



Evergreen Echoes

LWML Washington-Alaska District

Winter
2011

DISTRICT PRESIDENT MARYLYNN HUNTWORK

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**EVERGREEN ECHOES SPRING
DEADLINE: Jan. 31, 2012**



**LWML
WA-AK
District
Convention; Red
Lion Hotel; Olympia,
WA**

June 22 – 24, 2012

Mission Statement of the LWML

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.

Greetings to you from the LWML Washington-Alaska District,

Our biennial theme reminds us to "Follow Jesus... Walk The Path!" On the surface this seems like such an easy request to pass on to the reader; however, this statement conveys many different challenges.



Rev. Gregory Seltz, speaker of *The Lutheran Hour* tells us about a young woman back in 1952, Florence Chadwick, who challenged a 21 mile swim off the coast of Southern California to Catalina Island. If she finished this incredible task she would be the first woman to do so. She faced icy cold water with fog so heavy it was difficult to see the boats surrounding her. In the boats were men armed with guns to keep the sharks away from the swimmer. Fifteen hours went by and the icy cold water had defeated her. Even after her trainer coached and encouraged her to continue saying that they were near the island, she asked to be taken out of the water. She almost made it, her journey was only a half mile away but she gave up, beaten and defeated. When the news media interviewed her she proclaimed no excuses for herself, only stating that if she could have seen the land she might have made it all the way.

We do not always see the end result when we walk the path marked out for us. We cannot always see the goal for challenges can get in the way. However we have the encouragement, coaching and power from God to persevere. We can boldly move forward to the future with the power of our faith in Christ Jesus.

We don't know if Florence thought of asking God for help in completing the task put before her, but we as Lutheran Women in Mission ask God for help with the challenges every day and trust He is always there leading us in the right direction. We cannot be beaten or defeated when we "Follow Jesus...Walk The Path!"

Serving Him together,
MaryLynn Huntwork
LWML WA-AK District President

...Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith...Hebrews 12:1b-2a

2012 CONVENTION NEEDS—CHECK YOUR BULK MAILING FOR MORE DETAILS.

Items Needed:

1. **Zone Banners:** Each zone is to make a 3 feet x 5 feet zone banner. Each banner is to be loosely based on the convention theme, “Follow Jesus, Walk the Path,” the convention bible verse “Psalm 119:105,” and the convention logo.



2. **Theme Banner:** A willing servant is needed to design and/or make the large theme banner that will be used as a stage backdrop at the convention. It is to be 8 feet high and 10 feet wide. The design for this banner is also to be loosely based on the approved convention theme, bible verse, and logo.
3. **Convention Banner:** A 3 feet x 5 feet convention banner that exactly reflects the approved convention logo is also needed.
4. **Host Zone Banner:** The host zone banner is to be made by the Rainier/Lake Washington zones. It is a 3 feet x 5 feet banner, and the zone banner instructions apply.

Contact Lori Schill, Banner/Processional Committee Chairman, if you have questions that are not answered on the sheet included in the bulk mailing.

Dollars are needed for the scholarship fund. No monies are received from the mite offerings sent to the District. Local societies or individuals support the Scholarship Fund. **Contact Sarah Edwards, Scholarship Committee Chairman.**

Ingathering: 52 Weeks of Giving Thanks and Doing Without; Sharing our Blessings with Others. Bring your pillowcase filled with the suggested items. **Contact Sandi Hall, Human Care Chairman.**

**LWML WA-AK District Convention
Red Lion Hotel
Olympia, Washington
June 22 – 24, 2012**



BYLAWS! BYLAWS! READ ALL ABOUT THEM!

The practice of having two documents (constitution and bylaws) to define and guide an organization is obsolete. Today, there is usually one chief document, the bylaws.

Bylaws are divided into parts, called ARTICLES, usually including Roman numerals and titles. Articles are the largest divisions of the document and generally outline the structure of organization. For LWML, use the following as a guideline in this order:

- Name
- Object of the members
- Membership
- Officers
- Pastoral Counselor
- Meetings
- Representation at Conventions
- Executive Committee
- Board of Directors
- Committees
- Finances
- Dissolution
- Parliamentary Authority, such as *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*
- Amendments

BYLAWS!
READ ALL ABOUT THEM

When there is more than one statement included in an Article, that Article is divided into SECTIONS, either numbered or lettered. If any of those sections contain more than one statement, it is further divided and assigned a letter or number. Organizing the document in this manner allows reference to a particular section of a particular bylaw without confusion.

