



Evergreen Echoes

LWML Washington-Alaska District

Summer, 2012

DISTRICT PRESIDENT MARYLYNN HUNTWORK

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EVERGREEN ECHOES FALL
DEADLINE: July 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 from the land over yonder! Can you believe it? Almost two years have gone by since our last convention. I pray all have sent in registration forms and reserved rooms for the LWML Washington-Alaska District Convention, Olympia. It is difficult being patient for the day to arrive.



It's exciting to think of all the women and men who will be attending the convention, all different groups, TEENS, Young Women, Heart to Heart Sisters, Past District Presidents and Guest Speakers. There are so many exciting events, exhibits, displays and stores to keep the attendees inspired and alive in Christ. Follow the path to Olympia, Washington- you won't be disappointed.

This morning I was mowing the lawn, my first for the year, and the chance to watch the local birds watch me was fascinating. Doves, robins, starlings, 2 ravens, 1 hawk and of course "Chico" the friendly neighborhood chicken gathered on their favorite high wire and fence to watch me mow. As I mowed I looked up to see the birds and tried to keep straight lines. Their patience to wait until I finish, then flying down and checking out what I uncover in the lawn always amazes me.

I can picture the Father, Son and Holy Spirit looking down on us and patiently waiting for us to finish what they have asked us to do. The path we take to do His work isn't always straight, but Jesus is always there to help us stay on the His lighted path. When our work is done He promises to be there with open arms. We thank Him for being close beside us in all our life situations.

Have a wonderful summer, relax and enjoy God's work of art. Let us stay focused on the mission that Jesus has given to us, keep our light shining to reflect His love and grace. Be patient, stay on the path, keep walking, keep running and never lose sight of the goal. Walk hand in hand with God and all things are possible.

Serving together, Growing in the Lord, Valuing all Women and Living the Mission.

MaryLynn Huntwork
 LWML WA-AK District President
 "Follow Jesus... Walk The Path!"

LWML WA-AK District Convention



It's Time To:

1. Register for the Convention
2. Sign up for the Mission Walk
3. Get your pledges for the Mission Walk
4. Finish your In-Gathering item
5. Register for your hotel room
6. Arrange with your friends to attend the LWML WA-AK Convention at the Red Lion Hotel, Olympia, Washington, June 22 – 24, 2012

Register at the Red Lion Hotel, 2300 Evergreen Park Drive SW, Olympia, WA 98502 to receive convention rates; 1-800-733-5466 (or the hotel of your choice).

CHECK THE BULK MAILING FOR MUCH MORE CONVENTION INFORMATION. YOUR SOCIETY PRESIDENT SHOULD HAVE A COPY.

Speaker Bios:

Pastor Dave Andrus (Mission Speaker)

The Rev. David Andrus was born and raised in Wausau, Wisconsin. He received his Master of Divinity degree in 1985 from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri, and his Master of Sacred Theology from the same institution in 2008. He has served as pastor at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Overland, Missouri; The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Board for Missions as Director of Lutheran Mission with Blind and Visually Impaired Persons; and, currently as the Executive Director of the independently funded Lutheran Blind Mission Society, a Recognized

Service Organization partner of the LCMS Board for Missions. The Lutheran Blind Mission began as a Christian lending library for the blind. Under Andrus, it has expanded to include Outreach Centers, where blind people reach out to other blind people with social aid and Christian love, and the Christian Blind Institute, a correspondence school that trains blind and visually impaired people to be leaders.



Andrus is married to the former Debra Plath. They are the parents of Victoria and Margaret. Andrus enjoys woodworking and carpentry. He has made much of their furniture and also extensively remodeled each of their three homes. Dave and his wife enjoy collecting antiques, attending live theater, and spending time with their children.

Gretchen King (Luncheon speaker)

Gretchen King is Lutheran World Relief's Director for the Lutheran Malaria Initiative. Previously, she worked for Lutheran World Relief on the Public Policy and Advocacy team and spent a year in Nairobi, Kenya as the Communication's Coordinator for the Kenya Evangelical Lutheran Church. She recently obtained a Master's degree from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London in international conflict and development.

Speaker Bios Cont.

Phyllis Wallace (Keynote presenter and interest session speaker)



Phyllis is a wife, mother, author and former family counselor and educator. Her path into public speaking began as a Jr High Counselor involved with youth on drugs. She consulted across the Midwest to anticipate and prepare for the impending doom of drug abuse, spearheading a campaign to intervene in those choices by establishing a drug counseling center in Collinsville, Illinois. She was quoted in the Congressional Record by Congressman Melvin Price at that time. Her efforts were recognized by the Governor of the State of Illinois.

