



Lutheran Women in Mission

53rd Biennial Convention
The Antlers Hotel
Colorado Springs, CO
June 5-7, 2026

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Convention Information

Registration - Convention registration is in the North Pre-Function Hallway on both Friday and Saturday.

Information - A hostess will be always near the convention registration area to assist you while the convention is in session.

Identification - Your badge, which you will pick up in the registration area, is your admission to all meetings. Wear it for all convention events.

Emergencies - Contact a hostess in the event of illness or injury. If you are having a medical emergency, please call 911 first.

Lost and Found – Please, take found items and inquire for lost items at the convention registration area.

Seating - General sessions are held in Heritage Ballroom C & D. Sections are reserved for Delegates, Board of Directors, District Committees, Appointed Convention Personnel, and Special Guests

Meals - Breakfasts, Friday evening dinner, and Saturday lunch will be held in Heritage Ballroom E & F. Saturday evening dinner will be served in Heritage Ballroom C & D. Please listen to announcements prior to the session recess for directions. Your meal ticket is your badge.

Exhibits - The exhibit area is in the South and East Pre-Function hallways (the hallways are in front of Heritage Ballroom A & B and C & D), will be open at 10 a.m. Friday. The “LWML General Store” is in the Heritage Ballroom B. Please note that the exhibits are only open when the convention is not in general session.

Announcements - Announcements will be made regarding convention/business directions. Only announcements of an emergency nature will be made during the meetings. Other announcements may be posted at the message center near the information table.

Counseling - Pastoral counseling will be available as needed. If you feel the need to speak with a pastor, contact a hostess near the registration area who will get the message to one of the counselors.

Friday Opening Worship Transportation

Can you help give rides? Do you need a ride?

The Friday opening worship service with communion will be at Rock of Ages Lutheran Church, 120 N 31st Street, Colorado Springs, at 7:30 p.m., June 5.

If you have a vehicle and can provide rides for any other participants from the Antlers to Rock of Ages, please meet in the main lobby of the Antlers in front of the elevators at 6:45 p.m. and we will match up riders with willing drivers. You would provide a ride to Rock of Ages and back to the Antlers for the same person/people.

All those willing to drive are asked to register on the LWML national website at

https://lutheranwomensmissionaryleague.formstack.com/forms/transportation_release_driver. Please have your driver's license and insurance cards ready. You will be asked to upload photos of both documents. This releases the LWML from any responsibility in case of accident.

If you need a ride to Rock of Ages, please meet in the main lobby of the Antlers in front of the elevators at 6:45 p.m. and we will match you up with a driver going to Rock of Ages and returning to the hotel.

If you have concerns or questions, inquire at the registration desk.

Convention Scripture, Theme, Goal and Objectives

Scripture:

Matthew 17:20b *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.*

Convention Theme:

Faith That Can Move Mountains

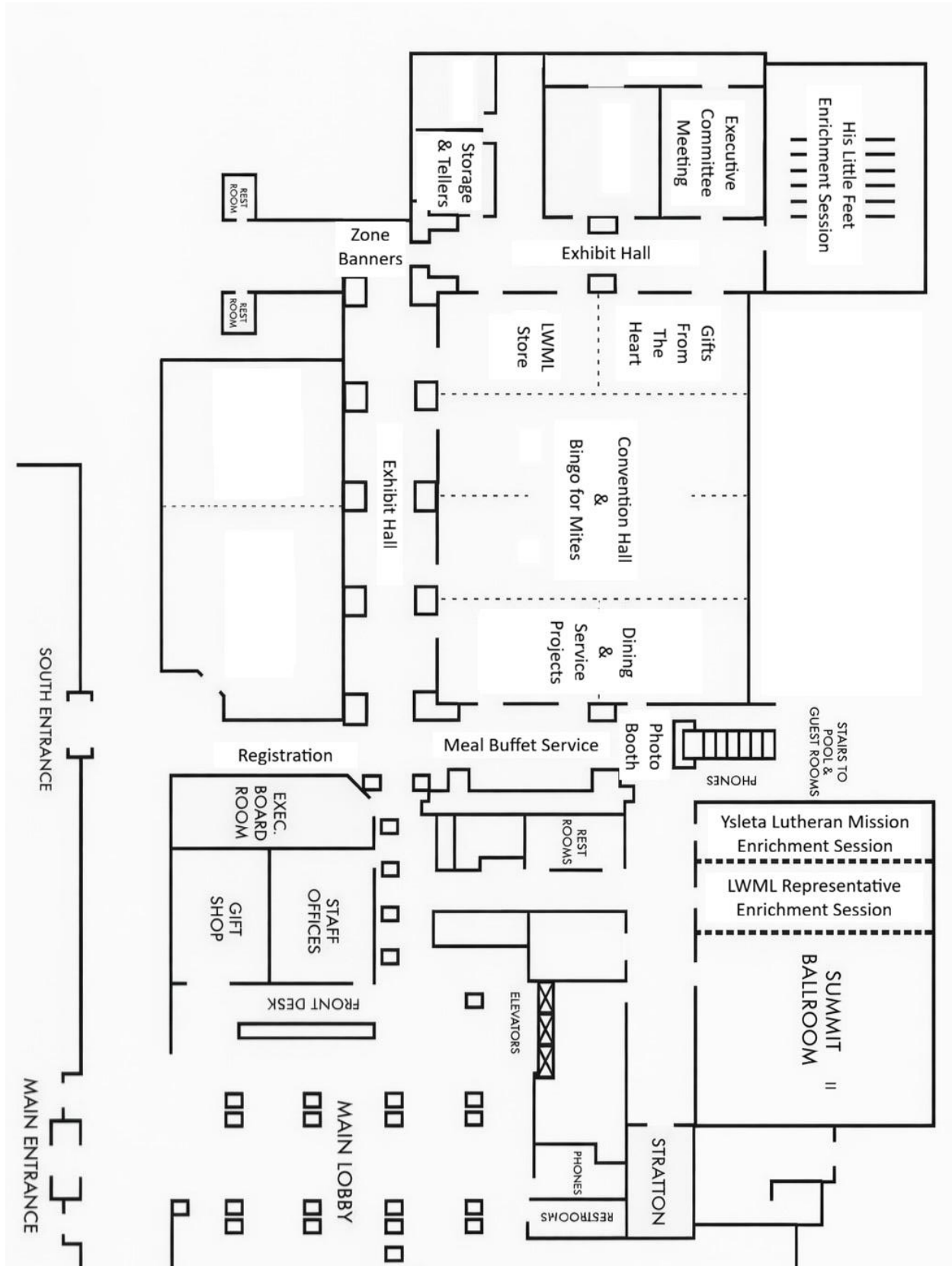
Convention Goal Statement:

Trust the Mountain Mover

Convention Objectives: That all in attendance

- i. Let faith be our foundation.
- ii. Let the Holy Spirit move us to sow seeds.
- iii. Be confident in God's love as we go forth rejoicing.

Convention Map



Proposed Convention Standing Rules

1. Voting members of the convention shall be:
 - a. Society elected delegates or their elected alternates.
 - b. Voting members of the Board of Directors.
 - c. Past presidents of the LWML Rocky Mountain District residing within the district and who are currently LWML members.
2. A member of the voting assembly shall vote in one (1) capacity only. District bylaws do not provide for proxy voting.
3. A majority of the registered voting assembly shall constitute a quorum.
4. The convention registration chairman, directly after the opening ceremonies of the first business meeting, shall report the number of voting members registered as present with proper credentials and shall make additional reports as other voting members register.
5. Delegates shall wear the badges issued by the registration committee at all meetings and shall sit in the section reserved for them. They are requested to be in their seats five (5) minutes before the time set for the opening of each meeting.
6. Only members of the voting assembly may introduce business, debate, and vote. Anyone desiring to speak shall rise and give name, Zone, or office in order to be recognized.
7. A motion made from the floor shall be presented to the secretary in writing, signed by the maker.
8. Debate is limited to two (2) minutes for each speaker. No one may speak more than twice on a question unless consent is granted by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates.
9. An unfinished item of business that is pending at the time set for recess in the convention program shall be resumed at the following meeting or at a designated time set by the assembly.
10. No motion shall be necessary to accept reports of the officers or committee chairmen.
11. No literature or items may be distributed or sold at the convention without the permission of the Executive Committee.
12. All communications for officers and members of the assembly shall be delivered by pages.
13. The parliamentarian interprets the rules and advises on parliamentary procedures when asked to do so.
14. The recording secretary shall destroy all ballots at the close of the convention.
15. It is requested that no photos be taken during worship services and other devotional periods.
16. In consideration of all attendees, please silence digital devices. If you must take a call, please leave the room.
17. After adoption, these rules may be suspended by a majority vote and may be amended or rescinded by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.
18. These rules shall be adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

Convention Program

2026 LWML Rocky Mountain District Convention

June 5-7, 2026
The Antlers Hotel
Colorado Springs, CO

Faith That Can Move Mountains

Friday June 5

8:30 – 12:45 pm	Registration.....	Hallway
9:00 – 11:30 am	Service Projects.....	Heritage Ballroom E/F
9:00 – 12:00 pm	Exhibits Open.....	Hallway
	LWML Store Open	Heritage Ballroom B
10:00 – 11:00 am	Bingo for Mites.....	Heritage Ballroom C/D
10:30 – 11:30 am	Gifts from the Heart.....	Heritage Ballroom A
12:15 pm	Processional Rehearsal	Heritage Ballroom C/D
12:45 pm	Sing as We Gather.....	Heritage Ballroom C/D
	Beth Shroff Song Leader

Opening Ceremonies

1:00 pm	Opening of Convention	Shelley Stewart, President
	Lighting of the Candle	
	Procession of the Cross	
	Melisa Anderson, Committee on Young Woman
	Procession of Zone Banners	Zone Presidents,
	YWRs, Teens
	Procession of RMD	Executive Committee
	Past Presidents
	Devotion	Christian Life Committee

First Meeting

Welcome.....	Shelley Stewart, President
Introduction of Guests.....	Shelley Stewart, President

Voting Body	
Delegates _____	
Board of Directors _____	
Past District Presidents _____	
Total Eligible To Vote _____	
Non-Voting Body	
Guests _____	
YWR/Teen _____	
Pastors _____	
District Committee Members _____	
Subtotal _____	
Grand Total _____	

Report of Credential CommitteeDebbie Vosseler

Reading of Proposed Convention Standing Rules
..... Mary Marten, Acting Parliamentarian

Presentation of the Proposed Agenda
..... Susan Herrmann, Recording Secretary Committee

Appointments Shelley Stewart, President
Minutes Review: Sue Frauenfeld, Belinda Burmeister
Timekeeper: Christina Bean
Tellers/Election Officers: Sue Herrmann
(Chairman), Nancy Kraft, Sharla Yregas
Tellers/Grants: Judy Delve (Chairman)
Vicki Warren, Cindy Stahly

League Pledge Past Presidents

Song Lutheran Women One and All (#17)

Financial Report Ann Hernandez, Treasurer
Financial Reviewer’s Statement

Adoption of Mission Goal for 2026-2028.....
..... Ann Hernandez, Treasurer

Presentation of Mission Grants Proposals
.....Mission Grant Committee

Prayer Andi Noblitt, Gospel Outreach Vice President

Balloting for Mission Grants Judy Delve, Teller Chairman

Report of the Nominating Committee.....
..... Beth Nagy, Chairman

Singing Together Beth Shroff, Song Leader

Bible Study #1.Rev. Nathanael Biberdorf, Pastoral Counselor

Mission Minute #1Mission Grant Committee

Mites in Action #1.....Lutheran High, Video

Planner #1..... Becky Meyer

Report from LWMLShari Miller

Report of the YWR to the LWML Convention Omaha.....
..... Jasmine Foster

Announcements

.....Linda Achziger, Convention Coordinator
PrayerRev. Duane Meissner, Pastoral Counselor

Dinner Recess

Recess – 5:30 pm

Exhibits Open.....Hallway

LWML Store OpenHeritage Ballroom B

5:30 pm

DinnerHeritage Ballroom E/F

Opening Worship

7:30 pm

Worship..... Rock of Ages Church

Convention Offering#1 – Mission Goal 2026-2028

Saturday, June 6

7:00 – 8:00 am

BreakfastHeritage Ballroom E/F

Exhibits Open.....Hallway

LWML Store OpenHeritage Ballroom B

8:15 am

Singing As We Gather Heritage Ballroom C/D
..... Beth Shroff, Song Leader

Second Meeting

8:30 am

Pledge of Allegiance of the Cross
..... Led by Christina Bean, VP Servant Resources

*I pledge allegiance to the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and to the Faith for which it stands,
our Savior, eternal with mercy and grace for all.*

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
..... Led by Christina Bean, VP Servant Resources

*I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States
of America and to the Republic for which it stands,
one nation, under God, indivisible,
with liberty and justice for all.*

National Anthem.....