Bylaws should not contain trivial rules or temporary provisions. They are meant to provide the most basic regulations, understandable by the membership, and important enough that they will not need to be changed often. Things that may be changed from year-to-year, or that are on-going activities that can change dates, places, etc., should be included in Standing Rules. And that is a topic for another day!

Reported by Your District Structure Committee: Sandy Geisler, Ruth Ann Shimoi, and Marie Chow, Chairman

Yea-God News! The Lutheran Women's Missionary League has now exceeded in its 69 years over \$100,000,000 in Mites! Check out the LWML home page. www.lwml.org



Lutheran Woman's Quarterly (LWQ) - Has your society renewed its Quarterly subscription for 2012?

Go beyond the walls of the church and share the *LWQ* as a mission outreach to area hospitals, college campuses, and institutions. Order an extra copy to share with someone not active in LWML. Mentor her throughout the year; invite her to join you in LWML activities. The *LWQ* makes a perfect inexpensive gift. Use Quarterlies as handouts on LWML Sunday.

Society Presidents: Renewal forms for the *LWQ* 2012 subscription year were mailed the first part of October. **Please read the info carefully and respond before the deadline of December 14, 2011. I need to know how many copies you need for next year – payment can be sent later, but please call or e-mail me with the number you need. Decreases can only be done now before the deadline. There is “no” price increase for the 2012 *LWQ*: 1 to 9 copies to the same address: \$6.50; 10 or more copies to same address: \$5.00**



The *LWQ* is published four times a year. Enjoy great Bible studies (includes a Spanish Bible Study), messages from LWML officers, feature stories, young woman and teen topics, mission grants, and more. “Individuals” may also order directly from the *Quarterly* Manager if their church has no LWML.

Braille, large print, or cassette tapes are available “free” from:
Lutheran Blind Mission, 7550 Watson Road, St. Louis, MO 63119,
or by calling 1-888-215-2455.

Sonja Frazier, *Quarterly* Manager



Ideas from Fellow Societies

Each of the following activities has been highly recommended by your sister societies in our district when societies filled out the Leader Development Committee survey earlier this year. Use them during our cooler, wetter months.

- A. Themed seasonal programs/events
 1. Advent/Christmas programs or meetings
 2. Bazaars – holiday and/or craft
 3. Ingatherings for local facilities, agencies, or groups
 4. All-congregation birthday parties
- B Make-and-sell projects (fill pre-orders or sell what you make)
 1. Advent wreaths
 2. Cheese balls
 3. Pies
 4. Lefse
- C Specific interest groups (long and short term)
 1. Quilting
 2. Jewelry making
 3. Card / bookmark making
 4. Scrapbooking



Blessings on everything you do to “serve the Lord with gladness,” as you follow Jesus, and walk the path.

Your Leader Development Committee
Marilyn Schaefer, Chairman
Lynn Cooper

Christian Life

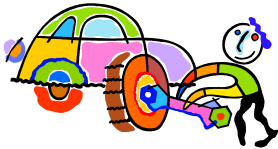
Thank you to all the retreaters who were at Ross Point Camp for our district retreat, GPS – Going Places with our Savior. I hope everyone had an uplifting and inspirational weekend. And thank you to the awesome members of the Christian Life committee who helped to make the weekend successful.



As we “gather our harvest,” and thank God for our many blessings, we also share and care for others out of our blessings.

At the Mt Baker zone rally this October, we had a speaker from LCMS-World Relief and Human Care. He asked us why do we help others; what makes us care for our neighbors? Don't let anyone believe that it's work righteousness. It is an outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the grace that we have received.

Jesus told the parable of the Good Samaritan when asked, “Who is my neighbor?” I met my own Good Samaritan one day. No, I was not beaten and robbed. I was, however, driving on the freeway. My car started to wobble a bit. “Oh, it's out of alignment.” Then I heard a noise. “Where is the motorcycle or big truck?” “What's wrong with the road?” And then, “What's wrong with my car!?” OK, I had a flat tire; and no, I was not stopping in the rain on the freeway. “Please don't let the rim get damaged.” (The rim is OK, but I did get a cold.)



