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FAITH

As we come away from Easter with renewed faith in our Triune God, we can see the many ways that God has blessed the LWML and its members.

Many of you are looking forward to meeting other Women in Mission at the National Convention in Omaha, NE. We are thankful for the many mites collected and other donations that enabled us to fund all of the 2023-25 Mission Grants in full. A portion of our Rocky Mountain District Mites goes to fulfill those grants. We also praise God for the faith-filled giving which has enabled our district to pay over half of our own district mission grants. Going forward, we pray for the convention delegates who will choose the new Mission Goal and the grants that we will fund in the 2025-27 biennium.

Groups have been busy with ingatherings or spring retreats. If your group has had a special event or ingathering for missions, short articles and pictures are always welcome. Also, if you are attending the Omaha Convention, I would love to include some photos in upcoming publications.

Be sure to note the registration for our RMD Fall Retreat is open and a registration form included. The fall rally schedule is also included in this issue so save those dates on your calendars!

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. Hebrews 11:1 (NIV) Chapter 11 of Hebrews gives many examples of faith throughout the Bible....Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Jacob, Rahab and many others. How could your faith be a witness to others?

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Shelley Stewart
PRESIDENT

FAITH

The famous verse of the purpose of LWML is the Widow's Mite. *And Jesus sat over against the treasury, and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury: and many that were rich cast in much. And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites, which make a farthing. And he called unto him his disciples, and saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That this poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury: For all they did cast in of their abundance; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living.* Mark 12:41-44 (KJV)

Historians say this was about the worth of two pennies. Can you imagine having only two pennies? What could you buy with that? Nothing really. Back in the day you could get a little candy. In some of the countries we support with mission grants, they survive on pennies a day. Beyond this, if that was all you had to your name, would you

give it away? Basically this was all the widow had, with no money coming in any time soon. But she put it in the offering box for the Temple. Jesus noticed how much of a sacrifice this was for her. To me this is faith to the extreme. Giving everything you have with nothing coming in. When we tithe, we trust that our budget can support it, but we have funding coming in. She didn't. Widows in this time relied on charity from others, since they didn't have male family members to take care of them. This situation makes me nervous because it's so uncertain. I think this is why Jesus pointed it out.

Our takeaway from this could be that what we see as small and insignificant can make a difference for someone else. So even when we feel we're not doing enough, God uses this as an example of faith in giving all that we have. What a blessing!

A GIFT OF GOD

For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you. Matthew 17:20

Faith like a mustard seed. A mustard seed is tiny and yet when it is planted and grows, it can become a very big tree. Faith is a gift of God. We receive this gift when we are baptized and upon hearing the Gospel. Jesus is saying that even if you have a small amount of faith and trust in God, it is still enough to say to a mountain, move and it will move. To believe we must have faith. This is something that we cannot do on our own. Faith is external and by the power of the Holy Spirit is then made internal inside of each one of us. Martin Luther found this out by intensive study of the book of Romans, and of course, it was the Spirit that revealed this to him, so that the Church would be reminded that no matter how hard we try, faith cannot and will never come from our hearts. Our hearts are filled with evil and sinful thoughts; God alone must give us this faith and trust in Him and Him alone.

And "nothing will be impossible for you." Mary was greeted by an angel and told that she would bear the Savior of the world. How exciting and terrifying at the same time! But, Mary had great faith and trust in God to accept this great responsibility and took it on boldly. When the angel told her that her relative Elizabeth was also pregnant, the angel said this, "For nothing will be impossible with God." The Bible shows so many situations that just can't be possible, but God shows time and time again that He is capable of doing great and impossible things. You may have an impossible situation going on right now in your life, but God says to you, wait and see what I am about to do. Sometimes things work out and sometimes they don't, for all we can pray is "Thy will be done." We put things in God's hands and that is all we can do. Have faith and trust that He will work things out according to His great mercy and love. We can certainly ask God for an increase in faith, but know that God has given you and me everything we need to carry out our various tasks in life and He will guide us every step of the way. Have faith in the God who can do great wonders even from faith as small as a mustard seed.



Nathanael
Biberdorf

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
Mt. Zion Lutheran, Boulder, CO	\$5,000	\$2,500
Concordia Lutheran Radio Ministry, Sud-Est, Haiti	\$5,000	\$2,500
Concordia Seminary Food Bank/Re-Sell It Shop	\$5,000	\$5,000
Concordia University Acts 1:8 Fund	\$6,500	\$3,250
CTSFW Food and Clothing Co-op	\$5,000	\$5,000
Kitchen Renovation at God Cares About You	\$8,000	\$4,000
Mission Evangelical Luterana Confesionalen Honduras	\$6,500	\$3,250
LHF Bible Books for Ghana's children	\$5,000	\$2,500
Lutheran High School Missions (LuHi)	\$8,000	\$4,000
MOST Ministries Feet on the Ground	\$6,000	\$3,000
Orphan Grain Train Shipping Container	\$5,000	\$2,500
Redeemer Lutheran School Scholarship	\$5,000	\$2,500
Set Apart to Serve LCMS Office of Pastoral Education	\$5,000	\$2,500
Math Curriculum/ Manipulatives Trinity Lutheran	\$5,000	\$2,500
Total	\$80,000	\$45,000

MISSION GRANT UPDATE

Faith in Action: Trusting in What We Cannot See

"Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."—Hebrews 11:1

This powerful verse highlights two foundational attributes of faith: confidence in hope and assurance in the promises of God. Faith gives us the confidence to trust in God's Word, believing that what He has declared will come to pass—even when we can't yet see it. It affirms the unseen realities of His kingdom and anchors our hope in His eternal promises. At its core, faith is both a divine gift and a daily practice—one that enables us to live generously, walk

boldly, and act in trust.

