



Lutheran Women
in Mission
EASTERN DISTRICT

LWML

LINK



Lutheran Women
in Mission

*Together
Serving
The Lord
With
Gladness
For
82 Years*



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

It's amazing how quickly time has flown, and this marks my final article for the LINK. Serving as the Eastern District President for the past four years has been a true honor. God has been so good in granting me this presidency and nurturing my growth as a Lutheran Woman in Mission. I've deeply valued the numerous occasions to speak at your events, to connect with each of you personally, and to witness your heartfelt commitment to LWML.

My guiding Bible verse, Jeremiah 29:11, "*For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope*", has been a constant source of strength throughout my term. Remember that it is YOU who are here to set an example for generations to come as Lutheran Women in Mission.

PRAISE GOD FOR THE GOOD NEWS! We will have paid all 8 mission grants for the 2024-2026 Biennium. Thank you for your generous contributions!

LWML EASTERN DISTRICT CONVENTION, June 12-14, 2026 at the Double Tree Resort by Hilton in Lancaster, PA. under the theme of "The Word of the Lord Remains Forever" from 1 Peter 1:24-25. **The registration deadline is April 24, 2026.** I hope to see you in Lancaster, PA.

SAVE THE DATE – LWML EASTERN DISTRICT RETREAT will be September 18-20, 2026, at Pioneer on the Lake. The theme is "My Trust is in the Lord" from Psalm 56:3. Our guest speaker is Deaconess Raquel Rojas from the Atlantic District and Chairman of the National Nominating Committee for the 2027 Convention.

Blessings,

Dee E. Grzyb
LWML Eastern District President



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 O R N E R



Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”
(Matthew 28:19–20).

Oddly enough last March I quoted the same verses. This year different opportunities arose to share the good news of the gospel. Some were in the works for over a year but have come to fruition in the last 6 months.

In November, we had a team go to Liberia to visit the OSW school (BEE Liberia) and witnessed firsthand the well and water system installed with a grant from LWML. And while we were there we saw many other needs to address. We noted some infrastructure projects that are key to the school advancing the Word of God. Stabilizing their road to prevent washing out in wet weather, a foot bridge over the adjacent small river to connect to a community just on the other side, and the need for a small bus to transport students. We also saw the need to feed the children a nutritious lunch. A fundraising video was made showing the needs of BEE Liberia—please view it and share it.

Just this year our voters approved starting a Large Print Production Center with Lutheran Braille Workers (LBW) at Christ Memorial. I consider this an excellent opportunity to bring the congregation together in service to others, as well as to welcome the broader community to participate with us in sharing the Word with individuals who are visually impaired.

We are blessed in these efforts knowing that faith drives us to work that builds up the Kingdom. These efforts were started by what may have appeared as chance encounters. However, we never know how God will use us in his plans.

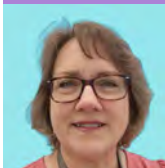
I encourage you to continue in your fellowship, be open to opportunities to share the Word, and be His hands and feet.

Blessings in the name of our risen Lord Jesus Christ.
Rev. Carl Emberger, Senior Pastoral Counselor



BEE Liberia video: <https://youtu.be/mKWGaqzZnQM>

NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATION —SUSAN MORRIS



Spring is a time of renewal: perennials emerging, trees coming to life with that special vibrant green only spring can bring, plus the added benefit of warmer weather and more daylight. (Speaking of renewal...)

Quarterly Subscriptions: Thanks to all who sent in their Quarterly subscription updates. The 2026 prices remain the same as they were for 2026: a single copy as well as 2-9 copies are \$8.00 and \$6.50 for 10 or more subscriptions.



District Directory: Please keep sending in any directory changes to me at ED_VPComm@gmail.com, whether its Zone or Society, elected or appointed. It's important this is kept as up to date as possible.

Convention: I have it on good authority that convention registration is well underway! Preparations for compiling the Convention Manual will begin soon - thanks to everyone who sent in their reports.

Sue Morris
VP Communication
ED_VPComm@gmail.com
(215) 514-8678



The Word of the Lord
Remains Forever



**Lutheran Women's Missionary League-Eastern District
41st Biennial Convention
DoubleTree Resort by Hilton Hotel in Lancaster, PA.
June 12-June 14, 2026**

HIGHLIGHTS

THURSDAY

Come early
Explore beautiful
Lancaster, PA
Maybe see the
Show Joshua
At Sight and Sound
Theater in the after-
noon
(tickets go fast)

FRIDAY

Register
Servant Events
Delegate Orientation
Choir Practice
Opening Worship
Communion
Keynote Speaker
Sharla Fritz

SATURDAY

Bible Study
Singing
Election of Officers
Grant Presentation
Exhibits
Interest Sessions
Mite Walk
Banquet

SUNDAY

Bible Study
Closing Worship
Installation
Of Officers

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

You will need to call the hotel listed on the Registration form to make your hotel reservation. Indicate that you are with the LWML Eastern District Convention, June 12-14, 2026. Hotel reservations end April 24th so make your reservation today!

CONVENTION SPEAKERS

KEYNOTE SPEAKER-SHARLA FRITZ



Sharla Fritz is a Christian author and speaker who weaves honest and humorous stories into life-changing Bible study. Author of Bible studies including *Measured by Grace*, *Enough for Now*, and *Waiting*, Sharla writes about God's transforming grace. Her newest book, *Divine Directions: How God Guides our Path*, examines eight journeys in the Bible and gleans principles for our own life journeys.

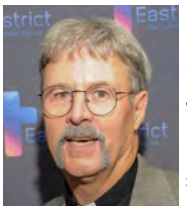
LWML REP—LINDA GUTERES—LWML VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATION



Linda is a Lutheran Woman in Mission. She is currently serving as the LWML Vice President of Communication. Other positions she has held are: Christian Living Editor of the Lutheran Women's Quarterly, Past LWML Atlantic District President, Zone and District President, and LWML Atlantic District Vice President of Human Care. Linda has served as a humorous interrupter at LWML retreats and the LWML Atlantic District convention. In her home congregation she has served as a Bible study leader, music team member, and retreat leader. Outside of LWML, Linda is currently serving as board chair of the Lutheran Counseling Center in Mineola, New York.

Linda does her best to listen and follow wherever God leads. She also enjoys writing, reading, crafting, gardening, and telling everyone she meets about the hope and undying love of her Risen Savior, and Lord, Jesus Christ.

