming of the Last Day, both in our lives and in the advent of our new heavenly home. November often prepares us for Thanksgiving and giving thanks to God for all that He has given to us, yet our scripture readings for the month of November prepare us for the Advent of the last day of this world and the heavenly home we have been promised.

So with the coming of the end of November and the start of December we celebrate the Advent Season of the Church Year. Advent, the season of the coming of our Lord.

As usual though, the first Sunday of Advent brings us back to the advent of the Last Day, which is the reason why we need the Christ child to come to be one of us in this world. Jesus comes into this world to make us guiltless, which means He leads a perfect life, which we are unable to do, so that He can take all our sins upon Himself and make the full and final payment for them. His Advent enables us to be in heaven when the last day comes and to live with Him as His people for eternity, that's the whole reason for Christmas and why we celebrate Advent.

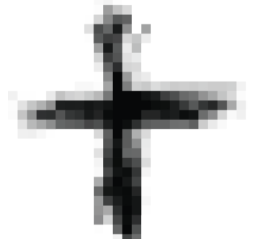
The second Sunday of Advent reminds us that because our Lord and Savior is coming to be with us we need to be prepared. Just as John the Baptist prepared the people of his time by having them confess their sins and wash

themselves in preparation for the coming of Jesus' ministry. We too, need to look at our lives and confess our sins, holding onto the assurances given to us by our baptism in the blood that Jesus shed for all our sins. Yes, getting ready for Christmas means taking a closer look at what we should be like and clinging onto the gifts that Christ brings to us.

On the third Sunday of Advent we are again reminded of how we are the voice in the wilderness proclaiming the year of the Lord's favor, who has made the way to God straight so that we can remain in His peace. The peace of God that is beyond the world's understanding is ours through faith in Jesus Christ, but our world is lost in a wilderness of lies, evil, and despair. We are called to be the ones calling out in the wilderness of this world, proclaiming the Good News of not only the Christ child being born, but what He accomplished for all the world to have through faith in His life, death, and resurrection.

On the fourth Sunday, as we all get excited about the coming of Christmas and note that the 4th Sunday is also Christmas Eve this year, we are reminded how God established His Son to be the final King of His people whose kingdom will last forever. The Angel brings the Good News of Jesus being born to Mary of Nazareth through the Holy Spirit. Mary answers, *Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to Your word.* Luke 1:38

May the Advent season of the beginning and end of the Church year bring you a greater understanding of the joy and blessings of Christmas and the final day of your life in this world. Amen.



Pastor Pete Scheele

SENIOR
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	\$ 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	\$ 3,000
Colorado Mesa University: Outreach	\$ 6,000	\$ 3,000
LBT: Old Testament Translation in the Bandi Language of Liberia	\$ 8,000	\$ 4,000
Lutheran Hispanic Missionary Institute Infrastructure Investment	\$ 6,000	\$ 2,000
Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch: Kruse Memorial Chapel Transformation	\$ 4,000	\$ 2,000
LBW: Bringing Spanish Braille Bibles to Central & South America	\$ 8,000	\$ 2,000
Equipping MOST Ministries Construction & Repair Teams	\$ 6,000	\$ 3,000
POBLO: Cross-Cultural Outreach Ministry Training to RMD Churches	\$ 5,000	\$ 2,500
Dominican Republic Disability Ministry	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
TOTAL	\$ 80,000	\$ 52,500

LOOKING FOR MISSION GRANT APPLICATIONS BY NOVEMBER 15

Isaiah 9:6 *For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

We will shortly be in the season of Advent. It's a wonderful time of year! With great anticipation we wait for our Lord knowing full well that he has already come and will come again. It's a gift to live in the time where the baby Jesus is a reality. What a blessing! During this season of anticipation, the Lord has tasked us with helping others and teaching them about Him. The LWML RMD supports fantastic organizations doing this important work. We are preparing to help even more organizations over the next biennium, but we need your help. Please remember to submit your mission grant applications to the district by visiting the 2024 Mission Grants and YWR page of the LWML RMD website (<https://www.lwmlrmd.org/2024-mission-grants-ywr/>). Applications should be submitted no later than November 15th. If you need more information, you can email the VP of Gospel Outreach at missions@lwmlrmd.org.

May God continue to bless us as we enter this season of anticipation and teach others of His love for us!

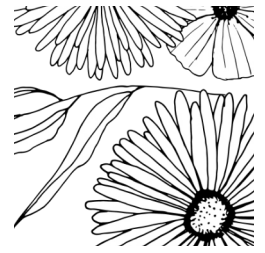
MOVING FORWARD

Advent is a time to focus on the coming of Christ. We spend weeks in anticipation of Christmas every year and Advent is when we go back through the scriptures to the time before Christ was born. This time of year will also have a large number of Christmas parties and events and many of your LWML groups will host Christmas parties during the next weeks.

