

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

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GIVE THANKS

But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth.
2 Thessalonians 2:13.

We definitely have a lot to be thankful for, God has blessed us with many gifts as his beloved children. At this time of year, we give thanks, as have the generations before us, usually for material things like food and shelter. In digging a little deeper, *What are you thankful for?*

In this issue of Tidings we have some hints.

1. President Christina Bean is thankful for the Fall Rallies.
2. Pastor Biberdorf is thankful in all circumstances.
3. VP Karen Mann is thankful for generous gifts and prayers.
4. VP Paula Evans is thankful for Jesus walking with us.
5. VP Heidi Norton is thankful for church workers, volunteers, and those who publish material for the LWML.
6. Sylvia Bean and Debbie Larson are thankful for willing servants and progress on the 2028 convention planning.
7. We are thankful for the ministry to the Navajo at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church.
8. We are thankful for *Jesus, the Light No Darkness Can Overcome.*
9. We are thankful for our Fall Retreat and all who plan for this event.
10. We are thankful for creative minds who find ways to serve others and extend God's blessings.

So, give thanks with a grateful heart and remember God who daily blesses us with more things than we can put into words.

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Christina Bean

PRESIDENT

THANKFUL

I am giving thanks for being able to come and see everyone for the rallies! I had the honor of attending half of the rallies in person this year and it was wonderful to get to talk to so many of you! I am still working to fill the committees so if you have a committee you are interested in joining please contact me at president@lwmlrmd.org.
The district young woman representative application is also live on the website. We have up to 2 young women that the district can send to the national convention in Oklahoma City this July! If you know of any young women that you think should apply, please talk to them now. The applications will be due January 15th, so try to talk to your young ladies before Christmas so they actually have time to fill out the application. We are hard at work with fulfilling the mission grants. We have made one partial mission grant payment so far! A second partial payment to Lutheran High School Parker Missions Program is in progress. We are also working to set the venue for this upcoming district convention. More information to come!

I give thanks for each and every one of you and for everything you do for the LWML! Thank you!

LWML
Rocky Mountain District

THANKFUL IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES



Nathanael Biberdorf

SENIOR PASTORAL COUNSELOR

God, our Heavenly Father, is our Creator. We are His creatures. It is only natural that we give thanks to Him for everything. Every prayer should gratefully begin by giving thanks to Him for the day or the circumstances for which you bring your petitions and cares before Him. This is what we do as grateful creatures toward our Creator. He gives us life, breath, shelter, food, drink, and the gift of salvation through His Son, our Savior, Jesus. I could go on, but I think Luther captures everything in the fourth petition of the Lord's Prayer when he answers what is referred to by daily bread. And he does well describing our first article gifts as well. So I encourage you to check out Luther's Small Catechism for these great reminders for why we give thanks to God for everything. Paul writes in 1 Thessalonians 5, "Give thanks in all circumstances."

There's a hymn in our LSB hymnal that describes well for us how to be thankful. "Give thanks with a grateful heart." It's a short hymn but it captures how God makes the weak strong, the poor rich "because of what the Lord has done." So give thanks and give thanks some more, for every gift and talent you have is also from the Lord as you serve the Lord Jesus in your various vocations. Give thanks to Jesus for His blood bought gift of salvation. Give thanks for everything you have and continue to give thanks because that is who we are in Christ. We are thankful creatures grateful for our Creator and all that He has done for us.





Karen Mann

GOSPEL OUTREACH VP

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

MISSION GRANTS MITE PROGRESS

	GRANTED	PAID
Ysleta: Bringing the Gospel to Mexico Missions	$10,000	
LVR City to Sanctuary Foster Kid Camp Fund	$5,000	
Mercy Meals of Colorado Springs	$8,000	
Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch for At Risk Children	$5,000	
Lutheran High School Parker Missions Program	$10,000	
Child of God Lutheran:Expanding Access to Special Ed.	$10,000	$5,000
CTSFW Food Co-op Freezers	$10,000	
Lutherans in Medical Missions: Wellness and Gospel	$10,000	
Phil's Friends Care Packages/Cards of Hope	$5,000	
Giving Honor to the Least of These	$7,500	
Lutheran's for Life Ministry Development	$4,500	
Total	$85,000	$5,000

MISSION GRANT UPDATE

Have you ever wanted or needed something in your life? Maybe you or a family member were in the hospital and scared. Maybe your car broke down and you didn't know where the money was coming from to fix it. Maybe you are by yourself and lonely. There are so many situations in our life that we can't handle on our own. We must turn to friends and family for help. Above all, we must turn to God in prayer! How did you feel when you received the assistance from family and friends? After my surgery I was thankful for the help I received. I also praised and thanked the Lord for all the answered prayers and for never leaving me.

We approved 11 grants at our last convention. I ask you to please pray for these grants and contribute in funding these grants. These are organizations and people in need of our continued help and prayers. Let's all come together to give thanks and share our love through prayers and mites.