PROCLAIMER—LCMS EASTERN DISTRICT PRESIDENT REV. JOHN PINGEL



LCMS Eastern District President Rev. John Pingel will be our Proclaimer for worship on Friday night. The Rev. John Pingel was elected to his second term as president of The Eastern District in June of 2025.

He attended Concordia College, Bronxville, N.Y., and then Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri (Master of Divinity, 1983). He then attended Geneva College in Pennsylvania, obtaining his Masters in Professional Psychology/Counseling degree in 1996.

MISSION GRANTS TO BE VOTED ON

The following grants have been received by the Grant Committee by October 15, 2025, and have been reviewed according to the Bylaws and Guidelines. They have been approved by the LWML Eastern District Board of Directors to appear on the 2026 LWML Eastern District Convention ballot.

- Grant A** **Logos Christian Ministries**
\$5,000 requested by LWML Member Terry Hoffman, Niagara Zone
 Funds are requested to create a House System and Library Project for Logos Christian Ministries educational program. They will use the money towards pins, banners, a trophy, laptop, a printer, and books for their library.
- Grant B** **Camp JOY at Lutheran Church of Our Savior**
\$5,000 requested by LWML Member Carol Obot, Buffalo Zone
 Funds are requested to create an Eden Garden at Camp JOY (Jesus Others You) Summer Day Camp. The grant would pay for raised garden bed kits, a delivery of topsoil and compost, garden bed liners, a garden shed, and a daily nutrition activity by purchasing fruits and vegetables A-Z.
- Grant C** **Niagara Gospel Mission**
\$4,740 requested by LWML Member Margaret Stoelting, Niagara Zone
 Funds are requested for furniture for transitional RECON program areas. The funds would help to upgrade six out of seventy rooms. Items purchased would include closet wardrobes, nightstands, bed sheets, pillows, mattresses and bed frames.
- Grant D** **Lutheran Bible Translators**
\$5,000 requested by LWML Member Susan Bell, Philadelphia Zone
 Funds are requested to replenish their Bible Printing and Distribution Funds and support future dedications. Looking ahead to 2027 they anticipate five to seven new translations, expanding access to God's Word and affirming their commitment to every heart language. This grant would fund 250 copies of bibles.
- Grant E** **Trinity Lutheran Church and School, Wellsboro, PA**
\$5,000 requested by LWML Member Margo Slichter, CNY South Zone
 Funds are requested to aid in replacing and upgrading the heating system. The heating system at the church and school is now eighteen years old and is in need of replacement soon. They are requesting assistance to replace and upgrade the boilers that provide heat and hot water to their facility.
- Grant F** **Climbing for Christ, Inc.**
\$5,000 requested by LWML Member Rebecca Bessell, Genesee Zone
 Funds requested to expand education programs in the mountains of Haiti. This grant would enable the construction of one new classroom to add one grade to one of the steadily growing schools. It will include building materials (rebar, cement, etc.), student benches, a blackboard, and other classroom and student supplies.
- Grant G** **Revive Campus Ministry**
\$4,500 requested by LWML Member Susan Bell, Philadelphia Zone
 Funds requested to ensure long term sustainment of Revive Campus Ministry at Penn State. The funds would go towards the weekly large group meals, bible study resources, partial registration cost for a fall retreat and spring mission trip, outreach and evangelism events throughout the year, and marketing and administrative costs.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

- Grant H** **Repair and Renovate Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Philadelphia, PA**
\$ 5000 Requested by LWML Member Evelyn Spann, Philadelphia Zone
 Funds would be used to repair and renovate the kitchen. It is currently unusable due to safety hazards. This money would enable them to utilize the space for Sunday worship, Bible study, Vacation Bible school and Baptisms as well as generate income for the church.
- Grant I** **Camp-in-Daigua at Lutheran Church of the Good Shepard, Canandaigua, NY**
\$5000 Requested by LWML Member Catherine Geske, Genesee Zone
 Funds will be used for playground equipment and other camp supplies for a new Mission Outreach camp. The seven week camp is for children K thru 8 and will offer activities, devotional lessons and skits, meal prayers, dedicated prayer time and more.
- Grant J** **Blessing Basket Ministry, Zion Lutheran Church, Bridgeville, PA**
\$2000 Requested by LWML Member Tracey Harris, Pittsburgh Zone
 Funds would be used to build and distribute Blessing Baskets that contain items for caring for physical needs of their preschool families with new babies. They include food, "The Keepsake Bible" and an LWML devotional for the new mother.
- Grant K** **Hygiene Backpacks**
\$4500 Requested by LWML Member Kathy Ippolito, Genesee Zone
 The funds would be used to support Miss Julie's House of Beauty purchase backpacks, hygiene supplies and devotional materials for survivors of sex trafficking and those at risk.
- Grant L** **Gospel Access for Aging Adults**
\$5000 Requested by LWML Member Margaret Stoelting, Niagara Zone
 Funds would be used to share Gospel Access for Aging Adults by creating resource boxes about Worship Anew, a liturgical service based on LCMS doctrine. The boxes would contain posters and bulletin inserts, sample copies of the Broadcaster magazine, and the 'Hope-full Living' devotional. These boxes would be used to share these resources throughout the Eastern District churches.
- Grant M** **Sign Language Interpreters for Genesee Zone LWML events**
\$3040 Requested by LWML Member Kathy Ippolito, Genesee Zone
 Funds would be used to provide American Sign Language Interpreters at Zone meetings to encourage the deaf/hard of hearing to participate in LWML events.

2026 Convention Committee

Co-Chairs – Susan Bell & Margaret Klees

Secretary – Chris Gasslein

Treasurer – Beth Quinn

District Liaison – Rebecca Bessell

Pastoral Counselor – Rev. Carl Emberger

Banner/Logo – Margaret Klees

Displays/Exhibits – Marge Gruenhagen & Faith Armer

Entertainment – Rebecca Futtly

Favors/Decorations – Linda Knoll & Beth Marks

Hospitality – Sharleen Palaima & Sarala Vumman

Housing/Registration – Susan Morris

Meals – Rebecca Futtly

Music – Susan Bell

Photography – Wally Grzyb

Projector/AV – Mark Bessell

Properties – Dot Burhans & Carol Sonnenberg

Publicity – Rebecca Futtly

Special Needs/EMTS – John & Anita Getty

Tote Bags – Linda Owens, Evelyn Spann & Lorraine Thomas

Tours – Dori Juskalian

District President – Dee Grzyb

2026 DISTRICT CONVENTION CANDIDATES FOR ELECTED OFFICE

The Eastern District Nominating Committee rejoices to present the following Nominees as Candidates for Office at the 2026 District Convention.

