

The Eastern District LWML

Lutheran



Women in Mission

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N
K

District

Zone

Society

Together
Serving
the Lord
with
Gladness
For
70 Years



"Practicing Jesus"

Growing up with two brothers and a sister, I had the opportunity to "play pretend" all the time. I'm not so sure how often children do this in current times with all the distractions of technology and media. But, I believe that it was a wonderful activity and allowed us to use and refine our imaginations. Some 50 years later, I can still use this experience from my past in my daily walk with the Lord. I came across a poem recently that made me think about "playing pretend."

Practice Jesus

*If we practiced Jesus in every way,
It'd be like Christmas every day;*

*If we, like Him, were meek and mild
And loved each woman, man and child,*

*If we'd read our Bible, it'd remind us,
So that every single day would find us*

*More and more in sweet accord
With our sweet Jesus--Master, Lord.*

*Then every day that we're alive
Would be like December twenty five.*

By Joanna Fuchs.

As Lutheran Women in Mission, we are ever striving to practice Jesus. To practice Jesus, means we can be encouraged to be continually in the Word, service-oriented, mission minded, and in fellowship with the women, men and children that we come in contact with every day. Let's practice Jesus more as a resolution for the new year. Then, every day of 2017 can be like Christmas!

As you know, 2017 is going to be a year of celebration for the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Along with the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, the LWML is celebrating 75 years and the LWML Eastern District is celebrating 65 years of retreats at Camp Pioneer. As we turn our calendars to 2017, there will be a lot of information coming our way for all these celebrations. I will be attending a board meeting in St. Louis the last week of January and will be sure to have a lot of information to pass on. Information will be provided at our Spring Board of Directors meeting on March 10-11, 2017 in Canastota, NY, but please keep watch of your email where you will be receiving time-sensitive information.

During the first couple months of 2017, we will need to make arrangements for the June 22-25 LWML Convention in Albuquerque, NM. We will have the opportunity to send up to 11 delegates, 2 young women representatives, our Jr. Pastoral Counselor, 2 heart-to-heart sister trainees as well as many guests from our district. Hotel Registrations will open on Jan. 1 with convention registration opening Feb. 1. Please see the Winter Quarterly that was published on Dec. 1. NOTE: It is important that you stay in the LWML room blocks as identified in the Quarterly since the hotels dropped the daily price by \$10 for us. There are also several good tours being offered. You can find additional information about the tours on the LWML website <http://www.lwml.org>. There will be a grand celebration event for 75 years of LWML. I pray that many of you are able to attend this always awesome convention!

In His Service,

Kathy Pavelock

<}}}>



COUNSELOR'S

CORNER



1 Peter 1:3-5 - *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.*

Happy New Year! I don't know about you but, on the first day of January, I look with hope for the New Year that has just started. 2017 holds a lot of promises as so many new and exciting changes seem to fill the days and months ahead. But there is a lot of uncertainty and a great deal of unknowns that hamper our joy.

The apostle Peter is writing to suffering and persecuted Christians who are living in a world extremely hostile towards the Gospel. Peter offers these suffering Christians hope in the midst of dark times. But the hope he is offering is not just any hope, it is a Living Hope. It is a hope that is living and breathing in Jesus, who is not dead, but very much alive. Through water and the Word you have been baptized, born again, made new, and blessed with a new life. A life that is eternal, because it is a life in the eternal Christ.

As we enter this new year let us focus on growing in Christ Jesus by spending some quality time with the one who is beyond time through a more abundant prayer life, through meaningful daily devotions, and heartfelt proclamation of the Gospel. Make a truly life changing New Year's Resolution to lovingly and joyfully spread the "Good News" by telling others what Christ has done for you. Let us not return to Advent in the same place we are now, hoping the new year is better than the last.

Don't worry about the world because Jesus said: *"I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."* (John 16:33) Our hope is not dependent on good things happening in the new year, but a living hope in what is to be revealed on the last day. Amen.

Keep the faith! Live Love, Joy, and Peace! Pastor Walters, Eastern District LWML Junior Counselor



Dear Sisters in Christ

I think the poor folks of my congregation get tired of me because I always am dragging up some excuse to be excited about what the Lord is doing. Maybe I should just relax a bit? Perhaps the church could use some "nap time" after the stress of Christmas? Rest is even what Jesus needed.

January/February is sort of one of those natural "rest" times of the church. Or is it? Maybe it is more a "downer" time? Bad weather often puts a damper on LWML and other church activities. For many of us the darkness of January pulls us down in our spirits. Sickness is often more prevalent, and statistically the number of deaths surge.

I would just like to encourage you as the redeemed and beautiful women of God, as the Lord gives you strength, to remember and encourage each other in Jesus during these difficult winter months. I know sometimes we are a little hesitant in taking a forward step in caring for each other. Of course I am not advocating charging into someone's life, spending hours with folks in their living room, and prying in on their lives when you aren't invited. We have to tread lightly, no doubt - perhaps like the shepherds coming to visit the sleeping Christ child and His tired mother Mary.

But oh how precious it was that the shepherds came.

How precious it would be if you received a care card in the mail from even a woman in the church you didn't know very well. How heartwarming it would be to see a home baked pie on the front step as you came home from the doctor's office or hospital? How blessed it would be to receive a phone call and have someone pray for you? It is the small things that will make a huge difference in the life of someone who is downcast, whose mind is beset with whether God has favor on them or not, or whose heart is beset with the lies of Satan.

Yes, spring will come. But how do we get through this longest of winters? By the cross of Christ, no doubt. By the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. And with the tender forgiveness of our Savior. But not insignificantly, also with care for each other and love from God welling up from our hearts in blessing.

Matt. 11:28 *"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."*

Col. 3:12 *Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.*

In Jesus, Pastor Bjornstad, Senior Counselor

NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF GOSPEL OUTREACH/ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES—DEE GRZYB

Serving God By Serving Others

When it comes to serving God there's an excellent chance you won't be serving him alone. Serving others and meeting the needs of both believers and unbelievers is part of the Christian life.

Remember there are many who need help - the homeless, unemployed, elderly, and single parents to name a few, who can use our support. Sometimes they may need someone just to listen to their story. Other times they may need help with a meal and/or transportation.

Here is an example of a couple who saw the need, stepped out in faith and action to help the less fortunate and honor God.

My husband and I spent October and November in Florida. While there we visited some friends who are part of an outreach ministry that they founded in Ft. Myers.



In 2008, Ken and Mary approached the pastors at Abundant Grace Fellowship church with a proposal to setup a "Soup Kitchen" at the Church, for the homeless and needy. Later that year, The Harry Chapin Food Bank of Southwest Florida certified Abundant Grace Fellowship as a site to receive donated food. Mary, the pastors and volunteers of Abundant Grace Fellowship are still serving meals on Mondays and Wednesdays. Since 2008 they have served more than 37,000 meals.

Ken and Mary met many homeless men and women. It soon became apparent that there was a need for bicycles and bicycle repairs. These bikes not only provide transportation to and from the "soup kitchens", it also is a means to get to work and medical appointments.

As the Working Hands Bike Ministry grew it became apparent that Abundant Grace Fellowship Church was too small to accommodate it. The ministry was moved to a larger facility, City Gate Ministries, a non-denominational church whose mission is to reach out and spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the love of God. At City Gate there was room to store bicycles and setup a bicycle shop.

In 2010 Ken and Mary applied for and received their 501(c)3 status to better serve the community.

As of May 2016, Ken and his volunteers have donated more than 2,700 and repaired more than 800 bicycles to men, women, and children. In order to receive a bike, adults are required to volunteer 8 hours of service at any not-for-profit church or agency to receive a bicycle. Children receive bikes for free because Ken believes "every child should have a bicycle or tricycle".



In October 2016, 25 bicycles were donated to the Abuse Counseling Treatment Center so that children who awakened in a strange place would see something familiar to them.

In 2017 may you be blessed with insights and inspiration, graced with quiet moments of simplicity and reflection, be a source of strength to those around you, be supported by your loved ones when you need them and may you be blessed with peace.

Dee E. Grzyb—VP Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources

Mission Grants

The LWML EASTERN DISTRICT Mission Grant Applications will be sent out to the Zone Presidents the week of Dec 26, 2016 in time for those who have meetings with their Societies in Jan. Please spread the word through the Eastern District for those who may meet the criteria of a Mission Grant. Please follow the criteria for it might be one word that may keep it from getting on the ballot at the 2018 Biennial Convention at Niagara Falls. Any questions please direct them to Anita Getty Mission Grants Chairman her email is amgemt@ptd.net

SPREAD
THE
WORD

Stamps for
Missions

Stamps – Keep them coming!!!! I'll be making a trip to Toronto Bible Society 3rd week in March. We drive from Easton, PA through the Buffalo area so I could make a stop along the way to pick up your stamps. Email me, Judy Nordell, at jondell@rcn.com or call 610-393-7672.

NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATION—BETH QUINN

**LWML QUARTERLY SUBSCRIPTIONS**

It's time to review the LWML Quarterly subscriptions. In January, I will send the Zone Presidents and Treasurers a list of the societies/individuals that receive Quarterlies. I am asking them to contact each society (or individual) in their zone to confirm the information concerning the number of Quarterlies a society receives and to make sure the mailing address for the LWML Quarterly is correct. After each zone has verified their lists, I am requesting that they return the confirmed list to me. The deadline for submitting these lists is **MARCH 1, 2017**. Meeting this deadline helps me meet the national deadline of April 1, 2017. Decreases in LWML Quarterly subscriptions can be made only once a year. Increases and changes of address can be made anytime during the year. All payments should be sent through the Zone Treasurers.



**LWML
Eastern District
Amazon Smile**

Did you know that Lutheran Women's Missionary League Eastern District has a unique Amazon Smile link that makes it easier for people to find and support your organization? Our unique id is <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7540645> Amazon will donate .5% of certain purchases to the LWML Eastern District. It's easy to Serve the Lord with Gladness when you shop with an Amazon Smile! Please take the time to sign-up for this free service. Check this link on the Eastern District LWML website on the Events page for instructions how to set it up - <http://east-dist-lwml.org/Events.html>.

**Rejoicing with you in the Savior's majesty Beth Quinn –
610-761-0263 – beth@quinnfamily.net**

**Directory Updates****DIRECTORY CHANGES**

Thank you for the updates to the Eastern District LWML Directory. If there are additional updates, please send me all changes to names, addresses, phone numbers and emails of pastors, society presidents, and zone officers to me as soon as possible. Directories are published in February (even numbered years)/March (odd numbered years) and are distributed at the Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings. By sending the changes as soon as they occur allows me to keep the Directory up-to-date.

Payments**LWML QUARTERLY PAYMENTS**

Societies/ individuals are still asked to send in their donation for the LWML Quarterly to their Zone Treasurer. The rate for the LWML Quarterly is set by the Eastern District LWML Board of Directors and is currently \$8.00 per subscription for less than 10 copies to the same address and \$6.50 per subscription for 10 or more copies to the same address. This rate includes the cost of the Quarterly plus a \$1.50 contribution towards the cost of the Eastern District LWML LINK newsletter.



Christ's love shining through you
Eastern District Legacy of Love

Christmas is the celebration of God's plan to **Transfer the Blessings of eternal Love** to us. May we, as God's children, mirror such love for family and ministry into 2017. Please let us know how we can assist you.

Your Partners, In Christ,
Rebecca Bessell
Legacy of Love
Eastern District Endowment, Coordinator
585-415-6368

Linda L. Gage
800-741-4138
LWML Gift Planning Counselor

News From Around The Zones

ANTHRACITE ZONE

Update from Faith Easton:



Faith Easton LWML ladies have formed a Thrivent Action Team for two Christmas projects. The first one is Christmas stockings for Men in a nursing home filled with personal items. The second is Christmas Gifts and Cookies for our Shut-Ins. The \$250 grant is enabling us to give these men and our shut-ins something special this Christmas. We've purchased socks for the men along with all the personal supplies and a few candy/snack treats. Our shut ins will receive a beautiful poinsettia, devotional booklet, and cookies (baked by the women and church members).

The ladies will meet in January when a speaker from Northampton County IU20 will tell us how the program uses our parsonage to teach activities of daily living to their students. This serve a vital need in the community training special needs students how to cook, clean, do laundry and all the necessary tasks of daily living.

BUFFALO ZONE

Almost 50 women and our Pastoral Counselor Pastor Sprehe gathered at First Trinity Lutheran Church for the Buffalo Zone Fall Rally October 1, 2016.



Several women of the Buffalo Zone presented the one-day retreat "Café Chocolat" which was well received by all who were in attendance. We also enjoyed a delicious lunch served by the Zone.

During the program we held election of officers. Dee Grzyb had agreed to run for President; Bev Wicher has agreed to take over Dee's unexpired term as treasurer; and Kathy Fisher has agreed to take over Bev Wicher's secretary position. Sharon McGuan has also agreed to take over the public relations position.

PITTSBURGH ZONE

The Fall Rally, with attendance of 56, was held on Saturday, October 15, 2016 at Grace Lutheran Church (Universal), Pittsburgh. Pastor R. McCants of Unity Lutheran Church (Homewood), Pittsburgh gave a video presentation on their After School Program.

Six of the twelve women who attended the LWML District Convention in June, briefly shared their "respective impression" of the event. Gloria Stern from Christ Lutheran, Forest Hills gave a report on banner designing. She has made several banners for the Pittsburgh Zone.

The women were encouraged to hold their "Prayer Service" for 2016. The offerings will be given to Unity Lutheran's After School Program. It was voted that our 2017 offerings will be given to the International Student Ministry at Slippery Rock University, Slippery Rock, PA. The attendees were also encouraged to have LWML Sunday at their respective church.

A special update of the three Pittsburgh pastors and families who are missionaries in foreign countries was given. Election of officers was held with the results being: Linda Bright - President, Carol Kagemann - 2nd Vice President, Barbara Pivrotto - Secretary. Also, Mary Lehocky and Linda Bright will be going as delegates to the National Convention in June 2017 with Linda Bogan and Carol Kagemann serving as alternates.