Since the start of the year, we've witnessed faith in action. By God's grace and your generous giving, **we have provided partial funding to all our grant recipients—and even paid two grants in full.** What an incredible accomplishment! These blessings are tangible reminders that God provides, often in ways we don't immediately see.

We thank God for the faith He gives us—the faith that inspires us to give freely, to trust deeply, and to hope joyfully. May we continue to walk by faith, not by sight, confident in the promises of our faithful God.

LEADERSHIP BY FAITH

Leadership requires faith. First, you must have faith that God put you in this leadership position for a reason. You also must have faith that He has a plan, even when things are not as you planned. Next, you must have faith that the tools and gifts that He has given you will see you through all turmoil. Sometimes things do not resolve the way we planned and we must have faith that God will use it to His Glory.

Another scenario that requires faith is filling necessary roles. It can often be difficult to find people willing to

serve and can test our faith that those roles will be filled. We often try to take this burden on ourselves. While it may take some legwork on our part to fill these roles, the Lord will provide and He has a plan for each person that takes a role forward. Unfortunately, we are not always confident when approaching new things. When considering taking a new role and while serving in it, remember to take your insecurities and concerns to the Lord in prayer. Faith is what will see you through your tasks ahead.



Christina Bean

SERVANT
RESOURCES VP

THE BLESSING OF FAITH

Mark 9:24 *Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord I believe; help my unbelief!"*

Sometimes faith is truly a struggle for God's children. We want to be in a close relationship with God but there are those times when we feel distant. Do we really believe enough? Do we really live for the Lord? Do we truly "turn it over to Jesus" as the gospel song says?

Thanks be to God we do not have to believe enough. Christ the Savior has paid the price for us already through His death and resurrection. We suffer

unbelief in our human nature. We on our own cannot believe enough. Thanks be to God that we are not called on to believe enough. Jesus has paid all that price. We truly have salvation as a free gift. Our little faith, our weak belief, is not an issue for our Heavenly Father. He sees the perfect gift that Jesus has given us freely. Through the ultimate gift of Jesus, he takes care of our unbelief and gives us the blessing of salvation. Jesus gives us the blessing of faith by sending the Holy Spirit to us to turn our simple, limited belief into trusting faith in Him above all else, to redeem us in our human weakness.

To Him be the glory!



MARGARET
BLAZEK

CHRISTIAN LIFE
VP



A SPRING RETREAT

But the word of God is not bound.
2 Timothy 2:19b

Sue Giddings

TIDINGS EDITOR

The ladies at Zion Lutheran Church in Farmington, NM hosted women of the Four Corners Zone for a day of fellowship, Bible study, and a spring craft on Saturday, April 26.

Our new Jr. Pastoral Counselor, Pastor Nathanael Biberdorf, who is also the pastor at Zion, led a great Bible study based on verses from 2 Timothy 2:8-13. This text comes from the Pastoral Epistles at the time when Paul was imprisoned and

nearing the end of his life. Paul wants his followers to remember that while you can chain or bind a person, you can't chain God's word, it will never be silenced.

Anita Palenschat from Gallup shared her banner design for the Omaha Convention. She also prepared for and led the ladies in painting a magnet to take home.

With over thirty ladies attending from Cortez, Navajo, Gallup, Durango, and Farmington, it was a great day of fellowship for all attendees.







LINDA HARSH

MISSION
SERVANTS
COMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN

A VERY LARGE CROWD SPREAD THEIR CLOAKS ON THE ROAD

Ten years ago I noticed an article in Orphan Grain Train's **Headliner** about gathering coats on Palm Sunday based on the verse from Matthew 21:8, *A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road*. A couple of years later my church started collecting coats, jackets, hoodies, and sweaters for OGT during Lent, dedicating them on Palm Sunday. To my surprise, we continue to collect 80 – 100 coats each year to be distributed around the world.

Spring is a good time of year to get coats, no longer worn, out of your closet and put them to a better purpose. Of course, everything should be gently used and clean. It's also a great time to find bargains. I always enjoy looking for the best deals on children's coats. It's easy when any size or color works!

Put your own twist on the coat drive if you're not close to an OGT collection center. There are many agencies and outreaches that need your coats. Some outreaches may not be able to store coats over the summer. Go ahead and plan a drive another time of the year but don't miss the fun of shopping for bargains in the spring.



A COLORFUL BOARD ADVERTISES THE NEED FOR COATS AND IDENTIFIES ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN AS THE RECIPIENT OF THE COAT DRIVE. THERE IS ALSO A PLACE TO GATHER THE COATS UNDER THE TABLE.