PRESIDENT—SUSAN MORRIS, PHILADELPHIA ZONE



Susan is a member of Christ Memorial Lutheran Church, Malvern, PA. She works for Amtrak in Administration. She has 2 sons: Stephen & Matthew. Susan has an Associates Degree in Administration. At Christ Memorial she has served on the Fellowship Committee, President of Christ Memorials Women's Guild Society, President of Altar Guild. In LWML Susan has served as Co-Chair/Chair of the Structure Committee; Co-Chair/Chair of Mission Grants; VP of Communication. She enjoys reading, cross-stitch and old movies.

VP OF CHRISTIAN LIFE/SPECIAL FOCUS—DIANE OLMSTEAD, PITTSBURGH ZONE



Diane is a member of St. Luke Lutheran Church, Cabot, PA. She is a Preschool teacher/Early Childhood Director. Diane has 3 children: Scott, Matthew & Emily. She has a B.S. in Nursing and a Master's Degree in Early Childhood. In her congregation, she has served on the School Board; other activities include: Altar Guild, VBS. In the LWML Zone: Secretary, 1st Vice President, Human Care Chair, Christian Life Co-Chair; District – Co-Chair/Chair of Special Focus. Diane's hobbies include: sewing, learning to knit, plants and baking.

VP OF GOSPEL OUTREACH/ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES—TERRY HOFFMAN, NIAGARA ZONE



Terry is a member of St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church. She has one daughter, Molly. In her congregation she has served as Cemetery Superintendent, Board of Education, Asst. Treasurer. In the LWML, Terry has served as Recording Secretary and Structure Chair. Her hobbies include: crocheting.

TREASURER—CINDY Cwynar, PITTSBURGH ZONE



Cindy is a member of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Freedom, PA. Her children are Jennifer and Matthew. Cindy's grandchildren are Levi, Kinley, Emma and Henry. Cindy has a BA in Business Administration and a MBA in Finance. In LWML she has served as Treasurer from 2024-2026. Cindy's hobbies are: gardening, raising chickens and quilting.

PASTORAL COUNSELOR—REV. BRETT WITMER, PITTSBURGH ZONE



Rev. Witmer is pastor at St. Paul & Peter Lutheran Church, Central City, PA and Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Johnstown, PA. Rev. Witmer earned a B. S. in Geography from Shippensburg College in PA and his Master of Divinity from Concordia Seminary in Fort Wayne, IN. His interests include: fountain pens, fishing, tabletop wargaming.

The members of the Nominating Committee are: Susan Bell – Chair – Philadelphia Zone; Bev Wicher – Buffalo Zone; Kathy Pavelock – Central NY North Zone; Rebecca Bessell – Genesee Zone and Linda Bright – Pittsburgh Zone. All candidates have submitted their Nominee Consent Form. We are thankful to the Lord of the Church for these individuals who have accepted nominations and are willing to lead our district and “serve the Lord with gladness.”

Interest Sessions

Make sure to sign up for the Interest Session on your registration form.

Sharla Fritz—"Which Way, Lord? 5 Strategies When Seeking God's Guidance"

Linda Guterres - National LWML Representative "Let's Communicate." will share with you all the latest information from National LWML.

Bev Wicher—Visual Faith® Ministry; Will share about Visual Faith® Ministry. We will have a reflective time focusing on "The Word of the Lord Endures Forever" verses using some Visual Faith® practices to enhance your reflection time.

NEWS FROM THE LEADER DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE—SHARON MCGUAN & MEGAN MIGYANKO

Young Women
IN MISSION

YWR NEWS



The **Leader Development Committee** is privileged to introduce the Eastern District Young Women Representatives to the 2026 Eastern District Convention. Our district is blessed to have these talented Christ filled young women representing our zones. They are:

SARAH WALSH – BUFFALO ZONE: Sarah is a member of Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Kenmore, NY. She is a joyful child of God, who loves to attend Bible class and worship. A member of Pilgrim's Esther Circle, Sarah enjoys serving her congregation through Esther Circle events. She finds fulfillment working with young children and animals. Sarah is thrilled she will be attending the 2026 Eastern District Convention in Lancaster, PA, with her sister-in-law, Margaret Walsh, a former Young Women's Representative to the 2024 Eastern District Convention.

DEACONESS JOANNA LEE – PITTSBURGH ZONE: Deaconess Joanna serves at Zion Lutheran Church in Bridgeville, PA. She is also a wife and mother. Deaconess Joanna and Pastor Grimenstein have started a semi-annual Prayer Breakfast at Zion in support of local and national mission work. Joanna has initiated a program at Zion called **Bridge Builders**. The program encourages and trains members of the congregation to be "bridge builders" between Zion's preschool, church, and community. Deaconess Joanna deeply appreciates the LWML, having been encouraged and supported by the LWML as a missionary and deaconess student. She is delighted to attend the 2026 Eastern District Convention as a Young Woman Representative.

ALEXANDRIA JEFFRIS - CENTRAL NEW YORK NORTH ZONE: Alexandria Jeffris, or Ali, is a member of Grace Lutheran Church in Canastota, NY. Ali is twenty years old and has a three-year-old son. In response to the YWR application question: The LWML Motto is "Serve the Lord with gladness." How do you do this in your life? Ali wrote: *"Serving the Lord with gladness looks like listening to what He has put in my heart instead of doing whatever I please. It is praying for people who have wronged me, not that they apologize to me, or make amends, but that God would touch their heart, bring them healing. Serving the Lord with gladness looks like being a good role model for my young son, bringing him up with faith centered in our home and love for Jesus in our hearts."* Ali is honored to attend the LWML Eastern Convention where she will be able to learn more about the LWML and ways she can serve the Lord. Linda Bahr, member of Grace Lutheran Church, endorses Alexandria.

Please keep these women in your prayers as we approach convention. May the Lord use the YWR experience to draw them closer to Jesus and further equip them to "Serve the Lord with Gladness."

Serve the Lord With Gladness

GIFTS FROM THE HEART INGATHERING AND SERVANT EVENTS—LUTHERCARE



LutherCare was founded in 1949 when a group of devoted Lutheran congregations recognized the need for quality living and care for seniors as they aged. We have continued to grow and to ensure seniors in Lancaster and Lebanon counties have access to an enriching, active and fulfilling life-style. And our commitment to children and families is reflected in our LutherCare for Kids Early Learning Programs.

Strongly rooted in the Lutheran commitment to serve, LutherCare is a not-for-profit, faith-based organization dedicated to serving the youngest and oldest in Lancaster and Lebanon counties and beyond.

