

Evergreen Echoes

Spring
2009

Visit our website at www.WA-AKLWML.org

DISTRICT PRESIDENT ELAINE NELSON



As I write this message to you, the days are getting longer and the sun is peaking through now and then. Those silly little crocuses are also peaking through the earth and the little blue plants are almost blooming. They are anxious to show their beauty and praise the Lord. It is my prayer that you are anxious also to be about our Father's business. We have much business to do. This spring will find us gathering together to learn, grow and serve others with our offerings and ingatherings. A challenge for you is to find a person or family in your area that has a serious need for an item(s) that you can supply them in Jesus' name. It can be someone from your

church family, a neighbor or someone that you don't even know except for their need. Be Jesus to this person or family. You can do this individually, with a friend or with your LWML society. Reach out and help someone in this hard time.

We will also be gathering in Portland in June for our LWML convention. If you haven't filled out a form to be a worker, please go to our website, fill out this form and send it in. If you work 8 hours, you will receive a \$70 deduction in your registration. And you get to attend the LWML convention. This is a wonderful opportunity as an LWML convention won't be in our neck of the woods for at least 16 years – and probably more like 40 years. The worship, program and fellowship are worth the time and cost to be there. I strongly urge you to attend.

As you do your "thing" in LWML, bring someone new with you. Whether it be to a meeting, Bible study, tea or other event, invite a friend, neighbor or acquaintance. When planning for prayers, Bible studies, devotions and skits, ask someone who has never been involved to take on the task. You might be surprised that others are truly interested in being a part of your activities. Your circle of friends and attendees will grow. Ps. 133 – "How good and pleasant it is when brothers (sisters) live together in unity."



May your love be evident to all.
Resurrection Joy!
Elaine Nelson

PS: At the LWML Board of Directors meeting, I learned that we are \$170,000 short in money for the LWML Mission Goal. The LWML biennium ends March 31, 2009. All money must be postmarked by that time. Please plan accordingly and do whatever you can to help the goal be met. Thank you.

District Pastoral Counselor West

First, I want to thank all of you for the opportunity to serve alongside the faithful and dedicated women of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. Secondly, I want to introduce myself. I am new to many of you in the Northwest District since I have only served as pastor of Beautiful Savior for the past 41 months. While fairly new to the district, I am not new to the LWML as I served as circuit counselor in the California-Nevada-Hawaii District LWML and as junior counselor with the Atlantic District. I am excited about our opportunities to serve our Lord, and to continue in the bold proclamation of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

As we join together in our churches and zones, the emphasis is about unity in ministry and purpose. No matter what district I served, there has always been much talk about keeping the LWML going, bringing in new people, and making it interesting and relevant to new people. How do we do this? Too many times, we enter into survival mode, just getting by with the bare minimum while trying to "keep it going." We struggle to translate the need and message of service to the younger generation. Sitting on the various boards in the church and community, I can tell you that many others face the same challenges. My thoughts regarding these struggles are simple -- do what we do, and do it well! For the church, keep the basics pure and simple, Word and Sacrament. For the LWML, keep it basic with mission and service, centered on God's Word equipping women of yesterday, today and the future to be bold in their confessions.

Let the light of service in the LWML shine bright,

explain what you do and challenge women to come and see what it is all about. Continue to equip women for service and action in the name of the Triune God. Find and promote opportunities for service, locally and abroad. Strengthen members with the truth of the Word of God. Find programs and ideas that interest women of today, and let them know that there is a place for them to find strength and fellowship. Make time together to speak and hear the needs of the individual, and find ways to address the issues. Sometimes for us it means thinking outside the box and getting out of our comfort area. I know this can be very hard because we, like many people, are creatures of habit that have our own way of doing things and nothing must change. However, many are not seeking change, just different and new opportunities added to existing programs. We often say the word change and it brings fear, but we are not changing basic fundamental principles, we are just enhancing the opportunity to grow and serve the Lord.