The next Zone Board of Directors meeting will be held Saturday, March 25, 2017 at Calvary Lutheran, Murrsville. The Spring Rally will be held on Saturday, April 29, 2017 at Christ Lutheran, Forest Hills. The ongoing endeavors of MITE GIVING and cancelled STAMP collecting (securing by CUTTING, NOT TEARING OUT) were encouraged!!

Submitted by immediate-past Pittsburgh Zone President—Deaconess Nancy Lingenfelter

PHILADELPHIA ZONE

Happy New Year to all! We pray that your Christmas Season was filled with love and joy as you celebrated the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ!



The Fall Rally hosted by the Philadelphia Zone English District ladies was held at Bethany Lutheran Church in Ewing, NJ on Sat. Oct. 29th. There were 50 people in attendance! The theme was "Come and You Will Hear" based on Psalm 66:5. Pastor

Fred Gerlach led the worship service and the bible study. The ladies of Bethany Lutheran fixed a delicious lunch. The Bethany Ladies also put on a cute skit about cooking up the right ingredients to save souls. The in-gathering was pasta, sauces and gift cards to local groceries stores so Logos Lutheran Fellowship in Philadelphia can provide meals after their service each week. Vicar Jacob Benson received the items and thanked us on behalf of PLM.

We will have a Philadelphia Zone board meeting on Sat. Mar. 25th at Christ Memorial Lutheran Church in Malvern, PA. Our Spring Rally will be in April at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Philadelphia. Watch the Spring LINK for more details.

We are looking forward to a great LWML National Convention in Albuquerque, NM, June 22-25, 2017. We hope to see many of our LWML sisters there!

Susan Bell—Philadelphia Zone President

**Zone Presidents:**

Please take notice of the final entry to select a Young Women Representative to attend our 2017 National Convention on June 22th thru June 25.

The deadline to submit an application will be January 6. If you have not received an application, please notify me immediately through email or phone. My hope is each congregation presents a YWR for an opportunity to witness and experience many more women serving Our Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you ladies for your dedication.

Krystal Harmon-Burton
Leader Development Chair
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Important

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark Your Calendars



March 10-11, 2017	EC/BOD Meeting Canastota, NY
June 22-25, 2017	LWML National Convention Albuquerque, NM
Sept. 15, 2017	EC Meeting Camp Pioneer
Sept. 15-17, 2017	Fall Retreat
June 1-3, 2018	ED LWML Convention Niagara Falls, NY

News from VP—Christian Life/Special Focus—

As I write this article we are actually in the middle of the Advent season. Our church is preparing for the arrival of that baby, born in a manger, who would be our Savior and King. During the season, the Advent candles were lit each week and we talked about Hope, Faith, Joy, Peace and Love. How often those five words have reinforced my need for the Lord in everything I do. I experienced **hope** when I saw our Liberian LWML Sisters deal with the death of Helen Nyema, their anchor, sister, mother, wife and leader. I see **faith and joy, peace and love**, every day in some way through family, friends and even strangers. Without my Lord those wouldn't be visible. He is the strength behind all that I am and His promises are everything I need. When I feel stressed and out of sorts He is the One who brings me back into focus. The LWML web site has numerous helps and encouraging items to help keep our focus on our Lord. Use it and share it as much as you can.

May 2017 be a year filled with the **hope, faith, joy, peace and love** that only comes from our Lord and Savior.

In His Love,
Karen Devan



Report of the Financial Secretary—Judy Morrison

September 1, 2016 – November 30, 2016

Mites: \$5,976.46

Memorials Given in remembrance of: (November 1, 2016 – November 30, 2016)

In Memory of:	Given By:
Ruth Ann Krueger	Beth Jannsen Gladene A. Morgan Lucille Shunk Nancy Simmons Cattaraugus/ Allegany Zone
Mary Bess Jennejahn	St. Paul Adella Society

Treasurers are asked to forward money from their zone on a monthly basis so our mission grants can be paid in a timely manner and to assure that all are funded.

In Memoriam



Betty Duda Called Home to Jesus

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) announced the death of Past President Dr. Elizabeth "Betty" Duda on the morning of December 24, 2016.

Betty was International LWML President from 1987–1991. She also served her Lord as the LWML Florida-Georgia District President and ILWML mission projects director. She determined early in her term that everything would be done for only one reason — to glorify the Lord. Secondly, she wanted the LWML to become a stronger faith and service organization that would attract and better represent all

Lutheran women.

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**Next Deadline**

Please send all news articles and information for publication to:

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716-914-4140

E-mail: lwmlink@gmail.com

The next deadline is March 1, 2017

The Link is published four times each year.

April 1, July 1, October 1, January 1

Deadlines to submit articles:

March 1, June 1, September 1, December 1

In June of 2016 at the LWML Eastern District Convention held in Binghamton, N.Y. one of the grants that was voted on was to "Educate Haiti women in Bible Study, personal health, and leadership". This grant was submitted by LWML Member Sharon Wolff from Batavia, N.Y. In early October 2016 Hurricane Matthew hit Haiti resulting in much devastation and many deaths. Below is an update from Sharon Wolff.

HAITI NEWS

I finally have received contact from Jeanne Moise, my dear friend in Haiti. Her husband is Pastor Paul Touloutte, Pastor of the Lutheran Church in Les Cayes, Haiti.

I first contacted Jeanne by email, right after the devastating news of hurricane Matthew. I received word back from her just within the past couple of weeks. She said that they have lost most all of their trees, many people are without homes and good water supplies, the need is very great, and they appreciate all our prayers, which continue to give them hope. The women in Maniche, who began their peanut business lost everything, but are hopeful to begin again.

God has a plan in all of this. Please continue to pray for Jeanne, and the people in southern Haiti. The picture is of the Lutheran Church and school in Les Cayes, where we worship and do vacation bible school when I travel with the teams from First Trinity, Tonawanda. I know too that many of the churches built by various mission teams and churches in the area and on Ile A Veche are mostly destroyed, so the need is still great there.

If God lays it on your heart to help in any way, here are a couple ways to contribute to the much needed assistance there:

Donations can be made to:

iihurricanematthew.org this is through the Izador foundation for direct help;

I have also donated through LCMS.org If you go to WHAT WE DO and then click on disaster relief; it will go directly to Haiti relief. Through LCMS, you can also donate by phone or snail mail, the information is on the site.

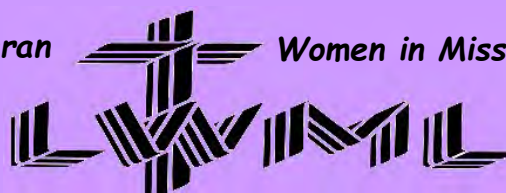
Thank you for your continued prayers, and I do know that the First Trinity team will be leaving on January 9, 2017...so prayers for them as they prepare, pack, travel, and do God's work is appreciated as well. — **Sharon Wolff**



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The Eastern District LWML

Lutheran



Women in Mission

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Zone

Society

Together
Serving
the Lord
with
Gladness
For
70 Years



*Serve the LORD with gladness: come before
his presence with singing. (Psalm 100:2)*

Do you ever find yourself humming a tune or a hymn while doing household chores or other work? I know that I do. I even remember doing this as a child, while playing on our swing or riding my bike after church with a catchy hymn stuck in my head. This child-like joy goes on to this day. What a joy it is to serve Him! Since I became actively engaged in LWML some 20 plus years ago, it has been a constant song of joy as I serve Him through the work of the LWML.

Since I am using a lot of numbers for this article, I thought it would be fun to share with you the top 10 list of items heard at the Board of Directors meeting held on March 11.

- #10 Two of the seven District Grants have been paid and we are half way to paying the third.
- #9 The Legacy of Love Endowment Fund has grown to over \$12,000. The Endowment fund established in 2014 is intended to promote, encourage, receive, and manage special gifts for the benefit of the continued mission and ministry of the LWML Eastern District.
- #8 Plans for the LWML Eastern District 2018 Convention in Niagara Falls, NY are well underway with a theme based on Psalm 29:3-4 "The Voice of the Lord: Enlightening, Electrifying, Empowering." We will have the new Doubletree as the venue with a new Niagara River Walkway for our Mite Walk.
- #7 Philadelphia Zone is planning the retreat in September with "Rejoice Always" (1 Thess. 5:16:18) as the theme as we celebrate 65 years of retreats at Camp Pioneer. Jan Struck is the retreat speaker.
- #6 The 2015-2017 Mission Goal of \$2,000,000 is within reach. \$73,109 was needed as of 3/10/2017.
- #5 LWML Eastern District has 11 delegates for the 2017 LWML Convention in Albuquerque, NM. We are praying for Catt-Allegany and Niagara Zones to have willing delegates to complete our eligibility for 13 delegates.
- #4 LWML Eastern District will have a banner made by Dottie Buerger, Philadelphia Zone for the 2017 LWML Convention "Jesus Christ, Above All"
- #3 District Pastoral Counselor, Rev. Sean Walters; Allison Young YWR; and Joyce Anyango, new Heart-to-Heart Sister will represent the LWML Eastern District for the 2017 LWML Convention (along with your LWML Eastern District President and all the delegates).
- #2 LWML Eastern District has some exciting plans for the 75th Diamond Dazzle Parade to be held during the 2017 LWML Convention. And the . . .
- #1 item heard at the March 11, 2017 LWML Eastern District Board of Directors meeting was . . . **"Mission"**
An extra \$60 was added to the meeting Mite collection for the over 80 times that the word "mission" (or derivative) was said during our meeting.

(Continued on page 2)



**EASTERN DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

President's article continued:

If you would like some ideas for new and different ways of joyfully serving, there is a new resource on the LWML.org website. "75 Ways to Serve the Lord with Gladness in YOUR Mission Field." You can search for "75 ways" or go directly to www.lwml.org/free-resources/2017/2/serve-in-your-mission-field. This was created to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the LWML. The LWML Eastern District has been serving since 1944 (a joyful 73 years).

Serving Him Joyfully,

Kathy Pavelock

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COUNSELOR'S

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Dear women of the LWML... here are a few words that I composed for my congregational newsletter as we are preparing to celebrate our 100th anniversary. I hope it is an encouragement for you as I know this is also true for you and your dear congregation. Hold your congregation precious in your heart!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Life is astonishing. Beyond words. We examine the accompanying picture of Lorraine Pensak as a small girl in the corner of her family home. Our Lorraine. Still with us today. A sister in faith. A member of Peace Lutheran. We thrill at how God has blessed her through the decades. We marvel at how God has blessed us through her person. In this picture we see the wonderment in her eyes. We see the tenderness of her heart. We bless the Lord that he called her to follow Him. We bless the Lord because He has called her through baptism, washed her sins away, and has prepared a place for her in heaven.



But how did God do that? How did God's grace and salvation reach out to her? How did God bless her heart and wash her sins and bring her to faith? Did He deliver his saving Grace through the mediation of her pillow while she slept? Did he speak His words of salvation as she did her family's laundry? No. Firstly He blessed her with salvation through the faith of her family and the words of scripture her father read from the Schweitzer family Bible... But secondly, incredibly, he brought her into relationship to Him through this little church on Parker St. and Main Ave. Here she was baptized. She had fellowship with the saints. She lived and breathed confession and absolution and the sacraments. Here she was married. Here she worshipped her Savior all her life long.

Peace Lutheran Church—*Her church.—Your church—Her Peace—Your Peace*

Praise God for all that He does through this beautiful congregation. How many thousands of souls has God blessed through it? Rejoice! It was for Lorraine and for each and every one of us that Christ lived and died. Believe it! We all are the joy and the crown of all His achievements - on earth and in heaven.

The time has come! We have been working toward this 100th Anniversary for some time now. Life is astonishing. This congregation is remarkable. Treasure it. Bless it. Let us join all our voices with all the saints of heaven. All glory be to God for all His benefits.

Psalm 78:4 We will not hide them from their children;
we will tell the next generation
the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord,
his power, and the wonders he has done.

Praise God for all that He does through this beautiful congregation. How many thousands of souls has God blessed through it? Rejoice! It was for Lorraine and for each and every one of us that Christ lived and died. Believe it! We all are the joy and the crown of all His achievements - on earth and in heaven.

In Jesus, Pastor Bjornstad



NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATION—BETH QUINN

Thank you everyone who provided updates to the District Directory and changes to the Quarterlies. Many hands make light work. Continue to provide changes to me as they occur so I can keep the Directory up to date.

Regarding the Quarterlies most Zones reported a decrease in Quarterlies or stayed the same. Three societies in Buffalo Zone – Redeemer, Nazareth and Salem, Springville will receive Quarterlies for the first time. Pittsburgh Zone reported an increase of 15. One society, Ascension increased their Quarterly subscription seven-fold (3 to 22). God is on fire with our women in LWML Eastern District.

Net change for Quarterlies across the LWML Eastern District is an increase by 12. New annual total is 763. Praise the Lord for continuing to use this excellent resource! You can increase your Quarterly subscription anytime during the year. Decrease is only once a year in March.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Are you going to the **LWML Convention** this June in Albuquerque, NM – the LWML is celebrating 75 years?

Closer to home at the **Fall Retreat**—we are celebrating 65 years of our partnership with Camp Pioneer. Plan to attend and hear retreat speaker Jan Struck—bring a friend.

See details in this LINK edition. See you there – I am going to both.

LINK

INFORMATION

Do you print out the LINK and post on a bulletin board? Are the photos clear? If not, open the LINK document (it is in PDF format). Use the steps below whenever printing black and white copies.

- Select Print
- A Print box will appear
- At the top is the Name of printer, Copies and then an option Print as Grayscale
- Select the Grayscale option (check in the box)
Then print away.
- Contact me if you any issues with this.
(Spring 2017 LINK)

Check out our website to learn more about ways to support the LWML Eastern District – **Thrivent Choice Dollars** (supports Mites) and **Amazon Smile** (supports Operating Costs). You can also earn funds for our Eastern District by using **Goodsearch** (goodsearch.com) as your search engine and designating LWML Eastern District as your charity.