Our values of compassion, teamwork, learning, integrity and connection guide our day-to-day engagement and decision making as we strive to live out our mission to reflect Christ’s love through service to others. We proudly celebrate our Lutheran heritage and commitment to humbly serve, while welcoming interfaith engagement to maximize impact for the common good.

INGATHERING

LutherCare can use supplies to create “engagement kits” for the children they serve through in-home childcare providers in Lancaster and Lebanon Counties. This is part of our “Systems Aligned in Learning” program. Many of these children are income qualified for subsidized childcare, meaning that their families would fall below 130% of the federal poverty line for their family size.

They are asking for: books, learning materials, non-perishable food items, crayons, colored pencils, activity books, toys, etc. You may also write a **check to: LutherCare**



SERVANT EVENT

- The Convention Committee has purchased backpacks that we will be filling with the items you bring to the Convention.
- There will also be an opportunity to make cards for the residents of LutherCare.
- This service project will be on Friday afternoon of Convention, June 14th!

ENTERTAINMENT—



Glorify Performing Arts is a professional Christian performance company based in West, Chester, PA. Founded as a nonprofit in 2018, Glorify Performing Arts’ mission is to present compelling, professional productions to encourage and empower Christians in their walk of faith, inspiring them to step forward boldly to impact the world. With a vision to be a leading Christian-based arts entertainment company, it is our goal to provide consistent, high-quality productions that reach audiences from the tri-state region and beyond with the love of Christ.



beyond with the love of Christ.

Glorify Performing Arts was a grant recipient in 2025. They performed at Christ Memorial Lutheran Church on 3/1/2026 and used new lights purchased with the grant money. They will use the rest for new costumes as entertainment for our 2026 LWML Eastern District Convention, June 12-14, 2026. **Don’t miss it!**



MITE WALK—Join us for the annual Mite Walk to help kick off the Mite giving for the next biennium. Sign up on the registration form and details will be sent with your confirmation letter.

CONVENTION OFFERINGS



1. **LWML ED Treasury**
2. Support for **Deaf Outreach East**, a ministry of the Eastern District LCMS based in Pittsburgh, facilitated by Rev. Vincent Mroz, reaching out to the people of western Pennsylvania and across the Eastern District with resources and support for reaching out to the highly unchurched deaf community
3. **Eastern District Deaf Interpreter’s Fund**

If writing a check, make it out to **LWML Eastern District**. Each offering will be carefully given to the correct chosen recipient.



REGISTRATION FORM

Lutheran Women's Missionary League Eastern District
41st Biennial Convention--June 12-14 2026
 DoubleTree Resort by Hilton-Lancaster
 2400 Willow Street Pike, Lancaster, PA 17602

FOR LODGING RESERVATIONS phone 1-717-464-2711

ADVISE THE HOTEL YOU ARE ATTENDING THE LWML CONVENTION
NO LODGING RESERVATIONS WILL BE MADE BY THE CONVENTION COMMITTEE

Name: _____ LWML Zone: _____
 Address: _____ Home Church: _____
 City: _____ Church City & Zip: _____
 State: _____ Zip: _____ Your Phone (home or cell): _____
 Email: _____

I will be serving as: (please circle all that apply)

- Delegate
 Alternate Delegate
 Clergy
 Exhibitor
 Choir
 Guest
 Speaker/Special Guest
 Young Woman Representative
 Convention Committee
 Board of Directors

REGISTRATION (Deadline: APRIL 24, 2026)

\$50.00 NON-REFUNDABLE Registration Fee (required for all registrations, except clergy) \$ _____

\$60.00 Late Fee (ADDITIONAL fee for all registrations received after APRIL 24, 2026) \$ _____

No Registrations will be honored after MAY 7, 2026 **NO REFUNDS PROVIDED**

Total due for registration \$ _____

MEALS & HOSPITALITY

Please note special dietary needs on p. 2.

_____ Friday Dinner Buffet	\$35	\$ _____
_____ Saturday Breakfast	\$20	\$ _____
_____ Saturday Lunch	\$25	\$ _____
_____ Saturday Banquet & Entertainment	\$40	\$ _____
_____ Sunday Breakfast	\$20	\$ _____

Total due for meals \$ _____

Total due for registration and meals \$ _____

LESS amount paid by District (YWR/Speaker/Board only) \$ (_____)

GRAND TOTAL DUE \$ _____

Make checks payable to: LWML Eastern District Convention


***MAIL completed REGISTRATION FORM and FULL PAYMENT to:**

Susan Morris, 3301 Hartford Court, Newtown Square, PA 19073 Phone (215) 514-8678

CIRCLE YOUR PREFERENCE FOR RECEIVING A CONFIRMATION NOTICE: EMAIL OR MAIL

If you select **mail**, please include a self-addressed, stamped, business-sized envelope with your payment & registration.

