



Evergreen Echoes

Summer
2007

Visit our website at www.WA-AKLWML.org

DISTRICT PRESIDENT ELAINE NELSON



Happy Summer to you!!! As I write this article, it is still beautiful spring. The flowers and trees are blooming and everything is fresh and alive. We have completed all of our Spring Events around the district with over 450 women and counselors in attendance. We are alive with new ideas and fresh inspiration for the work God has set before us. Some of the comments that I have heard after the Leadership Program are: "I didn't know that I could be a servant and a leader." "I received some new ideas for being a leader." "I found out that unless I mentor someone into the leadership position that I have, no one will be prepared to take it." I trust that you learned or were reminded once again of something that will enable you to be a leader or to be a better leader.

And now we move on to the Sioux Falls convention. Please read about the mission grants that are on the ballot. Learn about the women who have offered to serve you and our Lord as officers for the next four years. Give your Zone President money for the offerings that will be collected. We are celebrating 65 years of blessings and an offering is designated for this special collection. Pray for the safe travel of the attendees and that in all things, God's will is done and He is given all the praise and glory. Then anticipate the report of your Zone President when she returns with all the happenings that she experienced. This is your convention. Make it your responsibility to be an informed member.

God bless you this summer with His Joy!!

Serving Christ with you,
Elaine



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.



ATTENTION ALL LWML CONVENTION ATTENDEES FROM WA-AK !

There will be no formal convention pictures scheduled. We will meet on Friday, 20 minutes after the afternoon session in our WA-AK Delegate's area to take a group picture of everyone from our district.

Be sure to bring an umbrella and participate in the invitational skit to the LWML convention in Portland 2009.



DISTRICT PASTORAL COUNSELOR EAST
REV. DUDLEY NOLTING



My calendar informs me that the next important date in the life of the church is May 17th - The Ascension of Our Lord. One of the readings for that day is from Ephesians 1 in which the sacred writer says “God has blessed us from the riches of his grace which he has lavished on us in Christ Jesus”. This week I have been thinking about the word “lavish,” and I’ve been thinking about those times in my life in which I experienced the word lavish. I am thinking of those times that were excessive,

exuberant, and extravagant in luxury.

Last Saturday Beth and I walked past the Hotel Lusso in downtown Spokane. As we did we remembered the “lavish” overnight stay we had there several years ago thanks to the families of my Confirmation class. This was no Motel 6! Everything about our room was lavish, as were the meals provided at the adjacent restaurant.

Last summer our family attended my nephew’s wedding in San Diego. The setting was magnificent! Everything about the wedding and the reception was lavish. Unforgettable!

In my mind the word “lavish” is always associated with riches. The word “lavish” is never associated with poverty, nor frugality.

In Holy Scripture Jesus is consistently “lavishing” people with the riches of His goodness. The wedding feat at Cana and the feeding of the 5,000 are two such events. Extravagant. Excessive. Lavish. Generous.

Here on the Palouse one of the first garden seeds placed in the cool soil are peas. In early summer they will be ready for picking. When you go out to the garden and take a pod and open it how many peas will be inside? More than one I hope. There will be a line of peas that you can toss in your mouth before you pick a bowl full for the evening meal. The same is true for grapes. The vine is full of grapes, not just one. Or you lift up a leaf of a strawberry plant and look under it, you see lush, big ripe strawberries, ready to be eaten. Not one, but several there, waiting to be picked.

The whole of creation is “lavish” - so excessive in its generosity. Why? Because this is the nature of God in the physical world and, as we know, in the spiritual one as well.

Paul says in Ephesians time and time again that God has “lavished us with His grace in Jesus Christ”. Grace freely and excessively given.

This week I read that beneath our skin lies 60,000 miles of veins. My mind can’t comprehend that. And so it is with the luxurious grace of God generously given to us in Jesus Christ. Our minds cannot comprehend what lies beneath the surface of life, but if we get beneath the surface of life, we just might discover the abundant, luxurious, lavish grace of God in our lives.

Enjoying the lavishness of God’s grace with you,

Pastor Nolting

Pray for the members of our district who are attending the LWML Convention in Sioux Falls, SD this month! The convention is on June 21-24. May the attendees be uplifted and inspired by the speakers, music, worship and gathering of our sisters and brothers in Christ. Give all safe travel to the convention and bring them all safely home.



