



LWML

LINK



*Together  
Serving  
The Lord  
With  
Gladness  
For  
80 Years*



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Happy New Year 2025! May the New Year bring you joy, peace, and abundant blessings. Let's reflect on the last year with appreciation and look forward to new beginnings. ***See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.*** (Isaiah 43:19).



The LWML 41st National Convention will be held June 26-29, 2025, in Omaha, Nebraska, under theme "Growing in God's Grace". We have the opportunity to send up to 10 delegates, several Young Women Representatives and our Junior Pastoral Counselor, Reverend Michael Dobler. Have you received your Winter 2024 Lutheran Woman's Quarterly? In there is the information and registration materials needed for attending this event. In late January I will be attending the Presidents Assembly in Omaha, Nebraska, at the convention site and I'm sure I will have a lot more information to pass on to you.

#### **APPOINTMENTS TO THE EASTERN DISTRICT ZONE BOARD:**

I am happy to announce two appointments to the Board of Directors:

Rebecca Bessell as Structure Chair - Rebecca is from the Genesee Zone and is the present Legacy of Love Coordinator and has been a past President of the District.

Megan Migyanko as Co-Chair of Leader Development - Megan is from the Pittsburgh Zone and was one of the YWR's to the 2024 Eastern District Convention.

Please pray for: the LWML Eastern District – as a whole and the board of directors; the Presidents' Assembly January 23-25, 2025, in Omaha, Nebraska; and the National Convention in Omaha, Nebraska, June 26-29, 2025.

Thank you.

Blessings,

Dee

***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.*** (Jeremiah 29:11)



**COUNSELOR'S****C  
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R****GOD'S PERFECT GIFT-CELESTE CUMMINS-Published by LWML 2017**

**Due to the busyness of the holiday we did not receive a Counselor's article, below is a devotion taken from LWML website**

*For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God (Ephesians 2:8).*

At this time of the year, our minds can focus on the brightly colored packages with shiny bows tucked neatly underneath the Christmas tree. We wonder, "What is in those packages that we see?" Regardless of our age, we all enjoy receiving Christmas gifts.

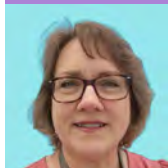
What is the best Christmas gift you have ever received? The best gift I was thinking of was not wrapped and waiting for me under the Christmas tree, but it was a Christmas gift, of sorts. My gift came a little before Christmas when my first child, a daughter, was born on December 2.

Even though my daughter was a wonderful gift, she was not the perfect gift. There is one gift that fits all sizes, all ages, all nationalities, all races. It is a gift we can all share. Once you have discovered this gift, you will not want to return it. That is why it is the perfect gift for everyone. My baby was not this perfect gift, but another baby was. That baby, that perfect gift, is Jesus.

Many do not think they need the gift of Jesus. Many ask, "At Christmas, why do we need to talk about a baby who was born over 2,000 years ago?" Romans 3:23-24 answers that question. That passage states, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. Our sins separate us from God. To save us from the eternal death our sins cause, God sent Jesus, the perfect gift, to redeem us through His death and resurrection. Jesus has bought us back and made us righteous (perfect and sinless) before God, so that God now views us as justified. That means God declares us innocent and sees us just as if we have never sinned. How does Jesus do this? It is only through grace, which is undeserved love. This is the essence of this perfect gift. It is something we do not deserve, but is freely given to us by our loving heavenly Father!

I had thought waiting almost nine years for my daughter was a long time, but people waited, and waited, and waited for many centuries for Jesus, the perfect gift, to arrive. Today some are still waiting to hear of Jesus. The work of the LWML is so important to all those people still waiting in darkness. The LWML produces Christ-centered materials we can use to share the Good News of Jesus. The LWML raises funds to support missionaries throughout the world. The Holy Spirit works through the Word we and those missionaries share so that those sitting in darkness will be able to join Jesus, the perfect gift, for eternity in heaven. At Christmastime, we celebrate when this perfect gift came to earth. Jesus is our gift. He is the perfect gift for everyone

***Prayer: Lord Jesus, at Christmastime and always, help us to proclaim to all the world that You are the perfect gift. May the Holy Spirit work through Your Word of truth that we and missionaries proclaim so that those in darkness may come to know You as their Lord and Savior. In Your name we pray. Amen.***

**NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATION—SUSAN MORRIS**

It's hard to believe that another year has ended and new one is beginning! I can't say that time flies all the time, but it does seem to at the busiest times (or when I'm not looking). At Christ Memorial here in Malvern, PA, we been studied as a congregation "Red Letter Advent" with 25 days of unboxing the HOPE, PEACE, JOY, and LOVE of Advent. Pastor's message each week had been based on these four gifts. My prayer for each of us is that we have these gifts and can share these gifts with others.