..... The Star Spangled Banner by Francis Scott Key
*Oh, say can you see, By the dawn's early light,
 What so proudly we hailed At the twilight's last
 gleaming, Whose broad stripes, and bright stars,
 Thru the perilous fight, O'er the ramparts we watched
 Were so gallantly streaming?
 And the rockets' red glare, The bombs bursting in air,
 Gave proof through the night That our flag was still there.
 O, say, does that Star-Spangled Banner yet wave
 O'er the land of the free And the home of the brave?*

Morning Devotion..... Young Women Representatives
 Mission Minute #2..... Mission Grants Committee
 Report of the Tellers for Mission Grants
Judy Delve, Chairman
 Credentials ReportDebbie Vosseler
 PrayerBeth Nagy, Nominating Committee Chair
 Balloting for Officers..... Sue Herrmann, Teller Chairman
 Bible Study Session 2
Rev. Duane Meissner, Pastoral Counselor
 MITES in Action #2 Mike Kozimko, Orphan Grian Train
 Mission Minute #3..... Mission Grants Committee
 Planner Activity #2Becky Meyer, Planner
 Prayer for Convention Offering #2Sue Giddings
 Grace Place Family Health Center
 Gift PlanningCarol von Soosten
 Unified Officers Report..... Shelley Stewart, President
 Keynote Speaker Rev Gary Piepkorn
 Announcements Linda Achzinger
 Lunch Prayer...Rev. Nathanael Biberdorf, Pastoral Counselor

Voting Body	
Delegates _____	
Board of Directors _____	
Past District Presidents _____	
Total Eligible To Vote _____	
Non-Voting Body	
Guests _____	
YWR/Teen _____	
Pastors _____	
District Committee Members _____	
Subtotal _____	
Grand Total _____	

Lunch Recess

11:30 am – 12:30 pm	LunchHeritage Ballroom E/F
	Exhibits Open.....Hallway
	LWML Store OpenHeritage Ballroom B
12:45 pm	Singing as We Gather..... Beth Shroff, Song Leader

Third Meeting

12:50 pm	Credentials ReportDebbie Vosseler
	Mission Minute #4..... Mission Grants Committee
	Mites in Action #3..... Mary Hamilton, LCMS Missions
	Report of the LWML RMD President Shelley Stewart Presiding: Christie Peebles: VP Communications Introduction: Andi Noblitt VP Gospel Outreach
	Bible Study #3..... Rev. Duane Meissner and Nathanael Biberdorf, Pastoral Counselors
	Singing Together Beth Shroff, Song Leader
	Planner Activity #3 Becky Meyer, Planner
	Teller Report-Officers Sue Herrmann, Teller Chairman
	Mission Minute #5..... Mission Grants Committee
	Prayer for Convention Offering #3 Paula Evans Springs Rescue Mission
	Singing Together Beth Shroff, Song Leader
	Announcements Linda Achzinger
	PrayerRev. Nathanael Biberdorf, Pastoral Counselor

Voting Body
Delegates _____
Board of Directors _____
Past District Presidents _____
Total Eligible To Vote _____
Non-Voting Body
Guests _____
YWR/Teen _____
Pastors _____
District Committee Members _____
Subtotal _____
Grand Total _____

Enrichment Sessions

Locations	Ysleta Lutheran MissionSummit Ballroom I
	His Little Feet.....Learning Center
	Shari Miller, “Being in the Word” Summit Ballroom II
3:00 – 3:45 pm	Enrichment Session #1
3:50 – 4:35 pm	Enrichment Session #2
4:40 – 5:25 pm	Enrichment Session #3

Dinner Recess

Recess – 6:00 pm	Exhibits Open.....Hallway
	LWML Store OpenHeritage Ballroom B
6:00 pm	Dismantle Exhibits
6:30 pm	Banquet Heritage Ballroom C/D
	Entertainment..... Bri Jones
	Introduction: Debbie Larson Heritage Ballroom C/D

Sunday, June 7

7:00 – 8:00 am	BreakfastHeritage Ballroom E/F
8:45 am	Singing as We Gather..... Beth Shroff, Song Leader

Fourth Meeting

Voting Body	9:00 am Prayer RequestsRev. Duane Meissner, Pastoral Counselor
Delegates _____	Final Credentials Report.....Debbie Vosseler
Board of Directors _____	Ingathering Update/Litany Mission Servants Committee
Past District Presidents _____	Ingathering PrayerRev. Nathanael Biberdorf, Pastoral Counselor
Total Eligible To Vote _____	2027 RMD Retreat Invitation..... LWML RMD Executive Committee
Non-Voting Body	Mission Minute #6.....Mission Grant Committee
Guests _____	Recess
YWR/Teen _____	10:00 am Closing Worship Service..... Heritage Ballroom C/D
Pastors _____	Proclaimer: Pastor Biberdorf
District Committee Members _____	Liturgist: Pastor Meissner
Subtotal _____	Installation of Officers
Grand Total _____	11:30 am Adjournment..... Shelley Stewart, President

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

A Note of Thanks

Lots of people and lots of work go into putting a convention together. Some of these people are listed here.

Thanks go to especially Chuck Morse at LCEF for supplying convention bags.

Thank you for all the work from our hosting zones: Southern, Four Corners, and South Central.

Thank you for the tireless work of our convention coordinators, Linda Achziger, Debbie Larson and Becky Meyer.

Thanks for the unfailing support from my Executive Committee: Vice President of Gospel Outreach, Andi Noblitt, Vice President of Communications, Christie Peebles, Vice President of Servant Resources, Christina Bean, and Vice President of Christian Life, Sylvia Bean. (Sylvia is also known as the LWML mom because she knows the answers to **all** of the questions.) Along with these ladies there's Mona Book, Assistant to the President (Mona and I were YWRs together to Peoria in 2011), Ann Hernandez, treasurer, Maritza Munoz, assistant treasurer, Susan Herrmann, secretary, Barbara Wertz, Parliamentarian, Sue Giddings, Tidings Editor, Susan Avila, Historian and Becky Meyer, Planner. The gentlemen that assist us are Pastor Duane Meissner, Senior Pastoral Counselor, and Pastor Nathaniel Biberdorf Junior Pastoral Counselor They do their best to keep us in line.

The unfailing support of all the zone presidents, and the unfailing prayers of all LWML members are very much appreciated.

Mostly, thanks to all of you who have joined with us to praise the Mover of Mountains.

Shelley Stewart
Rocky Mountain District President

Convention Offerings

Scan the QR code to the right of each offering to give online using either your checking account or a credit card.

Convention Offering #1



2026–2028 LWML Rocky Mountain District Mission Goal
The first offering shall go towards the Mission Goal, as per standing rule #8.

Convention Offering #2



GRACE PLACE
FAMILY HEALTH CENTER



Grace Place Family Health Center has served clients in the Four Corners Region for over 30 years, and is becoming the most trusted option for safe, compassionate care for women, men, and families when facing an unexpected pregnancy. They are committed to providing no-cost, no-judgment access to pregnancy testing, ultrasound, options consultation, and educational health services in a compassionate and respectful practice. They are committed to distributing accurate information about pregnancy, fetal development, lifestyle issues, and related concerns. Clients always receive honest and open answers to their questions. They are committed to offering accurate information about related risks and procedures and do not offer, recommend, or refer for abortion, abortifacients, or contraceptives.

Convention Offering #3



For nearly 30 years, Springs Rescue Mission has been a place where compassion and accountability meet – helping thousands of men and women find health, work, and home. Recognized nationally as one of Christianity Today’s 2025 Compassion Award winners, SRM continues to set a standard for faith-driven, community-based transformation. They are committed to meet guests as they are; providing life-changing services and offering a welcoming and safe environment for transformation. They want to see lives transformed for eternity and filled with hope as the community works together to fight homelessness, poverty and addiction. Because of their love for and obedience to God, their mission is to mobilize the community to provide housing, health and work services for neighbors in need.

Convention Offering #4



Grace Lutheran Church, a member congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, is located in Moab, Utah. The church serves not only the local population, but also the many tourists who are attracted to the area for its national parks and recreational opportunities. Pastor John Widmer who resides in Pagosa Springs, Colorado is the vacancy pastor at Grace. He travels 217 miles to serve this congregation. Our offering will help support this small congregation and its Pastor with his travel expenses as he "Serves the Lord with Gladness".

Convention In-Gathering

Navajo Lutheran Outreach Support for the youth and community of Shepherd of the Valley, NM	Lutheran Valley Retreat A year-round retreat & camp facility for all ages in Woodland Park, CO	Orphan Grain Train Castle Rock Sends relief for human need worldwide
Art Kits # _____ Gift Cards \$ _____	Sleeping bags # _____ Climbing Shoes # _____ Tarps # _____ Board Games/Cards # _____ Rolls of Masking Tape # _____ Reams of Paper # _____ Boxes of Ziplock Bags # _____	Hygiene Kits # _____ Boxes of School Supplies # _____

Letter from the LWML President



Greetings Dear Ones!

Grace and peace to you as you meet at your district convention. I pray that the time spent together with your sisters and brothers in Christ will inspire you to continually *Serve the LORD with gladness!* (Psalm 100:2a).

There are so many wonderful things about gathering together at an LWML convention - hearing mission speakers, participating in Bible study, worship, service projects, and connecting with one another. Together we celebrate being part of a mission organization that shares the Good News of Jesus and His love. What a joy! What a mission! What a privilege!

We know that, as Lutheran Women (and men) in Mission, we

- proclaim Jesus as the Savior of the world.
- fund our mission grants and support our mission partners.
- provide resources, training, and networking opportunities.
- serve and encourage one another in Christ.

As you begin your new biennium, strive to be personal as well as purposeful.

- Encourage women to be in the Word. Share our faith resources!
- Personally invite women to participate in events and mission service.
- Support mission grants with your prayers and mite offerings.
- Be flexible and creative in engaging the women in your congregation.

Thank you for your partnership and participation!



Joyfully serving Christ with you,
LWML President Eden Keefe



Lutheran
Women
in Mission

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
LCMS Foundation
GIFT PLANNING FOR YOUR FAMILY & MINISTRY

Invite Carol von Soosten or Sarah Seying to speak at your local, zone, or district event!



Carol von Soosten
GIFT PLANNING COUNSELOR
carol.vonsoosten@LFND.org



Sarah Seying
GIFT PLANNING COUNSELOR
sarah.seying@LFND.org

Gift Planning Services

LWML, in partnership with the LCMS Foundation, assists women and their families to make the very best gifts to their loved ones and all ministries of the church.

Contact a Gift Planning Counselor at (800) 741-4138 or visit lwmlgiftplan.org to learn more today!

Invitation to National Convention



42ND BIENNIAL CONVENTION Oklahoma City, Oklahoma July 8-11, 2027

Convention Theme:

Transformed in Christ

2027 Convention Objectives:

Each convention attendee will be:

- ▶ Inspired to proclaim Christ and study God's Word.
- ▶ Transformed and equipped by Christ to serve Him.
- ▶ Encouraged to support missions throughout the world.

Scripture Verse:

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect (Romans 12:2).

Convention Goal Statement:

God's renewing Spirit transforms us to proclaim Christ, support missions, and serve Him and Him alone.

For more information, visit lwml.org/convention

Proposed Budget

**LWML RMD
PROPOSED BUDGET
2026 - 2028 Biennium**

	2026-2028
INCOME	
Quarterly	\$ 8,000.00
District Convention	\$ 75,000.00
Mites	\$ 115,000.00
Restricted Mites	\$ 2,000.00
General Fund/Misc	\$ 5,000.00
Delegate Fund Receipts	\$ 5,000.00
Scholarship Fund Receipts	\$ 1,250.00
Special Gifts Fund Receipts	\$ 1,500.00
Convention Offerings	\$ 6,000.00
Retreat Fund Receipts	\$ 13,000.00
TOTAL BUDGETED INCOME	\$ 231,750.00
EXPENSES	
Quarterlies	\$ 8,000.00
District Convention	\$ 69,000.00
Mites to National 25%	\$ 28,750.00
Grants	\$ 85,000.00
Scholarship	\$ 1,250.00
Grants/Special Gifts	\$ 1,500.00
Convention Offerings	\$ 6,000.00
Office Supplies/Postage/Accounting Software	\$ 1,500.00
Internet/Zoom	\$ 200.00
EC Committee	
Executive Committee Meetings	\$ 5,000.00
National Convention Expenses	\$ 6,550.00
Board of Director Expenses	\$ 5,000.00
Workshops	\$ 1,500.00
Rallies	\$ 1,500.00
Retreats	\$ 10,500.00
Heart to Heart Sister Training	\$ 500.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 231,750.00
NET INCOME	\$ -

Votes Cast _____ Yes _____ No _____ .

Mission Grant Proposals

1. Apple of His Eye Mission Society – Supporting Mission Trips in Israel \$8,000

Apple of His Eye Mission Society is dedicated to sharing the Gospel with the Jewish community, particularly in Israel, through personal evangelism and relationship-building. This grant will support the recruitment, training, and deployment of mission teams to Tel Aviv, where they will engage individuals with the message of salvation through Jesus, the Messiah.

Mission teams will participate in outreach efforts that include Scripture distribution, public engagement, and one-on-one conversations, as well as supporting a developing Lutheran ministry. In a largely secular environment, these efforts provide meaningful opportunities to share the hope found in Christ.

As openness to spiritual conversations increases, particularly among younger generations, this ministry seeks to respond with faithful and intentional outreach. This grant will help expand those efforts, bringing the Gospel to those who may not otherwise hear it.

2. Child of God Lutheran Equipping All God’s Children: Expanding Access to Special Education \$10,000

Child of God Lutheran School seeks to expand its ability to serve students with diverse learning needs by adding a full-time special education resource teacher. As a school that serves the community first, many families seek a Christ-centered education but lack access to specialized academic support.

Currently, limited services make it difficult to fully meet the needs of all learners, and some families are forced to seek alternatives outside of Christian education. This project will allow the school to provide consistent, specialized support, helping students grow academically while remaining in a Christ-centered environment.

