



**Winter 2021**

# Evergreen Echoes

[www.wa-aklwml.org](http://www.wa-aklwml.org)

Greetings from

LWML Washington–Alaska District

**PRESIDENT Marilee Ryan**



## ***In This Issue:***

District Counselor	2
District Roster	11
Financial Secretary	7
Leadership Development	6
Scholarship Committee	5
Special Focus Ministries	3
Structure Committee	4
YWR	3
Zone News	8-9

## **Dates to Remember:**

***Evergreen Echoes***  
**Spring Issue DEADLINE:**

**January 31, 2022**

[EvergreenEchoesEditor@gmail.com](mailto:EvergreenEchoesEditor@gmail.com)



## **District Convention**

**July 8-10, 2022**

**Wenatchee, Washington**

## **2023 LWML Convention**

**June 22-25**

**Milwaukee, WI**

As I write this greeting, some of you are experiencing winter snow while others are enjoying a beautiful fall, still others are in the rainy, cloudy days of the season. Whatever weather you are experiencing, it is always the right time for prayer, praise, and thanksgiving.

The end of 2021 is fast approaching, and the busy time of preparing for Christmas and celebrating the birth of our Savior is upon us. No matter how busy or anxious we may become, it is always the right time for prayer, praise, and thanksgiving.

The year 2022 brings more preparation and planning for the Washington-Alaska District convention in Wenatchee, Washington, July 8-10. Mark your calendars now to attend. Registration information will be coming soon! Also, a convention shirt will be available to order.

It will be the right time for prayer, praise, and thanksgiving!



May the Peace of Christ flow over you and through you as you celebrate His birth!

Merry Christmas, and God bless you.

*Marilee Ryan*

District President

*Evergreen Echoes* is published quarterly by Lutheran Women's Missionary League Washington-Alaska District, an auxiliary organization of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.



## District Counselor

Rev. Richard Loppnow  
Counselor – East (Senior)

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 3:8-9

**(D)o not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness but is patient toward you.**

Hasn't been a thousand years since March of 2020, or even seemed (quite) that long. But it has been a long stretch of seemingly long days. Regarding which we've had no choice but to remain patient. (how gently so, I guess that's varied some!)

### Psalms 27:13-14

**I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living! Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!**

This time of Covid shall also pass. At future LWML conventions and retreats, it'll be off' remembered, and as another time God brought us through.

For God has already brought us, His Bride the Church, through all things into eternity. Through all diseases. Through all sin.

Through Christ. Jesus went beyond the patience of Job to endure all things, even a separation from the Father that we sinners no longer face. No longer face thanks to Jesus' human lifelong sacrifice. Thanks to His cross. Thanks to His empty Easter tomb.

So see the goodness of our LORD in this land, in this age. Be strong and take courage in the Christian sense. Not as the world sees such things. But be strong in gentleness, even when something angers you. Take courage in assurance, even when you see little in your immediate surroundings.

For our Triune God has fulfilled His promise to you and me. A heavenly one.

### Psalms 37:7

**Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him.**





## Special Focus Ministries

Carolyn Holbrook, Vice President

After busy summer months of gardening, it is refreshing to see the clear crisp days of fall. Prayerfully, more congregations and LWML groups are returning to in-person activities.

After the training program before the LWML Convention in Lexington, a group of the Heart-to-Heart Sisters has been meeting via zoom to share ideas on encouraging ethnic women as they learn about LWML and become involved in the goals and mission of LWML. We are working to contact the churches in our District who have several ethnic people in their congregation. Our goals are to encourage the LWML groups in inviting and including all women in the activities. We have programs available and would love to help your LWML. You may contact me via email or telephone to learn more. Also, don't forget to check out our National LWML website which has wonderful resources available including brochures and video presentations.

Our District YWR committee has welcomed back Marjorie O'Rourke who recently moved back to Washington State. We value her experience with YWR and are honored to have her with us.

Our District is also blessed to have our District Recording Secretary Carla Church who is serving on the National YWR Committee!





