

The Eastern District LWML



Sail into the Future
Sisters Acting In Love

Lutheran Women in Mission



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Together
Serving
the Lord
with
Gladness



Greetings,
The New Year new is here and offers many ways to serve in the Eastern District. Please consider these opportunities that the LWML has for the next 5 years.

Assembly of Leaders

In October, 2008, Jackie Blank, Kathy Pavelock and I attended the Assembly of Leaders in St. Louis, Missouri. We gathered under the theme "To Everything There is a Season...A Time to Lead" from Ecclesiastes 3:1.



The goal of this training was that we will recognize and celebrate our God-given gift of leadership and to learn new skills to train and encourage leaders in your district.

It was a very inspirational weekend. Our plan is to share the information to the Board of Directors in March, 2009, to enable them to train the Leaders in their Zones or Societies.



Portland Convention

June 25-28, 2009
Portland, Oregon

Look at the many blessings God showers on you daily. Now's the time to prepare to be showered with His love (and possibly a few drops of rain) at the LWML convention in Portland, June 25-28, 2009. The theme, "Look to the Hills... God Reigns," is based on our two theme verses:

Psalm 121:1-2 (NIV) *I lift my eyes to the hills — where does my help come from? My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.*

Isaiah 52:7 (NIV) *How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!"*

Mark your calendar now and watch for complete information and registration forms in the winter issue of the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*. The Day Tours brochure will be sent directly to each primary registrant from the Sioux Falls Convention and will also be available on the Web site. Your LWML district president will also have this information. You won't want to miss the many outstanding attractions that the Portland area has to offer!

2010 Eastern District Convention in Pittsburgh

The ladies of the Pittsburgh Zone are excited to host the 2010 convention. Joyce Schumm and Marie Litke are the co-chairmen. They have been meeting to finalize the theme and logo. I will share it in another article.

2011 Peoria National Convention

Plans are underway to welcome the LWML to Peoria, Ill. Watch the Quarterly for news as plans are finalized.

2012 Eastern District convention

Potential hosts include Philadelphia and Anthracite joining together to host the convention.

President's Message continued—

2013 Pittsburgh national convention

Did you know there will be a national convention in Pittsburgh?

The most exciting opportunity is to host this convention with the help of 4 other districts. It has never been done before, with God's help, it will come together. The districts involved are: Atlantic, Eastern, New Jersey, English, New England and SELC. We will begin to meet when a chairman is appointed. We will begin recycling now to obtain funds to help pay committee transportation costs for planning meetings. You can do your part by saving old cell phones and used toner packs. The details will be sent out to the Zones in January. I hope you will be a part of this convention. Pray for the 5 districts as we look to the future in 2013.

I have highlighted some of the opportunities for the Eastern District to "Serve the Lord with Gladness" in the upcoming years. I hope some of you come forward and say "how can I help?"

Darlene Byrns

President, Eastern District LWML

"I can do anything through Him who strengthens me" Phil. 4:13

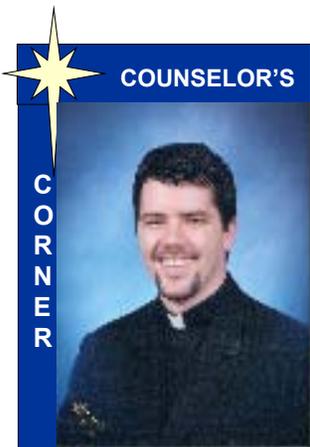
Mission Grants

**Eastern District LWML
2008-2010 Mission Grants**

A mission goal of \$119,100 was adopted for the 2008-2010 biennium. \$25,459 will provide grants in support of the following projects related to the Eastern District.

		Mission Grant Goal
500 Chinese language Bibles and Small Catechisms. LCMS World Mission	9- \$3,653	#\$25,459
Academic Scholarships for Siyathemba Girls' High School in South Africa. LCMS World Relief	8- \$2,006	#
Sewing supplies and materials for two local oncology centers. Grace Lutheran, Vestal, NY	7- \$1,500	\$19,800
Church plant in the Ridley-Interboro area of Delaware County, PA. Philidelphia Lutheran Ministries	6- \$4,000	\$18,300
Camp Restore Victim Aid fund in New Orleans, LA. Buffalo Zone LWML	5- \$5,000	@\$14,300
Lutheran Campus Ministries on the Niagara Frontier. Katharine Rickus, LWML	4- \$1,500	@
Community Lutheran Ministry Reading Readiness Program for Tots. Pinnacle Lutheran Church	3- \$2,000	*\$7,800
Advertising & materials for a youth/after school center in Philadelphia, PA. Christ Memorial Lutheran Church	2- \$2,800	*
Christian devotional materials for the armed forces. LCMS World Mission	1- \$3,000	\$3,000

*=Grants 2 and 3 are to be funded at the same time because they received the same number of votes.
 @=Grants 4 and 5 are to be funded at the same time because they received the same number of votes
 @ = Grants 8 and 9 are to be partially funded at the same time because they received the same number of votes.



**PASTOR GAERTNER
ACCEPTS CALL:**

Dear sisters in Christ of the Eastern District of the LWML,

I must inform you of my need to resign as Senior Counselor because I have accepted a call to be a pastor of a congregation outside of the Eastern District. I look forward to all that God has planned for my family and me at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Hamburg, Michigan. I anticipate the blessings of God in my ministry going forward,

and I also give thanks to God for all that He has allowed me to do here.

The Eastern District of the LWML has allowed me to witness the magnificent ways that God works uniquely in the lives of so many different people. Thank you for the blessings you have shared with me and I have wonderful confidence in the way that God will continue to be at work in your lives and efforts.

Peace in Christ.

The Rev. Evan P. Gaertner

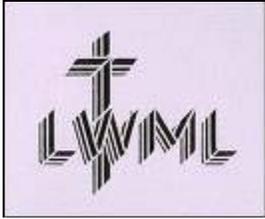


FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT

Zone Treasurers, to help with funding our mission grants approved at the convention in June in a timely manner,

please send in Mite (and Quarterly) money every month. We had been doing very well until November, when only three zones sent in money. Encourage the societies in your zone to send in their Mites to you on a monthly schedule as well. This way we can help the mission grant recipients to undertake their project without delay as we all work together in serving our Lord. Your sister in Christ, Jackie Blank

FROM THE VP OF COMMUNICATIONS Donna Coleman

REMINDER: TO: ZONE AND SOCIETY PRESIDENTS**NATIONAL LWML WILL WANT STATISTICS!**

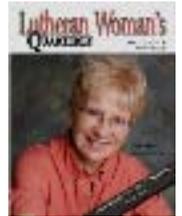
In January, Darlene Byrns, District President will be attending a national LWML meeting. For this meeting she will need to have the statistics from each zone concerning the attendance of each zones rallies, seminars, workshops, prayer service, zone retreats, servant events, etc. In addition, society presidents will need to provide their zone president with the total number of women involved in their local activities and number of active LWML

members. Naturally there will have to be some estimating of events through June 2009, but please begin compiling these figures now so they will be ready when you are contacted for them. If you are a new zone or society president and have no idea what this is about, it's not too late to begin gathering this information from your past president.

Donna Coleman, VP Communications

NEED TO DECREASE (OR INCREASE) QUARTERLIES?

Decreases in the number of subscriptions of the Lutheran Woman's Quarterly can be made only once a year, and the deadline is April 1st by contacting the VP of Communications Donna Coleman of any such changes for 2009-10. NOTE: Increases and changes of addresses can be made anytime during the year. You can reach Donna by mail: 542 Burritt Road, Hilton, NY 14468 or email: dcoleman851@aol.com. (Be sure to put **LWML** in the subject line!)



Societies are reminded to help defray the cost of the Quarterlies and ED LWML LINK newsletter expenses by sending contributions to their respective Zone Treasurers, who will in turn send them to the ED LWML Financial Secretary. If you have not covered your Quarterlies for the current fiscal year (April 1, 2008 through March 31, 2009), please do so as soon as possible! Special thanks to all those societies who have covered their Quarterly subscription cost to date!

IMPORTANT FACT: These contributions will enable the District to use your mite box offerings more effectively for Mission Grants, otherwise the ED LINK newsletter expenses must come from Mix Box receipts!

P.S. Just a reminder – please also notify Donna Coleman and Darlene Byrns of any changes in zone or society officers for the ED LWML Directory so it can be kept up-to-date!



LOOK! Look at the year 2009! It is time to plan to attend the LWML 33rd biennial convention, June 25-28, 2009, in Portland, Oregon, where you can gather with your LWML sisters and *Look to the Hills...God Reigns*. Come join this activity-filled and action-packed weekend, complete with worship, Bible study and fellowship with other sisters and brothers in Christ.

Registration opens March 2. Registration information is now available in the winter issue of the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* and at www.lwml.org. Registration deadline is mid-May.

On Friday evening Heidi Floyd from the Vera Bradley Foundation for Breast Cancer will be the inspirational speaker. She will be joined by Lauren Randall, a gifted vocalist and a college student majoring in music, who will open and close this inspirational evening with music. The 125+ member Pride of Portland Chorus, a member of Sweet Adelines International, will entertain Saturday evening with its repertoire of traditional "golden oldies," jazz, blues, patriotic music, gospel songs and Broadway show tunes.

There will be Saturday luncheons that will give attendees an opportunity to look into the lives and work of our convention speakers. Luncheon topics include:

Heidi Floyd – *God Reigns... when breast cancer strikes*

Dr. Mary Hilgendorf – *God Reigns ... with Biblical women of influence*

LCMS President Jerry & Terry Kieschnick – *God Reigns ... in our church body*

Ruth Koch – *God Reigns ... in my grief*

Missionaries Michelle Hoepfner and Danelle Putnam – *God Reigns ... in the mission field*

Jan Struck – *God Reigns ... in my life story*

Look for more information about Camp Hood (child/youth care), Servant Connections (servant activities), *Gifts from the Heart* (ingathering), and "Mission in Motion" (pledge walk/exercise) at www.lwml.org and sign up for LWML e-News to receive the latest news about convention in your e-mail inbox.

ATTENTION: SOCIETY PRESIDENTS AND INDIVIDUAL LWML MEMBERS

Please complete the form below for the *Lutheran Women's Quarterly* subscription beginning with the Summer-2009 issue – **deadline for orders is APRIL 1, 2009.**

Return a form even if your order remains the same.

**Eastern District Lutheran Women's Missionary League
LUTHERAN WOMEN'S QUARTERLY ORDER FORM
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2009 – 2010**

Please complete form and return by April 1, 2009 to:

Donna Coleman, ED LWML VP Communications, 542 Burritt Road, Hilton, NY 14468

Name of LWML Society (or Women's Group if combined) _____

(or Individual Member's name if not affiliated with a Society: _____

Congregation _____
(name) (city)

Mailing Address for Quarterlies: _____
(Street Address)

(City, State and Zip Code)

Number of *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* subscriptions ordered for Fiscal Year 2009-2010 __

The cost of the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* and publication expenses for the *ED LWML LINK* newsletter** for 2009 – 2010 is;

\$5.50 each subscription for orders of 10 or more, or
\$7.00 each subscription for orders of 1-9 copies.

Payment is encouraged within the first few months of fiscal year 2009-1010. Send payment to your Zone Treasurer and indicate on the check memo "For Quarterlies 2009-2010".

Return this completed Order Form to Donna Coleman.

Ordered by _____

Telephone # _____

**The subscription rates above include funds to help defray the cost of the ED LWML LINK newsletter, one copy of which is sent to Society Presidents. Payment enables more Mite Box offerings to be available to fund mission grants. Copies are also provided to the ED LWML Board of Directors, congregations without active societies and some National LWML personnel. Society Presidents are encouraged to share the new in the LINK with their society members by making copies or glean- ing information for church newsletters/bulletins.

Upcoming Events

March 27-28, 2009	Executive Committee/ Board of Directors Meeting Rochester, NY
June 25-28, 2009	LWML National Convention Portland, Oregon
Sept. 18-20, 2009	Fall Retreat Pioneer Camp & Retreat Center Angola, NY
June 17-20, 2010	Eastern District LWML Convention Pittsburgh, Pa



56th Annual District Fall Retreat September 18-20, 2009

The Eastern District LWML will host the 57th annual retreat at Pioneer Camp and

Retreat Center, Angola, NY. Returning is Retreat Speaker Jan Struck.