**REMINDERS!**

- Please send in any Directory changes that you may have to [ED\\_VPComm@gmail.com](mailto:ED_VPComm@gmail.com)
- Monies for quarterly orders that will be due late March are to be paid when the order is made.
- **Send your orders into your ZONE Treasurers no later than March 28, 2025.**

**Sue Morris**  
**VP Communications**  
**(215) 514-8678**

### News from the Vice President of Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources – Susan Bell



The work of the Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources Department 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.

#### THE 2024-2026 GOSPEL OUTREACH/ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

Vice President of Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources – Susan Bell

Mission Grants Chair – Margaret Klees

Leader Development Chair – Sharon McGuan

Structure Chair – Rebecca Bessell

Stamp Coordinator – Karen Blackmon, Nominating Committee Chair – Susan Bell



**I compiled the results of the Retreat Evaluations.** Most people really enjoyed their time at Pioneer on the Lake this year!

**There will be a new Time and Talent Sheet at Retreat** – I sent them to President Dee to help her fill the co-chair positions.

#### Susan Bell, VP of Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources

*The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him. Psalm 28: 7*

### MISSION GRANT NEWS



Praise God! Grant 1 has been paid! Susan Bell, VP of Gospel Outreach and Beth Quinn, former Philadelphia Zone President on behalf of The LWML Eastern District presented Olivia Sarnor and Olive Massaquoi, BEE Liberia, a check for \$5,000 to dig a well at the Olivia S. Washington School in Liberia on Sunday November 17, 2024, at Christ Memorial Lutheran Church in Malvern, PA. This is the first mission grant paid for the LWML Eastern District 2024-2026 biennium. Olivia left November 21, 2024, for a multiple month visit to the school and plans to have the well dug while she is there. Pictured from left to right: Olive Massaquoi, BEE

Liberia Director and Olivia's daughter, Olivia Sarnor, Susan Bell, LWML District VP of Gospel Outreach, and Beth Quinn, former Philadelphia Zone President. Our Mighty Mites at work!



**GRANT REQUESTS FOR 2026**—It is never too soon to start researching and looking for missions that might be in need of assistance through an LWML Eastern District Mission Grant for our 2026-2028 biennium. Contact Margaret Klees for the guidelines and necessary forms.

**GIVE GENEROUSLY TO MITES SO THAT WE CAN PAY OUR GRANTS IN A TIMELY MANNER**

***Serve the Lord With Gladness***

## NEWS FROM THE LEADER DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

**From the Leader Development Committee****Sharon McGuan** - Chair**Megan Migyanko** - Co Chair

*For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:10*

Our committee has three items to share with you this quarter:

**\* WELCOME MEGAN!**

I am excited to introduce our new Leader Development Co Chair, Megan Migyanko. Many of you know Megan through her involvement with the Pittsburgh Zone. Others may remember her as one of our talented and faith filled Young Women Representatives to the 2024 District Convention. Megan is a member of Zion Lutheran Church, Bridgeville, PA. She is a social worker at a rehabilitation facility who has found her purpose assisting families in difficult circumstances. Megan is a wife and mother. She enjoys playing in her church's bell choir and teaching Sunday school. For Megan, leadership begins when we prayerfully put Christ in the center of all we do. To contact Megan with leadership ideas, find her contact information on page 11 of this LINK.

**\* FINAL CALL FOR NATIONAL YWR APPLICATIONS!**

If you are a young woman between the ages of 22 and 35 years of age, who is a member of the LCMS, has not previously attended a national convention, and would like to submit an application to attend the 2025 National Convention in Omaha, Nebraska, please contact your zone president immediately. Application deadline is fast approaching. Two YWR's will be selected by the district to represent the LWML Eastern District by the end of January.