## Structure Committee

Pam Rafferty, Vice President

With some societies becoming inactive, it's important to know that women who are still interested in participating in LWML activities may do so through individual membership. Individual membership is available to communicant women in LCMS congregations with or without an LWML group. Individual membership is designed for those who have an interest in the mission and ministry of the LWML but cannot attend group meetings.

The procedure for becoming an individual member is to request recognition either verbally or in writing from the LWML district president. An individual member may participate in LWML events and activities and may hold elective or appointive offices. She may obtain a subscription for LWML Quarterlies through the district or the LWML office. An individual member sends her mites offerings directly to the district Financial Secretary.

Individual membership is not considered a group or a unit, and therefore does not have voting privileges at the national level but may vote at zone or district meetings at the discretion of those organizations and as determined by their bylaws.

For more information on individual memberships, contact the district structure committee through the contact page on the district website or through your zone president.

Pam Rafferty, Chairman

Ella Kunkel, Aletha Voges, Committee Members





## Scholarship Committee

Judy Ikerd, Chairman

### Focus on one recipient:

Kurt Hellwig completed his vicarage in 2020, a year with many challenges due to the Covid Virus. During his vicarage, he assisted with online and drive-up services. He worked with no contact visiting. In one of his classes, Kurt is learning innovative ways to instruct confirmands. In another, Kurt and other seminarians enjoyed cookies provided by the LWML office which is on campus.

As Kurt completes his final year of classes at the St. Louis Seminary, he is preparing to receive a call to preach the gospel.

Kurt's wife, Clara, teaches English at Lutheran High of St. Charles. The scholarship and your prayers encourage Kurt and Clara.

### Other recipients of the LWML Washington/Alaska scholarships are:

Justin Chester: Fort Wayne Seminary  
Grace MacDuff: St Louis Seminary  
Benjamin Oesch: St. Louis Seminary  
Casey Schweim: Concordia University, Irvine

### MEMORIAL DONATION

The ladies in a Bible Study at St. John's Lutheran Church in Spokane sent \$675.00 to the Scholarship Fund in memory of their friends Joyce McCoy and Linda Rowley. What a wonderful way to remember their friends. Recipients of these Scholarship Funds will continue to spread the Gospel for years to come.





## Leader Development Committee

Pam Rafferty, Chairman

At the convention in Lexington in June, I was privileged to attend the Gifts of Love Ministry luncheon hosted by gift planning counselors Linda Gage and Carol von Soosten along with other LWML women who had completed an estate plan and shared their personal stories. I contacted Linda who walked us through the process. We communicated through email and two zoom meetings. She is willing to meet with LWML women and their immediate families in person. Over the two months, Linda communicated the information in easy-to-understand language and prayed with and supported us.

Through this process, I was humbled to recount God's blessings including my life's greatest blessings of faith and eternal salvation. The process included establishing an estate plan that provides an immediate gift to our heirs and selected charitable recipients, and a continuing gift into the future for both. More importantly, it also passes a legacy of faith on to the next generation through a Christian Preamble or statement of faith.