More information will be provided in the Spring.



TO ALL MY LWML FRIENDS:

The past three months have been quite an experience. I missed seeing many of you at retreat, spent time in the

hospital, rested at home, went back to the hospital for surgery and on to Greenfields Rehabilitation Center. But God has been good and I am feeling much better. I thank you all for your thoughts, prayers and cards. It is wonderful to know that we belong to such a warm and caring group. Hopefully, I'll see you at District Board meeting in March.

In Christ's Love—Fern Suckow



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

Be a Good Steward and Help Us Share

Society Presidents and LWML Representatives: If you are a society President or LWML contact person for your church, you are a very important person in our distribution of "The Link". This is not intended to be just your personal copy. You have been designated as our contact for your church. Either copy this issue for your society members, post it at church, or glean items from it to submit articles for your congregation's bulletin/newsletter and, above all, remember to inform your members at society meetings. **This is our only form of communication and we are counting on you to get the information out. If you feel your copy should be sent to a different address, please inform the Editor so she can update her records. Thank you for your help.**



The Link is now available in e-mail format. If you would like to receive a copy via e-mail, please let me know and I will add you to my list of e-mail recipients.

Online Store Open For Business

The [online store](#) is open for business! [Order items](#) from the new catalog directly online with your Credit Card!

There are many new items available for purchase, including three new Mustard Seeds: "Begin With God", "Living in Praise" and "Walking with My Lord". Check it out.

MISSION GRANT NEWS

The Eastern District Convention held in June in Rochester, New York approved a mission goal of \$25,459 and selected nine grants to support with our mites. These Mission Grants are listed on page 2 of this Link. Now it is time to move forward. We need to remain faithful in the giving of our mites so that we are able to pay these grants. Remember Grant 2 & 3 need to be funded together.

It is also time to look ahead to 2010. It is not too soon to start thinking of grant proposals for the next biennium. Speak with your pastor, you society and members of your congregation to get ideas as to where LWML might be able to provide funding for a possible mission project. Start planning now as we see how God moves us to continue to "Serve the Lord With Gladness" in the Eastern District LWML.



News From Around the Zones

FROM CENTRAL NEW YORK SOUTH ZONE

Our Fall Celebration was held October 5 in Wellsboro, PA. We enjoyed fellowship with friends old and new. We shared reports from several committees, the blessings received from prayers answered, goals met, and plans being made—like the next National and District Conventions and planning of our next Celebration.

We enjoyed a very nice program led by Vicar Maronde who shared his experiences from his trip to Preporia, Africa. He was there for three weeks with others from the Seminary. It was a learning and working experience. They shared ideas and encouraged the young men there to teach others as they were taught and share their faith.

PROJECT JOANNA UPDATE—This adopted project continues in the Vestal, New York area LWML. Rita Schultz, project creator and coordinator, writes.

The Lord Provides:

When God wants something done he always provides the means. The LWML at Grace Lutheran Church, Vestal, NY knows this first hand. In the last five years we have provided over 3000 chemotherapy turbans, Christian literature, and Bibles to local oncology centers. It is an expensive ministry but the Lord provides. Not all at once or in large amounts, but as we need it. You know, "Give us this day our daily bread" not our monthly or yearly but our daily supply.

I was recently purchasing fabric for 200 turbans and was vacillating over whether we could afford that last 5 yard bolt. I had discussed with the clerk what we were making and how we were low on funds. Thinking aloud I said "The Lord has always provided, I'll take that last 5 yards." The woman behind me in line stepped forward and announced "I'll pay for that 5 yards". The woman then confided that her 32 yr. old son, Chris was battling brain cancer. We added his name to our prayer list. The Lord provided. He provided people to pray for Chris, support for his mother, encouragement for those of us sewing, and hopefully inspiration for you. Please continue to keep this ministry in your thoughts and prayers.

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

FROM THE PHILADELPHIA ZONE



The Eastern and English LWML Philadelphia Zones held a combined Rally on October 25 at Bethany Lutheran Church in Ewing, NJ.

Rev. Fred Gerlach, pastor of the church conducted the worship service. Rev. David Young, English District Counselor lead the Bible Study on the theme of "Whatever you did for the least of these, you've done for me." Matthew 25:40. He also installed Rev. Mark Jurkowski as Eastern District Philadelphia Zone's Pastoral Counselor, Susan Bell as President and Martha McGlynn as Vice President. A Lutheran World Relief presentation was given and the Ingathering was for sewing kits for LWR. Information was shared about Lutheran Heritage Foundation.

FROM THE BUFFALO ZONE

Our Fall Rally was held on October 5 at Grace Lutheran Church in Hamburg. After our business meeting we enjoyed a presentation by Palmer and Sharon Pisle who are missionaries with GAIN (Global Aid Network). They told us about their experiences in Russia and Africa.

We are planning our 2nd "Sunday Fun Day". The women are invited to come together to just have fun, share a snack and some games. Our first "Fun Day" was a great success and we are hopeful this one will be too.

FROM THE PITTSBURGH ZONE

Our Fall Rally was held at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Braddock, PA on October 5. The Zone committees for the Eastern District Convention met for their first meeting, November 1 at Calvary Lutheran in Murrysville, PA. Plans are being made to meet again in February.

Zion Lutheran Church in Accident, MD is happy to announce the formation of a Parish Night which includes the entire congregation. The ladies who are attending the Parish Night events have joined the LWML and begin each evening with a short business meeting. The men have a speaker and the children are entertained with games and activities. Everyone comes together later for refreshments.

Executive Committee

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Next Deadline

Please send all news articles and information for publication to:

Beverly Wicher
 150 Unionvale Road
 Cheektowaga, NY 14225

E-mail:
bevajw@roadrunner.com

The next deadline is March 1, 2009

The Link is published four times each year.

Deadlines to submit articles:
March 1, June 1, September 1, December 1

TOGETHER IN PRAYER

Don't forget to join your National LWML Sisters "Together in Prayer Every Monday at Noon". Pray for our National LWML, Our Districts, Our Zones, Our Societies and our "Mites" and Mission Grants that they may be used to spread the Gospel of Christ throughout the World. Each month there is a specific prayer emphasis listed on the National LWML Website at www.lwml.org and also in the LWML E-News.

The SELC District would like to invite the Eastern District to our Spring Rally to be held May 1 -3, 2009 so that our ladies may get to know your ladies prior to our hosting the 2013 convention together



SELC DISTRICT/LWML SPRING RALLY— EDEN RESORT, LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA
FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2009 TO SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2009

Price includes Friday & Saturday Night Lodging, Breakfast & Lunch on Saturday, Breakfast on Sunday

Lodging will be in Queen Suites (3 queen beds & a pull-out queen bed) Each Suite Contains 2 separate rooms separated by a bathroom

Triple	\$163.00 Per Person
Quad	\$139.00
5 People	\$125.00
6 People	\$115.00

*1 Night Friday Stay	
Triple	\$94.00
Quad	\$84.00
5 People	\$78.00
6 People	\$74.00

The one night stay includes breakfast & lunch on Saturday

Friday Night Tickets to Abraham & Sarah will cost \$32.30 each

If you are interested in attending, please sign a copy of this invitation and return to Cheryl Rusiecki, 120 Ruby Drive, Egg Harbor Township, NJ. 08234

Yes, I will attend _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Bev Wicher
Eastern District LWML Editor
150 Unionvale Rd.
Cheektowaga, NY 14225
E-mail Bevajw@roadrunner.com

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Sisters Acting In Love



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Greetings to all,

I attended the LWML Board of Directors meeting in Portland, Oregon in January. It was a warm weekend when we made our plans to Look to the Hills...God Reigns at the 33rd Biennial LWML convention on Thursday, June 25 through Sunday, June 29, 2009. We toured the facilities and saw the areas where everything will take place. I know you will enjoy everything that is being planned.

Here is some information to make your convention enjoyable.

Servant events begin at 9 am on Thursday, June 25. If you arrive on Wednesday, you will be able to join in.

The Portland airport has limited number of airlines. Make your reservation soon. You may have to leave on Monday.

Purchasing the meals is recommended. There are food concessions available in the convention center.

There will be interest luncheon on Saturday, June 26. Refer to the Quarterlies for more information and registration.

The convention arena is on one floor with both delegates and guests sitting in different areas.

You will need to purchase a MAX light rail ticket in order to get transportation to the hotels. It is \$2.35 one-way and \$.65 for seniors over 65. The transportation to the Convention Center is free on the MAX light rail. There will be buses available for transport to the hotels at the airport for a fee.

Follow the instruction carefully for the "Gifts from the Heart" located in the Winter Quarterly. No money will be accepted and only one item per person.

We will be able to have a District caucus. We will be meeting at 4:00 – 6:00 on Thursday, June 25. Room to be determined. We will be meeting together with English, SELC, New Jersey, Atlantic and New England. These 6 districts will be hosting the 2010 LWML convention in Pittsburgh, PA.

There will be official district pictures taken at the convention. We are scheduled at 6:10 pm on Friday, June 25. Location to be determined.

There is open seating for Thursday night opening service and delegate seating for the remainder of the convention including Friday and Saturday entertainment.

I will have Eastern District Identification badges available for sale at the convention. If you have your badge from the last convention, please bring it.

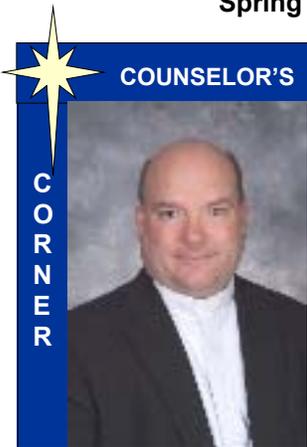
I encourage anyone who is attending the convention to contact me at: Darlene Byrns, 1712 Blossom Rd, Rochester, NY 14610, or email: Darlene248@aol.com or call: 585-288-5568 so I will know who will be attending.

Safe travel as we meet in Portland, Oregon on June 25 – June 29.

**Your Sister in Christ,
Darlene Byrns
President, Eastern District LWML**

*"I can do anything through Him
who strengthens me" Phil. 4:13*

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



The Lord of the Dance

In the classic Easter text from Jeremiah 31 we are taught by God that He will make His people dance with joy on account of His saving work. "You shall adorn yourself with tambourines and shall go forth in the dance of the merrymakers." (Jeremiah 31:4b) We associate dancing with some of the most joyful, fun and special moments in our lives: school events; evenings out with friends; weddings, etc. It is hard to be sad when you are dancing! Life is good when the music flows and it is time to celebrate. Do you remember that Jesus intends for that lightheartedness to be our overall approach to life?

This life is sometimes spoken of as a "veil of tears." It is true that we have some bad days. Sometimes it can seem unbearable. We wonder at points how we ever got into such a mess as this! Plans fail. People we are close to disappoint us. We don't measure up to our own expectations. Good friends move away and loved ones die. Our hearts often ache with sadness, pain and remorse. Those feelings are natural and it can be harmful to artificially suppress them. In Jesus, we have a way through them that leads to joy.

The darkness of sin ruins relationships and brings nagging feelings of doubt and guilt. It robs us of joy. As Jesus was nailed to the cross, He took upon Himself all the weight of that sin. When He died, He crushed its claim on us. Its power is gone and we no longer need live under its shadow. In His resurrection, Jesus passed over from death to eternal life. Baptized into Christ we follow the same path. Joy returns to our lives when we take heart in the unconditional victory Jesus has won for us. Psalm 30 proclaims, "You turned my mourning into dancing. You have loosed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness."

Are you dancing through life? You can! If you aren't, you are missing out on a big part of being a child of God on this side of eternity. You can't dance when you live in fear of the future. You can't dance when you are being critical of others. You can't dance if you don't pause, consider and then drink in God's countless blessings He constantly showers upon you that you don't even notice. You can't dance when your happiness depends on how other people treat you. We are called to be Easter people. As Easter people we dance with the joy of the citizens of the everlasting City of God. We dance because God has turned our hearts back to Him. We dance because God has exalted us. We dance with thanksgiving for the daily bread God constantly provides. We dance through life because God has adopted us as His children. He has become our Father. We have been made brothers and sisters of Jesus Christ, the Lord of the Dance! Come on, everybody! Don't just sit there! Get up and dance!