Registration Chairman only: # _____ Date received: _____ Check(s): Amount: _____

 <p>The Word of the Lord Remains Forever</p> <p>1 Peter 1:24-25</p>	<p>REGISTRATION FORM</p> <p>Lutheran Women's Missionary League Eastern District 41st Biennial Convention--June 12-14, 2026 DoubleTree Resort by Hilton-Lancaster 2400 Willow Street Pike, Lancaster, PA 17602</p> <p>FOR LODGING RESERVATIONS phone 1-717-464-2711</p> <p>NO LODGING RESERVATIONS WILL BE MADE BY THE CONVENTION COMMITTEE</p>		
<p>ON YOUR OWN LEISURE</p>	<p>At the DoubleTree: Indoor pool, fitness center, and golf. See the list of restaurants and shops, as well as interesting sights, museums and tour companies in your packet.</p>		
<p>MITE WALK</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes! I would like to participate in the Mite Walk. (Details about the Mite Walk will be included with your registration confirmation.)</p>		
<p>SERVANT EVENTS</p>	<p>Both events are for Luthercare <input type="checkbox"/> Yes! Filling backpacks w/school supplies <input type="checkbox"/> Yes! Making cards for residents of Luthercare</p>		
<p>CHOIR</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes! I would like to sing in the choir on Friday. I sing: <input type="checkbox"/> SOPRANO <input type="checkbox"/> ALTO</p>		
<p>SPECIAL INTEREST SESSIONS (Select one)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Session I National LWML Representative <input type="checkbox"/> Session II Sharla Fritz (further details to come) <input type="checkbox"/> Session III Bev Wicher, Visual Faith Practices</p>		
<p>PASTORS' EVENT (for Pastors only)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Pastors' Event to be led by Pastoral Counselor</p>		
<p>SPECIAL NEEDS</p>	<p>We would like you to be as comfortable as possible during your convention experience and hotel stay. Please indicate below any special needs by selecting the appropriate category:</p>		
	<p>Medical Condition(s) the convention committee should be aware of:</p>		
	<p>Dietary Needs (such as food allergy, vegetarian, etc.). Specify:</p>		
	<p>Interpreter needed for: <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing Impaired <input type="checkbox"/> Other:</p>		
	<p>OTHER:</p>		
<p>TRANSPORTATION</p>	<p>If you require transportation between an airport, train, or bus station and the convention, please indicate below your ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE information. Transportation details will be sent to you.</p>		
<p>AIRLINE INFORMATION</p>		<p>BUS / TRAIN INFORMATION</p>	
<p>Airport:</p>			<p>Station:</p>
<p>Airline:</p>	<p>Departure Date:</p>	<p>Bus Company/Train Company:</p>	
<p>Arrival Date:</p>	<p>Airline:</p>	<p>Arrival Date:</p>	<p>Departure Date:</p>
<p>Flight Number:</p>	<p>Flight Number:</p>	<p>Bus/Train #:</p>	<p>Bus/Train #:</p>
<p>Arrival Time:</p>	<p>Departure Time:</p>	<p>Arrival Time:</p>	<p>Departure Time:</p>
<p>PHOTOGRAPHY RELEASE</p>			
<p>Photographs will be taken by our convention photographer throughout the convention. I hereby give the LWML Eastern District the absolute right and permission to use my photographed likeness/image in its future publications. I understand that the photograph(s) may be used in publications, direct-mail pieces, or electronic media (e.g., video, CD-ROM, internet/WWW). I release the LWML, LWML Eastern District, the photographer, their offices, employees, agents, volunteers, and designees from liability for and violation of personal or proprietary rights I may hold in connection with such use.</p>			
<p>----- Signature</p>		<p>----- Date</p>	
<p>DISCLAIMER</p>			
<p>I agree for (myself, heirs and personal representatives) not to sue, and I release, indemnity and hold harmless, LWML, LWML Eastern District, volunteers and designees from all liability, claims, demands and causes of action of any kind due to travel to and from Convention even if the liability, claim, demand or cause of action result from negligence of any of the above or from any other cause.</p>			
<p>----- Signature</p>		<p>----- Date</p>	



**LWML EASTERN DISTRICT
FALL RETREAT**
The CNYS Zone would like to invite
you to the annual RETREAT
Pioneer on the Lake, Angola, NY
Theme: "My Trust is in the Lord"
Bible Verse: Psalm 56:3

Guest Speaker: Deaconess Raquel A. Rojas



Deaconess Raquel A. Rojas serves as the Deaconess of Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Bronx, New York. She is a member of the Board of Directors of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Atlantic District. She is a member of the Concordia Deaconess Conference. Deaconess Rojas has written devotional pieces for the LCMS Atlantic District, and other organizations and has contributed to a book of devotions for women entitled "Words of Peace and Protection," published by Concordia Publishing House. She serves as the President of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League Atlantic District 2022-2026. She also is an associate instructor of the Lutheran Visitation Education of the Lutheran Church—Missouri

Synod. Deaconess Rojas received a Master of Arts in Deaconess Studies from Concordia Theological Seminary (Fort Wayne, Indiana)

LWML EASTERN DISTRICT RETREAT CAMPSHIP—APPLICATION

Full-time camperships are being offered for the Fall 2026 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 either the Registration Per Person Fee or at the Commuter Fee. The President 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 _____
 Church _____
 E-mail _____
 Zone _____

LWML involvement (church group, or zone) 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, 2026** to:

Mrs. Dee Grzyb
 56 Hanover St.
 Lancaster, NY 14086

Purchase the Polo shirt designed especially for the Eastern District 2026 Retreat
This shirt is available only as a pre-order
Deadline to order August 21, 2026

_____ YES, I want to purchase the retreat T-shirt.

XS	\$30
S	\$30
M	\$30
L	\$30
XL	\$30
2XL	\$32
3XL	\$34
4XL	\$37
5XL- 6XL	\$39



Port Authority® Women's Silk Touch™ Polo.

Item No. NNWPE-EPLMK--A comfortable classic polo. Wrinkle and shrink resistant; silky soft. 5-Ounce 65/35 poly/cotton pique with flat knit collar and cuffs.

Features metal buttons with dyed-to-match plastic rims

Color--Bright Lavender

With embroidered left chest with Retreat Logo

POLO SHIRTS

Circle Your Size

Makes shirt checks out to: Mary Brodie

Send shirt order to: Mary Brodie 120 Terraceview Dr. Ithaca, NY 14850

LWML Eastern District Retreat 2026
 Pioneer on the Lake, Angola NY
 September 18-20 2026



MY TRUST IS IN THE LORD (Psalm 56:3)
 Speaker: Deaconess Raquel Rojas
 Hosted by: Central NY South Zone



Name:		Church & Zip:
Address:		Zone:
City:		Email:
State:	Zip code:	Phone:

If this is your **FIRST TIME** attending the LWML Eastern District Retreat check here Yes, I'm excited to be here

REGISTRATION	Registration	\$ 195.00	\$	REGISTRATION includes Registration Fee, 2 Nights lodging, 5 meals, blanket, pillow.
	Commuter:	\$ 120.00	\$	COMMUTER (not staying on campus overnight) includes 5 meals.
	Single Occ.	\$ 40.00	\$	SINGLE OCCUPANCY one person in minimum 2-person cabin added to registration.
	Thursday:	\$ 50.00	\$	Thursday Night Additional per person (EC and BOD exempt).
	Pet Fee:	\$ 100.00	\$	Pet Fee - Policy available upon request from Pioneer on the Lake.
	Payment enclosed:	\$		**Bring your own linens, pillowcase and towels**
	Balance Due:	\$		\$50 non-refundable minimum deposit is required with ALL REGISTRATIONS.