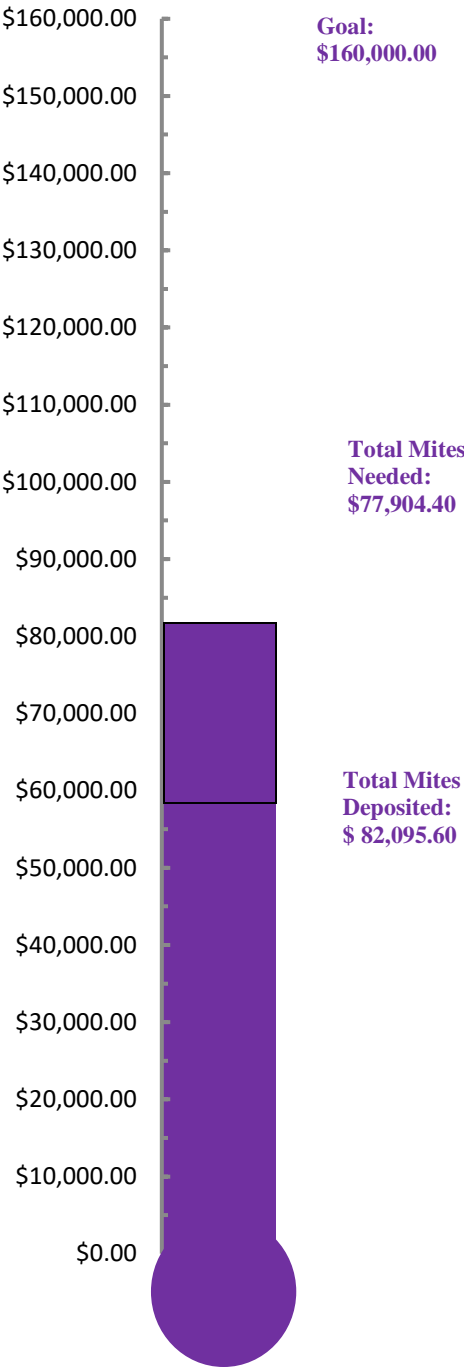
The services of the gift planning counselors are offered at no cost to LWML members. They communicate your wishes with your attorney and other financial professionals and coordinate with the LCMS Foundation to carry out your estate plan. I would enjoy the opportunity to share more of my experience with you. I can be reached through the contacts page on the district's website at [https://wa-aklwml.org/contacts\\_page.htm](https://wa-aklwml.org/contacts_page.htm)

Pam Rafferty  
Leadership Development



**Financial Secretary**  
Elizabeth Cook

**2020-2022 Mites  
as of October 31, 2021**





# Zone Reports

## Alaska Zone

Ruth Zellar, President

Our Zone Fall Rally was scheduled for September 11, 2021, at Faith Lutheran Church in Homer, Alaska. Due to many cases of COVID 19 in Homer and the Pastor testing positive, we had to cancel it. We held the Rally by Zoom but only six voting members! Our next Zone Board Meeting is scheduled for January 2022.

Ruth Zellar  
Alaska Zone President

## Hood Canal Zone

Janice Moored, President

October 2nd was the day the Lord provided twenty-one Hood Canal Zone women in-person fellowship, inspiration, and a change in officers at our fall rally in Sequim. Continuing in the theme from Hebrews 12: 1-2, "Running the Race...Looking to Jesus", an opening worship service with communion led by our Zone Counselor, Pastor Roger Stites, set the tone for the day's events. Susan Abbe, our zone delegate, gave an uplifting, comprehensive power-point report on the Lexington convention. We were honored to have our District President, Marilee Ryan, and her husband, Mike, with us. 'Gifts From the Heart' items of clothing brought by attendees will benefit youth who use the services provided by T.A.F.Y. (The Answer For Youth) situated in Port Angeles.

To God Be the Glory.  
Janice Moored

## Lake Washington Zone

Ruth Ann Shimoi, President

The Lake Washington Zone met, in person, on Saturday the 16th of October. There were 11 ladies, our Pastoral Counselor, and a young woman, in attendance. The theme was: "Exercising in God's Word: Spiritually, Mentally, and Physically." Exercising was done through Bible verses noting hands, arms, walking, etc. everyone had a good time. Due to the retreat being canceled, a member of Bethlehem suggested we do the Ingathering at the Zone Rally. Included in this Echoes is the amount of goods gathered in. (Bethlehem did contribute quite a bit of it but the Zone also helped). These will be delivered sometime in November.

Blessings, Ruth Ann Shimoi  
Lake Washington Zone President



### SUPPLIES FOR SAFE HARBOR FREE MEDICAL CLINIC

150 packets of Emergen-C vitamins  
84 toothbrushes  
81 packages of dental floss  
61 containers of lotion  
56 bottles of shampoo/conditioner  
40 tubes of toothpaste  
40 packets of Miralax  
36 bars of soap  
\$34 cash  
33 tubes of Chapstick & lip balm  
25 bottles of body wash  
23 boxes of bandages  
14 tubes of antibiotic ointment  
11 gift bags  
9 rolls of antacid medicine  
And 2 dozen other misc hygiene items!

