



The Kansas Sonshine

Volume 72: Number 4

FALL 2015

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE KANSAS DISTRICT



The President's Podium

Karen Morrison

20th LWML Kansas District President

*May the words of my mouth and the meditation
of my heart be pleasing in your sight, Oh Lord,
My Rock and My Redeemer. Psalm 19:14*

Scripture Inspirations

We all have our favorite Bible verses; those that have been a mainstay throughout our life, those we lean on in difficult times, and those that bring songs of praise to our heart and soul or stir up a memory. I want to share with you the ones that have followed me.

First, is what I call my life mantra verse: *Mark 5:36b Do not be afraid, only believe.* These are Jesus' words to Jairus when he comes to him seeking healing for his dying daughter. This verse was introduced to me by Pastor John Pool in 1976 at the funeral of my 16 year old sister who joined Jesus after a struggle through leukemia. He preached "Fear Not, Only Believe", and that has been the guiding light for my life every day since.

Next, there is our wedding verse: *1 Corinthians 13:13 So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.* We all know this love is more than a pitter patter heart love. This love is grounded in our Savior Jesus, who paid the ultimate price for love, laying down his life so that we may not die but have eternal life with him in heaven. John and I do our best to honor Jesus' love in our marriage each day.

My President's verse for the first two years was: *Philippians 4:8 Whatever is true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - think about such things.* Originally the flippancy phrase "whatever!" drew me to this verse. Then as I pondered this list, I realized how hard it is to keep these virtuous characteristics in the forefront of our lives, as we walk through this world each day. So, I needed to keep them as a visual reminder that this is what God wants for me. True faith. Noble character. Right actions. Pure thoughts. Lovely demeanor. Admirable leadership. All things to His honor and glory. Keeping my focus centered on my relationship with Him and His Word.

This last biennium, I chose the verse that had been on my bathroom mirror for a very long time: *Psalm 19:14 May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart, be pleasing in your sight, Oh Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.* This verse stuck out to me in a Bible study one time and has been with me ever since. I am in awe of how many times it has been used in a sermon or a reading over the years. I always smile and say a little "thank you" to God for the reminder. This verse speaks to me, because after I pondered the list from Philippians and did my best to walk in them, the next step is even more crucial – I must control the sinful desires of my human nature and control the words that come out of my mouth. Easier to do on some days than others. This world is filled with little cracks in the sidewalk that can trip you up: a judgment on appearances, a little road rage, an opportunity to join in gossip, or an angry word said in haste. That is why I need the 3x5 card on my bathroom mirror, a constant reminder to keep my heart and mouth in check and pleasing to God.

The theme saying for our women's Bible study group this year has been – Is it honoring God? That is the ultimate baseline, right? If what I am doing is not honoring to God in that moment, then I am more than likely not in line with the characteristics in Philippians or controlling my mouth and heart from Psalm 19. Take time today to review, remember and reflect on the scripture verses that have been a contributing factor to your walk of faith with Jesus.

~ President Karen ~

Counselor's Corner

Rev. Jeff Duncan
Senior Pastoral Counselor



Confession and Absolution:
*"God provides a 'place' , a 'sound' ,
and an 'assurance' of forgiveness."*

I'm going to let you in on something that really bothers me. And here is the dirty little secret; it bothers me because I was once just like this! Here goes:

"Confession/Absolution? I don't need that! Jesus forgives me from the cross. I know that I'm forgiven!"

It is true - Jesus forgives me and all sinners from the cross. There His mercy is that He takes our sins upon Himself and dies for them. We never have to suffer the penalty for those sins! He does it all. Then, in grace, Christ gives to us His righteousness. We can stand before the eternal Father clean and without spot because we stand as Christ. He is in us. His righteousness becomes ours at the cross. All this is true, and trusting and believing in this grants the forgiveness of Jesus upon the cross.

But I am a sinner and sinners don't like to admit that. Ask me what I've done wrong and I'll tell you 'some' of it but not 'all' of it! I'm just as likely to say "You know it really wasn't that bad. It's not as though I killed someone!" Oh yes, it's true; I'm a great equivocator! At least I'm not as bad as that other guy. Here lies my struggle and great joy in coming to a place, hearing a wonderful sound, and leaving with the full assurance of my forgiveness of sins!

That place of full assurance is the Sanctuary of God's house. There, kneeling before the Pastor as God's priest, he distributes God's gracious gifts. I never knew of this great joy until another pastor asked me to be his Father Confessor. The Rite of Individual Confession and Absolution had been in my hymnal all the time. I just never paid attention to it! It was like the Midwest; fly over territory on the way to the hymns. But standing at the Altar where on Sunday I distribute God's body and blood as the assurance of His forgiveness for a corporate gathering of sinners, I listened as a fellow pastor unburdened his heart.

We prayed (chanted) a Psalm together. Then he began with those words; "Pastor, please hear my confession and pronounce forgiveness in order to fulfill God's will." There it was; this is God's will! I was not there to hear this pastor's confession, God was! God had provided the place. God had provided the Rite in good order. God had even provided me, a called and ordained servant of His Word to produce a sound - His forgiveness to be proclaimed - and thus His will fulfilled!

