





#### God's Word in Action

As I mentioned in the Fall 2017 LWML Eastern District LINK, I had the opportunity to travel to Florida with the Eastern District Lutheran Early Response Team as we brought assistance and God's Love to some of those affected by Hurricane Irma. It was an eye-opening experience as we met overwhelmed victims in their hours of despair. Even though we were not able to complete all the clean-up and repairs needed for each place that we served, I witnessed a transformation of these people. In each case and after spending some quality listening time and looking

at their pictures and praying with them, smiles appeared on their faces and I could see God lifting their burdens through Jesus Christ. One woman even said, "I have my home back!" [This was said even though we only were able to clean-up about 25% of the destruction in her yard.] This is God's Word in action: "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand" Isaiah 41:10. God's Word is in action all around us. I pray that you all take a break from your



busy schedules to listen and observe all the Blessings that God provides and promises through His Word.

As I prepare this article we are in the final month of 2017 and soon will be beginning 2018. Just as 2017 was a busy year with anniversary celebrations, (LWML 75 years, LWML Eastern District 65 years with Pioneer), 2018 promises to be a busy, but exciting year, too! In June, we will gather in convention as we elect new officers, select new mission grants to support for the next biennium, and are in fellowship with our Sisters in Christ. I give thanks to God for the Niagara Zone as they continue to work very hard planning and preparing for this convention. Please keep watch for important information coming out in the next few months about the convention, especially delegate selection.

The Rev. Dr. John Sound will be our Keynote speaker. You may remember that Pastor Sound was our Pastoral Counselor from 1998-2005. The seven years includes his own 4-year term plus filling-in when other elected councilors had to resign, until he accepted a call to the Chesapeake District. He has told me that he is excited to speak on our Theme, "The Voice of the Lord: Enlightening, Electrifying, and Empowering."

I am excited to announce that LWML President Patti Ross will be our national representative. It is an honor to have President Patti come to Niagara Falls from Oklahoma especially since the president can't make it to every District Convention across the U.S. President Patti is also happy about our theme and mentioned to me that we are adding more "E" words to her list. You may know that Patti's theme for her term is "Lutheran Women in Mission - Engage, Encourage, Equip, Enjoy."

I was in Niagara Falls in November to exhibit LWML Eastern District at the District Professional Church Workers Conference. I stayed at the DoubleTree where we will hold our convention and was able to walk to the falls, take some nice pictures, and

Together Serving The Lord With Gladness For 73 years



(Continued on next page)

#### PRESIDENT'S ARTICLE CONTINUED

take in God's creation. I have been to Niagara Falls, Canada several times, but not to Niagara Falls, NY (or at least I don't remember it). Everything was great even though there was the first snow fall of the year. I am pretty sure there will be no snow in June so it will be an even greater time for you! I pray that you will consider coming to the 2018 LWML Eastern District Convention and see for yourself how God's Word in action is enlightening, electrifying, and empowering! Serving Him Always,

Kathy Pavelock





**John 1:1-5** "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life

was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."



Winter time is one of my favorite times of the year. There is lots of fun to be had outside like; building snowmen, snowball fights with the kids, sledding, skiing, and in some places sleigh rides. And there is a lot to enjoy inside as well like; curling up in front of a fire with a good book and a hot cup of tea, playing games with the family, or watching a movie together. Winter time can be a very tough time of year. The days are shorter and the nights are longer. And our mood can match the cold darkness that lingers outside most of the

time. Many people suffer from "Seasonal Affective Disorder" (SAD) at this time of the year due to the lack of sun light. Seasonal Affective Disorder can be very serious, especially with people who are battling depression or those who may have bipolar. But the most dangerous is when it affects people who don't realize what is happening to them. The darkness of the world can envelope a person causing them to feel hopeless and despair.

Our sins can have the same affect on us as SAD. Everyone suffers from "Sinful Affective Disorder" and it is extremely deadly. That is why it is greatly important to keep in mind that it was into this dark, cold, sinful, and dead world that the life and light of men came to dispel the darkness. The Word of God was made flesh, Jesus Christ, and He came into this dark world so that those who sit in darkness can see a great light that not even darkness can overcome.

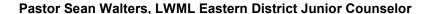


Did you know that a flame of a candle cannot cast a shadow? It can't because a shadow is darkness. The light of Christ doesn't cast a shadow either. Christ has paid the price for all of our sins and to feel as though you can't be forgiven for a certain sin is to say that Christ suffering and death wasn't good enough, more needs to be paid. But I assure you that His suffering and death were more than enough to wash away every sin. The cross doesn't cast a shadow; Jesus blood on it dispels all sin and darkness.

When the light and life of the world enters into the darkness of death and the grave, death could not overcome Jesus. The light and life of the world shined brightly as the grave opened and heaven opened, praising God. And remember that we cannot get to Easter unless we go

through the hours of darkness on Good Friday. The light and life of the world is still shinning, still dispelling the darkness in every crack and cravats of our being, and Jesus never stops radiating God's grace and glory even in the darkest periods of our life.

Winter and the long hours of darkness don't last forever. Soon spring will be here and the gloom of the long winter months will have melted away. The same is true for the light and life of the world, Jesus Christ. As sure as spring, sunny days, and better times ahead are coming, Christ is coming again. Like the sun in the sky lights up the world, the Son of God will come on the clouds to dispel darkness forever. God Himself tells us that in the new heaven and the new earth there will not be a sun. There will be no need for one, because God's radiating glory will be our light. And there will never be another night again because we will be in the presence of the light and life of God, Jesus Christ. Amen!



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

Do you recognize this picture? Those of you who attended the LWML 2015 National Convention in Des Moines, Iowa may remember it. A seed packet containing a Mustard Seed Devotion - REJOICE! "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." Psalm 118:24.

Sometimes Gospel Outreach is found in the strangest places. This was clear when a sports coat my husband purchased while we were in Florida this year had an interesting item in one of the side pockets. He didn't find it until we returned from Florida. Much to his surprise, he reached into the pocket and there he found the same Mustard Seed packet! Who placed it there, we don't know but it seems to us that someone had purposely left it there to share the Good News of Jesus with others.



Gospel Outreach doesn't need to be done in an extraordinary manner, it can be as "simply" as visiting a neighbor who is alone, sharing a meal, shoveling their sidewalk, or just calling them to say hi. In this case it was the simple act of leaving the seed packet in a sports coat pocket.

I believe "with God all things are possible" Matthew 19:26. It doesn't take a whole lot of effort to spread the "Good News"!

May the Love of the Christ Child surround your home with peace and joy this Christmas and throughout 2018.

Dee E. Grzyb

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

#### Happy New Year from Christian Life & Special Focus

As I write this article we are approaching the middle of Advent and a new church year. God's blessings to all of you as we celebrate this special time knowing the forgiveness and salvation that God has freely given



to us through His Son, Jesus Christ. It's also a good time to remember our LWML sisters and brothers who serve our District and beyond in so many different ways. On that note I'd like to send a big thank you to Bea Hapeman who has asked to step down from her position as chairman of Special Focus. At this time Bea feels that she is unable to continue in this role. Bea is an asset to LWML and stepping down from this position will not keep her from serving in her church, Zone and District. Many thanks Bea for all you have done and will continue to do. I love the "Tea with Bea" at camp.

Our co-chair for Special Focus is Sharon Wolff. Sharon has graciously accepted the request to move up to chairman and finish out Bea's term. A new co-chair will be appointed after our District Convention in June. Many thanks to Sharon as she takes on these additional responsibilities at this time.

Our Christian Life chair is Judy Grimm and her co-chair is Kelly Gilbert. Please use these gals and myself to assist you in any way we can with Christian Life or Special Focus. Also use the LWML website (LWML.org) with its many ideas.

Serving Him, Karen Devan, Vice President Christian / Special Focus

"Sing for joy to God our strength..." Psalm 81:1





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

The theme for the 2018 LWML Eastern District Convention will be "The Voice of the Lord"......Enlightening, Electrifying and Empowering. The full Bible verse on which we will meditate for the weekend is Psalm 29: 3-4 "The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, upon many waters. The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty."

The Niagara Zone will host the 2018 District Convention at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel in Niagara Falls, New York.

The 2018 District Convention Committee has been meeting faithfully to plan and provide for an inspiring and uplifting convention experience. We have been listening for the Voice of the Lord to guide us in our plans and it is amazing to see what is coming together in His Plan.

The keynote speaker will be The Rev. Dr. John Sound. Dr. Sound served as the LWML Pastoral Counselor of LWML Eastern District from 1998-2005. He is no stranger to the Eastern District and he is blessed and thrilled to be speaking at the 2017 LWML Eastern District Convention.

Two other very special guests will be joining us! The LWML National Representative will be none other than our national President, Patti Ross. Jan Struck, who has been a speaker several times at our LWML Eastern District Fall Retreats and has also served as humorist at many LWML National Conventions, will also be in attendance.

A registration form in included with this newsletter. **Deadline is April 30, 2018**. The form includes interest sessions that will be offered, however, **note they are subject to change**. We en-

courage you to express your interest in attending them so that plans for time and adequate space can be preplanned.



Convention Site – Back of the Double-Tree Hilton facing the Niagara River

A group tour is being planned for Friday, June 1 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at a cost of \$30. The tour includes round trip van transportation from hotel to Observation Tower, Maid of the Mist dock, and some time to tour Prospect Point. A minimum number of 20 is required. Please register and express your interest early. If there is not enough interest, the tour will be cancelled by May  $1^{st}$  and registrants notified.

Sometime during late January/early February convention packets will be mailed to your Zone President. Your Zone President will share the information with the societies in her Zone. The packet will include all things convention related: registration forms, Mite Walk information and sign-up forms, Gifts From the Heart publicity flyer, hotel and meals information, on your own leisure activities and tour information. President Kathy Pavelock will also be including information regarding delegates.



Rev. John Sound

LWML President Patti Ross



Jan Struck

The Convention Committee consists of

Convention Chairman	Barbara Williams	Meals	Alice Pfonner
Convention Co-Chairman	Shellie Knupp	Mite Walk	Julie Tapp
Convention Secretary	Kathi Rickus	Music	Jan Voelker
Convention Treasurer	Kathy Burkett	Properties	Barb Williams & Team
District Liaison	Bev Wicher	Photography	Shellie Knupp
Pastoral Counselor	Rev. Bob Hoffman	Publicity	Barb Williams/Bev Wicher
Banner/Logo	Shellie Knupp	Registration	Terry Hoffman
Displays & Exhibits	Laurie Bauch	Special Needs	Margaret Stoelting
Entertainment	Amanda Fink	Tote Bags	Cheri Briggs
Favors & Decorating	Amanda Fink	Tours	Kathi Rickus
Hospitality	Alice Pfonner	Ushers	Julie Tapp
Housing	Terry Hoffman		

#### 2018 District Convention – Gifts From the Heart



Heart Love and Soul is a non-profit organization dedicated to feeding those in need; body, mind and soul. Since 1982, this entity has served as an oasis of hope and help serving the residents ART Love & Soul III of Western New York, especially the Niagara Falls area. Aware of the needs in their neighborhood, Heart, Love and Soul was founded by the prayer group of Sacred Heart Parish. Members

of the prayer group were inspired by Jesus' words in Matthew 25, "Whatever you do the least of your brothers and sisters, you do to me."

The original food pantry grew into a dining program. Meals were prepared in a store front location and taken to a church to be served. The church location changed as space was available. In 2003 the current location was purchased and renovated. It had previously been a Salvation Army site. Today, the pantry, kitchen and dining room are all at the one site. For its dining room an average of 60 meals at breakfast and 150 meals at lunch are served each day. The food pantry serves over 700 individuals each month.

Other services and programs include a Community Care Coordinator to offer health and wellness guidance through the Community Care Program of Mount Saint Mary's Hospital and a caseworker who works with quests and veterans. Heart, Love and Soul also opens its doors to Courage to Change (Narcotics Anonymous) meetings, holds annual seasonal type events, and stocks a Necessary Shop. Once a month guests registered in the pantry are referred to obtain certain household and toiletry items.

#### Wish List of Items Needed

Men's tube socks – white or black Women's tube socks – white or black Bath towels and wash clothes Toilet paper Twin bed sheets/pillow cases Twin bed "bedbug proof" covers Twin bed blankets Men's underwear - S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL Tee shirts - M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL School supplies – pens, pencils, and colored pencils



Sister Beth Brosmer serves as the Executive Director of Heart, Love and Soul. She has committed to being with us the afternoon of Saturday, June 2, 2018 to speak about their programs and receive our Gifts From the Heart. If you would like to learn more please visit their website at heartloveandsoul.org.

#### NATIONAL LWML GIVING TUESDAY UPDATE



All praise and thanks to God for the results of our Giving Tuesday November 28, 2017! \$26,314.05 was gathered for Giving Tuesday! Bringing us to a grand total of \$46,314.05 with the matching funds. Thanks to all of the LWML family that generously shared their God-given blessings to fund missions around the world that proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ! Thanks to our generous matching fund donors for challenging us to share even more! Many people will be blessed through these offerings.

## News From Around The Zones

#### **BUFFALO ZONE**

Our LWML sisters at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Batavia, NY did a fantastic job hosting the Buffalo Zone Fall Rally on September 30<sup>th</sup>. We had a great time learning from Chet Fery, also known as the "Breadman," how random acts of kindness shared with a loved one, friend or complete stranger can make such a difference in the world and open up dialogue and opportunities to share the love of Christ. We were all treated to a fresh loaf of his delicious home-made bread and a lovely lunch from the St. Paul society!

We also had the opportunity to learn about Care-A –Van Ministries and the very special work that founders Paul and Bridget Ohlson are doing taking the word of God out to the streets to people throughout the Batavia community with their



mobile church, truck, bus and van providing teaching, prayer and food to college students, senior citizens and those in need. We had the opportunity to tour their incredible mobile ministry vehicles – just amazing!



The in-gathering provided supplies for St. Paul's Blessing Box which they constructed in May to provide nonperishable food and toiletry items to families in the neighborhood. What

a blessing!! Those who need a little something can take it and those who have a little extra can leave something.



Buffalo Zone elections were held and the following positions were filled – Kathy Fisher as Secretary and I as Vice President. I am delighted for the opportunity to partner with you all and serve in this capacity!

Bonnie Sugrue, Buffalo Zone Vice President

#### **PHILADELPHIA ZONE**

The Philadelphia Zone held its Fall Rally on November 11 at St. Philip's Lutheran Church. Due to the hospitalization of our Zone Counselor, Rev. Marcus Sims (on the morning of the rally), we opened with an inspiring praise service in place of worship. Both the service and the bible study that followed carried out the theme "Our Amazing God".



The speaker for the rally was Ms. Martha Moser, Director of the Victory Christian Outreach Center, an affiliate of the Lutheran Braille Workers. The center provides ongoing support services for

the visually impaired population in the Philadelphia area and is a part of the network of centers throughout the LCMS. In recent years the financial support on the synodical basis has diminished thus local support has been increasingly sought after. Several of our Philadelphia societies have contributed, as well as, one society providing transportation, meals, bible study and a meeting space for the participants. We look forward to increasing our support in the future. To God be the glory.



The women of St. Philip's provided a great lunch and a special LWML salad display (macaroni, potato etc.). Very creative!

