



Evergreen Echoes

LWML Washington-Alaska District

Spring, 2012

DISTRICT PRESIDENT MARYLYNN HUNTWORK

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EVERGREEN ECHOES SUMMER DEADLINE: APR. 30, 2012



LWML WA-AK District

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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 my desk in George, WA! Not that you can see my desk, but I know it is there. I trust that the legs will hold up the many piles of paperwork that need attention. Just as I trust in God's Word on leadership, that He'll give the words needed the day they are needed and the people to help. I trust that I am in the place God wants me to be and with His guidance will not be afraid to use the God given talents to go into battle for Christ. When God wins our battles for us, the plunder is immeasurable. *2 Chronicles* 20:1-26



Recently, the LWML held the spring Board of Directors meeting in St. Louis, that by itself is not spectacular but the abundant information received is spectacular. We heard from Donna Pyle, author of our new LWML Bible Study, "Your Strong Suit" that we are to stand firm, look back, look forward, and put on the Armor of God. Keep our eyes focused on God, stand and watch God work. Eph. 6:10-13

We found out there is more than one way to raise mites. Pastor Kris Whitby LWML Senior Counselor offered to shave his mustache and beard for mites. The fun began as our own Marie Chow, VP Servant Resources, eagerly began the bidding to be the one to shave Pastor Kris! Now an important part of this event is that Gretchen Jamison shared with us previously how beneficial Social Media is to LWML in raising mites. This shaving for mites posted on Facebook inspired others to be a part of the event. Over \$3,000 was raised that night! Are you on God's Facebook? Did you know that our Pastors are our text support?

LWML Leadership training "Inspiration 2012" is coming this fall. We will be searching for two women interested in this workshop. LWML Archivist Historian training is planned for October. More information will come this summer.

LWML Washington-Alaska Convention 2012 is almost upon us. I pray that you are all willing and able to attend this 28th Biennial Convention. I trust you received information about our guest speakers, ingathering (Gifts of the Heart), TEEN, Young Women and servant events (Love in Action). More information will come; check the website, Evergreen Echoes and bulk mailings for updates. Ask your zone president and society president. I would like to thank all who are putting in valuable time to make it happen. You're prepared, you're well equipped with *trust* as you serve the Lord with gladness. In addition to your pledged willingness to serve, you've consecrated your hands to His work, your feet to run His errands, your voice to sing His praises, your lips to proclaim His redeeming love along with your will to do His will. Relax and *trust* in Him.

Serving Him together, MaryLynn Huntwork

Follow Jesus...Walk The Path! 2010-2012 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...Heb. 12:1b-2a

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

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. Convention Banner:** A 3 feet x 5 feet convention banner that exactly reflects the approved convention logo is also needed.
- **3. 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 <u>loriron425@msn.com</u> if you have questions that are not answered on the sheet included in the bulk mailing.

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! The Secret's out. Speakers and Bible Study Leader announced!

Phyllis Wallace interest session-There's a Broadcaster in All of Us.

Phyllis Wallace Keynote address- WATT's UP!

Lynn Cooper interest session- Faith Talk...Faith Walk

Nancy Cross Bible Study I-The Race of a Lifetime

II-Pathways of the Bible

Lutheran Women's Missionary League Washington-Alaska District Convention June 22 – 24, 2012 Hotel Reservation Information Red Lion Hotel 2300 Evergreen Park Drive SW Olympia, WA 98502

To ensure availability and the convention rate, you must make your hotel reservation by telephone by *Monday, May 21, 2012*. After that date, prevailing rates and availability will apply. Make your reservation early! Telephone number for reservations: **1-800-733-5466**

When calling for reservations to get the convention rate, please refer to:

Lutheran Women's Missionary League at Red Lion Hotel Olympia

All hotel reservations must be guaranteed with a credit card.

All rooms are \$119.00 per night (rate does NOT include taxes).

Be sure to confirm the room rate when you make your reservation.

Room Preference:

King Two Queen(s)

If applicable, inform Hotel Reservations that you need a handicapped accessible room or any specific needs.

All rooms are non-smoking. Check in time: 3 p.m. **Check out** time: 12 noon If you wish to have the room bill split between roommates, please ask to do so when you check in.

Note: If your room will have roommates, determine which person with a credit card will call Red Lion to make the hotel reservations to ensure that you will not be billed for more than one room.