Beth Quinn – 610-761-0263 – beth@quinnfamily.net

News from VP—Christian Life/Special Focus—Karen Devan

It has been a busy week for us as we travelled from Florida to our home with an overnight stop north of Baltimore to see our son, daughter-in-law, and 3 of our grandchildren. As we were travelling we were constantly aware of the many cars that seemed to fly by us as if someone or something was chasing them. I couldn't help but wonder where they were going in such a hurry.

Were they late, were they anxious about something, what is driving them to travel so fast? And then "BAM" my wake up call from the Lord. How many times am I rushing to get things done? How many times have I been on a tight schedule where I'm driving a little too fast? What am I doing to get so frazzled at times? I realize it's not what I'm doing. It's what I'm not doing and I ask myself, "Did I start my day with the Lord"? The answer of course is a contrite "no". Five or ten minutes with God gives me a jump start in filling my day with peace, love, joy, and comfort. All the things I need from God. The Holy Spirit then enables me to get things done with time to spare and a happy heart. So please, check out the LWML web sight for their "**Daily Devotions**". "**Two Minute Tuesday's**" devotions are insightful and uplifting. **Portals of Prayer** and **Hope Notes** (written by 6 of LWML's past National Presidents) are great ways to start your day. If you really think you're too busy then call on the Lord in prayer for a few minutes. We're not here to be in a hurry, hurry, hurry mode. God wants us to be his witnesses and to tell others about Him. We can do it "in fervent love and gratitude". So have a great day in Him.

Glorifying Him, Karen Devan



NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF GOSPEL OUTREACH/ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES—DEE GRZYB

HAPPY EASTER - The Easter season remains a special time for recommitment to the Lord. A time where we delve more deeply into the mystery of our faith. As Christian stewards, it's a time to re-evaluate how faith in the Risen Lord touches every aspect of our lives – how we labor, how we play, the way we pray, how we allocate our resources, where we spend our time, how we love, how we extend our compassion to others. Easter time brings immense joy and a continuing desire to know the Risen Lord.

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK, APRIL 23-29 2017 It is a time for recognizing the many, many people in the United States and Canada who give generously of their time, talents, and resources to a huge variety of causes. In Canada, this week dates back to the time of the second world war when women were celebrated for their part in supporting the war effort on the home front. In the United States, it was established by President Nixon in 1974. Each year, the current president issues a special proclamation in honor of volunteers. The week is used to bring awareness to the contributions of volunteers and to encourage more people to donate their time to a local, national, or global cause. Thank you to all who volunteer!!!!

NOMINATIONS ARE BEING SOUGHT FOR THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:

President — VP of Christian Life/Special Focus — Pastoral Counselor
VP of Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources — Treasurer

JOB DESCRIPTIONS - These are general descriptions. The complete job descriptions as well as Nomination and Consent forms can be obtained from anyone of the Nominating Committee.

President - Oversees the work of the Eastern District LWML including presiding at the District LWML Conventions and meetings of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee. She is responsible to appoint various committee members to the Board of Directors. Signs all vouchers for payment of authorized expenditures. Keeps in communication with the Board to make sure all necessary decisions are being made. Visits, and helps promote the work of the LWML Zones. She also attends National LWML Board meetings when requested.

Vice President Christian Life/Special Focus - May perform the duties of the office of the President, in the absence or at the request of the President. Attends Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings. Coordinator of the Christian Life/Special Focus Department. Responsible for issuing the membership charter to a new society; reports to the Executive Committee and Board of Directors, and other duties as set forth in the Leader's Manual.

Vice President Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources - May perform the duties of the office of the President, in the absence or at the request of the President. Coordinates the Gospel Outreach/Organization Resources Department. Attends Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings. Serves as Chairman of the Nominating Committee. Oversees the preparation of the convention manual with the assistance of the Vice President of Communication. Develops a list of eligible LWML members to serve in appointed positions to assist the President and performs other duties as set forth in the Leader's Manual.

Treasurer - Attends Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings. Is bonded at the expense of the District LWML. Receive deposit slips and monthly report from the Financial Secretary; receive and deposit all money in a financial institution approved by the Executive Committee; keep an itemized account of all receipts and disbursements; make all payments as authorized; serve as chairman of the Budget Committee; serve as member of the Legacy of Love Committee; submit records for financial review annually; performs other duties as set forth in the Leader's Manual.

Pastoral Counselor - Attends Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings. Serves the District LWML in an advisory capacity; attend all LWML Conventions; attend the National LWML Convention as directed by the Executive Committee; submit articles to the Editor for publication in the Eastern District Newsletter, submit a written report for the Convention manual; serve as the spiritual leader for the Board and Executive and help with services at retreat and convention when possible; and other duties as set forth in the Leader's Manual.

The following Nominating Committee was approved at the March 10-11 EC meeting :

Dee Grzyb Committee Chair (Buffalo Zone) d_e_grzyb@msn.com

Donna Drier (Anthracite Zone) mathewmichelle.dd@gmail.com

Susan Morris (Philadelphia Zone) morrissusan55@gmail.com

Bev Wicher (Buffalo Zone) lwmlink@gmail.com

Any questions or concerns please contact Dee E. Grzyb, Committee Chair at 56 Hanover St., Lancaster, NY 14086 or via e-mail d_e_grzyb@msn.com.



*The Time is Now
to Volunteer to
be a Candidate
for 2018*



Rejoice Always

Celebrating 65 yrs at Pioneer!



September 15-17, 2017

Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center, Angola, NY

Theme: "Rejoice Always" I Thessalonians 5: 16-18

Speaker: Jan Struck

Hosted by the Philadelphia Zone

Registration opens May 1



Are you ready for a party and celebration as Women in Mission in the Eastern District? Come join your sisters in Christ at retreat this Fall. Jan Struck will get us celebrating as only she can do. Jan is retired from her career as a trainer/consultant in the field of healthcare technology. She is truly blessed to serve the Lord as a popular speaker leading Bible studies, workshops, and women's retreats. Jan has traveled extensively in the States, as well as Canada. Her involvement with LWML (Lutheran Women's Missionary League) has enabled her to bring the gift of laughter to numerous district and national conventions.

With over 40 years of experience in teaching, motivating, and entertaining her audiences, Jan brings a fresh approach to the journey of faith and uses her sense of humor as she shares her life with fellow travelers and leaves them laughing. Her trust and faith in Christ is her reason to make a "joyful noise unto God"!! Besides our usual events of Gifts of the Heart, Bible Study, Worship, Fellowship and Relaxation, special events to celebrate our rich history with Camp Pioneer are planned.

Registration form can be found on page 6 of [this LINK](#).

You won't want to miss the retreat this Fall. Bring a friend or two to help in the celebration. Camperships are available. See information below for details.

LWML RETREAT CAMBERSHIP—APPLICATION

A few full-time camperships are being offered for the Fall 2017 retreat to first-time attendees or for those individuals having financial need. If you have received a campership in the past you are no longer eligible. The value of the campership is the full cost of the retreat at the full-time registration fee. If you desire a campership and need only consideration for part-time status, please indicate that in your application. An impartial committee will select from those eligible campers who submit a timely application. Notification will take place after the deadline date. Don't delay, act now!



Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 E-mail _____
 Zone _____

LWML Member? _____ Yes _____ No

Please write a brief narrative (50-100 words) on why you would like to attend the LWML Retreat. Attach your written statement to this application and mail by **August 1, 2017** to:

Mrs. Kathy Pavelock
 8200 State Route 13
 Blossvale, NY 13308

All recipients names will be kept strictly confidential

	LWML Eastern District Retreat 2017			"Rejoice Always" 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18	
	Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center, Inc.			Speaker: Jan Struck	
	September 15-17, 2017			Hosted by the Philadelphia Zone	
Name:			LWML Zone:		
Address:			Home Church:		
City:			Church City & Zip:		
State:	Zip:	Phone: ()	E-mail:		
If this is your FIRST TIME Attending Eastern District Retreat, please check here:				Yes! I'm very excited!	
FULL-TIME	FULL-TIME				
	* Registration Per Person Includes: Registration Fee, 2 Nights Lodging, 5 Meals, & Lini			\$ 155.00	\$
	* Additional Cabin Fees: Deluxe Cabin \$50.00 or Woodland Cottage \$150.00 (to be paid in full by first registration occupant).			Additional Cabin Fee	\$
	* Late Fee if postmarked after September 1, 2017			\$ 25.00	\$
	NOTE: A \$50.00 minimum deposit is required with Full-Time Registration			Payment Enclosed	\$
				Balance Due	\$
	PART-TIME				
	Registration Fee (per person)			\$ 15.00	\$
	* Lodging (please circle): <u>Friday Saturday</u>			# of days x \$43.00	\$
	<u>Please provide your room preference below under lodging.</u>				
PART-TIME	* Meals (please circle which ones):			Friday Dinner	\$ 16.00
				Saturday Breakfast	\$ 10.00
				Saturday Lunch	\$ 13.00
				Saturday Dinner	\$ 16.00
				Sunday Breakfast	\$ 10.00
	* Additional Cabin Fees: Deluxe Cabin \$50.00 or Woodland Cottage \$150.00 (to be paid in full by first registration occupant).			Total	\$
				Additional Cabin Fee	\$
	* Late Fee if postmarked after September 1, 2017			\$ 25.00	\$
	NOTE: A \$25.00 minimum deposit is required with Part-Time Registration			Payment Enclosed	\$
				Balance Due	\$
LOGGING	Standard Cabins				
	Founders Court Cabins 26-37 (2 Single Beds, 2 Occupants Required)				
	Schroeter Circle 1-8 (Each Cabin has 10 Bunk Beds)				
	Deluxe Cabins (Extra \$50 for the weekend. FULL Payment is required with the first occupant registration).				
	Founders Court 38-41 (Queen Bed & 1 Bunk Bed)				
	Founders Court 42-44 (Queen Bed & Double Futon 2-4 Occupants); 45 (1 Queen Bed)				
	Family Court 15 (Double Bed, 2 Bunk Beds)				
	Family Court 16 (Queen Bed & 2 Bunk Beds)				
	Family 17, 19, 21 (Queen Bed)				
	Family 18, 20, 22 (2 Bunk Beds)				
Family Court 23 (1 Double Bed and 1 Bunk Bed with a Queen on the bottom, Twin on top)					
Woodland Cottages (Extra \$150 for the weekend. FULL Payment is required with the first occupant registration).					
Woodland Cottage 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 (Each Cottage: 1 Queen Bed & 2 Sets of Bunk Beds, Pull out Sofa. Minimum 4 per cottage.)					
ROOMMATE(s):			CHURCH/GROUP:		
SPECIAL NEEDS	Wheelchair:		Scooter:		Lower Bunk:
	Hearing Impaired:		Other:		Dietary:
NOTES:					
* Registration deadline is September 1, 2017. (postmark no later than Sept. 1st)					
* Balance due must be paid (postmarked) by September 1, 2017 or incur a \$25.00 late fee.					
* All requests are on a first come, first serve basis.					
* No registrations accepted before May 1, 2017. (Must be post marked no earlier than May 1st).					
CANCELLATIONS: The \$50 Full-Time/\$25 Part-Time Deposit is Non-Refundable. Cancellation for MEDICAL REASONS will be reviewed based upon a written letter of notification to the Eastern District President.					
NON-SUFFICIENT FUNDS FEE: A charge of \$25.00 will be assessed on all checks returned by the bank.					
***Make Checks Payable to: LWML Eastern District ***					
*MAIL completed REGISTRATION FORM, PAYMENTS, & SELF-ADDRESSED, STAMPED ENVELOPE (for return confirmation)					
Dori Juskalian, 935 Cornwallis Drive, West Chester, PA 19380 e-mail: dori.juskalian@verizon.net phone: 610-429-2449					
Registrations sent without stamped envelope will receive an e-mail confirmation.					

LWML
Save The Date
CONVENTION

2018 District Convention
June 1-3, 2018
Niagara Falls, New York

Enlightening
Electrifying
Empowering

The Niagara Zone will host the 2018 District Convention in Niagara Falls, New York. Start making your plans to save the date, enjoy a wonderful convention and do some sightseeing on the Niagara Frontier!

The theme for the convention will be **"The Voice of the Lord".....Enlightening, Electrifying and Empowering.** The full Bible verse on which we will meditate for the weekend is Psalm 29: 3-4 *"The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, upon many waters. The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty."*

The Niagara Zone has met three times as a full committee. Key positions are being chaired by:

Committee Chairman – Barbara Williams
Convention Committee Co-Chairman – Shellie Knupp
Convention Secretary – Kathi Rickus
Convention Treasurer – Kathy Burkett
Registration – Terry Hoffman
Pastoral Counselor – Rev. Robert Hoffman
Eastern District Liaison – Beverly Wicher

At the LWML Eastern District Executive Committee meeting on March 10, 2017 the final banner/ logo design was approved as well as holding the convention at the Doubletree-Hilton in Niagara Falls.

Watch "The Link" for new information as it develops over the next year and if you hear the voice of the Lord calling you to this particular convention, please heed the call. What a blessing it is to come together as sisters and brothers in Christ to worship, vote on future mission grants, and be in relationship with our Triune God and each other.



Christ's love shining through you
Eastern District Legacy of Love

Provisions, Protection and Providence

During life, people who care and are conscientious provide for their lives and for their children. During life, people instinctively protect those whom they love and the values they hold true. During life, all people live under the providence of a God who creates and sustains life. For people of faith, this providence extends into eternity under the

saving grace of Jesus, God's only Son.

God's Word speaks about this inheritance that we have been given. God informs us in 1 Peter 1:4-5 that we are given *"an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power is being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."*

If we are to live in the provision, protection and providence of our faith, it is consistent with these values that we also prepare for the time when our earthly lives will transition to a new life in the presence of Christ.

Our motivation for planning is a recognition of the providence of God for the benefit of His children during life and beyond.

If you would like to review your own plan to make provision in a way that protects blessings and honors God, let us know. We would be pleased to help you develop your own lifetime plan for giving to bless the people you love and the ministries you care about.