Jacqui Green, Philadelphia Zone President

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

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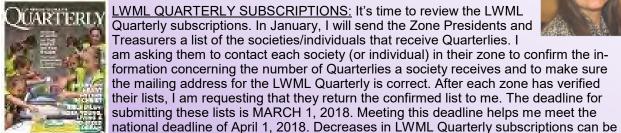
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EASTERN DISTRICT									
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		Session 2: Jan Struck (further details forthcoming spring 2018)							
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#### NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATION—BETH QUINN

#### **QUARTERLIES**



LWML QUARTERLY SUBSCRIPTIONS: It's time to review the LWML Quarterly subscriptions. In January, I will send the Zone Presidents and Treasurers a list of the societies/individuals that receive Quarterlies. I am asking them to contact each society (or individual) in their zone to confirm the information concerning the number of Quarterlies a society receives and to make sure the mailing address for the LWML Quarterly is correct. After each zone has verified their lists, I am requesting that they return the confirmed list to me. The deadline for submitting these lists is MARCH 1, 2018. Meeting this deadline helps me meet the

made only once a year. Increases and changes of address can be made anytime dur-

ing the year. All payments should be sent through the Zone Treasurers.

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



#### DIRECTORY CHANGES

Thank you for the updates to the LWML Eastern District Directory. If there are additional updates, please send me all changes to names, addresses, phone numbers and emails of pastors, socie-

ty presidents, and zone officers to me as soon as possible. Directories are published in February/March timeframe and are distributed at the Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings. By sending the changes as soon as they occur allows me to keep the Directory up-todate.

#### LWML NEW LOGO - CUSTOMIZE FOR YOUR SOCIETY

By now you have seen the new LWML logo unveiled at the Convention in Albuquerque, NM this past June. The logo can be customized for your society with your society's name or your church if you like. See the one that Christ Memorial is now using.

Why green for Societies and Zones? The color and design is based on the branding guidelines distributed by LWML national. A copy of these guidelines can be found on the LWML Eastern website at 'http://east-distlwml.org/officers.html'



If you would like a customized logo for your society, please send me an email with the name you'd like on the logo. All Zone Presidents have customized Zone logos.

## LWML Eastern District Shirt Fundraiser

New Style



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

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

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

Claire Carlson
patchtroop546@aol.com or
716-597-8568.
All shirts must be prepaid.

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



Eastern District Legacy of Love Endowment

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

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

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



March 2-3, 2018 ED/BOD meeting

June 1, 2018 EC Meeting

June 1-3, 2018 ED LWML Convention

Niagara Falls, NY

Sept 15, 2018 EC Meeting

Sept. 15-16, 2018 Fall Retreat Camp Pioneer

June 20-23, 2019 National Convention Mobile, Alabama

Report of the Financial Secretary

Judy Morrison

September 1, 2017 – November 30, 2017

Mites: \$4,894.87

Memorials Given in remembrance of: (September 1, 2017 – November 30, 2017)

In Memory of:: Given By:

Jan Voelker Kathy Pavelock

Glen and Linda Bahr

Beth Quinn

Pittsburgh Zone

Velma Speer St. Paul Adella Society

In Honor of:

**Confirmation Class** 

CMLC Beth Quinn

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



#### **Executive Committee**

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

#### Vice President of Communication

Beth Quinn, 558 Westwind Drive, Berwyn, PA 19312 610-761-0263 beth@quinnfamily.net

#### Vice President of Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources

Dee Grzyb, 56 Hanover St., Lancaster NY 14086 716-393-3670 <u>d e grzyb@msn.com</u>

#### Vice President of Christian Life/Special Focus

Karen Devan, 6438 Lake Shore S., Canastota, NY 13032 315-761-4004 DPDevan@aol.com

#### **Recording Secretary**

Susan Bell, 814 Dover Court Place, Downingtown, PA 19335 610-518-0681 susanbell557@comcast.net

#### Financial Secretary

Judy Morrison, 7 Albano Dr., Hilton, NY 14668 585-484-8138 juclkemo@gmail.com

#### Treasurer

Beth Scholl, 912 Birch Lane, PO Box 459, Sylvan Beach, NY 13157 315-264-2591 gbds2000@yahoo.com

#### Senior Pastoral Counselor

Rev. Kristian Bjornstad, 60 E. Parker St. Scranton, PA 18509 570-343-9828 pastor@yourpeace.org

#### Junior Pastoral Counselor

Rev. Shawn Walters, 1302 E. Washington St., New Castle, PA 16101 724-658-8009 pastorseangw@gmail.com

#### Appointed By the President

#### Parliamentarian

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

#### Planner

Barbara Williams, 6132 Prospect St., Newfane NY 14108 716-778-8824 brwcpa421@aol.com

#### **Appointed By the Executive Committee**

#### Editor

Bev Wicher, 19 Vernon Drive, Cheektowaga, NY 14225 716-913-4140 lwmllink@gmail.com

#### **Public Relations Director**

Claire Carlson, 4701 Southwestern Blvd., Apt.. L2, Hamburg, NY 14075 716-597-8568 patchtroop546@aol.com

#### Archivist/Historian

Chris Gasslein, 112 Stillwagon Lane, Coatesville, PA 19320 610-384-6093 gassleinc@comcast.net

#### Legacy of Love Coordinator

Rebecca Bessell, 7048 Benedict Beach, Hamlin, NY 14464 585-415-6368 <u>rlb54@rochester.rr.com</u>

#### Stamps for Missions Coordinators

Vacant

#### Stamps for Missions courier

Judy Nordell, 165 Park Ridge Dr., Easton, PA 18040 610-250-9661 jondell@rcn.com

#### Appointed by Board of Directors

#### Mission Grants Chair

Anita Getty, 318 North Rd., Middlebury, PA 16935 570-376-2143 amgemt@ptd.net

#### Mission Grants Co-Chairs

Cheri Briggs, PO Box 87, Lockport, NY 14094 716-560-6905, CBriggs109@yahoo.com

#### Christian Life Chair

Judy Grimm, 9 Glendale Dr., Mountain Top, PA 18707 570-403-6194 jacg715@ptd.net

#### Christian Life Chair Co-Chair

Kelly Gilbert, 8696 NYS Rt. 3, Blossvale, NY 13308 315-820-4006 kelly.gillbert1@yahoo.com

#### Structure Chair

Carolyn Krause, 5 Meadow Side Lane Pittsford, NY 14534 585-582-6177, cmkk@att.net

#### Structure Co-Chair

Susan Morris, 3301 Hartford Ct., Newtown Square, PA 19073 215-514-8678 morrissusan68@gmail.com

#### Special Focus Chair

Sharon Wolff, 9926Francis Rd., Batavia, NY 14020

585-344-1947, swolff3@rochester.rr.com

#### Special Focus Co-Chair

Vacant

#### Leader Development Chair

Krystal Harmon-Burton, 520 State Rt. 69, Camden, NY 13316

harmon0726@gmail.com

#### Leader Development Co-Chair

Becca Futty, 601 E. Cypress Street Unit #3, Kennett Square, PA 19348 484-319-2398 rebeccafutty@gmail.com

#### 2018 District Convention Liaison

Bev Wicher, 19 Vernon Drive, Cheektowaga, NY 14225

716-913-4140 lwmllink@gmail.com

#### Eastern District Recycling Fundraiser Chairman

Alice Pfonner, 136 Hamilton Blvd., Kenmore, NY 14217 716-873-9377, alicepfonner@aol.com

#### Webmaster

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

#### Zone Presidents

#### Anthracite Zone

Dawn Corbin, 5571 Lindaville Rd, Hop Bottom, PA 18824 570-289-4822 Dawn corbin@yahoo.com

#### **Buffalo Zone**

Dee Grzyb, 56 Hanover St., Lancaster NY 14086 716-393-3670 <u>d\_e\_grzyb@msn.com</u>

#### Cattaraugus-AlleganyZone

Robin Swanson, 940 Creek Rd., Sugar Grove, PA 16350 814-489-3411, tr72\_go@hotmail.com

#### Central New York North Zone

Linda Bahr, 7638 Gifford Road, Rome, NY 13440 315-339-1979, linda@gbahr.com

#### Central New York South Zone

Anita Getty, 318 North Rd., Middlebury, PA 16935 570-376-2143 amgemt@ptd.net

#### Genesee Zone

Rebecca Bessell, 7048 Benedict Beach, Hamlin, NY 14464 585-964-7844 <u>rlb54@rochester.rr.com</u>

#### Niagara Zone

Laurie Bauch, 69 Morrow Ave., Lockport, NY 14094 716-434-5982, LMBauch@aol.com Philadelphia Zone

Jacqui Green, 6103 Nassau St., Philadelphia, PA 19151 215-473-1421 jacquig2@verizon.net

#### Pittsburgh Zone

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





Please send all news articles and information for publication to:

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

E-mail: <a href="mailto:lwmllink@gmail.com">lwmllink@gmail.com</a>

#### The next deadline is March 1, 2018

The Link is published four times each year. April 1, July 1, October 1, January 1

Deadlines to submit articles:

March 1, June 1, September 1, December 1

#### **DEVOTION FROM LWML WEBSITE**

#### **Christmas Eve 2017**

"... and the glory of the Lord shown around them." Luke 2:9b

Christmas Eve is such a beautiful time. One of my favorite Christmas Eve memories is of December 25, 1985. I was a vicar at St. John's, Osage, IA. It was an extremely cold (-20) clear night in the north-central lowa country. Snow all around. No wind. The stars shining brightly in the night sky.

We came out of Christmas Eve worship, looked up at the stars and knew, this was the night that the glory of the Lord shown around us. In silence my wife Penny and I gazed up at the night sky.

"The glory of the Lord" shown all around us that night. Perhaps you have that special Christmas Eve memory. We rejoiced that night at the good news of the birth of our Savior. Each year as we celebrate Christmas Eve, we continue in those songs of praise that the Son of God came to this sinful world to save us.

Ever since the shepherds first saw the angels, the children of God have praised His name for His radiant reflections of love shown to us in the birth of His Son. The LWML continues to lift up the name of God not only on Christmas Eve but every day of the year.

As 2017 comes to a close, the radiant reflections of the 75<sup>th</sup>anniversary shine just as brightly. I would encourage you to order a copy of Radiant Reflections for use in your devotional life. You can order it at cph.org.

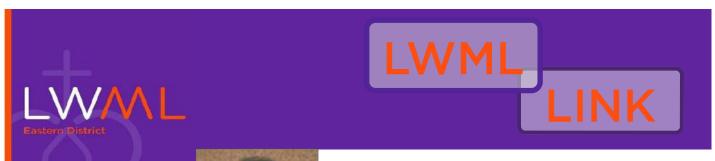
On this Christmas Eve, I once again lift my eyes to the skies and say, "Thank You Lord Jesus for coming for me and all people." Merry Christmas.



REV. MITCHEL SCHUESSLER
Junior Counselor
Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Look for this and many other resources on the LWML Website lwml.org

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











I can hardly believe that this is my last article for The LINK as LWML Eastern District President! The time has gone quickly and it has been an awesome adventure in Serving Him! I am truly thankful for the opportunity to be the president which has allowed me to grow as a Christian woman, as well as the numerous opportunities to meet and speak with so many of my Sisters and Brothers in Christ. Nevertheless, the adventures go on and I continue to encourage and assist the women in life to strengthen their relationship with the Triune God

so that they are enabled to use their gifts in Ministry to the people of the world!

Before you know it, June will be here and we will gather in Niagara Falls for the 37<sup>th</sup> Biennial LWML Eastern District Convention. As you know, we are entrusted with important service for the Lord. In only a few months the women of the Eastern District will come together to celebrate God's blessings on our past missionary work and to prayerfully choose mission grants for the 2018-2020 Biennium. The LWML Board of Directors has approved 11 mission grants for the ballot; nominations for President, VP of Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources, VP of Christian Life/Special Focus, Treasurer, and Pastoral Counselor; proposed changes to the Bylaws; and convention offering recipients. I am enthusiastically preparing and fine tuning the convention agenda.

[Jesus said] "Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them. If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants!" Luke 12:35-38 ESV

The 2018 Convention Planning Committee, through the leadership of Barb Williams and the many willing servants from the Niagara Zone are "dressed", have "lit the lamps" at the DoubleTree and are "waiting" for you, the delegation and guests, to arrive on June 1st. The committee has taken the convention theme to heart as they listen for "The Voice of the Lord: Enlightening, Electrifying, and Empowering" as He guides.

I have been attending district conventions since 1994 and all of these conventions have been inspiring to me. I encourage you to plan on attending this convention where you are sure to be enlightened, electrified and empowered to Serve Him! Why not get registered today?!? I am excited to greet you all in Niagara Falls on June 1-3 as we listen and hear "The Voice of the Lord" and continue to Serve the Lord with Gladness!

Always in His Service,

Kathy Pavelock

<}}}><

The voice of the Lord is over the waters;
The God of glory thunders,
The Lord, over many waters.
The voice of the Lord is powerful;
The voice of the Lord is full of majesty.
Psalm 29:3-4



Matthew 28:8 So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. 9 And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. 10 Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."

The crazy pandemonium of the resurrection is accounted for in the various Gospels. It is impossible to come up with a clear understanding of the exact events when you try to merge the four resurrection accounts. All you get is a real picture of massive confusion, disbelief, racing minds, distraught faces, crying, joy, fear, terror, running, shouting,

dumbfounded hearts, and finally here we find them clasping Jesus' feet and worshipping a real live person who once was dead. The mind explodes attempting to ascertain the monument of that Easter dawn.

This Biblical picture of the morning that sealed our eternal salvation and turned the world upside down, is a far cry from our very orderly Easter celebrations where the most exciting thing that happens is the Easter Egg Hunt on the church lawn after worship. The kids are so cute, aren't they?

We need to get over our politically correct version of Holy Week and Easter. Pray that the Lord of the Harvest would send His Holy Spirit upon our churches and upon each of our lives. This year the Feast of the Resurrection of our Lord coincides with the silly observance of April Fools Day. As a pastor I love the dots I can connect when this happens. There is lots of talk in the Bible about foolishness: the foolish ways of the world, or being a fool for the Lord Jesus, or how God uses the foolishness of the world to shame the wise... and we can go on. But ultimately, the good and the best news in all the world is that on Easter morning the joke was on Satan. Satan thought he had killed God and done him in. His body was locked in the tomb. He had taken the prize of all prizes and his victory was complete!

Dear Sisters in the Risen Christ... as you experience Holy Week this year, the horror of Good Friday and glory of the Resurrection, hear the voice of Jesus' greeting you through the confusion, tears and grief of your life. He is calling your name. He is saying "Don't be afraid! Your sins are forgiven. You are my child forever." And finally, he calls you to be Lutheran Women in Mission, calling everyone to where they can meet him - in Word and Sacrament, and even on Judgement Day at the gates of heaven.

Whatever else you do this Easter, make sure you laugh long and hard... with pure joy and with all of heaven. The joke is really on the Devil. And make sure you keep laughing all the way to the District Convention in June! I will see you there with a glad belly ache!! Praise God forever and ever!

Pastor Bjornstad, Eastern District Senior Counselor

#### NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF CHRISTIAN LIFE/SPECIAL FOCUS—KAREN DEVAN



#### Blessings from your Vice President of Christian Life / Special Focus

It truly has been a blessing for me to serve as your VP of Christian Life and Special Focus. It has been a privilege working with our LWML sisters in Christ. You'll have one of two very gifted women as your new VP and you'll also have new Co-chairs for the Christian Life and Special Focus committees. Many thanks go to Judy Grimm who will end her term as Christian Life chairman and to Kelly Gilbert who will be stepping up into that position. To Bea Hapeman we again thank her for serving as Special Focus chairman before she needed to step down from that position. To Sharon Wolff who filled in for Bea and will now be in

charge of Special Focus I give her my gratitude for willingly taking over when she herself was new to that committee. I'm excited to see God working through these gals in their committees. They come with new ideas and joy to serve. If they can help you in any way please let them know. Our web site has multiple aids and ideas to help you individually and in your societies and zones. Check out the LWML web site for "Daily Devotions" and "Two Minute Tuesdays". These items as well as so many more can assist you in "Serving the Lord with Gladness" and encouraging others

"So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind."