Easter Blessings—Pastor Ron Breight, Pastoral Counselor

NOMINATIONS WANTED

Ecclesiastes 3:1: *There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven*

Is this the time for you to consider running for an LWML Eastern District office? Please prayerfully consider moving forward and taking a step maybe out of your comfort zone.

The 2010 offices that we will be seeking candidates for are as follows:

President
Vice President of Christian Life/Human Care
Vice President of Gospel Outreach/Servant Resources
Treasurer
Pastoral Counselor

The Board of Directors approved the following Nominating Committee at their meeting March 27-28

Rebecca Bessell, Committee Chair (Genesee Zone) rb54@rochester.rr.com

Martha McGlynn (Philadelphia Zone) marthamcglynn@verizon.net

Claire Carlson (Buffalo Zone) patchtroop546@aol.com

Nomination and Consent Forms as well as the descriptions of duties of office may be obtained from Rebecca Bessell, committee chair at 7048 Benedict Beach Rd., Hamlin, NY 14464 (585-964-7844) or via email rb54@rochester.rr.com or contact your Zone President

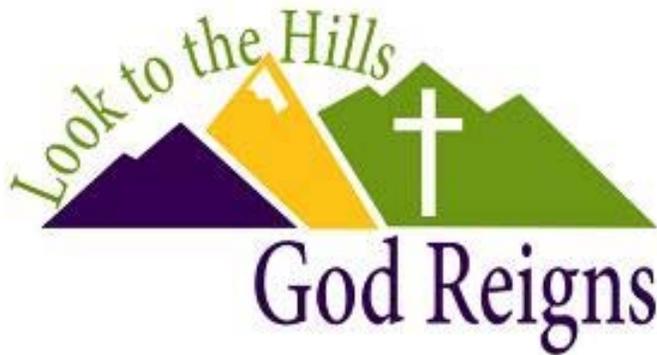
Mission Grants

Mission Grant Request Forms Now Available

The Mission Grant Request Forms for the 2010-2012 Biennium were distributed to the Zone Presidents at

the March Board of Directors Meeting. **The deadline for grant requests is October 15.** So be thinking now what mission outreach may be in need of funding. If you are in need of forms contact your Zone President or Chris Gasslien, Mission Grants Chair.





LWML National Convention June 25-28, 2009 Portland, Oregon

LOOK! Look no further for reasons to attend the LWML convention on June 25-28 in Portland, Oregon, where we will *Look to the Hills...God Reigns*. We will have opportunities to:

- Worship God the Maker of all things
- Trust in the Lord who daily meets our needs
- Declare God's peace and provision through tangible acts of mercy and grace
- Share the Good News of Jesus in everyday situations

On Friday evening Heidi Floyd from the Vera Bradley Foundation for Breast Cancer will be the inspirational speaker. She will be joined by Lauren Randall, a gifted vocalist and a college student majoring in music, who will open and close this inspirational evening with music. The 125+ member Pride of Portland Chorus, a member of Sweet Adelines International, will entertain Saturday evening with its repertoire of traditional "golden oldies," jazz, blues, patriotic music, gospel songs and Broadway show tunes. This is a can't-miss event, so we'll see you in Portland!

Find out more at <http://www.lwml.org/conventions>

2009 LWML CONVENTION OFFERING OPPORTUNITIES

Thursday, June 25

Offering #1 – LWML Mission Goal 2009-2011

Friday, June 26

Offering #2 – The Lutheran Hispanic Lay Training Program

The Lutheran Hispanic Lay Training will establish study centers in strategic areas throughout the Pacific Southwest district using professionally trained church workers to Mentor and enable Hispanic laity to serve their congregations and the Hispanic Communities at-large.

Saturday, June 27

Offering #3 – Alaska Mission for Christ

To enable Alaska Mission for Christ to pay for transportation of its workers to the ministry fields of Alaska.

Sunday, June 28

Offering #4 – LWML Endowment Fund

Unrestricted dividends and interest earned on investments are set aside for LWML ministries and leadership training, upon Board of Directors majority approval at the January LWML Board of Directors meeting.



Kelly Gilbert—YWR

Congratulations to Our YWR!

Congratulations to YWR, Kelly Gilbert, Blossvale, NY. Member of Grace Lutheran Church, Central New York North Zone. Kelly will represent the Eastern District at the 33rd Biennial National Convention, Portland, Oregon – June 2009.

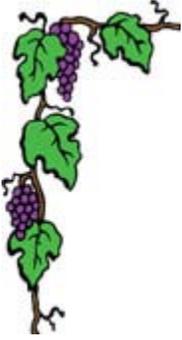
1st Alternate – Ronette Blake, Pittsburgh, PA. Member of Christ Lutheran Church, Forest Hills, Pittsburgh Zone.

2nd Alternate – Heather Ace, Westfield, PA. Member of Trinity Lutheran Church, Wellsboro, Central New York South Zone.

Please keep these young women in your prayers as they continue to serve our Lord.

Be sure to congratulate Kelly!

**Barb Brown, Chair
Leadership Development**



2010 Eastern District LWML Convention
June 18-20, 2010
Radisson Hotel - Greentree
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit." From John 15:5

Main speakers : Dr. David and Kathy Ludwig.

Co-Chairmen: Joyce Schumm and Marie Litke

Pastoral Counselor: The Rev. Herb Schumm from St. John, Millvale, PA

More details are forthcoming, but for now mark your calendar and plan to attend!

Eastern District LWML
2008-2010 Mission Grants

A mission goal of \$119,100 was adopted for the 2008-2010 biennium. \$25,459 will provide grants in support of the following projects related to the Eastern District.

		Mission Grant Goal
500 Chinese language Bibles and Small Catechisms. LCMS World Mission	9- \$3,653	#\$25,459
Academic Scholarships for Siyathemba Girls' High School in South Africa. LCMS World Relief	8- \$2,006	#
Sewing supplies and materials for two local oncology centers. Grace Lutheran, Vestal, NY	7- \$1,500	\$19,800
Church plant in the Ridley-Interboro area of Delaware County, PA. Philadelphia Lutheran Ministries	6- \$4,000	\$18,300
Camp Restore Victim Aid fund in New Orleans, LA. Buffalo Zone LWML	5- \$5,000	@\$14,300
Lutheran Campus Ministries on the Niagara Frontier. Katharine Rickus, LWML	4- \$1,500	@
Community Lutheran Ministry Reading Readiness Program for Tots. Pinnacle Lutheran Church	3- \$2,000	*\$7,800
Advertising & materials for a youth/after school center in Philadelphia, PA. Christ Memorial Lutheran Church	2- \$2,800	*
Christian devotional materials for the armed forces. LCMS World Mission	1- \$3,000	\$3,000

*=Grants 2 and 3 are to be funded at the same time because they received the same number of votes.

@=Grants 4 and 5 are to be funded at the same time because they received the same number of votes

@ = Grants 8 and 9 are to be partially funded at the same time because they received the same number of votes.

GRANT NEWS

Praise God! The 2007-2009 National Mite Goal has been reached!

The Eastern District LWML has enough money to pay Grants 1, 2 and 3 and these will be paid shortly. We are also very close to being able to pay Grants 4 and 5. Keep submitting those Mites so that we will be able to pay all our grants this biennium

**Eastern District Delegates to
Portland Convention
June 26-28, 2009**



Following are the 2009 Eastern District Delegates to the Portland Convention

Zone	Delegate
Anthracite	Judy Grimm
Buffalo	Darlene Hinz
Cattaraugus-Allegany	No delegate
Central NY North	Linda Bahr
Central NY South	No Delegate
Genesee	No Delegate
Niagara	Judy Ondak
Philadelphia	Susan Bell
Pittsburgh	Marty Alsing, Charlotte Hoerner
Counselor	Rev Ronald Bright

Thank you to all of you for your willingness to serve. Pray for their safe travel and that God would guide their deci-



National President Jan Wendorf participates in
2009 Rose Bowl Parade

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**Eastern District LWML
2009 Retreat**



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Speaker: Jan Struck

September 18-20, 2009

Pioneer & Retreat Center
Angola, NY

Hosted By: CNY North Zone
(See page 9 for registration form)

LWML Retreat Campership—Application

Four full-time camperships are being offered for the Fall 2009 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 _____ Church _____

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, 2009** to:

Mrs. Darlene Byrns
1712 Blossom Rd.
Rochester, NY 14610

Upcoming Events

June 25-28, 2009	LWML Convention Portland, Oregon
Sept. 18-20, 2009	Fall Retreat Camp Pioneer Angola, NY
October 15, 2009	Deadline for Grant Requests Deadline for Nominations
June 17-20, 2010	2010 District Convention Pittsburgh, PA

FROM VP COMMUNICATIONS DONNA COLEMAN

DIRECTORY CHANGES, QUARTERLIES, and CONTRIBUTIONS

What do these have in common? All three are needed by the Vice President of Communications in order to best serve your needs.

DIRECTORY CHANGES: To keep the Eastern District LWML Directory up-to-date please send in the names, address, phone number and email 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 it enables me to keep the Directory up-to-date.

QUARTERLIES: Increases may be processed at any time, but decreases received after April 1st, the National LWML deadline, will not take effect until the following year when the summer edition is mailed.

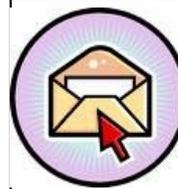
CONTRIBUTIONS from LWML members and societies are needed to defray the ever-increasing cost of the publications. The recommended contribution is \$5.50 per subscription per year for those receiving 10 or more Quarterlies and \$7.00 per subscription per year for those receiving any number less than 10. This cost includes \$1.50 to help defray the cost of our Eastern District LWML publication the LINK. **ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TO BE SENT TO THE ZONE TREASURER WHO WILL FORWARD THEM TO THE DISTRICT FINANCIAL SECRETARY.**

Keeping your society or zone aware of these practices will help the District run more smoothly and effectively as we "Serve the Lord With Gladness".

Send all Directory changes and Quarterly changes to Donna Coleman, 542 Burritt Road, Hilton, NY 14468 or by email to dcoleman851@aol.com.

Be a Good Steward and Help Us Share

Society Presidents and LWML Representatives: If you are a society President or LWML contact person for your church, you are a very important person in our distribution of "The Link". This is not intended to be just your personal copy. You have been designated as our contact for your church. Either copy this issue for your society members, post it at church, or glean items from it to submit articles for your congregation's bulletin/newsletter and, above all, remember to inform your members at society meetings. **This is our only form of communication and we are counting on you to get the information out. If you feel your copy should be sent to a different address, please inform the Editor so she can update her records. Thank you for your help.**



The Link is now available in e-mail format. If you would like to receive a copy via e-mail, please let me know and I will add you to my list of e-mail recipients.

Bev Wicher-Editor
Bevajw@roadrunner.com



In December 2008 we delivered 83 pounds of stamps to Canada for the Canadian Bible Society. Following the District Board Meeting we delivered another 66 pounds of stamps for a total of 143 pounds of stamps! That means 13 Bibles have been provided by all of you.

Remember:

All cancelled stamps (not stamped envelopes) can be saved.

Leave plenty of envelope around the stamp. We need 1/4" around each stamp.

One pound of stamps equals one Bible in the language of the foreign country.

Trudy Sallach and Nancy Lingenfelter
Stamps for Missions co-chairs

News From Around the Zones

GENESEE ZONE

Spring Fling

Saturday May 2, 2009

St. Paul Lutheran, Hilton,
NY registration 9:00 am

Program 9:30-3:00

Guest speaker will be Ethel Chadwich from the WRCI 990 AM radio show Bagels & Blessings. Also a drama presentation by the Women of the Well. Lunch is provided, registration fee is \$5.00. More information contact Rebecca Bessell at 585-964-7844.

Spring Fling

CATTARAUGUS-ALLEGHANY ZONE



On December 20, 2008, our beloved brother in Christ, Rev. Mark Sallach, departed this earthly life for the wonder of his heavenly home. Pastor Mark was the Pastoral Counselor for the Cattaraugus-Alleghany Zone. We were blessed by his caring nature and abiding love. He truly respected and was thankful for the efforts of the LWML. Mark is the son of zone member Trudy Sallach of Erie, PA. He will be missed by our entire zone until the day we meet again where there are no tears and goodbyes...what a glorious day it will be!