Through this expansion, more children will experience both educational success and spiritual growth. This ministry strengthens families and ensures that all students, regardless of learning differences, can hear the Gospel and grow in faith.

3. CTSFW Food Co-op Freezers \$10,000

Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, seeks to enhance its Food and Clothing Co-op by adding updated freezer equipment to better serve students and their families. Many seminarians face financial challenges as they prepare for church work, and the co-op helps meet essential needs.

Reliable freezer storage is critical for preserving donated food and ensuring consistent availability for students. Updated equipment will improve efficiency, accessibility, and long-term sustainability of the program.

By supporting seminarians in this way, this project helps future pastors and deaconesses focus on their studies and preparation for service in Christ’s Church.

4. Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch Physical and Mental Wellness for At-Risk Children \$5,000

This ministry serves children in residential treatment settings, providing programs that support both physical and mental wellness. Many of these children have experienced trauma and require holistic care.

Through structured activities, counseling, and spiritual support, this program helps children develop healthy habits and a sense of stability. The integration of faith-based care provides additional encouragement and hope.

Funding will support program resources and activities, helping children grow physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

5. Giving Great Honor to the Least of These: Caring for People with Developmental Disabilities \$7,500

This grant supports a vital LCMS mission in the Dominican Republic that provides Christ-centered care for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities living in the Good Shepherd Lutheran Group Home. Residents receive daily spiritual, emotional, and physical care in a loving environment that reflects their God-given dignity and worth.

In a country where individuals with disabilities have historically been neglected and underserved, this ministry serves as a powerful witness to the value of every human life. Through daily devotions, participation in worship, and meaningful relationships, residents experience the love of Christ in both word and action.

Funding will help sustain the ongoing operation of the home, including care services, rehabilitation, and outreach efforts. In addition to transforming the lives of the residents, this ministry also works to change societal attitudes and advocate for greater inclusion, reflecting Christ’s love for “the least of these.”

6. God Care’s About You Mercy & Mission Next Step \$8,000

This project seeks to expand mercy outreach efforts within the Rocky Mountain District by providing resources and support for congregations ready to grow their ministry impact. It focuses on equipping churches to serve their communities both physically and spiritually.

Through training, resources, and partnership opportunities, congregations are encouraged to take the next step in outreach and mission engagement. These efforts strengthen the Church’s presence in local communities.

This grant will help fund program development and implementation, enabling more congregations to actively share Christ’s love through service and Gospel proclamation.

7. LBT Changed Lives, Shared Word: Restoring the Bible Printing Fund \$5,000

Lutheran Bible Translators works to bring God’s Word to people in their native languages through translation, printing, and distribution. This grant will support the Bible Printing and Distribution Fund, ensuring that newly translated Scriptures can be delivered without delay.

Receiving the Bible in one’s own language allows individuals to engage with God’s Word in a deeply personal and meaningful way. These translations also strengthen local churches and support ongoing discipleship.

Funding will help print and distribute additional Bibles while preparing for future translation projects. Through this effort, more communities will gain access to Scripture and the saving message of Jesus Christ.

8. LCMS Belize Volunteer Coordinator Support \$5,000

This grant supports LCMS mission work in Belize by funding the role of a Volunteer Coordinator who organizes, prepares, and supports mission teams. Through this position, volunteers are equipped with the training, resources, and guidance needed to serve effectively alongside missionaries and local church leaders.

The coordinator ensures that volunteers are both spiritually and practically prepared, allowing them to contribute meaningfully to Gospel proclamation, church planting, and acts of mercy. This role also reduces administrative burdens on missionaries, enabling them to focus more fully on ministry.

By supporting this position, the grant multiplies the impact of mission efforts in Belize. Each prepared volunteer becomes an extension of the mission, helping bring Christ’s love to more individuals and communities.

9. LCSFW Adoption Awareness Program \$5,000

Lutheran Counseling and Family Services of Wisconsin seeks to expand its Adoption Awareness Program, promoting adoption as a Christ-centered, life-affirming choice. Through education, outreach, and counseling, this ministry equips individuals—especially youth—with a better understanding of adoption while addressing misconceptions and stigma.

The program provides holistic support to birthmothers, adoptive families, and children, including mental health services and adoption-specific counseling. By ensuring that women facing unplanned pregnancies are aware of adoption as a viable and compassionate option, LCFS helps them make informed decisions rooted in hope and care.

Grant funding will support expanded outreach efforts, educational programming, and professional services. Through this work, more families will be connected, lives will be supported, and the message of Christ’s love will be shared in meaningful and lasting ways.

10. LHF Listen! Listen, God Is Calling... in Tanzania \$6,500

This project supports Lutheran Heritage Foundation’s mission work in Tanzania by providing resources for theological education and Christian literature. As the Church continues to grow, there is an increasing need for materials that teach and support Lutheran doctrine.

Through the distribution of books such as Luther’s Small Catechism and other educational resources, this ministry equips pastors, leaders, and congregations to grow in their faith and understanding.

This grant will help meet the demand for these materials, strengthening the Church in Tanzania and supporting ongoing Gospel proclamation.

11. Lutheran High School Parker Missions Program \$10,000

The mission program at Lutheran High School Parker provides students with opportunities to participate in mission work, both locally and globally. These experiences allow students to grow in faith while serving others.

Through hands-on service and Gospel outreach, students develop a deeper understanding of their calling as Christians. These experiences often have a lasting impact on their faith and future involvement in the Church.

This grant will support mission trips, materials, and student participation, helping to form the next generation of Christian leaders.

12. Lutheran Student Center – Springfield \$1,000

The Lutheran Student Center in Springfield, Missouri, serves as a campus ministry to students at Missouri State University. This ministry provides a Christ-centered community where students can grow in faith through worship, Bible study, and fellowship.

College years are often a time of spiritual questioning and transition. The Student Center offers a place where students can remain connected to the Church, receive encouragement, and be grounded in God’s Word.

This grant will support ministry programming and outreach efforts, helping to engage more students with the Gospel and build lasting faith foundations during a critical stage of life.

13. Lutherans for Life “For Life” Ministry Development ... \$5,000

Lutherans For Life equips individuals and congregations to be Gospel-motivated voices for life, addressing critical life issues through the truth and compassion found in Jesus Christ. Through Life Ministry Groups in churches, campuses, and communities, this organization provides education, encouragement, and resources that support pastors and laypeople in sharing the sanctity of human life from conception to natural death.

This grant will support the development of new training programs designed to reach multiple generations using modern communication tools. Through video-based and interactive online platforms, Lutherans For Life will expand its ability to equip volunteers more efficiently, allowing them to confidently engage others in conversations about life issues and the hope found in Christ.

As Life Groups grow and expand their outreach, they create opportunities to connect with those both inside and outside the Church. This initiative will strengthen Gospel proclamation, equipping believers to respond to today’s cultural challenges with clarity, compassion, and the life-giving message of Jesus.

14. Lutherans in Medical Missions: Bringing Wellness and the Gospel \$10,000

Lutherans in Medical Missions provides healthcare outreach combined with Gospel proclamation in underserved communities. Through clinics, education, and medical training, this ministry addresses both physical and spiritual needs.

Volunteers are equipped to provide care while sharing the hope found in Christ. These efforts create opportunities to build trust and relationships

within communities. This grant will support training, outreach efforts, and mission work, ensuring continued impact through both medical care and Gospel sharing.

15. LVR City to Sanctuary Foster Kid Camp Fund \$5,000

Lutheran Valley Retreat provides a Christ-centered camp experience for foster youth, many of whom have experienced trauma, neglect, or instability. Through partnership with King’s Team, this program creates a safe and supportive environment where children can experience healing, trust, and faith.

Camp activities, mentorship, and Gospel-centered teaching allow participants to encounter Christ’s love in both word and action. Relationships built with caring adults provide encouragement and stability, often leading to meaningful transformation in the lives of campers.

This grant will help reduce financial barriers, making it possible for more foster youth to attend. Through this ministry, children are given not only a week of camp but also a lasting message of hope in Christ.

16. Mercy Meals of Colo Spgs Providing Food and the Gospel to Starving People..... \$8,000

This ministry provides nutritious meals to individuals experiencing hunger while also sharing the Gospel message. Each meal program includes opportunities for prayer, teaching, and relationship-building.

In communities facing food insecurity, this outreach meets immediate needs while pointing to the lasting hope found in Christ. The combination of physical and spiritual care reflects Christ’s compassion.

Funding will support meal production and distribution, ensuring continued outreach to those in need.

17. Ministry Scholarships for Shepherd’s Canyon Retreat..... \$8,000

Shepherd’s Canyon Retreat provides spiritual and emotional care for church workers and individuals facing significant life challenges. Through counseling, retreats, and Christ-centered support, participants experience healing and renewal.

Many individuals who would benefit from these services are unable to afford them. Scholarships make it possible for those in need to receive care.

This grant will provide financial assistance for participants, ensuring that more individuals can experience restoration and encouragement through this ministry.

18. MOST Ministries “In Every Tongue” Translators \$6,000

MOST Ministries provides short-term mission opportunities that combine acts of service with Gospel proclamation. This grant will support the use of translators, enabling mission teams to communicate effectively with individuals in diverse cultural and linguistic settings.

Clear communication is essential for sharing the Gospel and building meaningful relationships. Translators help bridge language barriers, allowing volunteers to connect more deeply with those they serve.

Funding will ensure that mission teams can effectively share Christ’s love across cultures. Through this work, the Gospel is made accessible to more people, regardless of language.

19. Phil’s Friends Care Packages & Cards of Hope \$5,000

Phil’s Friends provides Christ-centered support to individuals facing cancer through personalized care packages and ongoing encouragement. Each package includes comfort items, practical supplies, and a Bible, offering both physical support and spiritual hope.

In addition, recipients receive monthly Cards of Hope for a full year, reminding them they are not alone and pointing them to the love of Christ. These consistent touches provide encouragement during one of life’s most difficult journeys.

As cancer diagnoses continue to rise, the demand for these services has increased significantly. This grant will help expand outreach efforts, ensuring more individuals receive comfort, encouragement, and the life-giving message of the Gospel.

20. Trinity Hope’s Feeding Hungry Souls in Haiti \$3,000

This grant supports a feeding program that provides daily meals to children in Haiti while also sharing the Gospel. In a country facing widespread poverty and food insecurity, access to consistent nutrition is a significant challenge for many families.

Through this ministry, children receive not only physical nourishment but also spiritual care through prayer, Bible teaching, and Christian education. These daily interactions create opportunities to share the love of Christ in meaningful and life-changing ways.

Funding will help sustain meal programs and outreach efforts, ensuring that children continue to be fed both physically and spiritually. This project reflects Christ's compassion by meeting immediate needs while pointing to eternal hope.

21. Ysleta Bringing the Gospel to Mexico Missions \$10,000

This grant supports Ysleta Lutheran Mission Human Care and its partnership with Lutheran congregations in Mexico serving communities affected by poverty, displacement, and limited resources. These ministries provide both physical care and spiritual nourishment through worship, feeding programs, and discipleship.

In communities where many struggle to meet basic needs, these congregations serve as centers of hope. Children receive meals, families receive support, and individuals of all ages hear the Gospel in their own language. The ministry also encourages and equips future church workers within these communities.

Funding will provide food resources and Spanish-language Lutheran materials, enabling continued and expanded outreach. Through this work, both immediate needs and eternal hope are addressed, strengthening the Church in Mexico.

Mission Grants Selection Tally

#	Mission Grant Title	Requested Amount	# of Votes
1	Apple of His Eye Mission Society – Supporting Mission Trips in Israel	\$8,000	
2	Child of God Lutheran Equipping All God’s Children: Expanding Access to Special Education	\$10,000	
3	CTSFW Food Co-op Freezers	\$10,000	
4	Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch Physical and Mental Wellness for At-Risk Children	\$5,000	
5	Giving Great Honor to the Least of These: Caring for People with Developmental Disabilities	\$7,500	
6	God Care’s About You Mercy & Mission Next Step	\$8,000	
7	LBT Changed Lives, Shared Word: Restoring the Bible Printing Fund	\$5,000	
8	LCMS Belize Volunteer Coordinator Support	\$5,000	
9	LCSFW Adoption Awareness Program	\$5,000	
10	LHF Listen! Listen, God Is Calling... in Tanzania	\$6,500	
11	Lutheran High School Parker Missions Program	\$10,000	
12	Lutheran Student Center – Springfield	\$1,000	
13	Lutherans for Life “For Life” Ministry Development	\$5,000	
14	Lutherans in Medical Missions: Bringing Wellness and the Gospel	\$10,000	
15	LVR City to Sanctuary Foster Kid Camp Fund	\$5,000	
16	Mercy Meals of Colo Spgs Providing Food and the Gospel to Starving People	\$8,000	
17	Ministry Scholarships for Shepherd’s Canyon Retreat	\$8,000	
18	MOST Ministries “In Every Tongue” Translators	\$6,000	
19	Phil’s Friends Care Packages & Cards of Hope	\$5,000	
20	Trinity Hope’s Feeding Hungry Souls in Haiti	\$3,000	
21	Ysleta Bringing the Gospel to Mexico Missions	\$10,000	

LWML Rocky Mountain District Candidates

President



Christina Bean

Clovis, NM
Pecos Zone
Immanuel Lutheran Church

LWML: National - Growth and leadership development committee; District - district YWR, YWR committee, Vice president of servant resources; Zone - zone YWR, President, vice president, treasurer, tech support; Local - Society Vice President

CONGREGATION: evangelism committee, fellowship coordinator and host, choir, VBS volunteer,

COMMUNITY: Altrusa: President, vice president, director, big brother big sister volunteer

Vocation: Christina is Senior Associate Veterinarian at All Pets Animal Hospital in Clovis, NM.