Philippians 2:1

SERVING HIM, KAREN DEVAN. VP CHRISTIAN LIFE / SPECIAL FOCUS



#### June 1-3, 2018 37th LWML Eastern District Convention **Double Tree by Hilton** Niagara Falls, New York

The theme for the 2018 LWML Eastern District Convention will be "The Voice of the Lord".....Enlightening, Electrifying and Empowering, The full Bible verse on which we will meditate for the weekend is Psalm 29: 3-4 "The voice of the Lord is upon the waters: the God of glory thunders, the Lord, upon many waters. The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty."

Don't miss your opportunity to hear the voice of the Lord through: Servant Events—Displays—Songs of Praise—Mite Walking—Gifts from the Heart— Tour of Niagara Falls—Inspiring Speakers— Voting for Grants—Voting for new Officers—Worshipping together— Being together with your sisters in Christ

#### **REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS APRIL 30** DON'T DELAY—REGISTER TODAY



#### GIFTS FROM THE

Our Gifts from the Heart gathering will be for Heart, Love and Soul a non-profit organization dedicated to feeding those in need: body, mind and soul serving the residents of Western New York, especially the Niagara Falls area since

1982. Aware of the needs in their neighborhood. Heart, Love and Soul was founded by the prayer group of Sacred Heart Parish. For its dining room an average of 60 meals at breakfast and 150 meals at lunch are served each day. The food pantry serves over 700 individuals each month. Other services and programs include a Community Care Coordinator to offer health and wellness guidance. Once a month guests registered in the pantry are referred to obtain certain household and toiletry items.

Wish List of Items Needed: Men's tube socks – white or black, Women's tube socks – white or black, Bath towels and wash cloths, toilet paper; twin bed sheets/pillow cases, twin bed "bedbug proof" covers; Twin bed blankets, men's underwear – S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL; tee shirts – M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL; school supplies - pens, pencils, and colored pencils

Sister Beth Brosmer serves as the Executive Director of Heart, Love and Soul. She has committed to being with us the afternoon of Saturday, June 2, 2018 to speak about their programs and receive our Gifts From the Heart in-gathering. There will also be an on-site servant event being offered. If you would like to learn more please visit their website at heartloveandsoul.org.



Entertainment Comedian Dan Viola from Rochester, NY draws on his experience as a father of action engage an audience with his family-friendly comedy. He incorporates his myriad life experiences into smart, clean and razor sharp comedy that is as

hysterical as it is impressive and asks his audience to think "outside the gutter". Fresh out of college, Dan performed at his first "open mic". After an inspiring but brief introduction to the comedy world, life came calling and he promptly took a 13-year hiatus.

As a comedian, he has traveled the United States working acts such as Jon Stewart, Rob Schneider, Kevin Nealon, SNL's Jay Pharoah, Sam Kinison, Steven Wright, and The Shirelles. He was also the host of the comedy game show "The Battle of Wits". He will draw on his background as a game show host, parent, teacher, coach and salesman to provide an evening of entertainment and laughter.

#### Convention speakers



KEYNOTE SPEAKER-REV. DR. JOHN SOUND

The Reverend Doctor John Sound was born in India, whose parents were Lutheran elementary school

teachers. He was baptized and confirmed at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Madras, India. He received a Bachelor of Science (BSc) and a Master of Science (MSc) in Physics from Madras University, India, and a Master of Technology (MTech) degree in Electronics and Electrical Communication Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, India, a Master of Public Administration (MPA) from the University of Pittsburgh, PA, a Master of Divinity (MDiv) degree and a Doctor of Ministry (DMin) degrees. After serving as pastor of various congregations in Pittsburgh, PA, Auburn, NY, Winchester, VA and Manassas, VA, Dr. Sound retired from full time ministry on November 1,

2013. Since his retirement, he has been shepherding a mission congregation, which he helped to establish in 2011 and been teaching fulltime at Northern Virginia Community College, Alexandria, VA where, he teaches courses in Old Testament, New Testament, precalculus, applied calculus, statistics and linear algebra.

Dr. Sound served as the LWML Eastern District Pastoral Counselor from 1998-2005 and Chesapeake District from 2006-2010. He credits his mother, an active LWML member in India and the Northern Minnesota LWML who sponsored him during his seminary studies, for his interest in the organization. He is married to the former Judith Lynn DeWalt for twenty-seven years and they are the parents of Kaitlyn (24) and John-Mark (22). He is no stranger to the Eastern District and he is blessed and thrilled to be at the 2018 LWML Eastern District Convention.

#### NATIONAL LWML REPRESENTATIVE-PRESIDENT PATTI ROSS

has always been a source of joy. It is no surprise that her vision for LWML is that it be enjoyable

work, where women can be equipped and encouraged to serve in God's Kingdom.

For each woman this brings added spiritual growth and mission opportunities. The LWML is a place where each woman is valued for her uniqueness in God's plan for His church and is engaged in using her special God-given gifts.

Participating in numerous mission trips and serving the first two years of her presidency, Patti's faith life has grown to new and greater dimensions. She loves sharing the work of the LWML with other LCMS entities and mission grant recipients. However, seeing the impact first hand of what the

Lord can do through the work of wonderful LWML women has been her greatest joy. She sees the celebration of LWML's 75th Anniversary as a time to reflect on the past, work in the present and celebrate God-gifted mentors and mission opportunities of the future. What an honor it is, she says, to represent the LWML—Lutheran Women in Mission!

Patti is a member of Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma. She has served as LWML Oklahoma District President, 2004-2008, and as LWML Vice President of Christian Life, 2009-2013.

Patti and her husband of 44 years, Bill, enjoy water sports, especially scuba diving. During the school year you will find them at Oklahoma State University athletic events. She is a retired registered nurse and served in the U.S. Navy Reserves on active duty in Virginia. Patti and Bill have been blessed with three lovely, fun grandchildren and treasure their roles as Grandpa and Grandma.

Christ's command in Matthew 28:19 is always in Patti's heart, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold I am with you always, to the end of the age."



#### INTERRUPTER: JAN STRUCK "STURCK WITH LAUGHTER"

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 sec-

ond marriage and a combined family that totals six grown children, their spouses, eleven grandchildren, and one greatgrandson. She is delighted to have been given a lifetime of bizarre experiences and an ability to see humor and irony in her journey.

Her ministry is the blessing of serving 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 Idaho and east as North Carolina. Her involvement with LWML has enabled her to bring the gift of laughter to numerous district and national conventions. With over 40 years of experience in teaching, motivating, and entertaining her audiences, Jan brings a fresh approach to the journey of faith and uses her sense of humor as she shares her life with fellow travelers and leaves them laughing. Her trust and faith in Christ is her reason to make a "joyful noise unto God"!!

#### **MISSION GRANT PROPOSALS**

The following grants have been received by the Grant Committee by October 15, 2017 and have been reviewed according to the Bylaws and Guidelines. They are presented in the order they were received by this committee.

**Grant A** Request for funding for the Lunchbox Summer Program in Hop Bottom, PA. **\$5,000** Requested by Grace Lutheran LWML Women's Guild, Hop Bottom, PA Anthracite Zone

\*\* Run by a combination of churches and organizations whose goal is to share what God has provided to families who receive free or reduced school lunches and breakfasts during the school year. They strive to feed them not only physically, but spiritually by inviting them to upcoming events at their churches. Wholesome food is made available for pickup during the summer months. Emergency intake of families within the school district who have unexpected reduced income will also be included in the program. The goal is to provide continued service and expand the program beyond the summer months and provide food to lower income families.

**Grant B** Request for funding for Care-A-Van Ministries, Batavia, NY to further the ministry of the Senior Citizen Community. **5,000** Requested by Sharon Wolff, LWML member, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Batavia, NY, Buffalo Zone

\*\* Care-A-Van Ministries is a street ministry which depends on donations from churches who work together for the purpose of sharing the love of God. The outreach consists of Pastor Werk, pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Batavia, NY, and others offering support, a listening ear and prayer to those being ministered to. The Care-A-Van also is a vehicle that is the tool to bring food, clothing, compassion, love, hope and prayer to approximately 28 areas of the city of Batavia. The grant will enable the Care-A-Van Ministry to continue their outreach to the needy, the lost, and hurting, meeting their needs, and building relationships and good news of Jesus. The monies will help further the ministry of the Senior Citizen Community at each of the 8 locations in the Batavia area. Gospel tracts, hygiene items, toiletries, snacks, word books, screwdriver sets, etc. will be purchased with the monies.

Grant C Request for funding to Mercy House, Vestal, NY for medical supplies.
 \$3,000 Requested by Ruth Mueller, LWML member, Grace Lutheran Church, Vestal, NY, CNY South Zone

\*\* Mercy House is a non-denominational Community Care Shelter providing a home and **a** supportive family to terminally ill residents who can no longer stay at home. Mercy House is a shelter that is not eligible for any government funding or insurance reimbursements. The average cost of care for a resident is \$1500 per week and some residents can help pay a portion of their care, others cannot. Mercy House is seeking \$3000 for medical supplies for over the next year. They rely heavily on community support and volunteers to help with their mission. Volunteers spend time with the residents talking, reading the bible, or simply holding their hand. The grant would help purchase higher cost items such as dry pads, examination gloves and micro-kill germ wipes, the cost bi-monthly is \$513 for these items.

**Grant D** Request for funding to purchase of Bibles for distribution in Nepal and China through Sowers Ministry. **\$5,000** Requested by Bonnie Sugrue, LWML member, First Trinity Lutheran Church, Tonawanda, NY, Buffalo Zone

\*\*The Sowers Ministry focuses on Evangelism training, church planting, prayer and intercession, orphanages, literature, Bible distribution, medical teams, feeding programs and disaster relief. The goal is to bring God's Good News to the poor and remote population. Funding the Bibles to Nepal & China can help us fulfill this goal. This mission is supported through the mission teams at First Trinity Lutheran Church, Tonawanda NY.

Grant E Request for funding to feed 110 hungry souls for an entire year in Haiti.\$4,738 Requested by Denise Gudlin, LWML member, Emmanuel Lutheran, Hermitage, TN

\*\*Trinity Hope located in Mt. Juliet, TN is a ministry that feeds thousands of hungry children, teachers and cooks each day in Christian schools spread throughout Haiti. This is the only meal that 50% of those we serve will eat in a 24-hour period. All of the funds granted go into running the feeding program. This program will assist Lutheran churches in Haiti in spreading the Gospel to the hungry children who attend their schools. Many of the students walk one to several miles simply to attend school. A hot lunch enables them to be better nourished, increases their attention span, and enhances their ability to learn.

Grant F Request for funding for a Summer Day Camp at Pioneer Camp & Retreat Center.\$5,000 Requested by Joy Belasic LWML member, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Eden, NY, Buffalo Zone

\*\*The Summer Day Camp at Pioneer Camp & Retreat Center will be a quality faith-based day camp, designed for youth ages 7-14, accessible to campers from local schools and communities, who are curious about God and Camp Pioneer. A way to grow personally and spiritually, this grant will fund camp supplies for programs and projects for the 2019 Summer Day Camp. This would be a way to spread the Word of God to those who do not know Him. The request is for a future Camp season. The money will help with curriculum materials, craft project materials, and outdoor adventure activity materials.

**Grant G**Request for funding for the purchase and installation of video equipment to enable Live-Streaming of sermons in sign language from an LCMS pastor to two deaf congregations located in different locations. Requested by Linda Breight, LWML Zone, Pittsburgh, PA, Pittsburgh Zone

\*\*Pastor Bergstresser of Holy Cross of the Deaf Lutheran Church in Columbus, Ohio sermons would be recorded and made available on the Trinity Lutheran Church for the Deaf (TLCD) website for others to watch. It is expected that if Rev. Bergstresser would no longer be able to do the sermon, the technique of Live Streaming is simple enough that TLCD could connect with another hearing-impaired LCMS congregation and continue to receive sermons. This will make it possible for a Pastor to have a sermon with Sign Language video recorded and then playback to the TLCD worship service.

**Grant H** Request for funding for seed money to help with costs to open a new work center to produce Bibles for the \$5,000 visually impaired inmates throughout the United States.

Requested by Carol Kozar, LWML member, Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Scranton, PA, Anthracite Zone

\*\*The Lutheran Braille Workers (LBW) want to start up a work center to produce 14 Point APhont ESV Bibles for visually impaired inmates. The cost is \$4500 for the binder and \$500 for the computer. LBW is committed to strengthening their connection with visually impaired people who are incarcerated by offering them the ESV of the Bible to provide the message of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.

Grant I Request for funding to purchase equipment and internet service to enable communications between students in West Seneca, NY and Haiti.
 Requested by Kathleen Fretthold, Principal Trinity School through the LWML Niagara Zone, NY

\*\*This grant is for funds to purchase technology equipment and service for students at Trinity Christian School, West Seneca, NY to facilitate the SKYPE communication between them and the students of the Upper Room School and Orphanage in Haiti. Having face to face interaction with the Trinity leaders can provide teachers and leaders at the orphanage encouragement, training, spiritual strengthening and support. Allowing the children to share their faith across the cultural barriers is a powerful tool.

**Grant J** Request for funding for materials to help facilitate the transition of new pastors and wives from seminary life to parish ministry

Requested by Pastoral Education Ministry, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, St. Louis, MO.

\*\*Post-Seminary Applied Learning and Support(PALS) is a collaborative effort of our Synod and districts that regularly brings together groups of recent graduates of our seminaries throughout the first three years of their ministries, meeting six times per year. The group gathers around the Word in Worship, prayer, and study recognizing that pastors need to be nourished by the same Word that they use to nourish others in their faith. Time is allotted at every meeting for each pastor to reflect upon his ministry in his parish. This is an opportunity to support, encourage and learn from one another. The grant will help with the purchase of books.

**Grant K** Request for funding to provide perishable food items to seminary students and their families. **\$5,000** Requested by Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

\*\*The Food and Clothing Co-op plays a key role in helping students feed and clothe their families during their seminary years. Nearly 60% of the students are married with families. When the decision is made to leave their jobs and come to the seminary, the students no longer have the same income but continue to have the same financial needs. The Clothing & Food Co-op fulfills a vital need for these families. This grant will be used to purchase only perishable food items each month to be given directly to the students and their families.

#### 2018 DISTRICT CONVENTION CANDIDATES FOR ELECTED OFFICE

The Nominating Committee is privileged to present biographies for the nominees, if elected, have consented to serve the Lord in the Eastern District LWML for the 2018-2020 term of office.

#### **PRESIDENT**



Susan Bell, Philadelphia Zone - Susan lives in Downingtown, PA. and is a member of Christ Lutheran Church, Malvern, Pa. She and her husband Jim have two grown sons, Brian and Brett and two grand-children. Susan has earned a Bachelor of Science in Music Education from Kansas State University and a Masters of Music Education from VanderCook College of Music in Chicago. Susan works as a licensed real estate agent and has attended licensing and certification classes at the Polley Real Estate School. She has served as the Music Director for Christ Memorial Lutheran Church. Her service to the LWML Eastern District currently is Recording Secretary. She has also served as Financial Secretary, Co-chair and Chair of the Structure Committee. Susan has been the President and Vice President of her Zone and is Secretary of her Society. She enjoys music, reading, bowling, travel and caring for two Welsh Terriers.