Your Partners, In Christ,

Rebecca Bessell
Legacy of Love
Eastern District Endowment, Coordinator
585-415-6368

Linda L. Gage
800-741-4138
LWML Gift Planning Counselor

News From Around The Zones

ANTHRACITE ZONE

This quarter I would like to highlight something that my Society does. I don't know if you are aware of it, but when military families are overseas they can use expired coupons for up to 6 months after they have expired. **At Grace Lutheran, Hop Bottom PA**, we collect unwanted or expired coupons and on a monthly bases we sort them and send them to a military family. This is not hard but time consuming. So the more ladies that can help sort and check for dates the quicker it goes. We try not to send any that are more than 3 months past their expiration date. That still gives them 3 months to use them. We have two families at a time and alternate so they get a box every other month. If anyone would like the list of how we sort them I can send a copy of the list and other information. We send them in a medium priority box so it costs a little over \$13.00 to send one box a month. The families are so appreciative of this. And often the ones that get them share the ones they don't need or want with 3 or 4 other families. For information dawn_corbin@yahoo.com.



The Faith Ladies in Mission from **Faith Lutheran Church, Easton, PA** were pleased to welcome the Seminarian Student they sponsor, Eamonn Ferguson, to Faith over the weekend of March 3-5. It was a delight to learn about this wonderful, young man and meet him in person. Previously our visits were through Skype. Eamonn drove from Ft. Wayne through an Ohio snowstorm to spend the weekend. On Sunday, he preached the sermon and assisted Pastor Crume at both services, and addressed the adult Bible Class. Eamonn is a senior at Ft. Wayne Seminary and will graduate in May. He will then begin working on his Masters of Divinity and take on the responsibility of editing the College Newspaper. Eamonn plays French Horn, has sung and toured with the choir at college and has won awards for his papers. Truly a blessed young man.



Dawn Corbin, Anthracite Zone President

BUFFALO ZONE

The Buffalo Zone has been busy transitioning it's new officers: Dee Grzyb-President, Bev Wicher-Treasurer, Kathy Fisher-Secretary and Sharon McGuan-Public Relations.

We have also been busy planning our **Spring Mission Workshop April 22, 9 am at Salem, Buffalo**. We will be having a speaker from Cornerstone Manor, our local abused women and children's shelter. We are also gathering items to make movie/activity kits for the kids and Welcome Kits for the residents. We will assemble the kits to be taken back to Cornerstone Manor.

After, lunch, provided by the ladies we will be having a prayer station workshop in the afternoon led by Bev Wicher. Please join us.

Dee Grzyb, Buffalo Zone President

CENTRAL NEW YORK-NORTH

LWML SEW AND SEWS—St. John Lutheran Church 502 West Chestnut Street, Rome, New York 13440

Should you enter St. John's Lutheran Church in Rome, NY on any Tuesday morning you are sure to be greeted by two sounds, the hum of sewing machines and peels of joyous laughter.

For over 30 years, the Sew and Sews, a sub-group of the LWML, have met on Tuesday mornings to make quilts for missions. Over the years, quilts have been given to nursing homes, Veteran's organizations, pregnancy and Alzheimer support groups and children's organizations. We have been able to send warmth and comfort to individuals who are ill, victims of fire and domestic violence and those who have suffered a personal loss. Our quilts have welcomed recent immigrants to our community. Sales of the quilts have supported our Sunday school, special projects for our church home and to benefit local individuals. Periodically, large boxes filled to the brim with colorful quilts have been sent to Lutheran World Relief to be sent around the world to those in need.



Besides sewing quilts, the Sew and Sews have sewn together the threads of Christian love and friendship. Meeting regularly, the group has become a place to share the joys and sorrows of life, knowing friends are there to offer a sympathetic ear, a silent prayer, and our specialty, a warm and sincere hug. Our sessions have provided us an opportunity to serve others and an avenue putting our faith and beliefs into action.

It is often stated that you do not have to sew to be a Sew and Sew. There is always cutting, ironing and tying to do, along with stories, laughter and hugs to share. So if you are in the area of Rome, NY on a Tuesday and have a desire to serve, come join us! Just follow the happy voices and the hum of machines.

Linda Bahr, CNYN Zone President

CENTRAL NEW YORK-SOUTH

CYNS Zone News Elected new Zone President Anita Getty.

Trinity Lutheran, Wellsboro, PA have announced the retirement of their Pastor Peter DeVantier after 28 years of service to our Lord and congregation. Pastor DeVantier was Pastoral Counselor for the Eastern District in 1994-98 and appointed in 1998-2000 to complete a term of Rev. Bojens (who was called outside the District)

Celebrating a Wedding in Cortland, NY our District Senior Counselor Pastor Cory Eckstrom and Lissa Lipfert on Feb 4, 2017. May God's Blessings over flow your days and years together.

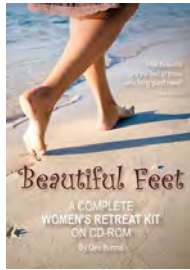
Anita Getty, CNYN Zone President

NIAGARA ZONE

Our fall Rally Day was held on Sunday, October 30th at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Tonawanda NY. Guest speaker for the day was David Werth member of Holy Ghost Lutheran Church, Bergholz. His presentation on "What's the Big Deal about Luther?" included a review of upcoming events taking place in WNY to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in 2017. He also gave a personal slide show of his recent trip to Germany. A business meeting and elections were held.

Current officers are: President, Barbara Williams (2nd term); Vice-President, Shellie Knupp (1st term); Recording Secretary, Margaret Stoelting (1st term), Corresponding Secretary, Cheri Briggs (2nd term), Treasurer, Kathy Burkett (1st term), Christian Life Chairman, Laurie Bauch (2nd term), Pastoral Counselor, Rev. Robert Hoffman (1st term).

The Niagara Zone will host our annual spring Christian Life gathering on Saturday, April 22, 2017. The event will be held at St. Mark Lutheran Church North Tonawanda, NY. This will be a full day event to include a brief business meeting, Mini Bible Study retreat, lunch & fellowship. The theme for our day is "Beautiful Feet" based upon Romans 10:15, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news" It is a retreat devotion courtesy of Deb Burma and Concordia Publishing House.



Barbara Williams, Niagara Zone President

PHILADELPHIA ZONE

The Philadelphia Zone Board Meeting was held on Sat. March 25th at 10:00 a.m. at Christ Memorial Lutheran Church in Malvern, PA. Our **Spring Rally** will be on **Saturday, April 8th at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Philadelphia, PA.** Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. with the Rally from 10-2 which includes lunch for a \$5 registration fee. The guest speaker will be Vicar Jacob Benson who is finishing up his vicarage year with PLM. We are excited to hear what experiences the Lord has given him this year! The theme will be



"Jesus, Christ is Lord", from Philippians 2:11. The text will be Isaiah 50:4-9a and Philippians 2:5-11. We invite every lady that is able and available to attend! For more information contact Susan Bell, Philadelphia Zone President at 610-518-0681 or sunbell557@comcast.net

We have begun our preparations for hosting the **Retreat at Camp Pioneer, Sept. 15-17!** We are celebrating 65 years at Camp Pioneer with the theme "Rejoice Greatly" from 1 Thessalonian 5:16-18. **Jan Struck will be our guest speaker** and bible study leader! You know how much fun that will be! We look forward to everyone coming and having a spirit-filled, wonderful weekend celebrating 65 years at Camp Pioneer!
Susan Bell, Philadelphia Zone President

LWML MITE GOAL REACHED!

FROM LWML PRESIDENT PATTI ROSS

I have the pleasure of announcing to you that the \$2 million Mission Goal of the LWML for the biennium of 2015-2017 has been met. In humble adoration and with praise to our faithful God we dedicate these dollars to Him for the work of missionaries and ministries around the world who work to spread the saving message of Christ's love and forgiveness. Let us all take a moment to give thanks to our God.



KEEP SAVING THOSE STAMPS

Judy Nordell reported that she just recently delivered 200 lbs. of stamps to the Canadian Bible Society.

She will be making another delivery in September, following our

LWML Fall Retreat, so make sure you bring your stamps to retreat.



Have you heard the news?

The **2017 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Albuquerque**, New Mexico will be an event to remember. LWML

will be observing its 75th anniversary during the convention with a special "Diamond Dazzle" celebration on Saturday evening, June 24, 2017. Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison will serve as proclaimer for the Thursday opening worship service and our keynote speaker will be Ida Mall, former LWML President. Deaconess Betty Knapp will expand on the theme of the convention "Jesus Christ Above All" from Philippians 2:9 in her Bible studies. Since the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod also observes the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in 2017, Jan Struck will provide humorous interruptions as Katie Luther. For up-to-date convention information, visit the website at www.lwml.org/2017-convention.

We are excited to be sending Allison Young of CNYN as our young women representative along with Heart to Heart Sister representative Joyce Anyango. Counselor Rev. Sean Walters will be joining President Kathy and the other delegates and guests attending from our district.



Serve the Lord with Gladness...Psalm 100:2

Mission Grants

MISSION GRANT
FORMS NOW
AVAILABLE

The LWML EASTERN DISTRICT Mission Grant Applications and updated guidelines have been sent out to the Zone Presidents. Please spread the word through

the Eastern District for those who may meet the criteria of a Mission Grant. Please follow the criteria for it might be one word that may keep it from getting on the ballot at the 2018 Biennial Convention at Niagara Falls. **Deadline for submission of grant proposals is October 15 2017.** Any questions please direct them to Anita Getty Mission Grants Chairman her email is amgemt@ptd.net

We are excited to inform you that **GRANTS 1 and 2 have now been paid** and we are well on our way to paying Grant 3. Keep those Mites coming in so that we are able to meet our Mite Goal.

DISTRICT SHIRT FUNDRAISER

Eastern District LWML Shirt is a polo shirt in stone (beige) with Eastern District LWML map logo. Shirts run small.

Sale! Sale! Sale!

This is a fundraiser for our district.

Sizes and prices are

S- XL - \$20, 2X- \$22, 3X- \$24. (XL=1X)

SHIRTS ON HAND

2 – Large; 1 – Extra Large; 1 – 2X

If you would like to order a shirt, please contact Claire Carlson at patchtroop546@aol.com or 716-649-4678. Other sizes can be ordered.



Congratulations

We congratulate former LWML District Counselor Rev. Cory Eckstrom on his recent wedding to Lissa Lipfert. We wish you blessings on your life together.

"They are no longer two, but one." Mark 10:8



Former District President Ruth Hope (1962-1966, 1990-1994) is celebrating her **100th birthday** on June 12th. She loves to receive cards from her LWML sisters. Her address is 5949 Broadway, Room C117, Lancaster, NY 14086.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark Your Calendars



June 22-25, 2017	LWML National Convention
September 15, 2017	EC Meeting, Camp Pioneer
Sept. 15-17, 2017	Fall Retreat Camp Pioneer
Feb/March, 2018 tba	ED/BOD meeting
June 1-3, 2018	ED LWML Convention Niagara Falls, NY

Report of the Financial Secretary—Judy Morrison

December 1, 2016 – February 28, 2017

Mites: \$8,358.95

Memorials Given in remembrance of: (December 1, 2016 – February 28, 2017)

In Memory of:

Beatrice Eick
Ruth Ann Lexow-Krueger

Della Dierks
Helen Williams

Betty Hughes
Betty Duda

Marie Cario

Given By:

Jane Christensen
Jane Christensen
Rebecca Bessell
Dorothy Koschmann
Dorothy Koschmann
Holy Cross Lutheran Church
Susan Bell
Elaine Gauss
Elaine Gauss
St. Paul Adella Society
St. Paul Adella Society

Treasurers are asked to forward money from their zone on a monthly basis so our mission grants can be paid in a timely manner and to assure that all are funded.

The mission of the Eastern District Lutheran Women's Missionary League is to assist each woman of the district in affirming her relationship with the Triune God so that she is enabled to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the world

Executive Committee**President**

Kathy Pavelock, 8200 State Route 13, Blossvale, NY 13308
315-245-1590 KMPavelock@aol.com

Vice President of Communication

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610-644-8401 beth@quinnfamily.net

Vice President of Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources

Dee Grzyb, 56 Hanover St., Lancaster NY 14086
716-393-3670 d_e_grzyb@msn.com

Vice President of Christian Life/Special Focus

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Junior Pastoral Counselor

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Planner

Barbara Williams, 6132 Prospect St., Newfane NY 14108
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Stamps for Missions Coordinators

Vacant

Stamps for Missions courier

Judy Nordell, 165 Park Ridge Dr., Easton, PA 18040
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Appointed by Board of Directors**Mission Grants Chair**

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Genesee Zone

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Niagara Zone

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Philadelphia Zone

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610-518-0681 susanbell557@comcast.net

Pittsburgh Zone

Linda Bright, 400 Barclay Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15221
412-271-1119 iamweebs@hotmail.com

**Next Deadline**

Please send all news articles and information for publication to:

Bev Wicher
19 Vernon Drive
Cheektowaga, NY 14225
716-914-4140

E-mail: lwmlink@gmail.com

The next deadline is June 1, 2017

The Link is published four times each year.

April 1, July 1, October 1, January 1

Deadlines to submit articles:

March 1, June 1, September 1, December 1

The Eastern District LWML

Lutheran



Women in Mission

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N
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District

Zone

Society

Together
Serving
the Lord
with
Gladness
For
70 Years



In April, I attended my society meeting where we studied God's Word related to milestones. The ladies brought up several common milestones such as confirmation, baptism, graduation, marriage, birth of children (grandchildren), the death of loved one, etc. I mentioned my upcoming retirement as a new milestone for me. Jeremiah 29:11 says, *"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."*

The definition of retire is to "leave one's job and cease to work, typically upon reaching the normal age for leaving employment." Although, I have indeed ended my career as a Software Engineer, I have not yet ceased to work. There are so many things to be done. I am discovering that the Lord has freed me to focus on Him and to be more available to do His work. **And though I do not have to punch a clock, I remain employed for God.** This is a job that did not require an application or interview and provides the best compensation – God's Love.