The word mites comes from the biblical story of the widow who gave everything she had. This story shows that our Lord does not measure the size of the gift, but the heart of the giver. Through your faithful giving, lives are being touched, ministries are being supported, and the Gospel is being proclaimed.

We give thanks to every woman, family, and congregation for your generous gifts and prayers for the grant recipients. Because of your generosity, we were able to pay a partial grant in the amount of $5,000 to Child of God Lutheran School. This grant assists providing a full-time special education teacher to serve all diverse learners and make Lutheran education accessible to more families.

Each coin in a mite box is a prayer in action. Let us continue to give thanks to the Lord as we celebrate the incredible impact of our collective mites.
Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD



Paula Evans

SERVANT RESOURCES VP

Life, has its ups and downs, highs and lows. In all things Jesus Christ is with us. Jesus is the one walking, carrying, escalating and elevating us along life's journey. *Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices.*

This month my local society sent a note to the congregation telling about the mite box and a little bit about grants. Funny enough, some new and seasoned members, especially the men, asked about mites and how they could assist. Personally I wasn't surprised women asked but was surprised and encouraged that men inquired too. Ladies: Reach out! You never know what a note of encouragement brings out.

As I am writing this I realized that the AOL (Assembly of Leaders) is in a few days. This is an opportunity through the LWML to learn from many scholars, teachers, and leaders. I am looking forward to learning a lot to share with you.

May God give you peace and joy!

NEW BIBLE STUDY RESOURCE ON MENTAL HEALTH



HEIDI NORTON

CHRISTIAN LIFE VP

As we focus our minds on thankfulness at this time of the year, let us give thanks for the many people who use their gifts for the good of the Kingdom of God! Whether it be our professional church workers or the volunteers who give of their free time to teach, visit, cook or keep the grounds of the church clean- all are working for the glory of God. And we are all blessed to be joined together in the Body of Christ, building each other up by using the talents and interests we have been given by the Lord. And while we all prefer to give out of our strengths, the Lord can also do much for the good of His Church through situations we wouldn't have chosen for ourselves, and out of experiences that bring suffering.

These thoughts came to mind when I received the press release for a new Bible Study resource, called **Strong in the Lord: A Woman's Bible Study on Faith and Mental Health.** This study was written by Dr. Jennifer K. Londgren, who is a licensed marriage and family therapist, a nationally certified counselor and professor with expertise in anxiety, addiction and women's mental health. In addition to this, she is a wife and mother. She shared (in a video you can view on the Concordia Publishing House website) that she found herself in a difficult period after the birth of one of her children, and began researching wellness and self-care. But she shares that it wasn't complete until she also sought out wisdom from Scripture. And so out of her own personal struggles was brought a new Bible study to build up many people.

This is an eight-week study, rooted in Scripture, grounded in Lutheran theology with practical tools and encouragement for topics such as anxiety, emotional overload and relational strain. It can be used individually or in a group setting. Check it out!



Sylvia Bean

Debbie Larson

CONVENTION COORDINATORS

2028 DISTRICT CONVENTION PLANS

O give thanks to the Lord for He is good, for His mercy endures forever (Psalm 136:1). As we move into the holiday season, we reflect on the wondrous and many blessings God has given us. As redeemed children of God, we are able daily to thank God through thought, Word, and deed as we recognize His many gifts of love and mercy. As Lutheran Women in Mission, we serve the Lord with gladness (Psalm 100:2) wherever and whenever He has need of us. Through that willingness to serve, God opens for us many opportunities to develop and mature in new ways that expand our horizons and talents.

Plans for the upcoming 2028 convention in the Denver area are underway. We've filled out forms, sent in forms, received forms, had zoom meetings, answered questions, and asked many questions. The process continues as we work with Arrowhead to narrow down the choices of the hotel and possibilities for our convention. Stay tuned for upcoming developments as we will also be going for on-site visits to the top three hotel selections in the Denver area before the end of the year. Once we have the convention site decided upon, further planning of the Executive Committee and Event Planning Committee will begin. We look forward to seeing the Lord work through this future convention and each of you!

PLEASE JOIN US!!

LWML RMD Retreat 2027

September 10-12th 2027

At Cathedral Ridge Retreat Center

1364 CR 75, Woodland Park, CO 80863

https://www.cathedralridge.org



Study of Daniel
with Donna Snow

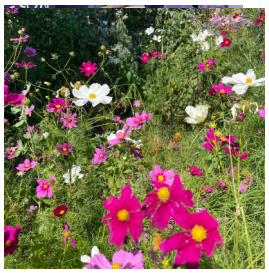
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CHRISTIE PEEBLES
COMMUNICATIONS VP

CREATE A BANNER DESIGN

Calling All Creative People to Submit a Possible Design for Our District Banner for the 2027 National Convention

Submit a sketch of the design ideas by **January 15, 2027** to communications@lwmlrmd.org so that the Board of Directors can select the banner design at their annual meeting.