#### **CANDIDATES CONTINUED**

#### VICE PRESIDENT CHRISTIAN LIFE/SPECIAL FOCUS



Linda Bahr, Central New York - North Zone - Linda lives in Rome, N.Y. and is a member of Grace Lutheran Church, in Canastota NY. She and her husband Glen have three grown sons, Benjamin, Mark and Aaron and three grandchildren. Linda has an AA Degree from Concordia College in Bronxville, NY as well as a Bachelor of Arts and Master Degrees from Concordia, River Forest, II. Her volunteer work at her church has been on the Pre-School Committee, Choral Music Director, Organist, and Christian Education Chairman. Her service to the LWML Eastern District was as Vice President of Gospel Outreach/Organization Resources and Archivist-Historian. Linda is the President of her Zone and was Vice President of her Society. Linda enjoys singing, coloring, knitting,

reading and travel.



Linda Breight, Pittsburgh Zone - Linda lives in Pittsburgh, Pa. and is a member of Christ Lutheran Church, Forest Hill. She and her husband Reverend Ronald Breight have four children - Miguel, Jonathan, David and Timothy. Linda is a Paraprofessional at the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Education from Concordia University, St. Paul, MN. Linda has served her congregation in the following areas - Shut-In Ministry, Youth Leader, Sunday School Teacher, Bible Study Leader, Board of Education, President of PTA, and Christian Life for Women's Service Guild. She is serving as Zone President and was the Christian Growth Chairman. Her inter-

ests are knitting prayer shawls, stamping cards and reading Christian Historical fiction.

#### VICE PRESIDENT GOSPEL OUTREACH/ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES



**Sharon McGuan, Buffalo Zone** - Sharon lives in Buffalo, NY and is a member of Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Kenmore. She and her husband Tim have three grown children, Kathleen, Tim, and Amy. They are also blessed with three grandchildren. Sharon is a retired LCMS Commissioned Teacher. Her educational background is a BA from Valparaiso University, DCE Certification and Masters in Theology and Education, Concordia University River Forest. She has served in several congregations as Sunday School Teacher, Superintendent, Vacation Bible School Teacher, VBS Planning Team, Bible Study Leader/Facilitator and Choir member.

LWML Offices held:

**Carolinas District**: District Vice President for Mission Service, and Society Christian Growth Chairman and President. **Chesapeake District**: District Vice President for Mission Growth, President,

Host Committee Member for the 1997 National LWML Convention in Charlotte, NC., Tidewater Zone Chairman, and Society President. **Eastern District**: District Vice President Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources, Zone Publicity Chairman, and Society Member,

Sharon enjoys singing, reading, traveling, stamp collecting, LWML, volunteer work with WNED, Niagara Lutheran Health Services and Pioneer Association of Volunteers.





Beth Scholl - Central New York - North Zone - Beth lives in Sylvan Beach, NY. and is a member of Grace Lutheran Church in Canastota, NY. She and her husband Greg have two children, Parker and Benjamin. Beth works as the Deputy Clerk Treasurer for the Village of Sylvan Beach. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Recreation Management from SUNY Brockport. Beth has served her church in the Christian Education area and as Financial Secretary. Her service to the Eastern District is currently, Treasurer and has been the Leader Development Chair. She enjoys spending time with her family poolside and being a soccer Mom (her eldest plays soccer therefore Beth watches a lot of soccer). Beth also enjoys crafting.

### PASTORAL COUNSELOR



Reverend John Zimmerman, Anthracite Zone - The Reverend John Zimmerman lives in Scranton, Pa, He serves Immanuel Lutheran Church, Scranton, Pa. Pastor Zimmerman has a BA degree from Concordia, Ann Arbor, Michigan as well as a Masters of Divinity from Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, Indiana. He serves as the Pastoral Counselor for the LWML Anthracite Zone. Pastor Zimmerman enjoys travel - road trips, state parks, and gadgets. He is also a Chicago Cubs baseball fan.

The Nominating Committee, Dee Grzyb, Donna Drier, Susan Morris, and Bev Wicher, thank all of our candidates for being willing and ready to "Serve the Lord With Gladness". We ask all members of the LWML to keep each of the nominees for election in your prayers. Also we ask all delegates to prayerfully consider each nominee before voting.

Registration Chairman Only:

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## LWML Eastern District Retreat

## Pioneer Camp & Retreat Center, Angola, NY September 14 - 16, 2018 Hosted by the Genesee Zone

### Guest Speaker, Jan Wendorf

Jan has a teaching degree from Concordia University Chicago. She and her husband reside in Neenah, Wisconsin.

Currently she serves as secretary of the board for International Lutheran Laymen's League/Lutheran Hour Ministries.

Over the years she has served in various ministries including being the 16th president of LWML. She has also been a teacher and coach, task force member for the LCMS on Domestic Violence and Child Abuse, short term missionary, Ambassador for Lutheran World Relief, member of the Board of Regents for two universities, as well as a Bible study administrator and leader to name a few!



Gather your girlfriends for a weekend getaway of Fun, Friendship and Faith. There are many activities planned and a lot of things to do at Pioneer.

You don't want to miss retreat this year!

Registration form will be available in this LINK and at www.east-dist-lwml.org

But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Isaiah 40:31

#### LWML RETREAT CAMPERSHIP—APPLICATION

A few full-time camperships are being offered for the Fall 2017retreat to first-time attendees or for those individ-
uals 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			
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	LWML Member?	Yes	No
	rief narrative (50-100 words) on vour written statement to this app		
	Mrs. Kathy	Pavelock	

8200 State Route 13 Blossvale, NY 13308

All recipients names will be kept strictly confidential

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#### GRANTS IN ACTION

#### GRANT TO SUPPORT CAMP JOY AT LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR, BUFFALO, NY

We are excited, blessed and grateful for the \$4,525 check from LWML to support Camp JOY. The funds were immediately used to purchase essential classroom furniture and supplies to enhance the classroom environment and hands-on activities. On behalf of The Lutheran Church of Our Savior Camp JOY, I extend a sincere thank you to LWML for helping us to impact the lives of our youth. We are still awaiting shipment of orders, however, we wanted you to join in our excitement of some of the orders we received.

We are looking forward to Camp JOY 2018 and the children who will benefit from your generosity. I will send pictures of the camp in action once it begins this summer.

Your Sister in Christ, Barbara D. Glover, Camp Director



#### NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATION—BETH QUINN



Do you receive the Quarterly? The LINK? What is your favorite part – what do you read first? Both of these publications are full of resources and information for you personally and your society. Did you know our LWML Eastern District has a website to keep everyone connected and informed about the organization? Have you checked it out (www.east-dist-lwml.org/)?

Thank you to everyone who provided me updates to the District Directory and changes to the Quarterlies received. Many hands make light work. Continue to provide changes to me as they occur so I can keep the Directory up to date. Increasing Quarterlies can happen anytime during the year. Decreases only once a year (March).

Has your society submitted payment to cover the Quarterlies you receive? The district pays national for each Quarterly received in the District. We rely on each Quarterly recipient to contribute to offset what the district pays. When everyone pays their share, there is more money for

missions. For the current biennium 2016-2018, the district paid \$2,615.06 more than was received from societies for the Quarterly subscriptions. If your society receives 10 copies of the Quarterly your society's contribution would be 10x\$6.50 = \$65.00. If your society receives less than 10 copies the amount is \$8.00 per subscription.

Please submit your Mites and Quarterly contributions to your Zone Treasurer.

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



#### Are you going to the District Convention in Niagara Falls, NY June 1-3?

We had our March Board of Directors meeting at the hotel. It is great – rooms with refrigerators, good food, next to the Niagara River and Falls and awesome hospitality. Come hear President Patti Ross from national, Pastor Sound as our keynote speaker and past district counselor, Jan Struck who we danced with at our Retreat last

year and other LWML sisters and brothers across the district. Plan to attend and bring a friend. See details in this LINK edition and on the website www.east-dist-lwml.org/ under the Current Events tab.

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## LWML EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS



## News From Around The Zones

#### **BUFFALO ZONE**



The Buffalo Zone hosted a funfilled, mission event on February 3<sup>rd</sup> at St. Luke Lutheran Church in Cheektowaga. Over 30 LWML sisters from the zone gathered togeth-

er to make children's surgical caps and cards of encouragement for Oishei Children's Hospital in Buffalo.

Women brought sewing machines, kid-friendly fabric in all colors and patterns, elastic, thread and coloring pencils and gathered together for a lovely morning of devotion, bonding and service. About 30 caps and many cards were completed that day and what wasn't finished was taken home by many for completion at home or with their church groups. The caps and cards are still being gathered to be blessed at our next zone event in April, then delivered to the hospital for distribu-

tion to kids heading into surgery. We believe we will have over 100 caps to donate. We thank Trivent Financial for a Action Team Grant for this Project.



We created a Facebook Page for the Buffalo Zone titled Buffalo Zone LWML Lutheran Women in Mission. "Like" our page to see what we have been up to and events yet to come!

Bonnie Sugrue, Buffalo Zone Vice President

#### **CNY SOUTH ZONE**

CNYS
Zone has
adopted an
ongoing
MISSION
Project



"SEEDS OF HOPE Partners" Seeds of Hope is a Ministry of area churches and interested individuals in partnership with Tioga County Human Services
It is a non-profit volunteer organization created to assist and aid families in crisis. The goal of the organization is to provide basic needs to maintain families and aid in unifying families. We are helping them by providing supplemental food, cleaning supplies, hygiene kits, clothing, minor home repairs that could effect a child's safety or health, building and providing beds and bedding, and providing basic needs or health and safety items. "Sometimes its those who fall between the crack and need a little boost"

"I tell you the truth, whatever you do for one of the least of these, you do for me." Matthew 25:40

**Anita Getty, CNY South Zone President** 

#### **NIAGARA ZONE**



Our fall Rally Day was held on Sunday, October 15,2017 at Immanuel Lutheran Church (Ridgewood), Lockport NY. Guest speaker for the day was- Brigam Ziehm. Brigham is known by many for his work at Camp Pioneer. He is preparing for a year of mission work with Adventures in Life Ministries (AIL) in Mexico. A Gifts from the Heart" ingathering of reading glasses for AIL was held in memory of Jan Voelker. A

business meeting and elections were held.

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

The Niagara Zone will host our annual spring Christian Life gathering on Saturday, April 7, 2018. The event will be hosted by the Woman of Saint Paul at St. Paul Lutheran Church North Tonawanda, NY. This will be a full day event to include a Bible Study/Devotion led by Susan Knowles and Pastor Hoffman. The study, "Walking in the Light Together" is based on 1 John:7, using



Ambassadors Reconciliation

materials from Ambassadors of Reconciliation<sup>™</sup>. A brief business meeting will be held and after lunch we will be working together to support the Niagara Zone Convention Committee in their preparations for a wonderful retreat in Niagara Falls on June 1-3, 2018. We are looking forward to being "Enlightened, Empowered and Electrified"!

Laurie Bauch, Niagara Zone President



We have three (3)Young Woman Representatives (YWR's) to attend the 2018 District convention. We are very excited to have the following Young Women Representatives. Their names

Victoria V.L., Genesee, NY Zone Tenea H., Central NY North Zone Annie S., Buffalo, NY Zone





#### WHAT IS IT?

An *Endowment* to make a lasting impact on the *Ministry of the LWML Eastern District* 

for years to come.

#### **WHAT DOES IT ACCOMPLISH?**

Gifts will benefit *Scholarships*, *Leadership Training* and *District Ministries*.

#### **HOW DO I CONTRIBUTE?**

Via the *District Financial Secretary* or a *Legacy Gift* through your *Charitable Estate Plan*.

#### **CONTACT INFO:**

Rebecca Bessell, Coordinator 585-415-6368 or rlb54@rochester.rr.com





Looking for something new for your Zone spring meeting? How about your next society meeting or with your congregation?

The Niagara Zone has developed two short **promotional vid**-

eos for the 2018 Convention to encourage all members of the Eastern District to consider joining with them in Niagara Falls. The videos and all things convention can be found at <a href="https://www.east-dist-to-the-based-convention">www.east-dist-to-the-based-convention</a> can be supplied to the statement of the statement

<u>lwml.org</u> Current Events, 2018 Convention webpage. Here you will find details about the convention and two videos (one 28 seconds and the other 63 seconds). Here are the links for the two promo videos <a href="http://east-dist-lwml.org/Promo%">http://east-dist-lwml.org/Promo%</a>

2028%20sec.mp4

and <a href="http://east-dist-lwml.org/Promo%2063%">http://east-dist-lwml.org/Promo%2063%</a><a href="http://east-dist-lwml.org/Promo%2063%">20sec mp4 (type ctrl.click to access)</a>

20sec.mp4 (type ctrl click to access)
Thank you to Shellie Knupp, Co-Chair and the members of St. Mark Lutheran Church, North
Tonawanda, NY for creation of the video with pictures, music and voice. (If you would like the video clips emailed to you, contact the editor at <a href="https://www.wmlink@gmail.com">wmllink@gmail.com</a>



June 1, 2018 EC/BOD Meeting

Niagara Falls, NY

June 1-3, 2018 ED LWML Convention

Niagara Falls, NY

Sept. 14, 2018 EC Meeting

Camp Pioneer

Sept. 14-16,2018 Fall Retreat

Camp Pioneer

#### Report of the Financial Secretary—Judy Morrison

December 1, 2017 - February 28, 2018

Mites: \$10,391.03

Memorials Given in remembrance of: (December 1,

2017 - February 28, 2018)

In Memory of: Given By:

Loretta Smith St. Paul Adella Society

In Honor of:

Young Women Representatives

Dorothy Koschmann

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

## CONVENTION OFFERINGS

It was decided at the Eastern District LWML Board of Director's Meeting in March that the offerings for the 2018 LWML Eastern District Convention will be as followings:

- 1. LWML Eastern District Treasury
- 2. Liberian Mission
- 3. Grace Lutheran Church, Vestal, NY

All checks should be made out to the LWML Eastern District Convention

#### **Executive Committee**

#### President

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

#### Vice President of Communication

**Beth Quinn,** 558 Westwind Drive, Berwyn, PA 19312 610-761-0263 <a href="mailto:beth@quinnfamily.net">beth@quinnfamily.net</a>

#### Vice President of Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources

**Dee Grzyb**, 56 Hanover St., Lancaster NY 14086 716-393-3670 <u>d e grzyb@msn.com</u>

#### Vice President of Christian Life/Special Focus

Karen Devan, 6438 Lake Shore S., Canastota, NY 13032 315-761-4004 DPDevan@aol.com

#### **Recording Secretary**

**Susan Bell,** 814 Dover Court Place, Downingtown, PA 19335 610-518-0681 <a href="mailto:susanbell557@comcast.net">susanbell557@comcast.net</a>

#### Financial Secretary

Judy Morrison, 7 Albano Dr., Hilton, NY 14668 585-484-8138 juclkemo@gmail.com

#### Treasurer

**Beth Scholl**, 912 Birch Lane, PO Box 459, Sylvan Beach, NY 13157 315-264-2591 gbds2000@yahoo.com

#### Senior Pastoral Counselor

Rev. Kristian Bjornstad, 60 E. Parker St. Scranton, PA 18509 570-343-9828 pastor@yourpeace.org

#### **Junior Pastoral Counselor**

Rev. Shawn Walters, 1302 E. Washington St., New Castle, PA 16101 724-658-8009 pastorseangw@gmail.com

#### Appointed By the President

#### Parliamentarian

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

#### Planner

Barbara Williams, 6132 Prospect St., Newfane NY 14108 716-778-8824 brwcpa421@aol.com

#### **Appointed By the Executive Committee**

#### Editor

**Bev Wicher**, 19 Vernon Drive, Cheektowaga, NY 14225 716-913-4140 <a href="https://www.lwmllink@gmail.com">wmllink@gmail.com</a>

#### Public Relations Director

Claire Carlson, 4701 Southwestern Blvd., Apt.. L2, Hamburg, NY 14075 716-597-8568 patchtroop546@aol.com