**\* CHECK OUT LUTHERAN WOMEN IN MISSION FOCUS ON JESUS!**

For Christ Centered Leadership Ideas For You and your Society - Log on to [LWML.org](http://LWML.org); tap the menu bars; click on Service; then tap the Leader Development line. Now scroll down to Featured New Resources. The first resource listed is "Lutheran Women In Mission FOCUS on Jesus", click that and you will find many leadership ideas to ponder alone, or discuss with your group. Categories FOCUS on

- \* Who We Are
- \* How We Equip
- \* Why We Go
- \* We Proclaim Christ Near and Far
- \* How We Help

We pray FOCUSing on Christ centered leadership will help you grow in faith and love for one another.

**May God bless you in 2025! Sharon McGuan**



**WE NEED YOU!**  
**BOARD POSITIONS TO BE FILLED**



There are several Co-chair positions open.

**Christian Life Co-chair** – to work with Sue Beltran, Chair

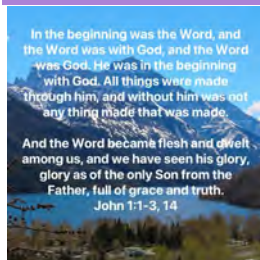
**Mission Grants Co-chair** – work with Meg Klees, Chair

**Structure Co-chair** – to work with Rebecca Bessel Chair

If interested, please contact Dee Grzyb, 716-901-4167 (cell), 716-393-3670, [de\\_grzyb@msn.com](mailto:de_grzyb@msn.com) for further information.



## NEWS FROM THE CHRISTIAN LIFE/SPECIAL FOCUS COMMITTEE



*"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made... The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us."*  
John 1:1-3, 14

God chose to be one of us. How amazing!

As we ponder John's words may God bring blessings to us all through this New Year.

**Linda Bahr**

**VP of Christian Life/Special Focus**

**(THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE SHOULD HAVE APPEARED IN THE FALL ISSUE  
MY APOLOGIES FOR THE DELAY)**

On July 16, 2024, a tornado ripped through the downtown of the City of Rome, NY, and moved east causing massive damage to buildings, homes, trees, electrical wires and poles. We were stunned by the damage. We rarely, if ever, get tornado warnings much less an actual tornado. Many people were without power, some for days. My husband and I were spared damage as we live west of the city. Other family households were also spared. Many stores and businesses were directly hit. Two of our historic churches lost their steeples which crashed onto their roofs crushing the interior of the sanctuaries. St. Mary's Catholic Church was demolished and will be taken down. First Presbyterian Church was badly damaged but has been ruled as rebuildable. No-one was injured or killed. We were astounded by how quickly workers came from all over the state and other states to help with the power and cleanup after the storm. The Community of Schools and the Red Cross, among others, were out the next morning with breakfast and supplies for those who were left homeless. I imagine many folks felt hopeless as they toured the city and saw the destruction.

Our Retreat theme of "Abound in Hope" paves the way for so many who feel hopeless. May we pray for all those who have suffered from storms, disease and other maladies. We pray the words of verses taken from Psalm 42, an anthem of hope:

*"As a deer longs for a stream of cool water, so I long for You, O God.*

*Why am I so sad? Why am I so troubled?*

*I will put my hope in God, and once again I will praise Him."*

*Taken from Psalm 42: 1, 2, & 5.*

## SPECIAL FOCUS COMMITTEE



New Year's greetings from Diane Olmstead and Alexa Wolf! We are both educators in LCMS Schools and this year the theme is ENDURE based on Hebrews 12:1-3, *"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God."*

I believe these verses also resonate with one of our committee's tasks, to encourage zones/societies to plan servant events in their area. We are blessed with many LWML sisters who serve the Lord with gladness and reach out to others to share His love with those in need. Many may be looking for a new way to meet the needs of God's people. We would like to know more about your plans for service projects or unique in-gatherings in the upcoming year so that we can ENDURE as we run this race together.

Another resource for a new way to reach out with Christ's love in service to people in need would be suggestions or financial assistance possibilities provided by Thrivent Action Team grants. Get more information here

<https://www.thrivent.com/about-us/membership/thrivent-action-teams>.

**Diane Olmstead and Alexa Wolf—Special Focus Committee**

## ***Legacy of Love Endowment***

The Legacy of Love Endowment was established approximately 10 years ago. The purpose is to promote, encourage, receive, and manage special gifts for the benefit of the mission and ministry of the LWML Eastern District. This endowment will support a primary focus for mission and ministry in the following three areas.

- A. Scholarship Assistance
- B. Leadership Development
- C. Other Ministry Areas

Our dear sister in Christ, Barbara Williams, saw the purpose and plan for the future needs of her fellow women of the LWML Eastern District by leaving us a generous gift in her will. We truly thank God for Barbara in so many ways which include this reminder of her love for our organization. May we continue to be reminded of her planning and legacy by her gift.