By the time you receive this newsletter, we will have gone and returned from the LWML 2017 Convention in Albuquerque, NM. The Eastern District has 11 delegates from eight of our nine zones. We will have a new national Mission Goal, new Mission Projects, several new officers and a new LWML logo. We will have celebrated the LWML 75th Anniversary with a "Diamond Dazzle Celebration." The convention will be streamed live and available at <https://livestream.com/TheLWML>. As was the case in 2015, the captured video will be available after the convention. So, if you could not attend or view the video live, you could watch it now!

The Philadelphia Zone is busy planning the 2017 "Rejoice Always" Retreat at Pioneer where we will celebrate 65 years with Pioneer! Jan Struck will be our speaker and we will have several celebratory gifts for those attending. You won't want to miss this one! Campership Applications are due to me by August 1st.

The Niagara Zone is working diligently on the 2018 LWML Eastern District Convention that will be held in Niagara Falls. The Rev. Dr. John Sound will be our keynote speaker. The Nomination Committee is busy identifying candidates for several offices. The Mission Grants Committee is accepting Mission Grant proposals until October 2017. You will be hearing more about this convention in the months to come.

You can see that there is much work in the Harvest Fields. God calls us to be laborers in His Harvest Field. I, for one, will not retire from Service to the Lord.

Serving Him Always,

Kathy Pavelock

<}}>



Serve the Lord with Gladness...Psalm 100:2



COUNSELOR'S C O R N E R



Psalm 100:1-2 Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!



Summer time is here!!! Daylight lasts longer, vacations, and outdoor activities just make us want to sing for joy! But with the longer days of sun and fun there is more work that needs to be done. Yards need to be mowed, garden and flowers need to be planted, and a busy schedule to work it all in.

So, why do we work? Some people see work as punishment for the sins of Adam and Eve. But there is a lot of work that I enjoy doing and I would never consider any of it punishment. So is it really “work” then? When I ask people, “why do you work?” The answer is always the same. People work for money so that they can provide for themselves or for their family, which is a noble cause I guess.

Jesus says in Matthew 6:25-34 not to worry about what you are going to eat, drink, or wear. Our Father in heaven knows what we need to live. So if we have faith that the Heavenly Father will provide for all our needs, then why do we work then?

We work to serve others. And when we work to the glory of God, the Father, then we serve the Lord with gladness. Luther even said (and I’m paraphrasing) if you shovel horse manure do it to the glory of God. God gives us work to do so that we can help our fellow neighbors and for the glory of the One whose saving work purchased us with His redeeming blood.

We don’t have to work for the salvation of our souls and we don’t have to work to provide for our needs of our bodies. The Triune God has taken care of all of our needs of body and soul. We work for the love of God and the love of our neighbor. So, no matter what you do; teacher, student, homemaker, or volunteer, do it to the glory of God and serve the Lord with gladness! And if you breakout in a joyful song or praise God while you work, that’s O.K. too.

Enjoy your summer and go live, love, have joy, and peace in our Lord, Jesus Christ! Amen!

Pastor Sean Walters, Eastern District LWML Junior Counselor



NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATION—BETH QUINN



What a fantastic convention we had in Albuquerque, NM June 22-25, 2017. Thank you all for keeping us in your prayers as we joined our sisters and brothers from across the nation. The Dazzle parade was a highlight. No one could match our Kazoo chorus as Pastor Sean Walters led us carrying the Eastern District sign. I am sure your ladies who attended will share the new National Grants, Officers, and the new LWML logo with you. Invite your Zone delegate to your Fall Rally or Society meeting.

Now it is time to look to our next celebration at the LWML Eastern District Fall Retreat at Camp Pioneer. We are celebrating our 65 years of partnership with Pioneer. Dates are September 15-17, 2017. Come join us!

Thank you to all of you who continue to provide me updates to the directory. The directory is a great resource to connect with each other. Have a blessed summer.

Beth Quinn 610-761-0263 beth@quinnfamily.net

NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF CHRISTIAN LIFE/SPECIAL FOCUS

By now some of you have been blessed by attending the 37th Biennial Convention of the LWML in Albuquerque, New Mexico in June. My thoughts and prayers were with you while I was blessed watching our first of ten grand-



children graduate from High School. I’m sure the convention gave you a mountain top experience as our girl receiving her diploma did for us. God is good, all the time and He continues to shower us

with His grace every day. I hope that you have been able to share His goodness with someone you know or even a stranger. Not just with what we take home from a convention but what we receive daily. God wants us to be bold in our faith. He is our main source as we pray and study His word. If you use the LWML web site you can find helpful resources there as well as in the LWML catalog. Let’s all be a blessing to someone today.

Serving Him,
**Karen Devan, Vice President of
Christian Life / Special Focus**

NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF GOSPEL OUTREACH/ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURECES—DEE GRZYB



June 21st begins the Summer season. It is also the Summer Solstice. I happened to be on the internet looking for information on how Christians celebrate the Summer Solstice. I found an article entitled "A Christian Celebrates the Summer Solstice": by Kathleen Quiring - "Looking at it from a Christian angle, I embrace the solstice as a time to celebrate God's extravagance, and to express gratitude for spiritual joy and clarity." May you enjoy the summer celebrating in God's goodness and light.

Gospel Outreach - The purpose of Gospel Outreach is to engage, encourage and equip women to share their faith in Jesus Christ, their loving Savior, with people of their communities and the world.



I was looking for some Gospel Outreach programs in the Buffalo, N.Y. area to share with you.

Buffalo City Mission/Cornerstone Manor - On April 22, 2017 the LWML Buffalo Zone held their Spring Mission Workshop. We had the privilege of having as our Guest Speaker Suzanne Cervi, Manager - Volunteers & Community Outreach from Buffalo City Mission/Cornerstone Manor. Cornerstone Manor was the recipient of a partial LWML Eastern District Grant in 2012 for women's exercise equipment.

The Buffalo City Mission/Cornerstone Manor's Mission Statement- "Providing 100 years of hope" .exists to meet the spiritual and practical needs of the poor through the demonstration of the love and preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ'. The history of their Gospel Outreach program is a wonderful lesson in how we treat our fellow human beings.

It was June 29, 1917 that baseball hero-turned evangelist Billy Sunday contributed \$8,400 to the Buffalo Evangelistic directing them to open a rescue mission to provide chapel services and meals. From that day to today there have been many changes - expanding services to include clothing and sheltering the homeless, opening a shelter and safe house for families victimized by fire, violence, and other crises, moving to new facilities, to the DREAM program, a transitional that provides a pathway to a stable life where individuals have the opportunity to build a better a better tomorrow.

Their website is buffalocitymission.org.

Harvest House of Buffalo, N.Y. - many of you will remember that at our 2014 LWML Eastern District Convention held in Buffalo, N.Y., Harvest House was the recipient of Gifts from the Heart for their baby ministry. Founded in 1993 by Gary and Linda Tatu. Gary was born and raised in Western New York, Linda is from Pittsburgh, Pa.

Harvest House was not a life-long dream. They were always faithful to God but after attending a retreat they were introduced to Jesus as a friend. Gary became very uncomfortable with the uneven distribution of wealth in the world. This was the beginning of a dramatic life-style change. The bible passage "Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "One thing you lack: Go your way, sell whatever you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, take up the cross, and follow Me." Mark 10:21.

Gary and Linda after months of research, prayer and feeling God's loving had guiding them, sold their home in the suburbs and on April 12, 1993 purchased a derelict city church which is now Harvest House.

Their Mission Statement - "Founded in 1993, Harvest House breaks the barriers keeping people in poverty; facilitating workforce development, wellness, access to basic human needs and spiritual health in our community". **Their website is harvesthouse.ws.**

Jericho Road Community Health Center - "Providing opportunities for the under-served and marginalized to be healthy, educated, and whole in order to demonstrate the unconditional love of Jesus".

They provide medical care for the whole family, especially those with limited access to medical care - families in poverty, refugees and immigrants. Vive has a 30 year legacy of providing safe refuge. Vive assists those who wish to make a refugee claim in Canada or who are seeking asylum protection in the United States by providing safety, shelter, food and legal help. The PPB - Priscilla Project of Buffalo serves low income pregnant refugee women. **Their website is jrhc.org.**

These are just a few outreach ministries within the Buffalo Zone. Would you email me some of the outreach ministries (with their website) in your zone? I would love to highlight them in THE LINK.

**MISSION GRANT
DEADLINE
OCT. 17 2017**

The LWML EASTERN DISTRICT Mission Grant Applications and updated guidelines have been sent out to the Zone Presidents. Please spread the word through the Eastern District for those who may meet the criteria of a Mission Grant. Please follow the criteria for it might be one word that may keep it from getting on the ballot at the 2018 Biennial Convention at Niagara Falls. **Deadline for submission of grant proposals**

is October 15 2017. Any questions please direct them to **Anita Getty Mission Grants Chairman** her email is amgmt@ptd.net



Do you love LWML and the work that we do and the mission support that is accomplished through national, district and zones? That work can't work without willing volunteers. It is time to consider what your gifts and talents are and how you could help our Eastern District to continue the work we do.

We are presently seeking names of people willing to run for positions on the LWML Eastern District Executive Committee/Board of Director that will be voted on at the 2018 LWML District Convention. The positions that need to be filled are President, VP of Christian Life/Special Focus, VP of Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources, Treasurer and Pastor Counselor.

JOB DESCRIPTIONS - These are general descriptions. The complete job descriptions as well as Nomination and Consent forms can be obtained from anyone of the Nominating Committee.

President - Oversees the work of the LWML Eastern District including presiding at the District LWML Conventions and meetings of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee. She is responsible to appoint various committee members to the Board of Directors. Signs all vouchers for payment of authorized expenditures. Keeps in communication with the Board to make sure all necessary decisions are being made. Visits, and helps promote the work of the LWML Zones. She also attends LWML National Board meetings when requested.

Vice President Christian Life/Special Focus - May perform the duties of the office of the President, in the absence or at the request of the President. Attends Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings. Coordinator of the Christian Life/Special Focus Department. Responsible for issuing the membership charter to a new society; reports to the Executive Committee and Board of Directors, and other duties as set forth in the Leader's Manual.

Vice President Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources - May perform the duties of the office of the President, in the absence or at the request of the President. Coordinates the Gospel Outreach/Organization Resources Department. Attends Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings. Serves as Chairman of the Nominating Committee. Oversees the preparation of the convention manual with the assistance of the Vice President of Communication. Develops a list of eligible LWML members to serve in appointed positions to assist the President and performs other duties as set forth in the Leader's Manual.

Treasurer - Attends Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings. Is bonded at the expense of the LWML District. Receive deposit slips and monthly report from the Financial Secretary; receive and deposit all money in a financial institution approved by the Executive Committee; keep an itemized account of all receipts and disbursements; make all payments as authorized; serve as chairman of the Budget Committee; serve as member of the Legacy of Love Committee; submit records for financial review annually; performs other duties as set forth in the Leader's Manual.

Pastoral Counselor - Attends Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings. Serves the LWML District in an advisory capacity; attend all LWML District Conventions; attend the LWML National Convention as directed by the Executive Committee; submit articles to the Editor for publication in the Eastern District Newsletter, submit a written report for the Convention manual; serve as the spiritual leader for the Board and Executive and help with services at retreat and convention when possible; and other duties as set forth in the Leader's Manual.

The following Nominating Committee was approved at the March 10-11 EC meeting :

Dee Grzyb Committee Chair (Buffalo Zone) d_e_grzyb@msn.com

Donna Drier (Anthracite Zone) mathewmichelle.dd@gmail.com

Susan Morris (Philadelphia Zone) morrissusan66@gmail.com

Bev Wicher (Buffalo Zone) lwmlink@gmail.com

Any questions or concerns please contact Dee E. Grzyb, Committee Chair at 56 Hanover St., Lancaster, NY 14086 or via e-mail d_e_grzyb@msn.com.

News From Around The Zones

BUFFALO ZONE

The Buffalo Zone held a Spring Mission Workshop at Salem Lutheran Church, Buffalo, NY on April 22nd. Guest Speaker was Suzanne Cervi, Manager - Volunteers & Community Outreach from the Buffalo City Mission/Cornerstone Manor. Suzanne discussed the history of Buffalo City Mission/Cornerstone Manor dating to its inception June 29, 1917. We had 30-35 women attend the workshop. Our ingathering was for Cornerstone Manor the local abused women and children's shelter. We assembled Welcome Kits for women as well as Movie/Activity Kits for the children.

After a delicious lunch prepared by the ladies at Salem, Bev Wicher led us in a Prayer Station Workshop. We started by creating prayer cards and praying for the ladies of the women's shelter using the concept of Praying in color. Praying in Color is a form of prayer that uses doodle, drawings, colors and words during prayer time. Each participant received a Prayer Station Journal created by Bev which included Bible Verses, reflection on the verses, an activity, and prayer, and an area for us to color/doodle. Five Prayer Stations were set up so that you could read the Bible Verse in your journal, reflect on the verse, go to the Prayer Station and do the activity from the journal, pray and doodle/color in your journal. It was a different concept on how to pray. I would love to have this venue for a one-day retreat.

Dee Grzyb— Buffalo Zone President

GENESEE ZONE

SPROUT JOY— REACH OUT! Was the theme for our Spring Event held at St. John Lutheran in Hamlin, New York this past April. *We focused our day on the words from Mathew 25:40—"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'"*

The House of Mercy in Rochester, New York which opens its doors to the homeless was the recipient of our items. Our day included-

Dig in the soil:

Speaker, Diane Kandt, is a nurse who has volunteered in hospice care and with the homeless. She shared stories from her work.

Plant the seed:

Ingathering for House of Mercy.

School Supplies: backpacks, pens, pencils, glue sticks, crayons & markers.

Personal Care: diapers, razors, tampons, sanitary pads, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant.

Watch it grow:

Service project for House of Mercy—We made fleece tied blankets. All materials were supplied.

