



LWML

LINK



*Together
Serving
The Lord
With
Gladness
For
81 Years*



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Happy Summer to you! I hope you are enjoying this time spending it with relatives and friends.

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

"Growing In God's Grace" was the theme for the 41st Biennial National Convention. Were you there or were you able to live stream the Convention?

It was a joy to be able to attend. This convention, like others, was awesome, inspiring, and energizing!

My time started on Tuesday, at the Presidents Assembly meeting. I was asked to present the devotion for the afternoon meeting. I thought about the months before and all the preparation for the National Convention. So many people involved, answering questions, trying to solve issues for those attending, and doing it in a timely manner. At times it must have been overwhelming. In looking for a devotion, I saw Debby Yocky's devotion "Woven Threads." No matter if it is a group, zone, district or national we are the threads, some beautiful threads which you see, and some are the plain colored threads that provide the stability in the fabric. As Lutheran Women in Mission, we are the Tapestry.

The convention began with the worship service, always an amazing and emotional event with the music and all those beautiful voices blending together.

The Banner Procession was an honor for me to carry the Eastern District banner with Megan Migyanko, Pittsburgh Zone and Alexa Wolf, Genesee Zone along with other District Presidents representing the other 39 districts. The "YWR Pinning Ceremony" took place at our Eastern District Caucus.

The Flag Procession – Megan Migyanko carried the Canadian Flag, Alexa Wolf the Angola Flag, Rebecca Bessell the Cameroon Flag, and Linda Bright, the Ethiopian Flag.

Bible Study Leader, Christina Hergenrader was amazing. Her message of grace and trusting in our loving Father's timeline for us. You may remember that she was our Guest Speaker at the 2022 Eastern District Retreat,

The new Mission Grant Goal is \$2,622,270 for the 2025-2027 biennium. The preliminary amount raised on the Mission Mite Walk that took place on the Bob Kery Pedestrian Bridge which connects Nebraska and Iowa, was \$73,610.04.

If you could not be with us in Omaha, NE, the next National Convention will be held July 8-11, 2027 in Oklahoma City, OK. Hope to see you there!

Blessings,

Dee E. Grzyb, LWML Eastern District President
lwml8_cm@aol.com, 716-901-4167 mobile or 716-393-3670



As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace...(1 Peter 4:10)



COUNSELOR'S

COUNSELOR'S
C
O
R
N
E
R



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

I am excited to attend the LWML National Convention as a Pastoral Counselor for the first time. Following 2 Peter 3:18, the theme of the Convention is "Growing in God's Grace."

It is a lifelong process of depending fully on God's provision and the gifts He gives through Jesus Christ. Every opportunity to hear His Word and receive His gifts is truly an occasion to give thanks for His continuing care for the abundant life that is ours in Christ. I count the opportunity to witness the national organization of Lutheran Women in Mission

growing together in grace in Omaha as one further occasion to give glory to God for the richness of his gracious provision.

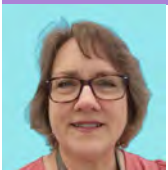
In my congregational ministry, it has been six months since the congregation to which I am called (Immanuel Tonawanda) has entered into a memorandum of understanding with Redeemer Lutheran in North Tonawanda to allow me to serve both congregations as pastor. This partnership has been yet another occasion to give thanks to God for his rich provision. The congregations have held joint services in the season of Lent; the opportunity to worship together seems to be particularly inspiring to all involved, and I give thanks to God for how smoothly he has orchestrated this new arrangement. The most noticeable fruit of this partnership for the Summer will be the return of a Vacation Bible School program for elementary school age children in August—something neither congregation has offered in recent years. There are also discussions of having a joint Confirmation class in the Fall for our confirmands to learn alongside a group of peers. Thanks be to God for the fruit that he continues to bear, as He continues to distribute his gifts to each one, just as he determines (1 Co. 12:11)!

"Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink." (1 Co. 12:12-13)

May this Summer be a time of refreshment and growth in God's grace for you personally and for Christ's Body collectively!

In Christ,
Pastor Michael Dobler, Eastern District LWML Junior Pastoral Counselor

NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATION—SUSAN MORRIS



We recently had bad weather along with a tornado warning! We don't get many of those and it makes you think twice about what you should be doing (head to the basement). On my way to the basement, I opened the front door to take in the rolling clouds, the buckets of rain, and the fierce winds. Ok, maybe that wasn't a good idea to reminisce about my childhood and dancing in the rain in our bathing suits! I recently "weathered" job cuts at work. I could have stepped up and volunteered my position in order to keep another, but I wasn't quite ready - something was holding me back. My younger son is enjoying, thriving really, his 2nd wind with his higher education at the University of Mississippi. A school that wasn't even on his horizon until mid-December 2024. Matt's path toward a bachelor's degree is certainly not traditional and has had a couple starts and stops at the beginning, but now he sees his future unfolding and he likes what he sees! While I have a bit more planning to do before retirement, I will follow Matt's lead and look ahead.

