



Volume 69: Number 1—Part 1

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE  
www.kansaslwml.org

WINTER 2012



Serve the Lord with Gladness...Psalm 100:2

# Lutheran Women in Mission

### Inside this issue:

- Page 1**  
Official call to convention  
Editor's note  
Website addresses
- Page 2**  
President's message  
Thank you note
- Page 3**  
Counselor's Corner  
MD news  
Sonshine Snippet
- Page 4**  
Mites  
Financial report
- Page 5**  
Day of Prayer info  
E-news message  
Mission Outreach  
Notice
- Page 6**  
Ballot for Officers  
Wichita Retreat  
Financial Aid news
- Page 7**  
LWR report  
Distribution Manager update
- Page 8**  
Convention date  
Editor's notes

## President's Official Call to Convention



*"Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls..."*

Jeremiah 6:16

The 34th Biennial Convention of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League Kansas District will be held at the Holiday Inn Convention Center, Lawrence, Kansas, on April 20-22, 2012.

The voting body of the convention will be selecting Mission Grants for the 2012-2014 biennium; approving Bylaws changes; electing new officers for President, two Vice Presidents, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary and Pastoral Counselor.



**Editor's Note:** This Winter 2012 issue of The Kansas Sonshine has been created in three sections: Part 1 is the January issue of the Sonshine; Part 2 is the convention information - speakers, nominees, registration, hotel information, etc.; and Part 3 are the bylaws changes to be presented for vote at the convention.



# HAPPY NEW YEAR

**PRESIDENT'S  
MESSAGE**



*Rejoice in the  
Lord  
ALWAYS!  
Phil 4:4*

**Kansas District  
LWML Mission  
Statement:  
*Empowered by  
the Holy Spirit,  
the Kansas  
District LWML  
will nurture,  
motivate, and  
prepare LCMS  
women to serve  
the Lord with  
gladness.***



Greetings in this new year! The new year is often a time for new beginnings - often in the form of resolutions. How often have you made New Year's Resolutions only to find that you have not been able to keep them? Have you promised yourself that you will find more time for being in God's Holy Word? What a wonderful way to start a new year! But even if you find that you have slipped from this resolve in a few weeks or months, you can always resolve to try again.

Perhaps many of you also love the words of Psalm 51 especially verses 10 through 12 as we sing them: *"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me..."* God loves to give us new beginnings. He is the God of the Beginning - Genesis 1:1 "In the beginning, God created..." As His children rebelled against Him throughout the Old Testament, He always sent His prophets to tell them to repent and turn back to the God of their fathers. God always desires His children to turn away from sinning and begin over. His forgiveness covers our sins and makes us righteous in His sight. As we sing in *"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"...."morning by morning new mercies I see"* which comes in part from Lamentations 3:22-24. Every morning we can start new - not just every new year.

I've been wondering how many of you have discussed doing something new [also called **change**] in your societies as you plan this new year. I'm not advocating starting completely over, but maybe a discussion of one change might help your society grow. I recently read these words of Pauline R. Kezer *"Continuity gives us roots; change gives us branches, letting us stretch and grow and reach new heights."* Without change how can we see growth?

Those of you attending our convention in April will note some changes that we have made in scheduling - hoping that we can meet the needs of more of you. We also need to make changes to our structure so you will note that one section of this newsletter deals with by-laws changes that will be voted on at our convention. Some of these changes involve changing the names of committees and departments. Although the title may change, the mission does not.

As you begin this new year and consider changes you want to make in your life, remember the words of Malachi 3:6 *"For I the Lord do not change."* He is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow and His love endures forever!

*Betty*

Betty Kruse, President  
LWML Kansas District

"Interested in more LWML opportunities?? Complete a Personnel Resource Form so the next Kansas District President and her Executive Board know of your willingness to serve. Available on our website: [www.kansaslwml.org](http://www.kansaslwml.org)."



**THANK YOU ...**

"Thank you to all of you - individuals as well as societies and even zones in meeting - who remembered me and our family in your prayers and with your words as we mourned and yet rejoiced that Mom's days on this earth ended."