The submitted design should be accompanied by a brief description of your inspiration for the design, the materials used to make the design, and whether or not you (or someone you know) are willing to create the finished banner in time for the 2027 National Convention.

Design Constraints to consider:

1. Finished banner size is to be 3′ x 5′ (width by height).
2. We may not use the convention logo on your banner, but do base your design on the convention theme, "Transformed in Christ."
3. We may use the convention colors or choose other colors if you wish.
4. Heavy fabric or bulky items are discouraged. The banner should be easy to manage when carried.
5. Our district's name must be on the front of the banner, though it may be abbreviated. Use any size letters you wish.
6. Additional construction details will be provided to the selected designer.
7. For an added personal touch of the RMD LWML, we have the prayer flags that were decorated at the 2026 District Convention that will be used on the backside of the banner.

THE LIGHT NO DARKNESS CAN OVERCOME



FALL RALLY NOTES

FOUR CORNERS ZONE

St Paul's Lutheran Women in Mission, Durango, CO held their Fall Rally on September 12. Their theme was based on John 1:4-5. Pastor Ben Delin led the *Holden Evening Prayer Service* by Marty Haugen, followed by a Bible Study titled *The Light no Darkness Can Overcome* and written by Colleen Spahr for the LWML in 2023. There were 26 members, 3 pastors, and 3 teens, representing five churches, present for the occasion. After a hearty lunch, human care packages were assembled and sent home with participants. Each group was asked to donate a particular item for the bags. Forty bags were made up and extra items gathered were taken to the Durango Food Bank. We are thankful for the generosity of our Women in Mission and their congregations.



Pastor Ben Delin leads the opening service.



Teens sort ingathering items for Human Care Kits.



Pastor Nathanael Biberdorf installs new zone officers and nominating committee members. From left– Diana Thur, Jo Beegles, Sue Giddings (president), Sharon Krater.(secretary/treasurer).



Centerpieces by Liz Reusink.



Nancy Kraft

A HAPPENING IN THE DISTRICT

ON A ROLL

Grace Fellowship in Gypsum, CO is building a new church. Our LWML group made an announcement that we had made a lot of decisions while building the church. Next, we had a decision to make that involved every member of the church. We needed to decide which way to hang the toilet paper in the new stalls at our church...OVER or UNDER??

Anyone could vote...one vote only and of course a donation to the Mite Box...large or small! The whole church started laughing and shouting OVER — UNDER!!

We placed cups with orange or green slips of paper to put in a VOTE jar; we voted for 3 weeks. After three weeks the vote was OVER... We had collected $307! This was a creative mission project that brought smiles and conversation that involved the whole church.

This is just one of many ways to generate funds to send to the district for Mites.

Be sure to share what your LWML group does to involve your church in donating to Mites.



Sue Giddings

TIDINGS EDITOR

ARTICLES HIGHLIGHT WORK IN NAVAJO

Just in case you didn't see them, there are two great articles with pictures that inform us of the ministry of Pastor Tim Norton at Navajo, NM. The articles appeared recently in the *Lutherans Engage* magazine as well as the *LCMS Reporter*, our official LCMS newspaper.

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church was founded in 1969. They have been scattering the seeds of the Gospel ever since. They also have an LWML following thanks to pastor's wife, Heidi Norton.

Shepherd of the Valley was also the recipient of a number of art kits and supplies as a result of the recent ingathering at our Rocky Mountain District convention in June. Both articles mention the generosity of the Women in Mission in the Rocky Mountain District.

Grace Lutheran Church in Albuquerque, NM handles donations for this ministry. The address is Navajo Lutheran Outreach c/o Grace Lutheran Church, 7550 Eubank Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87122.

HUMAN CARE PACKAGES



SUE GIDDINGS

TIDINGS EDITOR

Here is an idea used by the Four Corners Zone Women in Mission to target the homeless population. They filled gallon sized plastic bags with the items listed below.

A Bible
A Toothbrush and Toothpaste
Handwarmers
A Small Bottle of Water
A Pocketsized Kleenex
A Pair of Socks
Soap or Hand Sanitizer
Chapstick
A Granola Bar

Other items could be added or deleted as desired.

On the right is a picture of the completed project.



DATES TO REMEMBER

Volunteer to be a Committee Chairman	NOW
Send in your Mites	NOW
Submit an Article for the Jan/Feb Tidings	December 1, 2026
Submit a Banner Design for National Convention	January 15, 2027
Submit your Application for YWR	January 15, 2027
Quarterly Renewal Form is Due	February 28, 2027
National Convention Dates to Save (Oklahoma City)	July 18-11, 2027
LWML RMD Retreat in Woodland Park, CO	September 10, 2027

Lutheran Women in Mission | Transformed in CHRIST Romans 12:2

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