In this year of 2009, let us make conscience decisions to reach not only the lost, but also those ladies/women of our congregations that need the fellowship and time of service to the Lord. May we continue to look inward and find ways to grow in faith and service.

Rev. Mario Ancira



News from our Recycling Queen & Princess".

Well ladies, the countdown has begun to Convention 2009! Five (5) months from now we will be hosting the 2009 National LWML Convention in Portland, Oregon; along with the Oregon District and Utah/Idaho District. You have all been spectacular contributors to our recycling project. As of this writing we have earned a grand total of \$11,529.50 to help defray the costs of the convention. We will have met our goal of \$12,000.00 before June I am sure. Way to Go Ladies! From the bottom of our hearts we, from the WA-AK district, members of the convention host committee, thank you.

Blessings to all!

Sandi Hall, Recycling Queen and
Charli Hamaker, Recycling Princess





LWML 33rd Biennial Convention

June 25 – 28, 2009

Portland, Oregon

Just imagine...

- Over 3,000 voices praising God in song in one location!
- Gifts from the Heart, in forms of health kits, art kits, teddy bears, children's socks, or children's t-shirts, all piled up in one location, brought to one place by thousands of sisters and brothers in Christ!
- Hundreds of people in one location, participating in servant events, that will demonstrate the love of Christ through action, in Portland and in mission fields!
- Making new friends and reuniting with old ones!
- That, after this convention, thousands of pairs of feet will be ready to bring the Good News in Portland, at home,..who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!"

...to prepare for the women, men, children, and teens from all over the United States, to come to Portland, to attend the 2009 LWML Convention. **Have you:**

- ***sent in your "Call for Workers" form?*** Although the deadline has passed, more workers are needed. If you work at least eight hours during the convention, you will receive a \$70 discount off the registration fee. It is important that you send in a convention registration form AFTER you receive the worker discount voucher along with your work assignment.
- ***and your society had a fund raiser and sent funds to help defray expenses for the 2009 Convention Host Committee?*** Apply for Thrivent matching funds, send half for the Host Committee expenses and use half to help defray the expenses of people going to the convention. Individual donations of \$5, \$10, \$25 or more are welcome. Just make your donation check payable to: Portland LWML 2009 and mail it to Portland LWML 2009 Treasurer, 18080 SW Salix Ridge, Beaverton, OR 97006.
- ***encouraged your friends near and far to attend the convention?*** Send a post card to your out-of-state friends, send an email, telling them about the great Northwest...pick up the phone for a chat!

Your help is needed! Your help is wanted – as we "Roll Out the Purple Carpet" for our sisters and brothers in Christ! Your presence is most welcome!

Many thanks to the societies who have already given to the Host Committee for expenses of hosting the convention!

Come! Experience the *Chance of a Lifetime!*

Let us Use our Gifts

Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them...Romans 12:6 (ESV)

In this verse Paul speaks of the special gifts of grace which find their application in congregational life. For every Christian having received these gifts, it is the will of God that he/she apply it, that h/she gives practical proof of it in the business of the church.

Your nominating committee is searching for these special gifts which are dispersed to the many throughout our Washington-Alaska District. You will receive invitations to submit members who would serve our Lord in various ways according to the gifts given them.

On the ballot in 2010 will be:

President

Vice President Servant Resources

Vice President Human Care

Financial Secretary

Nominating Committee (7)

We remain your humble servants, the Nominating Committee, WA -AK District LWML.

Betty Alm, Chairman
Marianne Bell
Phyllis Larsen
Carol Coerber
Margaret Ebert

Portland Ingathering

General Items for Portland

Teddy Bears-NEW
Socks-NEW (Children's sizes)
T-shirts - NEW (children's sizes 6-14)
respectable prints are important

Health Kits:

- Comb
- Deodorant
- Toothbrush/Toothpaste (regular size)
- Bar soap
- Washcloth
- Christian tract
- Packaged in a zip-lock bag.