Our society recently met with a Thrivent representative who talked about retirement options and how to plan for that! How to make the most of our savings and spending out of the right bucket. One thing I can cross off my to do list is salvation - no planning needed. **Take time each day, perhaps multiple times a day, to give thanks for His saving grace.**



REMINDERS!

Please send in any Directory changes that you may have to ED_VPComm@gmail.com. If you have not done so, please send your checks into your ZONE Treasurers for the Quarterly subscriptions.

Sue Morris, VP Communication, (215) 514-8678

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



The work of the Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources Department is to engage, encourage and equip women to share their faith in Jesus Christ, their loving Savior with people of their communities and the world.

THE 2024-2026 GOSPEL OUTREACH/ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

Vice President of Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources – Susan Bell

Mission Grant Chair – Margaret Klees

Mission Grant Co-Chair – Barb Gillette

Leader Development Chair – Sharon McGuan

Leader Development Co-Chair – Megan Migyanko

Structure Chair – Rebecca Bessell

Structure Co-Chair – Alice Pfonner

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



Right after the LWML National Convention in June, 2025, I will be forming the Nominating Committee for 2026. We will be looking to fill the positions of: President, VP of Christian Life/Special Focus, VP of Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources, Treasurer and Pastoral Counselor. If you would be interested in serving on the Nominating Committee, please let me know at: 610-937-1483 or sbell_7239@comcast.net.

MISSION GRANT NEWS

MISSION GRANTS UPDATE



We are pleased to share that **GRANT 4** has been paid. **GRANT 4** will fund printing costs for 400 copies of "How Can I Understand?" for Southeast Asian Families through the **Lutheran Heritage Foundation**. Submitted by Grace Lutheran Church, Hop Bottom, PA, Anthracite Zone.

GRANT 3 was moved to the bottom of the list, according to our guidelines, since they were not ready to move forward with the project.



We still have 6 grants to fund this year totaling \$21,989.53 in order to reach our Grant Goal of \$33,989.53 to fund all the Grant Proposals approved at the 2024 LWML Eastern District Convention. Please give generously to Mites in order to fund all our grants for this biennium.

*Grant applications
now available*

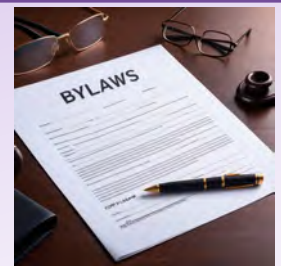
GRANT REQUESTS FOR 2026- The grant packets have been sent to the Zone Presidents to be distributed as needed. Prayerfully consider projects that are on your heart or those that you heard may need help. Guidelines are included in the packets if there are questions as to what type of grant is allowable. **Grant deadline is October 15, 2025.** If you have any questions or would like the packet sent to you please contact me, Margaret Klees. My email is margaretklees@gmail.com and my cell is 570-877-2168.

NEWS FROM THE STRUCTURE COMMITTEE

- Zones, please review your bylaws periodically.
- Send changes to Structure Committee for Review at rlb54@roadrunner.rr.com
- Our contact information is listed below:

Rebecca Bessell – Chair
585-415-6368
rlb54@roadrunner.rr.com

Alice Pfonner – Co-Chair
716-873-9377
alicepfonner@aol.com



Updated District Bylaws are on our website. They can be found at the following link: www.east-dist-lwml.org and clicking on [2022 LWML Eastern District Bylaws](#)



<https://www.lutherlyn.com/>

LWML Eastern District Fall Retreat 2025

September 19 - 21, 2025

Lutherlyn Camp, Butler, PA

Hosted by the Genesee Zone

"What a Friend We Have In Jesus"

You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends. John 15:14-15 (ESV)



Lutherlyn is 40 miles north of Pittsburgh off Route 422 between Butler and Prospect. "Lutherlyn offers a natural setting for an intentional Christian community committed to experiencing and affirming our interrelationship with all of God's creation."