#### Archivist/Historian

Chris Gasslein, 112 Stillwagon Lane, Coatesville, PA 19320 610-384-6093 <a href="mailto:gassleinc@comcast.net">gassleinc@comcast.net</a>

#### Legacy of Love Coordinator

Rebecca Bessell, 7048 Benedict Beach, Hamlin, NY 14464 585-415-6368 rlb54@rochester.rr.com

#### Stamps for Missions Coordinators

Vacant

#### Stamps for Missions Courier

**Judy Nordell,** 165 Park Ridge Dr., Easton, PA 18040 610-250-9661 jondell@rcn.com

#### Appointed by Board of Directors

#### Mission Grants Chair

Anita Getty, 318 North Rd., Middlebury, PA 16935 570-376-2143 amgemt@ptd.net

#### Mission Grants Co-Chair

Cheri Briggs, PO Box 87, Lockport, NY 14094 716-560-6905, CBriggs109@yahoo.com

#### **Christian Life Chair**

**Judy Grimm**, 9 Glendale Dr., Mountain Top, PA 18707 570-403-6194 jacg715@ptd.net

#### Christian Life Chair Co-Chair

Kelly Gilbert, 8696 NYS Rt. 3, Blossvale, NY 13308 315-820-4006 kelly.gillbert1@yahoo.com

#### Structure Chair

Carolyn Krause, 5 Meadow Side Lane Pittsford, NY 14534 585-582-6177, <a href="mailto:cmkk@att.net">cmkk@att.net</a>

#### Structure Co-Chair

Susan Morris, 3301 Hartford Ct., Newtown Square, PA 19073 215-514-8678 morrissusan68@gmail.com

#### Special Focus Chair

Sharon Wolff, 9926Francis Rd., Batavia, NY 14020 585-344-1947, swolff3@rochester.rr.com

#### Special Focus Co-Chair

Vacant

#### Leader Development Chair

Krystal Harmon-Burton, 3237 Old Route 49, Blossvale, NY 13308 315-245-0026

harmon0726@gmail.com

#### Leader Development Co-Chair

Becca Futty, 509 Lennon Way, West Chester, PA 19380 484-319-2398 rebeccafutty@gmail.com

#### 2018 District Convention Liaison

Bev Wicher, 19 Vernon Drive, Cheektowaga, NY 14225

#### 716-913-4140 <a href="mailto:lwmllink@gmail.com">lwmllink@gmail.com</a>

Eastern District Recycling Fundraiser Chairman
Alice Pfonner, 136 Hamilton Blvd., Kenmore, NY 14217
716-873-9377, alicepfonner@aol.com

#### Webmaster

Kathy Pavelock, 8200 State Route 13, Blossvale, NY 13308 315-245-1590 <a href="mailto:kmpavelock@aol.com">kmpavelock@aol.com</a>

#### **Zone Presidents**

#### **Anthracite Zone**

Dawn Corbin, 5571 Lindaville Rd, Hop Bottom, PA 18824 570-289-4822 <u>Dawn\_corbin@yahoo.com</u>

#### **Buffalo Zone**

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

#### Cattaraugus-AlleganyZone

Robin Swanson, 940 Creek Rd., Sugar Grove, PA 16350 814-489-3411, tr72 go@hotmail.com

#### Central New York North Zone

Linda Bahr, 7638 Gifford Road, Rome, NY 13440

### 315-339-1979, <u>linda@gbahr.com</u> Central New York South Zone

Anita Getty, 318 North Rd., Middlebury, PA 16935 570-376-2143 amgemt@ptd.net

#### Genesee Zone

**Rebecca Bessell**, 7048 Benedict Beach, Hamlin, NY 14464 585-964-7844 rlb54@rochester.rr.com

#### Niagara Zone

Laurie Bauch, 69 Morrow Ave., Lockport, NY 14094 716-434-5982, LMBauch@aol.com

#### Philadelphia Zone

Jacqui Green, 6103 Nassau St., Philadelphia, PA 19151 215-473-1421 jacquig2@verizon.net

#### Pittsburgh Zone

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





Please send all news articles and information for publication to:

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

E-mail: <a href="mailto:lwmllink@gmail.com">lwmllink@gmail.com</a>

#### The next deadline is June 1, 2018

The Link is published four times each year.

April 1, July 1, October 1, January 1

Deadlines to submit articles:

March 1, June 1, September 1, December 1



Pictured left to right lower: Sharon Frantz, Diana Williams, Terri Stonesifer, Hobert & Dot Bowser Back row holding quilt: Mark Williams, Phil Frantz, Rick Broadwater; Lloyd Oester in background

Zion Lutheran Church Ladies Aid presented their second hand-made Quilt of Valor to Korean War Air Force Veteran and Accident native son, Hobert Luther Bowser, honoring him for his service to God, country, and community. The quilt was presented following Sunday services 2/25/18 at Zion Lutheran Church, Accident (MD) with friends, family and other veterans in attendance.

Mr. Bowser served four years in the Air Force from 1951 to 1955, including a 1-year stint as an Airman 3rd Class mechanic stationed in Korea at Tent City K-9. Born and raised in Accident MD, Mr. Bowser has been an active member of American Legion Post #208; the Accident Volunteer Fire Department Company 50; and the Zion Lutheran Men's Club. In 1999, he was named to the Allegany-Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association Hall of Flame.

Mr. Bowser just turned 86 on February 13th. After retiring from the State Roads, Mr. Bowser did part-time auto detailing work at the Accident Garage. Several times a week (weather permitting), he still walks to Accident Garage for the 9 am retired men's daily coffee klatch!

Quilts of Valor is a patriotic endeavor, the goal being to present an Americana style quilt to veterans. The Ladies Aid has dubbed this, their second

quilt of valor, "Patriotic Glory" due to airplanes and Air Force insignia woven into the quilt's cornerstones. Pieced together by Ladies Aid members Lena Fratz & Margaret (Peggy) Close, machine quilted by Sharon Garlitz, then finished with hemming & labeling by Carol Jean Edmiston.

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

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







Dear LWML Eastern District ladies and gentlemen:

First, I want to thank Kathy Pavelock for her wonderful leadership the last four years. She is a willing and very capable servant and has made my transition very easy. I so appreciate her kindness and thoughtfulness.

Next, I would like to thank Barbara Williams, Bev Wicher and all of the Niagara Zone that hosted the very well organized LWML Eastern District Convention, June 1-3, in Niagara Falls! The small committee and all the helpers did a great job and are so very much appreciated! Wasn't it great to see LWML Presi-

dent Patti Ross, Jan Struck, Pastor Sound and those wonderful young girls that Pastor Bjornstad brought to sing and play for us? We are so blessed!

I am humbled and grateful for the opportunity to serve you as your District President for the next four years. I have chosen Proverbs 15:33 "The fear of the Lord is instruction in wisdom, and humility comes before honor" as my theme verse of my term in office. I daily seek God's wisdom and pray that He will guide me in the ways he wants me to go.

Looking forward, we have the Eastern District Retreat coming up Sept. 14-16 at Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center. There is still time to register! Genesee Zone is hosting and our guest speaker is Past LWML National President, Jan Wendorf. The theme is Hope, Renew, SOAR based on Isaiah 40:31, "but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint." Come and enjoy a weekend to relax, renew and SOAR with your sisters and brothers in Christ.

I have several co-chairs positions to fill on the Board of Directors. If I call you, please prayerfully consider the job I may be asking you to fill. Many workers make light work! Let us together, "Serve the Lord with Gladness!"

Let me challenge you to be in the Word daily and pray for ways you can serve him at home, church and in your community. If you need prayer, do not hesitate to let me know. My cell number is: 610-937-1483 and my e-mail address is: susanbell557@comcast.net. I am here for YOU!

Serving The Lord With Gladness For

74 years

Together



**LWML Eastern District President** 

God bless. Susan Bell









#### **Need A Break?**

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.

Genesis 2:1-3 (ESV)

Summer time is finally here! Longer hours of sunlight, warmer days, and VACA-TIONS! Summer time is the traditional time of year that we like to get away and enjoy family, friends, and God's beautiful creation. There is nothing wrong with taking a break from work and the monotony of everyday life, because we do need a rest, but the prob-

lem often times is that we think we need a rest from Church or worse from Christianity. What happens in Vegas is still known by God.

It is so tempting at times to go to the lake on Sunday instead of going to Church, or sleeping in on Sunday morning instead of going to hear God's Word and being cleansed by Christ's body and blood. As humans we need a rest, a break from everyday life and that is why we go to Church, to rest in God.

Jesus said to come to him all who were burdened and tired and he would give them rest (Matt 11:28). And in the next chapter proclaims the he is the "Lord of the Sabbath" (Matt 12:8). We need to go to Jesus and rest in him, a Sabbath rest, a day where we worship the Creator and not His creation. Worship is a time to rest from all your labors and unload your burdens on Christ Jesus. Give all your burdens over to Christ,

Christ has already taken care of all of them.

We need a Savior, we need Jesus 24/7 that is why God says he neither sleeps nor slumbers, he is always faithful, and he is always there to pour out his grace and mercy on you. We need a break from this world and that break, that perfect rest can only be found in Christ Jesus. So come to Jesus all you who are burdened and heavy laden and he will give you peace that the world cannot give and true rest that brings complete renewal.

leave them at the cross, and don't go back to pick them up thinking God can't handle them. Jesus

Rev. Sean Walters, Eastern District LWML Senior Pastoral Counselor



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



The delegates elected the following new officers to serve the LWML Eastern District. They will each serve a four-year term with previously elected and/or appointed officers of the Executive Committee.

#### **NEW OFFICERS ELECTED AT THE 2018 EASTERN DISTRICT CONVENTION**

President: Susan Bell, Philadelphia Zone

Vice President Christian Life/Special Focus: Linda Breight, Pittsburgh Zone Vice President Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources: Sharon McGuan

Treasurer: Beth Scholl, Central New York North Zone

Pastoral Counselor: Rev. John Zimmerman, Anthracite Zone

The officers were installed at the closing service on Sunday. Please keep them in your prayers.

We wish to thank outgoing officers Kathy Pavelock, President, Karen Devan, Vice President Christian Life/Special Focus, Dee Grzyb, Vice President Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources, Beth Scholl who fulfilled the unexpired term of Treasurer and Pastoral Counselor Kristian Bjornstad for the time they have given in service to the Lord through LWML.

It has been a privilege for me to serve as the Vice President of Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources (GOOR). I have enjoyed working with my Sisters in Christ, Anita Getty - Mission Grants Chair, Cheri Briggs Cochair, Krystal Harmon-Burton – Leader Development Chair, Rebecca Futty, Co-chair, and Carolyn Krause – Structure Chair, and Susan Morris, Co-chair.

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's Grace in its various forms." 1 Peter 4:10



President Kathy Pavelock opened the 37<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) Eastern District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS) on Friday, June 1, 2018. There were169 delegates and guests gathered June 1–3, 2018 at the Double Tree by Hilton in Niagara Falls, New York under the theme "The Voice of the Lord"......Enlightening, Electrifying and Empowering; "The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, upon many waters. The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty." Psalms 29:3-4





Rev. Dr. John Sound, past LWML Eastern District Pastoral Counselor addressed the body as Keynote Speaker and shared with us a detailed presentation on where we can see "The Voice of the Lord" throughout Scripture.

Patti Ross, LWML President shared greetings and updated us on National LWML.

**Jan Struck** served as Humorous Interrupter as Katie Luther, sharing some of the history of Katie and Martin Luther.

Another convention highlight included our "Gifts from the Heart" Ingathering Project for Heart, Love & Soul, a non-profit organization dedicated to feeding those in need: body, mind & soul in Niagara Falls. There were 2,696 items donated and \$680 was collected for this worthy cause.





Servant events' participants made encouragement cards for seminarians, cut coupons for deployed military families and had an on-site event at Heart, Love & Soul.

36 walkers participated in the Mite Walk; held along the Niagara River. We collected over \$2000 for Mites.

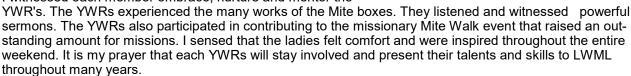
Entertainment for the Saturday evening banquet was provided by Comedian Dan Viola from Rochester, New York.



We were blessed to have 7 Young Women Representatives (YWRs) at this convention; they were

at this convention; they were
Alicia Belch—Anthracite Zone
Anne Schultz—Buffalo Zone
Tenea Harmon—Central New York North Zone
Victoria Volkman Lien—Genesee Zone
Lacey Bahr—Niagara Zone
Cheyenne Storch—Philadelphia Zone
Kartherine Wacker—Pittsburgh Zone

It's been a true blessing to introduce the 7 young women reps at the 2018 LWML District Convention in Niagara Falls, NY. I witnessed each member embrace, nurture and mentor the



Serving the Lord with Gladness 2016-2018
Krystal Harmon-Burton Rebecca Futty
Leader Development, Chair Leader Development, Co-chair

#### MISSION GRANTS

Delegates voted to fund 7 projects for a total of \$27,900 from our Mite offerings. The following grants were selected for the next biennium.

1. \$5,000	Funding for a Summer Day Camp – Pioneer Camp & Retreat Center, Angola, NY Requested by Joy Belasic, Buffalo Zone.
2. \$5,000	Funding for Care-A-Van Ministries, Batavia, NY to further the Senior Citizen community ministry Requested by Sharon Wolff, St. Paul Batavia, NY, Buffalo Zone.
3. \$3,000	Funding for Medical Supplies for Mercy House, Vestal, NY for medical supplies Requested by Ruth Mueller, Grace Lutheran Church, Vestal, NY, CNY South Zone.
4. \$5,000	Funding for the purchase and installation of video equipment to enable Live-Streaming of sermons In sign language from an LCMS pastor to two deaf congregations located in different locations, Pittsburgh, PA. Requested by Linda Breight for the Pittsburgh Zone.
5. \$5,000	Funding to provide perishable food items to seminary students and their families, Concordia Seminary Fort Wayne, IN. Requested by Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, IN.
6. \$2,450	Funding for the Lunchbox Summer Program in Hop Bottom, PA Requested by Grace Lutheran LWML, Hop Bottom, PA, Anthracite Zone
7. \$2,450	Funding to purchase Bibles for distribution in Nepal & China through Sowers Ministry, Tonawanda, NY

Grants 6 and 7 received a tie vote. The \$4,900 amount will be split evenly between the two grants and they will be paid at the same time when funds are available.

GIVE GENEROUSLY TO MITES SO THAT WE CAN PAY ALL OUR GRANTS IN FULL

#### Book review by Linda Meissner, Buffalo Zone who thought the LWML ladies might be interested in:

Requested by Bonnie Sugrue, First Trinity, Tonawanda, NY, Buffalo Zone

## Joining Jesus on His Mission: How to be an Everyday Missionary by Greg Finke Published by Tenthpower Publishing

"How is Jesus messing with you?" Have you ever been asked that question? And what does it mean? Greg Finke captures your attention and builds on how we followers of Jesus can join Him in His mission here on earth. He has been active from the time of His ascension, when He told us to "Go and make disciples, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit". Greg discusses what it means to be in His kingdom, and how when we join Jesus in His mission, we let Him do the hard work. We are to simply enjoy our fellow sinners, seek out Jesus in His mission in their lives and respond.

Greg even makes it easy for those who would rather skim through the How-to's. At the end of each chapter he has a quick summary of what he has discussed. You'll glean more by reading the whole chapter, but for a quick review, it works. You'd be surprised at the kind of assignment Jesus may have you participate in. How about going to a block party and eating good food and getting to know your neighbors for a starter?

