



THE KANSAS SONSHINE

Volume 71: Number 1

WINTER 2014

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE KANSAS DISTRICT



The President's Podium

Karen Morrison

20th LWML Kansas District President

"Serve the LORD with Gladness ..."

*Whatever is true, noble, right, pure, lovely,
admirable - if anything is
excellent or praiseworthy - think about
such things. Phil. 4:8*

I have a coffee mug, a gift from an LWML Young Woman friend, with the words "SERVE THE LORD WITH GLADNESS Psalm 100:2 printed on it. If it was purple it would be perfect :) This morning as I poured my coffee into this mug, I thought "That's it! I'll do my article on Serve the LORD with Gladness." By now you know I love word studies, so I was on my way . . . off to my trusted NIV Concordia Study Bible. But what did I find? Not the word "Serve" but the word "Worship". How odd; I guess I never took the time to look up this particular verse in the LWML context. So I dug deeper, and here is what I found in a couple other translations:

NIV: Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

NKJ: Serve the LORD with gladness; Come before His presence with singing.

ESV: Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into His presence with singing!

The Message (MSG): Bring a gift of laughter, sing yourselves into His presence. (I know this is not a version we reference usually, but sometimes I like to see what it states for comparisons like this.)

Definitions for these different words:

Worship – reverence, honor, dignity; 1)a) reverence or devotion for a deity; religious homage or veneration
b) a church service or other rite showing this 2) extreme devotion or intense love or admiration of any kind.

Serve – to serve; 1) to work for as a servant 2)a) to do services or duties for; give service to; aid; assist; help
b) to give obedience and reverent honor to (God, one's Lord, etc.)

Gift – 1) something given to show friendship, affection, support, etc.; present 2) the act, power, or right of giving

Glad – 1) feeling or characterized by pleasure or joy; happy; pleased 2) causing pleasure or joy; making happy 3) very willing [I'm glad to help] – *glad'ness n.*

(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

Now, I am more perplexed. Have you ever really taken the time to define our LWML focus words for yourself? I had not. As one biennium draws to a close and we prepare to begin a new one at convention, there is no time like the present to do just that. Here's mine:

"With extreme devotion (Worship), I embrace my right to give (Gift) of myself to others (Serve) and to my Lord and Savior (Holy Trinity), with a willing and joyful heart (Gladness), as He has called me to do, not just through LWML, but in every part of my life."

Okay, now it's your turn. Take a couple minutes, review the definitions above, think about what the statement "SERVE THE LORD WITH GLADNESS" means to you personally, and write it down in the space provided below.

Until next time, I am your humble servant—**President Karen**

Editor's Note: The Winter 2014 issue of The Kansas Sunshine has been created in two sections - the regular January issue, and the convention information issue.



The 2014 LWML Prayer Service *"This Is What We Are Baptized For—"*, authored by Rev. Bernhard Seter of North Dakota, is available for download on the national LWML website. This service includes an original hymn written by Rev. Seter which is based on the words of the LWML pledge.

WEBSITES TO VISIT:

www.kansaslwml.org

(Kansas site)

www.lwml.org

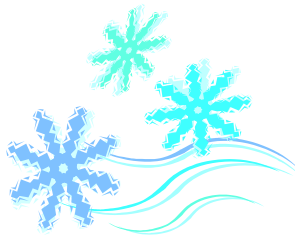
(National site)

www.kslcms.org

(Kansas LCMS site)

www.lcms.org

(Synod site)



Recipe for a Happy Home

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 4 c. love | 1 c. friendship |
| 2 c. loyalty | 5 heaping T. hope |
| 3 c. forgiveness | 4 qt. faith |
| 3 spoonfuls tenderness | 1 barrel of laughter |

Take the love and loyalty, and mix it thoroughly with forgiveness, tenderness and friendship. Add the hope and faith. Sprinkle abundantly with laughter. Bake in the sunshine and serve daily with generous helpings.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

BY PASTOR GAYLEN BUROW



Let There Be Light!