Our Zone Spring Rally will be held on **Saturday, April 18th** at Concordia Lutheran Church in Jamestown. We will have a presentation by the Trinity Shawl Ministry of Erie.

ANTHRACITE ZONE

A TIME FOR EVERYTHING...

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8



Spring Workshop—Saturday May 2, 2009

St. Peter's Lutheran Church—1000 South Main Street—
Wilkes-Barre, PA

Please Come and Enjoy the Fellowship and Topic
Registration and Hospitality at 9:30 AM

*Please RSVP: with Shirley Pascoe at 823-2691

Or Judy Grimm at jacg715@ptd.net

PITTSBURGH ZONE

Former President of the LWML Pittsburgh Zone Charlotte Nist died peacefully on Wednesday February 11, 2009 at Concordia Lutheran Ministries at Cabot, PA of Pancreatic cancer. She was a member of Prince Of Peace Lutheran Church Freedom, PA. Funeral Services were held on Tuesday Feb. 17th at 11:00 AM in the Prince Of Peace Lutheran Church by Pastor Roger Nuerge.

PHILADELPHIA ZONE—SPRING RALLY



Phyllis Wallace

The Philadelphia Zone Spring Rally will be on Saturday, April 18th at Christ Memorial Lutheran Church in Malvern, PA. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. with the Rally from 10-2 with lunch provided for a \$2 registration fee. The guest speaker will be Phyllis Wallace, noted speaker, author and radio personality on "Woman to Woman Radio" in St. Louis. The theme is "Reflect the Glory of God" with the text coming from John 17: 20-26. Our goal is to help women in our Zone spread the Good News to others

that we will have just experienced again on Easter. Phyllis' talk will be "Watt's Up?" We invite every lady that is able and available to attend. It will be well worth your while! For more information contact Susan Bell, Philadelphia Zone President at 610-518-0681 or susanbell557@comcast.net

BUFFALO ZONE—SPRING WORKSHOP

May 2—

First Trinity, Tonawanda NY

9:00 am

Program: Rev. Charles Whited and congregational members with a presentation on some of the work they have done in Haiti. Bring a bag lunch, dessert and beverages will be provided.

NIAGARA ZONE SPRING GATHERING

Trinity Lutheran Church/Medina, NY

Saturday, April 25, 2009

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

\$5 registration fee, potluck luncheon

Featuring:

- National LWML Prayer Service
"Look to the Hills"
- Discussion of National LWML grants
to assist delegate attending June convention
- Christian Life Chairman segment
- Ingathering of items for Rainbow Preschool,
a program of The ARC of Orleans County
- Display of health brochures from National Institute
on Aging as follow-up from 2008 Fall Rally health
emphases

The Zone acknowledges, with gratitude, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans for providing the fund raiser of combined Cookbooks/Christmas CDs last December. Proceeds will assist Zone Delegate Judy Ondak with expenses to National Convention.

Executive Committee**President**

Darlene Byrns, 1712 Blossom Road, Rochester, NY 14610-2319
585-288-5568 Darlene248@aol.com

Vice President Communication

Donna Coleman, 542 Burritt Road, Hilton, NY 14468-9705
585-392-7491 dcoleman851@aol.com

Vice President Gospel Outreach/ Servant Resources

Rebecca Bessell, 7048 Benedict Beach Road, Hamlin, NY 14464
585-964-7844 rb54@rochester.rr.com

Vice-President Christian Life/Human Care

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814-342-2715 Kenwan2@comcast.net

Recording Secretary

Karen Rinne, 81 Oak Knoll Dr., Berwyn, PA 19312
610-889-0938 Bkrinne@verizon.net

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Jackie Blank, 6830 E. Bethany-Leroy Townline Rd.,
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Kathy Pavelock, 8200 State Route 13, Blossvale, NY 13308
315-245-1590 kmpavelock@aol.com

Senior Pastoral Counselor

Vacant

Junior Pastoral Counselor

Rev. Ronald Bright, 400 Barclay Ave., Forest Hill, PA 15221
pastor@christlutheranfh.org

Appointed By the President**Parliamentarian**

Gretchen Putzman, 148 Heather Hill, West Seneca, NY 14224
716-674-8859

Planner

Karen Devan, 6438 Lake Shore S., Canastota, NY 13032
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814-345-5779 f-nlingenfelter@juno.com

Trudy Sallach, 5465 Patton Street, Erie, PA 16510
814-866-7662

Appointed by Board of Directors**Mission Advocacy & Grants Chair**

Chris Gasslein, 316 Andrew Circle, Coatesville, PA 19320
610-384-6093 gassleinc@comcast.net

Mission Advocacy & Grants Co-Chair

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Christian Life Chair

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Christian Life Chair Co-Chair

Dana Smith, 8711 Lewis Pt. Rd., Canastota, NY 13032
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Structure Chair

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Structure Co-Chair

Vacant

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Leader Development Chair

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Leader Development Co-Chair

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Jacqui Greene, 6103 Nassau Street, Philadelphia, PA 19151
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Judy Grimm, 9 Glendale Dr., Mountain Top, PA 18707 570-403-6194 jacq715@ptd.net

Buffalo Zone

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Cattaraugus-Allegany Zone

Georgia Henry, 4873 Miller Rd., Ripley, NY 14775 716-252-6676

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patsyclark@tcny.rr.com

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kippolit@rochester.rr.com

Niagara Zone

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Philadelphia Zone

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susanbell557@comcast.net

Pittsburgh Zone

Deaconess Nancy Lingenfelter, 102 Timber Rd., Morrisdale, PA 16858
814-345-5779, f-nlingenfelter@verizon.net



Next Deadline

Please send all news articles and information for publication to:

Beverly Wicher
150 Unionvale Road
Cheektowaga, NY 14225

E-mail:
bevajw@roadrunner.com

The next deadline is June 1, 2009

The Link is published four times each year.

Deadlines to submit articles:
March 1, June 1, September 1, December 1

TOGETHER IN PRAYER

Don't forget to join your National LWML Sisters "Together in Prayer Every Monday at Noon". Pray for our National LWML, Our Districts, Our Zones, Our Societies and our "Mites" and Mission Grants that they may be used to spread the Gospel of Christ throughout the World. Each month there is a specific prayer emphasis listed on the National LWML Website at www.lwml.org and also in the LWML E-News.

2009 LWML Fall Retreat
Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center, Inc.
REGISTRATION FORM
“Cast Your Cares Upon The Lord”
Jan Struck, Speaker
September 18-20, 2009

Name _____
 Address _____ City _____
 State _____ Zip Code _____ Phone _____
 E-mail _____ (For Registration Committee Use)
 Home Church _____ Eastern District LWML Zone _____

REGISTRATION RATES:

Full-time - includes 2 nights lodging, registration, 6 meals and linens	\$130.00 _____
Part-time – 1 night's lodging at \$36.50	Circle one: Friday Saturday \$ 36.50 _____
Registration Fee.....	\$ 6.00 _____
Day use fee (for no overnight stay)	# days _____ x \$ 5.00= _____
Meals required (part time only):	Friday Dinner \$ 11.00 _____
	Saturday Breakfast \$ 7.00 _____
	Saturday Lunch \$ 9.00 _____
	Saturday Dinner \$ 11.00 _____
	Sunday Breakfast \$ 7.00 _____
	Sunday Lunch \$ 9.00 _____

Fri. Registration	3:00 pm
Fri. Dinner	6:00 pm
Fri. Program	7:00 pm
Sat. Registration	8:30 am
Sat. Program	9:00 am

Special Housing (see below) Additional amount: \$ _____
TOTAL TO BE PAID \$ _____
 Payment enclosed* \$ _____
 Balance due, if any \$ _____

*Note: A deposit of \$20.00 will hold your place. All requests served on a first-come, first-served basis. Any balance due must be paid or postmarked by September 1, 2009 or a late fee will be charged. (late fee: \$15.00 for full-time registration; \$5.00 for part-time)

HOUSING PREFERENCE: (All cabins have shower facilities)**Non-Refurbished Cabins**

____ Schroeter Circle 1-8 (each cabin – 20 bunks, shower)
 ____ Founders Court (Cabins 17-28) (2 twin beds, 2 occupants required)
 ____ Family Court P, Q, R, S (2 bunks) T (2 bunks, 1 single) (Cabin T is handicapped accessible)

Refurbished Cabins (Extra \$35 for weekend; this amount can be split evenly among occupants)

____ Refurbished Founders Court 1-4 (queen size bed, futon)
 ____ Refurbished Founders Court 5-8 (1 queen, 1 bunk)
 ____ Refurbished Family Court A (1 double, 1 bunk bed)
 ____ Refurbished Family Court B, C (queen size bed, 2 bunks)
 ____ Refurbished Family Court J, L, N (one double)
 ____ Refurbished Family Court K, M, O (2 bunks, sleeps 4)

Woodland Cottage (Extra \$120 for the weekend per cottage; this amount can be split evenly among occupants)

____ Woodland Cottage 1-6 – (each cottage - 1 double and 2 bunks)

OTHER PREFERENCES: Roommate _____ Church or Group _____

SPECIAL NEEDS: ___ Wheelchair ___ Lower Bunk ___ Hearing Impaired ___ Dietary (specify) _____

Other _____

Make checks payable (in U.S. funds only) to LWML Eastern District 2009 Retreat

Please include a business size self-addressed stamped envelope with your deposit and registration form.

Send your completed registration form to:

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

Email: KMPavelock@aol.com Phone: 315-245-1590

***If you must cancel, a \$20.00 non-refundable service charge per person will be made.

***Cancellation for medical reasons will be reviewed based upon a written letter of notification to the district president. A refund, less the non-refundable deposit, will be made.

***A \$15.00 charge will be assessed on all checks returned by the bank.



FROM LWML NATIONAL PRESIDENT JAN WENDORF:

WHY PURPLE?

It seems that several people have wondered why the color purple is associated with the LWML. . A request was sent to Barbara Huggins who works at Concordia Historical Institute, who sent the following reply based on research into the files and materials that are there:

In Gladys' file of firstS it states and I quote "It was reported in the Southern Illinois Lutheran Woman's Quarterly Supplement for October of 1948 that their district had adopted the colors of purple and gold. Purple symbolizes royalty and gold symbolizes value and integrity." No scripture reference was given.

I also found a reference on page 77 of the book Wings the note that the Executive Board adopted as LWML Colors purple and gold in 1951. At the executive board meeting held on July 24, 1951 at the 20Commodore Hotel New York, New York the minutes state "motion was made by Mrs. Emil Frank to recommend that the colors Purple and Gold as suggested in the Handbook, be adopted as the official League colors. Action – Adopted. The date you want for the first use would be the October 1948 but official adoption by the league as a whole July 1951. A handbook was produced at the time and it states the colors.... No reason or biblical reference is given.

Bev Wicher
Eastern District LWML Editor
150 Unionvale Rd.
Cheektowaga, NY 14225
E-mail Bevajw@roadrunner.com

The Eastern District LWML



Lutheran Women in Mission

Sail into the Future
Sisters Acting In Love



I N K



*Sail into the future!
Sisters Acting In Love*

Greetings to my Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

When you receive this we will have just returned from the 33rd Biennial LWML Convention! Between June 25-28 the attendees of the 33rd Biennial LWML Convention gathered in Portland to be nourished by the Word, inspired with songs of praise, and encouraged in service to God and others through the many speakers and Convention activities. The delegates will have the awesome task of electing new officers, setting a new mission mite goal, and voting for important mission grant proposals. The LWML Store will offer new and exciting products, devotions, program materials and much more. Evergreen Park will be full of interesting and innovative exhibits.

Are you ready? I am so ready to go to Portland for the 2009 LWML convention. It will be a time of re-newing friendships and making some new ones, participating in choosing the Mission grants for the next biennium, new mission mite goal and election of Officers. I have been attending conventions since 1987. Each one is unique. I hope all of you can attend one of them in your lifetime. You won't regret it.