As leaders, this is a wonderful opportunity to take a quiet moment both personally and as a group to consider what you want to

accomplish or focus on in the next year. How do you want to move forward and to pray about how He would like you to move forward?

Also with convention coming soon, consider who of the young women you know will want to apply for Young Women Representatives to your zone. Those applications typically are due mid-February, so January is the time to apply. Have a lovely Advent and a Merry Christmas!



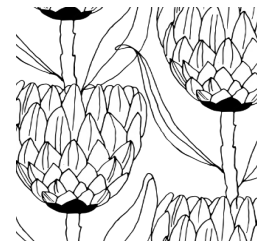
Christina Bean

**SERVANT
RESOURCES VP**

A PRAYER FOR ADVENT

Our Dear Lord,

*As we again are remembering, in this Advent season, how you have shown your love and preserved your people in every land, and down through all the ages, we thank and praise you. You have shown love that passes all understanding. You have fulfilled all your promises, guiding stubborn and unfaithful people, giving the blessing of faithful leaders and men of faith in you, and forgiving sins. You have created people who love your laws and cherish your name. You have preserved your word for all generations. In your time you provided Your Son, to be born of a blessed woman, into this world, according to your prophesy, to save your people from their sins. He was without sin and showed your love and healing, taught us to love one-another, and forgive as He forgives. He fulfilled the requirement of a perfect Life, and His sacrifice for us by His suffering and death on the cross to save Your people from their sins-All who have trusted in your promise in the past, and now all who have heard and believe in your Son, our Savior, Jesus, and been filled with your Spirit. We thank you Our Father in Heaven, that in this Love we can see the Love that will fill the heavenly home you have prepared for your faithful saints, cleansed and forgiven, and gathered to you when you return on the appointed last day, which only you can know. Preserve us in faith in you, Dear Lord, through whatever challenges remain, help us to praise your name and share your word with others in faith and joy.
Amen*



Anita Palenschat

**CHRISTIAN LIFE
COMMITTEE**



Yvonne Steeby
TREASURER

ARE YOU FEEDING YOUR MITE BOX?



Is your Mite Box visible?

Maybe a change of location is needed to get you to think about feeding it more often.

How do you feed your Mite Box?

Do you put in your change when your coin purse gets heavy? Yes, please feed it change, but folding money and checks fit in the box too!

When and Where do you empty your Mite Box?

How often have you gone to an LWML meeting and forgotten your Mites?

Does your group have other ways to leave your Mites, like a large Mite Box in your Narthex?

Are you praying for the missions funded by your Mite Box?

The Lord led us to choose these missions at the last district convention, they need our prayers as well as our Mites.

The end of the Rocky Mountain District's biennium is coming in a few months. We still have mission grants that are unfunded, as mite offerings have really dropped in the last 6 months. We were unable to send funds in September; we are behind in our National Mite Offering. Please keep praying and giving towards our mission goals.



**ORDER FORM FOR LUTHERAN WOMAN'S QUARTERLY
PLEASE REMIT NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 26, 2024**

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 = \$ _____

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

LARGE PRINT SUBSCRIPTIONS – Lutheran Braille Workers (LBW)

If you would like a large print subscription to the LWML Quarterly, please contact LBW. Materials from LBW are free, but a donation to LBW would be appreciated.

Contact Information: lbwloveworks.org/materials/large-print/ or
800-925-6092 or
Lutheran Braille Workers
13471 California Street
P.O. Box 5000
Yucaipa, CA 92399

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



LINDA HARSH

MISSION
SERVANTS
COMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN

IN HIS HANDS- NEW MOMS AND TEACHERS

Our 2024 Convention Gifts from the Heart Ingathering will be blessing two outreaches in our host zones; Life Choices in the Northern Zone and Orphan Grain Train in the Northeastern Zone. As Jesus holds these ministries ***In His Hands***, we have the opportunity to assist with these four ingathering opportunities.

Life Choices Loveland & Longmont provides care for women in crisis pregnancy situations.

1. Gift Cards from stores like Walmart and King Soopers for \$10, \$15 or \$20

2. Baby Bags (given to moms to bring baby home from the hospital)

Option 1: Items can be boy, girl, or neutral

- 1 - Receiving blanket,
- 3 – Burp rags
- 1 - Hat & a pair of booties
- 2 - Onesies, Newborn,
- 2 – Sleepers, Newborn

Wrap items in the receiving blanket and tie it with a ribbon or cord.