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life." John 8: 12

One of the songs we sang in our Christmas Cantata was entitled "*Let There Be Light.*" From the beginning the Father had a magnificent plan, revealed through the Law and the prophets to fulfill the redemption of man. He spoke after centuries of silence in the midst of a still, starry night. And Emmanuel came down among us, and the Father said, "Let there be light!" Let it shine bright, piercing the darkness with dazzling white. Hope of the hopeless was born on that night when God sent His Son and said, "Let there be light!"

This old fallen world crawls along in darkness as it is fundamentally still at odds with its Creator. As such the family seems to be under assault again. The *Huff Post* carries an article on *Divorce* in its Nov. 27th addition, posing the question of modern day better choices. Jenny Block, author of *Open, Love, Sex and Life* writes: "It's becoming clear that heterosexual monogamous marriage simply doesn't work for most people." *The New York Times* offers a series of articles in its Nov. 25th edition entitled, *The Changing American Family*. "This churning, this turnover in our intimate partnerships is creating complex families on a scale we've not seen before," said Prof. Andrew J. Cherlin of Johns Hopkins University.

Yet, God created the first family and he placed his Son squarely in the protective midst of a human family. Yes, families do come apart, and sin and self-centered-ness are clearly present within every family. Yet the Light of God's love through His Son is also quite evident within Christians and their families as it provides real hope and joy through forgiveness, healing, and new beginnings. Who knew that for every 100 individuals that were married, 80% of their marriages hold forth until death. (Personal research gleaned from the KS. Dept. of Health & Environment – Vital Statistics) The reason the divorce rate seems so high is because of the presence of multiple divorces experienced by about 20% of our population. Buried in *The New York Times* articles is an admission: "At the same time, the old-fashioned family plan of stably married parents residing with their children remains a source of considerable power in America."

The world still seeks newness and hope in the same tired old ideas that only make things harder. Yet clearly the love of Christ shines brightly within those who are His. Is. 60:19—"The Lord will be your everlasting light."

Pastor Burow

Thoughts from the Special Focus Ministries Committee

The Kansas District Convention is coming up soon! The SFM Committee is 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 someone to attend with you, 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 we would love to increase that number at the convention as well.

The convention shirt order form can be found in the Convention Information issue, or you can download the form from the district website. Please order a shirt to show your LWML spirit, and help support the YWR and the teen programs at convention. We can't wait to see you in Wichita!

Submitted by Shawna Spiehs, SFM Committee Member



Scripture verse: ... but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

**MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND THE
LWML KANSAS DISTRICT CONVENTION**

MARCH 28-30, 2014

MARRIOTT HOTEL

WICHITA, KANSAS

WATCH FOR DETAILS IN THE CONVENTION ISSUE OF THE KANSAS SONSHINE!

SHORT TERM MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Short-term mission trips are available to assist you in 'Serving the Lord With Gladness'. Possible trips for 2014 are to Alaska or to Ysleta, TX/Mexico. The Alaska Mission for Christ in Alaska gives opportunities to assist with Vacation Bible Schools either in a town or remote village. Online information is available at AMC.org. Another option would be Ysleta Lutheran Mission/Human Care, near El Paso, TX. The 4.5 acre compound provides services for the Hispanic community in Ysleta and Mexico. Projects could be in the areas of church maintenance/improvement, human care for area people – children or adults, evangelism through VBS or Bible Classes for adults. There are projects available in Mexico for those with passports. More information is online at Ysleta Lutheran Mission.

Participants in these projects would need funds to provide for lodging, food, transportation and project needs. LWMLers, men and teens are welcome to participate. Timeline is from one to four weeks, in the spring, summer or fall, depending on the place and project needs.

For more information on these projects or to suggest another mission trip, contact Ann Jedele at annchuck2000@yahoo.com or 620-440-1136. Hear more at the LWML Kansas District Convention in March 2014! We can get a team together!!

LWML Kansas District Project #5—LCMS World Mission—Outreach, Macau, China for \$4,100 has been PAID!

The LCMS and Lutheran Church Hong-Kong Synod (an LCMS partner church) have worked in Macau since 1998, planning a new congregation and establishing the Concordia English Center. The Concordia English Center is staffed with full time missionary English teachers where English as a second language is taught.