Have you ever wondered where the Kingdom of God is? Greg discusses that in Chapter 8, and what it looks like in Chapter 9. In Chapter 10, Greg gives us a list of five mission practices. They are very practical, easy and we are probably doing them in our lives already. We need only to refocus our practices and join Jesus where He is working in the lives of those around us.

Jesus taught His disciples, and then sent them out on mission trips, right? Well that's the next step Greg discusses. Using quotes from unusual sources, he pulls us in so we begin to understand what it means to see Jesus in the lives of others and how to come along side to respond to their needs.

But if all this is a little scary, don't worry, Greg addresses that too in Chapter 19. Jesus never leaves us alone; we have fellow missionaries with whom to share experiences. Greg shares a practical agenda for sharing and encouragement, so Jesus' missionaries don't get burned out. After all, Jesus is the One who does the saving. His missionaries merely come along side and direct the "pre-Christian" toward the Gospel message.

Greg ends the book with an encouraging benediction, and a couple of appendices including a discussion guide and FAQ's. This is an enjoyable, quick read you will want to make time for.

**EASTERN DISTRICT BANNER** 

## **Convention Highlights**



THE NIAGARA RIVER ALONG MITE WALK



YWR INTRODUCTIONS







VOICE OF THE

LWML PRESIDENT PATTI ROSS
KATHY PAVELOCK
SUSAN BELL
REV. CHRIS WICHER



**ZONE BANNERS** 

**CHOIR** 



**INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS** 



ALLISON YOUNG NATIONAL YWR REPORT





PINNING OF NEW EASTERN DISTRICT PRESIDENT SUSAN BELL



KEYNOTE SPEAKER REV. DR. JOHN SOUND

## **LWML Eastern District Retreat**

# Pioneer Camp & Retreat Center, Angola, NY September 14 - 16, 2018 Hosted by the Genesee Zone

### Guest Speaker, Jan Wendorf

Jan has a teaching degree from Concordia University Chicago. She and her husband reside in Neenah, Wisconsin.

Currently she serves as secretary of the board for International Lutheran Laymen's League/Lutheran Hour Ministries.

Over the years she has served in various ministries including being the 16th president of LWML. She has also been a teacher and coach, task force member for the LCMS on Domestic Violence and Child Abuse, short term missionary, Ambassador for Lutheran World Relief, member of the Board of Regents for two universities, as well as a Bible study administrator and leader to name a few!



Gather your girlfriends for a weekend getaway of Fun, Friendship and Faith. There are many activities planned and a lot of things to do at Pioneer.



#### You don't want to miss retreat this year!

A Registration form is available in this LINK and at www.east-dist-lwml.org

But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. Isaiah 40:31

#### LWML RETREAT CAMPERSHIP—APPLICATION

A few full-time camperships are being offered for the Fall 2018 retreat to first-time attendees or for those individuals having financial need. If you have received a campership in the past you are no longer eligible. The value of the campership is the full cost of the retreat at the full-time registration fee. If you desire a campership and need only consideration for part-time status, please indicate that in your application. An impartial committee will select from those eligible campers who submit a timely application. Notification will take place after the deadline date. Don't delay, act now!

Name			
Address			
City, State, Zip			
E-mail			
Zone			
	LWML Member?	Yes	No

Please write a brief narrative (50-100 words) on why you would like to attend the LWML Retreat.

Attach your written statement to this application and mail by **August 1, 2018** to:

Mrs. Susan Bell 814 Dover Court Downingtown, PA 19335

All recipients names will be kept strictly confidential

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Address:				_	Home Church:				
City:				- 3	Church City & Zip:				
ACCIDENCE.	7in:	Phone: (		-	Email:				
State:	Zip:	Priorie. (		NAME OF TAXABLE PARTY.					
If this is y	our FIRST TIME attendin	g Eastern District	Retreat, plea	se check her	e: Yes! I'm ve	ry excited!			
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SPECIAL	Wheelchair:	Scooter:			Lower Bunk:				
NEEDS	Hearing Impaired:	Other:			Dietary:				
CANCELL	> Balance due > All requests > NO registrat ATIONS: THE \$50 Full	must be paid (por are on a first com ions accepted bef -time/\$25 Part-Ti wed based upon a	stmarked) by e, first serve b ore May 1, 20 me Deposit is written lette	September 1 basis. 118. Must be Non-refunda r of notificat	ed no later than Sept. 1st)  1, 2018 or incur a \$25.00 late fee.  2 post marked no earlier that May 1st  able. Cancellation for MEDICAL REAS  ion to the Eastern District President.	SONS			
*MAIL co	mpleted REGISTRATON F	***Make check ORM, PAYMENTS Road, Hilton, NY	s payable to: & SELF-ADDR 14468 e	LWML Easte ESSED STAMI mail: dcolem	ern District***  PED ENVELOPE (for return confirmation851@aol.com phone: 585-3)  eive an email confirmation*				

## News From Around The Zones

#### **ANTHRACITE ZONE**



On May 5<sup>th</sup> the Anthracite Zone held their Spring Workshop. There were 33 in attendance. It was enjoyed by all.

Rev. Dr. Tilahum Mendedo, Executive Director, Lutheran Bible translators, <a href="https://www.lbt.org">www.lbt.org</a> did an excellent job of explaining how important it is to continue to

translate the Bible into the heart languages of those who have never heard the word of God in their lan-

guage. He had a power point presentation and also did a question and answer session, which was very interesting with many good questions asked.

GOD'S WORD for every language

Since it was on May 5<sup>th</sup> which is Cinco de Mayo day, we had a luncheon that celebrated Cinco De Mayo. A great job was done by the Grace Lutheran Women's Guild. Hats off to the new President Cindy Chidester. Pastor Kim Bode and Pastor John Zimmerman did the opening and closing devotions which also added to the blessings.

I was very blessed to be there as were many in attendance. Rev. Dr. Tilahun Mendedo said he was humbled and honored to share the Word of God with us, and to have the opportunity to share with us the vision of Lutheran Bible Translators and details of its ministry in different parts of the world. I was humbled to have him in our midst.

Dawn Corbin
Anthracite Zone President

#### **BUFFALO ZONE**



God is so very good. I had the opportunity to tour the new Oishei Hospital in Buffalo when I delivered the surgical caps and cards that the LWML Buffalo Zone made at their Fall event and dedicated at their Spring event, to Sue, my contact there, and to Tara in the surgical wing. What a beautiful facility, such a feeling of light, warmth, calm, and peace. They were delighted to receive the 139 caps and the

numerous prayer cards that the Buffalo zone worked on and donated their time and talents. What a blessing to God's little people!

**Sharon Wolff** 

#### PHILADELPHIA ZONE



The Philadelphia Zone is proud to announce its new President, Beth Quinn. Beth has served as President of the Women's Guild at Christ Memorial Lutheran Church in Malvern, PA. She is currently

serving as Vice-President of Communication at the District Level. Linda Owens from Holy Cross in Philadelphia will continue to serve at Vice-President of the Philadelphia Zone. Chris Gasslein is the Secretary and Dottie Buerger is the Treasurer, both of Christ Memorial.

We look forward to sharing the Fall Rally with our English District Philadelphia Zone sisters. They will be hosting this year at Bethany Lutheran Church, Ewing, NJ in October.

Nine ladies and two spouses from the Philadelphia Zone were able to attend the LWML Eastern District Convention in Niagara Falls in June, loaded down with gifts for Heart, Love & Soul. In addition to Beth Quinn, Susan Bell served as Secretary, Chris Gasslein served as Archivist/Historian and delegate, Becca Futty served at Co-Chair of Leadership Development, Cheyenne Storch served as our YWR, Susan Morris served as Co-Chair of the Structure Committee and a delegate, Susanne Ferro served as an alternate delegate and Doro-

thy Koschmann is a Past President and served as the leader for the Philadelphia Zone delegation. Lorraine Thomas and Pam Johnson represented St. Philip's Church in Philadelphia.

At the Convention, Susan Bell, was chosen to be the next LWML Eastern District President. She will be serving all of the ladies in the LWML Eastern District for the next four years with humility and praise to the Lord, Jesus Christ.





#### **FALL RETREAT GIFTS FROM THE HEART**

We will be collecting the following for Camp Pioneer at the upcoming Fall Retreat

Postage Stamps
Office Supplies (pens, paper clips, tape, etc.)
Pillows

Offerings for the weekend include a "Mite" collection and Sunday worship offering.

Checks should be made out to LWML Eastern
District or Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center

#### A note from Claire Carlson

FINAL Convention press release is on our website – www.east-dist-lwml.org.

God be with you until we meet again. As some may have heard, I have moved to Powhatan, Virginia (outside of Richmond.) I have completed my term as District PR Director. I will now be part of the LWML Chesapeake District . However, I will be back to visit often. Thank you to all my LWML sisters in Eastern District for their many years of love and support. God's blessings. Claire Carlson

"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the Gospel." Philippians 1:3-5a.



Sept. 14, 2018

**EC** Meeting

Camp Pioneer

Sept. 14-16, 2018

Fall Retreat Camp Pioneer

Feb/March 2019 TBA

ED/BOD meeting

June 20-23,2019

**LWML National Convention** 

Mobile, Alabama



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

#### FINAL CONVENTION OFFERINGS

Offering 1—\$1272.09
For LWML Eastern District

Offering 2—\$944.25
For Pastor Zogar's Liberian Mission

Offering 3—\$1176.00
For Grace Lutheran Church, Vestal,NY

In-gathering \$700.00 Mite Walk \$2300.24



#### Report of the Financial Secretary—Judy Morrison

March 1, 2018 – May 31, 2018 Mites: \$8,741.10

Memorials Given in remembrance of:

(March 1, 2018 - May 31, 2018)

In Memory of: Given By:
Karen Hoblack Linda Breight
Mary Jane Bohl Linda Breight

Dorothy Wright St. Paul Adella Society
Marjorie Dexheimer Immanuel LWML
Ron Byrns Dorothy Koschmann
Betty Germer Waneta Lingenfelter

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

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

#### **Executive Committee**

#### President

Susan Bell, 814 Dover Court Place, Downingtown, PA 19335 610-518-0681 susanbell557@comcast.net

#### Vice President of Communication

**Beth Quinn,** 558 Westwind Drive, Berwyn, PA 19312 610-761-0263 <a href="mailto:beth@quinnfamily.net">beth@quinnfamily.net</a>

#### Vice President of Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources

Sharon McGuan, 73 Dorchester Rd., Buffalo, NY 14222 716-803-3767 <a href="mailto:streething.com">streething.com</a>

#### Vice President of Christian Life/Special Focus

Linda Breight, 400 Barclay Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15221 412-271-1119 <a href="mailto:iamweebs@hotmail.com">iamweebs@hotmail.com</a>

#### Recording Secretary

**Dee Grzyb**, 56 Hanover St., Lancaster NY 14086 716-393-3670 <u>d e grzyb@msn.com</u>

#### Financial Secretary

Judy Morrison, 7 Albano Dr., Hilton, NY 14668 585-484-8138 juclkemo@gmail.com

#### Treasurer

Beth Scholl, 912 Birch Lane, PO Box 459, Sylvan Beach, NY 13157 315-264-2591 gbds2000@yahoo.com

#### Senior Pastoral Counselor

Rev. Shawn Walters, Christ Lutheran Church,1302 E. Washington St., New Castle, PA 16101 724-658-8009 <a href="mailto:pastorseangw@gmail.com">pastorseangw@gmail.com</a>

#### Junior Pastoral Counselor

**Rev. John Zimmerman**, Immanuel Lutheran Church, 238 Reese St., Scranton, PA 18508 570-507-6138 <a href="mailto:pastorzimmerman@gmail.com">pastorzimmerman@gmail.com</a>

#### Appointed By the President

#### Parliamentarian

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

#### Planner

**Barbara Williams**, 6132 Prospect St., Newfane NY 14108 716-778-8824 <a href="mailto:brucepa421@aol.com">brucepa421@aol.com</a>

#### **Appointed By the Executive Committee**

#### Editor

**Bev Wicher**, 19 Vernon Drive, Cheektowaga, NY 14225 716-913-4140 <a href="mailto:lwmllink@gmail.com">lwmllink@gmail.com</a>

#### **Public Relations Director**

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

#### Archivist/Historian

Chris Gasslein, 112 Stillwagon Lane, Coatesville, PA 19320 610-384-6093 <a href="mailto:gassleinc@comcast.net">gassleinc@comcast.net</a>

#### Legacy of Love Coordinator

Rebecca Bessell, 7048 Benedict Beach, Hamlin, NY 14464 585-415-6368 rlb54@rochester.rr.com

#### Stamps for Missions Coordinator

Vacant

#### Stamps for Missions Courier

Judy Nordell, 165 Park Ridge Dr., Easton, PA 18040 610-250-9661 jondell@rcn.com

#### **Appointed by Board of Directors**

#### Mission Grants Chair

Cheri Briggs, PO Box 87, Lockport, NY 14094 716-560-6905, CBriggs109@yahoo.com

#### **Mission Grants Co-Chairs**

Vacant

#### Christian Life Chair

**Kelly Gilbert,** 8696 NYS Rt. 3, Blossvale, NY 13308 315-820-4006 kelly.gillbert1@yahoo.com

#### Christian Life Chair Co-Chair

Vacant

#### Structure Chair

Susan Morris, 3301 Hartford Ct., Newtown Square, PA 19073 215-514-8678 morrissusan68@gmail.com

#### Structure Co-Chair

Vacant

#### Special Focus Chair

Sharon Wolff, 9926 Francis Rd., Batavia, NY 14020 585-344-1947, swolff3@rochester.rr.com

#### Special Focus Co-Chair

Vacant

#### Leader Development Chair

Becca Futty, 509 Lennon Way, West Chester, PA 19380

484-319-2398 rebeccafutty@gmail.com

#### Leader Development Co-Chair

Vacant

#### 2020 District Convention Liaison

Vacant

#### Eastern District Recycling Fundraiser Chairman

Alice Pfonner, 136 Hamilton Blvd., Kenmore, NY 14217

716-873-9377, alicepfonner@aol.com

#### Webmaster

Kathy Pavelock, 8200 State Route 13, Blossvale, NY 13308 315-245-1590 <a href="mailto:kmpavelock@aol.com">kmpavelock@aol.com</a>

#### **Zone Presidents**

#### Anthracite Zone

Dawn Corbin, 5571 Lindaville Rd, Hop Bottom, PA 18824 570-289-4822 <u>Dawn\_corbin@yahoo.com</u>

#### **Buffalo Zone**

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

#### Cattaraugus-AlleganyZone

**Robin Swanson**, 940 Creek Rd., Sugar Grove, PA 16350 814-489-3411, <u>tr72</u> <u>go@hotmail.com</u>

#### Central New York North Zone

Linda Bahr, 7638 Gifford Road, Rome, NY 13440 315-339-1979, linda@gbahr.com

#### Central New York South Zone

Anita Getty, 318 North Rd., Middlebury, PA 16935 570-376-2143 <a href="mailto:amgemt@ptd.net">amgemt@ptd.net</a>

#### Genesee Zone

Rebecca Bessell, 7048 Benedict Beach, Hamlin, NY 14464 585-964-7844 rlb54@rochester.rr.com

#### Niagara Zone

Laurie Bauch, 69 Morrow Ave., Lockport, NY 14094 716-434-5982, LMBauch@aol.com

#### Philadelphia Zone

Beth Quinn, 558 Westwind Drive, Berwyn, PA 19312 610-761-0263 beth@quinnfamily.net

#### Pittsburgh Zone

Linda Breight, 400 Barclay Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15221 412-271-1119 <a href="mailto:iamweebs@hotmail.com">iamweebs@hotmail.com</a>





Please send all news articles and information for publication to:

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

E-mail: <a href="mailto:lwmllink@gmail.com">lwmllink@gmail.com</a>

#### The next deadline is September 1, 2018

The Link is published four times each year.