Betty and the family of Loretta Sprehe

# COUNSELOR'S CORNER

by Pastor Gaylen Burow



## “It Was Revealed to Him”

“And when the time came for the purification according to the law of Moses they brought him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.... Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel... And it was revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ.” Luke 2: 22.

Gay and Judy Balfour trusted that God would provide a way for them to expand their business. Gay was a welder by trade. Since there was a reservoir nearby the local fisherman were always bringing their needed repairs to his machine shop. It seemed only natural for them to proceed with their dream of building a marina. Years after they were up and running, the Forest Service challenged the way the floats were put together. After considerable expense in defending themselves, they sought in prayer a new direction.

“You’re not going to believe this,” I could hear the passion in Judy’s voice, “Gay told me he dreamed about a big yellow truck with a green pipe attached to it.” Then our son-in-law found a job for him near Towaoc, welding center pivots. Gay asked about all the prairie dogs on the property. They had tried shooting them, poisoning them, gassing them, but nothing seemed to work. “If you can think of a way to get rid of them, the job is yours.” On the way back to town he drove by the city sewage treatment plant. There it was “for sale”, the yellow truck he had seen in his dreams. He proceeded to Conco Supply and in the back room was the green plastic hose! Gay was able to borrow the truck and returned the next morning. Twenty five dogs and 40 minutes later Gay was headed back home to Cortez. With the help of three friends and their bank they were in business.

Simeon recalled the comfort that God foretold through His prophet Isaiah and aged Simeon was watchful for the coming Savior. The Belfour’s have now reached their 70’s and are ready to sell the “Dog Be Gone” business. And with God’s presence in the lives of His people there is always more to the story. That was certainly the case for Simeon and in faith it is always the case for us.

“Our Father in heaven, through Word and Spirit keep our eyes open in joyful anticipation of what You have planned next for us to do. In Jesus name we pray.”

Happy New Year!

### Thoughts from the Member Development Committee

The Kansas District Convention is coming up soon! We are looking forward to meeting all of the YWRs (Young Woman Representatives) chosen for each zone. We are so thankful for your efforts in helping these young women have such a wonderful opportunity! We are also looking forward to meeting many first timers. Please get the word out and personally ask so they can experience the joy of the Kansas District Convention, too! We had a few teens attend the Christian Life Retreat in Wichita and would love to increase that number at the convention.

The convention shirt order form can be found in the Convention Information part of the Winter Sonshine. Please order a shirt to show your LWML spirit and help support the YWR and the teen programs at convention. Can’t wait to see you in Lawrence!

Submitted by Shawna Spiehs, MD Committee Member



Are you saving stamps? Be sure to trim them correctly and bring them to any Kansas District LWML event. The stamps collected are sent to the Texas District and the proceeds from the stamp sales are used for Lutheran World Relief shipping costs. Information received from the Texas “stamp lady” reports that in the 6 years of collecting stamps, they have made \$13,000.00 for shipping costs, which certainly helps to ship many things. Reported by Jean Wellner, VP of Caring Service

# HOW ARE YOUR MITES WORKING?

As the fall semester closes, we give God thanks and praise that the Spring Semester Financial Aid to the Concordia Universities and Seminaries that our Kansas church work students attend have been **PAID**. Please keep them all in your prayers as they may travel over the holidays, and that they will return to their studies healthy and refreshed. In case you don't remember the amount, \$10,000+ is paid out in Financial Aid per semester. Another great example of our Kansas Mites at work.

Projects 6, 7 & 8 are **PAID**. Now it is time to focus on Project 9: the University Lutheran Center, Wichita, KS, for \$5,000; and also Project 10: the Lutheran Bible Translators, Aurora, IL, in the amount of \$2,000. Project posters are available on the Kansas District web site. Please print these posters and keep those mites coming. The goal is to have these last two projects paid as early in 2012 as possible.



## FINANCIAL NEWS from Kim Burdett

Thanks to all of you for being such faithful givers. According to the chart, as of Nov 30, 2011, our giving has exceeded our goal! Praise be to God!! Keep up the good work; we have many more mission projects to pay! Here are a few reminders about what's coming up...