Art Kits:

- Crayons (16-pack)
- Washable Markers (8-pack)
- Children's scissors
- Pencils (2)
- Glue stick
- Watercolor paint set/brush
- Arch Book or other Christian track
- Packaged in zip-lock bag.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

From Marianne Bell

Contributions to the scholarship fund total \$1700.00 for the period beginning 4/1-12/31/08. This includes what was received from the convention offering. Now more than ever it is vital we increase our donations for scholarships due to rising costs and a tighter credit situation which could make it difficult to obtain education loans.

Brainstorm with your society members to think of new ways to raise funds. A memorial gift to the scholarship fund is an excellent way to remember loved ones including our LWML family. Please contact the Scholarship Chairman for a supply of brochures or memorial cards. You may reach me at 253-838-7085 in the evening or email me at marianne618@netzero.net.

We are at the half-way point of our biennium! All of our Mission Grants will be paid with the Mites received by March 31, 2010. The current status of the Grants are:

	Grant	Paid
1. Aid to Seminary Students	\$ 5000	\$ 2286
2. Financial Assistance to the Concordia Theological Seminary Food and Clothing Co-op	\$ 5000	\$ 5000
3. The Morning Star Girls Club and Mentoring Program Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots U.S.	\$ 5500	\$ 5500
4. African Immigrant Outreach Ministry in Seattle	\$10000	\$10000
5. Production of Portals of Prayer in Braille Lutheran Blind Mission at Redeemer Lutheran Church, Spokane Valley, Washington	\$ 4000	
6. Church Roofs in Republic of Guinea LCMS World Mission	\$ 6000	
7. Puppet Ministry in Myanmar for Children and Families	\$15,400	
8. Kitchen/Food Bank Renovation Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Lakewood, Washington	\$ 5000	\$ 5000
9. The Lutheran Church = The Teaching Church: Translating Luther's Small Catechism for Kenya	\$ 4500	
10. Guan Seminary, Ghana, West Africa: LCMS World Mission	\$ 7000	
11. Scholarships for the Themba Trust-Siyathemba Girls' High School of Dirkiesdorp, South Africa LCMS World Relief/Human Care	\$ 7450	\$ 7450
12. Catechism for Mexico from Cristo Para Todas Las Naciones, Tijuana, Mexico	\$ 5000	

GOOD WORK, WA-AK District! Keep those Mites coming in!

I received a letter from Concordia Theological Seminary recently in response to the grant they received for the Food and Clothing Co-op. They expressed their thanks from the students and their families who will benefit from this grant. What a blessing for their students. LeeAnn Tibbles

Watch for the new Mission Grants Request forms and be praying for guidance as we select our next biennium's grants at our 2010 convention in Spokane. The requests are due October 31, 2009.

Mission Statement of the
LWML
WWW.LWML.ORG

The mission of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League is to assist each woman of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod 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.



Resurrection Joy

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Greetings and Blessings,

As I was thinking ahead about writing this article, I learned that last Sunday (January 18) was Sanctity of Life Sunday. How appropriate, I thought, that as VP of Christian Life I could share with you the sanctity of our God given life.

Genesis 2:7

“The Lord God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.”

God breathed and the Holy Spirit entered “dust” and it became a living being.

How awesome is that? God created Adam out of the earth, and He created every single one of us – Special, Sacred, Holy.

Psalms 139:13-16 (NIV)

“For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb.

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.”

How many of us made New Year’s resolutions? Lose weight, eat healthy, exercise –

sound familiar? As God’s people, we have been set apart to walk with Him; to remain faithful in Word and Sacrament. God calls us and leads us in all that we do, as we serve Him and one another, but also as we show Christ in our lives by thought, Word and Deed. The Creator sustains us and watches over His creation, He desires for us to use our bodies, which He calls a temple, in service and glory.

These words from Corinthians might just help us to do this.

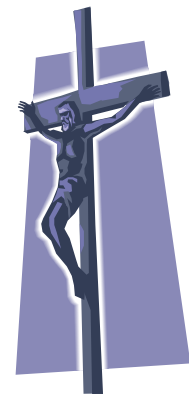
1 Corinthians 6:19 - 20 (NIV)

“Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.