She led a weekly Bible study of 100 women in Collinsville for ten years. In 1991, she initiated the “Woman to Woman” program on KFUE-AM radio in St. Louis, MO. The show was picked up by Lutheran Hour Ministries in 1993 and was eventually syndicated to 400 stations.

Phyllis speaks nationwide on embracing stress, overcoming your past and opening the gifts you have hiding under your "stuff!" She endorses the priceless value of humor in getting through life. Her upbeat, candidly refreshing enthusiasm for being a "Free Woman" comes through her stories, eliciting laughter and tears as she shares how the Truth sets us free. Phyllis contends, “It may take longer than you want to learn a lesson from life, but it never takes longer than you have!”

Linda Arnold (LWML Representative)

Every successful event or action is based upon careful and attentive planning. Vice President of Communication,



Linda Arnold, sees God’s redemptive plan as a model for planning the work of the LWML.

God’s plan for involving Linda in the LWML began with Linda’s mother, Alice, who insisted that she attend at least the opening service of the 1983 LWML convention. As the sight of thousands of people on their feet singing a familiar hymn with powerful reverence overwhelmed her senses, Linda was filled with awe at the Lord’s presence. Other women were also part of God’s plan for guiding and mentoring Linda in her many leadership roles in LWML.

Involvement in LWML allows Linda the chance to use those God-given gifts to impact people around the world for Christ. She sees a tremendous opportunity in communication technology to share the love of Jesus in ways that would have been unimaginable to the women who founded the LWML.

Lynn Cooper (Interest Session)



Lynn has served in many voluntary leadership, teaching and mentoring roles in her church and community. She has served as society Vice President, President and Zone Vice President of Christian Life while attending Holy Cross Lutheran in Concord, CA. Since moving to Spokane, she was Society President at Holy Cross Lutheran in Spokane and currently serves on the District Leader Development Committee. Lynn lead a Bible Study on doing God’s will in our lives at our most recent retreat in Post Falls last October.

Lynn is a creative and insightful professional coach, specializing in working with foster and adoptive families. Lynn is an Adoptive and former Foster parent. She also volunteers with Olive Crest, a private foster placement agency working to place foster children in forever families. She is working with them to launch the Safe Families program in Spokane.

Speaker Bios Cont:

Nancy Cross (Bible Study Presenter)



Nancy was born and raised in Grand Junction, Colorado, the third child and only daughter of two wonderful Christian parents. She met her husband, Corbie, at a church college in Idaho. They were married in 1973. They were members at a church which was very active in mission outreach; they went on servant events in both Guatemala and Costa Rica. In 1998 they were called to be full-time missionaries with the Alaska Mission for Christ. In 2009 Corbie was called as the pastor to Star of the North Lutheran, Kenai, Alaska. Nancy stays active in sharing her love for her Savior by teaching a Bible study class and also recently served as the Director of Christian Life for the LWML Alaska Zone. Their two children, Josh and Erin also live in Alaska with their families.

**LWML Washington-Alaska District
Pre-Convention Devotion
Red Lion Hotel, Olympia, Washington
June 22-24, 2012
Written by Cheryl Beyer**

“Come”

“Come unto Me, ye weary, and I will give you rest.” O blessed voice of Jesus, Which comes to hearts oppressed! It tells of benediction, of pardon, grace, and peace, Of joy that hath no ending, Of love that cannot cease. (LSB 684 v 1)

Have you ever been really, totally, hopelessly lost? Driving or walking and so totally turned around you have no idea which way to go? Most of the time we don't even know that we are so very lost and confused that we don't even see the danger. The seemingly familiar surroundings of the world around us give us a false sense of security. We think we have it all under control. We think we know exactly where we are and what we are doing. We are so confident in our error that we try to take others along with us on our deadly way! Other times we are so overwhelmed that we are frozen and all we can do is stare blankly or if we have enough energy left, cry. We are hopeless! There is no way we can even help ourselves, let alone save ourselves. We need to be found, to be rescued, and to be saved.

Jesus our Savior knows exactly where we are. Jesus our Savior – always dealing with us in mercy – gives us our path in the world and His provisions are always perfect for our journey. Jesus said, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life.”

“Come, follow Me,” the Savior spake, All in my way abiding; Deny yourselves, the world forsake, Obey My call and guiding, O bear the cross, what e'er betide, Take My Example for your guide.

“I am the light, I light the way,” A godly life displaying; I bid you walk as in the day; I keep your feet from straying. I am the way, and well I show How you must sojourn here below. (LSB 688 v 1&2)

How do we "Follow Jesus...Walk the Path"?

