



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

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GOD'S GRACE

Mona Book, our Assistant to the President writes,

The LWML Rocky Mountain District Convention is coming in June, and it promises to be a joyful time of worship, learning, fellowship, and mission inspiration. Conventions are more than meetings — they are mountaintop experiences where Lutheran women (and men!) gather around God's Word, encourage one another, and return home renewed and ready to serve. On page 11, Mona shares ways to fundraise in order to send delegates, pastors, and others to the convention. The Rocky Mountain District Convention is the perfect place to learn what LWML is and does. Colorado Springs is the perfect destination with Pikes Peak as a backdrop for that mountaintop experience.

The importance of God's grace can't be underscored enough. As Christians we have God's saving grace, the ongoing grace that transforms us, and the daily grace we see in the many blessings that we receive.

We see God's grace at work through the LWML. It is by God's grace that we have willing workers that represent our zones and organization, faithful members who collect the mites that fund our biennial mission grants, and volunteers who work behind the scenes to prepare the convention site and all the activities that will happen there.

As you read through your *Tidings* today, take time to pause and thank God for His goodness and mercy that helps to fuel the LWML Rocky Mountain District. Consider attending the convention as a delegate for your group, consider serving as an officer or committee member, consider purchasing items for our Gifts From the Heart gatherings, and consider ways you can help a sister to attend their first convention.

By God's grace, may we have the faith of a mustard seed and use it to move mountains.

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Shelley Stewart
PRESIDENT

GOD'S GRACE

When I think of God's grace, I think of how I don't get what I deserve. The consequence of sin is death. In God's grace we are forgiven and spared what we deserve. In this world, there is a lot of talk about our rights and getting what we deserve. Thank God we don't get what we deserve!

Along with God's grace we get His power and strength. There are days when I don't feel strong and powerful, that's for sure! But Corinthians 12:9 tells us **My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.** When we are weak is when God's strength shines through!

I also think of *but for the grace of God go I.* While the exact phrase, *but for the grace of God go I*, is not directly in the Bible, it is a well-known idiom derived from a 16th-century quote by martyr John Bradford and closely paraphrases 1 Corinthians 15:10, which states, **But by the grace of God I am what I am.**

God knows exactly who and what we are, what we struggle with, what we think about. But He loves us anyway! That is grace! As we enter this season of Lent, let us remember what we are preparing for. We have God's ultimate grace and love! It's more than we can imagine!



Debbie Larson
CONVENTION
CO-CHAIRMAN

Let's Get our Pastors Involved!

As plans for convention and excitement builds, the District Board of Directors would like each LWML group to consider inviting their pastor to attend along with them. Our pastors are a vital part of joyfully proclaiming Christ, supporting missions, and equipping women to honor God by serving others.

The pastor's convention registration will be complimentary, but the cost of lodging and meals may be preventing him from considering attending. If local groups could help their pastor with financial assistance it may be the incentive they need to attend.

Open your pastor's eyes to the joy of LWML!

GOD'S GRACE IS AT WORK



For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It (God's grace) teaches us to say 'No' to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age (Titus 2:11–12).

We often speak of God's grace as comfort, and we are absolutely right to do so. Grace assures us that God loves and forgives us, and that our salvation does not hang by the thread of our performance. What a gracious God we have! Yet this verse from Titus seems to be revealing that grace is more than comfort alone. Could God's grace be even bigger than we typically imagine?

A fuller understanding of God's grace recognizes not only its consolation, but also the reality that it is working continuously to shape His disciples into a new way of life. Grace is neither passive nor abstract. It's God's "gift" to us as He teaches, trains, and disciplines us. The same grace that rescues us from judgment also retrains our desires, reorients our loves, and redirects the course of our lives toward God's purposes.

Throughout the Gospels, Jesus consistently offers grace *before* change, but never *without* change. He meets people in their brokenness and speaks forgiveness over them – something we know very well as Lutherans – but then Jesus always invites these same grace receivers into gracious transformation.