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The **Hood Canal** LWMLers gathered April 21st at Memorial Lutheran in Bremerton to welcome our guest speaker, Edie Norris, who showed us we



are all leaders in God's service.

An ingathering of items was received for an outreach to teens from a local cafe, Coffee Oasis.

Our zone pastoral counselor, Rev. Roger Stites, led our Bible study "The Stone Was Rolled Away...The Rock Wasn't There" from the last chapter of Mark.

We renewed friendships over a delicious meal prepared by the Memorial ladies and went on our homeward ways refreshed in body and spirit!

The Alaska Zone had a very successful Joyshop. "Got Praise?" Almost every Society participated showing a different way to show praise through Gardening, Banners, Song, Humor, Chocolate, Volunteering, Missions, Cooking, Marriage, and Worship and Communion.

Our Fall Retreat-Rally will be held October 5,6,7 in Anchorage. The theme will be "Fun in the Son".

The **Puget Sound Zone** held its annual Day of Prayer Service on February 9, hosted by the Women of Hope in Seattle, WA.

The service, "Between a Rock and a Hard Place—Is a Good Place", authored by the.

Reverend Dan Heuer, LWML Counselor in 2001-2005, gave the 31 members in attendance an opportunity to worship the Lord with the emphasis on their connection to Christ Jesus, their ROCK.

After the service, Judy Knebel gave her report on behalf of the District. The women, then, made cards for the King County Jail ministry, as the servant event. A wonderful luncheon was served to the participants. The offering taken in the service was sent to District for mites.

The **East Inland Empire Zone** met in Pullman on April 21. We heard from Ann Summerson, who coordinates the campus ministry –

Lutheran Student Fellowship—for the Washington State University and the University of Idaho students at Concordia Lutheran Church. An ingathering of items for the students "Finals Survival Kits" was greatly appreciated by the students as they finished up their spring semester. There were 80 LWMLers who drove the miles to Pullman to celebrate together. Our Fall Rally will be in Deer Park, WA.

Z o n e N e w s

Vice President of Christian Life, Carol Drager

I read "The Chocolate Covered Cookie Tantrum" by Deborah Blumental to my three year old granddaughter, Stella, in April. I thought that she would understand the moral of the story which was that the only time the little girl in the book would get a cookie was when she did what her mother wanted her to do. However, Stella missed the whole point of the book and came to her own conclusions. In the book, the girl could only get a cookie after she took a nap and ate her supper, but what my granddaughter heard was that she could get a cookie after I read the book. In fact she thought the tantrum part was funny. She repeatedly wanted me to read the "cookie book." and even when I talked to her on the phone last night she wanted me to read the "cookie book." (No, I did not give her a cookie every time I read it!)

I wonder if this isn't what happens to us when we hear God's word. Do we hear God's word in a way we want it to hear it rather than what He means? I realize that as Christians we have to be extra careful in what we say and do so people around us do not get a mixed message. We need to regularly attend church, read the Bible and attend Bible classes to help us understand God's word. Our Fall Retreat, "Plant a Seed...Tell the Next Generation" will help us learn what to say. It is only through our Lord and Savior that we can learn to live our lives as loving, kind, thoughtful Christians. By listening to God's true word and not our own interpretation, we are able to have a positive impact on other peoples' lives.

Join us at the Fall Retreat, September 28-30, 2007 at Ross Point Camp and Conference Center, Post Falls, Idaho.
God Bless You!



**WA-AK DISTRICT RETREAT
At ROSS POINT CAMP AND
CONFERENCE CENTER
POST FALLS, ID**

Sept 28-30, 2007

**YOU'RE INVITED!
PLAN TO ATTEND AND BRING
A FRIEND!**

**"...we will tell the next generation the
praiseworthy deeds of the Lord..."
Psalm 78:4**

SEPTEMBER 28-30, 2007 WASHINGTON-ALASKA LWML RETREAT
PARTICIPANT INFORMATION FORM, ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND RELEASE

The purpose of this Participant Information Form, Acknowledgment and Release is to identify each person (a "Participant") who wishes to volunteer with the Lutheran Women's Missionary League ("LWML") or participate in LWML-sponsored activities. As a condition to becoming a Participant, LWML requires each person to provide the following information and release LWML from any responsibility for his or her safety and well-being when volunteering for LWML and while participating in LWML-sponsored activities.