Votes Cast _____ Votes Received _____

VP of Gospel Outreach



Karen Mann

Colorado Springs, CO
Southern Zone
Resurrection Lutheran Church
Pastor Dennis Lucero

LWML: District - Nominating Committee; RMD Southern Zone - President, VP of Christian Life, Missouri District Jackson-Boothel Zone Secretary; Local - Resurrection LWML President, Immanuel Women in Mission President, Zion LWML President

Church: VP, Chairman of Board of Education, Chairman of Vacation Bible School, Sunday School Teacher, Bible Study, Vocal Choirs, Orphan Grain Train (packaging Mercy Meals), Altar Guild, Christian Women's Retreat Fellowship Treasurer, and Church Secretary.

Community: Lutheran Home Alzheimer Wing volunteer, Sang with St Louis Community Chorus.

Vocation: Administrative Secretary for National LCMS School Ministry, Administrative Secretary for National Lutheran School Accreditation, and Church Secretary.

Votes Cast _____ Votes Received _____

VP of Servant Resources



Paula Evans

Southern Zone
Colorado Springs, CO
Resurrection Lutheran Church
Pastor Dennis Lucero

LWML: Zone - Kansas City South
Zone as Treasurer; Local –
President LWML at Resurrection
Lutheran Church

Congregation: President and
Treasurer for Bethlehem Lutheran
Church in Raymore, Missouri

Vocation: Registered Nurse

Votes Cast _____ Votes Received _____

Pastoral Counselor



Pastor Clint Thorson

Lafayette, CO
Eternal Savior Lutheran Church

Graduate from Concordia Seminary
in St. Louis

Served as a Pastor in Texas, South
Dakota, and Colorado

In the South Dakota District, he
served as Junior and Senior
Pastoral Counselor.

He is married to Amber and has
four children. He enjoys playing
with his children, playing guitar
and trumpet, playing video games,
and spending short moments with
his wife before they both fall asleep
from exhaustion.

Votes Cast _____ Votes Received _____

Nominating Committee



Susan Patton

Pecos Zone
Hobbs, NM
Grace Lutheran Church
Pastor Kister

Susan was born and raised in Roswell, NM. She married Jay Patton (from Hobbs) in 1975. They moved to Hobbs in 1977. Susan has played the organ for Grace Lutheran church since 1977 (49-yrs). She was the organist for Our Saviour Lutheran church in Lovington, NM for approx. 20-yrs. She has been a member of the LWML – Hobbs since 1978. She has served in many rolls of the LWML. Jay & Susan were blessed to own their own HVAC company for 43-yrs. Susan is active in her community helping different non-profits as needed.

Votes Cast _____ Votes Received _____

Nominating Committee (write in)

Candidate _____

Votes Cast _____ Votes Received _____

Candidate _____

Votes Cast _____ Votes Received _____

Candidate _____

Votes Cast _____ Votes Received _____

Candidate _____

Votes Cast _____ Votes Received _____

Candidate _____

Votes Cast _____ Votes Received _____

Reports of the Officers and Committees

District President

Shelley Stewart

Welcome! I'm so excited to gather with you for Convention 2026! We have been planning and praying for this time together.

I have been blessed these past four years to serve as your District President. I will look back fondly on the friendships and experiences I have had.

Once again, we are continually challenged by the turnover of personnel in LWML. Lots of faithful saints have served for a long time, and it is time for them to step down. If you or someone you know is willing to serve in your zone or in the District, please let us know. If you don't think you're able or qualified, I have learned that God has ways of making us able and qualified! New ideas and new methods are always welcome!

Thank you for all who have prayed for me and encouraged me these past four years. I have felt supported and uplifted by these prayers!

The 2026 Convention theme is **Faith That Can Move Mountains** *Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain "Move from here to there", and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.* (Matthew 17:20b). This is a reminder to us that even though our faith is small, we can do powerful things. We just have to have faith!

May this time and this gathering be a blessing to you and refresh your spirit.

Serving faithfully,

Shelley Stewart

LWML RMD President

Vice President of Christian Life

Sylvia Bean

The purpose of the Christian Life Department is to help provide resources and information to aide in nurturing of faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior to the women of the LWML Rocky Mountain District. LWML RMD has resources such as Bible studies, devotions, Mustard Seed devotion packets, and Gospel outreach note cards to help in your faith walk with Jesus and to provide spiritual resources that can be shared with others. Our district LWML Store has resources for purchase and lending so opportunities for study and spiritual growth are available for personal or group study. The LWML store also has gift items such as pens, notepads,

jewelry, ornaments, mugs, and note cards. There is also a limited supply of clothing for purchase.

The lwml.org website has listings of Bible studies, devotions, litanies, and Mustard Seed devotions. Resources can be found through subject or title search. These listings are free for download for personal or group use.

Since my appointment in January 2026, I have attended 3 Event Planning Meetings (CPC), a Worship Committee meeting, and Board of Directors (2026). At Board of Directors, 2 devotions and a sketch were presented to attendees. The Worship Committee has been working to complete planning for the worship services for convention in June 2026 and music for the manual.

Thank you to the Christian Life Committee, the Worship Committee, and all those who have contributed to help in the planning and decision-making for the S2026 LWML RMD Convention. Your help has been invaluable!

Vice President of Gospel Outreach

Andi Noblitt

The Vice President of Gospel Outreach is responsible for overseeing and supporting the mission-focused efforts of the district. This includes working closely with committees that encourage outreach, promote mission education, and support those we serve through prayer, grants, and hands-on opportunities. It is a role that keeps the mission of sharing Christ's love at the center of all we do.

Over the past four years, I have been continually inspired by the faithful service of LWML Rocky Mountain District members. Reviewing and selecting mission grants, along with distributing them and connecting with mission workers, has been one of the most rewarding and meaningful aspects of this position. It is both humbling and inspiring to see the many ways God is working through His people.

My sincere thanks to the Mission Grants Committee for their faithful review of proposals and creation of the mission grants display. Thank you to the Mission Servants Committee for their prayerful outreach and Gifts from the Heart gatherings, to the Heart to Heart Sisters Committee for fostering connections across cultures, and to the Scholarships Committee for supporting future church workers.

It has truly been a blessing to serve, and I thank God for this opportunity.

Vice President of Communications

Christie Peebles

For the past two years, it has been a privilege and a learning opportunity to serve as the VP of Communications. My main responsibilities have been

centered around our website (www.lwmlrmd.org) and helping Sue Giddings publish the Tidings. I had never managed a website before, but Lesley Nordmeyer gave me a great crash course in running it during our transition meeting. I am not able to do anything fancy, but I can do what we need. For the Tidings, I help Sue with proof-reading it and uploading it on the website and in mail chimp. If you have a gift for marketing/social media, editing newsletters, or website design, I would love your help! Do you have a talent for crafting posts for social media? Do you want to challenge your brain through creative writing and editing of our District newsletter (Tidings)? Are you an expert (or want to be an expert) at website design? Please chat with me to see how you can be involved in Serving the Lord with Gladness.

Vice President of Servant Resources

Christina Bean

It has been my privilege to serve as LWML-RMD Vice President of Servant Resources over the last two biennium. In this role I coordinated the teen and young woman committees and helped facilitate the programs in addition to sharing leadership tips with you all.

The LWML Mission statement says:

As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.

In my role over the last four years, I have focused on equipping women through these programs and through my work with LWML RMD. I have attended executive committee meetings, event planning committee meetings and board of directors' meetings. I also attended a couple of fall rallies as district representative. I wrote articles for the Tidings to support women in leadership and to educate about and encourage participation in the teen and young women representative programs.

I would like to thank my committee members for all of their hard work and dedication!

Treasurer

Ann Hernandez

To my fellow LWML ladies. Two years ago, ya'll voted me in as your district treasurer. Thus far, it has been an amazing journey. It has been my dream to volunteer as a district level and maybe one day, even at the national level. I have always known that any officer in their perspective office holds a great responsibility. I very much admire all the ladies that have gone before me for this job is that of love and devotion. I am honored to hold my office.

It is so amazing to have been witness to \$80,000 of mission grant funds to be dispersed. So many wonderful organizations being supported by our little mite boxes. Every time I wrote a check, I would say a little prayer of

thanksgiving to God for all the hands, and boxes, that help make it happen! As I continue the next two years of my office, I humbly ask for your prayers and encouragement that I may continue to serve with love and gladness, for with God, we can do all things!

- "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" Phil 4:1

Recording Secretary**Sue Herrmann**

Thanks be to God for allowing me to serve as the Recording Secretary for the LWML Rocky Mountain District. I am truly blessed to serve with amazing women who truly have hearts for serving the Lord with gladness. The biggest part of being recording secretary is to record the proceedings of conventions, executive committee meetings and board of directors' meetings as well as other official meetings of our district. The "minutes" or proceedings or motions made during any official activity are what dictates how the LWML RMD conducts business. (And, according to the current bylaws of the organization.) So, it is imperative that what is written is extremely accurate! Thanks for the Minutes Review Committees, elected officers and many others who read, re-read and edit the minutes to make sure that the minutes or documents are accurate. All the "t's" must be crossed and the "I's" are dotted! Spelling, especially names, and punctuation needs to be perfect as well. Serving in this position is an honor. Thanks to everyone for their patience and mercy to me as I do my best to serve you and HIM! To God be the glory.

Parliamentarian**Barb Wertz**

As parliamentarian, my job over the past four years has been to advise our elected RMD LWML officers on parliamentary procedures, ensuring that we follow Robert's Rules of Order and our district by-laws.

President Shelley, thank you for providing me with this opportunity to serve. I pray that this convention runs smoothly and that our organization continues to glorify our Savior throughout the district and the world.

Senior Pastoral Counselor**Pastor Duane Meissner**

Grace, mercy, and peace to all of you ladies in the Rocky Mountain District! It is an honor to serve you in prayer, worship, and Bible Study at this convention, just as it's been an honor to serve as one of your pastoral counselors these past four years. District conventions, a National Convention, an AOL conference, a Glorieta retreat, Rallies, Tidings articles, and countless meetings with you and your leadership have each, in their own way, been blessings to me, and it is my prayer that God has used me at

times to be a blessing to you. I'm encouraged to pass the baton of the Sr. Pastoral Counselor position this convention to the very capable Pastor Biberdorf and encourage us all to continue uplifting and supporting him in his faithful service. As I move to serve our Lord's church in other capacities, the Rocky Mountain District of the LWML will remain in my heart and mind.

Junior Pastoral Counselor**Pastor Nathanael Biberdorf**

What a great joy and honor it has been to be the Junior Pastoral Counselor for the Rocky Mountain District. I have enjoyed every minute of serving you wonderful ladies. I have so enjoyed attending meetings, leading the ladies in prayer and Bible Study and also attending and preaching at the retreat last year in Glorieta. It has also been a great joy to put together the worship services at this convention around our wonderful theme. As I prepare to become Senior Pastoral Counselor, I want to thank Pastor Duane Meissner for his guidance and help in preparing me for this role as I continue to serve the Lord with gladness. I pray that this convention is a great time to connect with one another and give thanks to God for the faith He has given to us.

Tidings Editor**Sue Giddings**

Putting together the Tidings Publication is a fun and rewarding endeavor. I have been able to highlight events, mission work, and programs our groups have done around the Rocky Mountain District. I have seen our progress as we gather Mites for our mission grants. I work with a dedicated group of women and men who have lots of experience and creative energy to lend to the LWML. The retreats, Board of Directors meetings, conventions, and fall rallies are highlights of the experience of being the editor of our every other month newsletter. I even get to do a little creative writing and also have the opportunity to prove to my family that I may not be a technology native, but I can figure things out most of the time. *We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us* Philippians 4:13.

Planner**Becky Meyer**

I have been blessed to serve as the Planner under President Shelley for the 2024-2026 biennium. I have enjoyed serving in this role that allows me to support team building within the District by planning interactive activities for each of the Executive Committee (EC) and Board of Directors (BOD) meetings as well as for the District Convention. What I really love about

the Planner role is the opportunity to assess the needs of the district and look how we can meet those needs. One way I did that this year was to move Convention registration to an online platform. I hope you found this new system convenient and easy to use. I am also working on establishing a database of our members' skills to help both our nominating committee when looking to fill officer roles and our existing officers when they need short-term help completing a project for the District. This has been a wonderful position that has allowed me to grow in my understanding of the District. I encourage each of you to talk to an EC member if you are also interested in serving the District.

Assistant to the President

Mona Book

As the Assistant to the President I help coordinate the logistics for Board of Directors (BOD) and Executive Committee (EC) meetings. This includes helping secure a meeting location and host group, providing information about the venue, nearby hotels, and arranging housing for committee members if needed. I also work with the host group to ensure meals are provided for meetings.

In addition, it is my duty to maintain and update a district mailing list for LWML groups and shares it as needed, such as with the Convention Registrar before the District Convention. Updated group information is gathered annually. I also provide a brief report of duties and activities each quarter.