Guest Speaker Ethel Chadwick- Host of the Radio Ministry called Bagels and Blessings



Ethel Chadwick grew up in a Jewish home in Richmond, VA, and came to faith in Yeshua (Jesus) in 1976 after a coworker shared the Gospel with her. Ethel was very excited to learn about her Messiah. After her first husband left her with 3 small children, Ethel joined a Messianic Congregation in Buffalo and became the Worship Leader there. She met Daniel and together they raised the children to love the Lord. Today Ethel is the Director of Worship at Congregation Shema Yisrael in Rochester, NY. In her spare time, she plays piano, sings at nursing homes and hosts the radio show Bagels and Blessings, on air since 1997. In June 2023, she published her first book, "Mama Ethel's Guide to Love and Healthy Relationships." Ethel and Daniel have three adult children and two grandchildren and reside in Scottsville, NY.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

A Registration Form is attached. Registration Deadline-Must be postmarked no later than August 18, 2025.

All Registrants must sign the LWML Transportation Release on the Registration Form

INGATHERING for Lutherlyn Children's Summer Camps

Embroidery floss, construction paper, colored tissue paper, new washable markers, new colored pencils, paint brushes, glue sticks, Gift cards to Amazon, Lowes, Home Depot, Walmart, checks payable to Lutherlyn Camp

Interest Sessions

Visual Faith Project with Bev Wicher
Assemble Thrivent water kits with Barbara McHenry
Meet the Speaker Ethel Chadwick
Prayer Walk
Free Time

Entertainment

Join in the fun as teams play LWML Jeopardy
The winning team gets in the Sunday breakfast line 1st!
Hosted by Calvary Lutheran Church

Highlights of the weekend activities

FRIDAY Afternoon and Evening

Arrival / Registration / Check-in Dinner
Opening / Welcome / Music / Mixer
Devotion / Speaker Session 1 / Vespers
Fellowship & Pre-Packaged Snacks / Bonfire / Music

SATURDAY Morning

Breakfast / Music / Singing
Welcome / Lutherlyn Welcome / District Moments
Devotion / Speaker Session 2 / Lunch

SATURDAY Afternoon

Music / Devotion / Speaker Session 3
Ingathering Dedication / 2026 Convention Invitation
Interest Sessions / Choir Practice / Dinner

SATURDAY Evening

Entertainment / Vespers
Fellowship & Pre-Packaged Snacks / Bonfire / Music

SUNDAY Morning

Breakfast
Bible Study / Worship / Friendship Circle
Check Out of Cabin / Safe Travels Home

Things to Know

No Linens are provided: bring bedding for twin bed, towels, pillows, toiletries. No refrigerators in rooms (one is in the Medical Building for medicines. Each cabin has 8 lower bunks, 4 upper bunks, 2 full bathrooms with shower in each. Cabins are sleep only: beds, no chairs, can be separated in half. There are buildings available for fellowship and gathering times.

Things to Know

No smoking except in designated areas, **No Pets**, except service animals, No wi-fi in the cabins, it is strongest in the dining room. **Lutherlyn is a NO Alcohol Facility-they have given us permission to have wine and beer (BYOB) at designated place and time Friday and Saturday night.** **The ground is uneven with gravel, we will have golf carts available to transport people.**


LWML Eastern District Retreat 2025 September 19-21, 2025
What a Friend We Have in Jesus John 15:14-15