I know Marion Demmin would have been there if the Lord hadn't called her home to Him on May 4, 2009. She was very faithful in the LWML for many years. I can still see her walking with her walker in the Sioux Falls Mite walk. She just loved to be there. **"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me a crown of righteousness." II Timothy 4: 7-8**

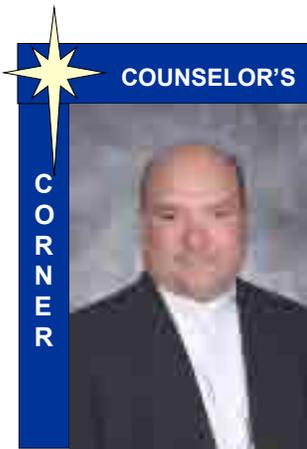
Sioux Falls, South Dakota - At the Saturday morning pledge walk, Marion Demmin, 79, of the Eastern District, earned cheers from fellow walkers as she made not one lap with her walker around the track, but four! Marion attended her first LWML convention in Ames, Iowa, in 1985 and has missed only one convention since. However, this is the first time that she has participated in the pledge walk. Way to go, Marion!



I will share convention information from the LWML Convention in Portland, in the next LINK article. You are blessing sent from Heaven above, a huggable reminder of God's unfailing love. *'God is Love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in Him?' 1 John 4:16*

**In His Service,
Darlene Byrns
Eastern District LWML President**

*Together
Serving
the Lord
with
Gladness*

Life....happens.

"Life is what happens when you're making other plans." That's a proverb that has rung very true for me throughout the years! It probably has for you, too. Another thing is very true also: there's a lot of that "life" happening within the LWML, and it often happens when **you're** making other plans! It is hard to predict what unexpected things you are going to experience in your personal life tomorrow, next week and next month. Untold changes can suddenly occur in our health, the health of a loved one, our work situation, natural and man-made disasters, you name it. We also have a hard time knowing just what we will see happening with the people and programs of the LWML as time passes. Despite diligent efforts to **keep things familiar**, there are things beyond our individual control. Leaders and staff change. Situations change. Resources change. Attitudes and opinions change. The world changes, too. Above all this we have an unchanging God who has made us his own and we have an unchanging commitment in the LWML to honor and worship him, and that's what its all about!

The Power of Prayer

Jesus said it plainly, "You do not have because you do not ask." Consider all the time, money and hard work that goes into the "life" of the LWML. One thing I am sure of is all who are involved have their hearts in the right place. We are blessed with **amazing** Christian sisters (and a few brothers). It is **difficult** to complete the work the Lord has given us to do as we would like. It is **challenging** to combine people with different locations, varying perspectives, backgrounds, and visions together in the service of the Lord while maintaining unity. It is often **uncertain** exactly what the right thing to do is. If anything is needed it is **prayer**. How often we fail to pray! How much we do not pray for! Jesus was the Son of God yet he prayed often and long. He is our model for the Christian life. He prays for us even now. What an awesome gift that is that He gives to us. How blessed we are to have Him on our side, working out our entire life for good. We all benefit when we copy him and put the power of prayer into action. I ask you to make a commitment right now to pray for God's blessing and help for the activities and the people of the ministry of the LWML, and please pray daily! Life happens, often unexpectedly. When we have an open prayer line to our heavenly Father, we never have to go it alone! We also have God's unconditional promise of His love and we have each other. With all of those blessings in our possession and more, we are equipped to meet the challenges and changes ahead.

*Yours in Christ,
Ron Bright, Counselor*



Mission Grants

WANTED: MISSION GRANT PROPOSALS

Individual LWML members, societies or zones are encouraged to submit mission grant proposals for consideration at the June 2010 Eastern District convention to be held in Pittsburgh, PA June 18-20, 2010

Forms are available from zone presidents or by contacting Mission Grants Chairman:

Chris Gasslein

316 Andrew Circle
Coatesville, PA 19320
610-384-6093

e-mail gassleinc@comcast.net

Deadline for submission of the proposals will be **October 15, 2009**.

We encourage all to submit proposals. Contact your Pastor or other groups within your church with a mission focus for what they are planning that might benefit from a Mission Grant. We look for proposals from within our District first, so be searching for those ideas; there is much mission work going on throughout our District that we can help support. Helpful information on finding appropriate projects for support from Mite box offerings is included with the application form. Please note that we have changed the criteria slightly so please read the paperwork carefully.



NOMINATIONS WANTED

Eastern District LWML Call for Nominees

Martha McGlynn/Philadelphia Zone, Claire Carlson/Buffalo Zone and I, Rebecca Bessell/Genesee Zone will serve on the Nominating Committee for the elections that will take place at the June 18-20, 2010 convention.

Nominations are being sought for candidates for the following offices. A brief description of the offices have been included in this newsletter

President
Vice President of Christian Life/Human Care
Vice President of Gospel Outreach/Servant Resources
Treasurer
Pastoral Counselor

The term of office will begin on June 20, 2010 and run for four consecutive years.

Any society member or society may submit a nomination to the Nominating Committee.

Nomination and Consent Forms may be obtained from Zone Presidents, District Executive Committee members, District Committee Chairmen or the Nominating Committee.

We thank the Zone Presidents who will be distributing forms and information from the Nominating Committee at the Summer and Fall Zone Events.

If you would like to request Nominating Forms via email, or if you have any questions regarding the nominating process, please contact Rebecca Bessell at rlb54@rochester.rr.com. Thank you and please pray for how you or someone you know can serve the Lord in one of these areas. Thank you.

The Nominating Committee,
Rebecca Bessell 585-964-7844
Martha McGlynn 610-586-3589
Claire Carlson 716-648-4678

rlb54@rochester.rr.com
marthamcglynn@verizon.net
patchtroop546@aol.com

Job Descriptions

JOB DESCRIPTIONS—(These are general descriptions the complete job description can be obtained from any of the Nominating Committee.)

President—Oversees the work of the Eastern District LWML including presiding at the District LWML Convention and meetings of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee. She is responsible to appoint various committee members to the Board of Directors and sign payment vouchers. She keeps in communication with her Board to make sure all necessary decisions are being made, and visits and helps promote the work of the LWML among the Zones.

Vice President of Christian Life/Human care—May perform the duties of the President in the absence of or request of the President. Is the coordinator of the Christian Life/Human Care Department, is responsible for issuing membership charters to new societies; reports to the executive committee and Board of Directors, and other duties as set forth in the Leader's Manual.

Vice President of Gospel Outreach/Servant Resources—May perform the duties of the President in the absence of or request of the President. Coordinates the Gospel Outreach/Servant Resources Department. Reports to the Executive Committee and Board of Directors; serves as chairman of the Nominating Committee; oversees the preparation of the Convention Manual, helps the president in appointing members to serve in appointed positions, and other duties as set forth in the Leader's Manual.

Treasurer—Be bonded at the expense of the District LWML; receive deposit slips and monthly reports from the Financial Secretary; receive and deposit all other money in bank 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; submit records for financial review annually; and other duties as set forth in the Leader's Manual.

Counselor—Serve the District LWML in an advisory capacity; attend all District LWML Conventions, meetings of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee as a non-voting member; 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 Committee and help with services at retreat and convention when possible; and other duties as set forth in the Leader's Manual.

“ Cast All Your Cares Upon Him ”
1 Peter 5:7



I hope you are all ready to take the plunge and “Cast your cares upon the Lord” at the LWML Fall Retreat at Camp Pioneer from September 18th-20th this fall. Your retreat committee is very excited to have Jan Struck as our key note speaker once again this year. If you were at retreat 2 years ago you know what an uplifting speaker Jan is. She will share her thoughts with us through her faith in Christ as well as her humor.

Along with Jan we’ll have fun with musical interludes, good food, great snacks, extra free time, a variation from the norm for entertainment, and a weekend to refresh yourselves in the Lord. So ladies, mark your calendars, get those registrations in and prepare yourselves for a weekend of Spiritual renewal and fun.

The registration form is on page 5 of this Link. The deadline for registration is August 1. Please note that all Woodland Cottages have already been reserved, so get your registration in soon.

**Retreat Committee Co-chairman,
 Karen Devan**



OUR SPEAKER-JAN STRUCK



Jan Struck’s earliest memories revolve around her church home in Indianapolis, Indiana where she experienced her elementary education in a two-room, Lutheran school. Her strong Christian background led her to Valparaiso University where she received her theater degree.

Jan’s “Life Story” has included the blessing of mothering three children, teaching school, working in secretarial and administrative job positions, and experiencing single parenthood after divorce. Additional “surprises”, from a loving and delightful Creator, have brought the joy of a second marriage and a combined family that totals six grown children, their spouses, eleven grandchildren, and one great-grandson. She is delighted to have been given a lifetime of bizarre experiences and an ability to see humor and irony in her journey.

Jan recently retired from her career is as a trainer/consultant in the field of healthcare technology to spend full-time on her speaking ministry. 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 Midwest, as well as far west as California and east as Connecticut.

Her involvement with LWML (Lutheran Women’s Missionary League) has enabled her to bring the gift of laughter to numerous district national conventions. Mostly recently, Jan was a presenter at the national LWML convention in Sioux Falls, SD and the LWML-Canada convention in Regina, Saskatchewan.

With over 35 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”!!

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 1, 2007—
 DON'T DELAY REGISTER EARLY**

2009 LWML Fall Retreat
Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center, Inc.
REGISTRATION FORM
“Cast Your Cares Upon The Lord”
Jan Struck, Speaker
September 18-20, 2009

Name _____
 Address _____ City _____
 State _____ Zip Code _____ Phone _____
 E-mail _____ (For Registration Committee Use)
 Home Church _____ Eastern District LWML Zone _____

REGISTRATION RATES:

Full-time- includes 2 nights lodging, registration, 6 meals and linens \$130.00 _____

Part-time – 1 night’s lodging at \$36.50 **Circle one:** Friday Saturday \$ 36.50 _____

Registration Fee..... \$ 6.00 _____

Day use fee (for no overnight stay) # days _____ x \$ 5.00= _____

Meals required (part time only):

Fri. Registration	3:00 pm
Fri. Dinner	6:00 pm
Fri. Program	7:00 pm
Sat. Registration	8:30 am
Sat. Program	9:00 am

Friday Dinner	\$ 11.00 _____
Saturday Breakfast	\$ 7.00 _____
Saturday Lunch	\$ 9.00 _____
Saturday Dinner	\$ 11.00 _____
Sunday Breakfast	\$ 7.00 _____
Sunday Lunch	\$ 9.00 _____

Special Housing (see below) Additional amount: \$ _____

TOTAL TO BE PAID \$ _____

Payment enclosed* \$ _____

Balance due, if any \$ _____

***Note: A deposit of \$20.00 will hold your place. All requests served on a first-come, first-served basis. Any balance due must be paid or postmarked by September 1, 2009 or a late fee will be charged. (late fee: \$15.00 for full-time registration; \$5.00 for part-time)**

HOUSING PREFERENCE: (All cabins have shower facilities)

Non-Refurbished Cabins

- _____ Schroeter Circle 1-8 (each cabin – 20 bunks, shower)
- _____ Founders Court (Cabins 17-28) (2 twin beds, 2 occupants required)
- _____ Family Court P, Q, R, S (2 bunks) T (2 bunks, 1 single) (Cabin T is handicapped accessible)

Refurbished Cabins (Extra \$35 for weekend; this amount can be split evenly among occupants)

- _____ Refurbished Founders Court 1-4 (queen size bed, futon)
- _____ Refurbished Founders Court 5-8 (1 queen, 1 bunk)
- _____ Refurbished Family Court A (1 double, 1 bunk bed)
- _____ Refurbished Family Court B, C (queen size bed, 2 bunks)
- _____ Refurbished Family Court J, L, N (one double)
- _____ Refurbished Family Court K, M, O (2 bunks, sleeps 4)

Woodland Cottage (Extra \$120 for the weekend per cottage; this amount can be split evenly among occupants)

_____ Woodland Cottage 1-6 – (each cottage - 1 double and 2 bunks) **ALL RESERVED as of 6/1/2009**

OTHER PREFERENCES: Roommate _____ Church or Group _____

SPECIAL NEEDS: _____ Wheelchair _____ Lower Bunk _____ Hearing Impaired _____ Dietary (specify) _____
 _____ Other _____

Make checks payable (in U.S. funds only) to LWML Eastern District 2009 Retreat

Please include a business size self-addressed stamped envelope with your deposit and registration form.