A new year gives fresh opportunity to respond to all of God's gifts, applying them to every circumstance and relationship in the hope of sharing Jesus. All of life is about using God's gifts for doing God's things.

For more information on the Legacy of Love Endowment Fund please contact Rebecca Bessell, [RLB54@roadrunner.rr.com](mailto:RLB54@roadrunner.rr.com) or 585-415-6368



## **Lutheran Women's Missionary League 41st Biennial Convention Omaha, Nebraska**

**Date:** June 26–29, 2025

**Location:** Omaha, Nebraska

**Theme:** Growing in God's Grace

**Goal Statement:** Through Word and Sacrament, I will grow in grace to serve our Lord and proclaim His glory.

**Scripture Verse:** *But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen* (2 Peter 3:18)

**REGISTRATION OPENS MARCH 1, 2025**

**Convention Information and Registration:** You can find out all the details about the 2025 Convention, in the Lutheran Woman's Quarterly Winter 2024 insert.

Or at this link: [2025 Convention Information and Registration PDF](#)

# SAVE THE DATE



JUNE 12-14  
2026

## LWML EASTERN DISTRICT CONVENTION

HOSTED BY THE ANTHRACITE AND PHILADELPHIA ZONES



DoubleTree Resort  
by Hilton Hotel Lancaster  
In beautiful Lancaster, PA



# News From Around The Zones

## BUFFALO ZONE



Wow we have been a busy group. We had our Fall event at Trinity West Seneca with 30+ women and men attending. Pastor Knowles, his son and Margaret Walsh were our guest speakers. They talked about their individual experiences in going up north to do VBS with some indigenous people and children. We colored cards for those on the weekly Eastern District Prayer list and sent them out and have

enough to do perhaps 2 or 3 mailings again. We also gathered many items for the local food pantries as well.

President Sharon Wolff has been working hard to connect to the churches from the former Cattaraugus/Allegheny Zone. She traveled to Erie PA, to connect with the sister churches there and was well received and our summer event will most likely be held in that area. She spoke about mites, delegate funds, and grants. They have a grant written and are waiting for the new grant paperwork!

President Sharon has sent witness bracelets to those churches that we have not been able to visit along with more Lutheran Women in Mission informational pamphlets. The churches in Silver Creek, and Angola met for an ornament exchange Dec 8th. The event was rescheduled from December 1st so Gowanda and Fredonia women could attend. Trinity Silver Creek will host our spring event on May 3rd.



Our goal is to remain connected closely with all the churches and congregations in the entire Buffalo Zone. We are making great strides in doing just that along with promoting Lutheran Women in Mission, mites, and grants and all that the mission work accomplishes. President Sharon continues

to encourage our churches and women's groups to send her those events that they are having with pictures as well, so that they can be shared and posted to our Facebook page and in the LINK.

We pray that you all had a blessed Advent and Christmas season, and we wish you all a very Happy and joy filled New Year!

**Sharon Wolff, Buffalo Zone**

## Central NY North

### LWML Sunday at Trinity Lutheran Church in Utica, NY



This fall we celebrated LWML Sunday. The LWML Sunday supplies on [lwml.org](http://lwml.org) were very helpful. We used the special service, and I used the talking points to tell the congregation about LWML and invite them to fill

mite boxes and be involved with our activities. After I spoke, our society performed a skit about mites. We also provided refreshments after the service, which included cookies I made using the LWML logo cookie cutter I just bought! It was a great event. It's never too late to celebrate LWML Sunday at your church.

**Allison Young, Society President, Trinity Lutheran Church**



## PHILADELPHIA ZONE

### MISSION GRANT 1 PAID

As shared in the Mission Grant article a check for \$5,000 was presented to Olivia Sarnor and Olive Massaquoi, BEE Liberia, to dig a well at the Olivia S. Washington School in Liberia. The check was presented at Christ Memorial Lutheran Church in Malvern, PA.