Hosted By: Genesee Zone

Lutherlyn Camp 500 Lutherlyn Lane Butler, PA 16001

www.lutherlyn.com


Name:			
Address:			
City:		Church & Zip	
State:	Zip:	Phone: ()	Email:
If this is your FIRST TIME attending Eastern District Retreat, please check here: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes! I'm very excited!			
FULL TIME			
>Registration Per Person Includes: Registration Fee, 2 Nights Lodging, 5 Meals		\$200.00	\$
> Late fee if postmarked after Aug. 18, 2025		\$ 45.00	\$
NOTE: A \$45.00 minimum deposit required with Full Time Registration		Payment Enclosed	\$
		Balance Due	\$
PART-TIME			
NO LODGING > Saturday Only-- Saturday lunch & dinner & all Saturday programming (Includes \$45.00 Registration Fee)		\$ 90.00	\$
WITH LODGING			
Friday-Saturday > Friday lodging, Saturday breakfast, lunch, dinner and all programming w/ Reg Fee		\$140.00	\$
Saturday-Sunday > Sat. lodging, Sat. lunch & dinner, Sunday breakfast and programming w/Reg Fee		\$140.00	\$
> Late fee if postmarked after Aug. 18, 2025		\$ 45.00	\$
Note: A \$45.00 minimum deposit required with Part-Time Registration		Payment Enclosed	\$
		Balance Due	\$
Commuter: >5 meals and programming (Includes: \$45.00-Registration Fee)		\$120.00	\$
> Late fee if postmarked after Aug. 18, 2025		\$ 45.00	\$
		Payment Enclosed	\$
CABINS: Cabins have 8 lower bunks, 4 upper bunks, 2 bathrooms with showers. Cabins can be separated into 2 rooms. NO LINENS WILL BE PROVIDED NO PETS ALLOWED SMOKING ONLY IN DESIGNATED AREAS IF YOU WANT TO BE HOUSED TOGETHER, PLEASE LIST GROUP			
Roommates:		Church/Group	
Lower Bunk:	Upper Bunk:	Other:	Hearing Impaired
Dietary Needs:	Special Needs:	CHOIR PARTICIPATION ALTO or SOPRANO	Will Need Golf Cart for Transportation:
EVERYONE MUST SIGN TRANSPORTATION RELEASE: I agree (for myself, heirs, and personal representatives) not to sue, and I release, indemnify and hold harmless, LWML, LWML Eastern District, volunteers, and designees from all liability, claims, demands and causes of action of any kind due to my use of the golf cart for transportation services and/or travel to/from Retreat even if the liability, claim, demand or cause of action result from negligence of any of the above or from any other cause.			
SIGNATURE		DATE	
Registration Deadline: August 18, 2025 (postmarked by August 18th) Registration not accepted before May 1st. **No registration forms will be accepted after August 18th **Balance due must be paid (postmarked) by August 18th or a late fee will be applied (\$45) Cancellations: \$45.00 deposits are non-refundable. Cancellations for MEDICAL REASONS will be reviewed based upon letter of notification to Eastern District President. Non-Sufficient Fund Fee: Charge of \$35 will be assessed on checks returned by bank. **Make Checks Payable to LWML Eastern District** Mail completed form, payment, and self-addressed stamped envelope (for return confirmation) to: Judy Morrison 7 Albano Drive Hilton, NY 14468 585-484-8138 juclmemo@gmail.com *Registrations without stamped envelopes will receive email confirmation*			
Retreat Use Only	Balance Paid:	Balance Due:	Date: Check#:

LWML EASTERN DISTRICT RETREAT CAMPSHIP—APPLICATION

A few full-time camperships are being offered for the Fall 2025 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 for part-time status please indicate this below. 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
 Part-time Registration: Yes / No (*please circle choice*)

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, 2025** to:

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

All recipients names will be kept strictly confidential

NEWS FROM THE CHRISTIAN LIFE/SPECIAL FOCUS COMMITTEE

For the past year or so, my husband and I have been listening to the Lutheran Hour by using their app. As we ride to church on Sunday mornings we listen to the Lutheran Hour Speaker, Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. His interesting sermons uplift us and teach us basic teachings usually related to the readings for the day. We have come to really like the ride to church (20 min.)

We have also subscribed to the KFUE Radio App and it's sister station KXFN. Here we are pleasantly inspired by worship services and podcasts. We especially enjoy and appreciate the spiritual music offered to us by our Seminary choruses, our Concordia University Choruses and Concordia Chicago Wind Symphony and others. For me it uplifts me greatly as it brings back memories of when I sang with two travelling choruses during my tenure at CUNY Tour Choir and CU Chicago Kapelle.

If you haven't already subscribed to these apps, I strongly encourage you to do so. Go to lhm.org and KFUE Radio App. Subscribe on your favorite podcast app. I think you will enjoy it.

Linda Bahr, VP Christian Life/Special Focus

ENCOURAGEMENT FROM SUE BELTRAN, CHRISTIAN LIFE CHAIRMAN



Summer is finally here. This reminds me of an LWML Devotion by Marie Chow, Past VP of Organizational Resources, you can find this and many other devotionals on the LWML website lwml.org.

SUMMERTIME!

It is the middle of summer and I hope you are enjoying it! When I think of summer, I think of sunshine. Then, it leads me to think of the Sonshine! Isn't it wonderful to know that our Jesus, the **Son** of God, brings us from darkness into light!

In thinking of the **Sonshine** and summer, look at the resources LWML has for the summertime theme. There are devotions and mission service activities, so you can keep on remembering the Son and His people while enjoying the summer.

Enjoy your summer in the **Sonshine**!

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" (John 8:12).



The 41st Biennial Convention of the LWML was held June 26-29 in Omaha, Nebraska.

What a great convention it was! 3,774 participants joined together to "Grow in God's Grace." A Mission Grant Goal of \$2,622,270 was approved to support 33 mission grants selected by the convention delegates. New officers for the next biennium were also elected, along with the new nominating committee.