"Follow Me" is Jesus' invitation away from sin, toward faithfulness, and deeper into communion with God. It's not an easy one to accept. When the

rich young man received his invitation, he walked away sorrowful. The gift he sought was the "kingdom of Heaven," and he was quite comfortable with the idea of receiving it, but it seems he was quite uncomfortable with Jesus' gracious expectation to leave his sin behind. God's grace is disruptive. It interrupts patterns we have grown used to. It challenges habits we have quietly justified. It presses on areas of our lives we would rather God leave untouched.

From time to time it's important for us to ask ourselves some uncomfortable but necessary questions: Are we receiving the fullness of God's grace, or only using it as free pass? Are we allowing God's grace to change our hearts, or to make us comfortable with our brokenness? Where might the Holy Spirit be inviting true repentance, obedience to the way of Jesus, or a more demonstrable trust in God? Let's resist the temptation to receive grace too casually or treat it merely as a flowery buzz word in church circles. Let's sit with it, submit to it, and see what tremendous things God might have in mind for it to do in our lives as He works to mold us into the likeness of His Son. Receiving the fullness of God's grace is never easy, but the most rewarding things in life rarely are. God, grant us the courage to seek and receive Your grace in its fullness, and rejoice in the new creation You have in mind for us. Amen!

Duane Meisner

SENIOR
PASTORAL
COUNSELOR



MISSION GRANTS MITE PROGRESS

REMEMBER TO
SEND MITES TO:
ANN
HERNANDEZ
LWML RMD
TREASURER
PO BOX 971848
EL PASO, TX
79997

	GRANTED	PAID
Mt. Zion Lutheran, Boulder, CO	\$5,000	\$5,000
Concordia Lutheran Radio Ministry, Sud-Est, Haiti	\$5,000	\$5,000
Concordia Seminary Food Bank/Re-Sell It Shop	\$5,000	\$5,000
Concordia University Acts 1:8 Fund	\$6,500	\$6,500
CTSFW Food and Clothing Co-op	\$5,000	\$5,000
Kitchen Renovation at God Cares About You	\$8,000	\$8,000
Mission Evangelical Luterana Confesionalen Honduras	\$6,500	\$6,500
LHF Bible Books for Ghana's children	\$5,000	\$5,000
Lutheran High School Missions (LuHi)	\$8,000	\$8,000
MOST Ministries Feet on the Ground	\$6,000	\$6,000
Orphan Grain Train Shipping Container	\$5,000	\$2,500
Redeemer Lutheran School Scholarship	\$5,000	\$5,000
Set Apart to Serve LCMS Office of Pastoral Education	\$5,000	\$5,000
Math Curriculum/ Manipulatives Trinity Lutheran	\$5,000	\$5,000
	Total \$80,000	\$77,500



Nancy Kraft

**WESTERN ZONE
PRESIDENT**

SHARE THE WORD

What are you doing with all the devotional and Bible study books you have read? Are they collecting dust? Are they piled in a box or sitting on a shelf? Why not share them!

Bring them to the LWML RMD 2026 Convention in Colorado Springs!

We will have tables available. You can donate the books and/or exchange them for something you may want to take home.

FREE! Don't have a book, you can still take a book! Did I say Free....Yes!! No donation necessary...we want to Share the Word with everyone! Visit us in the Exhibit Hall.

*Left over books will be donated.

STEWARDS OF HIS GRACE

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace. 1 Peter 4:10a God's grace is never scarce, never random, and never without purpose. In Christ, we receive forgiveness we did not earn, love we cannot exhaust, and gifts we are not meant to keep to ourselves. Grace flows to us—and then through us. Notice that Peter calls us stewards of grace. A steward does not own what is given; she manages it faithfully for the good of others and the honor of the Giver. Every ability, opportunity, resource, and word of encouragement is a gift entrusted to us by our gracious God. God's grace is described as varied—beautifully diverse. Some serve through teaching, organizing, preparing meals, visiting the lonely, praying faithfully or offering quiet acts of mercy that only God fully sees. Others speak words of comfort, share the Gospel, or lead with wisdom. None of these works earn grace; they are the fruit of grace already received.