Name / Address: _____

Allergies and Other Known Health Risks/Problems: _____

Person to Contact in the Event of an Emergency (Name, Address, Telephone Number(s), Relationship)

Health Insurance Carrier/Policy Number: _____

Medications: _____

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND RELEASE

I understand that to become a Participant, LWML requires me to acknowledge and agree that LWML assumes no, and disclaims all, responsibility for my safety and well-being while acting as a Participant. In consideration of LWML permitting me to be a Participant:

(a) I acknowledge that the information set forth above is complete and accurate;

(b) I acknowledge and agree that LWML is an auxiliary agency of The Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod) and cannot and does not accept any (and expressly disclaims all) responsibility for my safety and well-being while being a Participant;

(c) I release LWML, its directors, officers, employees and agents from all claims, demands, actions or causes of action that I may have, now or in the future, relating to or resulting from any illness or injuries (including death) suffered by me or my possessions while being a Participant; and

(d) I consent to any medical treatment that LWML (or any of its authorized representatives) deems to be necessary or appropriate in the event of my illness, accident or other medical emergency, and I accept full financial responsibility for any fees or expenses relating to this treatment.

DATE: _____ SIGNATURE: _____

PRINT NAME: _____

PARENT OR LEGAL GARDIAN IF UNDER 18:

DATE: _____ SIGNATURE: _____

PRINT NAME: _____



If We INVITE Them They WILL Come to PORTLAND 2009

The Oregon, Utah-Idaho, and Washington-Alaska delegations are off to
Sioux Falls in June to invite everyone to

PORTLAND 2009!!!

Our three district exhibits, the exhibit from Portland Oregon Visitors Association (POVA),
and our "official invitation" will excite everyone about this "once in a lifetime" opportunity
to attend an LWML convention in the beautiful Pacific Northwest. We will also be extend-
ing personal invitations to everyone we meet. Be watching for the next (fall) issue of the
Evergreen Echoes, to learn about the

"Top Thirteen Reasons" why

PORTLAND is **THE** place to be

in **June** of **2009!!!!**

WA-AK District LWML Officers and Committees

WA-AK District LWML Officers and Committees

*To contact any of the board members below please click
on the "Contacts" button on our website. You may
email messages from there and it will be forwarded to
the appropriate person.*

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\$\$*SEND MITES HERE*\$\$

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ORDER MITE BOXES

#SEND ROSTERS HERE#

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WA-AK DISTRICT MEMBERS-

If you would like a PDF version of this newsletter, with
full addresses, emailed to you for printing in your soci-
ety please email LeeAnn Tibbals, District Editor, at
ltibbals@verizon.net



MAG-nifi-¢ent Mites



Mites are collected in the Washington-Alaska District to provide the money needed for:

- Mission grants from Washington-Alaska District [5 currently* paid-in-full and 2 partially paid of 11 grants for 2006-2008]
- Washington-Alaska District operating expenses
- LWML mission grants [All 17 grants paid-in-full for 2005-2007]
- LWML mission grants to be selected at 2007 convention

* As of April 9, 2007

Come to the 2007 WA-AK District Retreat at Ross Point in northern Idaho this September.

Bring pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, and any paper bills to add to the mite total for the current biennium.

Find the **M**ission **A**dvocacy and **G**rants Committee table.

Become more acquainted with District-supported missions.

Become acquainted with the 2007-2009 LWML missions.

Match the seed to the mission.

Watch for the **MAG-nifi-¢ent** skit performed by the **MAG** committee members.

Mission Advocacy and Grants Committee:

Betty Alm, Vice President Gospel Outreach
Lisa Davis, Committee Chairman
Sharon Willweber

SCHOLARSHIP FUND UPDATE

The first half of this biennium ended March 31st so an update on the funds collected is in order. Funds received in the first year of this biennium came from the following sources:

Societies	\$1690.00
Zones	\$ 68.00
Individuals	\$ 790.00
Bear sales	\$ 36.00
2006 Convention offering	\$1784.25

Reviewing the report of the convention manual, I noted that only 25% of the societies in the WA-AK district contributed to the scholarship fund. If each of the remaining societies would have contributed \$25.00 that would increase the fund by \$2000.00. Remembering a loved one is easy with our memorial cards that include a form to send with your check to the Financial Secretary. Contact Marianne Bell, Scholarship Chairman, by phone or email if you would like more brochures or memorial cards.