Rebecca Bessell, Zone President

NATIONAL LWML MISSION GRANTS APPROVED FOR THE 2017-2018 BIENNIUM

Lutheran Women in Mission

2017-2019 LWML MISSION GRANTS

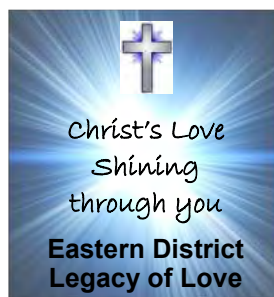
1. Providing Food and the Gospel to Starving Children, \$40,000
2. Mercy House for Women and Children, \$100,000
3. Christ for Veterans and Their Families, \$27,750
4. Tanzanian Sewing Center, \$25,000
5. Current Missionary Need, \$100,000
6. Lutheran Children's Books for Families Worldwide, \$100,000
7. Christian Hope Through Mass Media in Egypt, \$100,000
8. NOLA 4H: Hearts for the Hungry, Homeless, and Hurting, \$100,000
9. Lutheran World Relief Quilt and Kit Shipping Fund, \$80,000
10. Christian Eldercare Home in Haiti, \$100,000
11. Training Lutheran Middle Eastern Missionaries, \$93,000
12. Completion of Lukonda Lutheran School Buildings, Uganda, \$48,000
13. Equipping Youth to Witness for Life - Y4Life, \$25,000
14. Laborers of Love, \$100,000
15. Sharing Jesus with People with Disabilities, \$100,000
16. Education Loan Repayment Assistance Grants, \$100,000
17. Nursing Students Serving with Mercy Medical Team, \$25,000
18. Restoration Programs for Native Hawaiians, \$75,000
19. RECONNECT to the Body of Christ, Circuit 28, \$50,000
20. Prison and Jail Ministry Synod-wide Conference in 2018, \$36,500
21. Family Scholarships for Short Term Mission Trips, \$60,000
22. Raising Pastors and Deaconesses, \$97,000

Learn more about these grants on our webpage:

www.lwml.org/missions-grants

#15421





CHRISTIAN ESTATE PLANNING TRANSFERS BLESSINGS

Estate planning is often avoided, even among Christians. No one wants to think about death. Many times, difficult choices need to be made and the process can be cumbersome. However, this end-of-life planning is as important of a time for the person who dies as it is for those who are left behind.

Spiritually, proper Christian estate planning protects, projects and transfers the blessings of God's abundant kindness. This kindness can be partially measured by wealth, but wealth doesn't begin to capture relationships, or the sense of meaning that other, more powerful factors quantify.

A gift to ministry in your plan says that you value God's Word and want to see it taught to your children's children. It communicates that, to you, faith is real, the one thing needful for people to enter in to the kingdom of heaven.

Transferring blessings involves so much more than wealth. It involves miracles that can be transferred to those we love. It fulfills the Great Commission until Christ comes again. For help with completing your Lifetime Plan for Giving, contact-

Rebecca Bessell
Legacy of Love
ED Endowment, Coordinator
585-415-6368

Linda L. Gage
800-741-4138
LWML Gift Planning
Counselor

Sale! Sale! Sale!

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(XL=1X)

SHIRTS ON HAND

2 - Large; 1 - Extra Large; 1 - 2X
If you would like to order a shirt, please contact Claire Carlson at patchtroop546@aol.com or 716-649-4678. Other sizes can be ordered



The mission of the Eastern District Lutheran Women's Missionary League is to assist each woman of the district in affirming her relationship with the Triune God so that she is enabled to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the world



September 15, 2017	EC Meeting, Camp Pioneer
Sept. 15-17, 2017	Fall Retreat Camp Pioneer
Feb/March, 2018 tba	ED/BOD meeting
June 1-3, 2018	ED LWML Convention Niagara Falls, NY

Report of the Financial Secretary—Judy Morrison

March 1, 2017 – May 31, 2017

Mites: \$8,500.20

Memorials Given in remembrance of:
(March 1, 2017 – May 31, 2017)

In Memory of:

Kay Klotzbach
Elaine Grobe
Mary Lasch
Betty Haack
Marian Supparits
Jean Schuld
Carl Cooper
Jean Schuld

Given By:
Jane Christensen
Immanuel LWML
St. Paul Adella Society
Immanuel LWML
Immanuel LWML
Immanuel LWML
Dorothy Koschmann
Immanuel LWML

In Honor of:

All serving Him in the LWML Eastern District—
Kathy Pavelock

Treasurers are asked to forward money from their zone on a monthly basis so our mission grants can be paid in a timely manner and to assure that all are funded.



Just a reminder that I will be taking stamps to Toronto after the Retreat. Stamps can be brought to Retreat. Please remember stamps are to be on white or light colored envelopes. Stamps should be cancelled or drawn through with pen/marker. Bulk mail stamps are not accepted. Thanks.



September 15-17, 2017
Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center, Angola, NY
Theme: "Rejoice Always" I Thessalonians 5: 16-18
Speaker: Jan Struck
Hosted by the Philadelphia Zone
Registration now open

Are you ready for a party and celebration as Women in Mission in the Eastern District? Come join your sisters in Christ at retreat this Fall.

Jan Struck will get us celebrating as only she can do.



With over 40 years of experience in teaching, motivating, and entertaining, Jan brings a fresh approach to the journey of faith and uses her sense of humor as she shares her life with her audience and leaves them laughing. Her trust and faith in Christ is her reason to make a "joyful noise unto God"!

You won't want to miss the retreat this Fall.

Bring a friend or two to help in the celebration.

Camperships are available.

Registration form can be found on page 8 of this [LINK](#)

LWML RETREAT CAMPSHIP—APPLICATION

A few full-time camperships are being offered for the Fall 2017 retreat to first-time attendees or for those individuals having financial need. If you have received a campership in the past you are no longer eligible. The value of the campership is the full cost of the retreat at the full-time registration fee. If you desire a campership and need only consideration for part-time status, please indicate that in your application. An impartial committee will select from those eligible campers who submit a timely application. Notification will take place after the deadline date. Don't delay, act now!



Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 E-mail _____
 Zone _____

LWML Member? _____ Yes _____ No

Please write a brief narrative (50-100 words) on why you would like to attend the LWML Retreat. Attach your written statement to this application and mail by **August 1, 2017** to:

Mrs. Kathy Pavelock
 8200 State Route 13
 Blossvale, NY 13308

All recipients names will be kept strictly confidential

	LWML Eastern District Retreat 2017			"Rejoice Always" 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18	
	Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center, Inc.			Speaker: Jan Struck	
	September 15-17, 2017		Celebrating 65 yrs at Pioneer!		Hosted by the Philadelphia Zone

Name:			LWML Zone:		
Address:			Home Church:		
City:			Church City & Zip:		
State:	Zip:	Phone: ()	E-mail:		

If this is your FIRST TIME Attending Eastern District Retreat, please check here: ☐ Yes! I'm very excited!

FULL-TIME	FULL-TIME								
	* Registration Per Person Includes: Registration Fee, 2 Nights Lodging, 5 Meals, & Lini		\$	155.00	\$				
	* Additional Cabin Fees: Deluxe Cabin \$50.00 or Woodland Cottage \$150.00 (to be paid in full by first registration occupant).		Additional Cabin Fee		\$				
	* Late Fee if postmarked after September 1, 2017		\$	25.00	\$				
	NOTE: A \$50.00 minimum deposit is required with Full-Time Registration		Payment Enclosed		\$				
			Balance Due		\$				

PART-TIME	PART-TIME		Registration Fee (per person)		\$	15.00	\$	
	* Lodging (please circle): <u>Friday</u> <u>Saturday</u>		# of days x \$43.00		\$			
	Please provide your room preference below under lodging.							
	* Meals (please circle which ones):		Friday Dinner		\$	16.00	\$	
			Saturday Breakfast		\$	10.00	\$	
			Saturday Lunch		\$	13.00	\$	
			Saturday Dinner		\$	16.00	\$	
			Sunday Breakfast		\$	10.00	\$	
	* Additional Cabin Fees: Deluxe Cabin \$50.00 or Woodland Cottage \$150.00 (to be paid in full by first registration occupant).		Total		\$			
	* Late Fee if postmarked after September 1, 2017		\$	25.00	\$			
NOTE: A \$25.00 minimum deposit is required with Part-Time Registration		Payment Enclosed		\$				
			Balance Due		\$			

LODGING	Standard Cabins							
	Founders Court Cabins 26-37 (2 Single Beds, 2 Occupants Required)							
	Schroeter Circle 1-8 (Each Cabin has 10 Bunk Beds)							
	Deluxe Cabins (Extra \$50 for the weekend. FULL Payment is required with the first occupant registration).							
	Founders Court 38-41 (Queen Bed & 1 Bunk Bed)							
	Founders Court 42-44 (Queen Bed & Double Futon 2-4 Occupants); 45 (1 Queen Bed)							
	Family Court 15 (Double Bed, 2 Bunk Beds)							
	Family Court 16 (Queen Bed & 2 Bunk Beds)							
	Family 17, 19, 21 (Queen Bed)							
	Family 18, 20, 22 (2 Bunk Beds)							
Family Court 23 (1 Double Bed and 1 Bunk Bed with a Queen on the bottom, Twin on top)								
Woodland Cottages (Extra \$150 for the weekend. FULL Payment is required with the first occupant registration).								
Woodland Cottage 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 (Each Cottage: 1 Queen Bed & 2 Sets of Bunk Beds, Pull out Sofa. Minimum 4 per cottage.)								
ROOMATE(s):		CHURCH/GROUP:						

SPECIAL NEEDS	Wheelchair:		Scooter:		Lower Bunk:	
	Hearing Impaired:		Other:		Dietary:	

NOTES:	* Registration deadline is September 1, 2017. (postmark no later than Sept. 1st)
	* Balance due must be paid (postmarked) by September 1, 2017 or incur a \$25.00 late fee.
	* All requests are on a first come, first serve basis.
	* No registrations accepted before May 1, 2017. (Must be post marked no earlier than May 1st).

CANCELLATIONS:	The \$50 Full-Time/\$25 Part-Time Deposit is Non-Refundable. Cancellation for MEDICAL REASONS will be reviewed based upon a written letter of notification to the Eastern District President.
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NON-SUFFICIENT FUNDS FEE:	A charge of \$25.00 will be assessed on all checks returned by the bank.
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*****Make Checks Payable to: LWML Eastern District *****

***MAIL completed REGISTRATION FORM, PAYMENTS, & SELF-ADDRESSED, STAMPED ENVELOPE (for return confirmation)**

Dori Juskalian, 935 Cornwallis Drive, West Chester, PA 19380 e-mail: dori.juskalian@verizon.net phone: 610-429-2449

Registrations sent without stamped envelope will receive an e-mail confirmation.



LWML SETS 2017-2019 MISSION GOAL AT \$2.075 MILLION

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) welcomed 3,471 people with 850 as first timers to the LWML Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, June 22-25, 2017, under the theme "Jesus Christ Above All". The convention theme was based on Philippians 2:9.

Delegates to the 37th Biennial Convention of the LWML adopted a \$2,075,000 mission goal for the 2017-2019 biennium. This goal, by the grace of God, will fund 22 mission grants as men and women respond in prayer and offerings during the next two years. A list of the mission grants approved can be found on page 5 of the LINK.

The voting body elected the following Jennifer Huecker, Missouri District, Vice President of Christian Life; Charlotte (Char) Kroemer, Oregon District, Vice President of Communication; Angelina Jauregui, Pacific South-west District, Vice President of Gospel Outreach; Ginger Starrett, New Jersey District, Recording Secretary and Rev. Mitchel Schuessler, Southern Illinois District, Junior Pastoral Counselor. A new nominating committee was also elected.

Lastly, LWML President Patti Ross unveiled the new LWML logo. The logo was shared during the President's report and was also shared via LWML social media channels and Livestream. For more information on convention highlights visit www.lwml.org/2017-convention.



READY TO PARADE



PRESIDENT HARRISON
AT OPENING SERVICE



JAN STRUCK AS
KATIE LUTHER



PINNING OF ALLISON
YOUNG, OUR YWR

SERVANT EVENTS



Serve the Lord With Gladness

Executive Committee**President**

Kathy Pavelock, 8200 State Route 13, Blossvale, NY 13308
315-245-1590 KMPavelock@aol.com

Vice President of Communication

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610-761-0263 beth@quinnfamily.net

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716-393-3670 d_e_grzyb@msn.com

Vice President of Christian Life/Special Focus

Karen Devan, 6438 Lake Shore S., Canastota, NY 13032
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Junior Pastoral Counselor

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Stamps for Missions Coordinators

Vacant

Stamps for Missions courier

Judy Nordell, 165 Park Ridge Dr., Easton, PA 18040
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Appointed by Board of Directors**Mission Grants Chair**

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570-376-2143 amgemt@ptd.net

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Christian Life Chair Co-Chair

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Eastern District Recycling Fundraiser Chairman

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Webmaster

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215-473-1421 jacqui2@verizon.net

Pittsburgh Zone

Linda Bright, 400 Barclay Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15221
412-271-1119 iamweebs@hotmail.com

**Next Deadline**

Please send all news articles and information for publication to:

Bev Wicher
19 Vernon Drive
Cheektowaga, NY 14225
716-913-4140

E-mail: lwmlink@gmail.com

The next deadline is September 1, 2017

The Link is published four times each year.

April 1, July 1, October 1, January 1

Deadlines to submit articles:

March 1, June 1, September 1, December 1



NEWS FROM LWML NATIONAL

LUTHERAN WOMEN IN MISSION BLOG



President Patti Ross launched the Lutheran Women in Mission blog on January 9, 2017. Her new blog will include information on ways to engage, encourage, equip, and enjoy spreading the Word of God. Her first post features photos from her time as President and a mission trip she took to Guatemala.

Please subscribe to the blog by visiting blog.lwml.org. On the right side bar you will see "subscribe to this blog" and a space to enter your email address. Please enter your email address there and then select "subscribe." Once you subscribe to the blog, you will receive the latest posts from President Patti once every other week in your email inbox.