Send your completed registration form to:

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

Email: KMPavelock@aol.com Phone: 315-245-1590

***If you must cancel, a \$20.00 non-refundable service charge per person will be made.

***Cancellation for medical reasons will be reviewed based upon a written letter of notification to the district president. A refund, less the non-refundable deposit, will be made.

***A \$15.00 charge will be assessed on all checks returned by the bank.

2010 Eastern District LWML Convention
June 18-20, 2010
Radisson Hotel - Greentree
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



HAVE YOU MARKED YOUR 2010 CALENDAR FOR OUR 2010 EASTERN DISTRICT LWML CONVENTION?

- * Convention will be held at the Radisson Hotel - Greentree, a suburb of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, from June 18 to 20, 2010.
- * Theme for the convention is from John 15:5, "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in Me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing."
- * Guest speakers: Dr. David and Kathy Ludwig
- * A representative from national LWML
- * Co-chairmen of convention are Joyce Schumm and Marie Litke.
- * Pastoral Counselor is The Rev. Herb Schumm from St. John Church from Millvale, PA.

From the Desk of
Donna Coleman, VP of Communications

A special thank you to all the societies who reviewed the number of Lutheran Women's Quarterlies they were receiving and adjusted their orders. If your society finds that it would like to increase the number of Quarterlies available for your distribution to more members or prospective

members, contact me at the email or address below.

AS A REMINDER...if your society has not covered the cost of your Quarterly subscriptions for 09-10, please try and do so as soon as possible. Payment is to be sent to Financial Secretary Jackie Blank, 6830 E. Bethany-LeRoy Townline Road, Stafford, NY 14130. Be sure to indicate on the check memo line "09-10 Quarterlies". The subscription cost also includes funds to help defray the cost of mailing the Eastern District LWML Link. A copy of which is provided to all societies. We are counting on society presidents to share items from the LINK with their members and to inform the congregation of LWML news through their church bulletins and newsletters. Please publicize the information about the upcoming Fall LWML Retreat at Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center. Information concerning the retreat can be found in this newsletter.

PLEASE NOTIFY... me of any changes in society and zone officers (including name, office, address, phone number and e-mail address) so the Eastern District Directory can be kept up-to-date. I can be reached at dcoleman851@aol.com or mail them to 542 Burritt Road, Hilton, NY 14468.

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

News From Around the Zones

NIAGARA ZONE

**NIAGARA ZONE LWML SUMMER POTLUCK PICNIC
Tuesday, August 11, 2009 - 6:00 p.m.**

Grace Lutheran Church/Niagara Falls, NY

Zone Delegate Judy Ondak will share a National LWML Convention report that evening and the Zone Executive Committee will meet following the picnic to plan the October 10th Zone Fall Rally to be held at Holy Ghost Lutheran Church, Bergholz.

To date approximately 25 women from St. Paul Lutheran Church, North Tonawanda plan to attend the Fall Women's Retreat at Pioneer Camp!!!

+ IN MEMORIAM +



Long-time faithful LWML member, Marion Demmin, from Holy Ghost Lutheran Church, Bergholz, entered into eternal peace with her Savior on May 4th after a brief illness. Marion faithfully at-

tended zone and district events. She especially enjoyed attending National LWML Conventions and had hoped to attend this year's event.

PHILADELPHIA ZONE-

The Philadelphia Zone held its Spring Rally on Saturday, April 18th at Christ Memorial Lutheran Church in Malvern, PA. The theme was "Reflect the Glory of God" and the Rally text was John 17: 20-26.



The worship service was conducted by Pastor Mark "Skee" Jurkowski, our Zone Pastoral Counselor from Christ Memorial Lutheran Church. The guest speaker was nationally known author and radio host of "Women to

Women" Phyllis Wallace. Phyllis led us with the inspirational title "Watt's Up?" and helped us discover new ways to share the wonderful gospel message and we had just heard again at Easter. Six different churches were represented at the Rally!

Our Zone continues to donate clothing to our area Orphan Grain Train effort. Ladies also donate their time to sort and pack the clothing to be sent domestically and internationally. A silent and live auction will be held at the Desmond Hotel in Malvern, PA on Sunday, Oct. 4th to benefit OGT! All are welcome!

ANTHRACITE ZONE



Waneta Lingenfelter & Jean Schultz

The Anthracite Zone LWML Spring Workshop was held at St Peter's Lutheran Church in Wilkes Barre, PA on May 2, 2009 with 49 in attendance. The workshop, titled "A Time for Everything" from Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, was two-fold. The morning session helped us better understand the grief that often accompanies loss and presented ways for coping

with losses of many kinds including death of loved ones and pets, loss of jobs and financial security, loss of relationships, and the list goes on. Helpful resources were available and encouragement given that we who are in Christ do not have to grieve as those who have no hope.

Following a buffet lunch prepared by the ladies of St. Peter, a brief business meeting was held. The afternoon session included an excellent film tracing three patients in need of organ transplants through the process of waiting for and receiving an organ donation and the individual's recovery following the transplant. It detailed information about the need for and procedures of organ donations. A display of helpful information and take-home materials was available.

Presenters were Waneta Lingenfelter, LWML Eastern District Vice President Christian Life/Human Care and speaker for the Center for Organ Recovery and Education (CORE), and Jean Schultz of Family of Christ Lutheran Church, Bloomsburg. Jean has held many LWML offices both on the District and Zone level and served on the Eastern District LCMS Board of Directors. We were blessed with their presentation and Bible Study.



BUFFALO ZONE

The Buffalo Zone held it's Spring Workshop on May 2nd at First Trinity Lutheran Church, Tonawanda NY. We all enjoyed an inspiring presentation on missions to Haiti. We visited different stations where presenters reenacted and shared there experiences from their mission trips to Haiti. We all left with a new perspective and understanding of the mission field in Haiti.

PICNIC



The Buffalo Zone picnic will be held at Camp Pioneer on July 8 starting at 3 pm in Wendt Shelter. Dinner will be at 6. Bring a dish to pass, and your own table settings. The Zone Board will bring appetizers and dessert. We'll also have a White Elephant sale; so go through your things you no longer wish to keep and bring them along. For more information call Fern Suckow 833-0969.

Upcoming Events

September 18, 2009	Board of Director's Meeting Camp Pioneer
Sept. 18-29, 2009	Fall Retreat Camp Pioneer
October 4, 2009	LWML Sunday
June 18-20, 2010	2010 District Convention Radisson Hotel - Greentree Pittsburgh, PA

Be a Good Steward and Help Us Share

Society Presidents and LWML Representatives: If you are a society President or LWML contact person for your church, you are a very important person in our distribution of "The Link". This is not intended to be just your personal copy. You have been designated as our contact for your church. Either copy this issue for your society members, post it at church, or glean items from it to submit articles for your congregation's bulletin/newsletter and, above all, remember to inform your members at society meetings. **This is our only form of communication and we are counting on you to get the information out. If you feel your copy should be sent to a different address, please inform the Editor so she can update her records. Thank you for your help.**



LWML Sunday 2009

The first Sunday in October is the celebration Sunday for LWML.

The materials for LWML Sunday have been sent to your church or LWML representative

This year's LWML Sunday author is Rev. Dr. Warren Schumacher, President of the Northwest District LCMS 1994-2009 and opening worship proclaimer for the LWML Convention in Portland, Oregon. Rev. Schumacher, originally from Buckley, Illinois, received the Master of Divinity degree in 1965 from Concordia Theological Seminary, Springfield, Illinois, and an honorary Doctor of Laws (L.L.D.) degree from Concordia University, Portland, Oregon, in 1999. A new mission in Blaine, Washington, was started during his Vicarage.

This year the LWML CD includes a short video clip about LWML that can be shown to inform the congregation about LWML and its ministry. The CD will also contain the full service, sermon, children's message information and some extra promotional items.

Please order by September 1, 2009, to ensure availability and delivery for your October LWML Sunday 2009

Just a reminder, these material can be used on any Sunday to fit your church schedule.

The Link is available in e-mail format. If you would like to receive a copy via e-mail instead, please let me know and I will add you to my list of e-mail recipients.
Bev Wicher-Editor Bevajw@roadrunner.com



NEWS FROM PORTLAND CONVENTION

Our Mission Goal Climbs Higher!

Delegates chose a mission goal of \$1,825,000 for the 2009–2011 biennium. This is an increase of \$125,000 over the previous goal. Praise God for blessing the LWML with mission-minded women!

Give generously to Mites so that we can achieve this goal

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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:

Beverly Wicher
150 Unionvale Road
Cheektowaga, NY 14225

E-mail:
bevajw@roadrunner.com

The next deadline is September 1, 2009

The Link is published four times each year.

Deadlines to submit articles:

March 1, June 1, September 1, December 1

TOGETHER IN PRAYER

Don't forget to join your National LWML Sisters "Together in Prayer Every Monday at Noon". Pray for our National LWML, Our Districts, Our Zones, Our Societies and our "Mites" and Mission Grants that they may be used to spread the Gospel of Christ throughout the World. Each month there is a specific prayer emphasis listed on the National LWML Website at www.lwml.org and also in the LWML E-News.

The Eastern District LWML



Lutheran Women in Mission



Sail into the Future
Sisters Acting In Love

I
N
K



Together
Serving
the Lord
with
Gladness



WOW! The 2009 Portland LWML convention was most uplifting convention that I ever attended. From the moment I stood in the auditorium for the banner processional practice to the closing of the convention I was reminded that if we Look to the Hills – God Reigns. He truly reigns in each of our lives. This was my last convention as your President. I thank you for the opportunity to represent the Eastern District .

In his sermon during the convention’s opening worship service, **Rev. Dr. Warren Schumacher** spoke about God’s reign and the rain garden on the rooftop of the Oregon Convention Center that captures nine acres of falling water. “God does rain on us abundantly, but here it is usually softly, slowly, and tenderly. ... Turn your umbrella upside down and catch the blessings.”

Delegates to the 33rd Biennial Convention of the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League (LWML) adopted a **\$1.825 million mission goal for the 2009–11 biennium**. It is the largest in the organization’s 67-year history and will fund a record 19 mission grants.

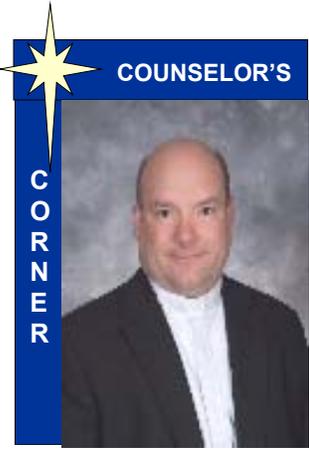
More than 3,200 people attended the convention, held in Portland, Oregon, June 25–28, under the theme “Look to the Hills ... God Reigns,” based on Psalm 121:1-2 and Isaiah 52:7. The LWML is the women’s auxiliary of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, the second-largest Lutheran denomination in North America. The funds raised by the organization’s 250,000 members nationwide over the next two years will be used to support the following mission grants:

- Defray Costs of Shipping Quilts by Lutheran World Relief – \$80,000
- Concordia Seminary, St. Louis Food Bank Relocation – \$50,000
- The Carpenter’s Hands – Youth Refurbish Homes in Florida – \$26,000
- Psalm 69:14 Project – Emergency Disaster Aid in Texas, Oklahoma, & Louisiana – \$50,000
- Digitize Classes for Specific Ministry Pastor Program, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana – \$36,000
- 10 Chapels, Transportation, and Pastoral Training in Tanzania – \$88,000
- Body and Soul Care for Children in India – \$50,000
- LCMS Prison Ministry Provides Devotional Materials – \$50,000
- Lutheran Braille Workers Provide English Braille Bibles – Africa – \$100,000
- Kyrgyzstan Locals Trained for Evangelism - \$100,000
- The Hope Center for Refugees and Immigrants – Ohio – \$90,000
- Human Care & Pastoral Ministries Developed in Latvia & Lithuania – \$87,500
- Mission Support to Disabled Children – Dominican Republic – \$50,000
- Native Leadership Scholarships for Students Enrolled in Ethnic Immigrant Institute of Theology – \$100,000
- Humanitarian Care Outreach in Kazakhstan – \$90,000
- International Student Ministry Provides Bibles & Christ-Oriented Resources – \$30,000
- Earthquake Relief Aid & Church Plants in Peru – \$100,000
- Light of Christ Chinese Lutheran Mission – St. Louis – \$75,000
- Humanitarian Aid Opens Mission Field in North Korea – \$82,482 *(revised amount from original News Release)*

In her president’s report, **LWML President Janice Wendorf** of Grafton, Wisconsin, challenged the attendees to make a commitment to be “In the Word, honoring a daily appointment with the Father and His Word; Of the Word, made over by the Holy Spirit, forgiven, and restored; Walking with the Lord, totally confident of Christ’s presence in serving and living.”