In addition to convention business, the attendees enjoyed beautiful worship services, many Bible studies, inspiring mission speakers, fellowship with so many, wonderful exhibits and so much more.



LWML President Eden Keefe carrying LWML banner

More than 1,627 men, women, and children raised the \$73,610.04 (preliminary amount) as they trekked across the beautiful Bob Kerry Pedestrian Bridge in the 95 degree heat. The bridge connects Nebraska and Iowa — making this a historic mission walk taking place in two states!

Full convention details along with archived copies of the livestreamed events are available on the LWML website under Convention Central. <https://www.lwml.org/convention>

More details will be shared in the LWML e-News, if you don't already receive it, you can sign up on the website or access it on the LWML app.

The next convention will be in Oklahoma City, July 8-11, 2027.



NEWS FROM THE LEADER DEVELOPMENT NEWS CHAIR – SHARON MCGUAN

YWR CONVENTION REFLECTIONS



Thank you Eastern District! What a blessing it is to serve as Leader Development Chair and be blessed by the beautiful faith of our YWRs.

We were excited to have two Young Woman Representatives (YWR) attending the 41st Biennial Convention of the LWML in June in Omaha, Nebraska. Alexa Wolff, from the Genesee Zone and Megan Migyanko from the Pittsburgh Zone. To God be the glory!

Both Megan and Alexa "extend their thanks and gratitude to the LWML Eastern District for selecting them and sending them to the Omaha Convention. They are looking forward to sharing our experiences with others."

Here are some of their initial impressions and memorable moments at national convention.

♦ Alexa:

I was encouraged and blessed to be surrounded by so many Lutheran men and women, chosen by Him as His forgiven and beloved. Children set apart to serve and care about spreading the Gospel. What a blessing knowing we are all truly here for each other. There is that common support system, being sisters in Christ. We are a reflection of Him.

Regarding missionaries: It is amazing to see how the Lord continues to work in and through others, especially the mission organizations and missionaries. Then He calls us to serve, support and be a part of them through our Mites.

As it was emphasized in every session, the worship services, Bible studies, and experiences we shared with others; God is continually at work, blessing us, filling us with His Holy Spirit as we continue to grow in His Grace and the knowledge of God.

♦ Megan:

An LWML national convention is truly a unique experience. I enjoyed seeing all the ways our mites help to support various ministries across the nation and the world. It made me excited to go back to our district and my home church to share all the ways that we can get involved. The banner and flag processional was beautiful. I enjoyed singing and worshipping with over 3000 Lutheran women. Being a YWR was full of joy. I am excited to see how the LWML meets their mission, grant goals in the years to come and how God is going to use all these women to grow His kingdom.





Eastern District Caucus



Mite Walk



Eastern District Banner



79 YWRs attending convention



President Dee and YWR
Alexa carrying banner



Flags of Nations supported by LWML



Convention Floor



Megan Migyanko-Canada



Rebecca Bessell, Cameroon



Alexa Wolff, Angola



Linda Bright, Ethiopia

Parade of Nations

41st Biennial Convention of the LWML

JUNE 26-29 2025 OMAHA, NE

News From Around The Zones

BUFFALO ZONE

On May 3, 2025, we held our Buffalo Zone Spring event at Trinity Silver Creek. We had 35 attendees including Pastor Grubbs, Pastor Knowles and Pastor Browne. Refreshments were provided by Silver Creek and the Buffalo Planning committee. A devotion was led by our Christian Life Chair - Jackie Blank.



We enjoyed a presentation by Kathy Park, Executive Director of CASA Chautauqua. They have been in existence since 2003.

They are part of a National organization. CASA stands for Court Appointed Special Advocate. CASA helps children in need and assistance. CASA Chautauqua has instituted the idea that each student should have a LIFE BOOK, which is a beautiful scrap book filled with their own 'history', likes, places, pictures. Each CASA for the child does the research and helps either the parents, or foster parents, or guardians create this book that they receive when they age out of the program, which is between the ages of 18-21. Once they are aged out, they also provide the "game of life" where those students can learn how to apply to college, or start a career, fill out applications, use a budget, much like the actual game of Life. They also do major fundraising every year, creating a budget to work with for their children.

We were happy to present Kathy with some small items and our in-gathering of \$725. Our hands on project was coloring cards and bookmarks, which we also gave to her for the life books, helping these children remember that they are prayed for and loved. It truly was a delightful day, with so many women and Pastors with such giving and serving hearts! What better way to spend a rainy Saturday than with a room filled with the Holy Spirit, our Lord, and God overflowing joy!