LWML Washington-Alaska District Convention June 22-24, 2012 Red Lion Hotel Olympia, WA

REGISTRATION FORM

Submit ONE form PER registrant

Badge Name		Check appropriate category (only one):
Address		General Registration
City Stat	re Zip	Voting Delegate*
Phone# Cell#		Delegate Alternate
Email		Voting Board Member*
Zone		Past District President*
F. 1. 15		Young Woman Representative
Fees due May 15 to avoid late fee): Registration (waived for clergy)	\$52.00	Teen
Meals Saturday Lunch & Banquet	\$50.00	Heart to Heart Sister
Saturday Lunch Only	\$25.00	District Committee Member
Saturday Banquet Only	\$35.00	Pastor
Mission Walk (Saturday 6 a.m.)	\$10.00	Exhibitor *Voting Member
Late Fee (postmarked after May 15)	\$ 5.00	Is this your first district convention? Yes No
Total Remittance	\$	Would you like to sing in the choir? Yes No
		Do you want to bring your own tote bag? Yes No
		Airport and will need a ride to the Red Lion Hotel in and departure date/time) is written on the
Special Physical or Dietary Needs:		
(CONT. on the next page)		

Registration Form cont. from previous page.

Make a copy of this form for your records. Please make your check payable to LWML WA-AK District Convention Fund.

Mail this form and your check to: Aletha Voges, 22317 126th Pl SE, Kent, WA 98031-9696

If you would like to receive your confirmation and other convention information by mail, enclose a self-addressed STAMPED size 10 (4-1/8" x 9-1/2") envelope with your check and this form. Otherwise, you will receive the information by email. If no e-mail is provided and no self-addressed stamped envelope is provided, then you will not receive any confirmation that your form and check has been received.

REGISTRATION FEE IS NON-REFUNDABLE AND MUST BE PAID IN FULL. NO REFUNDS ON MEALS AFTER MAY 15. PLEASE REGISTER EARLY!

Questions: Registrar: Aletha Voges 253-639-3719 or alethan@aol.com

Registrar Committee Member: Marie Chow 206-722-3737 or marcho@digitaltofu.com

Please make your own hotel reservations using the Housing Form or by phoning 1-800-REDLION.

Please refer to Lutheran Women's Missionary League at Red Lion Hotel Olympia.

Urgent! Need your help

Time is running out and the Nominating Committee still needs more ladies to run for WA-AK District offices at our June 2012 Convention. You will find the nominating form in the bulk mail package. <u>Please</u> consider running for one of the offices or nominating someone who would make a good officer for the open positions. The nominating committee will contact the names submitted to get their approval to run.

Gracious Lord, we pray that you will stir the hearts of those you have chosen to run for these offices. Amen

Walk for Missions

The Mission Grants Committee will be leading our Mission Walk on Saturday morning of this convention at 6:00 AM. Join us as we enjoy God's amazing creation. Of course, the goal of this walk is not only to have fun but also to raise money for our mite goal. Be sure to ask your friends and fellow church members to help out by pledging to your walk. Won't they be amazed when you tell them you will get up early, get dressed, and be out walking at 6 AM? Register for the walk on the Convention Registration form.

LeeAnn Tibbals, Chairman, Mission Grants Committee



Gospel Outreach LeeAnn Tibbals



Our district's biennium officially ends on March 31. By then we should have ALL of our Grants for the 2010-2012 paid in full. So far, all are paid except the final payments to our Seminary students which will be sent soon!

We have really concentrated on sending our funds to these wonderful projects that bring faith, hope, food, shelter, and so many things to peoples near and far. Keep sending in those Mites, they are so important to the Lord's work through our District!

Another part of our mission is our Inreach. This part of our budget is how we run this district: training, projects, travel, food and lodging for officers.

Also, 25% of all of our Mites go to the national LWML to help pay those Grant Projects. Their biennium is opposite of ours so they are now half way through the 2011-2013 biennium. Keep an eye on their website to see how those grant payments are progressing.

Our next board meeting is coming up on March 16-17. Right now the Gospel Outreach committee is reviewing the Mission Grant proposals that have been received for the 2012-2014 biennium. This is a big task and we ask your prayers as we do this work. We have received 21 proposals. The board will also be looking at those in March and your delegates will be voting at the Convention in June to determine which ones we will fund. Keep praying that decisions made are in the Lord's will as we move forward in our Mission!

Are you a Purple People Pleaser?

October 1, 1967 was the first LWML Sunday!

Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. In all circumstance take up the shield of faith...Ephesians 6:14-16

Convention Bible Study Preview:

Follow Jesus—Walk the Path
The Race of our Lifetime
Let us Run with Perseverance
Fix our Eyes on Jesus

Pathways of the Bible

God's Word Provides for us a reason of being God's Word Gives us all we need to walk the path God's Word Sustains us

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





Human Care

A glorious and blessed hello to all. I trust you had a wonderful Advent/Christmas season. I have received many prayer requests these past few months. The Human Care committee has been busy preparing for the LWML WA-AK District Convention on June 22-24, 2012. There



will be 3 or 4 Servant Events for you to participate in during the day on Friday. I hope everyone has her pillowcases almost full for the 52 Weeks of Giving Thanks - Gifts of the Heart Ingathering! Please bring them with you and drop them at the Gifts of the Heart table when you register.

Oh, and one more thing, all of those attending the March Board of Directors meeting, please come with a creative mind. The Human Care Committee has a special servant event planned. See you there!

Blessings from your sister in Christ, Sandi Hall, VP Human Care

Friends Into Serving Him®

Spring is here and that means the district convention is right around the corner. At the 2012 convention, teens are in for service projects, a special



teen Bible study, some fellowship and fun! Now is the time to start talking to your teens and getting them excited for convention and identifying an adult leader for your teen girls.

Here are five reasons to bring your teens to the district convention:

- 1. To help your Teens see the bigger picture of LWML.
- 2. To understand how their box of pennies can affect the lives of people far away and close to home.
- 3. To build relationships with the ladies in your society.
- 4. To teach them that service and missions can take on many forms.
- 5. To get them excited about being the future of LWML.
- 6. See you in Olympia!

Julie Funfar,

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



Short Term Mission Opportunities

The Short Term Mission Committee is part of the Human Care Department of the LWML WA-AK District. Consider an experience in Missions—*close to home*...that will help you reach out in service and evangelism. You are invited to: (1) PRAY AND THEN Listen to your Heart; (2) Have family time and fun; (3) Fill others with Joy; (4) Share your love for Jesus.

Explore parts of Eastern Washington you have never seen! All this and much more while traveling with the VBS Truck. When: The summer of 2012. Contact Pastor Bruce Meier 541-998-6669 for information. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet many new faces in the LCMS and bring Jesus to children and families.

OF

If you would rather stay in one place try your hand at helping do a variety of things at Camp Ortoha near beautiful Lost Lake near Bonaparte, in north central Okanogan Country, Washington. This is an LCMS Camp sponsored by local LCMS congregations in this area.

ΩR

Help with a two-day VBS in Grand Forks, B. C. July 16-17. Passports are required, but additional information is needed if you are taking teens across the border. Contact Sandi Schauer 1-509-775-0657.

OR

Bring a servant team to Oliver, BC, and conduct a VBS for St. Paul Lutheran Church. To take a team to Oliver, contact Pastor Darren Siegle, 1-250-495-2727. Passports are required, but additional information is needed if you are taking teens across the border. (See Grand Forks, BC.)

For dates and details on these Short Term Missions or questions about how it works, contact Heidi Penkert-208-746-4681, Betty Alm 208-983-0313 or Sandi Hall 509-775-2147 all on the Short Term Mission Committee.

Betty Alm, Short Term Missions Committee
Chairman (part of the Human Care Committee)

What Are Standing Rules and How Do We Use Them?

Standing rules are <u>any adopted motion of an indefinitely continuing nature</u>, other than bylaws or rules of order. Sometimes they are known as *policies, procedures* or another similar term.

Examples: Two signatures are required on any check over \$10. No one may wear a hat to meetings.

A motion to adopt a budget for the year is *not* a standing motion because it is not indefinite in duration. A standing rule is adopted in the same way other motions are adopted: motion, second, discussion, vote. The standing rules should be kept in a convenient place, such as the minutes book, so they can be easily accessed during discussions.

We hope this information is helpful to you. Please do not hesitate to contact the Structure Committee Chairman (contact information in the "Roster" section) if you have any questions.

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

Young Women Wanted!

Our district convention is coming up in June! We have a special set of convention activities set up for Young Women Representatives from your society! Look around. Find a woman who is 18-35 who is interested in coming to the convention. Talk with your society about sponsoring her. Introduce her to a wonderful look at the Lutheran Women in Mission of the Washington-Alaska District. There will be an opportunity to meet with an LWML representative from the national level. There will be time for devotions with other women of a similar age, a full look at the prayerful decision-making process that we use to select our missions with our mites every biennium, and great entertainment! Register today for the 2012 Convention in Olympia! Get prepared to "Follow Jesus, Walk the Path!"