If you have never attended a convention, plan to go to Peoria, Illinois in 2011. We will meet with Atlantic, New Jersey, New England, English and SELC district. These 6 districts will be hosting the 2013 convention in Pittsburgh, Pa. More details to follow

**In His service,
Darlene Byrns, Eastern District President**



Fall is the time of year when the minds of all good Lutherans think of hot cinnamon cider, pumpkins and the Lutheran Reformation. Yes, the Reformation! We can't help that images of Luther's seal appear in our heads. We begin to hum the tune to *A Mighty Fortress is our God*. The Reformation is the defining moment in history for us. It is our heritage. During this important time in church history our church leaders reached into the Scriptures and, paying careful attention to the example of the ancient church, rediscovered God's grace for all humankind.

Our lives are in pieces. God is whole. We walk in the darkness of a fallen world collapsed upon itself. God is pure light. The philosophies of this world are based on foolishness. God is true wisdom. By God's grace alone, apart from our deeds, we are being transformed from what we were to what He is - pure, holy, righteous and loving. By God's grace, without any need for our abilities, we are being re-shaped into the image of God! This is done by the Spirit-filled Word of God that accomplishes exactly what it says it does. God says you are forgiven? Let there be no doubt – it's true. God says He gives you eternal life? It's a done deal. God says He has adopted you as His child? It's an absolute fact.

Sometimes it seems that the biggest problem for us is not wondering whether or not God can actually do all He says, but that He actually has done all that for us. We are sinful. We often do not have in mind the things of God. Our lives are easily filled with trouble, with most of it brought upon us by our own doing. We suffer from depression, addictions and broken relationships. We give in to temptations and knowingly break God's commandments. The fires of pride and arrogance are easily kindled in our hearts. How could the holy, powerful, eternally transcendent Divine Creator of all things so willingly give all those wonderful gifts to us? It is by His grace alone. After all, God is Love (1 John 4:16), and it is His nature to love us so. We do well to understand that the heart of God is love. After all, He provides us with all the fruits of His creation: The apples for the cider; the cinnamon we add to it as a flavorful spice; the pumpkins that become one of our favorite pies. He also provides us with the fruits of His new creation: The washing away of our sin; the water of His Spirit poured into our hearts; citizenship in God's eternal Kingdom of Light. These are the gifts that God bestows upon us by His grace.

A pastor once gave me a good example about church life. One of his members came to the back door of the parsonage and began to knock. In the man's arms was a large grocery bag. The pastor opened the door and greeted the parishioner. "Good morning, pastor!" the man replied. "I brought you a bag of fresh tomatoes. Our garden is doing very well this year and we have more than we can use." "That was very nice of you." said the pastor, taking the bag from the man. "I appreciate this very much!" After he had closed the door, he placed the bag of tomatoes on the kitchen counter next to several other large bags that were full of dozens of tomatoes that had previously been delivered by other church members. "You'll never be able to use all these tomatoes!" I replied. "True," he said, "But it is much better to graciously accept a gift like this than to reject it. I will surely be able to give some of these tomatoes to other people who can use them!"

I commend the action of this pastor to you as an example of how to receive the gifts God gives us by His grace. Willingly accept what Jesus brings to you until your life overflows with His forgiveness and love to the point you have enough even to share with those around you who also need what God has to give.

Rev. Ron Breight, LWML Eastern District Counselor



THANK YOU

A thank you was received from Deaconess Maggie Harris for our recent grant for the Reading for Tots Program at Community Lutheran Ministry in Rochester, NY. "Reading for Tots has been a very exciting experience. We started with seven (7) children ages 18

months to 4 years old. Classes were Saturday afternoon from 1:00 pm- 3:00 pm, children listened to stories, played games, listened to music, had a snack and created a craft.

Thanks so much. Be blessed. **Maggie Harris**

I wish to thank all my LWML Sisters and brothers for the cards, prayers and support during the recent loss of my mother. — **Claire Carlson**

Mission Grants

LAST CALL FOR MISSION GRANT REQUESTS DEADLINE OCTOBER 15!

If you have a mission outreach that you need help funding you can apply for a grant from the Eastern District LWML. For more information or an application please contact Chris Gasslein, Mission Grants Chairman, at 610-384-6093 or gasslein@comcast.net

GRANT PAYMENT UPDATE—

Mission Grant #4 for the Lutheran Campus Ministry on the Niagara Frontier has been paid and we are just awaiting the necessary authorization from Camp Restore to pay grant # 5 for victim aid relief at Camp Restore, New Orleans, LA. Keep giving generously to Mites.

Convention Highlights

The 601 delegates also elected new officers to help lead the organization over the next four years. Elected for four-year terms were:

- Patti Ross of Tulsa, Oklahoma, Vice President of Christian Life;
- Linda Arnold of Woodridge, Illinois, Vice President of Communication;
- Marilyn McClure of Tucson, Arizona, Vice President of Gospel Outreach;
- Judy Carlson of Paola, Kansas, Recording Secretary;
- Rev. Kristopher Whitby of Arlington Heights, Illinois, Pastoral Counselor.

Newly-elected members of the Nominating Committee are Dianne Diekmann of Yankton, South Dakota, who will serve as chairman; Lois Ford of Eustis, Florida; Pam Kercher of Billings, Montana; Melody Rosenwinkel of Irwin, Idaho; and Marcia Wittenburg of Baker, Louisiana.

The convention also featured processions with banners from all 40 LWML districts and the flags of 38 of the 50 countries where the LCMS has missionaries; activities for children and youth; a "Mission in Motion" pledge walk and exercise; inspiration from speaker Heidi Floyd, of the Vera Bradley Foundation for Breast Cancer; presentations by Lutheran missionaries; and performances by singer Lauren Randall and the Pride of Portland.



Eastern District attendees. Absent are Judy Grimm and her mom. Their flight was delayed.

EASTERN DISTRICT YWR

Kelly Gilbert served as our Young Woman Representative from the Eastern District. She enjoyed everything about the convention and looking forward to bringing it back to the Central NY Zone and the eastern District. She sends a big Thank You for selecting her to represent the Eastern District as the Young Women Representative.



President Byrns pins the YWR pin on Kelly Gilbert



LWML DISTRICT BANNER

Thanks to Gloria Stein, Pittsburgh for making our banner for the Portland convention. I was able to meet Gloria and her husband at the convention and thanked her personally.



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



REFLECTIONS ON THE NATIONAL LWML CONVENTION—BY KELLY GILBERT YWR

I would like to start off by again thanking the district for choosing and sending me to the National LWML Convention held in Portland, Oregon. The experience is one that I will never forget. When I was chosen as your YWR for the convention I was overwhelmed with joy and couldn't wait to go to the convention. My only fear was getting on a plane. I had not flown in eleven years. My fear was conquered when I arrived in Portland on a beautiful, sunny day.

I arrived on Wednesday, June 24th. Before I landed and got off of the plane, I looked out my airplane window and looked at the beautiful mountains that surrounded the area. God truly did remarkable work when he made those mountains. After settling into my hotel room, my first project took place at the convention center. I met a few more YWR's who also arrived a little earlier, at the Portland Convention Center and we collected the items for the servant event that the convention attendees were bringing in. On Thursday, I assisted with some more servant events and wrote cards to our soldiers that were wounded and still in Germany recovering. I also helped pack toiletry kits for woman and children that were in need of them. Friday was truly an experience as the YWR's met in a group for the first time. We all attended the opening of the convention and communed with over 3,000 Sisters in Christ. The feeling was overwhelming and spiritual when communion took place. Friday night, Heidi Floyd spoke eloquently as she shared her story of triumph and solely relied on the Lord to help her through her darkest time. God truly reigned in her life.

I started my day on Saturday with the Mission in Motion Walk across the street from the hotel. I then sat with our District President, Darlene Byrns, during the board meeting learning more about the missions that would be voted on. It was absolutely amazing to learn about how much money goes to our missions and how much the LWML assists people all over the world. Sunday we closed the convention and I caught a red eye out of Portland. When I arrived at the Syracuse Airport, my husband and five children met me at the airport as I walked out of the terminal. I looked up in the sky and said GOD REIGNS.

The Lord truly blessed me as I attended the National LWML Convention in Portland. As an YWR, we were showered with gifts and even got to take our picture with the National President, Jan Wendorf, who by the way, is a remarkable woman. Being able to surround myself with woman who were at the convention for one reason was an indescribable feeling. No matter where you are in your life always LOOK TO THE HILLS because GOD TRULY DOES REIGN.

*In His Name,
Kelly Gilbert
Young Woman Representative
National Convention in Portland, Oregon*

Save The Date!

*The Eastern District
Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention
June 18-20 2010
Radisson Hotel, Pittsburgh (Greentree) Pennsylvania*



Eastern District LWML

I am the vine, you are the branches. If a man remains in Me and in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing: John 15:5

How fitting the logo is for a summer event! It is in this season when we plant, eagerly anticipate growth and wait for the harvest. But, being nurtured and attached to the vine are crucial for the fruit's positive results!

Likewise, as believers in Christ, a living union with Him is "a must." Away from Him—the Vine—

certainly produces nothing, but "fruit" results when there is a meaningful union and fellowship with Him.

How thankful we are for His goodness and redeeming love, which we can celebrate when we meet together in Him!

See You in June—in Pittsburgh



Convention Committee—
Joyce Schumm, Marie Litke
Rev. Herb Schumm Waneta
Lingenfelter

NEWS FROM THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY

The ingathering of Mites at the 2009 Eastern District Retreat amounted to \$415.17, with an additional \$32.58 collected at the Board meeting, resulting in a total of \$447.75.

Reminder: Mite collections and Quarterly payments should be sent to the zone treasurer, who will forward them on to the district financial secretary. Memorials and honorariums can be sent directly to the district financial secretary.

Thank You to all of the zone treasurers for carefully completing the form and including it with your check when you mail in your zone mites and Quarterly payments. It ensures that the money is accounted for accurately. When I receive your envelope, I cut the stamp off and save it for the Stamps for Mission project (please leave a 1/4 inch margin.) I enjoy seeing the variety of stamps used by you when mailing in your mites and Quarterly payments.



In His service, Jackie Blank, Eastern District Financial Secretary

NEWS FROM DONNA COLEMAN—VP OF COMMUNICATIONS

HELP US KEEP OUR RECORDS UP TO DATE

October is the month for elections in many of our zones and societies. Please forward any changes to VP of Communications Donna Coleman.

ZONES: Either the Zone President or Zone Corresponding Secretary should forward the change in zone officers to Donna Coleman as soon as possible. Please include names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses. This will help to keep the District Directory up to date. Officer changes should also be sent to the District President.

SOCIETIES: If there has been a change in the President or LWML Representative please forward this information to Donna Coleman.

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S QUARTERLY: Any increases in subscriptions or changes in address of where the Quarterlies should be shipped should be sent to Donna Coleman at any time. Just a reminder, decreases in orders can only be made once a year with the next deadline of April 1, 2010. Hopefully societies have been able to cover the cost of the 2009-10 subscriptions or will do so before March 2010.

STATISTICS FOR NATIONAL: It is never too early to begin keeping track of statistics that are required by National LWML. Society presidents need to be ready to report to their zone president in two years how many women are involved with their local LWML and Zone Presidents, in turn, need to be ready to report on the number of zone activities and number of women involved in their zone for the biennium July 2009 through June 2011.