LODGING	1 Bunk Set=2 twin beds; 2 Bunk Set=4 twin beds; Bunk Set T/D=twin on top, double on bottom.		
	Select 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices below. If preference isn't noted, decision will be made by registrar.		
	Smoking permitted only in designated areas		
	SCHROETER'S CIRCLE (Dorm Housing):		FAMILY COURT: All mattresses&small fridges. Few A/C.
	Single bunks; 2 bathrooms in each dorm + mattresses		Cabins 23 & 24 are winterized and upgraded.
		Cabins 1-4 and 6-8 (Sleeps 20 /cabin)	Cabin 14 (Queen+2 Bunk Sets-Sleeps 6)
		Cabin 5 (Sleeps 18)	Cabin 15(Full Bed+2 Bunk Sets-Sleeps 5)
	WOODLAND COTTAGE Sofa beds in Cabins 9-12.		Cabin 16 (Queen+2 Bunk Sets-Sleeps 6)
	All are winterized, have mattresses and full-service kitchens.		Cabin 17 (Queen - Sleeps 2)
		Cabins 9 - 12 (Queen+2 Bunk Sets-Sleeps 8)	Cabin 18 (2 Bunk Sets - Sleeps 4)
		Cabin 13 (Queen + 2 Bunk Sets- Sleeps 6)	Cabin 19 - (Queen - Sleeps 2)
	FOUNDERS' COURT		Cabin 20 -2 Bunk Sets- Sleeps 4)
Cabins 35 & 36- no fridges; Cabins 38-45 have fridges.		Cabin 22 (2 Bunk Sets - Sleeps 4)	
	Cabins 35 & 36 (2 Bunk Sets- Sleeps 4)	Cabin 23 (Queen+1 Bunk Set T/D-Sleeps 5)	
	Cabins 38-41 (Queen + 1 Bunk Set- Sleeps 4)	Cabin 24 (Queen+1Bunk Set T/D-Sleeps 5)	
	Cabins 42-44 (Queen + Sofa bed- Sleeps 4)	LODGE: A/C, Mattresses, Full kitchen	
	Cabin 45 (Queen- Sleeps 2)	Cabin 0 (Queen+2 Bunk Sets-Sleeps 6)	

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	ROOMMATES:			
	CHOIR PARTICIPATION:		Yes / No	Soprano Alto
	SPECIAL NEEDS:	HEARING IMPAIRED	Yes / No	INTERPRETER NEEDED: Yes / No
	SERVICE ANIMAL REQUIRED:		Yes / No	OTHER SPECIAL NEEDS:
	SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS: (Be specific)			

LIABILITY RELEASE	I grant the Eastern District LWML the right to publicly use photos, videos/audio clips taken at the retreat. Yes / No
	EVERYONE MUST SIGN TRANSPORTATION RELEASE: I agree (for myself, heirs, and personal representatives) not to sue, and I release, indemnify and hold harmless, LWML, LWML Eastern District, volunteers, and designees from all liability, claims, demands and causes of action of any kind due to my use of the golf cart for transportation services and/or travel to/from Retreat even if the liability, claim, demand or cause of action result from negligence of any of the above or from any other cause. SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

DEADLINES & CANCELLATIONS	> Please do not send registrations before May 1, 2026 . All Requests will be honored, as possible, in the order received.		
	> Registration and Balance Due Deadline: August 21, 2026 (postmarked date) NO LATE REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED		
	> CANCELLATION REQUESTS must be made in writing to the Eastern District President, who will determine any refunds.		
	> Make CHECKS payable to LWML Eastern District . ***\$35 NSF Charge for all checks returned by the bank.		
	> SEND your completed Registration Form and Check Payment to:		
	Anita Getty	318 North Rd., Middlebury, PA 16935	Email: amgemt@ptd.net Phone: (570)-376-2143
Upon receipt of your registration, you will receive an email confirmation. Include a self-addressed stamped envelope if you would like a hard copy of the confirmation mailed to you.			
Date Received:	Check #:	Amount Paid:	Balance Due:

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 Grant Chair – Margaret Klees—Mission Grant Co-Chair – Barb Gillette
 Leader Development Chair – Sharon McGuan—Leader Development Co-Chair – Megan Migyanko
 Structure Chair – Rebecca Bessell—Structure Co-Chair – Vacant
 Stamp Coordinator – Karen Blackmon, Nominating Committee Chair – Susan Bell

The Nominating Committee for the LWML Eastern District Convention in 2026 has been formed. The members are:

Susan Bell-Chair-Philadelphia Zone
 Kathy Pavelock – Central NY North Zone
 Linda Breight – Pittsburgh Zone
 Bev Wicher – Buffalo Zone
 Rebecca Bessell – Genesee Zone

With the help of the Nominating Committee, the candidates for office for the 2026 Eastern District Convention are:

President – Susan Morris – Philadelphia Zone
 VP of Christian Life/Special Focus – Diane Olmstead – Pittsburgh Zone
 VP of Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources – Terry Hoffman
 Treasurer – Cindy Cwynar – Pittsburgh Zone
 Pastoral Counselor – Rev. Brett Witmer – Pittsburgh Zone

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

GRANT 5—OUR FINAL GRANT HAS BEEN PAID

We are pleased to let you know that our final grant, Grant 5 for \$3,000.00 has been funded to the Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch to help replace the gym floor of the Ranch's Minot, ND campus to ensure a safe place to participate in wellness activities and learn healthy habits. (This was moved to the end of the list due to the fact they were not ready to receive the money earlier)

We praise God that through your generous giving we have been able to fund all our grants this biennium!

PRAYER—MAKE IT PART OF YOUR DAILY ROUTINE



Who has been praying for Spring after this Winter??

There's a nice LWML devotion I refer back to from time to time which was written by Kay Meyer entitled **Prayer Gives My Life Balance**. I like this because sometimes I need a focus to just get started at prayer. Maybe this will work for you.

One way to pray is to use the acronym P.R.A.Y.

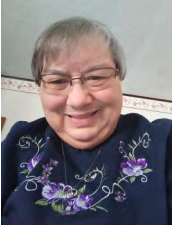
P stands for Praise. Praise God for who He is and what He has done for us.

R stands for Remember. Remember you are a sinner and need a Savior, and what Jesus Christ has done for you. He suffered and died for your sins and was raised to life on the third day.

A is for Ask. Ask for anything you need.

Y is for Yield. Yield to God's will.

Christian Life Chairman—Sue Beltran

NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF CHRISTIAN LIFE/SPECIAL FOCUS —LINDA BAHR

It has been a long, snowy and cold winter. The news has been full of calamities, rain and snowstorms, fires, illnesses, violent riots, murders, highway pileups, Olympic tragedies and kidnappings. Amongst all of this, the scheming devil is taking advantage to end all hope, confidence and peace. He is working hard to turn us away from God. I believe we are ready for Spring and the hope of peace.

If we feel Satan's temptations to turn our faces away from God, then we need to turn and remember the words of Paul to the Ephesians: *"Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes."* (Ephesians 6:11.)