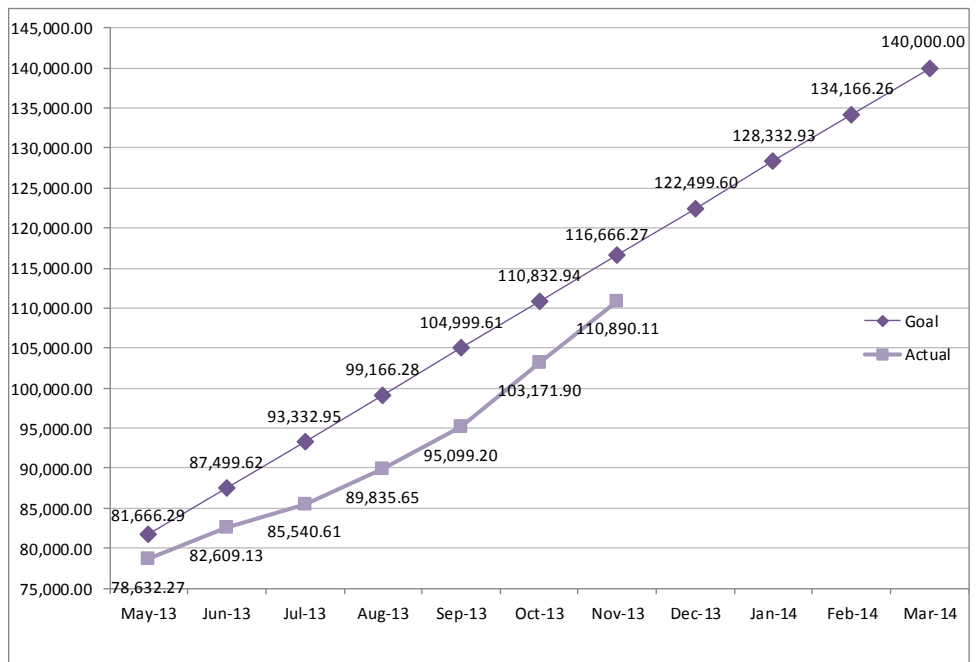
FINANCIAL NEWS

Because our district convention is being held earlier in the year than usual, the books for the current biennium will close on February 28, 2014. This means that your Mites must be sent so they reach me by February 28. **Society Treasurers**: please make a note of this important date. Any Mites received after that date will go towards the 2014-2016 work program.

Please take a look at the graph showing Mite giving. The actual giving line has moved closer to the line showing our monthly goal – but we have a substantial “hill” to climb in order to reach the top. Join me in praying that God will provide an abundance of Mites, so we can share the Good News with our world.

FEBRUARY 28 DEADLINE FOR MITES!!!

Kerri Lynne Brown, LWML KS District Financial Secretary
114 2nd St.—Westphalia, KS 66093
financialsecretary@kansaslwml.org



REMINDER TO ALL SOCIETIES: Please remember to pay for your Quarterly subscriptions!

Thank you to all those who submitted proposals to receive grant money. We were overwhelmed with so many to choose from. The Gospel Outreach committee has selected eleven proposed Mission projects to be voted on by the delegates at the 2014 convention. Also selected are nine proposed projects to receive a grant from the God's Gracious Gift Fund. Giving has been down for this fund, so we have a little less than \$3,000 to share. Any given project cannot receive more than 15% of the total amount to be awarded, so the maximum any project can receive is just a little more than \$400.

So this would be a good point to remind you to donate to all of our funds. Please remember honorariums, memorials, and any donations can be given to the God's Gracious Gift Fund, the Mission projects fund, or the financial aid fund at any time. Special giving envelopes are available from the Financial Secretary, but are not required! Just be sure to indicate which fund you want to donate to and any special reasons for the donation.

The GO committee will once again sponsor a Mission Walk at the 2014 convention. The recipients will be announced at the convention.

ADOPT-A-COLLEGE STUDENT

The GO (Gospel Outreach) Committee would like all societies to consider adopting one of our college students that is receiving financial aid. All that is needed are prayers and notes of encouragement. Let them know we are praying for them, thinking about them, and supporting them! If you'd like to adopt one of the students, let us know which one and we will supply their contact info. This list of students will be valid until May 2014. In September 2014, we will have a new list. For more information, contact Kim Burdett, VP of Gospel Outreach, at outreach.kim@kansaslwml.org.