April 1, July 1, October 1, January 1

Deadlines to submit articles:

March 1, June 1, September 1, December 1

#### NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATION—BETH QUINN

What a fantastic convention we had in Niagara Falls, NY under the theme, 'Voice of the Lord – Enlightening, Electrifying, Empowering. Patti Ross, LWML national president, Rev. Dr. John Sound, former pastoral counselor, Katie Luther, aka Jan Struck, bible study and worship made the weekend action packed, inspiring, and uplifting. The ministry of Heart, Love & Soul, our ingathering recipient, shared how they are impacting the community in many ways. We were honored to help them further their ministry



I had the pleasure to host Jan Struck and see the town of Niagara Falls before the convention started with her and our women of Christ Memorial, Malvern, PA (see photo).

At Patti's interest session, I learned about many of the resources to further our growth in the Lord and ministry as an auxiliary organization to the LCMS. Check out the LWML items on the CPH website - <a href="www.cph.org">www.cph.org</a>. Place LWML in the search field. Also do you have the LWML app on your smartphone? Search for LWML on the App Store or Google Play. The national website – <a href="www.lwml.org">www.lwml.org</a> is also a great source to learn what new resources are available and what's happen-

ing around the LWML nation.

It was great to see some new faces of all ages at the convention. Continue to invite women you know and share how our Mighty Mites are furthering God's mission.

Now it is time to look to our next event - LWML Eastern District Fall Retreat at Camp Pioneer. Dates are September 14-16, 2018. Jan Wendorf, past national president leads us under the theme – Hope, Renew, SOAR, Isaiah 40:31. Come join us!

Thank you to all of you who continue to provide me updates to the directory. If you need Quarterlies I accept increases anytime of the year; decreases only in March. Thank you.

Listen to the Voice of the Lord – in a whisper or thunderous roar.

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

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









Together
Serving
The Lord
With
Gladness
For
74 years



Dear LWML Eastern District Ladies & Gentlemen:

I just returned from a wonderful, refreshing LWML Eastern District Retreat at Pioneer Camp & Retreat Center, Sept. 14-16, hosted by the Genesee Zone! What a great job they did! The theme was Hope, Renew, SOAR based on Isaiah 40:31. Past LWML President, Jan Wendorf, was our guest speaker and she showed us at least 3 different ways to conduct a private time with God each day while praying and reading your bible. Choose one and let's get

going! The worthwhile interest sessions were: LWML Basics and Updates, Visual Faith with Bev Wicher and Woodland Spa. The entertainment was Ladies First Quartet with LWML members Sharon Wolff and Bonnie Sugrue plus two other talented ladies singing Barbershop in all genres of music! If you couldn't make it this year, try to come next year!

Thank you to everyone who answered my call for co-chair positions! They are all filled! Praise God! Mission Grant co-chair: Julie Tapp; Christian Life co-chair: Teri Devan; Structure co-chair: Robin Swanson; Special Focus co-chair: Tenea Harmon; and Leader Development co-chair: Allison Young.

Sharon McGuan has volunteered to be our new Stamps for Missions Coordinator. She will deliver the stamps from Retreat and then let District Presidents know how we will proceed in the future. Look for that update!

Looking ahead, The Assembly of Leaders will be in St. Louis, Nov. 3-7. Myself, Beth Quinn, Sharon McGaun and Becca Futty will be attending this exciting event! Please pray for our safe travel and that the Lord will make the best use of our time there. We look forward to sharing what we learn with all of you!

We will be looking for young women to apply to be a Young Woman Rep to our LWML National Convention in Mobile, AL, June 20-23, 2019. Sharon McGuan will be getting those applications out to Zone Presidents soon.

Let me continue to challenge you to be in the Word daily and pray for ways you can serve Him at home, church and in your community. If you need prayer, do not hesitate to let me know. My cell number is: 610-937-1483 and my e-mail address is: susanbell557@comcast.net. I am here for YOU!

God bless,

Susan Bell



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



(Jesus said) "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. - John 14:1-3

What are we here for? You have been called out of the sinful darkness of this dying world into the marvelous light of our Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifying God. You, dear saints, are eternal children of the Heavenly Father. Your reservation in Heaven

has been secured by the innocent suffering and death of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Your reservation in Heaven has no check-out time. Your room (or some translations say "mansion") is being prepared by Jesus. By the time you arrive in Heaven, it will be fully prepared for you, free of charge. This is the Good News for you. This is the Good News that the whole world so desperately needs.

At the start of my four-year term as Pastoral Counselor for the LWML Eastern District, it's good to revisit why you're here in this church service organization. You're here to support the ongoing spreading of the Gospel domestically and internationally. While a student at the Fort Wayne seminary, I had the opportunity to visit our sister seminary in Baguio, Philippines. That property was bought and paid for by LWML mites several decades before. It was very good to see and worship alongside our brothers and sisters in the Philippines. We pray for the Lutheran Church in the Philippines (LCP), our beloved LCMS and all church bodies around the globe to remain true to the Faith. At your Confirmation, you subscribed to the confession contained in the Small Catechism, which is part of our larger confession called the Book of Concord. It's good to revisit the Catechism regularly in your home devotions.

Blessings to you in your partnership for the furtherance of the Gospel in your communities, throughout the USA and around the world as you carry out your mission in the LWML. It is a joy to pray for the mission of the ladies of the LWML. I welcome your prayers for the congregations entrusted to me to care for as their undershepherd of the Chief, Good Shepherd, Jesus.

### Rev. John Zimmerman Junior Pastoral Counselor—LWML Eastern District

#### Report of the Financial Secretary—Judy Morrison

June 1, 2018 – August 31, 2018 Mites: \$6,808.40		In Honor of:	Given by:
	n in remembrance of: 019 – August 31, 2018)  Given by: Dorothy Koschmann St. Paul Adella Society St. Paul Adella Society Susan Bell Susan Bell Dorothy Koschmann Kathy Rickus	2014-2018 ED appointed B. Williams, G. Putzn C. Carlson, C. Gassle 2014-2018 ED officers - D. Grzyb, B. Scholl, F Kathy Pavelock Karen Devan Dee Grzyb	nan, B. Wicher, ein, R. Bessell <b>Kathy Pavelock</b> K. Devan,
In Honor of:  2018 Confirmation Class – CMLC Beth Quinn 2018 LWML ED YWRs - Alice, Anne, Tenea, Victoria, Lacey, Cheyenne, Katie Kathy Pavelock All those who serve in the LWML ED Kathy Pavelock		Treasurers are asked to forward money from their zone on a monthly basis so our mission grants can be paid in a timely manner and to assure that all are funded.	



The Mission Grants Committee recently received a thank you letter from Cliff Kraft, Manager of the Mid Atlantic Branch of Orphan Grain Train. Here are the highlights from his letter:

Thanks to the LWML Eastern District for the Grant which allowed us to ship a 40 ft. container of clothing, medical equipment and other items to Pastor Ivars Eisaks of the Evangelical Lutheran



Church, Pampali, Latvia on July 13, 2018. In preparation for shipping, clothing is gathered and sorted to assure that all items are in

good condition and checked for quality and cleanliness.

The 40ft container was filled with 1088 boxes from the New England branch. The total value of the contents was \$318,733. The objective in loading the container is to not allow any space for air. In other words fill it to its capacity.



The Latvia loading team, including President Susan Bell

We are very blessed to have volunteers who work until the container is filled, as we are allowed a limited amount of time to load; the truck driver is

Transporting these items is an intermediary step in our mission work of bringing spiritual and physical help to those in need worldwide. This particular mission began with the LWML Eastern District granting us funds to ship to Latvia. The mission

nears completion with the arrival of the container in Latvia. Then to complete the mission, the items are distributed to those in need. In this final step the opportunity is there to tell of the love of Jesus who made these gifts possible and who gave His life for them granting them a place with Him in Heaven.



#### NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATION—BETH QUINN



**HOPE - RENEW - SOAR** - Were you refreshed at vour time at retreat this year? What a beautiful weekend – 3rd in a row. Those of you with Fitbits or other exercise trackers certainly exceeded your goals. On my Sunday walk on the beach I came across our name in stones (see picture) – a creative way to make



us known. We had 26 first timers this year. Praise the Lord! Jan Wendorf was awesome – getting us back into quiet time with God and His Word. We learned 3 different methods to helps us apply God's word as we continue to Hope, Renew, and Soar as daughters and sons of the King.

**DIRECTORY CHANGES**: Many of our societies and zones have new officers in the fall or over the summer. Don't forget to send me the changes shortly after your meetings or rallies. This helps keep our Eastern District LWML Directory up-to-date. Please send me changes to names, addresses, phone numbers and emails of pastors, society presidents, and zone officers. Emails are critical as we prefer to send you the LINK (this newsy paper) via email. If you currently are getting hard copies mailed to you, we'd appreciate emailing as this saves money for the LWML. Send your email address to Bev Wicher at lwmllink@gmail.com. This saves the District LWML money that we can put towards our Grants! Thank you we are down to 65 copies being mailed.

**CONTRIBUTIONS:** We contribute to our Mite collections at our societies and churches. Perhaps take a special offering for Mites on LWML Sunday 10/7/18 or whenever you celebrate it. There are other ways to help monies go toward our grants as well —Do you shop on-line?—sign up for AmazonSmile. A percentage of your purchases goes back to the LWML Eastern District. Directions are on our website - http://www.east-dist-lwml.org/AmazonSmileInstructions.pdf. LWML Eastern District is also a Thrivent Choice recipient. All choice dollars are designated to Mites to further the mission work of LWML, globally and throughout the Eastern District. Search for LWML Eastern District when designating your choice dollars. Thank you.



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

But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. Isaiah 40:31 NKJV



It's time to start thinking about Young Women Representatives for the 2019 LWML Convention in Mobile Alabama. Following are some of the guidelines and the applications form. The complete guidelines can be found on the LWMLWebsite lwml.org and the LWML Eastern District Website east-dist-lwml.org. Pease have names and applicataions submitted to Rebecca Futty, 509 Lennon Way, West Chester, PA 19380 by

December 15, 2018. Rebecca Futty can be contacted at 484-319-2398 or rebeccafutty@gmail.com with any questions.

#### Guidelines for Selecting and Serving as an LWML Young Woman Representative (YWR)

- Any mature young woman, preferably 22-35 years of age\*, who is a member of the LCMS and has not previously attended a national convention as a Young Woman Representative is eligible to become a YWR.
- A YWR candidate should have a deep love and devotion for her Lord Jesus Christ and is able to participate in the full scope of the convention.
- A YWR candidate will fill out the application completely and honestly and return it to the district by the date it is due.
- A YWR candidate is able to be away from home/work/children for the entire convention and the travel time involved\*\*.

#### The YWR should:

- Have a strong relationship with her Lord. Her faith will encourage her as she participates in the convention and carries
  out her YWR duties and responsibilities.
- Have some knowledge of the LWML. She will gain much from her national convention experience if she understands the basics of the organization. Each district should make an effort to provide education and information for the YWR prior to the convention\*\*\*.
- Know what is expected of her on the district level after the national convention, whether that is speaking engagements, attendance at district events, or YWR committee work.
- ♦ Be willing to participate in the following areas after convention: speaking, leading, recruiting, or encouraging. She is expected to impact others with her convention experience; skills in these areas are helpful.
- Have a desire to make a difference, be willing to assume the responsibilities given her by the district, and serve in a sincere and dedicated manner. Enthusiasm to learn and be involved is a must!
- \* While 22-35 is the suggested age, we welcome women who are slightly outside of the age range as we look to further the reach of the LWML. We rely on the district board to know if the young women selected are the right representatives.

Children are welcome: if your suggested YWR has children to bring along, please see the LWML Website for the specific details.

#### What is expected of a Young Woman Representative?

- A YWR will attend all sessions of the convention, sitting with her district delegation, though she will not be eligible to vote.
- A YWR will be asked to report on her convention experience either orally or in written form to the district, zone, or society that nominated her.
- A YWR will commit to being involved in her local LWML as well as encourage other young women to be active in the LWML.

These guidelines are suggestions to empower your YWR program to have the greatest effect on the young women of your district. May the Lord lead and guide you in your selection process!



# Young Women IN MISSION

#### Young Woman Representative Application

Convention (circle one):	National	District	Date:			
Convention Location:			_			
Name			ge	_		
Address				_		
City		State	Zip			
Occupation						
Home Congregation						
Phone	email					
Please answer the followin president.	g questions. U	Jse a separate s	heet of paper if no	eeded. Return to your district		
1) The LWML motto is "S	erve the Lord	with gladness"	(Psalm 100:2). H	Iow do you do this in your life?		
2) What groups and activit	ies are you in	volved in or ha	ve you been invol	ved in at your church?		
3) What do you know abou	it the LWML?	? Have you bee	n involved at any	level?		
4) Why do you desire to be	e a Young Wo	man Represent	ative for the distr	ict?		
5) What do you feel your s	pecial interest	ts, talents, and	gifts are?			
6) Will you commit to serv	e in some cap	oacity in your d	istrict after the co	nvention?		
	g event with v	ery little free ti		L convention. It will be an excitected to participate in the full		

Please have someone who knows you well, perhaps the person who encouraged you to apply, answer the following question, "Why do you feel this woman would make a good Young Woman Representative?" Have them attach this answer on a separate sheet of paper along with their name and relationship to you

#### NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF GOSPEL OUTREACH/ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES—Sharon McGuan



#### Introducing the Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources Team

Vice President Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources - Sharon McGuan, Buffalo Zone
Mission Grants Chair - Cheri Briggs, Niagara Zone
Mission Grants Co-Chair - Julie Tapp, Niagara Zone
Leader Development Chair - Rebecca Futty, Philadelphia Zone
Leader Development Co-Chair - Allison Young, Central NY North
Structure Chair - Susan Morris, Philadelphia Zone
Structure Co-Chair - Robin Swanson, Cattaraugua/Allegany Zone
Nominating Committee Chair - Sharon McGuan

Our team is looking forward to serving you, the women of the Eastern District LWML, throughout the 2018 - 2020 biennium. To contact us, please find our contact information on the last page of the LINK.



Autumn and the LWML:

As Summer wanes, and crisp, cool Autumn days appear, I always anticipate the exciting events and opportunities the Lord provides through the LWML. Don't you?

Perhaps your society, like mine, takes a little hiatus over the summer. The break is good; but isn't it a blessing to gather again with renewed vigor to plan the year ahead? With joy and enthusiasm we select our mission projects, Bible studies, inspirational speakers and special events. We may choose to sponsor a fundraiser to bless our congregation, a Christian organization or Lutheran mission.

We rejoice in knowing we are sisters, in Christ, who worship and commune together at the Lord's table and joy-fully support one another in our Christian life. We are blessed to be "Lutheran Women In Mission" and grateful to the Lord, Our God, for Autumn and "organizing" our societies for the coming year.

Many of our Zones took the last weeks of summer to plan Fall Rallies and Mission Events. Zone officers gathered prayerfully, trusting the Lord to help them offer programs that refresh, engage, encourage and "equip women to share their faith in Jesus Christ, their loving Savior, with people of their communities". Let's encourage each other to attend these Zone events. We are blessed with Zones that provide opportunities to meet women from other congregations and enlarge our mission outreach to our communities. We are grateful to the Lord, Our God, for Autumn and our Fall Zone events.

Many women of the Eastern District recently attended the September Retreat, "Hope - Renew - Soar", at Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center. They eagerly spent time with dear friends from across the district - to worship, study God's Word, fellowship, and celebrate together. We thank God for our District officers, the Genesee Zone Host Committee, the Pioneer staff and our Retreat Speaker, past National LWML President, Jan Wendorf, for leading this retreat. We are grateful to the Lord, Our God, for Autumn and the Eastern District LWML Retreat He has so generously provided.