Option 2: Add the following 3 items to the above and pack all items in the diaper-backpack

- 1 – Small package of wipes
- 10 – Newborn diapers
- 1 – Diaper- Backpack, available at Walmart or online

Orphan Grain Train sends relief for human need worldwide.

1. New Underwear & Socks for Men, Women, and Children

2. Teacher Kits for teachers in third world countries

- 1 - Drawstring or tote bag, new or gently used (no religious, patriotic or military symbols)
- 1 – 12-Pack pencils, 1 – Pencil sharpener, 4 – Highlighters, 2 – Red pens
- 1 – 12-Pack Chalk (white or colored) & 1 Chalkboard eraser
- 1 – Clipboard, 1 – Adult scissors, 4 – Pocket folders, 1 – Ruler
- 4 – Sheets of stickers (stars or smiley faces)

Please no additions, deletions, or substitutions. Find complete instructions at www.ogt.org.

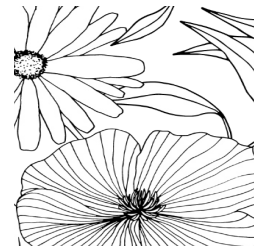
Check out the www.bagsinbulk.com website for diaper-backpacks or drawstring bags if you are planning to make the Baby Bags or Teacher Kits a group project.

Please print the Gifts from the Heart flier from the September ***Tidings*** to post on your bulletin board to help spread the word about our 2024 Convention Ingathering!

FALL RALLIES ARE WRAPPING UP

Our Fall Rallies are wrapping up and the ladies of the Rocky Mountain District have enjoyed fellowship, food, Bible study and worship. Also part of the fun involves collecting items for missions in our zones. While the Rio Grande Zone collected gifts for the children of Ysleta, the Four Corners Zone collected items for Lifeguard an organization that provides

information and supplies for young mothers who keep their babies. The Four Corners rally with a theme of *Lord Teach us to Pray* featured an adaptation of the LWML Prayer Service from 2022. Ideas were shared and time was set aside for some Visual Prayer writing and an easy craft. Below are some photos from the rally at St. Paul's in Durango.



FALL RALLY
NOTES



RMD OFFICERS NEEDED

Vice President of Christian Life (4 year term) shall be coordinator of the Christian Life Department including the chairman of the Christian Life Committee, Christian Resources Editor, and LWML store manager.

Vice President of Communications (4 year term) shall provide leadership and direction to the Tidings editor and publications manager as well as coordinate the convention publicity and be alert to district and zone news.

Recording Secretary (4 year term) records convention proceedings and meetings of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee, providing members and past presidents with minutes in a timely manner.

Treasurer (4 year term) receives all monies and keeps an itemized record of all receipts and disbursements. Also makes authorized payments and provides financial reports at each Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings. Additionally they oversee the scholarship program and special gifts endowment program. The treasurer will assist in preparing for the mission goal and submit records for financial review at the end of each biennium. They will submit one or more names for assistant to the treasurer.

Pastoral Counselor (4 year term) will serve the LWML RockyMountain District in an advisory capacity, attend district meetings, and attend the district convention. He is a nonvoting member of the Executive Committee.

PLEASE CONSIDER SERVING!



Belinda
Burmeister

RETREAT
CHAIRMAN

SECOND BIENNIAL RETREAT

Sixty ladies and two Pastors met at Glorieta Conference Center and Camp outside Santa Fe, New Mexico on September 8 -10.

Donna Snow led the group through three sessions based on her book, *Joseph, Meant for Good*. Debby Yocky walked the ladies through some visual faith practices. There was singing, praying, and sharing as our time together flew by. We wrapped up our weekend with a worship service lead by our Pastors, Rev. Pete Scheele and Rev Duane Meissner, with music provided by Beth Shroff.

We determined from the exit survey that a Third Retreat in 2025 would be a great idea. So here is where you come in: we need to find a venue in a place between Colorado Springs and Albuquerque. If you or a friend knows of a place that can accommodate between 60 and 75 people with meals, housing, and a meeting space, I would love to hear about it. My email address may be found on the last page of the *Tidings*. The goal is for every member of the LWML Rocky Mountain District to be able to attend the retreats. The next retreat is only 22 months away and there are lots of plans to make. Start planning to attend. Watch for teasers as details come together. I look forward to hearing from you soon.



Roasting marshmallows after dinner.

Donna Snow and Belinda Burmeister enjoy catching up with their friend from Texas.



Below
Meeting Hall
at Glorieta,



Inside the Meeting Hall



Outside for a walk and a little fresh air.

RETREAT FACES



**Joseph,
Meant for
Good**

contact us

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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

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