God also spoke a comforting word to Joshua and the Israelites: *"Be strong and of good courage. Be not afraid: be not discouraged, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."* (Joshua 1:9)

Be comforted and be refreshed at our Eastern District LWML Convention in Lancaster, PA. Be warmed up and feel the renewal of hope and peace given to us by the Holy Spirit. I know I'm ready for that...are you?



Linda Bahr, VP of Christian Life/Special Focus

MINISTRY FOCUS FROM THE SPECIAL FOCUS COMMITTEE—By Diane Olmstead**DEAF OUTREACH EAST**

One day, life changed dramatically for a young Junior high school student. Undergoing treatment for a medical condition, he went from hearing to non-hearing in the span of 24 hours. This sudden loss, which he describes as terrifying, was due to a medication side effect. Thus began a life for Pastor Vince Mroz that he had not anticipated.

Pastor Mroz was baptized when he was 7 days old and relates that he was always a Christian and attended church regularly. In high school, he was planning to join the Marines and have a military career. Subsequent health issues and his hearing loss left him feeling as if "the world ended for me."

Later Pastor Mroz attended the Ethnic Immigrant Institute of Theology (EIT) at Concordia Seminary. This program also encompasses Ministry to the Deaf and while he was there he met Pastor Ron Bright, who was serving as the vacancy pastor for Trinity Lutheran Church for the Deaf, in Pittsburgh. Receiving encouragement from Pastor Bright, he continued studies to become a Pastor. There were some brief thoughts that maybe ministry was not what he was supposed to be doing but after some life experiences Pastor Mroz relayed that he said, "Alright God, I get it!"

Pastor Vince Mroz is now the LCMS Eastern District Missionary-at-Large for the Deaf. His mission is to teach the deaf community about Jesus Christ and their need for Him. Pastor Mroz states that 98% of the deaf population do not know Jesus Christ and he is striving to help break down communication barriers. Not only does he want to communicate with people who are deaf, but he wants to communicate with those who are hearing in order to establish a communication network to bring those who are lost into the Church. Pastor Mroz has done interpreting at church services and a local Lutheran school's Christmas program. He relays how he was on a Zoom call at a local Starbucks and was approached by a woman who is hearing but relayed that her parents are deaf. Pastor Mroz wants to make more connections throughout the Eastern District. If you are interested in his ministry, are deaf, know someone who is deaf or would like to learn American Sign Language he would love to speak with you!

The Reverend Vincent A. Mroz

PO Box 12574 Pittsburgh
PA 15241

(412) 330-1734

(412) 298-5149

deafoutreacheast@gmail.com

www.Deafoutreacheast.org

You can check out his website www.deafoutreacheast.org Pastor Mroz's ministry will be the recipient of offering #2 at the upcoming LWML Eastern District Convention this June.

SOME DETAILS ABOUT OUR LWML EASTERN DISTRICT BY BETH QUINN



We are part of the **Eastern District LCMS**

Eastern District: Headquarters: Buffalo, NY; covers New York from Utica west to the Pennsylvania border; all of Pennsylvania, except for York County and two congregations in Accident, Maryland, south of Pittsburgh.

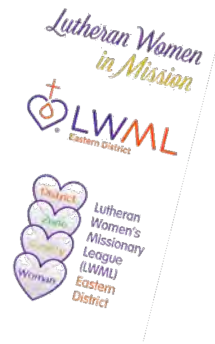
LWML Conventions - take place every two years

National—odd-numbered years, the event rotates around the country

District—even-numbered years—rotate around the district

Eight LWML Zones in the Eastern District:

- **Anthracite** – Mt. Pocono Pa to Hop Bottom, Pa, including Easton PA up to Scranton PA
- **Buffalo** - Buffalo, NY and suburbs, the Southern Tier and Erie, PA and suburbs
- **Central New York North** - Utica, Rome, and Canastota
- **Central New York South** - Wellsboro, PA and Vestal, Ithaca, Owego, NY
- **Genesee** - Rochester, NY and suburbs including Waterloo and Canandaigua
- **Niagara**- Niagara Falls, NY and surrounding area, including all of Niagara County
- **Pittsburgh** - Pittsburgh, PA and suburbs, north to Oil City, PA, east to State College, PA and Accident, MD
- **Philadelphia** - Philadelphia, PA and suburbs



Regarding **LWML district conventions**, 1 or 2 zones will host. The size of the zones determines this. Pittsburgh, Buffalo, Niagara--host convention by themselves; Anthracite--Philadelphia, Central New York North--Genesee host together.

A good reference is our **LWML Eastern District website** - <http://east-dist-lwml.org/>

Eastern District Brochure--http://east-dist-lwml.org/LWMLLED_Brochure_2020.pdf

You can also find us on **Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=eastern%20district%20lwml>

TIME FOR A CHANGE

Bev Wicher, Editor



In the fall of 2006, I took over the LWML LINK newsletter from Barb Williams, and now after 20 years, for several reasons I have decided it is time to step down and let someone new take over. It's time for you all to think about your gifts and talents and pray about if this might be something you are gifted for and interested in pursuing. This is an appointed position so it will be up to the next president to appoint someone, but if this is something you are interested and qualified for, I would encourage you to let President Dee know so that she can pass some possible names onto the next president.

I've worked in Microsoft Publisher the entire time which will be retired in October of 2026, which means only pdf files will be able to be passed on. The person who takes over this position can use whatever publishing program you are comfortable with.

Following is a summary of the duties of the editor; you can get a detailed job description from the president:

- The editor needs to be willing to communicate via email and needs to be able to establish and enforce deadlines and work with pictures, be able to create or find graphics to enhance articles and work with layout.
- Most articles are written and the editor just needs to edit and arrange layout.
- There are some articles that need to be written by the editor.
- The LINK is now sent out only by e-mail so there no longer is any printing or mailing that needs to be done.
- The editor is expected to be at all events to take pictures (I just used my phone) or have someone there to represent them and take pictures to be put in the LINK.
- The editor is a member of the EC and BOD and needs to attend all meetings.
- The editor also needs to keep up to date with the National website so you can keep the district up to date on national news.

Please pray over this and let Dee know as soon as possible if you would like to be considered for this position. Feel free to contact Bev Wicher with any questions as well.



News From Around The Zones

BUFFALO ZONE



We had a very successful **Winter event** in February; we met via Zoom. fourteen women and Pastoral Counselor Rev. Browne attended. Pastor reported on the community event where he presented

hats, mittens and prayer cards that we had collected during our Fall Event. He was pleased with the turn out and reported that there was a donation of food worth \$250 that was passed out as well. We spoke about the upcoming convention, and how we should be encouraging our members to go, be a delegate, or a YWR, or just an attendee. There are lots of fun things to do in Lancaster, and the convention itself is an enjoyable, uplifting experience.