I took my exit and turned into a gas station. A gentleman walked up saying, “you blew a tire.” Oh, it was really shredded. He told me he would change the tire and I should get back in the car so I wouldn't get cold or sick. He said, “**It's the Christian thing to do.**” Thank you God!

(I'm sure my husband wanted to throw something when I showed him the tire in the trunk. But it only took a moment for him to say, “You had a bad day. How are you?”)

We are told throughout the Bible to love your neighbor as yourself. Not only do we give and care for others because He first loved us (1 John 4:19), but because it's the *Christian thing to do*. “Go and do likewise.” Luke 10:37.

Happy Thanksgiving and Blessings from Christian Life, Marilee Ryan, VP Christian Life

Joy 2 U from District Counselor East

Jesus is not a Christmas toy

He Does Not Break Like a Toy Probably one of the most discouraging things to see the day *after* Christmas is the broken toy that was “brand new” twenty-four hours earlier. Some may last for years; but they, too, will break or wear out. Jesus isn't like that. He is the eternal Christmas gift that keeps on giving. Jesus will not break, need new batteries, or have to be replaced. Jesus died on the cross once. It is for all time--for our children, and our grandchildren and all generations. With Jesus you don't need to save the receipt so you can return it. Jesus does not break.



Jesus Does Not Go Out of Style Like a Toy. Some toys are popular one Christmas and not heard about the next Christmas. Styles change - they come and go. Jesus *stays* in style - especially for sinners. We never outgrow our need for Him. He is our Savior and Lord whether we are young, old, or in between.

Jesus Is Not to Be Played with Like a Toy. Toys provide fun. When we are through with toys, we pack them up and put them away. Jesus is our Lord, as such, we are not to put Him in a box and take Him out when we feel like it. He is a necessity for Christian living. Jesus is our Savior and our Lord. He is not a toy to play with.

Jesus Is the Real Thing, Not a Toy.

One of the saddest tragedies is that so many people hear of Jesus in carols, read about Him in cards, and see Him in creches. Still, they only consider Jesus part of the Christmas trimmings and traditions--like toys. To think of Jesus as their Savior may be far from them. It is so important that everyone who sees us celebrate Christmas knows that we do not consider Jesus a toy but our Savior.



Pastor Ken Schauer



Human Care

Greetings to all in the name of Jesus. June is fast approaching, I hope everyone is well on her way to filling her bag with “52 weeks of Blessings—Giving Thanks and Doing Without—Sharing Our Blessings with Others.” This will be our "Gifts of the Heart" Ingathering at Our District Convention in Olympia.

I have been busy with prayer requests and planning the Human Care Servant Events at Convention. We are looking for donations of fleece to use for tying blankets for one of the servant events at the convention. If anyone has any sources to obtain donations of yardage of fleece, please contact me. Watch for the announcement in the January bulk mailing Convention Packet.



I am looking for more people to serve on the Human Care Committees. If you are interested, please contact me.

Have a wonderful holiday season with family and friends during Thanksgiving and Christmas!

Blessings,
Sandi Hall, Human Care VP

Convention Bible Verse

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.

Psalms 119:105



Scholarships:

Do you know wonderful, dedicated Christian young men or women in your church who are considering entering full-time ministry in the LCMS as a teacher, deaconess, DCO, DCE, parish musician, family ministry or family ministry, or pastor? Are they currently attending one, or planning to attend one of our Concordia Universities or seminaries?

Applications for scholarships for these individuals are being taken until March 15, 2012.

The applicants should be preparing to attend or be current students of one of the LCMS Concordia Universities, or seminaries. They should be in the course work of full-time church work, and should be planning to be students in the school year of 2012-2013. Each society President can direct them to the LWML WA-AK District website to download an application, (<http://wa-aklwml.org>), or direct them to contact me for a copy that can be sent. The application includes a cover letter, the application itself, and two letters of recommendation that need to be sent separately.

We are still collecting money for the scholarship fund. This fund is above and beyond where our mites go. The money collected will be dispersed among the applicants in Olympia June, 2012. at our District Convention. The money may come from an individual, society, zone, church or may be in the



form of a memorial. Let us help encourage these individuals in our district who are preparing for a life of service in God's church. We pray God graciously continues to call dedicated workers for His work in spreading the good news of Jesus to the world.