### DID YOU KNOW? ...

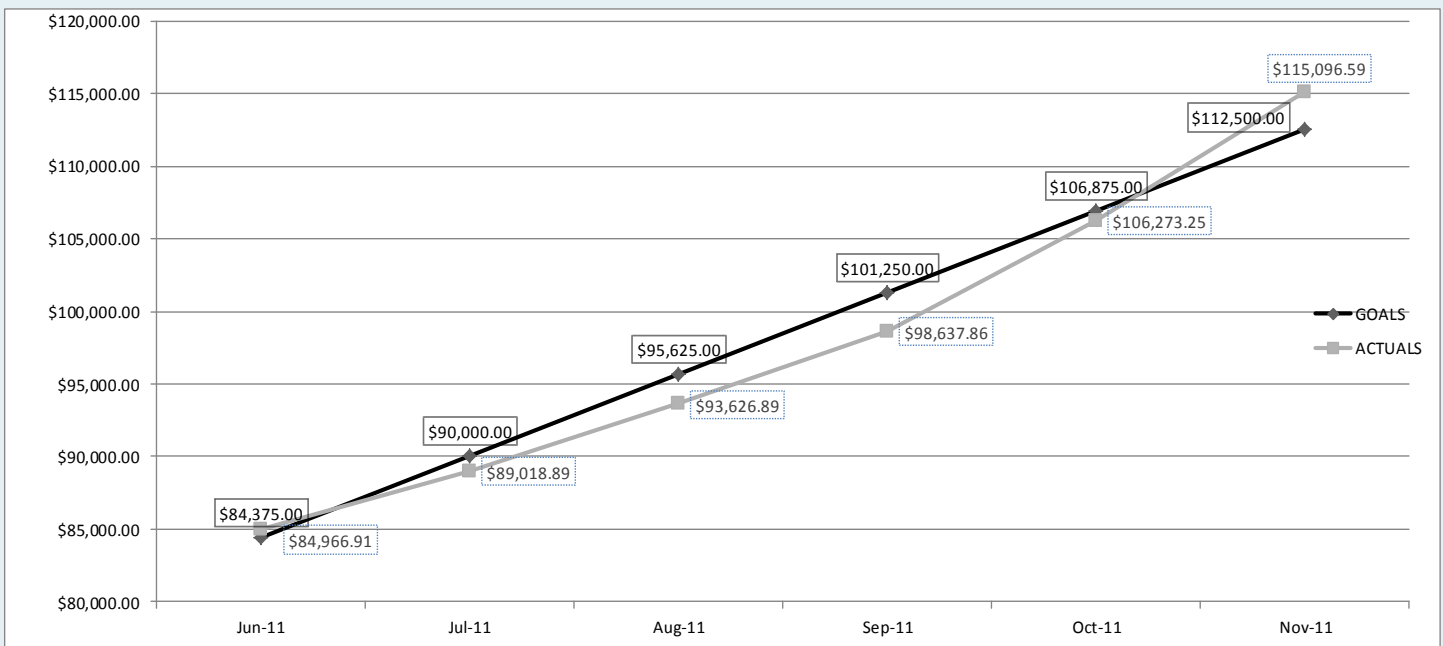
- \* our books for this biennium close on March 31, 2012. Be prepared to send your mites so they may be received by **March 25**. Mark that date in your calendars!!
- \* we will elect a new financial secretary at the April convention so be on the lookout for a new name and address to send your mites to.
- \* my PO Box rental will expire March 1<sup>st</sup>. Please start using my street address after that date. For security purposes, my personal mailing address won't be posted on the website, but can be found on other information handouts. Or email me and I'll email the address to you.
- \* we'd like to set up a data base of the society and zone treasurers. If you are a treasurer and have an email address, please send me a short note from that address so I can add you to the list.
- \* my email address is: [financialsecretary@kansaslwml.org](mailto:financialsecretary@kansaslwml.org)