Sharon Wolff, Buffalo Zone President

NIAGARA ZONE

We are so grateful for our growth in our Zone. Our Spring Gathering Hosted The Rev. David Keating, our Pastoral Counselor, the office has been vacant for about 4-5 years. God blessed us. Dee Gzyb, our LWML Eastern District President gave us an update on District and National news. We also introduced our Christian

Life Chair, Joy Debernay. Marge Stoelting and Alice Pfonner will be visiting our Zone churches this summer to reach them with our Zone, District and National news. Our in-gathering mission was to collect goods for the Ministry of Lockport Cares.



While at the gathering at St. Mark, North Tonawanda, we saw and experienced the Lutheran Braille Large Print Production Center ministry firsthand. Many questions were asked including how to receive a large print Bible.

Log on to <https://www.lbwloveworks.org> and click on the Order, and click on the form, specific to your need.

You can sign up to help with this LBW ministry at St. Mark. We hope to have LWML members hosting at least one day a week or once a month. If you are interested, please notify Terryhoffman1979@gmail.com or alicepfonner@aol.com

Alice Pfonner, Niagara Zone co-president

PITTSBURGH ZONE



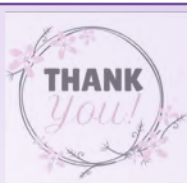
The Pittsburgh Zone held its Spring Zone Rally on April 20 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Millvale. After a time of fellowship and a light breakfast, Rev. Dan Hahn presented a Bible

Study entitled "The Importance of the Resurrection." This was followed by a presentation from LWML Eastern District President Dee Grzyb updating the zone on the status of the current mission grants and offering suggestions for further mite collection and fundraising ideas. The women of St. John's served a beautiful homemade lunch, and the traditional salads and desserts were enjoyed by all in attendance. A brief zone meeting followed lunch.

A rally ingathering was collected for Genesis Pregnancy Center of Pittsburgh. The ingathering consisted of diapers, diaper wipes, baby bottles, and other infant care products. Following the zone meeting, LWML members made handcrafted cards of encouragement and Christian love for the many women served by Genesis.



Tevia Grimenstein, Pittsburgh Zone 2nd VP



THANK YOU DELEGATES

You were given both the privilege and responsibility to vote for mission grants, new officers, and perhaps by-law amendments and the opportunity to enrich your personal and spiritual growth. Thank you for your time and willingness to "Serve the Lord with Gladness."

Margaret Klees – Anthracite Zone, Voting only for Mission Grant Goal and Mission Grants

Isabel Dettmer and Ruth Wurster – Buffalo Zone

Patricia Viereck – CNYN

Anita Getty – CNYS - Voting only for Mission Grant Goal and Mission Grants

Kathy Ippolito – Genesee Zone

Dr. Joy Staggers-Deberny – Niagara Zone

Carmen Davis – Philadelphia Zone

Linda Bright and Barbara Gillette – Pittsburgh Zone

Serve the Lord With Gladness

PHILADELPHIA ZONE

LWML Philadelphia Zone Spring Rally - Hospitality: A Mission for Everyone



The Philadelphia Zone Spring Rally, hosted by Hope Lutheran Church in Levittown, PA, was a wonderful day of inspiration and fellowship. The day started with worship, followed by our speaker Major Kim Harris. She gave a very interesting and informative talk about the role of the Salvation Army in the Levittown, PA area. The ingathering was craft supplies for their summer camps.

We were treated to a "LWML Ladies Tea" which included delicious homemade scones, sandwiches and desserts and a Get to Know your Neighbor Quiz.



Six women from the Philadelphia Zone, attended the LWML 41st Biennial National Convention in Omaha, NE!

Susanne Ferro, Philadelphia Zone President



Missions

**By Pastor Carl Emberger
LWML ED Senior Counselor**

At Christ Memorial there has been an effort to see whether we can help support the OSW Schools of Liberia (**BEE Liberia**) through mission trips. I'm thankful that many attended the meeting with Scarlett Holcomb to discuss some of the nuances of mission trips. I wanted to share some information on developments as a result of the presentation in April.

The first item that was addressed was finding an organization name and claiming a domain on the Internet. I invite you to visit the website, Missions of Care (missionsofcare.org), where you can read about our mission and vision for this organization.