He comes to us! He comes to us! He comes to us with His grace in Word and Sacrament!

We follow Jesus in the Word:

Here is where we learn about God's plan of salvation for us and all people. We are taught that we are saved by God's grace alone. We are taught that the good works that we do are simply a thankful response to what God has first done for us. So, we "follow" Jesus, the Word, in all of our earthly doings and life knowing that His words of Law and Gospel will guide us in all our ways.

We follow Jesus to the altar:

Here at the altar we truly and personally receive the very body and blood of Jesus. Our faith is strengthened, we receive forgiveness, and we are strengthened in our unity with our brothers and sisters who commune with us. So, we "follow" Jesus to the altar where He gives us Himself so that as forgiven children of God, we can remain faithful to him and serve one another in love.

Let us ever walk with Jesus, Follow His example pure, Through a world that would deceive us And to sin our spirits lure. Onward in His footsteps treading, Pilgrims here, our home above, Full of faith and hope and love, Let us do the Father's bidding. Faithful Lord, with me abide; I shall follow where You guide. (LSB 685 v 1)

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path" (Psalm 119:105 NIV)

"... and 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 NIV)

Dear Lord Jesus:

Thank you for your free and full gift of salvation. Be with us and guide us as we travel to our District Convention. Lead and guide us as we serve on various paths in the LWML and in our Convention. Let us remember our baptism knowing that the reason we can "serve you with gladness" is because you made us your children at the font. May our meetings be filled with the baptismal joy we share as your members of the body of Christ. As we serve in the LWML, reaching out to the world around us, let us remember that your Word is our only guide. As we do business may Scripture be ready on our tongues to encourage one another in the work we are here to do. Let us remember to commune regularly, receiving these special gifts from you, our Lord. Bless our Convention. Make our will to do your will and every power of our life consecrated to the great task of bringing the lost and the erring into eternal fellowship with you. To God be all the glory. In your name we pray. Amen.

"Serve the Lord with gladness!" It is He alone Who redeemed us sinners, Guides us as His own To enjoy the blessings Of His love and grace, Will at last in glory Meet us face to face. Onward, then, for Jesus! Let this be our aim: "Serve the Lord with gladness!" Glorify His name!

Friends Into Serving Him®



Time for our District Convention is almost here! Are you bringing teens? The teens who attend will be serving as pages, having a special Bible Study just for them, helping with In-Gathering, getting to know each other and most importantly... getting to know more about LWML.

Are you going to District Convention? Be sure to find me there to learn more about how your society can get involved with Friends Into Serving Him® See you in Olympia!

Julie Funfar
Friends Into Serving Him® Chairman
(Under the auspices of the Human Care Committee)



Structure Committee

Good Day. The Lord be with you,

The Structure Committee is on a mission. We have our assignment. We have chosen to accept. Will you help? Our assignment has been to find those zones and societies that need to update their bylaws (ugh—on your part) and encourage you to get the bylaws to us (the Structure Committee) for review and approval. We then will get them back to you with our corrections and/or our recommendations. When your society has then voted on these corrections and/or recommendations, submit them back to us for us to file and you can then sit back and breathe a sigh of relief!!

If you have read past *Evergreen Echoes* and the website articles, you are aware of the bylaw amendment process. You can go online to the LWML WA-AK District website (www.wa-aklwml.org), and click on the “Structure/Bylaws” button (on the left hand side). You will find the process on the webpage which is a great resource!!

Bylaws are the guidelines for your zone or society to assist with the smooth running of your meetings and what the women of the zone or society are to do. Please take the time now to “dig up” those bylaws, review, make proposed changes, and submit them to us before we “find” you (which honestly we do know who you are!). As stated at the beginning of this article, we are on a mission. We do not want the process to be a burden. We are here to assist. Get in touch with us.

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

Young Women Wanted!

Pure Joy!

That's what the Olympia convention with young women from all over the Washington-Alaska District is about! Time to visit, get to know each other, find out the things we have in common, and learn more about Jesus and His love for us - together. It's the feeling of "Serving the Lord with Gladness!" It's something that we take for granted, all too often, and forget to communicate when we invite young women to come alongside us and join in the serving. What a joyful time it is, when we have a group of young women gathered together! It is a reminder that we are not the “only” young women involved. An invitation you give to bring more into the joy of serving the Lord. I hope you get to know this joy as well!