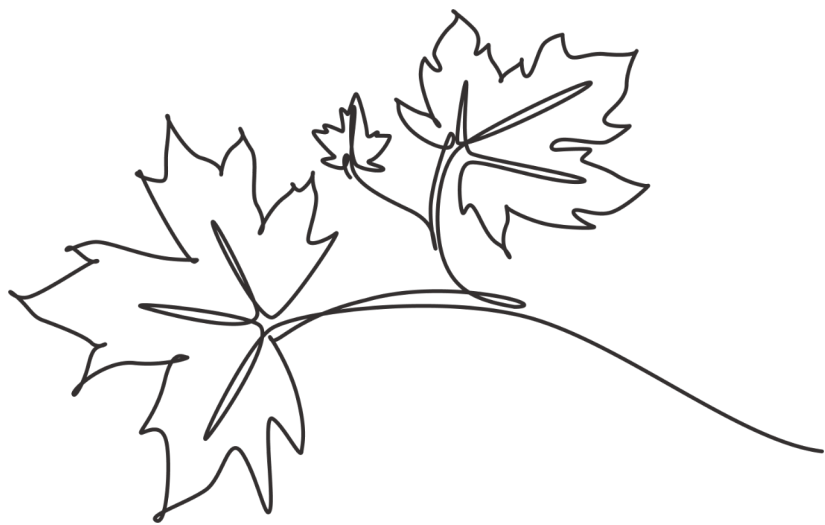
FALL RALLY SCHEDULE

At the February Board of Directors Meeting the Zone Presidents made their Fall Rally Date requests. Based on the requests and in an effort to honor most of the first requests, here is the schedule for Fall. **Mark your calendars.**



FALL RALLY
NOTES

Date	Zone	Location	Church
August 23	Pecos Zone	Roswell, NM	Immanuel
September 13	4 Corners Zone	Cortez, CO	Trinity
September 20	Northeastern Zone	Sterling, CO	First English
	Southern Zone	Woodland Park, CO	Faith Lutheran
September 27	Northern Zone	Loveland, CO	Mt. Olive
October 11	North Central Zone	Arvada, CO	
October 25	Northern N.M.		Good Shepherd
	South Central Zone	Denver, CO	University Hills
Date TBA	Rio Grande	El Paso, TX	Zion
	Western	Gypsum, CO	Grace





Linda Harsh

A HAPPENING IN THE DISTRICT

FASHION SHOW FUN

Stylish and quirky outfits are often donated to Orphan Grain Train. We gathered a few of these garments to showcase at Risen Savior Women in Mission's first OGT Fashion Show & Luncheon. Our humorous Fashion Emcee introduced our models and described their attire. Ten models of all ages delighted our audience of 60 plus ladies from several surrounding churches. The show raised \$1,100 funds for OGT's Hurricane Helene and California Wildfires Disaster Relief Fund. As one of our guests observed, "everyone left with a smile on her face".



Direct your
questions to
Belinda
Burmeister,
Retreat Chairman

713-419-1692

Or email her at
retreat@lwmlrmd
.org

FALL RETREAT

Our biennial Fall Retreat is once again being held at the Glorieta, New Mexico Conference Center from September 5-7. Retreat registration is now open until August 1st. The theme for our retreat is *Blood and Water Flowed* based on I John 5:6-8. Pastor Mike and his wife Cheryl Mattil will be our retreat speakers. A registration form is included on page 7.

Come and be ready for good food, fellowship, Bible study, and worship. Sign up early to guarantee your spot. Although we have a large district, the venue is fairly centrally located and easy to access. It is situated in a lovely mountain area with lots of opportunities for walking around the grounds on paved paths, so be sure to pack your walking shoes.

We hope to see you there and will enjoy spending time in the New Mexico mountains with our Women in Mission!

The Mountains



Are Calling

LWML
Rocky Mountain District
Fall Retreat

September 5-7, 2025

Glorieta Conference Center
63B NM-50, Glorieta, NM 87353

Blood & Water Flowed 1 John 5:6-8

Retreat Leader:

Rev. Michael & Cheryl Mattil

Registration Information:

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Registration	\$45.00 ea	\$ _____
Meal Plan (5 meals)	\$70.00	\$ _____
Gluten Free (\$3.00 per meal)	\$15.00	\$ _____

Motel Style Room		
___ Single Occupant	\$240.00	
___ Double Occupancy*	\$240.00 (\$120 ea)	\$ _____

Roommate's Name _____

Total \$ _____

Make Checks payable to: LWML

Mail completed form and check to:

Belinda Burmeister, Retreat Chairman
11 Ranger Ave., Timberon, NM 88350

Contact Information:

Phone: 713-419-1692
Email: retreat@lwmlrmd.org

General Instructions

Please fill out form, print in black or blue ink.

Registration begins on: May 1 – August 1, 2025. No refunds after August 1, 2025

*For double occupancy, only one roommate must register for the room. Please list the roommate on form.

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*I lift up my eyes to the hills.
From where does my help come?
My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.*

Psalms 121: 1-2



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