A NOTE TO ZONE PRESIDENTS: In keeping these statistics, this is one of the ways a zone will be able to determine if a society is "active". Another way is if a society contributes mites on a regular basis to the zone treasurer. At present there are more than 50 congregations in the Eastern District that have no active LWML participation. Perhaps zone presidents could spread the word about Individual LWML memberships. Information can be found in the LWML catalog for the procedure for obtaining membership.

Donna Coleman
VP of Communications
542 Burritt Road, Hilton, NY 14468
Email: dcoleman851@aol.com



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

Do you know where you will be in 2013?

I hope you have joined with me to host the 2013 national convention in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. We will be joined with five other districts: Atlantic, English New England, New Jersey and SELC. There are approximately **1400** days before the convention starts. We will need many of us to attend the Peoria convention in 2011 to observe how the host committee performs the tasks assigned to them. We will formally invite our LWML sisters from around the country to "our" convention in Pittsburgh in 2013.

In the meantime, we need to be fundraising for pre-convention expenses. Each district is expected to raise \$3000. You will be hearing about fundraising efforts in the near future. Darlene Byrns will be coordinating the recycling effort with five other districts. Look for news soon! Also start thinking how YOU would like to be involved in Pittsburgh. It will be a wonderful experience!



President Darlene

LOOKING FOR WILLING SERVANTS

"He has made everything suitable for its time" Ecclesiastes 3

As the nominating committee seeks out candidates for the positions listed below is it time for you to serve the Lord with gladness in one of these positions? Maybe you know of someone who could serve, please share those names with the committee. As your fall events, Joy Shops and all Lutheran Women gatherings are help this fall please talk and pray for those who could serve and the nominating committee. Thank you

The positions up for election in 2010-

- President
- Vice President of Christian Life/Human Care
- Vice President of Gospel Outreach/Servant Resources
- Treasurer
- Pastoral Counselor

The term of office will begin on June 20, 2010 and run for four consecutive years. All positions involve attending two board meetings a year and the District Convention. Nomination information can be obtained from your Zone Presidents or anyone on the nominating committee. We would love to hear from you-

Rebecca Bessell	585-964-7844	rb54@rochester.rr.com
Martha McGlynn	610-586-3589	marthamcglynn@verison.net
Claire Carlson	716-648-4678	patchtroop546@aol.com

IMPORTANT INFORMATION EDITOR CONTACT INFORMATION

As of November I will have a new address and phone number. I will also have a new e-mail address for LWML mail. My old e-mail address is still active but I would prefer to get LWML mail at this new address.

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E-mail lwmlink@roadrunner.com



KEEP COLLECTING THOSE STAMPS

Don't forget to keep saving your stamps for missions, they can be brought to any District event and we will see that they are distributed.

- * All cancelled stamps (not stamped envelopes) can be saved.
- * Leave plenty of envelope around the stamp. We need 1/4" around each stamp.
- * One pound of stamps equals one Bible in the language of the foreign country.

Trudy Sallach and Nancy Lingenfelter
Stamps for Missions co-chairs

Upcoming Events

October 15, 2009	Deadline for Grant Requests Deadline for Nominations
February 26-27, 2010	Board of Directors Meeting Rassison Hotel-Greentree Pittsburgh PA
June 18-20, 2010	2010 District Convention Radisson Hotel - Greentree Pittsburgh, PA
Sept. 17-19, 2010	Eastern District LWML Retreat Camp Pioneer

+ IN MEMORIAM +



Shirley Reeves and Dorothy Koschmann

Shirley Reeves, Central New York North Zone, received her crown of glory on July 16. Her Memorial Service was at Trinity Lutheran church in Utica, NY on July 20. Shirley was active in the LWML for many years.

If you wish to send a card to her husband, his address is

Dale Reeves
53 Cambridge Road
Whitesboro, NY 13492

Be a Good Steward and Help Us Share

Society Presidents and LWML Representatives: If you are a society President or LWML contact person for your church, you are a very important person in our distribution of "The Link". This is not intended to be just your personal copy. You have been designated as our contact for your church. Either copy this issue for your society members, post it at church, or glean items from it to submit articles for your congregation's bulletin/newsletter and, above all, remember to inform your members at society meetings. **This is our only form of communication and we are counting on you to get the information out. If you feel your copy should be sent to a different address, please inform the Editor so she can update her records. Thank you for your help.**

NEWS FROM NATIONAL LWML

Flooding in Georgia Brings Response from LWML



Recent flooding in Georgia has prompted LWML members to send monetary donations to assist those affected by the disaster. Donations may be made directly to the LWML Disaster Relief Fund through the Web site www.lwml.org. Click on the **Giving** link on the left side of the home page and follow the directions for making a donation. Under **Donation Type** scroll down and select **Disaster Relief Fund**. Donations also can be made by calling the LWML Office at 1.800.252.LWML (5965) or by mail to: LWML, P.O. Box 411993 St. Louis MO 63141-1993

"Lutheran Women in Mission continue to pray for those who have lost loved ones in the flooding in Georgia. May God grant strength, encouragement, and assurance of His presence as the people of that area cope with the impact of this natural disaster and begin the massive clean-up," said LWML President Janice Wendorf.

2010 POCKET DIARY AVAILABLE FROM LWML



Just in time for fall Lutheran Women in Mission gatherings and holiday stocking stuffers, the 2010 LWML Pocket Diary is now available by contacting the LWML office at 800.253.LWML (5965) or through the Web site at www.lwml.org

This valuable tool for your purse or pocket includes many convenient features that will be of benefit including:

- * A place to record daily prayer requests and God's response to them;
- * Reminders to be *Together in Prayer* for the LWML every Monday at noon;
- * Scripture readings for Sundays and Festivals to help enrich preparation for worship;
- * Mission Grants list for 2009-2011, as well as prayers for these vital missions that spread the Good News of Jesus around the world;
- * Contact information for the members of the LWML Executive Committee;
- * Projected LWML meeting dates - 2010 district convention dates and them;
- * and much more to help keep informed about the work of the LWML.

The LWML Pocket Diary is only \$2.50, or 10 for \$2.00 each. A limited number are available with a purple vinyl cover for \$3.50. This "must have" LWML tool, with its many valuable resources, will assist any busy woman in keeping track of the important details that daily life brings.

News From Around the Zones

NIAGARA ZONE

Fall Rally

Saturday, October 10, 2009, 10:00-2:00

Holy Ghost Lutheran Church, Bergholz (Niagara Falls)

Morning session:

Ingathering for YWCA Carolyn's House in Niagara Falls, a supportive housing program for homeless women and children.

Opening devotion by Host Pastor, Rev. Philip Sallach
Zone business meeting, election of officers

Update on Lutheran Campus Ministries, recent ED LWML grant recipient

Potluck luncheon at noon

Afternoon session:

Speaker: Teresa Martinez, Director of Carolyn's House
Installation of new officers and closing devotion by Rev. Bruce Donley, Zone Counselor

ANTHRACITE ZONE

LWML Fall Rally

LWML Sunday, October 4, 2009

St John's Pittston, PA—Registration 2:30 PM

"Jesus puts a song in my heart"

*Make a joyful
noise unto the
Lord...Psalm
100: 1*

**Featuring "The
Grace Praise
Team"**

**Karen Devan,
Dana Smith
Kelly Gilbert,
and Kathy
Pavelock**



**FROM LWML Central New York North Zone
Grace Lutheran Church
Canastota, New York**

GENESEE ZONE

Genesee Zone Autumn Awakenings

Saturday, November 7, 2009

**Concordia Lutheran Church, 6601 Fourth Section RD,
Brockport, NY 14420-2447**

Join us for study of God's Word, fellowship and craft fun. The theme is "Growing In the Knowledge of God" Colossians 1:10. 8:30 am registration program from 9 am-2:30 pm. Author Ann Werk from Batavia will speak about her books and choosing good Christian literature. Christine Hunt will speak about herbs of Christmas and there will be lunch and time to make a Thanksgiving napkin holder for shut-ins or nursing home residents. Please contact Sharon Fuerch at 585-494-1660 or sfuerch@bbschools.org

PITTSBURGH ZONE

The Pittsburgh Zone 2010 Convention Committee met at Calvary Lutheran Church in Murrysville on August 22. The next meeting will be held October 10, 2009 at 10:00 AM.

The Board of Director's meeting of the Pittsburgh Zone LWML met Saturday, August 22 at 1:00 PM at Calvary Lutheran, Murrysville, PA. Deaconess Nancy Lingenfelter, President called the meeting to order. Reports were given by the officers. Revision of zone bylaws, mission grants, prayer service offering and recipients for 2010 were discussed. Due to 2010 Convention, it was discussed to combine Joyshop and Spring Rally to be held April 17, 2010. A decision will be made at the Fall Rally.

Fall Rally will be St. John's Lutheran Church in Munson, PA on **October 4, 2009, 3 pm Cost \$5.50**. The program speaker will be Kathleen Campanella, director of Partner and Public Relations at the Brethren Service Center, New Windsor, MD. Ingathering will be various kits, sewing, layette, school or health for Lutheran World Relief and also quilts.

PHILADELPHIA ZONE

Greetings from the Philadelphia Zone! As fall approaches, we praise God for the opportunities to serve Him! The Philadelphia Zone Executive Board met on Saturday, Sept. 26th at 10:00 a.m. at Christ Memorial Lutheran Church in Malvern, PA to finish plans for the Fall Rally and look forward to the Spring 2010 Rally and hosting Retreat in 2010.

The Fall Rally is taking shape! We will be hosting the Philadelphia Zones of the Eastern and English Districts at Hope Lutheran Church in Levittown, PA on Saturday, October 17th from 10-2. All are welcome! The theme will be "God Provides Our Strength" from 1Peter 4:11. Pastoral Counselor "Skee" Jurkowski will lead the worship service and bible study. Susan Bell will share pictures and stories of the LWML National Convention in Portland, OR. Our guest speakers will be Irene McFadden and representatives from the Center for Short Term Missions who will share recent mission trip stories and help us learn how we can participate in short term missions. It will be a great day of worship, bible study, sharing, learning, food and fellowship! Please try to join us if you can.

Our Zone continues to donate clothing to our area Orphan Grain Train effort. Ladies also donate their time to sort and pack the clothing to be sent domestically and internationally. A silent and live auction will be held at the Desmond Hotel in Malvern, PA on Sunday, Oct. 4th to benefit OGT! Everyone is invited!



Irene McFadden

BUFFALO ZONE

The Buffalo Zone had their annual picnic at Camp Pioneer July 8, 2009 with 6 churches represented; it was an enjoyable afternoon.

The Buffalo Zone Fall Rally was held September 27 at Salem in South Buffalo with a presentation of District News and Highlights presented by the Eastern District LWML.

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Vacant

Junior Pastoral Counselor

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The Link is now available in e-mail format. If you would like to receive a copy via e-mail, please let me know and I will add you to my list of e-mail recipients.
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Next Deadline

Please send all news articles and information for publication to:

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**TOGETHER IN PRAYER**

Don't forget to join your National LWML Sisters "Together in Prayer Every Monday at Noon". Pray for our National LWML, Our Districts, Our Zones, Our Societies and our "Mites" and Mission Grants that they may be used to spread the Gospel of Christ throughout the World. Each month there is a specific prayer emphasis listed on the National LWML Website at www.lwml.org and also in the LWML E-News.

PowerPak for LWML Mission Grants Now Available



Information on the mission grants adopted at the 2009 LWML Convention in Portland is now ready for sharing through the latest edition of the PowerPak, a free downloadable resource. This special collection of 19 distinctive 8 ½ by 11 inch posters features attractive photos, along with a prayer, for each of the mission grants for the 2009-2011 biennium. PowerPak is offered to encourage support and commitment to the work that will be accomplished through the funding of each of these LWML supported grants that are a part of the 2009-2011 biennium Mission goal of \$1,825, 000.

Each colorful poster may be printed, distributed and shared. The design of the posters also allows for printing attractive black/white copies. Some suggested uses for the PowerPak include:

- linking to online blogs or newsletters;
- creating or accentuating themes for school bulletin boards and Sunday School displays;
- incorporating into a Power Point presentation;
- using for personal and family prayer and devotions;
- placing printed sheets on fellowship hall bulletin boards; and
- using as newsletter inserts.

The PowerPak is available as a **free** download from the LWML Website at www.lwml.org

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