*This graph reflects the current mite giving for this biennium. The top line (line with diamonds) is the monthly goal to reach our biennium goal. The bottom line (line with squares) shows our actual donations to Mites.*



**Please send your mite offerings to:**

Kim Burdett  
KS District LWML  
Financial Secretary  
P.O. Box 3764  
Olathe, KS 66063



## Day of Prayer 2012

The Kansas District Disaster Fund was begun to help our sister churches in the south following Hurricane Katrina. It became a general disaster fund following the Greensburg tornado; all 105 counties in Kansas had some kind of declared disaster in 2007. Funds contributed help maintain vital connections with other volunteer organizations and establish necessary resources so that a quick response is possible when the next disaster occurs. Recently funds help support volunteers working in the Missouri River flooding area and help send relief to Immanuel Lutheran Church in Joplin, Missouri to help with tornado recovery. The 2012 Day of Prayer service can be found on the LWML website, [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org), and look under the Resources and Downloads tabs.

Submitted by Elaine Engelman, Mission Projects Committee Chairman

### E-NEWS: THE CONGREGATION CONNECTION

To keep LWML members and supporters informed around the United States, the Lutheran Women's Missionary League sends out LWML e-News — an electronic newsletter e-mailed to subscribers approximately once a month. News of LWML mission grants, activities and a monthly prayer are featured, as well as other news and links to LWML resources. To subscribe and keep up to date with the latest LWML happenings, go to [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org) and click on the News tab at the top of the page, then click on the e-News link. A paragraph about e-news comes up, click on the link provided in the text. This will give you a simple form to fill in your email address. You may also click on the links provided to read past issues of LWML e-News.



### “MITE-Y RAINDROPS”

*It seems that most of Kansas has been concerned about rain these past months and LWML was no exception. LWML leaders asked members to collect “mite-y” raindrops and to respond to God’s blessings with an outpouring of gifts. **There was a “drenching” response!** We funded mission project #6--\$1,500 to the scholarship fund for Linn Lutheran school/preschool in Linn, Kansas; mission project #7—\$1,000 to the community outreach program at Peace Lutheran Church, Greensburg, Kansas; mission project #8--\$3,000 to purchase Bibles, catechisms, hymnals, and classroom/teacher materials for Holy Trinity Institute in Moreira, Rio Grande de Sol, Brazil; and \$10,235.00 in financial aid for the spring semester, 2012. Praise God that we can trust in His unfailing promises and serve Him with gladness in the giving of mite offerings.*

*As we begin a new year, please lift up our last two mission projects in prayer. Mission project #9 is the University Lutheran Center in Wichita, Kansas--\$5,000 and mission project #10 is Kory and Cara Fay working with Lutheran Bible Translators--\$2,000. Keep those mites coming! Remember, the deadline for mite contributions for the current biennium is March, 2012.*

*Submitted by Eden Keefe, VP of Mission Outreach*



### Important Notice from the Distribution Manager

I apologize for the "plea for money" e-mail you may have received from me. My e-mail account was hacked, and I was never in Spain. Please accept my deepest apologies for this inconvenience. Because of this, I have changed my e-mail address. You may reach me at my LWML address:

[quarterly@kansaslwml.org](mailto:quarterly@kansaslwml.org)

Thank you very much for your understanding.

Cathi Clark, Distribution Manager"



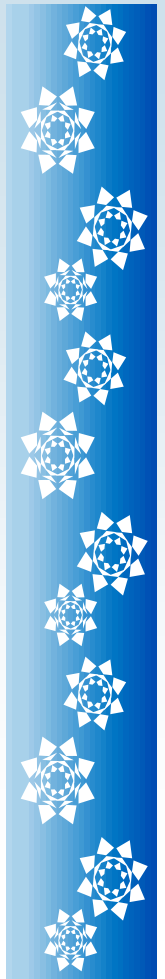
**REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE  
OFFICER'S BALLOT TO BE PRESENTED AT LAWRENCE**

By God's grace the following people have consented to have their names placed in nomination for election to the LWML Executive Committee for 2012 – 2016.