What a blessing your gifts will be to the clients of the free medical clinic in Stanwood, WA. Thanks to the generosity of the people at Bethlehem and other LWML Societies of the Lake Washington Zone, we were able to deliver over 50 pounds of hygiene and health products to those in need.

Thanks from Mary & Martha

### Mt. Baker Zone

Rosemary Randall, President

The theme was, *Therefore, welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you...* Romans 15:7

Pastor Stults led the opening prayer and Bible study.

Lutheran Community Services Northwest speaker McKenzie Nassiri presented information about the refugee and immigrant services programs, the communities they work with, the housing challenges that asylum-seekers face, and the general need to support these programs.

The Parish Hall was decorated with pumpkins, squash, and quilts, and everyone had an opportunity to decorate a pumpkin with a beautiful fall bow.

The in-gathering went to the Snohomish Food Bank.

Marilee Ryan, District President reported on the convention in Lexington, Kentucky.

Nominations for zone officers were held, and the officers were installed by Pastor Stults.

It was nice to fellowship in person.

As reported by Rosemary Randall, Zion President, Zion Lutheran Church in Snohomish, hosted the LWML Mt. Baker Zone Fall Rally on October 16, 2021. Twenty-nine people, plus three people by Zoom, attended.

# 2020-2022 LWML Washington-Alaska District Roster

**District President**

Marilee Ryan

**Recording Secretary**

Carla Church

**Treasurer**

Gigi Lutz

**Financial Secretary**

Elizabeth Cook  
4530 South J St

**Counselor – East (Senior)**

Rev. Richard Lopnow  
Our Savior Lutheran Church

**Counselor – West (Junior)**

Rev. Kevin Schubkegel

**Vice President of Gospel Outreach**

Ruth Ann Shimoi

**Mission Servants Committee Chairman**

Linda Davelaar

**Scholarship Committee Chairman**

Judy Ikerd

**Short Term Missions Committee Chairman****Vice President of  
Organizational Resources**

Pam Rafferty

**Leader Development Committee Chairman**

Pam Rafferty (see above)

**Vice President of Special Focus Ministries**

Carolyn Holbrook

**Heart to Heart Sisters Committee Chairman****Teen Committee Chairman**

Doris Hildenbrand

**Young Women Committee Chairman**

Marjorie O'Rourke

**Public Relations Director**

TBD

**Evergreen Echoes Editor  
(and Circulation)**

Ruth Zellar

**Quarterly Manager**

Judy Jeffery

**Webmaster**

Joyce Berger

**Vice President of Christian Life**

Grace Macduff

**Archivist-Historian**

Nancy Wyckoff

**Convention Committee Chairman 2020-2022**

Linda Miller

**Corresponding Secretary**

LeeAnn Tibbals

**Meeting Manager**

MaryLynn Huntwork

**Nominating Committee Chairman**

Jayne Bowes

**Parliamentarian**

Carol Coerber

Send mites to **Financial Secretary Elizabeth Cook**. Order Mite Boxes from and/or send any roster changes to **Corresponding Secretary LeeAnn Tibbals**.

## ***Evergreen Echoes***

Lutheran Women's Missionary League  
Washington-Alaska District  
Ruth Zellar  
2860 N Kalmbach Lake Dr  
Wasilla, AK 99623  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



### **2020 - 2022 Theme**

#### **Go Forth in Peace**

*Let your eyes look directly forward,  
and your gaze be straight before you  
(Proverbs 4:25).*

*Brethren, I count not myself to have  
apprehended: but this one thing I do,  
forgetting those things which are behind,  
and reaching forth unto those things  
which are before (Philippians 3:13 KJV).*