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

Scholarships:

With the convention coming up in June we are seeking any last applicants for LWML WA-AK District scholarships. These are for any men or women who are Concordia University or Seminary students for this next coming school year. 2012-2013. They should be enrolled or planning to enroll in the courses that will lead to full-time church work. The deadline is March 15, 2012. 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



Recycling news for Evergreen Echoes

\$1,358.80 - That is the total earned during 2011. These funds will be used for the LWML WA-AK District Convention in 2012. Thank you to everyone who contributes.

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. There are no minimum numbers to send. Funding Factory simply would like each box to be at least 20lbs. It is recommended to be careful of ink cartridges leaking on other items. Wrap each one in newspaper.

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 can be recycled. 6. Funding Factory 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. No accessories.



"The earth is the LORD'S, and everything in it," Psalm 24:1a

Judy Peraino, Recycling Coordinator

Promoting Your LWML Society

Our local LWML groups have so many great programs and activities going on! From missionary speakers to marking Bibles for prison ministry, to quilting and card making, we offer many avenues for the ladies in our congregations to grow in Christ and be of service.

How can we encourage even more ladies to participate in LWML? According to those societies that responded to the Leader Development Committee survey for the WA-AK district, the following are some of the most effective tools to maintain and increase interest in LWML:

Provide rides to the LWML meetings

Put meeting/event notices in bulletins and newsletters

Send e-mail/snail mail invitations to all ladies

Maintain an LWML "photo gallery" in fellowship areas

Invite ladies who are new members in your congregation to LWML functions

Send thank-you cards to program leaders and participants

May the Lord bless our efforts to gather our ladies together to serve Him with gladness!

Your Leader Development Committee,

Lynn Cooper

Marilyn Schaefer, Chairman

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.

Christian Life

As we begin a new year, is it "out with the old and in with the new"? The Christmas decorations are put away, and now I think of the organizing I would like to do—mostly LWML totes and boxes, but also a few closets and cupboards.



You've probably heard of the three piles to make when cleaning and organizing—things to keep, give away and toss. But these are the "old" things in our life.

What about the new things in this new year and in our life? No, I'm not talking about shopping to replace the old stuff.

Each of us can take a look at how we can grow as Christians and become new in Christ. Staying in the Word, having daily devotions, quiet times of thankfulness. How's that Bible study going? Is it hit and miss or do you attend regularly? Do you invite new people to join? Staying in fellowship and sharing with other Christians keeps us "new" in Christ. Attending LWML activities in society, zone and district are uplifting and inspirational, and the women of LWML are dedicated, supportive and good friends.

Spread your wings, embrace and enjoy the journey as you Follow Jesus... Walk the Path. Come to think of it... this isn't new at all, but a constant renewal of our spiritual growth in Christ.

Keep the Faith. Give away - share - the Good News and the Love of Christ. Toss your doubts and fears, and I'll see you at Convention!

Blessings in 2012, Marilee Ryan, VP Christian Life

LWML WA-AK District Counselor West

I recently have been seeing a great deal of television advertisement from the Church of Latter Day Saints (Mormons) – most of them are the same, an everyday person, speaking about his or her life, contributions to society, family life, and simply saying at the end . . . "and I am a Mormon." They don't focus much on their teachings or belief, just increasing their social character.

This started me thinking, what would we say about our beloved Lutheran Church? What would be our message? Would it be a simple statement that makes Lutherans seem more marketable or would it be a statement of faith? I would favor the latter – I am a sinner, who sins daily, and who needs forgiveness. I have been redeemed by the blood of Jesus; by His death and resurrection, I have forgiveness, life, and salvation, and I am a Lutheran.

It is not about our station in life. It is not about our worth or value. It is not about what we have done or can do. It is about Jesus!

As Lutheran Women in Mission, it is the joy of sharing Jesus in a variety of ways, but it always starts with people needing Jesus. People needing to hear about the Love of God that comes through the Cross and Empty Tomb. Do you know the common denominator? We are all sinners in need of the forgiveness that flows from above – this is the Work of our God, who loves us and sends us His Son to redeem and save.

Let us be proud to be Lutheran, to know the Lord and Savior Jesus, our Messiah and Redeemer – to know and have the assurance and the confidence that comes with having a God who redeems the lost

and takes us out of darkness and places us in His marvelous Light, the Light of the World, Jesus.