As Lutheran Women in Mission, we also steward grace through our mite offerings. These small gifts gathered in faith and gratitude become a powerful witness to God's provision. Through mites, we support mission grants that carry Christ's mercy and saving Word into communities near and far. Mission Grant recipients become instruments through whom God's varied grace reaches those who need to hear and see the love of Jesus. The goal of all our serving is clear: *that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ* 1 Peter 4:11a. LWML service, mission support, and everyday acts of love all point beyond ourselves to our Savior. Our hands may do the work but the glory belongs to Him. As we go about our callings, may we see each day as another opportunity to be faithful stewards of His varied grace—receiving with gratitude, giving with joy, and glorifying Christ in all things.

GOD'S GRACE

It is by grace you have been saved...

(Ephesians 2:8). By God's grace we are blessed to have a Savior who redeemed us from sin, death, and the devil. As we move into the Lenten season we remember and give thanks for the suffering that Jesus did in our stead, and that His death and resurrection made us "right with God." Even more, He has given us our faith through the power of the Holy Spirit, that we can be called the "children of God." As His redeemed children, we rejoice that we may study His Word daily and give Him thanks and praise by our service to Him through our time, talents, and treasure. Daily time in the Word keeps our focus on Him and not on the world and our troubles; *Mustard*

Seed devotions, daily reading the Bible, using Bible studies and devotions that are free at lwml.org, are opportunities to be in the Word. What joy there is as Christians, that we can celebrate God's grace, study His Word, and share His grace with others through what we do and say. Our LWML RMD Convention will be in Colorado Springs, June 5-7, 2026. The Christian Life Committee will have a booth with resources for individuals and/or groups. Come see us at our booth for our give-aways and sign up for our free drawing of Bible studies by Donna Snow and Deb Burma. The LWML Store will also be available with clothes, jewelry, gift items, and devotions/Bible studies for your shopping convenience and fun. We look forward to seeing you in Colorado Springs!



Andi Noblitt

GOSPEL
OUTREACH VP



SYLVIA BEAN

CHRISTIAN LIFE
VP



CALLING TEENS AND YOUNG WOMEN

Do you have any teens or young women in your zone that would be good representatives for the district convention? The deadline for the zone selection is April 1st!

Christina Bean

**SERVANT
RESOURCES VP**

These programs are an excellent way to share God’s grace and to mentor the younger generations in joining LWML. Our organization is all about spreading the gospel and God’s grace. Talk to the women you know and send them a copy of the application on our website to submit to your zone board! We need women of all ages to work together to help us continue to spread God’s grace for years to come.

A THANK YOU NOTE



Here is a thank you note shared by Sue Frauenfeld, our Scholarship Committee Chairman.

Good Morning Sue,

Thank you very much for your email and for sending the scholarship award. I have received the check in the mail. I pray that you and your family had a wonderful Christmas and New Year. May God be with you as we start 2026. Thank you.

Sue Frauenfeld

**SCHOLARSHIP
COMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN**

*Faithfully His Servant,
Dan Hampton*

God is our refuge and strength, a helper who is always found in times of trouble. Psalm 46:1 (CSV)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- March 30.....Mites for 24-26
- April 1.....YWR, Teen names due from Zones
- April 1.....Last Day to register early for Convention
- April 11..... 4 Corners Zone Spring Retreat in Navajo, NM
- April 25.....So. Central Zone Retreat at Holy Cross LC in
Highlands Ranch, CO
- May 12.....Last Day to get your Hotel Reservation
- June 5-7.....District Convention in Colorado Springs, CO
- June 5, 9-11 am.....Bingo for Mites
- June 5, 9-11:30Pre-Convention Service Events

CONVENTION MENU



At our recent Board of Directors Meeting in Colorado Springs, we were able to taste first hand some of the convention menu offerings. The Antler's Hotel did a great job of feeding and accomodating us for our important meeting. Here is a peek at what will be on the menu in June. Please join us for food and fellowship.