Autumn and the LWML, truly a Season of Gratitude.

#### NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF Christian Life/Special Focus-Linda Breight



My name is Linda Breight. I was elected to be the Vice President of Christian Life/Special Focus at the Eastern District LWML Convention this past June in Niagara Falls. LWML has been a part of my life since I was thirteen. As a teen that went to church alone, the LWML women from that congregation took me under their wings and mentored me. I found love and acceptance from those wonderful caring ladies. That, to me, is Christian Life/Special Focus.

Look for ways to reach out and share your faith in unique ways to a group or person that needs this precious Gospel message we own. Touch lives by serving those in need with our projects such as hygiene kits, blessing bags, quilts, prayer shawls, etc. There are so many ways that we can use our hands, feet, lips, etc to serve Him wherever and whenever He has need of us with the gifts He has given us to share His love. May God give you wisdom and compassion as you seek to serve Him.

### News From Around The Zones

#### **NIAGARA ZONE**

Our Summer Picnic was held at Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Lockport. We enjoyed fellowship time. Barbara Williams gave a report on the Convention held in Niagara Falls in June. We were grateful for the leadership Barbara and committee provided to allow our Zone to host the convention. We also heard report from Lacey Bahr, our young Women Representative. She reminded us that so much does happen at a Convention but one high light for her was the sharing of the power and love of God through the speakers and the study of the Word .



Our fall Rally Day will be on Sunday, October 21,2017 at Trinity Lutheran Church Lockport NY. And will be Hosted by the Trinity Ladies Aid. Guest speaker for the day will be Sara Borgstede, Sara's website, "The Holy Mess", and her talk will address balancing faith, fam-

ily and fitness is an inspirational speaker on finding balance in life, a topic for all ages

A business meeting and elections will be held.

We are holding up our Pastoral Councilor, Rev Rob-

ert Hoffman, his family and his congregation in prayer as he undergoes treatment at and through Cleveland Clinic



Niagara Zone has 2 versions of the Convention Banner (Large and small) that can be borrowed by any churches in the District.

#### PITTSBURGH ZONE



**Pittsburgh Zone LWML Fall Rally—**Saturday, October 13, 2018, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church 60 Rochester Rd, Freedom, PA 15042

Registration: 10-10:30 AM
Registration fee \$8.00

Lunch served at 12 Noon; Business meeting to follow



Speaker Rev. Alex Knowles, Camp Pioneer ministry programs

Ingathering
Postage stamps, office supplies: pens,
paper clips, etc. and standard bed pillows for
Camp Pioneer



Zion Lutheran Church Ladies Aid (Pittsburgh Zone) presented their third hand-made Quilt of Valor to Army Veteran and Accident resident, Everett Allen Fratz, honoring him for his service to God,

country, and community. The quilt was presented following Sunday services June 24th at Zion Lutheran Church, Accident (MD) with friends, family and other veterans in attendance.

Fratz enlisted in the US Army in January 1955 and served three years, some of it stationed at an airfield near Oxford, England, and later as a quartermaster hauling freight & supplies



throughout Germany and France. From 1985 to 2017, Fratz owned and operated the Accident Garage, a car dealership.

Quilts of Valor is a patriotic endeavor, the goal being to present an Americana style quilt to veterans. The Ladies Aid has dubbed this, their third quilt of valor, "America the Beautiful" due to its red, white & blue borders & American flags with an American eagle & the Liberty Bell featured in the center.

Pieced together by Ladies Aid members Lena Fratz & Margaret (Peggy) Close, machine quilted by Sharon Garlitz, then finished with hemming & labeling by Carol Jean Edmiston.

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



#### **ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN NEEDS**

LWML has long been a supporter of Orphan Grain Train. They have contacted us with two need requests that we are sharing with you here. If you or your church can help in anyway please contact them directly.

ORPHAN GRAIN
TRAIN

Relief for Human Need Worldwide

Dear Friends of Orphan Grain Train,

Your past support of Orphan Grain Train Mid-Atlantic Branch,

through LWML grants, is greatly appreciated. Most recently, your funding allowed us to ship much needed supplies to the Pampali Evangelical Lutheran Church in Latvia. Once again, we urgently need your prayers and support.

Unexpectedly in mid-August we lost our warehouse which resulted in us halting donations and postponing our work. We are now seeking a new base of operations and could use your member connections! Do you have any contacts with a company or individual that may know of space available at a nominal rate or gratis?

We need at least 5,000 square feet of space with access to bathrooms and a garage door or loading dock. Given where our volunteers come from the ideal location is Wilmington, DE, but we are also looking in West Chester, PA and other locations in the Delaware Valley. A vacant school, retail shop, grocery store or warehouse are all suitable candidates. Our leasing budget is limited since we are entirely self-funded with almost all funds going for shipping.

We are confident that our Lord has a purpose in this turn of events. We trust in Him to provide us a future that brings hope to those in need. *Psalm 20 encourages us: "May the Lord answer you in the day of trouble! May he send you help from the sanctuary and give you support from Zion!"* Please join us in prayer for the Lord's guidance to continue our mission of providing "Relief for Human Need Worldwide."

Please call Cliff Kraft, Branch Manager, at (610) 420-0380 with any information or questions.



Orphan Grain Train MD is now collecting to help the people affected by Hurricane Florence. Please consider donating any of the following items:

5 Gallon Buckets, Gallon of Bleach, Pair of Work Gloves, & Heavy Duty Plastic Gloves, Scouring Pads, Scrub Brushes, Powdered Cleanser (Comet), Liquid Cleaner (Lysol), Old CLEAN Towels, Paper Towels, Hand Sanitizer or Baby Wipes, Band Aids, Mops.Brooms, Gift Cards for Lowe's, Home Depot, Walmart & Target,

Smaller sized items are better

than bulk sizes.

Whom to contact:

\*\*\*\*\*

If you have any questions, please email karenannkow@hotmail.com or call 570-459-0501. The OGT collection point (warehouse) is located at 621 East-West Blvd, Millersville, Maryland 21108 Pennsylvania Location: St. John's Lutheran Church6th & Vine Streets Hazleton, PA 18201 Contact Paul or Karen Ann Kowalczyk at 570-436-3938 for questions or to schedule a drop off at the PA location.

#### **ZONE PRESIDENTS MEET AT PIONEER**

The District's nine Zone Presidents have started a new tradition – Zone Presidents Luncheon at the Fall Retreat. There are several reasons to have this meeting, some of our ladies have dual roles – Zone President and serve on



the Eastern District Board and don't get a chance to get together Friday night during the Winter Board Meeting. The other, is to have more frequent contact than just once a year. This was an opportunity to share opportunities/challenges, what works and doesn't, as well as resources. Jen Wendorf, retreat speaker, also joined us. The group will continue to connect throughout the year. Do you have suggestions how to improve your zone, need help in your society? Contact your zone president; she wants to hear from you.

We will keep in contact via email and teleconferences. If you have a newly elected President, please send Dee Grzyb, Buffalo Zone President, their contact information.

Back row: Laurie Bauch, Niagara, Anita Getty, Central New York South, Jen Wendorf, past national president, Dee Grzyb, Buffalo, Rebecca Bessell, Genesee Front row: Robin Swanson, Cattaraugus/Allegany, Dawn Corbin, Anthracite, Linda Bright, Pittsburgh, Beth Quinn, Philadelphia, Linda Bahr, Central New York North





An *Endowment* to make a lasting impact on the *Ministry of the LWML Eastern District* 

for years to come.

#### WHAT DOES IT ACCOMPLISH?

Gifts will benefit **Scholarships**, **Leadership Training** and **District Ministries**.

#### **HOW DO I CONTRIBUTE?**

Via the *District Financial Secretary* or a *Legacy Gift* through your *Charitable Estate Plan*.

#### **CONTACT INFO:**

Rebecca Bessell, Coordinator 585-415-6368 or rlb54@rochester.rr.com



# RECYCLE YOUR E-WASTE AND SUPPORT OUR FUNDRAISER

Why not
put a box at your
church and get the
items to Alice
or Pat at the
next LWML
event?

Turn your E-WASTE
into FUNDS
which will support
the LWML
Eastern District
MISSION GOAL!

For more information:

Contact Alice Pfonner, <u>alicepfonner@aol.com</u> Or visit http://east-dist-lwml.org/events



for the



June 12-14, 2020



DoubleTree by Hilton 6301 NY-298 East Syracuse, New York

2020

"Live by Faith"

based on 2 Corinthians 5:6-7

Hosted by the Central NY North and Genesee Zones

For more information, visit: http://www.east-dist-lwml.org

### UPCOMING EVENTS

March 1-2, 2019 EC/BOD meeting Malvern, PA

June 20-23,2019 LWML National Convention

Mobile, Alabama

Sept. 20-22, 2019 Fall Retreat Camp Pioneer

June 12-14, 2020 LWML ED Convention

Syracuse, NY

#### **Executive Committee**

President

Susan Bell, 814 Dover Court Place, Downingtown, PA 19335 610-518-0681 susanbell557@comcast.net

Vice President of Communication

Beth Quinn, 558 Westwind Drive, Berwyn, PA 19312 610-761-0263 beth@quinnfamily.net

Vice President of Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources

Sharon McGuan, 73 Dorchester Rd., Buffalo, NY 14222

716-803-3767 stmcguan@gmail.com

Vice President of Christian Life/Special Focus

Linda Breight, 400 Barclay Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15221

412-271-1119 iamweebs@hotmail.com

Recording Secretary

Dee Grzyb, 56 Hanover St., Lancaster NY 14086

716-393-3670 <u>d e grzyb@msn.com</u>

Financial Secretary

Judy Morrison, 7 Albano Dr., Hilton, NY 14468

585-484-8138 juclkemo@gmail.com

Treasurer

Beth Scholl, 912 Birch Lane, PO Box 459, Sylvan Beach, NY 13157 315-264-2591 gbds2000@yahoo.com

Senior Pastoral Counselor

Rev. Shawn Walters, Christ Lutheran Church, 1302 E. Washington St., New Castle, PA 16101 724-658-8009 pastorseangw@gmail.com

Junior Pastoral Counselor

Rev. John Zimmerman, Immanuel Lutheran Church, 238 Reese St., Scranton, PA 18508 570-507-6138 pastorzimmerman@gmail.com

#### Appointed By the President

Parliamentarian

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

Planner

Barbara Williams, 6132 Prospect St., Newfane NY 14108 716-778-8824 brwcpa421@aol.com

#### Appointed By the Executive Committee

Editor

Bev Wicher, 19 Vernon Drive, Cheektowaga, NY 14225 716-913-4140 lwmllink@gmail.com

**Public Relations Director** 

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

Archivist/Historian

Chris Gasslein, 112 Stillwagon Lane, Coatesville, PA 19320 610-384-6093 gassleinc@comcast.net

Legacy of Love Coordinator

Rebecca Bessell, 7048 Benedict Beach, Hamlin, NY 14464 585-415-6368 <u>rlb54@rochester.rr.com</u>

Stamps for Missions Coordinator

Sharon McGuan, 73 Dorchester Rd., Buffalo, NY 14222 716-803-3767 stmcquan@gmail.com

#### **Appointed by Board of Directors**

Mission Grants Chair

Cheri Briggs, PO Box 87, Lockport, NY 14094 716-560-6905, CBriggs109@yahoo.com

Mission Grants Co-Chair

Julie Tapp, 168 Gooding St., Lockport, NY 14094 716-713-5531 tapp7309@yahoo.com

Christian Life Chair

Kelly Gilbert, 8696 NYS Rt. 3, Blossvale, NY 13308 315-820-4006 kelly.gillbert1@yahoo.com

Christian Life Chair Co-Chair

Teri Devan, 10 Homestead Ct., Clinton, NY 13323 315-734-1372 Flagdaytld@aol.com

Structure Chair

Susan Morris, 3301 Hartford Ct., Newtown Square, PA 19073 215-514-8678 morrissusan68@gmail.com

Structure Co-Chair

RobinSwanwon, 940 Creek Rd., Sugar Grove, PA 16350 814-489-3411, tr72\_go@hotmail.com

Special Focus Chair

Sharon Wolff, 9926 Francis Rd., Batavia, NY 14020

585-721-0713, swolff3@rochester.rr.com

Special Focus Co-Chair

Tenea Harmon, 3237 Old State Rt. 49, Blossvale, NY 13308 315-250-9466 tenea.harmon@gmail.com

Leader Development Chair

Becca Futty, 509 Lennon Way, West Chester, PA 19380 484-319-2398 rebeccafutty@gmail.com

Leader Development Co-Chair

Allison Young, 10 Palmer Ave., Apt. 2, Whitesboro, NY 13492 315-723-8525 ayoung121@verizon.net

2020 District Convention Liaison

Barbara Williams, 6132 Prospect St., Newfane NY 14108 716-778-8824 brwcpa421@aol.com

Eastern District Recycling Fundraiser Chairman

Alice Pfonner, 136 Hamilton Blvd., Kenmore, NY 14217 716-873-9377, alicepfonner@aol.com

Webmaster

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

#### **Zone Presidents**

Anthracite Zone

Dawn Corbin, 5571 Lindaville Rd, Hop Bottom, PA 18824 Dawn corbin@yahoo.com

**Buffalo Zone** 

Dee Grzyb, 56 Hanover St., Lancaster NY 14086 716-393-3670 <u>d e grzyb@msn.com</u>

Cattaraugus-Allegany Zone

Robin Swanson, 940 Creek Rd., Sugar Grove, PA 16350 814-489-3411, tr72 go@hotmail.com

Central New York North Zone

Linda Bahr, 7638 Gifford Road, Rome, NY 13440 315-339-1979, linda@gbahr.com

Central New York South Zone

Anita Getty, 318 North Rd., Middlebury, PA 16935 570-376-2143 amgemt@ptd.net

Genesee Zone

Rebecca Bessell, 7048 Benedict Beach, Hamlin, NY 14464 585-964-7844 <u>rlb54@rochester.rr.com</u>

Niagara Zone

Laurie Bauch, 69 Morrow Ave., Lockport, NY 14094 716-434-5982, LMBauch@aol.com

Philadelphia Zone

Beth Quinn, 558 Westwind Drive, Berwyn, PA 19312 610-761-0263 beth@quinnfamily.net

Pittsburgh Zone

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





Please send all news articles and information for publication to:

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

E-mail: <a href="mailto:lwmllink@gmail.com">lwmllink@gmail.com</a>

#### The next deadline is December 1, 2018

The Link is published four times each year.

April 1, July 1, October 1, January 1 Deadlines to submit articles:

March 1, June 1, September 1, December 1



Sing to the Lord, all the earth!
Tell of his salvation from day to day.
Declare his glory among the nations
(1 Chronicles 16:23–24a).



#### The LWML Office has Moved!

Come visit us at our new location on the campus of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis!

### Post-Convention Cruise Out of Mobile to Costa Maya and Cozumel!



After the 2019 LWML Convention in Mobile, Alabama, the LWML is pleased to offer a cruise on the Carnival Fantasy for FUN from June 24 - 29, 2019. This will be a time for well-deserved rest and relaxation as well as fun and fellowship with your friends. The great fact is that you will cruise out of Mobile, the site of the LWML Convention.

Would you like to take part in this fun getaway? McGehee Cruise & Vacation Inc. will assist with all reservations for the cruise.

Registration is now open: Please follow this secure link for further information and questions. https://form.jotform.com/81724876028969 Can also find the link on the LWML website at www.lwml.org/2019-convention As with any cruise, it is best to book as early as possible so you can get the cabin you prefer

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