President:		
Karen Morrison	Wichita	Wichita Zone
Vice President of Caring Service:		
Gloria Raab	Wichita	Wichita Zone
Vice President of Communication:		
Carol Lovell	Denison	Northeast Zone
Brenda Piester	Coats	Great Bend Zone
Financial Secretary:		
Kerri Lynne Brown	Aliceville	Topeka Zone
Laura Hunter	Overland Park	KC CrossRoads Zone
Recording Secretary:		
Marilyn Riemer	Hillsboro	Herington Zone
LaJean Rinker	Topeka	Topeka Zone

The Nominating Committee would like to thank all of those willing to serve as officers if elected. We would also like to thank everyone who participated in the search for qualified nominees.

Carole Feek, Northeast Zone, Chairman  
 Ella Westendorf, Herington Zone  
 Becky Modellmog, Hutchinson Zone  
 Beverly Wiese, Lincoln Zone  
 Lynnette Scheele, Linn Zone



*"Balancing Life - Showing Christ's Beauty", featuring Katie Stam, Miss America 2009*  
 The LWML of Holy Cross, Wichita (600 N. Greenwich) are hosting a one day retreat on Saturday, January 21, 8:30 am - 2:30 pm. Tickets are \$15 (which includes lunch) and may be reserved by calling Pam at Holy Cross, 316.684.5201.

*The reservation deadline is January 10th.*  
 (Editor's note: the deadline above may occur before the Sonshine is published, but may be a reminder to those who have already reserved a ticket.)

**LWML FINANCIAL AID AVAILABLE**

The Kansas District LWML offers financial aid to LCMS Kansas students attending **synodical schools** and preparing for a career or an advanced degree in church work as a **Pastor, Teacher, Deaconess, Parish Nurse, Parish Worker, Parish Assistant, Parish Social Worker, Director of Parish Music, Director of Christian Outreach or Director of Christian Education** (excluding any student serving internship or vicarage).

In order to apply for such assistance contact LWML Mission Projects Committee Member, **Carol Nix, 1441 N. Rock Rd. # 903, Wichita, KS 67206 (316) 634-2914** to request an application. The application is a very basic, one-page form, with a verification form to be completed by the Registrar or Admissions Office of the school you will be attending.

**Most importantly the deadline for BOTH forms IS JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup>!!!**

The application forms and cover letter can also be sent via e-mail as attachments. E-mail Carol at [canshopks@cox.net](mailto:canshopks@cox.net) to request them or download from the LWML website: [www.kansaslwml.org](http://www.kansaslwml.org)

If you qualify for LWML Financial Aid, don't forget to also apply to the Kansas District Scholarship Fund and LLL (Lutheran Layman's League) for grant money!

Submitted by Carol Nix, Mission Projects committee member

## 2011 LWR Pick-Ups

The trucks were rolling over the plains of Kansas in early October, picking up our Lutheran World Relief kits, quilts and soap. The results were as follows with this years and last years amounts in pounds:

Wichita	16,965	Last year:	17,878
Hays	11,783		15,011
Salina	9,030		10,953
Topeka	<u>13,748</u>		<u>13,842</u>
<b>Totals:</b>	51,526		57,684

**We would like to thank Ken and Muriel Greene for their hard work in planning the pick-ups.**

The schedule for next year (2012) is: October 9-Wichita; October 10-Hays; October 11-Salina; October 12-Topeka. Remember that next year **ALL** kits and layettes have to be assembled using the new guidelines. Go to [www.lwr.org](http://www.lwr.org) if you do not already have a copy of the new guidelines.



### QUARTERLY & SONSHINE INFORMATION UPDATE

This year the invoices for the Quarterlies will be sent out in **January**. On that invoice each Society will have the opportunity to order an increase, decrease, or maintain the number of Quarterlies they receive. Please be aware that the "year" for the Quarterly is from July to July, so, even though the **request** for the decrease is in January, the **actual** decrease in number of issues will not take place until the **Summer** Quarterly mailing. For example, if you are now getting 15 issues and on the January invoice you decrease your number of issues to 10, when the Spring issue is mailed you will still get 15 issues. (After all, you have already paid for them.) When the Summer issue is mailed, you will receive 10 issues. The minimum number of issues to order will be stated on the invoice.