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY - SEWARD, NE

FRESHMEN: Sloane Crawshaw, Lauren Duncan, Marie Webb, Noah Wolff

SOPHOMORES: Alexandria Kolpin, Nehemiah Langness, Christian Schultz, Robert Thomas

JUNIORS: Erin Cernik, Rachel Dahlke, Taylor Johnson, Ashley Rengstorf, Casey Roberts, Elizabeth Stephens, Karen Webber, Patrick Wuerdeman

SENIORS: Malissa Carey, Sarah Langness, Robyn Meyer, Caitlin Saving, Rebecca Snow, Hannah Wolff

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY - CHICAGO, IL

FRESHMEN: Jonah Schultz

CONCORDIA SEMINARY - ST. LOUIS, MO

SEMINARY I: Andrew Hatesohl

SEMINARY IV: Joshua Grote, William Wingfield

CONCORDIA SEMINARY - FORT WAYNE, IN

DEACONESS I: Sara Schultz

SEMINARY II: Reed Shoaff

WHERE ARE YOU??? We are looking for the recipients of financial aid from the school year 2012-2013. It's not too hard to find the ones that are still in school, but some of our students have graduated. We'd like to be in touch with them and find out what they are doing now. If you know of a college student from last year, or this year, please encourage them to get in touch with us ASAP at financialaid@kansaslwml.org. We're hoping to give the Kansas District an update on our students as they become church workers.



Women's Leadership Institute to Host March Events



In March 2014, the Women's Leadership Institute (WLI) of Concordia University Wisconsin is hosting its biennial conference, "Christ-Connected Women," and prior to the conference its schools for speakers and writers. The WLI conference and schools have a tradition of bringing together women of all ages who are eager to share and learn ... and have a renewing and fabulous time!

- At the March 14-16 WLI Conference, former national LWML President Ida Mall will be the featured speaker. Also participating in the program will be Monique Nunes, motivational speaker; Sharla Fritz, Scripture study leader; Rev. Dr. Wayne Braun, worship leader; Wendysue Fluegge, song leader, and 13 sectional leaders, and women from across the United States.
- Before the conference on March 12-14 WLI will host its excellent School for Speakers and School for Writers. The schools exist to educate, equip and encourage women to use their God-given gifts in public speaking and professional writing. The School for Speakers is taught by Ruth Koch, a mental health educator and a noted speaker for local and national events, and Julie Stiegemeier, a distinguished freelance writer and author of children's books, will serve as the instructor for the School for Writers.

These WLI offerings will be held at the Clarion Hotel and Conference Center, Milwaukee, near the General Mitchell International Airport.

Please visit the WLI website <http://blog.cuw.edu/wli/> for information and the registration forms for both the conference and School for Speakers and School for Writers.

CARING SERVICE NEWS

by Gloria Raab, VP of Caring Service

Thank you to everyone for the wonderful response for the 2013 Lutheran World Relief pick-up. Many hours were devoted to stitching and tying quilts, and assembling the school, fabric, baby and personal health kits that will be distributed around the world. Totals for the four collection sites were:

<u>Location</u>	<u>No. of Boxes</u>	<u>Pounds</u>
Wichita	907	17,806
Hays	575	10,730
Salina	585	11,467
Topeka	<u>522</u>	<u>13,168</u>
Total	2,589	53,171

2014 pick-up dates: Tuesday, Oct. 7: St. Andrews-Wichita
 Wednesday, Oct. 8: Trinity-Hays
 Thursday, Oct. 9: Trinity-Salina
 Friday, Oct. 10: Christ-Topeka

"PASTORS IN MISSION" PROJECT

The Communication Committee coordinates the new "*Pastors in Mission*" project to welcome pastors to the Kansas District. Whether the Pastor is newly ordained into the ministry or has just accepted a call to come to Kansas, each Pastor will receive a gift bag and a packet of information about LWML. On October 6, 2013, at the Northeast Zone Fall Workshop in Atchison, a gift bag was presented to Pastor Ben Ockree of Trinity Lutheran Church in Atchison.