Assistant to the Treasurer

Maritza Hernandez Muñoz

It has been a blessing to serve as Assistant to the Treasurer for the LWML Rocky Mountain District. In this role, I have assisted with financial records, deposits, and other tasks that help support the work and mission of the District. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve alongside faithful women who dedicate their time and talents to sharing God's love.

Through this position, I have seen how every mite, donation, and act of service helps further mission work and ministry opportunities throughout our District and beyond. Thank you to everyone who continues to support the mission of LWML through your prayers, service, and generosity.

I pray that God continues to guide and bless the work of the LWML and all those who serve Him faithfully.

“Serve one another humbly in love.” Galatians 5:13

I thank all of the District officers and Zone presidents for getting their documents and information (EC & BOD reports and Fall Rally Minutes) to me as I continue to work on maintaining the RMD Archival records.

Please know that you as an RMD LWML'er are part of our Rocky Mountain District history. Your experiences and stories are important. I want to make sure all LWML activities are recorded and remembered. Your activities and events are a reflection of the encouragement and dedication you render to each other as Sisters in Christ. What you do is also a reflection of your love of God and your care and love for the recipients of your generous services and contributions-all given in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ-to RMD mission grants and other society/group & zone mission outreach programs.

I continue to learn new and important things about the many Women in Mission of the LWML Rocky Mountain District. At the 2025 LWML Convention in Omaha NE, I attended a pre-convention Structure Committee seminar. I learned about the importance of updating bylaws and standing rules, and recording and reporting motions and other business in the Minutes taken at all committee meetings.

If you are interested in receiving a copy of my report on the structure Committee seminar, please stop by my exhibit table and sign up so I can send you an email.

Sending summaries and digital copies of District records to the National archives is still encouraged. I request that each zone and group send their "histories" to me so I can keep them in the District archives. Digital copies are most welcome. I use the information you send to me to summarize it in a biennium history/report. I then send a copy of this document on to the LWML Archivist in St. Louis for her records.

Please stop by the exhibit table I have planned and learn some more about our RMD history and the legacy granted us by all of our LWML sisters since 1942. I am also looking for a few good RMD LWML'ers who are interested in helping me maintain our RMD records.

We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our LORD Jesus Christ. 1 Thessalonians 1:3 NIV

My job is to provide the RMD LWML Ladies and everyone attending with a comfortable, inviting, and affordable hotel, nourishing food and arranging space needed for the speakers, general sessions and all of the other amenities needed, so that each and every one can received The Word of God presented in bible studies, singing, and fellowship. This is really a two to

four-year job involving working with the hotel and to address your wants/concerns. Thank you to the Southern Zone and all the Ladies in the Southern Zone for creating a special place for us to gather. This IS a huge, huge team effort, and I want to thank everyone for their support, it has been a great experience!! LWML hugs to all!

Special thank you to everyone on the District Board for their support/guidance - none of this could be accomplished without everyone's help!!

District Convention Co-Chairman

Becky Meyer

I hope you are having a wonderful Convention! It has been my pleasure to serve a one of the Convention Co-chairs to put together this event for you. The Hosting Zones Co-chair is charged with supporting the Hostess Committee, the Decorations Committee, and the Worship Committee. I would love to thank all of the committee members for their service to the District, especially the committee chairs Jeanne Ostermann, Pat Ford, Vicki Riddle, and Sue Herrmann who put in so much hard work. Special thanks also go out to the South Central Zone for designing our wonderful photo booths, the Southern Zone for creating our wonderful decorations, the Four Corners Zone for the beautiful tea towel favors they made, and the women of Rock of Ages for hosting our Communion Worship service.

District Convention Co-Chairman

Debbie Larson

As we go about our busy lives, I thank God for all those willing servants who prioritize sharing Christ with family, the community, and the world. That's what we do as Lutheran Women in Mission. We learn, serve, give, and share Christ's saving grace.

As District Convention Co-chairman, I was privileged to write articles of invitation and encouragement to our pastors and members. I sent invitations to potential exhibitors and followed up with necessary communications. I helped coordinate transportation between the hotel and the worship service, made necessary signage for convention, and worked with chairman on all properties. I look forward to greeting our exhibitors and each of you as we seek new avenues to share our Lord and His mercies. I thank God for the opportunity to serve alongside each of you.

Nominating Committee

Beth Nagy, Chairman

The Nominating Committee had the task this past biennium to find qualified and willing candidates for the district offices of President, Vice

President of Gospel Outreach, Vice President of Servant Resources, Nominating Committee, and Junior Pastoral Counselor. Committee members serving this biennium and assisting me in searching for candidates were Susan Avila, Cindy Corvin, Judith Piepkorn, and Stacey Robinson. It has been difficult to fill the ballot for 2026. A sincere thank you to all committee members for their assistance.

Structure Committee

Marilyn Grasz

Just as a building needs structure to keep standing, groups need bylaws to provide structure. Bylaws help groups know how to conduct business and elect leaders. They also show the elected what their tasks and responsibilities are. The Structure Committee helps groups, zones, and the district review their bylaws. Mary Marten, Susan Weimer, and myself form the Structure Committee. We have helped numerous groups and zones in their review. The district's bylaws were thoroughly reviewed in the last biennium and no amendments were needed this convention. It has been a pleasure to work with Mary and Susan, as well as with those who submitted bylaws for approval. Please remember to review your bylaws at least every five years.

Mission Servants Committee

Linda Harsh, Chairman

Thank you for participating in our 2026 Convention's **Gifts from the Heart** Ingathering! The Mission Servants Committee prayerfully researched and narrowed the recipients to one outreach from each of the three host zones. The **Arts Kits** assembled and **Gift Cards** purchased will assist the ministry of Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in the Four Corners Zone. The art supplies will give the Navajo youth a positive outlet for their emotions. The Gift Cards will be used to meet unpredictable community needs. The **Wish List** of items for Lutheran Valley Retreat located in the Southern Zone will help all campers experience God's grace and glory through His creation. The Castle Rock Branch of Orphan Grain Train in the South Central Zone will add boxes of **School Supplies** to their shipments for partners in Latvia and Lithuania. OGT will distribute the **Hygiene Kits** we assembled to disaster victims worldwide including those in our county. Please pray that these gifts will point their receivers to the Savior who grants **Faith That Can Move Mountains**.

Let us continue to - Let our light shine light before others, so that they may see our good works and give glory to our Father who is in heaven. Matthew 5:16

Committee on Young Women Chair 2026

Melisa Anderson

I am honored to have had the opportunity to be a part of the LWML Rocky Mountain District as the Committee on Young Women Chairman. I love working with the Young Women Representatives (YWRs) as they learn what the LWML is all about and experience their first conventions. It is a blessing to be involved with this program as these young women get to see God working through the LWML to make a huge impact not only in our district but throughout the world. The goal is to not only help these YWR become more familiar with what the LWML is all about but also to build relationships and connections within the LWML and encourage participation within the LWML in the future. Through bible studies, devotions, and conversations the committee on Young Women also strives to educate the YWRs about the rich joy of serving God, help them recognize their unique gifts and abilities, and to utilize their gifts as Lutheran Women in Mission. The Rocky Mountain district had six YWRs at the last district convention and sent one YWR to the national convention. Over the last few years, it has been a joy to get to know, work with, and learn from all of the wonderful women that make up the Rocky Mountain District LWML.

Scholarship Committee

Sue Frauenfeld

I have enjoyed chairing this committee the past several years! Each year I meet wonderful students pursuing full time church work through their educations. Whether they are just out of high school or going into their second career, all are eager to start or continue their educations at a Concordia college, university, or seminary. Currently the RMD is supporting five students with \$500 yearly scholarships, which can be renewed each year they attend school. The students are most appreciative of our support. We are able to award ten scholarships a year. If you know of anyone who is considering going to a Concordia college, university, or seminary to be a church worker, please let them know they can apply through the LWML RMD website for these scholarships. The application needs to include an evaluation from their pastor, a personal letter of recommendation., and a short essay from the applicant along with a current transcript. These are due on June 1st each year. All this information can be found on the LWML RMD website under “Resources”.

Heart to Heart – Sisters of All Nations Committee Heidi Norton

The Heart to Heart- Sister of All Nations committee has a purpose of helping all women feel welcomed and included in the LWML. Some of them might be from a different country, a different culture, a different generation or maybe just new to your church. It can be intimidating to

reach outside of what feels normal and comfortable to you to make a new friend. This committee is here to help the zones and local groups to find the motivation to do just that! Please feel free to contact me if you are interested in having a presentation on helping *all* Lutheran women join with us as we work together supporting missions and growing in our faith. I would also love to have some new members of the H2H committee- please reach out to me if this is something you would like to help with in the coming biennium- and stop by the Heart to Heart table here at convention to pick up some resources!

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.

Colossians 3: 12-15

Retreat Chairman

Belinda Burmeister

The responsibility of the Retreat Committee is to plan a district wide retreat on the odd years when the national convention is held. The committee secures a speaker and location for the gathering and plans a schedule that will encourage personal and group time with our God. Carving out time to spend with God without the everyday distractions is a gift to ourselves. The diversity of the retreat committee ensures that the little extras for the weekend enhance our time away from home. Plans for 2027 are already underway so start prayerfully planning to attend. Following our district convention watch for retreat news in the Tidings, on the website and on our Facebook page. It has been a joy to be a part of this committee.

District Presidents and Counselors

†Mrs. Fred Scherzer	1942-1943	†Edith Johnson	1982-1986
†Mrs. Max Hunter	1943-1945	†Carol Maas	1986-1990
†Lorna Zobel	1945-1947	†Ramona Mueller	1990-1991
†Tillie Brass	1947-1950	†Sue Anderson	1991-1994
†Lorna Zobel	1950-1953	Kaye Cairns	1994-1998
†Eula Hankel	1953-1956	Sue Anderson	1998-2002
†Clara Abelt	1956-1958	Mary Marten	2002-2006
†Elma Fischer	1958-1962	Susan Weimer	2006-2010
†Lillian Swanson	1962-1966	Carol von Soosten	2012-2014
†Marge Pollock	1966-1970	Sylvia Bean	2014-2018
†Pearl Mehl	1970-1974	Debbie Yocky	2018-2022
†Delores Rhode	1974-1978	Shelley Stewart	2022-
†Pauline Groerich	1978-1982		

Praise the Lord to those He gave us in service!

†Rev. P. Kretzshnar	1946	Rev. Gary Rahe	1986-1992
†Rev. Carl A Gieseler	1946-1948	Rev. James Mueller	1980-1984
†Rev. P. G. Stephan	1946-1948	Rev. David Bloedel	1990-1994
†Rev. Carl E. Mehl	1949	Rev. Neal MacLachlan	1992-1993
†Rev. Charles Wedig	1949	Rev. Jeffery Shearier	1993-1996
†Rev. Fred Boerger	1949	Rev. Lyle Stuehrenberg	1994-1996
†Rev. O. R. Graumann	1950-1953	†Rev. William Kohlmeier	1996-1998
†Rev. Alvin J. Starke	1954	Rev. Chip Winter	1996-2000
†Rev. Osborn J. Reeb	1955-1956	Rev. Craig Patterson	1998-2002
†Rev. George Weber	1957-1959	Rev. James Dunn	2000-2002
†Rev. Walter Geihlsler	1959	Rev. Roger Wohletz	2002
Rev. Henry Dorn	1960-1964	Rev. Thomas Fields	2002-2004
†Rev. Erich Knoernschild	1960-1962	Rev. Steven Thomas	2003-2004
†Rev. Harold M. Hiller	1962-1966	Rev. Donald Neidigk	2004-2008
†Rev. L. K. Hagen	1964-1968	Rev. Roger Sterle	2005-2006
†Rev. Ralph Phipps	1966-1970	Rev. Gary Piepkorn	2006-2010
Rev. Robert Hentz	1966-1970	Rev. Ralph Patrick	2008-2009
†Rev. Raymond Buck	1970-1972	Rev. Gary Rahe	2009-2012
†Rev. Edwin Keiper	1972-1976	Rev. Timothy Storck	2010-2014
Rev. Carl Walker	1974-1977	Rev. Jonathan Schultz	2012-2016
†Rev. William Naatz	1976-1980	Rev. Mark Nierman	2014-2018
†Rev. Edwin Keiper	1977-1978	Rev. Trent Christensen	2016-2020
Rev. John Rolf	1978-1982	Rev. Quintin Cundiff	2018-2019
Rev. Gregory Rogahn	1982-1986	Rev. Jonathan Schultz	2019-2021
† Rev. Dan Reeb	1984-1986	Rev. Pete Scheele	2020-2024
†Rev. Dennis Lindeman	1986-1990	Rev. Timothy P. Davis	2021
		Rev. Duane Meissner	2022-
		†Rev. Kevin Cramm	2024
		Rev. Nathanael Biberdorf	2024-

†Deceased

Enrichment Session Presenters

National LWML Representative



Shari Miller is Vice President of Christian Life. Shari attended LWML events with her mother growing up. When her husband, Larry received his first call to Oklahoma, the church did not have an LWML group and Shari found that she missed it. The church soon started an LWML group and Shari became active in the zone and district.

Shari has served in leadership roles in the local, zone, district, and national levels. She is an LWML author and has served as *Lutheran Women's Quarterly* (LWQ) News Editor, LWML Convention Wake up in the Word Bible Study Leader, Montana District President, LWML Recording Secretary and LWML Strategic Plan Facilitator. She currently serves as LWML Vice President of Christian Life.