**Please be aware that the District has to pay National for the Quarterlies we receive regardless of whether the Society sends in their remittance for the Quarterlies they receive or not. This money spent on the Quarterlies, if not received from the Society, comes out of the Mission Grant money. So, please be sure to send in your remittance for the Quarterlies you order promptly when you receive your invoice.**

At this point in time, each issue costs \$5.00. There are rumors of a price increase from the \$5.00 but that is controlled by National and probably won't be determined til next year some time. There is a \$6.50 charge for an **individual** subscription. For instance your neighbor down the street who doesn't go to your church would like to receive the Quarterly in her home. She can have her own individual subscription for an annual \$6.50 fee.

There is a \$6.00 fee for the Sonshine because of website upkeep and costs. You can download it from the website which is how the District would prefer Societies to receive the Sonshine. However, it can be emailed if there is no way for a Society to get to the Internet. That fee will be on the invoice in January as well. It is one \$6.00 fee no matter how many copies you download from the web.

For those who have no access to the internet or email, a hard copy of the Sonshine can be mailed. **Please keep in mind that the money used to print and mail out hard copies of the Sonshine takes away from the Mission Grant money.** Currently, that is 5 cents a page and at least 44 cents a copy (depending on the weight) to print and mail one hard copy. So, if you know someone who gets a hard copy is it possible that you could download it from the website for them, print it and take that hard copy to them, thus taking them off the mailing list? In that way, the money saved can go towards the Mission Grants. The mailing list has been reduced to 23 names as of the writing of this article.

**If you do download the Sonshine for those who get a hard copy mailed, please be sure to contact Cathi Clark, Distribution Manager, and let her know to take that name off the mailing list.**

*Cathi Clark, Distribution Manager*

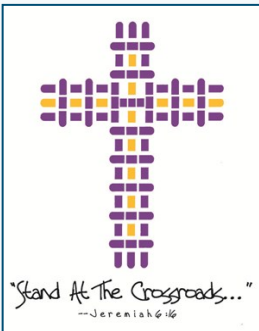
EXTRA  
POSTAGE  
REQUIRED  
HERE

Attention LWML  
Society Presidents:  
Please make copies of  
this newsletter and  
distribute them to the  
interested people in your  
society and congregation.  
Thank You!

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Kansas District LWML  
1315 E. 6th Ave.  
Apt. 209  
Winfield, KS 67156

**"Stand At The Crossroads..."**  
34th Biennial Convention  
of the Kansas District LWML  
**April 20-22, 2012**  
Holiday Inn & Convention Center  
200 McDonald Drive, Lawrence, Kansas  
Hosted by the KC CrossRoads Zone  
**Mark your calendar; save the date; plan to attend!**



Be sure to check out the website calendar sometime in February for the Zone Spring Rally schedule and other important information.

**REMINDER**

Please help the Distribution Manager and Publications Committee to reduce and possibly even eliminate the hard-copy distribution list by locating one person in your society or congregation who has access to the on-line version of the *Kansas Sonshine*, and who would be willing to print off one copy of the *Sonshine* to then make copies to distribute to all society members.

This would lessen the expenses on the district for postage of mailing hard copies to societies, and the money for this expense could be put towards mites instead. You can print the on-line color version in gray-scale using your printer settings, or you can print the black and white version, both available on the website.

We hope that one person in your society could be responsible to see that each LWML member gets a printed copy of the *Sonshine* if they are not able to read it online.

Thanks for your consideration of this request.

Shelly Keller, *Sonshine* Editor

**ATTENTION SOCIETIES & ZONES:**  
Is your LWML group sponsoring special events or doing anything exciting in your church? If you'd like to share some news with other LWML societies about your LWML activities, send an article to the *Sonshine* Editor for publication in a future issue! E-mail your news to:  
[sonshine@kansaslwml.org](mailto:sonshine@kansaslwml.org)