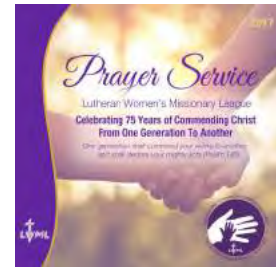
2017 LWML PRAYER SERVICE

Lutheran Women's Missionary League Celebrating 75 Years of
Commending Christ From One Generation to Another

One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts (Psalm 145).

by Rev. Dr. Steve Turner

We are gathered here today as women and men of the church who are in our generation to be witnesses of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Many of us lament "the generation gap" that seems to be growing with the acceleration of changes in our culture. There are times when we long for the "good old days." Our worship for today is to remind us that God continues to work in our days. That He is the God of all generations!



Downloads for the 2017 LWML Prayer Service and cover artwork are available on the LWML website at www.LWML.org



LWML NATIONAL CONVENTION OFFERINGS AS OF 6/25/17

- Pledge Walk: \$73,674.55
- Golf Outing: \$12,550.78
- Convention Offering #1: \$45,123.55
- Convention Offering #2: \$49,105.84
- Convention Offering #3: 39,904.81
- Convention Offering #4: \$33,290.56



2018 Eastern District LWML Convention
June 1-3, 2018
Doubletree Hilton
Niagara Falls, New York

“The Voice of the Lord”.....Enlightening, Electrifying and Empowering. “ will be our theme based on Psalm 29: 3-4 “The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, upon many waters. The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.”

The Niagara Zone will host the 2018 Eastern District LWML Convention in Niagara Falls, New York. Start making your plans to save the date, enjoy a wonderful convention and do some sightseeing on the Niagara Frontier!

Watch “The Link” for new information as it develops over the next year and if you hear the voice of the Lord calling you to this particular convention, please heed the call. What a blessing it is to come together as sisters and brothers in Christ to worship, vote on future mission grants, and be in relationship with our Triune God and each other.

Bev Wicher
Eastern District LWML Editor
19 Vernon Drive.
Cheektowaga, NY 14225
E-mail lwmlink@gmail.com



LWML

LINK



*Together
Serving
The Lord
With
Gladness
For
73 years*



The Adventure Continues

This Summer, I had the privilege to contribute a national LWML two-minute Tuesday message. If you missed it, I am providing a link of the message that was emailed and published on lwml.org on August 29, 2017 [<http://www.lwml.org/posts/fellowship/always-on-an-adventure>]. I have found these messages to be inspiring in my walk of faith and I encourage you to sign up to receive these messages through email at <http://www.lwml.org/stayintouch>. You may also sign up for other emails including general LWML news, eNews, devotions, and ShopLWML specials.

The Adventure continues as I prepare to travel with the Eastern District Lutheran Early Response Team to Ft. Myers, Florida where we will assist those in need after Hurricane Irma and to spread the Love of Jesus to those we meet. Also, in August, I was appointed as Chair to the national LWML Information Technology Committee - another awesome adventure with my Sisters in Christ!

I just returned from the 2017 Retreat at Pioneer where over 150 of our District LWMLers "Rejoiced" and celebrated our 65 years in partnership with Pioneer. The Philadelphia Zone did an outstanding job in planning and hosting this year's retreat. The Niagara Zone continues to plan for the June 2018 District Convention in Niagara Falls. Be sure to see articles in this newsletter for new and exciting news related to the convention. Officer nominations are actively being sought and we are still waiting to receive mission grant proposals. **All are due by October 15, 2017!**

We have collected enough Mites to pay for about half of our 2016-2018 mission grants. We are running a little behind where we should be at this time. Please get your mites into your societies and even consider doing a special mite drive at your LWML Sunday Worship Services. Remember that all Thrivent Choice Dollars donated to LWML Eastern District are designated as Mites.

Recently, I was reminded of a favorite song with a mustard seed devotion, **I'll Be Somewhere Listening**. One of the verses of this song is, "When my Savior calls I will answer. When He calls for me I will hear. When my Savior calls I will answer. I'll be somewhere listening for my name." The mustard seed devotion was based on 1 Samuel 3:10b, **Speak, for your servant is listening**. I pray that you all take the time to listen for God speaking words of love, words of direction, words of comfort. Listen to Him for He will call you to your next Adventure in Christ.

Serving Him Always,

Kathy Pavelock

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**COUNSELOR'S****C
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S****The Lord be with you all!**

But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 2:4-7

It has been an exciting couple weeks! It was only a week and a half ago that I was at Camp Pioneer with many of you thoroughly enjoying Jan Struck's encouraging words and laughing over and over again. Today I am on the way to another disaster relief job with two LWMLers - Kathy Pavelock and Karen Devan. We have been working together by the Lord's hand now for several days and we are starting to see the end of our mission here in Southern Florida. We have worked at a church, a disabled man's home, the yard of a church secretary, a butterfly farmer's home, and now we are going to attempt our most complicated task of tarping an hispanic family's house, as well as repairing their front porch. It is our first "rebuilding" job! We are REALLY looking forward to today and hoping to beat the heat!



I want to thank the LWML Eastern District for your awesome support of this mission trip. We collected over \$1000 at the Fall Retreat, and it has been a very real blessing! Thank you also for your prayers for us along the way. I know your hearts are with us and that many of you wished you could be right here with us. These trips are always hard to arrange and you have to give up a lot of time and "other things" in order to make it happen. But, dear friends in Jesus, Praise God. THIS is what God calls us to do. But this is important to remember: we are called to variously and in DIFFERENT ways, pick up our crosses, leave our families, sell our belongings, tithe on what God first gives us, and use the talents and skills that we have... all so that we can be women in mission and show his mercy and love to a dying world. No, not everyone can (or should) come on a disaster relief mission trip. Not everyone can do everything. But each of us can do what God calls us to do. One person I asked to come along



couldn't because he had to babysit his grandchildren. Wow! Amazing! Called by God to give up his life for his grandchildren. Praise the Lord! I know many others who wanted to come along, but they were called firstly to other acts of mercy and love in Christ's name. Can we say it again? Rejoice! Pray continuously! Give thanks in all circumstances! We are the body of Christ TOGETHER working to raise Jesus up as the Lord of all salvation - even as he has first loved and saved us! He has gone before us - let us follow faithfully.

Pastor Kristian Bjornstad, Senior Counselor

MISSION GRANTS, MISSION GRANTS WHERE ARE YOU HIDING? ARE YOU LOST? MISSION GRANT DEADLINE Oct. 15, 2017

Come to us followers of Christ. We will help with your Mission Work for Christ. We need you to follow and find us and submit your Mission Grant requests to us by October 15, 2017.

Mission Grant forms can be obtained from your Zone President, Mission Grant Chairman Anity Getty, or on the LWML Eastern District website east-dist-lwml.org

Questions Contact Mission Grants Chairman

Anita Getty @ 570-376-2143 or amgmt@ptd.net

HURRY!!! TIME IS RUNNING OUT OR YOU WILL BE LOST!!!!

Grants In Action

News From Haiti September 2017

\$5000 in grant monies were sent to Jeanne Moise in Les Cayes Haiti this past spring. We are so very grateful that our mites are doing this outreach. I heard recently from Jeanne in regards to the progress she is making with the sewing classes and other educational opportunities she is doing with the people in southern Haiti, in her district. In her correspondence she wrote:



"Those pictured and I had I visited Ile a Vache (a small island, near Les Cayes in Haiti) planning to have a seminar each three months. I did send those guys to learn making those artisans things to share with others and start to do some and sell them. I stated to buy some material in Bomond, where I started the sewing class, we stopped it because we did not have a place after the hurricane. Now we are trying find a place to start again. The women in Charlotte are planning to start a little business."



So in Haiti the hurricane season is now...and they had major destruction from last year's hurricane, so it has taken a bit to rebuild some of their district churches and such. I praise God that Jeanne is able to do what she has accomplished thus far, and of course hurricane season still continues for a couple months. Please continue to pray for this ministry and those countries affected by hurricanes, most especially that they can find places to meet and teach.

As a side note...Jeanne did send this beautiful picture of a wedding, rare to see in Haiti, given their culture. It is good to see them rejoice, and give thanks in all circumstances! (Jeanne is carrying the brides train and veil)



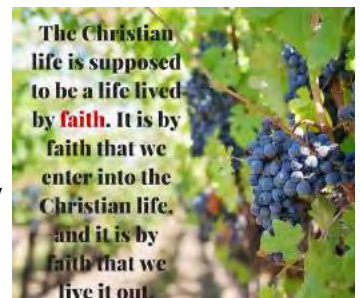
News from VP—Christian Life/Special Focus—Karen Devan



Happy Fall from the Vice President of Christian Life / Special Focus

As I sat down to write this article all I could think of was what words coincide with Christian Life and Special Focus? This seemed to be the topic I kept returning to so I'd like to share some of my thoughts with you. When I think of Christian Life I think of worship, listening, caring, encouragement, love, sympathy, prayer, fellowship, sacraments, etc. When I think of Special Focus I think of service to others, Pastors, teachers, the military, shut-ins, college students, children, moms with

small children, hardships, disasters (especially with all the hurricanes people experienced in Sept.), Missionaries, volunteers, etc. Then I think of Our Lord, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit who has enabled us to reach out to those in need with these actions. I know you could add so much more to these thoughts and I encourage you to reach out and share your gifts and talents with not only your friends in need but also those strangers who may only see Christ through you. As you enjoy the colors of Fall, may you also color someone's world with His love.



**In His love and Service,
Karen Devan
Vice President of Christian Life / Special Focus**

NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF GOSPEL OUTREACH/ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURECES—DEE GRZYB



When you feel that first crisp breeze, you know that summer is gone and fall is in the air. Every season has its upside; however, autumn has a particular beauty to it. Lovers of the season revel in its unique ability to turn the world into one big canvas with nature's paint-brush. There are many reasons to enjoy fall -

Fall Foliage - taking a ride or going on a nature hike and seeing God's canopy in the red, gold, and orange of the leaves.



Pumpkins - from lattes, pies, waffles, pancakes, butter to bread everything gets a pumpkin makeover. You don't want to miss these seasonal delights!

Thanksgiving - when you find yourself gathered around the table with family and friends. Thanksgiving is special not only because you spend time with loved ones, but you get to reflect on all that you have and show your gratitude for it all.

2017 LWML Retreat at Pioneer Camp - The theme was "REJOICE ALWAYS" from 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 and we did rejoice! There were many reasons, being with my Sisters and Brothers in Christ, Speaker Jan Struck, celebrating 65 years of Retreats at Pioneer Camp, the weather, sunsets, food, and having 22 First Timers at Retreat!!!! It was a wonderful weekend.

NOMINATIONS - On June 1-3, 2018 we will be having our 37th LWML Eastern District Biennial Convention in Niagara Falls N.Y. During the convention we will be electing candidates for the following offices:



President

Vice President Christian Life/Special Focus

Vice President Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources

Treasurer

Pastoral Counselor

The term of office will begin June 2018 and run for four years. Any society member or society may submit a nomination to the Nominating Committee. Nomination and Consent Forms as well as the description of duties for each of the positions can be obtained from any of the following people on the nominating committee; Dee Grzyb Committee Chair (Buffalo Zone) d_e_grzyb@msn.com; Donna Drier (Anthracite Zone) mathewmichelle.dd@gmail.com; Susan Morris (Philadelphia Zone) morris-susan66@gmail.com; Bev Wicher (Buffalo Zone) lwmlink@gmail.com

Nominations must be in by October 15, 2017.

Ladies, here is your opportunity to bring names of women and men who you work with on a district, zone or society level. You may know the individuals on a more personal/professional basis and your input would be greatly appreciated. Please prayerfully consider the women and men in your zone, society or yourself for these important positions.

Any questions or concerns please contact Dee E. Grzyb, Committee Chair at 56 Hanover St., Lancaster, NY 14086 or via e-mail d_e_grzyb@msn.com.

Serve the Lord With Gladness



Save the Date June 1-3, 2018 2018 LWML Eastern District Convention Niagara Falls, New York

The Niagara Zone will host the 2018 LWML Eastern District Convention at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel in Niagara Falls, New York. Start making your plans to save the date, enjoy a wonderful convention, and do some sightseeing on the Niagara Frontier!



Convention Site – Back of the DoubleTree Hilton facing the Niagara River

The Niagara Zone has met as a full committee in five meetings with numerous sub-committee meeting taking place. Key positions are being chaired by:

Committee Chairman – Barbara Williams
Convention Committee Co-Chairman – Shellie Knupp
Convention Secretary – Kathi Rickus
Convention Treasurer – Kathy Burkett
Registration – Terry Hoffman
Pastoral Counselor – Rev. Robert Hoffman
Eastern District Liaison – Beverly Wicher

The theme for the convention will be
“**The Voice of the Lord**”.....

Enlightening, Electrifying and Empowering”.
The full Bible verse on which we will meditate for the weekend is **Psalm 29: 3-4** “*The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, upon many waters. The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.*”



2018 District Convention Steering Committee



2018 District Convention Banner & Logo

The banner/logo design for the 2018 Convention has been designed by Convention Co-Chair, Shellie Knupp and Committee.

Much thought was given to the banner design based upon the theme chosen and the unique venue for the 2018 Convention. The Falls of Niagara as shared by the United States and Canada is truly one of God's creative wonders in the world.

The background is blue to represent heavenly love and unveiling of truth. Within this field you will see the rolling power of water which reminds us of God's promises and our own baptism. The scripture passage is written in purple to direct us to God's power. The Bible verse and LWML is in white to represent the purity of the Word. The lightning bolts are yellow to represent the innocence we find in Christ.

This banner represents the power we find in the “Voice of the Lord” through the water and the Word. The Voice of the Power of the Lord is Enlightening, Electrifying, and Empowering us every day. We receive so much and even more than we can comprehend from the Lord.

Watch for the January 2018 issue of “The Link” for the registration form and the most up-to date information for all things convention related. If you hear the voice of the Lord calling you to this particular convention, please heed the call. What a blessing it is to come together as sisters and brothers in Christ to worship, vote on future mission grants, and be in relationship with our Triune God and each other.