### LWML COMBINED FALL RALLY PHILADELPHIA ZONE EASTERN AND ENGLISH DISTRICTS:



On Saturday, November 2, 39 women and men gathered to enjoy a day of worship and fellowship as well as a delicious luncheon. The English District graciously hosted at Bethany Lutheran Church in Ewing, NJ. The theme was "A Path of Hope", I

*was sick and you looked after me* (Matthew 25:36). The ingathering and activities were for Phil's Friends, a non-profit organization that sends care packages and Cards of Hope to cancer patients around the US. We learned more about Phil's Friends via a zoom call from one of their representatives and then colored Cards of Hope and made Fleece Blankets. If you want to support or get more info about Phil's Friends, or would like to request a care package to be sent to a cancer patient, visit their website: [Philsfriends.org](http://Philsfriends.org).

**Susanne Ferro, Philadelphia Zone**



## GENESEE ZONE

**THE GENESEE ZONE SPRING EVENT** will be Saturday, March 29, 2025, from 9am-2pm at Pinnacle Lutheran Church, 250 Pinnacle Rd., Rochester, NY, 14623.

The theme is "New Beginnings"

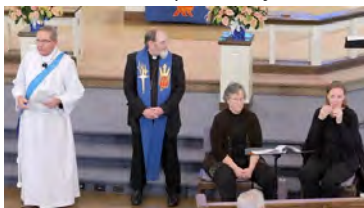
There is a \$5.00 Registration Fee with lunch provided. More details will be shared. Please Save The Date and share with others. RSVP to Kathy Ippolito at 585-315-1651



**ALPHA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE DEAF** celebrated their 100-year Anniversary on December 8, at Pinnacle Lutheran Church in Henrietta, NY, with a shared worship service with both congregations and guests. Pastor John Rushton, Pastor of Alpha and Vicar

Al Boezi, Vicar of Pinnacle Lutheran Church officiated. Pastor Rushton's sermon was titled "Can Deaf Hear the Gospel?" Mark 7:32-37. There was special piano music, Christmas music (Come on, Ring those Bells) and music from the Lehigh Station Bones (trombones).

Alpha's mission is to lead deaf people to salvation in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ through a language and through lives which their eyes can "hear". (Their eyes are their ears, and their hands are their mouths.) After the service, Alpha shared their history and the two congregations shared a delicious lunch and fellowship. Alpha has had their worship services, Bible Studies, and fellowship at Pinnacle since 2015 after selling their church on South Clinton Ave in Rochester, NY.



**Kathy Ippolito, Genesee Zone**



### Eastern District LWML Retreat 2025!

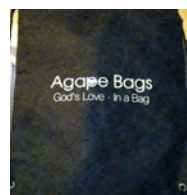
The Genesee Zone has started planning the 2025 LWML Retreat. We had the first Committee meeting on November 2, 2024, with eleven ladies in attendance.

The retreat will be **September 19-21, 2025**. The theme is **What A Friend We Have in Jesus** from John 15:14-15: *You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends.*

Our next Zoom Retreat Meeting is planned for January 18, 2025. Look for updates and more details in future LINK newsletters.

**Kathy Ippolito**  
Retreat Committee Chair

## GENESEE ZONE JOINT MISSION PROJECT



On October 12, 100+ Hygiene Bags for the House of Mercy and the homeless of the City of Rochester were packed during a fun packing party held at Pinnacle Lutheran Church. This was the culmination of a joint project between Pinnacle Lutheran Church in Henrietta, NY, and St. Mark Lutheran Church in Mendon, NY, that was 4 months in the making.

The House of Mercy is a shelter for the homeless in Rochester, NY. They provide 3 meals per day, beds for up to 76 guests, and additional accommodations during times of "code blue". They work to help their guests find more permanent housing if needed and provide other social service support.

The project stemmed from an idea from Vicar Al Boezi of Pinnacle when he wanted to do a sandwich bag ministry for the homeless. When we learned that the House of Mercy can provide 3 meals per day, we asked them if hygiene bags would be helpful and the idea was well received. The backpacks included basic hygiene products (such as toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, washcloth, razor, shave cream, deodorant, etc.), a deck of cards, note pad and pen, a snack, a gospel of John, and other devotional materials. In addition to completing the backpacks, we were able to purchase additional needs for the shelter including bed pads, flip flops, feminine hygiene products, men's and women's underwear, and masks. We had so many donations (which came in the form of "in kind" donations, cash donations, corporate donations, and Thrivent Action Teams) that we were able to also bring surplus items to a local food pantry and a local senior center. We also had items available for our churches to use for Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes.



The backpacks were delivered on October 17, by Vicar Al and Barbara McHenry. The staff and guests received us graciously and gave us a tour of the building. We were even gifted with a signed copy of a children's book that one of the guests had written during COVID. We received a follow-up letter that the guests were so excited and grateful for all the "goodies" in the backpack.