Your District Young Women Committee,
Amanda Haan, Sarah Werzner, Elizabeth Cook, Chairman

LWML WA-AK District Counselor East—Pastor Ken Schauer

Joy to you,

The future is not ours to predict. Nevertheless, some try. In 1899 Charles H. Duell commented, “Everything that can be invented has been invented.” He was wrong. In 1943, the chairman of the IBM, Thomas Watson, predicted that there was a world market for maybe five computers. The president, chairman, and founder of Digital Equipment Corporation said that he saw no reason anyone would want a computer in his or her home. Even Bill Gates was greatly mistaken in his predictions when in 1981 he said, “A computer with 640 K of memory “ought to be enough for anybody.” The computer we have at home has many times the maximum memory that Bill Gates suggested.



Another prediction that didn't turn out the way an expert at Decca Recording Company expected: He stated, “We don't like their sound, and guitar music is on the way out.” His evaluation of the biggest-selling musical group of all times, the Beatles, proved to be very much off the mark.

I don't know what will happen next year, next month or even tomorrow. I do know one thing—our Lord is in the future before we get there and will be with us. Also, in Matthew 6:34: “Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.” Committing our life into the hands of Jesus lessens the fear and worries of the future. Follow Jesus—Walk the Path.



Recycling news for Evergreen Echoes

Thank you to everyone who sent in so many boxes in the last two months. \$162.10 was requested from the FF on April 26th. These funds will be used for the District LWML Convention in June. Hope to see you there – stop by the Recycling booth (now to plan it so there is something to see). Recycling Rumble standings: At 100 points we are ahead of the school in Alabama that FF paired us with so have a chance at earning 25% more points. The score to beat to win the Ipad will be over 500. This contest ends May 31. Our statistics: Total weight sent in: 9,813.16 lbs!! Almost 5 TONS!

Not Quite so New. Funding Factory is now collecting any Digital Camera, Laptops, GPS systems and MP3 Players (\$65 for the IPOD4). You can pack the new electronics with any other items. A correction from last EE issue when I stated there was no minimum number - FF asks that we follow the 20/20 rule - at least 20 items OR at least 20 lbs. but no more than 40 lbs. When packing, wrap cartridges in newspaper so no ink will leak onto the electrical items.

Q: “Why aren’t the cell phone accessories accepted?”

A: “Materials used in making those do not contain the contaminants that are present in cell phones.” Don’t throw them away, bring them to Best Buy or any place that will recycle them safely.



Recycling facts: 1. Recycling decreases toxic waste in landfills (we don’t want toxic waste in the Lord’s earth). 2. 86% of inkjets are NOT recycled. 3. Enough laser cartridges are destroyed that could circle the earth. 4. 45% of people still throw away inkjet cartridges in the trash. 5. 70% of Americans don’t know cell phones, and other electrical items can be recycled. 6. FF has prevented 21 million pounds of waste from landfills. More information at www.fundingfactory.com Ideas for increasing your collecting: local libraries, computer labs, small businesses and friends, banks, accountants.

“The earth is the LORD’S, and everything in it,” Psalm 24:1a

Judy Peraino, Recycling Coordinator

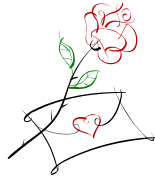
Letter from a Reader:

As I was reading the winter issue of EE, I noticed that the LWML, in 69 years has given more than a \$100,000,000 to Mites. It is astonishing that the change we put in our Mite boxes could have ever grown to such an amount. Then I had a memory of when National President of LWML, Betty Duda, came to Faith Lutheran Church in Juneau, Alaska, and inspired us all to continue in our work for the Lord. She sounded as if she were thinking out loud when she said, "I wonder if our mites could ever reach a \$1,000,000. At the time I thought probably not in my lifetime, but here we are, in 2012, not only reaching that goal but giving a hundred times that amount. God working among us, so that each time we put our change in the Mite box, we are thinking of the "widow's mite" which was small and yet was all she had, and she gave it all to the Lord. Together we give what we can, and together at the District conventions, we vote on the most deserving needs. Working for the Lord together is our strength and that includes the strength and vision of our leaders to set goals that are possible because Christ, our Leader, is with us every day.

Submitted by Marilyn Clark

Praise God for the might of the mite!

PLEASE COPY THIS ISSUE FOR THE LADIES IN YOUR CHURCH! PRINT IT IN GRAYSCALE 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.



**LWML WASHINGTON-ALASKA
DISTRICT CONVENTION**

June 22-24, 2012 Olympia, Washington

The Human Care Committee Invites YOU

Come and Join Us for Servant Events

Friday, June 22 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

You can stay for a little while or until the very end!

Participate in one or all of the following events:

Marking Prison Ministry Bibles

Assembling Braille Calendars for the Blind Mission

Making Bookmarks for Seniors

Tying Fleece Blankets for Homeless Shelter

Please remember the Ingathering for

“52 Weeks of Blessings.”