Friday Dinner:

Salad: Mixed Green and Romaine Lettuce/Grape Tomatoes/Diced Bell Peppers/
Diced Red Onion/Shredded Cheddar Jack Cheese/Serrano Grape Vinaigrette/
Jalapeno Ranch Dressing

Bread: Country Biscuits/Warm Dinner Rolls/Whipped Honey Butter

Mains: Fried Chicken, BBQ Pulled Pork/Mustard BBQ Sauce, Smoked BBQ

Brisket/Sweet and Spicy BBQ Sauce

Sides: Loaded Mashed Potatoes, Baked Macaroni and Cheese, Sauteed Yellow
Squash and Zucchini/Peppers/Onion.

Desserts: Warm Fruit Cobbler, Chocolate Cake

Becky Meyer

PLANNER

Saturday Breakfast:

Antlers Buffet (Seasonal Sliced fruit and berries),

Assorted Muffins and Danishes, Fluffy scrambled Eggs, Breakfast Potatoes, and
Choice of Applewood Smoked Bacon or Country Style Sausage links

Saturday Lunch: Soup and Salad Buffet (Tomato Soup)

Saturday Banquet:

Starter: Mini Iceberg Wedge Salad/ Chopped Pepper Brown Sugar Bacon/Grape
Tomatoes/Chives/Blue Cheese Dressing

Entree: Herb Roasted Chicken Breast/Lemon and Artichoke Cream/Fresh Basil
with Herb Roasted Red Bliss Potatoes and Tri Colored Baby Carrots

Dessert: New York Style Cheesecake with Raspberry Sauce and Whipped Cream

Sunday Breakfast:

Antlers Buffet: (Seasonal Sliced fruit and berries),

Assorted Muffins and Danishes, Fluffy scrambled Eggs,

Breakfast Potatoes, Choice of Applewood Smoked Bacon or Country Style
Sausage links



Matthew 17:20b



A HEART FOR OGT

Orphan Grain Train's Castle Rock Branch in the South Central Zone will be the third recipient of our 2026 Gifts from the Heart Ingathering. OGT is a Christian volunteer network that ships donated food, clothing, medical, and other needed items to people in 73 countries and the USA. We will be collecting **Assorted School Supplies** to add to their shipments to Latvia and Lithuania and **Hygiene Kits** to be distributed when disasters strike at home or abroad.

LINDA HARSH

MISSION
SERVANTS
COMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN

Assorted School Supplies – Here's a project for everybody! Simply keep an eye out for bargains on your regular shopping trips. Everything is needed (except liquid glue) such as pens, pencils, sharpeners, notebooks, scissors etc. If you'd like to buy in bulk, the office supply store's manager might be able to match or discount your donation.

Hygiene Kits might seem old hat, but they are one of OGT's most requested items and make a great group project! All items should be new or gently used and left in their original packaging if possible. Please note there should be **NO** additions, subtractions or substitutions:

- 1 Bath towel & 1 wash cloth (light or medium weight, dark colors preferred)
- 1 Bath-size bar of soap
- 1 Plastic soap box holder (found at Walmart)
- 1 Toothbrush
- 1 Sturdy comb
- 6 Band-aids (1/2" or 3/4")
- 1 small package of facial tissues
- 1 Nail clipper
- 1 piece of strong ribbon or cord

Place all items inside the towel, fold the long sides over about 5", roll up the towel and tie in the middle. Complete instruction for the Hygiene Kits can be found on OGT's website, www.ogt.org.

Lutheran Valley Retreat Update: To order & ship Wish List items directly to LVR use the addresses listed below and add a gift note indicating the donation is from the LWML RMD ingathering. Please notify me by email or at convention what items and how many were directly shipped.

USPS
300 W South Ave #9042
Woodland Park, CO 80866

Fed Ex or UPS
793 Ellison Rd
Florissant, CO 80816



**Convention
Connections!**



Do you want to know all the latest
Convention updates?

Are you looking to connect with
someone to share a room with?

Do you want to catch a ride to
Colorado Springs from someone
in your area?