Past President Ida Mall encouraged Shari as a young LWML member and continues to be a mentor. Shari says, "Lutheran Women in Mission has given me opportunities to use my God-given gifts and abilities in service to Him and His glory."

Shari and her husband, Rev. Larry A. Miller, have been married for 46 years and have two grown children. In her church, Shari works as the administrative assistant, plays the organ, directs the choirs, teaches a women's Bible study, and serves as a midweek school teacher.

Shari's vision for the LWML is that it be a vibrant and vital organization of mission-minded women whose primary purpose is to reach out with the Good News of salvation in Jesus Christ both locally and globally. I see the LWML nurturing, challenging, equipping, and encouraging each sister in Christ to grow in her faith and joyfully use her gifts and abilities in service "wherever and whenever He has need" of them as the Holy Spirit empowers her life through Word and Sacraments.

Shari's favorite Bible verse is Jeremiah 29:11, *For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.*

Ysleta Mission



Karla Gonzalez serves as the Director of Operations at Ysleta Lutheran Mission Human Care in El Paso, Texas. Born in Ciudad Juárez, Mexico, she carries a deep love for the border community she calls home. For over 20 years, Karla has served in ministry, walking alongside others with compassion and faith. Her family, their shared faith, and their love for ministry are at the heart of her life. With a background in accounting and business, Karla often jokes that God “repurposed” her for His work. She believes God has placed her “here” for a reason, in a community where there is both great need and great opportunity to love. Her heart is to be present, to care deeply, and to pour God’s compassion and love in the lives of those whom she has the honor of serving

His Little Feet



Christa Hahn is the co-founder and vice president of His Little Feet, an international ministry devoted to helping, loving, and training orphaned and vulnerable children worldwide. Over the past 21 years, she and her husband, Mike, have toured the United States with more than 281 children from multiple nations, impacting thousands of children and communities in need. Christa currently oversees His Little Feet’s Global Ministries, ministering to thousands in India, Kenya, Uganda, and Rwanda. Married for 24 years, she lives in Windsor, CO, with Mike and their five children and has served in church ministry and missions for over 25 years.

Convention Personalities

Reverend Schuschke, Worship Proclaimer



A graduate of Concordia University in Seward, NE, Pastor Gary Schuschke has a long list of positions and locations in his resume. He not only grew up in Colorado Springs, but also is currently serving at Faith Lutheran and has returned to living in the Colorado Springs area. He loves to travel and has taught Bible workshops in Russia, as well as led mission trips to Latvia. He has loved leading his congregation to places such as Greece, Germany, and the Holy Land. Pastor has also completed certification in scuba diving. He is amazed that God has chosen to bring him full circle.

Reverend Duane Meissner, Bible Study Leader



Pastor Meissner hails from a rural town just outside of Austin, Texas. Chasing his first love of music he earned a Bachelor's degree in church music conducting from Concordia University Texas before pursuing studies at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, where he earned his MDiv degree and was ordained in 2011. Since then he has served as a parish pastor at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Barnhart, Missouri, a career church planting missionary for the LCMS in Belize, Central America, as the president of the Belize Mission Society (RSO), and as an urban missionary pastor at Resurrection in the City Lutheran Church in Denver, CO, where he still serves and lives with his wife of 21 years, Elizabeth, and their four children.

Reverend Nathanael Biberdorf, Bible Study Leader



Pastor Biberdorf was born in Rolla, North Dakota and has lived in California and Missouri. He is a third-generation LCMS pastor whose father is now retired from active ministry, and his parents now live in Tucson, Arizona along with a younger brother who lives in Phoenix. He attended Brandman University for a bachelor's degree in Social Science before attending Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. He graduated from the seminary in 2020 and received his first call to Zion Lutheran Church, Browns Valley, Minnesota and Zion Lutheran Church, Claire City, South Dakota. He served there from July 2020 until May 2024. He took a call to serve Zion Lutheran Church in Farmington, New Mexico, where he has served since June 2024.

Reverend Pete Piepkorn, Keynote Speaker



Born in Minnesota, Pastor Gary Piepkorn served as a parish pastor for 25 years and served in our nation's military for 37 years, 22 of which were on active duty. He served in four countries, served deployments in six more countries, did memorial services for military members who died on duty, confirmed people into the Lutheran Faith at all the bases where he served, and, while serving Faith In Christ in Portales, taught religion at Eastern New Mexico University. One of the highlights of his

parish ministry time was that he was able to serve as a national counselor for Lutheran Women in Mission. That for which he is most thankful is his dear wife Judy, their four children, 15 grandchildren, and now three great grandsons. Well, actually he's most thankful that God called him to be one of His eternal children. Thus, all he can ever say is, "May God be praised." He is now retired and lives near Sayre, OK.

Beth Shroff, Song Leader



Texas, and earned a B.M.Ed. Degree. Her newest favorite title is LaLa, grandma to 2½ year old granddaughter Rory.

Beth Shroff serves as the music director at Christ Lutheran Church and School in Albuquerque, NM. She has been the song leader or accompanist at many district conventions. Her days in the LWML RMD began as the YWR to the LWML Kansas City Convention in 1995. Beth was born and raised in Southeast Texas and began using her musical talents in church and Lutheran school at a young age. She attended Southwestern University in Georgetown,

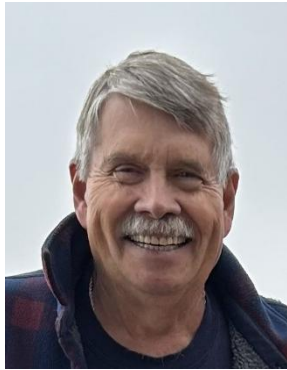
Bri Jones, Saturday Evening Convention Performer



Bri Jones is a singer-songwriter whose music blends the raw storytelling of folk with the soul-stirring depth of the blues. Born with an innate love for music, Bri has always turned to songwriting as a way to process the world around her. Her music is deeply personal, often drawing from her own experiences with medical hardships— both her own and those of her family. But rather than letting pain define her, she transforms it into something meaningful, using her songs to offer comfort and strength to others who are fighting their own battles. For Bri, music isn't just an escape; it's a lifeline, a way to remind herself and her listeners that no matter how heavy life gets, there's always a song to carry them through.

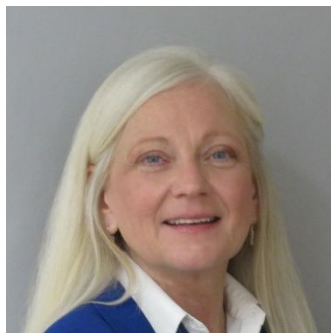
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Mike Kozimko, Orphan Grain Train, Mites in Action Speaker



Mike Kozimko was born in Carson City, Nevada on November 10, 1949. He received a BS degree in geology from the University of Nevada-Reno in 1972 and a MS degree in geology from Iowa State University in 1977. Mike worked as a petroleum geologist/supervisor for Conoco and Yates Petroleum Corporation/EOG Resources for 40 years. He retired in 2011. Mike and his wife Mary Ann live 35 miles south of Denver on 6 acres which overlook the Rocky Mountains. He is an avid deer hunter and enjoys watching the wildlife which frequents his property. Most of Mike's time is spent working on his property and volunteering at Orphan Grain Train in Castle Rock. He has been the Orphan Grain Train Castle Rock Coordinator for the past 4 years.

Mary Hamilton, Mites in Action Speaker



Mary Hamilton serves as Grant Manager for the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod where she provides leadership and oversight for grant administration in support of the church's mission and ministry priorities. In her role, Mary works closely with districts, congregations, and partner organizations to guide the grant process, ensure responsible stewardship of resources, and support initiatives that advance Gospel Outreach, education, mercy work, and church extension. Mary plays a key role in helping ministries navigate funding opportunities that strengthen and sustain Lutheran witness and service.

Lutheran High School, Mites in Action Video



This LuHi mission team, led by staff member Ben Feuger, traveled to Acuna, Mexico in June 2026 to build a home for a single mother and her son who is confined to a wheelchair. They spent several days building the home, which included a ramp and other wheelchair accessible features. This team would like to thank the LWML for the financial support they gave to this project. It was a blessing to the family and to our students and staff who were involved.

Exhibitors

AbleLight, Littleton, CO
Concordia Theological Seminary Ft. Wayne Food Co-op, Fort Wayne, IN
Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, Minot, ND
LCMS Gifts of Love
LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces, Operation Barnabas
Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF)
Lutheran Diaconal Association, Littleton, CO
Lutheran Heritage Foundation
Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM)
Lutheran Valley Retreat, Florissant, CO
Orphan Grain Train, Castle Rock, CO
Shepherd's Canyon Retreat, AZ
University Lutheran Chapel, Boulder, CO
Ysleta Lutheran Mission, El Paso, TX

LWML Rocky Mountain Committees:

Archivist/Structure
Book Exchange
Christian Life
Heart to Heart
Mission Grants
Mission Servants
Retreat
Servant Resources
Scholarships

District Officers/Appointed Personnel/Committees

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Vice President of Christian Life

Sylvia Bean, Clovis, NM

Vice President of Communications

Christie Peebles, Severance, CO

Vice President of Gospel Outreach

Outreach

Andi Noblitt, Denver, CO

Vice President of Servant Resources

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Christina Bean, Pecos, NM

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Senior Pastoral Counselor

Pastor Duane Meissner, Denver, CO

Junior Pastoral Counselor

Pastor Nathanael Biberdorf,
Farmington, NM

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Maritza Munoz, El Paso, TX

Assistant to the President

Mona Book, CO Springs, CO

Tidings Editor

Sue Giddings, Durango, CO

Planner

Becky Meyer, CO Springs, CO

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Parliamentarian

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Christie Peebles, Severance, CO

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Judy Piepkorn, Portales, NM

Stacey Robinson, Denver, CO

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Anita Palenschat, Gallup, NM

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Florence Seis, Albuquerque, NM

Mission Grants Committee

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Syvia Bean, Clovis, NM
Kay Moeller, Erie, CO
Cindie Corvin, Stanley, NM
Vickie Warren, Boulder, CO

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Cindy Stahly, Erie, CO
Kathy Eyster, Bent, NM

***Scholarship Endowment Fund /
Special Gifts Endowment Fund /
Treasurer***

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Melisa Anderson, Erie, CO
Rebekah Bauder, Fort Collins, CO

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Sylvia Bean, Clovis, NM

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Susan Weimer, Fort Morgan, CO
Mary Marten, Falcon, CO

***Heart to Heart Sister
Committee***

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Gifts of Love Advocate

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Belinda Burmeister, Timberon, NM

Zone Presidents

Eastern High Plains

Contact Person: Doris Lessedon,
Eads, CO

Four Corners

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North Central

Judy Delve, Westminster, CO

Northeastern

Pam Vieselmeyer, Holyoke, CO

Northern

Cindy Stahly, Erie, CO

Northern New Mexico

Cindi Corvin, Stanley, NM

Pecos

Syliva Bean, Clovis, NM

Rio Grande

Ann Hernandez, El Paso, TX

South Central

Jessica Thomas, Parker, CO

Southern

Sue Herrmann, CO Springs, CO

Western

Nancy Kraft, Gypsum, CO

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Linda Guteres

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Deaconess Raquel Rojas

LWML Gift Planners

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Linda Gage

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Debbie Larson, Convention Co-Chairman
Becky Meyer, Planner
Mona Book, Assistant to the President
Belinda Burmeister, Retreat Chairman
Sylvia Bean, Vice President of Christian Life
Christie Peebles, Vice President of Communications
Andi Noblitt, Vice President of Gospel Outreach
Christina Bean, Vice President of Servant Resources
Sue Herrmann, Recording Secretary
Ann Hernandez, Treasurer
Sue Giddings, Tidings Editor
Pastor Duane Meissner, Senior Pastoral Counselor
Pastor Nathanael Biberdorf, Junior Pastoral Counselor
Barbara Wertz, Parliamentarian

Lutheran Women's Missionary League Rocky Mountain District gratefully acknowledges:

The EPC (Events Planning Committee) for the design of the Convention logo.

The ladies of the Four Corners, Southern, and South Central Zones for their help and commitment in organizing this convention

Convention Host Committee

Four Corners Zone

Trinity Ruth Guild, Cortez, CO
St. Paul's Ladies Guild, Durango, CO
Zion LWML, Farmington, NM
Trinity LWML, Gallup, NM
Shepherd of the Valley, Navajo, NM

South Central Zone

Mount Olive, Aurora, CO
LWML of Shepherd of the Rockies,
Bailey, CO
Epiphany Lutheran LWML, Castle
Rock, CO
Ladies of Christ, Denver, CO
Ruth Guild University Hills,
Denver, CO
Immanuel Lutheran LWML,
Englewood, CO
LWML Women of the Cross,
Highlands Ranch, CO
Ascension Ladies' Guild, Littleton,
CO
Individual Members: Julie Case,
Kim Mallory, Joey Schilling

Southern Zone

Trinity LWML, Alamosa, CO
Faith Lutheran LWML, Buena Vista,
CO
St John Lutheran Ladies Society,
Canon City, CO
LWML of Holy Cross, CO Springs
Redeemer Dorcas, CO Springs
Resurrection LWML, CO Springs
Rock of Ages LWML Ladies Guild,
CO Springs
Women in God's Service, CO
Springs
Women in Mission, CO Springs
Women of Faith, Falcon, CO
Trinity Ruth Guild, La Junta, CO
Our Savior's LWML, Pueblo West,
CO
Concordia Society of St Peter's,
Rocky Ford, CO
Faith Ladies Guild, Woodland Park,
CO

Individual Member: Kimberly
Whitney

2026 Convention

Convention Coordinator: Linda
Achziger

Convention Co-Chairmen: Debbie
Larson and Becky Meyer

Registration: Toni Davidson,
Marilyn Grasz, and Debbie Vosseler

Four Corners Zone President:
Mary Bickner

South Central Zone President:
Jessica Thomas

Southern Zone President:
Sue Herrmann

Decorations Committee: Co-chairmen
Pat Ford and Vicki Riddle and the
women of the Southern Zone

Hostess Committee: Chairman Jeanne
Ostermann, Vicky Addison, Dawn
Atkinson, Sara Austin, Susan Avila,
Mary Lou Dietzman, Eulalia Dory,
Paula Evans, Kim Mallore, Christina
Mann, Kathy Oberling, Vicki Riddle,
Jan Schmidt, Susan Smith, Marilyn
Vogel, Connie Willyard

Worship Committee: Chairman Sue
Herrmann, The Rock of Ages Altar
Guild, Rock of Ages Lutheran Church,
Colorado Springs, CO

Convention Favors: Four Corners
Zone

Convention Photo Booths: South
Central Zone

Transportation: Karen Kolke

Friday Afternoon Convention 2026 Devotion

Faith and Mountains

It was not through law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith (Romans 4:13).