You can find the list of items on the website Human Care page at www.wa-aklwml.org.



What: A 5K run/walk/wheel to raise money for mission project in Haiti

When: Sunday, June 3rd

Time: 2 p.m. rain or shine

Where: Centennial Trail, Lake Stevens 20th Street Trailhead

Cost: \$35 (includes t-shirt)

****Meet at the Lake Stevens Access to the Centennial trail.
After the race, beverages & snack will be provided.****



**2012
Wanna run
for
Ouanaminthe
(Haiti)?**

Registration Form:

****In order to ensure you receive a shirt, please return this form by May 15th. ****

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

T-Shirt Size: _____

Make checks payable to NEHLM
Please give or mail your registration form by May 15th to Susie Rahn,
5201 175th St. SE Snohomish WA, 98290

Washington-Alaska Zone and Society Corner

Concordia, Oak Harbor Sponsors Seminary Student

Concordia LWML in Oak Harbor is pleased to announce that this year we will be able to give support to our New Seminary Student, Aaron Spratt, who is a member of our congregation! He will enter the seminary at Fort Wayne IN this fall. His wife Amanda, and their 3 boys will be joining him on this exciting journey. We have supported other seminary students for many years, and this is a first to have one from our own congregation!! A special blessing!

Submitted by Nancy Wycliff



*SPRATT, Aaron & Amanda
Aaron II, Ryan, Matthew

Free to Serve—Inter-Valley Zone

The theme for the Spring Joyshop of the Inter-Valley Zone was “Free to Serve.” Twenty-nine ladies from the Yakima valley met in Sunnyside. John Kimsey of Grace Giving International told about this organization and the work they are doing in Uganda to educate children and spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. He showed the ladies pictures of the new ovens for Foundation of Hope school that where built with mite contributions.

Becca Klimper then spoke of her trips to Uganda and challenged the ladies to be "Free to Serve." She encouraged the ladies to be free to open their hearts and minds to God’s calling, to be free of fear of speaking with others about our faith and the hope we have in Jesus Christ.

Tina Gilkey, zone president, lead a Bible study on “Free to Serve,” and connected that freedom to aprons. Bib aprons where the in-gathering gifts to the Joyshop along with things for the convention in-gathering. The ladies had been encouraged to wear their favorite apron and after lunch a time was spent sharing stories about that apron. More than forty aprons where gathered. They will be sent with Martha Goodfellow from Spokane along with her team of volunteers to Uganda this summer. The aprons will be distributed as a blessing gift in the bush.



Submitted by Tina Gilkey
Zone President

Lake Washington Zone Joyshop

Pastor Paul and Emily Bartelheimer shared about the ministry in Haiti. They discussed the girls’ orphanage, and the school—kindergarten to high school, and the boys’ orphanage. Storm windows for the school were provided by a grant from the WA-AK LWML District. The boy’s orphanage received funds from LWML LCMS. This ministry has a 12-acre garden.



Aletha Voges, Lake Washington (LW) Zone President; Rev. Matthew Both, LW Zone Counselor and Sudanese pastor ; Rev. Daniel Paul, Haiti ministry; MaryLynn Huntwork, WA-AK District LWML President; Marilee Ryan, VP Christian Life.



Jan Novack, servant events to Haiti, Emily Bartelheimer, Haiti ministry; Rev. Daniel Paul; Rev. Matthew Both; Aletha Voges; MaryLynn Huntwork.

Evergreen Echoes
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The signs are bursting forth all around us. Of course, you've noticed. Jesus says when the trees sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. Summer means vacations. Students anticipate the last day of class. There are graduations, weddings, family trips, long, planned-for vacations. Ah, vacation! – Described by Webster as “a period of time for pleasure, rest, or relaxation, a holiday.”

Where do God and the continuing study of His Word fit into our vacation plans? Are we taking a summer vacation from attending worship service, also—to be nourished only by new places and special events? Will we take a holiday from the Holy Spirit's feeding of our hearts and souls? If you are away from your home church sometime this summer, I suggest finding a local church to visit. Experience and share the fellowship of other believers wherever you are.

Find pleasure in the Lord – Find rest in the Lord.

“I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go,” Genesis 28:15a NIV

“The LORD replied, “My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.” Exodus 33:14 NIV

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.” Matthew 11:28 NIV

God rested on the seventh day of creation, but we have His promise, “And surely **I am with you always**, to the very end of the age.” Matthew 28:20b NIV

I hope to see you the district convention in Olympia. Surely, Our Triune God will be with us.

Wishing all of you a blessed summer.

—Marilee Ryan, VP Christian Life