Sarah Edwards
Scholarship Chairman

PLEASE COPY THIS ISSUE FOR THE LADIES IN YOUR CHURCH! PRINT IT IN GRAYSCALE PRINTING FOR COPYING ON THE COPY MACHINE OR PRINT OUT ALL THE COPIES IN COLOR. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE ISSUES VIA E-MAIL, PLEASE CONTACT THE CIRCULATION MANAGER, DENISE CRAWFORD.

A Yea-God Story: Final Report from Grace Giving; Fountain of Hope School, Bukeeka, Uganda

Dear LWML,

Grace Giving International thanks our Lord and Savior and the women of LWML for providing the funds necessary to continue the outreach efforts in Uganda through the construction of a new kitchen for the Fountain of Hope School. Fountain of Hope continues to be a vehicle for bringing the gospel to the village of Bukeeka, Uganda, giving the people hope for a better future eternally and while here on earth through education, nutrition, and friendship.

Because of the monies provided, the school began to build the foundations of the kitchen and boarding house. Non-believers in the village, Muslim and Animistic witch doctors, were not happy that the Christian school was growing and took action. A local witch doctor sent witches to the construction site threatening the workers with death should they continue to help the school. The witch doctor himself cast spells telling that one of the workers would die. Traditionally, the people of the village would heed the witch doctor's threats and obey his commands succumbing to spiritual fear. Pastor Robert, Fountain of Hope School staff, and the local Christian Church would not allow threats and fear to work this time. Encouraging the construction workers to not fear and trust in Jesus, the church and pastor began praying for protection and advancement of the true kingdom of God. Pastor shares what happened.



“We prayed all night and during the evening we received a confirmation that our prayers were heard and that death would not befall us but rather the witch doctor responsible for the threats would come to defeat. Later the next day, we received word that the witch doctor's two wives reported him missing. They searched everywhere and eventually went to check the outhouse and found him dead on the toilet. This news has spread quickly through the entire village and brought fear to the hearts of those who have been against us. Sula, the formal local chairman, who has been against our efforts since the beginning, came to me after hearing the news; and, for the first time in seven years asked for forgiveness and reconciliation.” The witch doctor's wives begged Pastor Robert to spare their lives. One of the wives, Harriet, later came back with two of her children and gave her life to Christ. She explained that if she had done so before her husband would have killed her.

Blessings,
John Kimsey
Grace Giving International
(Submitted by LeeAnn Tibbals, VP of Gospel Outreach)



Top: Workers digging the foundation of the kitchen and boarding house; (Left) Original kitchen; (Above) New energy-efficient wood-burning stove.



What time is it?

It's time to begin thinking about helping with a short-term mission next summer. Contact Heidi Penkert, Betty Alm, or Sandi Hall.

Alaska Zone Fall Retreat—Anchorage Lutheran Church, September 16, 17, & 18

Our theme for our Fall Retreat was "Shaped to Serve." The Bible verse was from Isaiah 64:8, "Yet, you, LORD, are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand." We had 48 ladies that came from all over Alaska attend our inspirational Fall Retreat. I would like to thank our District President, Mary Lynn Huntwork, from George, Washington, for attending our Retreat.

Pastor Rakos from Funny River, AK showed slides of his trip to Slovakia. Pastor Rakos talked about all the wooden churches he and his wife, Caroline, had visited. The scenery was awesome, and the churches were so beautiful.

Nancy Cross, the Alaska Zone Christian Growth leader, led the Bible Study on the theme "Shaped to Serve." She shared how God shapes our lives every day in everything we do. We sang songs dealing with the theme. Some of the songs were: The Potter's Hand, Spirit of the Living God, Change My Heart O God, Jesus You Are Changing Me, and He's Still working on Me.

We had a demonstration on how to shape pottery by Jenny Ditto, the daughter of LWML member, Gladys Wood. Jenny brought her own wheel on which to spin the pottery. She shaped two pots and give instructions as she spun the wheel. The pottery that was on the tables was bought and all the proceeds went to mites. The amount collected was \$140.00.