Darlene Hinz was elected as the new Treasurer of the Buffalo Zone. We are grateful to our previous Treasurer – **Karen Blackmon**. We also chose YWR **Sarah Walsh**, from Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Kenmore to attend the District Convention.



Our activity was preparing cards to send to the individuals from the Eastern District LCMS Prayer list for whom we had addresses, and the 32 churches listed who were

without Pastors or in the call process.

Our **Spring event is April 25, 2026**, at Salem, Springville, 9-12. The speaker will be Malanie Hammon from C.H.O.I.C.E.S.: Caring Hearts Offering Information Compassion Encouragement and Support. They help moms and their babies who are in need. Please consider joining us; there is a \$5 registration fee to cover expenses, and food, of course, will be provided along with praise music, devotion and prayers. We will begin to plan out summer picnic/event and also are beginning to meet regarding our hosting the District Convention in 2028. We continue to reach out to our zone churches and the women's groups to stay connected.

Sharon Wolff, Zone President

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

GENESEE ZONE



The **Genesee Zone Spring meeting** will be on **Saturday, April 18, 2026**, at **Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 320 S Pearl St, Canandaigua, NY 14424**. **Registration** starts at 9:30 am.

Planned activities include:

- **Bible Study** with Pastor Steve Geske;
- **LWML updates** from Dee Grzyb, President of the Eastern District LWML;
- **Keynote Speaker: Cathie Geske, Director of Camp-In-Daigua**, the new summer camp program at Good Shepherd;
- **Installation** of Pastor Steven Geske as the Genesee Zone Pastoral Counselor;
- **Ingathering of supplies for the camp:** (Melty Perler) Beads, Pony Beads, Crafting plastic lace, small throw fleece blankets, large boxes of kid-friendly Jell-O flavors, Construction Paper, Heat Transfer Tape, Key rings, metal jump rings, cardstock, embroidery floss, & small storage containers for beads); creating a board game and craft activity for the camp.
- **\$5.00 Registration at the door includes lunch. Interpreter and childcare if requested. RSVP to Lisa Serron at 585-394-2760 by March 31, 2026.**

We hope to see you there!

Kathy Ippolito, Genesee Zone President



TECH TIP – BACKGROUNDS

Over the past few years, Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML) have had the opportunity to learn new technology such as virtual meetings (e.g. Zoom, Teams, Google Meet, etc.) and electronic presentations (e.g. Power Point, Google Slides, etc.).

LWML has provided backgrounds that can be downloaded and saved to your computer to use when meeting with LWML Sisters in Christ. These LWML-themed backgrounds can be found on the LWML.org website by clicking this link or you can use the search feature in the LWML.org website using the search term "background."

Once on the LWML-Themed Digital Backgrounds page, choose the background, or backgrounds, you would like to use by clicking and following the instructions to save the background to your device. Each background can then be uploaded into your digital presentation slides and/or uploaded as a background for a virtual meeting.

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT
Beth Scholl**

September 2025 – February 2025

MITES

September 2025 - \$2,251.60
 October 2025 - \$4,846.17
 November 2025 - \$3,330.51
 December 2025 - \$666.84
 January 2026 - \$1,959.69
 February 2026 - \$1,916.75

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Judith Nordell	Sharon McGuan
Donald Gage	Timothy McGuan
Carolyn Loch	Beverly Musso
Helen Nichols	Ruth Wurster

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS – GIVEN BY:

Jean Connell – Given by Adell Society St. Paul Lutheran
 Jean Connell – Given by Sharla Swann
 Jean Connell – Given by Rebecca Bessell
 Jean Connell – Given by Judy Morrison
 LWML Executive Committee & Board of Directors –
 Given by Dee Grzyb

LEGACY OF LOVE DONATIONS – GIVEN BY:

Jean Connell – Given by Revecca Bessell
 Gift – Sharon Wolff
 Linda Gage’s Retirement – Given by: Rebecca Bessell

**UPCOMING
EVENTS**

June 2026	EC/BOD Dates and location TBD
June 12-14, 2026	LWML ED Convention DoubleTree Resort Lancaster, PA
Sept. 18-20, 2026	LWML ED Retreat Pioneer on the Lake
July 8-11, 2027	LWML 42nd Biennial Convention Oklahoma City, Oklahoma



FundingFactory



**Recycling Program
Shipping Instructions**

**The Lutheran Women’s
Missionary League**

**Eastern District
Fundraiser
Ink Cartridges**

Collect 20 or more of the accepted ink cartridges
Place into a sturdy box

Directions for shipping:

Go to www.fundingfactory.com

**Login: User Name: BethScholl
Password: LWML2026!**

***You may view cartridges accepted by clicking
on the “View Qualifying List” tab***

Find the “**Shipping Label**” tab – Click
“**Shipping Label**”

Enter the **number** of labels needed

Click on “**Next**”

Click on “**Beth Scholl**”

Click on “**Complete**”

The address label will appear in a PDF format

Print the label

Affix to the box of cartridges

Take it to your nearest UPS Drop Off Center

REMEMBER TO LOG OUT!

***If a cartridge is received that is not on their
list, no credit will be issued.***

***A minimum balance of \$25 or more is needed
to request a check.***

***The check will be sent to the LWML Eastern
District.***

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610-350-7104 (cell), carlemberger@gmail.com

Junior Pastoral Counselor

Rev. Michael Dabler, Immanuel Lutheran Church, 107 Scott Street
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Christian Life Chair Co-Chair

Vacant

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Central New York South Zone

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Niagara Zone**Co-Presidents**

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Marge Stoelting, 7426 Shawnee Rd, N. Tonawanda NY 14120
716-449-1688 mesandmids@yahoo.com

Philadelphia Zone

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919-452-0602 Susanneferro@comcast.net

Pittsburgh Zone

Linda Bright, 400 Barclay Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15221
412-271-1119 jamweebs@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 June 1, 2026

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

Please remember to send all LINK related email to the 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**



**Lutheran
Women**
in Mission



Transformed
in CHRIST

Romans 12:2

42ND BIENNIAL CONVENTION Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

July 8–11, 2027

Convention Theme:

Transformed in Christ

2027 Convention Objectives:

Each convention attendee will be:

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

Scripture Verse:

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

Convention Goal Statement:

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

For more information, visit lwml.org/convention