The next step was determining dates that were suitable to visit Liberia. Of main concern was not arriving during the rainy season and yet be there during the normal school year. So we have settled on the date of November 18th through the 25th for this trip. Our goal for the trip is to establish connections with people on the ground that we can trust, identify safe and reasonable housing for future trips, and determine whether volunteers will have safe food and water for future trips. In short, you could call this a vision trip or perhaps a reconnaissance trip.

If we can determine that volunteers can safely be onsite in the future, we can open up opportunities to serve the community in a number of ways. You could be working on a VBS program, perhaps teaching a class, help with maintenance or building in the community, or be part of a clinical group to treat the children and community. These are just a few opportunities that may arise in the future.

The school community is a place where the gospel message is truly needed. The efforts of hands and feet can make an impactful difference in the lives of that community.

I hope that you would prayerfully consider helping us with the cost of sending a team of four people for this initial visit to Liberia. We have been blessed by two donors each offering \$1000 matching gift challenges to assist in fundraising.

Above all please keep this mission effort in your prayers.

Report of the Financial Secretary—Beth Scholl**July 2024 – September 2024****Total Mites - \$ 4,692.72****MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS:**In Memory of Betty VanNest

Sharon Wolff

In Memory of Fern Suckow

Rebecca Bessell

Legacy of Love – Donation

Gift-Sharon Wolff

Memory of Fern Suckow – Sharon Wolff

Memory of Janice Koch – Rebecca Bessell

In Honor of

Dorothy Koschmann – Susan & Jim Bell

Donation to Mites

From Convention Book Sales – Heidi Goehmann

Thrivent Choice Dollars-Given By

Sharon McGuan

Donald & Linda Gage

Karen Strussenberg

October 2024 – December 2024**Total Mites - \$ 6,551.16****Memorials and Honorariums Given By:**In Memory of Laurie Baxter

Adella Society, St. Paul Lutheran – Hilton, NY

In Memory of Ruth Ann Falkner

Adella Society, St. Paul Lutheran – Hilton, NY

Legacy of Love – Donation

Memory of Sue Bethin – Buffalo Zone

Memory of Barbara Williams – Estate of Barbara Williams

January 2025 - March 2025**Total Mites - \$ 6,756.66****Memorials and Honorariums Given By:**In Memory of Marla Bennett

CNY North Zone

In Memory of JoAnn Klafehn LuDeen

Adella Society, St. Paul Lutheran – Hilton, NY

In Memory of Schepler & Florence Germeroth

Adella Society, St. Paul Lutheran – Hilton, NY

Legacy of Love – Donation

Gift-Sharon Wolff

Memory of Sue Bentin & Fern Suckow – Buffalo Zone

In Loving Honor of our EC/BOD – Sharon WolffThrivent Choice Dollars-Given By

Ruth Wurster

Terry Hoffman

Judith Nordell

April 2025 - June 2025**Total Mites - \$ 8,323.72****Memorials and Honorariums Given By:**In Memory of Midge Ball

Adella Society, St. Paul Lutheran – Hilton, NY

In Memory of Marla Bennett

Grace Lutheran Canastota – Mary Martha Society

Thrivent Choice Dollars-Given By

Susan Bell

Beverly Musso

Karen Strussenberg

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept. 19, 2025	EC Mtg., Lutherlyn Camp
Sept. 19-21, 2025	Fall Retreat, Lutherlyn Camp
March, 2026	EC/BOD Date and location TBD
June, 2026	EC/BOD Dates and location TBD
June 12-14, 2026	LWML ED Convention DoubleTree Resort Lancaster, PA
July 8-11, 2027	LWML 42nd Biennial Convention Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Memorials/Honorariums Legacy of Love Endowment

Do you ever think about how you could honor someone while they are still with us besides when they are called home? There are two options.

Eastern District Memorial Fund **Eastern District Legacy of Love Endowment**

The **Memorial Fund** is currently dedicated for use in funding the District's Young Women Representative Program (YWR).

The **Legacy of Love Endowment** makes a lasting impact on the ministry of the LWML Eastern District. Your gifts of love are building a fund for the future which will provide for scholarships, leadership training, and District ministries.