Our Servant Event was called "Bundles of Hope" which was sending 59 Fabric Kits to young women in West Africa through World Relief. The young women learn a number of skills, including tailoring as a means of earning an income.

Men were also invited to attend the retreat. The men went to breakfast and came back to the church to have their Bible Study led by Pastor Rakos. Sunday worship was a special service dedicated to LWML.

Pastor Andy Richie, of Anchorage Lutheran Church, gave the special service for LWML with the installation of our new Christian Growth Chairman and Treasurer.

The Lord has blessed this retreat. To Him be the glory.

Blessings to All, Linda Gerdes, Zone President 😊



MaryLynn Huntwork, District President; Linda Gerdes, Zone President and Carol Drager, Past Zone President.



WA-AK District Retreat Pictures and Happenings



Cheryl Beyer, our retreat auctioneer, helped raise over \$900 for Mites. Adding the Mite collection on Sunday, we collected \$2,036 for our grants!



FOLLOW JESUS
WALK THE PATH



Washington-Alaska Zone and Society Corner

A Victorian Tea Party! Sound Interesting? This event took place at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Spokane last May instead of the usual Spring Salad Luncheon. Beautiful invitations were created by one of our ladies. She also created an attractive display in the narthex to promote this special time of fellowship. One corner of the Fellowship Hall was transformed into a garden with trees, a white picket fence and a bench where the ladies sat to have their pictures taken. Many of the ladies wore long dresses and beautiful hats. The luncheon was served on English bone china and a special highlight of the menu were blueberry scones (made from scratch) with Devonshire cream. This was such a successful experiment with excellent attendance (one of the best) with so many compliments that there will be another *Victorian Tea Party* at Holy Cross next May. We also had some future LWML'ers in attendance with their mothers.

Betty R. Donahue



Thank You

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Thank You

Come, ye thankful people, come;
Raise the song of Harvest home.

Thank You

All be safely gathered in
Ere the winter storms begin;
God, our Maker, doth provide,
For our wants to be supplied.
Come to God's own temple, come;
Raise the song of Harvest home.

Thank You

Thank You

Even so, Lord, quickly come
To Thy final Harvest home;
Gather Thou Thy people in,
Free from sorrow, free from sin,
There, forever purified,

Thank You

In Thy garner to abide
Come with all Thine angels, come,
Raise the glorious Harvest home. Amen.

Thank You

(Verses 1 and 4)

2010-2012 LWML Washington-Alaska District Roster

President

MaryLynn Huntwork

Counselor - West

Rev. Mario Ancira

Planner

Open

Heart to Heart Committee Chair-

man
Massie Hicks

Public Relations Chairman

Gigi Lutz

Vice President of Servant Resources

Marie Chow

Counselor - East

Rev. Ken Schauer

Quarterly Manager

Sonja Frazier

Leader Development Committee

Chairman
Marilyn Schaefer

Vice President of Christian Life

Marilee Ryan

Archivist-Historian

Nancy Wyckoff

Recycling Coordinator

Judy Peraino

Nominating Committee Chairman

Carol Drager

Vice President of Human Care

Sandi Hall

Corresponding Secretary

Linda B. Miller

Webmaster

Julie Onken

Scholarship Committee Chairman

Sarah Edwards

Vice President of Gospel Outreach

LeeAnn Tibbals

Circulation Manager

Denise Crawford

2012 District Convention Co-

Chairmen
Marjorie O'Rourke

Short-Term Missions Co-Chairmen

Heidi Penkert
3626 20th St

Recording Secretary

Peggy Lohse

District Editor

Sandi Schauer

Sharon Westman

Betty Alm

Financial Secretary

Deb Jones

MMV Consultant

Edie Norris

Meeting Manager

Pam Rafferty

Young Women Committee

Chairman
Elizabeth Cook

Treasurer

LaDonna Schrank

Parliamentarian

Carol Coerber

Friends Into Serving Him

Committee Chairman

Julie Funfar



District website:

www.wa-aklwml.org

Evergreen Echoes is published quarterly by Lutheran Women's Missionary League, Washington-Alaska District, an auxiliary organization of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. District Editor: Sandi Schauer, PO Box 615, Republic, WA 99166.



Happy Thanksgiving!

Merry Christmas!