Dear Lord, We come today to praise and glorify You as we gather at convention in picturesque Colorado Springs, at The Antlers Hotel, where we are privileged to admire and experience the beauty all around us and especially, the mountains. We ask Your blessing on our time together, that You send Your Spirit to strengthen and nurture our faith as we study Your Word that we would fully acknowledge You as the creator, motivator, and mover of our faith and abilities. Give us the wisdom, faith, and courage to do Your Will as we work together to continue “*serving You with gladness*” through our mission grants, mission service, and our district activities and plans. We thank You for blessing the Mite Offerings and Mission Grant recipients of the last two years as the grants have been paid in full, and we were privileged to be a part of sharing Your love and the saving Gospel message with others through these grants. We also ask Your blessing on the business to be decided and voted on at this convention that all be to Your glory and for the spreading of the Gospel to the world. In Jesus’ Name we pray, Amen.

Here we are at last! So, why did you come? To see beautiful Colorado Springs, to see friends, to get a-way from home, to be a part of determining the business of our LWML Rocky Mountain District, to spend time in the Word and be nurtured, uplifted, and strengthened in your faith? Hopefully, all of the above! Our convention goal is to trust in the Mountain Mover. 2 Chronicles 20:20 tells us to ...*Have faith in the Lord your God and you will be upheld;*...

As we’re in Colorado Springs, it only seems logical for the convention theme to include mountains. Looking at them we contemplate their beauty, majesty, and power, as stated in the convention theme verse: *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 17:20b).*

Now we’re talking not only of moving mountains but also of faith. What does having faith mean? How much faith is enough to move a mountain? *For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from*

*yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do (Ephesians 2:8-10). Faith then, is a gift of God to us, not something we achieve on our own. That takes the burden off of us to have to do enough, be good enough, or have enough faith – Jesus has already done EVERYTHING needed to free us from sin, death, and the devil! Through His death on the cross, we are forgiven, our sins washed a-way and are made “right” with God. He has even given us our faith by the power of the Holy Spirit. *He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God (1Peter 1:20-21).**

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see (Hebrews 11:1). Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart (Hebrews 12:1-3).

Since it is God who gives us our faith and strengthens that faith, we don’t have to worry about having “enough” faith. Romans 10:17 tells us, *Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.* We are also told, *In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade – kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God’s power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time (1 Peter 1:5).* God’s got this! And He will strengthen, guide, and sustain us in our faith now and forever. His promise to us in His *Word* that through baptism we are His Child is sure and complete. *He that believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned (Mark16:16).* Ephesians 4:5 states, *one Lord, one faith, one baptism;* in 2 Corinthians 5:7 we’re told, *For we live by faith, not by sight.*

So, while we’re together in Colorado Springs at the 2026 LWML RMD Convention, we can enjoy the vista of the mountains and remember that Jesus is the Mover in whom we trust as He has redeemed us, empowered us by the Holy Spirit to live by faith, and to believe in God. Our strength and

confidence is in Him. Therefore, we stand firm in our faith because of Him. So, this weekend as you appreciate the majestic mountains around us, may it bring to mind the gift of faith in Jesus that you have received.

Dear Lord,

Thank you for this time together. Be with us throughout the convention that our faith is strengthened, our spirits renewed and uplifted, and Your will be done to Your glory and our good.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.



Mission Servants – *Gifts from the Heart* Litany

2026 LWML RMD Convention, Colorado Springs, Colorado

Leader 1 Almighty Father, thank you for the opportunity to serve You and others with our *Gifts from the Heart*. We pray your blessing on the unique ministries of Navajo Lutheran Outreach, Lutheran Valley Retreat, and Orphan Grain Train. We have faith that the “mountains” of gifts lovingly brought to this convention will be used to your glory and for your purposes.

All ***May these gifts be a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to You.***

Leader 2 **Navajo Lutheran Outreach at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in Navajo, New Mexico is in our Four Corners Zone.** Navajo Lutheran Outreach is a Word and Sacrament ministry on the Navajo Nation. In 2013 Pastor Tim Norton answered the call to serve in this ministry, following the Lord’s command in Matthew 28:19-20:

All ***Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.***

The gift cards that we collected will be used to meet unexpected needs in the Navajo community. We pray that the recipients will receive these gift cards and praise our Father in heaven for His provision. May the art kits we assembled bring joy to many young people’s lives. We also hope that the kits will be a positive outlet for any youth dealing with difficult emotions. Father God, Psalm 10:17-18 assures us of your compassion:

All ***You hear, O Lord, the desire of the afflicted; you encourage them, and you listen to their cry...***

Leader 3 **Lutheran Valley Retreat is tucked away in Colorado’s Pike National Forest in our Southern Zone.** LVR is a year-round retreat and summer camp facility for all ages. Their mission is to share God’s grace and glory through His creation. Summer camps offer opportunities for backpacking, archery,

rock climbing and rappelling, horseback riding and much more. We pray that the sleeping bags, climbing shoes, tarps, games and supplies we collected will further this ministry, resulting in deeper relationships with Jesus. May the words from this majestic hymn come alive to all the campers:

All *When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And see the brook, and feel the gentle breeze.
Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to thee,
How great Thou art, How great Thou art.*

Leader 1 **Orphan Grain Train's Castle Rock Collection Center is in our South Central Zone.** OGT is a Christian volunteer network that ships donated food, clothing, medical and other needed items to people in 73 different countries including 40 states in the USA. Grain Train volunteers sort and pack gathered donations. Their theme verse is John 14:18:

All *I will not leave you as orphans, I will come to you.*

In Greek the word "orphan" means "without resources." The Castle Rock Collection Center ships needed resources to partners in Latvia and Lithuania. The school supplies we gathered will be added to these shipments to promote education which helps alleviate poverty. The Hygiene Kits we assembled will be split between domestic and international shipments. These kits are in great demand, especially after natural disasters, moving in and out of OGT warehouses very quickly. Lord, help us to answer your call in Psalm 41:1:

All *Blessed is the one who considers the poor!*

Leader 1 Please pray with me:

All **Everlasting Father, we pray that these *Gifts from the Heart* will point many to their Savior. May these gifts also encourage and support the staff and volunteers serving these three ministries. Please continue to strengthen us to live with purpose and empower us to serve you. We humbly ask this in your most Holy Name. Amen.**

Songs

1. Christ Be My Leader

Christ be my Leader by night as by day;
Safe through the darkness, for He is the way.
Gladly I follow, my future His care,
Darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.

Christ be my Teacher in age as in youth,
Drifting or doubting, for He is the truth.
Grant me to trust Him; though shifting as sand,
Doubt cannot daunt me; in Jesus I stand.

Christ be my Savior in calm as in strife;
Death cannot hold me, for He is the life.
Nor darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain
Can touch my salvation; with Jesus I reign.

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2. Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me

Lord, take my hand and lead me Upon life's way;
Direct, protect, and feed me From day to day.
Without Your grace and favor I go astray;
So take my hand, O Savior, And lead the way.

Lord, when the tempest rages, I need not fear,
For You, the Rock of Ages, Are always near.
Close by Your side abiding, I fear no foe,
For when Your hand is guiding, In peace I go.

Lord, when the shadows lengthen and night has come,
I know that You will strengthen My steps toward home.
Then nothing can impede me, O blessed Friend;
So take my hand and lead me Unto the end.

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3. 10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

Chorus:
Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;
Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul;
I'll worship Your holy name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,
It's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes.

Chorus

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger.
Your name is great and Your heart is kind.
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing;
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

Chorus

And on that day, when my strength is failing;
The end draws near, and my time has come;
Still, my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years, and then forevermore!

Chorus 2x

Worship Your holy name,
Lord, I'll worship Your holy name.

Jonas Myrin | Matt Redman © 2011 Thankyou Music I Said And Done
Music I sixsteps Music I SHOUT! Music Publishing CCLI
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4. Serve the Lord with Gladness

“Serve the Lord with gladness!” It is He alone Who redeemed us sinners, Guides us as His own. To enjoy the blessings Of His love and grace, Will at last in glory Meet us face to face.

Refrain:

Onward, then, for Jesus! Let this be our aim:

“Serve the Lord with gladness!”
Glorify His name.

“Serve the Lord with gladness!”

He gave this command
To proclaim His Gospel Now in ev’ry land

So that fellow sinners May, like us, be blest. Leading them to Jesus, We can serve Him best.

Refrain

“Serve the Lord with gladness!”

There’s no greater joy,
Than to serve the Master,
Work in His employ.
As we build His kingdom
Angels, too, rejoice
Over every sinner
Brought to hear His voice. *Refrain*

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5. Shine, Jesus, Shine

Lord, the light of Your love is shining,
In the midst of the darkness shining.
Jesus, light of the world shine upon us,
Set us free by the truth You now bring us. Shine on me, shine on me.

Refrain:

Shine, Jesus, shine,
Fill this land with the Father’s glory,
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, Set our hearts on fire. Flow, river, flow,
Flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth Your Word, Lord,
And let there be light.

Lord, I come to Your awesome presence, From the shadows into Your radiance.

By the blood I may enter Your brightness, Search me, try me, consume all my darkness.
Shine on me, shine on me. *Refrain*

As we gaze on Your kingly brightness,
So our faces display Your likeness.
Ever changing from glory to glory,
Mirror’d here may our lives tell
Your story, Shine on me, shine on me. *Refrain*

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6. Lord I Lift Your Name on High

Lord, I lift Your name on high;
Lord, I love to sing Your praises.
I'm so glad You're in my life;
I'm so glad You came to save us!

You came from heaven to earth
to show the way,
From the earth to the cross, my
debt to pay.

From the cross to the grave,
From the grave to the sky;
Lord, I lift Your name on high!

Repeat

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7. Beautiful Savior

Beautiful Savior, King of
creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love Thee, Truly I'd
serve Thee, Light of my soul, my
joy, my crown.

Fair are the meadows, Fair are the
woodlands,
Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

Fair is the sunshine; Fair is the
moonlight
Bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines
purer than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the
nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, Praise, adoration
Now and forevermore be Thine!

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8. When Peace, like a River

When peace, like a river, attendeth
my way; When sorrows, like sea
billows, roll; Whatever my lot,
Thou hast taught me to say, It is
well, it is well with my soul.

Refrain

It is well (It is well) with my soul,
(with my soul), It is well, it is well
with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though
trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ hath regarded my
helpless estate
And hath shed His own blood for my
soul. *Refrain*

He lives — oh, the bliss of this
glorious thought;
My sin, not in part, but the
whole,
Is nailed to His cross, and I bear
it no more.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O
my soul! *Refrain*

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9. In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought
and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of
peace, When fears are stilled when
strivings cease.
My comforter, my all in all,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on
flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless Babe!
This gift of love and
righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to
save.
'Til on the cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied.
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world, by
darkness slain; Then,
bursting forth in glorious
day, Up from the grave He
rose again!
And as He stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am His and He is mine,
Bought with the precious blood of
Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the pow'r of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Til He returns or calls me home,
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

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10. You Are My All in All

You are my Strength when I am weak,
You are the Treasure that I seek,
You are my All in All.
Seeking You as a precious jewel,
Lord, to give up I'd be a fool.
You are my All in All!

Jesus, Lamb of God,
Worthy is Your name.
Jesus, Lamb of God,
Worthy is Your name.

Taking my sin, my cross, my
shame;
Rising again, I bless Your name.
You are my All in All.
When I fall down, You pick me up;
When I am dry, You fill my cup.
You are my All in All!

Jesus, Lamb of God,
Worthy is Your name.
Jesus, Lamb of God,
Worthy is Your name.

*Dennis L. Jernigan © 1991 Shepherd's
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11. A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

A mighty fortress is our God,
A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need
That has us now o'ertaken.
The old evil foe
Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal.

With might of ours can naught be
done,
Soon were our loss effected;
But for us fights the valiant One,
Whom God Himself elected.
Ask ye, Who is this?
Jesus Christ it is,
Of Sabaoth Lord,
And there's none other God;
He holds the field forever.

Though devils all the world should
fill,
All eager to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill;
They shall not overpow'r us.
This world's prince may still
Scowl fierce as he will,
He can harm us none.
He's judged; the deed is done;
One little word can fell him.