Pastor Mario Ancira





Mary Lynn Huntwork and -Lois Anderson LWML Treasurer Utah Idaho District



Washington-Alaska Zone and Society Corner

Joyshops

Alaska

March 24, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Beautiful Savior Lutheran, Anchorage, AK

Blue Mountain

April 21

Redeemer Lutheran. Richland, WA

Bible Study—Tour the Historical B reactor

East Inland Empire

April 21

Concordia Lutheran, Pullman, WA

Theme—Joy with Jesus

Hood Canal

April 14

Peace Lutheran, Bremerton, WA

Inter-Valley

April 28, 9:00 a.m.

Calvary Lutheran, Sunnyside, WA

Speaker—Becca Klimper, Fountain of

Hope School, Uganda

Lake Washington

April 28, 8:30 a.m.

Atonement Lutheran, Seattle, Burien, WA

Speaker-Rev. Paul, Haiti

Mount Baker

April 21, 9:30 am-3 pm

Grace Lutheran, Everett, WA

Theme—Jov

North Columbia

April 14, 9:30 a.m.

Immanuel Lutheran, Havillah, WA

Olympic

April 21, 9:30 am

St. Timothy Lutheran, Edmonds, WA

DSHS Health Kits; Indescribable Video

Rainier

April 21, 9:00 am

Prince of Peace, Lakewood, WA

Theme—Mirroring Christ; James 1:22-25

South Columbia

April 21, 9:00 am

St. Paul's Lutheran, Wenatchee, WA

Blooming in God's Garden

District Presidents: Betty Reiman Utah-Idaho, Carrie Brumbaugh, Wy, MaryLynn Huntwork, WA-AK

Mt. Baker Zone

The Mt. Baker Zone was pleased to help with a special project for Zion Lutheran School in Lake Stevens, WA. Several societies in the zone contributed money to help buy some books for the school's library. We collected \$194.00 and were able to purchase many books. We also had a few individuals donate books of their own. We concentrated on books for the religion section of the library. We were able to donate 6 ESV Bibles, a Concordia Self-Study Commentary, Concordia (the Lutheran Confessions), a Lutheran Service Book, Luther's Small Catechism, Lutheranism 101, Echoes of the Hammer (graphic novel about Luther), teenage question/answer books, a fun Bible story poem book, and some Christian fiction series books for young readers. We are thankful to be able to assist in the spiritual education of the students at Zion Lutheran School!

Julie Onken Mt. Baker Zone President LWML WA-AK Webmaster

Carrie Brumbaugh Wyoming District President, and WA-AK District President, MaryLynn Huntwork





2010-2012 LWML Washington-Alaska District Roster

Quarterly Manager **President** MaryLynn Huntwork Sonja Frazier

Vice President of Servant

Resources **Recycling Coordinator** Marie Chow Judy Peraino

Vice President of Christian Life Webmaster Marilee Ryan Julie Onken

Vice President of Human Care

Sandi Hall 2012 District Convention Co-

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LeeAnn Tibbals

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Sharon Westman (Rainier Zone)

Financial Secretary

Meeting Manager Pam Rafferty Deb Jones

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Counselor - West **Heart to Heart Committee Chair-**Rev. Mario Ancira man

Massie Hicks Counselor - East

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mittee Chairman Linda B. Miller Carol Drager

Circulation Manager Denise Crawford

Scholarship Committee Chairman

Sarah Edwards **District Editor**

Sandi Schauer

Short-Term Missions Co-Chairmen MMV Consultant

Heidi Penkert Edie Norris **Betty Alm**

Parliamentarian

Carol Coerber

Young Women Committee dc.coerber6@comcast.net

Chairman Elizabeth Cook

Planner Open

Public Relations Chairman

Gigi Lutz



District website:

www.wa-aklwml.org

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Evergreen Echoes

Lutheran Women's Missionary League Washington-Alaska District PO Box 615 Republic, WA 99166

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Follow Jesus—Walk the Path

Your Word, O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. Ps. 119:89

"Do I actually have to READ the Bible?" "I read the Bible once so I know it." "My Bible has old fashioned words in it and I don't understand them." "I'm not a good reader." "I don't have time to read the Bible....:

God wants us to READ the Bible so we can learn of His grace. Reading it just once is not enough. Contemporary English versions, Bible tapes, CDs, or DVDs make reading easier. Is time the issue? Ask God to slow you down so that you make time for Him in your busy schedule. Time with God may just become the best part of your day! (Mustard Seed Devotion—Enjoy daily.)