Take care of yourselves – for you, for others who love you, and for God our Creator.

May the Lord of Life be with you on your Christ Centered Life Journey.

Marilee Ryan
VP Christian Life



“A Time to ... Be a Woman of God”

..... is the theme for the program that Pat Greenwalt, MaryLynn Huntwork and Elaine Nelson will be sharing with the zones this year. The material used is from the Assembly of Leaders that they attended in October in St. Louis. Be sure to attend and take part in this interactive program of learning and fun.

BLUE MOUNTAIN ZONE JOY SHOP

April 18, 2009

Hosted by: Redeemer Lutheran Church, Richland, WA

Presenters will be: Pat Greenwalt, Recording Secretary, and Elaine Nelson, President

They will share highlights from the Assembly of Leaders meeting they attended in St. Louis, MO

Focusing will be on the topics:

“BUILDING UP OUR SISTERS IN CHRIST”

and

“TELLING THE GOOD NEWS”

NORTH COLUMBIA JOY WORKSHOP

April 16, 2009, 6:00PM

Hosted by: Trinity Lutheran Church, Republic, WA

Theme is **“BUNDLES OF JOYSHOP”**

We are preparing for a "surprise baby shower" for the new Care Net of Oroville. We will have a speaker from Care Net and surprise them with gifts for their new location. Items such as gently used or new baby clothes, furniture, diapers, etc. and items for Mom (maternity clothes, bath items, lotions, etc.) are being collected at each society congregation in our zone. Our zone counselor, Pastor Kevin Moore, serves on the board for the Care Net. Everyone is invited to come join in the fun!

JOY SHOPS

District Roster of Officers and Committees

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Elaine Nelson

VP of SERVANT RESOURCES

Debbie Good

VP of CHRISTIAN LIFE

Marilee Ryan

VP of HUMAN CARE

MaryLynn Huntwork

VP of GOSPEL OUTREACH

LeeAnn Tibbals

RECORDING SECRETARY

Pat Greenwalt

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

SS*SEND MITES HERE*SS

Bobbi Kindred

TREASURER

LaDonna Schrenk

COUNSELOR – WEST

Rev. Mario Ancira

COUNSELOR – EAST

Pastor Dudley Nolting

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ORDER MITE BOXES

#SEND ROSTERS HERE#

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Edie Norris

PLANNER

Marie Chow

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Gigi Lutz

PARLIAMENTARIAN

Edie Schroeder

22

ARCHIVIST/HISTORIAN

Nancy Wyckoff

RECYCLING COORDINATOR

Sandi Hall

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Marianne Bell

SHORT-TERM MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Edith Haber

TEEN LWML COMMITTEE

Vacant

YOUNG WOMEN COMMITTEE

Marjorie O'Rourke

DISASTER REPOSE COMMITTEE

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Betty Alm, Chairman

2010 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN

Mavis Waarvik



Evergreen Echoes

Washington-Alaska District
Lutheran Women's Missionary League
2955 Corfu Blvd NE
Bremerton, WA 9831
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Spring Zone Rallies and Joy Shops

* Alaska Zone:	April 25	Lamb of God, Wasilla
* Blue Mountain Zone:	April 18	Redeemer Lutheran Richland, WA
* East Inland Empire	April 25	Hope Lutheran, Greenacres, WA
* Hood Canal Zone:	April 25	Makah Lutheran, Neah Bay, WA
* Inter-Valley Zone:	February 7	Calvary Lutheran, Sunnyside, WA
* Lake Washington Zone:	April 18	Peace Lutheran, Covington, WA
* Mount Baker:	April 25	Zion Lutheran, Snohomish, WA
* North Columbia:	April 16 6:00PM	Trinity Lutheran, Republic, WA
* Olympic Zone:	April 25 9:30AM	Lamb of God, Seattle, WA
* Rainier Zone:	April 25,	Peace, Chehalis, WA
* South Columbia:	April 18	Faith, East Wenatchee, WA