**Then join the
LWML RMD
2026 Convention
Facebook group!**



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1529321018162313/>



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEET

February 7-8th was the annual BOD meeting, held in Colorado Springs at the Antler’s Hotel. The executive committee, zone presidents, and various committee members met to preview the venue, as well as enjoy food, fellowship, and Bible study while they finalized plans for the upcoming District Convention.

Sue Giddings
TIDINGS EDITOR
A HAPPENING IN
THE DISTRICT

Andi Noblit presented Mission Minutes with notes of thanks from the grants we have supported this biennium. She also reported that all but one grant has been paid in full. Please get your Mites to Treasurer, Ann Hernandez by March 31st.

Pastors Meissner and Biberdorf led Bible studies both days centering on faith. Linda Harsh gave her presentation on the Gifts from the Heart Ingatherings.. Becky Meyer had us up and moving through her creative planner activities, one being to make a design for a district badge. We also ratified Margaret Blazek’s resignation as Christian Life VP, and accepted Sylvia Bean’s appointment to finish Margaret’s term. Beth Nagy reported that she has had difficulty finding candidates for the offices that are up for re-election.

Shelley Stewart encouraged people to attend the convention. We have contracted with the Antler’s Hotel for 300 people and we need to honor that monetary commitment. Please register soon and invite a friend to share your room. Each society has at least 2 delegate spots and we should encourage YWR’s and teens to attend from our zones.



Zone Presidents, left
District Officers,
below



YOUR TO DO LIST.....

Register for convention—easy to do on the district website.

Consider serving as an officer or member of the Nominating Committee....we need representation from all our zones!

Pray for our Rocky Mountain District LWML and our convention.

Keep sending in your Mites; they help so many people and groups.

DON'T LET FINANCES KEEP YOU HOME

There is something powerful about worshipping in a room filled with sisters in Christ from across our district. We hear how God is working in other zones and congregations. We celebrate mission grants. We laugh together, learn together, and sometimes even cry together. The Holy Spirit strengthens us through Bible study, speakers, music, and the shared mission we hold dear: proclaiming Christ, supporting missions, and equipping women to honor God by serving others.

If you have never attended a district convention, this is your invitation. If you have attended before, you already know the blessing it can be!

Sometimes the first thought when hearing about convention is, "I would love to go, but I just can't afford it." Please do not let finances stop you before you even explore the possibilities. The Lord often provides in unexpected and joyful ways — especially when His people come together in support. Attending convention is not just a personal benefit; it blesses your entire congregation. Those who attend bring back ideas for Bible studies, servant events, mite goals, and new enthusiasm for mission. It is an investment in your local LWML group and church family.

Fun & Creative Ways to Raise Funds

Churches and LWML groups can make supporting convention attendees both meaningful and fun! Here are a few ideas:

"Sponsor a Sister" Sunday – Invite congregation members to contribute toward registration, lodging, or travel expenses. Provide envelopes labeled "Send Me to Convention!"

Mite Challenge Jar – Set a special convention jar next to your regular mite box and watch how quickly it fills.

Bake Sale or Dessert Auction – Always a favorite! Add a little friendly bidding competition.

Soup & Salad Luncheon – Host a simple meal after church with freewill donations.

Quilt or Craft Raffle – Share the talents God has given your group.

Silent Auction of Services – Offer babysitting, yard work, car washes, homemade pies, or handyman help.

Coffee Bar Sunday – Serve specialty coffees and pastries for a suggested donation.

"Change for Change" Challenge – Encourage members to empty spare change for a month and donate it to help send attendees.

These events not only raise funds but also build excitement and awareness about the mission of LWML.

Come and Be Encouraged

The Rocky Mountain District Convention in June will be filled with Christ-centered worship, inspiring speakers, uplifting music, servant opportunities, and the joy of reconnecting with friends — and making new ones. You will leave refreshed in faith and energized for service.

Pray about attending. Talk with your LWML group or pastor. Explore the possibilities. Trust that where God calls, He also provides. We hope to see you in June as we gather together in faith, fellowship, and joyful service to our Lord!



MONA BOOK

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THE PRESIDENT

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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.*

Psalm 121: 1-2



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