This project could not have been completed without the grace of God and the willingness of others to share of their own blessings. It was truly a privilege to work to meet both the physical and spiritual needs of those in our local community.

**In His Service,**  
**Barbara McHenry and**  
**Georgette Peterson**



## PITTSBURGH ZONE

### LWML PRAYER SERVICE

In July, Zion Lutheran Church in Bridgeville hosted a LWML Prayer Service. Officiated by Rev. Edward Grimenstein, women gathered in the fellowship hall to socialize and make prayer journals before adjourning to the sanctuary for the service. Offerings were collected for The Foster Love Project, a Christian organization in Pittsburgh which supports foster families and children.

### ZONE RALLY



Following our time together at the District Retreat, we met again in October for our Zone Rally. The rally was held at Zion

Lutheran Church in Bridgeville. Rev. Sean Walters, pastor of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Freedom and our current pastoral counselor, led us in prayer and worship. Following this, we listened to a wonderful presentation by Elizabeth Baldoni, Operations Manager of The Foster Love Project. We learned about the amazing work their organization does with both foster parents and foster children in Pittsburgh and as far north as Erie. A check was presented to the organization on behalf of our zone. After a delicious lunch and zone meeting, we adjourned to each of our homes and home congregations.

**Tevia Grimenstein, Pittsburgh Zone**



**Fall Retreat  
September 19-21, 2025**

The theme is **What A Friend We Have in Jesus** from John 15:14-15: *You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends.*

**Hosted by the Genesee Zone. Watch future issues of the LINK for updates and details.**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb/March 2025	EC/BOD Date and Location TBD
June 26–29, 2025	LWML National Convention Omaha, Nebraska
Sept. 19, 2025	EC Mtg.
Sept. 19-21, 2025	Fall Retreat
June, 2026	EC—BOD Dates and location TBD
June 12-14, 2026	LWML ED Convention DoubleTree Resort Lancaster, PA

**Report of the Financial Secretary  
No Report Received**

**Financial  
Assistance  
Available**

**ONE TIME OPPORTUNITY  
\$250 SCHOLARSHIP  
For First Time Attendee to  
National Convention in Omaha  
June 26-29, 2025**

Mark Daley, on behalf of his deceased mother Bea (LWML Gulf States Past District President), donated \$10,000 to LWML National "to help women who are not in a position financially to be able to attend the LWML convention." The Eastern District was granted \$250 and has decided to use the \$250 for a scholarship to help an LWML woman, who is a first time attendee go to the National Convention in Omaha, Nebraska, June 26-29, 2025. Your Zone President will be sending that information and details to you soon.

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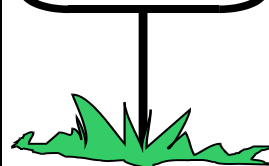
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**Please remember to send all LINK related email to the [lwmlink@gmail.com](mailto:lwmlink@gmail.com) address and not to my personal email. Mail can sometimes get lost in my personal email and this will make sure everything gets into the LINK as requested. Thanks Bev Wicher**



**2025 LWML PRAYER SERVICE****BLESSED ARE THEY ...**

The 2025 Prayer Service is based on the Beatitudes, found in Matthew 5:1–12. Written by The Rev. Brian Noack who currently serves as pastor of Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sayville, NY. He also serves as the LWML — Atlantic District Senior Pastoral Counselor and Pastoral Counselor of the Suffolk Zone. Rev. Noack was a past National Pastoral Counselor from 2019–2023.

The Beatitudes are some of the most beloved words of Jesus. In them, Jesus highlights people in various situations of life, situations that are not always easy to endure — or even envision — as a child of God. Yet, our Lord calls the people in each condition “blessed” and assures each of them of their place in the kingdom of heaven. As you hear the precious Beatitudes from our Lord and pray for people in the various stages of life, may you indeed be blessed and encouraged in your life of faith. May your mind be drawn to the work of Christ, His life, and His death and resurrection which bless you each day until He brings you home to the kingdom of heaven forever.

The 2025 LWML Prayer Service is designed to be used at any time by large or small groups. This prayer service is copyrighted by the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. The use of this prayer service outside of LWML events requires permission from the LWML and other copyright holders.

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A collection of 20 devotions that demonstrate how God's grace prevails when life gives us lemons. This booklet makes a perfect gift for someone dealing with difficult life situations.

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