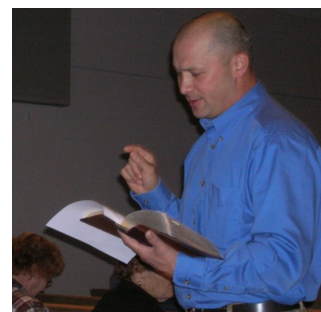
Pictured above left to right:

*LaJean Rinker, Pastor Ockree,
Kathy Heiniger, and Kim Burdett*



KC CrossRoads Fall Event submitted by Ella Schempp

Our fall event was held on October 26, 2013, at First Lutheran Church in Paola. The theme for the day was “In My Father’s House are Many Mansions” John 14:1-6. The Bible study was lead by Pastor Mike Ada, Beautiful Savior. There were 62 people in attendance. Linda Burow led the group in singing. LoRee Gardener reported that 105 health kits, 343 school kits, 36 layettes, 22 sewing kits, 224 quilts, 32 pounds of soap, and \$1,220.00 for shipping costs were donated by the KC CrossRoads Zone. Business included minutes from the spring event, Treasurer and VP reports, national convention reports, and the bylaws review. A salad luncheon was enjoyed by all before heading home.

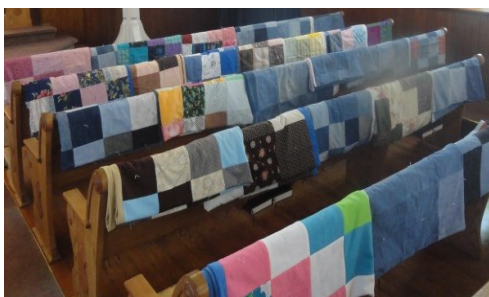


Quilts for Lutheran World Relief

submitted by Carroll Barkow and Pastor Philip Hoppe

The ladies of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, north Ellsworth, a society of the Lincoln Zone, made their first quilts for Lutheran World Relief in 2013. They started in February and met every 2—3 weeks on Saturday mornings. By the end of September, they had finished 57 quilts! They also recruited several non-LWML members, and even some men of the congregation, to help make the quilts. The congregation and also the community were very helpful and supportive in donating fabric for the quilts. For many of the fourteen society members, this was a first-time attempt at quilting, and all benefited from the experience.

Pictured left to right: Kathy May, Karen Paull, Carroll Barkow, Cindy Bruning, and Jeannie Haase.



FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION for SYNODICAL SCHOOLS only
LWML Kansas District - Lutheran Women in Mission
The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

Ella Schempp
12601 W 60th St
Shawnee, KS 66216
Ella.schempp@yahoo.com
Member, LWML Kansas District
Gospel Outreach

RETURN BEFORE JUNE 1, 2014

New application _____ Renewal _____
Class level 2014-2015 _____

Name _____ Birthdate _____
Last First MI Male _____ Female _____

Home Address _____
Street address City State Zip

Home phone _____ E-mail address _____

School Address (opt.) _____

Home congregation _____
Name City

Synodical School _____

****Signature below is my approval to release enrollment and program of study from the Synodical school listed above to be the KS LWML District for consideration of this application.****

Will you be a full-time student? _____ Will you attend the entire year? _____

Circle your program of study: Pastor - Teacher - Lay Minister - Deaconess - Parish Nurse - Parish Worker - Parish Assistant - Parish Social Worker - Director of Parish Music - Director of Christian Outreach - Director of Christian Education

Parent's/Spouse's name _____

Children's names and ages _____

Applicant Signature _____

Date _____

Pastor's signature / Home congregation

Congregation's LWML (or Zone) President's signature

Please submit a photo with this application to share with a prayer partner or your church. Picture can be emailed to financialaid@kansaslwml.org

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

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

EXTRA
POSTAGE
REQUIRED
HERE

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

Lutheran Women in Mission

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MISSIONS

M is for God’s **Mercy** that allows us to live,
I is for **Inspiration** we Christians should give,
S is for **Seeking** for souls that are lost,
S is for the **Savior** that paid the cost.
I is for our **Influence** that portrays what we are,
O is for **Others** who call us from afar.
N is for the **Need** of Christ in every nation,
S is for **Sending** them the story of salvation!

Kansas LWML is on Facebook!
 Be sure to “like” our page!
 And you can follow the
 national LWML on their
 Facebook page too!
 Join today!