Questions, please contact
Rebecca Bessell,

RLB54@roadrunner.rr.com or 585-415-6368

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**

Dee Grzyb, 56 Hanover St., Lancaster NY 14086
716-393-3670 lwmlcd8_cm@aol.com

Vice President of Communication

Susan Morris, 3301 Hartford Ct., Newtown Square, PA 19073
215-514-8678 ED.VPComm@gmail.com or
morrisusan68@gmail.com

Vice President of Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources

Susan Bell, 814 Dover Court Place, Downingtown, PA 19335
610-937-1483 sbell_7238@comcast.net

Vice President of Christian Life/Special Focus

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

Recording Secretary

Terry Hoffman, 4181 Church Road, Lockport NY 14094
716-201-1080 terryhoffman1979@gmail.com

Financial Secretary

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

Treasurer

Cynthia (Cindy) Cwynar, 104 Mowry Rd, Monaca, PA 15061
630-453-4847 cindycwynar@gmail.com

Senior Pastoral Counselor

Rev. Carl Emberger, Christ Memorial Lutheran Church, 89 Line Road
Malvern, Pennsylvania 19355 (610) 644-4508 (church)
610-350-7104 (cell), carlemberger@gmail.com

Junior Pastoral Counselor

Rev. Michael Dobler, Immanuel Lutheran Church, 107 Scott Street
Tonawanda, NY 14150 716-692-6200 rev.michael.dobler@gmail.com

Appointed By the President**Parliamentarian**

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

Planner

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

Appointed By the Executive Committee**Editor**

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

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 gassleinc@comcast.net

Legacy of Love Coordinator

Rebecca Bessell, 7048 Benedict Beach, Hamlin, NY 14464
585-415-6368 rb54@rochester.rr.com

Stamps for Missions Coordinator

Karen Blackmon, 2228 Blakely Rd., East Aurora, NY 14052
716-712-7671 appletreefaith@aol.com

Appointed by Board of Directors**Christian Life Chair**

Sue Beltran, P.O.Box 736, Lake Pleasant NY 12108
315-224-9544 beltrusan@yahoo.com

Christian Life Co-Chair

Vacant

Special Focus Chair

Diane Olmstead, 1223 Complanner Rd., Cabot, PA 16023
724-991-2344 dolmsteadcu@gmail.com

Special Focus Co-Chair

Alexa Wolf, 17192 Roosevelt Hwy, Kendall, NY 14476
585-629-8296 alexawolf@stpaulhilton.org

Mission Grants Chair

Margaret Klees, 424 Pratt Road, Hop Bottom, PA 18824
570-877-2168 margaretklees@gmail.com

Mission Grants Co-Chair

Barb Gillette, 107 Iseman Rd, Freeport, PA 16229
(724) 244-3585 Scheduler_blg@yahoo.com

Structure Chair

Rebecca Bessell, 7048 Benedict Beach, Hamlin, NY 14464
585-415-6368 rb54@rochester.rr.com

Structure Co-Chair

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

Leader Development Chair

Sharon McGuan, 73 Dorchester Rd., Buffalo, NY 14222
716-803-3767 salmcg23@gmail.com

Leader Development Co-Chair

Megan Migyanko, 77 Courtney St., Emsworth, PA 15202
412 518 2051, proverbs31meg@yahoo.com

2026 District Convention Liaison

Rebecca Bessell, 7048 Benedict Beach, Hamlin, NY 14464
585-415-6368 rb54@rochester.rr.com

Webmaster

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

Zone Presidents**Anthracite Zone**

Margaret Klees, 424 Pratt Road, Hop Bottom, PA 18824
570-877-2168 margaretklees@gmail.com

Buffalo Zone

Sharon Wolff, 9926 Francis Rd., Batavia, NY 14020
585-516-5544 swolff3@rochester.rr.com

Central New York North Zone

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

Central New York South Zone

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

Genesee Zone

Kathy Ippolito 45 Schoolhouse Rd., Rochester, NY 14618
585-315-1651 kippolito.ki@gmail.com

Niagara Zone**Co-Presidents**

Alice Pfonner 136 Hamilton Blvd, Kenmore, NY 14217
716-873-9377 alicepfonner@aol.com
Marge Stoelting, 7426 Shawnee Rd, N. Tonawanda NY 14120
716-449-1688 mesandmds@yahoo.com

Philadelphia Zone

Susanne Ferro 2551 Veronica Dr. Chester Springs PA 19425
919-452-0602 Susanneferro@comcast.net

Pittsburgh Zone

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

**Next Deadline**

Please send all news articles and information for publication to:

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

E-mail: lwmlink@gmail.com

The next deadline is September 1, 2025

The Link is published four times each year.

April 1, July 1, October 1, January 1

Deadlines to submit articles:

March 1, June 1, September 1, December 1

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

SAVE THE DATE



JUNE 12-14
2026

LWML EASTERN DISTRICT CONVENTION

HOSTED BY THE ANTHRACITE AND PHILADELPHIA ZONES



DoubleTree Resort
by Hilton Hotel Lancaster
In beautiful Lancaster, PA