The Word they still shall let remain
Nor any thanks have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain
With his good gifts and Spirit.
And take they our life,
Goods, fame, child, and wife,
Though these all be gone,
Our vict'ry has been won;
The Kingdom ours remaineth.

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12. God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It

God's own child, I gladly say it:
I am baptized into Christ!
He, because I could not pay it,
Gave my full redemption price.
Do I need earth's treasures many?
I have one worth more than any
That brought me salvation free
Lasting to eternity!

Sin, disturb my soul no longer:
I am baptized into Christ!
I have comfort even stronger:
Jesus' cleansing sacrifice.
Should a guilty conscience seize me
Since my Baptism did release me
In a dear forgiving flood,
Sprinkling me with Jesus' blood!

Satan, hear this proclamation:
I am baptized into Christ!
Drop your ugly accusation,
I am not so soon enticed.
Now that to the font I've traveled,
All your might has come unraveled,
And, against your tyranny,
God, my Lord, unites with me!

Death, you cannot end my gladness:
I am baptized into Christ!
When I die, I leave all sadness
To inherit paradise!
Though I lie in dust and ashes
Faith's assurance brightly flashes:
Baptism has the strength divine
To make life immortal mine.

There is nothing worth comparing
To this lifelong comfort sure!
Open-eyed my grave is staring:
Even there I'll sleep secure.
Though my flesh awaits its raising,
Still my soul continues praising:
I am baptized into Christ;
I'm a child of paradise!

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13. Onward, Christian Soldiers

Onward, Christian soldiers,
Marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus
Going on before.
Christ, the royal master,
Leads against the foe;
Forward into battle,
See, His banners go!

Refrain:
Onward, Christian soldiers,
Marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus
going on before.

Like a mighty army
Moves the Church of God;
Brothers, we are treading
Where the saints have trod.
We are not divided,
All one body we,
One in hope and doctrine,
One in charity. *Refrain*

Crown and thrones may perish,
Kingdoms rise and wane,
But the Church of Jesus
Constant will remain.
Gates of hell can never
'Gainst that Church prevail;
We have Christ's own promise,
And that cannot fail. *Refrain*

Onward, then, ye faithful,
Join our happy throng,
Blend with ours your voices
In the triumph song:
Glory, laud, and honor
Unto Christ the king;
This through countless ages
Men and angels sing. *Refrain*
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14. Lift High the Cross

Refrain:
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ
proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred
name.

Come, Christians, follow
where our Captain trod,
Our King victorious, Christ the Son of
God. *Refrain*

Led on their way by this triumphant
sign,
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks
combine. *Refrain*

All newborn soldiers of the Crucified
Bear on their brows
the seal of Him who died. *Refrain*

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious
tree,
As Thou hast promised, draw us all
to Thee. *Refrain*

Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell
Of Him who saves our lives from
death and hell. *Refrain*

So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory!
Refrain

George W. Kitchin; rev. Michael R. Newbolt Sydney H Nicholson
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15. My Faith Looks Up to Thee

My faith looks up to Thee,
Thou Lamb of Calvary,
Savior divine.
Now hear me while I pray;
Take all my guilt away;
O let me from this day
Be wholly Thine!

May Thy rich grace impart
Strength to my fainting heart;
My zeal inspire!
As Thou hast died for me,
Oh, may my love to Thee
Pure, warm, and changeless be,
A living fire!

While life's dark maze I tread,
And griefs around me spread,
Be Thou my Guide;
Bid darkness turn to day,
Wipe sorrow's tears away,
Nor let me ever stray
From Thee aside.

When ends life's transient dream,
When death's cold, sullen stream
Shall o'er me roll,
Blest Savior, then, in love,
Fear and distrust remove;
O bear me safe above,
A ransomed soul!

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16. Great is Thy Faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my
Father;
There is no shadow of turning with
Thee;
Thou changest not: Thy compassions,
they fail not;
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt
be.

Refrain:
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!"
Morning by morning new mercies I
see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath
provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto
me!

Summer and winter and springtime
and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses
above,
Join with all nature in manifold
witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and
love.

Refrain

Pardon for sin and a peace that
endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer
and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope
for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand
beside!

Refrain

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17. Lutheran Women, One and All

Lutheran women, one and all,
We have heard the Gospel call.
We by faith have seen our Lord
Crucified and then restored.
We have seen Him pay the price,
For our sins a sacrifice.
Him we Lord and Christ acclaim
And unite to praise His name.

Lutheran women, young and old,
Well we know His challenge bold:
Help to take the Gospel light
To a world in darkest night,
By example in the home,
By inviting those who roam,
By our prayers for sinners lost,
By our gifts for missions' cost.

Lutheran women, coast to coast,
In the Lord a mighty host,
Let us all united be
In the Holy Trinity,
One in faith, in hope, and love,
Working for the Lord above,
Till, our earthly labors done,
We in heaven shall all be one.

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18. Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

Amazing grace
How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now am found
Was blind, but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Chorus:
My chains are gone
I've been set free
My God, my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy reigns
Unending love, amazing grace.

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures *Chorus 2x*

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God, Who called me here below,
Will be forever mine.
Will be forever mine.
You are forever mine.

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19. Holy Forever

A thousand generations
falling down in worship
To sing the song of ages to the Lamb
And all who've gone before us
and all who will believe
Will sing the song of ages to the
Lamb

Pre-Chorus:

Your name is the highest
Your name is the greatest
Your name stands above them all
All thrones and dominions
All powers and positions
Your name stands above them all

Chorus 1: And the angels cry, Holy
All creation cries, Holy
You are lifted high, Holy
Holy forever

If you've been forgiven
and if you've been redeemed
Sing the song forever to the Lamb
If you walk in freedom
and if you bear His name
Sing the song forever to the Lamb
We'll sing the song forever and amen

Chorus 1

Chorus 2: Hear your people sing,
Holy
To the King of Kings, Holy
You will always be, Holy
Holy forever

Pre-Chorus 2x – Chorus 1 – Chorus 2

You will always be Holy, Holy
forever.

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20. Goodness Of God

I love You, Lord
Oh Your mercy never fails me
All my days, I've been held in Your
hands
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God

Chorus:

All my life You have been faithful
All my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God

I love Your voice
You have led me through the fire
In darkest night You are close like no
other
I've known You as a Father
I've known You as a Friend
I have lived in the goodness of God

Chorus

Bridge:

Your goodness is running after,
it's running after me
Your goodness is running after,
it's running after me
With my life laid down, I'm
surrendered now
I give You everything
Your goodness is running after,
it's running after me
[Repeat Bridge & Chorus]
I will sing of the goodness of God

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21. That's What Faith Can Do

Even if you fall sometimes
You will have the strength to rise

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Ev'rybody falls sometimes,
Gotta find the strength to rise
From the ashes
And make a new beginning.
Anyone can feel the ache,
You think it's more than you can
take,
But you're stronger,
Stronger than you know
Don't you give up now.
The sun will soon be shining.
You gotta face the clouds
To find the silver lining.

Refrain:

I've seen dreams that move the
mountains
Hope that doesn't ever end
Even when the sky is falling
I've seen miracles just happen
Silent prayers get answered
Broken hearts become brand new
That's what faith can do

It doesn't matter what you've heard
Impossible is not a word
It's just a reason
For someone not to try
Everybody's scared to death
When they decide to take that step
Out on the water
It'll be alright
Life is so much more
Than what your eyes are seeing
You will find your way
If you keep believing. *Refrain*

Overcome the odds
You don't have a chance
(That's what faith can do)
When the world says you can't
It'll tell you that you can. *Refrain*

That's what faith can do
That's what faith can do

Paracord Lanyard Instructions



Paracord Lanyard Instructions

Be sure to read all the pages before attempting to make a lanyard!

- Keep your cord stretched out to your sides and do not let them hang straight down.
- **Do not over tighten.** You do not need to pull as hard as you physically can to make a lanyard. In fact, if you pull too hard, it will make the lanyard very difficult to deploy. A simple tug when you tighten the outer loop is sufficient.
- Once the outer loop is tightened, gently pull on the loop you just made, and it will tighten up the look of the lanyard
- Keep your loops no bigger than 1" (It should just fit over the tip of your thumb). This will make creating the lanyard a lot simpler than if you make huge loops.
- Do not turn the lanyard as you are making it, or the pattern will not be created. You should keep the lanyard facing the same way as when you started.
- **ALWAYS** insert your next loop from the front and not the back! Once again, you will not create the pattern correctly if you insert the loop from the back.

1. Begin by finding the center of your 5 feet of paracord. Put both ends in one hand. Run your other hand down the cord until you reach the end where the loop is, and you have found the center.



2. Create a loop and put the end through the loop to begin the knot.



3. Tighten the knot. When the knot is complete, the loop should fit just over the tip of your thumb.



4. With the cord in the position below and the two pieces of cord separated to your left and right (do not let the cord hang straight down, separate the cord to your left and right), we will begin to make the lanyard.



5. Keeping the cord to your left and right, begin by creating a loop with the right-hand cord. Be sure that the right-hand cord is on top of the loop as shown in the picture below.



6. Next, make a loop with the left side cord and insert the loop into the loop you created with the right-hand cord. Be sure that you always insert the loop from the front as shown in the picture below.



7. Next, pull on the right-hand cord to tighten the outer loop around the left-hand loop.



8. Next, create a loop with the right-hand cord and insert it in the loop you just created.



9. Tighten the outer loop with the left-hand cord.



You will begin to notice that the last loop always points to one side as you see in the previous picture. The direction the loop is pointing tells you which cord to use to create the next loop. So, if the loop is pointing to the left, you will use the left cord to make a loop and put it through the loop you already have. If it is pointing to the right, you'll make a loop on the right side.

Next, we will begin the repeat stitch that you'll use to continue until the lanyard is approximately 6"-7" long. There are 4 steps to making the lanyard.

10. **Step 1:** Since the loop is pointing to the left (see the previous picture), you will use the left cord to insert a loop.



11. **Step 2:** Tighten the outer loop with the right cord.



12. **Step 3:** Insert the right cord into the loop.



13. **Step 4:** Tighten the outer loop with the left-side cord.



14. Repeat steps 1 through 4 repeatedly and you'll begin to see the design of the "Zipper" Stitch.



15. When you have approximately 6" of loose cord left on both sides, it is time to finish the lanyard. Do not be concerned if one end is a bit longer than the other because we will be cutting away the excess.



16. To finish the lanyard, you will insert the end of your cord into the loop and pull it through, instead of making another loop. This can be done with either cord.



17. Tighten the outer loop.



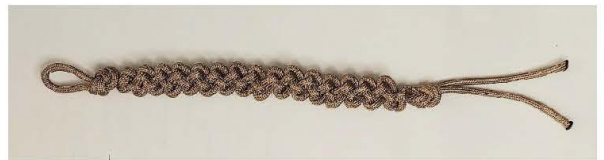
18. To finish the lanyard, we will need to create a knot. Take both ends and create a loop. You may find that wrapping the cords around your finger may help with making the loop. Insert the ends into the loop.



19. Next, tighten the knot so that it is as close as possible to the bottom of the lanyard.



20. If the ends are uneven by more than 2" you can trim, heat, and seal the longer end to match the length of the shorter end.



Congratulations, you have made a Paracord Lanyard!

Witness Bracelet Instructions

You Can Be Part of Sharing the Gospel Message Around the World by Making Witness Bracelets for the Mission Field



The Witness Bracelet is a popular and effective evangelism tool that MOST Ministries uses on the mission field! The bracelet, which features seven beads, explains the Gospel message to people who are eager to learn about Jesus.

The bracelets are very easy to make and all the materials can be purchased at your local craft store or on Amazon.

People of all ages can make the bracelets and it is an excellent craft activity for Vacation Bible School, Sunday School or Youth Group functions.

If you have any questions, please contact MOST Ministries at most@mostministries.org or at 734-994-7909.

Completed Witness Bracelets Can Be Mailed To:

MOST Ministries
655 Phoenix Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Materials Needed:

One strip of 3mm faux leather flat cord 16-1/2" long by 3mm wide

One each of the following colored pony beads: clear, grey, red, white, blue, green and yellow

Instructions:

1. Tie a knot about 6-1/2" into the cord. String the beads onto the leather strip in the following order: grey, red, white, blue, green, yellow. It is important to have the beads in the correct order as the order tells the Gospel message.
2. Center the beads on the leather strip and tie a knot on the other end of the group of beads. This will help to hold them in place.
3. Take the clear bead and string one of the leather ends through it. Take the other end of leather and thread it into the hole in the bead entering in the opposite direction.
4. Tie a double knot on each end of leather. The clear bead will allow you to adjust the bracelet to fit any wrist.

Meaning of the Colored Beads:

Clear - God is invisible, pure and holy (Is 6:3).

Gray - We are separated from God by our sin (Rom 3:23).

Red - Because God loves us, He sacrificed His Son, Jesus, for our sin (Rom 5:8).

White - Now God sees us as righteous, pure and forgiven of sin (Eph 1:7-8).

Blue - We are baptized into the family of God through baptism (Gal 3:26-27).

Green - We read the Bible and pray to grow in faith & disciple others (2 Peter 3:18a).

Yellow - We will receive the crown of life (Rev 2:10b).

Mission Opportunities Short Term
655 Phoenix Drive, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48108
most@mostministries.org | 734.994.7909 | www.mostministries.org