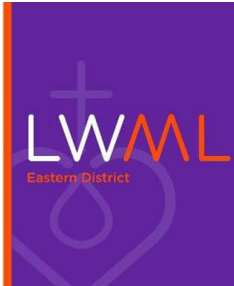
NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATION—BETH QUINN



REJOICE! SERIOUSLY? REJOICE!!! – Were you refreshed at your time at retreat this year? What a beautiful weekend. Those of you with Fitbits or other exercise trackers certainly exceeded your goals. The 65th celebration was great starting with acknowledging our past LWML Eastern District presidents, receiving the new LMWL logo water bottles and the banquet in Wendt Shelter, complete with live music. Niagara Zone also gave us a taste of all the things we can enjoy at our District convention – June 1-3, 2018.

Jan Struck was awesome – we danced on our way to communion Sunday – a joyous celebration – Rejoice Always.

NEW LOGO. Speaking of the new logo did you notice it on our front page? Did you know it can be customized with your Zone or Society's name? If you are interested in this customization, please send me an email with your zone or society's name. I will forward to national for the customization.



LWML QUARTERLY SUBSCRIPTIONS:

The rate for the **LWML Quarterly** is set by the Eastern District LWML Board of Directors and is currently \$8.00 per subscription for less than 10 copies to the same address and \$6.50 per subscription for 10 or more copies to the same address. This rate includes the cost of the **Quarterly** plus a \$1.50 contribution towards the cost of the Eastern District LWML **LINK** newsletter. As a reminder, decreases in LWML Quarterly subscriptions can be made only once a year, and the deadline to do that is April 1. **Increases and changes of address can be made anytime during the year.** If you need more information, contact me.

DIRECTORY CHANGES: Many of our societies and zones have new officers in the fall or over the summer. Don't forget to send me the changes shortly after your meetings or rallies. This helps keep our Eastern District LWML Directory up-to-date. Please send me changes to names, addresses, phone numbers and emails of pastors, society presidents, and zone officers. Emails are **critical** as we prefer to send you the LINK (this newsy paper) via email. If you currently are getting hard copies mailed to you, we'd appreciate emailing as this saves money for the LWML. Send your email address to Bev Wicher at lwmlink@gmail.com. This saves the District LWML money that we can put towards our Grants! Thank you we are down on our postage expenses.



CONTRIBUTIONS. We contribute to our Mite collections at our society and churches. Perhaps take a special offering for Mites on LWML Sunday 10/1/17 or whenever you celebrate it. Other ways to help monies to go to our

grants - do you do on-line shopping – sign up for AmazonSmile. A percentage of your purchases go back to the LWML Eastern District. Directions are on our website - <http://www.east-dist-lwml.org/AmazonSmileInstructions.pdf>.

Please feel free to contact me any time at: Beth Quinn, 558 Westwind Drive, Berwyn, PA 19312.
Email - beth@quinnfamily.net, phone contact 610-761-0263.

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 [NIV](#)



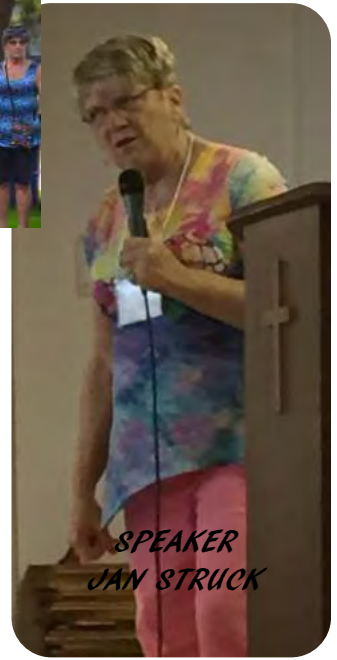
Rejoice Always
Celebrating 65 yrs at Pioneer!

RETREAT

HIGHLIGHTS



FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE



*SPEAKER
JAN STRUCK*



PASTOR KNOWLES AND HIS GREAT STAFF



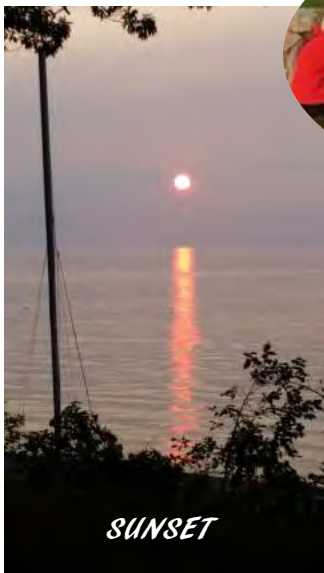
WORSHIP OUTSIDE



DINNER TIME



RELAXING AND WINE TASTING



SUNSET



PAST PRESIDENTS



ENTERTAINMENT

News From Around The Zones

ANTHRACITE ZONE

The Anthracite Zone's Fall Event will take place Sunday, October 1, 2017 – 2:30 pm
St. John's Lutheran Church, 9 Wood Street,
Pittston, PA 18640



SPEAKERS: REV. JOHN ZIMMERMAN AND JIM NORRIS

They have both participated in short term mission trips. Most recently conducting an English Language VBS in Poland.
Dawn Corbin, Zone President

BUFFALO ZONE

The Buffalo Zone joined the Niagara Zone at their summer picnic at Grace Lutheran in Niagara Falls; it was good to share time with our neighboring LWML sisters.

We also enjoyed our annual summer picnic in August at Camp Pioneer where we heard reports from our delegates to the national convention.



We are looking forward to our Fall Rally featuring Chet Ferry, "The Bread Man"—an amateur bread maker who presentations inspire many, demonstrating how your own unique random acts of kindness can change lives. An ingathering is being

held for St. Paul's "Blessing Box" pantry ministry.

Dee Grzyb, Zone President

GENESEE ZONE

The women of the Genesee Zone gathered in August under the theme "It Only Takes a Spark" based on

Isaiah 1:31 *"The mighty man will become tinder and his work a spark; both will burn together, with no one to quench the fire."*

Topics shared were Sharing the Spark—sharing ideas, Spread the Spark—Mission Grants, and Keep The Fire Going—what's new in LWML.

Rebecca Bessell, Zone President



NIAGARA ZONE

Happenings in the Niagara Zone

What We Did—

Summer Picnic - 2017—The Niagara Zone held a summer picnic meeting on Tuesday, July 18, 2017 at Grace Niagara Falls, NY. Invited guests in attendance included LWML Eastern District President Kathy Pavlock and members of the Buffalo Zone for a total attendance of 38.

Cheri Briggs, Zone delegate to the 2017 National Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, shared highlights and a picture scrapbook of her experiences. The evening concluded with a fun-time "Pound Auction" of wrapped items as brought by the members. Auctioneer extraordinaire Rev. Alan Bauch was back by popular demand and helped us to get a solid start on the Zone's commitment to raise funding for the 2018 District Convention. The proceeds of the sale were over \$375.

What We're Doing—

The Niagara Zone is serving as your host Committee for the June 1-3, 2018 District Convention in Niagara Falls, NY. We are busy working on a myriad of details in anticipation of you joining us at the DoubleTree By Hilton in Niagara Falls, NY! Save the dates now!

What We Will Be Doing—

Fall 2017 Rally Day—The Zone is looking forward to our fall Rally Day to be held on Sunday, October 15, 2017 at Immanuel Lutheran Church (Ridgewood) Lockport, NY. Guest speaker for the day will be Mr. Brigam Ziehm. His theme will be taken from 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 and he will be speaking about Adventures in Life Ministries – as a Mexico Field Liaison. Mr. Ziehm has been involved with doing missions nationally and internationally for 15 years and has been on over 30 international trips.

Brigam attended a Christian boarding school in Maine that owned a camp in Nicaragua and that is where his love for international missions came to be. You may know him from Camp Pioneer where he has worked for the past 13 summers and full time the last 3 years. He has been called to do a full year on the mission field in Mexico this coming year with Adventures in Life Ministries for which he has worked for 11 years. In addition he has been a part of leading short term groups, teaching English, running youth groups, vacation bible schools, construction groups, agricultural teaching and medical missions.

The afternoon will begin with lunch and a mini-rally day worship service/devotion and conclude with the business meeting and installation of officers. A special ingathering of reading glasses (+/-2) will be collected and dedicated in memory of Niagara Zone member Jan Voelker. The reading glasses will be headed to Mexico to be of use in Mr. Ziehm's ministry as he is learning how to fit people for glasses.

Barb Williams, Zone President

PITTSBURGH ZONE

Zion Lutheran Church Ladies Aid, Accident Maryland presented its first hand-made Quilt of Valor to Korean War Navy Veteran and longtime Accident resident, Mr. Harvey Gurney Kolb, honoring him for his military service to God & Country. The quilt presentation was held following Sunday services 8/13/17 at Zion Lutheran Church, Accident (MD) with friends, family and other veterans in attendance.

Mr. Kolb served 4 years in the Navy aboard two ships: the USS Putnam DD757 and the USS Leyte CV32. In his lifetime of service to community & church, Mr. Kolb has sewn 1,024 quilt tops for the Zion Ladies Aid who then make hand-made quilts for Garrett County charities.

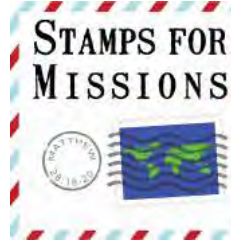
Quilts of Valor is a new project taken on by the Zion Ladies Aid. A patriotic endeavor, the goal is to present an Americana style quilt to veterans. Zion's first Quilt of Valor ---- a rail fence pattern --- is made from donated materials. Pieced together by Ladies Aid members Lena Fratz & Margaret (Peggy) Close, machine quilted locally, then finished with hemming by Peggy Close & labeling by Carol Jean Edmiston.

The mission of Quilts of Valor is to cover service members and veterans touched by war with comforting and healing quilts. Quilts are not simply passed out to men and women who served their country; they are awarded in a special ceremony as a symbol of public thanks. Each quilt is different, but all are used to say "thanks" and provide comfort to the recipients.



Pictured left to right: Zion Ladies Aid members Karen Leese, Jan Leese, Helen Harman, Gurney & Lois Kolb, Linda Oester, Peggy Close.

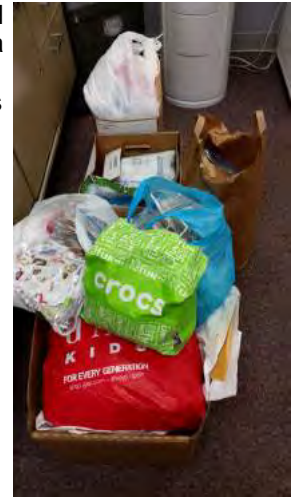
The mission of the Eastern District Lutheran Women's Missionary League is to assist each woman of the district in affirming her relationship with the Triune God so that she is enabled to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the world



Since 2003 LWML Eastern District has delivered canceled stamps to the Canadian Bible Society. From 2003-2017 over 1300 pounds of stamps have been given to the Canadian Bible Society.

The MAIN GOAL of the Bible Society is to work with other Bibles Societies (over 200 around the world) in getting the true WORD of GOD to as many people as possible in their own language. This is a "tremendous challenge but hopeful opportunity" in sharing the Gospel message!!

Stamps collected from across Canada are combined to create charity boxes and are sold @ \$10 to stamp collectors and vendors. The headquarters are blessed to have volunteers who sort and package the stamps for these boxes, as the collectors only want certain kinds of stamps -- regular or commemorative or foreign kind and they cannot be damaged, thus the reason for 1/4 inch around the edge and on preferably white or light colored envelopes, as they sometimes soak them in water to remove stamp and don't want the stamps to get discolored from dye.



The revenue generated from the selling of these packages allows the headquarters to print Bibles and distribute them. In 2015-2016 the distribution was called, "Key to Freedom." The Bibles are printed in English and French and given to prisoners across Canada. 10 pounds of sold stamps equal approximately enough money for 5 Bibles to be distributed.

For more information, contact Judy Nodell at jondell@rcn.com, 610-250-9661

Eastern District LWML Shirt Fundraiser *New Style*



The shirt is an interlock knit polo shirt in WHITE with Eastern District LWML map logo in purple OR in DARK PURPLE (pictured here) with logo in gold. (This shirt style is similar to those offered at the LWML conventions.)

**Sizes and prices are:
S-XL-\$25, 2X-\$28, 3X-\$30.**

If you would like to order a shirt or have questions please contact:

Claire Carlson
patchtroop546@aol.com
or 716-597-8568.

All shirts must be prepaid.

Checks should be made payable to LWML Eastern District. Delivery of shirts will be at zone and districts events.



NEWS FROM NATIONAL LWML PRESIDENT PATTI ROSS

LWML VIDEO

I am pleased and excited to announce the new About LWML video. Please use this video as an introductory presentation to congregations within your district and individuals

who do not know about the LWML. This would be a wonderful video to share on LWML Sunday so we will be making this video available on the LWML website at www.lwml.org/lwml-Sunday.



**Lutheran
Women
in Mission**



March 2-3, 2018	ED/BOD meeting
June 1, 2018	EC/BOD Meeting Niagara Falls, NY
June 1-3, 2018	ED LWML Convention Niagara Falls, NY
Sept. 15-17, 2018	Fall Retreat Camp Pioneer
June 20-23, 2019	Mobile, Alabama

Report of the Financial Secretary—Judy Morrison

June 1, 2017 – August 31, 2017

Mites: \$4,319.96

Memorials Given in remembrance of: (June 1, 2017 – August 31, 2017)

In Memory of:

Adelma Mellecke
Yvonne Martin

Given By:

Dorothy Koschmann
St. Paul Adella Society

Treasurers are asked to forward money from their zone on a monthly basis so our mission grants can be paid in a timely manner and to assure that all are funded.



If you have any questions or are interested in finding out about charitable gift giving and/or supporting the LWML Eastern District through the endowment Fund, please contact Rebecca or Linda for more information.

Rebecca Bessell
Legacy of Love
ED Endowment, Coordinator
585-415-6368

Linda L. Gage
800-741-4138
LWML Gift Planning
Counselor

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Vacant

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Vacant

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Next Deadline

Please send all news articles and information for publication to:

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716-913-4140

E-mail: lwmlink@gmail.com

The next deadline is December 1, 2017

The Link is published four times each year.

April 1, July 1, October 1, January 1

Deadlines to submit articles:

March 1, June 1, September 1, December 1