Soon I realized that I too wanted that. Much more, I needed that! It wasn't that I didn't know that Christ forgave my sins. I knew it; I proclaimed it; I trusted it for myself. My heart was burdened. Sins I had committed still tore at me. The devil was having fun bringing things up all the time. "How could you call yourself a Pastor? Is this how Pastor's act? What about ...?" Maybe you've been there, too. Maybe you're there right now. Does the devil continually assail you with past actions or current struggles? No one is immune to his attacks so all the more we need God's assurance of sins forgiven! Still, fearfully at first, I sought my own Father Confessor. I needed God's forgiving assurance.

That assurance is found in the Rite of Individual Confession and Absolution. In fact, I like to call it 'Private Absolution' more than 'Private Confession'. I'm really there for the absolution! So, after telling my pastor "What troubles me particularly..." and then proclaiming "I am sorry for all of this and ask for grace. I want to do better" the part I really seek is proclaimed to my ears. My pastor says (usually while making the sign of the cross on my head or forehead) "In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Go in peace!"

There it is - peace! In that place (the Sanctuary before the Altar of God), with that sound (the Pastor speaking Christ's forgiveness into my ears in the stead of Jesus), I am delivered into true peace (the full assurance that my sins are forgiven, whether I 'feel' like it or not). After chanting another Psalm as a closing prayer, I leave that place with Christ's power through His peace. The devil has no power over me; he can accuse me no more! My sins - the entirety of them and the full weight of them upon my life - has been forgiven. I am at peace!

I encourage you to speak with your Pastor about 'Private Absolution'. He would love the opportunity to give you that full assurance of sins forgiven and a clean conscious before God. That is his role - to stand in the stead of Jesus Christ - proclaiming God's will for your life. Should you need some encouragement, feel free to contact your LWML Pastoral Counselors. We are here to help guide you in this life of faith and the assurance of God's forgiveness for you in Christ Jesus our Lord.

+ Soli Deo Gloria +



COMMUNICATION NEWS



Brenda Piester, VP of Communication

I LOVE FALL! High School Football. New school clothes. Eager students excited about learning. Pasture grass heading out and some of it shoulder high on the cattle. KSU Football. Fall crops being harvested. The Chiefs and the Packers. Wheat ground being prepared for sowing. The State Fair. The Royals and another World Series run.

But I am most excited about getting back in the fall routines of children's Sunday School with a new curriculum, starting up our weekly Monday noon women's Bible study, joining in on the "Life on Mission" study and retreat, the quilters starting their machines again, my grandson starting his first year of Midweek, attending LWML meetings to plan the 2016 convention and participating in the November Christian Life Retreat! I LOVE FALL! I remain thankful for the Communication and Structure Committee members who eagerly complete their God-given tasks in serving you!

Communication Committee: Please send society and zone news (and pictures) to Shelly Keller, the editor of *The Kansas Sonshine* newsletter. It does not have to be "spectacular"; we look for ALL news about you! Send news of you counting stamps, being in Bible study, your LWML Sunday, your members just enjoying each other as Sisters-in-Christ. We want to hear from you! Also contact Darla Abbott to share your news on *Facebook*! YOU are important to us! If you have *Quarterly* subscription or website fee questions, contact Marj Aufdemberge, Distribution Manager. Thank you to Kathie Thurman for managing the LWML store. She has already received a shipment of new items for the LWML store at the Christian Life Retreat in Wichita in November. Contact Mandy Cornett if you have questions about technology. Thank you to Mark Fuchs for his continued work as our webmaster! He has made many excellent updates to the Kansas website at www.kansaslwml.org. "Church Workers in Mission" gift bags continue to be distributed to pastors new to the Kansas District. Please contact Brenda Piester if you have questions about this "Welcome!" project or need another bag.

Structure Committee: Chairman Kathryn Richard and committee members Cathi Clark and Ruth Stice have been very busy with Bylaws and have sent proposed changes to be presented at the 2016 convention to the national committee for their review. Kathryn can send you a guide for updating zone and society documents—remember to keep them simple!

If there is ANYTHING the Communication or Structure Committees can do to help you, please contact us—we are just one click away through the contact list on the website. ***We are here to enthusiastically serve you!***



CHRISTIAN LIFE NEWS



Elaine Engelman, VP of Christian Life

Dear Sisters in Christ,

By now, I hope many of you have heard about the Kansas Assembly of Leaders (KAOL) held in Wichita August 22. During the course of the day, each member of the executive committee, and the district personnel who work with them, presented a BIG IDEA to those present to take home and share. The BIG IDEA from the Christian Life committee was a challenge of sorts—each person was to start a list of 10,000 reasons to praise the Lord. We would like to present you with that challenge also! You could do ten reasons a day or only one a day—keep in mind that one a day will take you 27 years! You could do a solitary list or work on it with a Bible study group or your favorite coffee klatch. Don't forget to include "Praise the Lord anyway!" reasons too. As we view and share dark valleys in our lives, we may encourage others and/or give others the opportunity to encourage us.

The Christian Life committee would also like you to bring your list with you when you join us for the Christian Women's Retreat at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Wichita November 6-7. We are going to incorporate our 10,000 reasons to praise with speaker Danielle Tietjen's theme "Expecting . . . His Presence" (based on Psalm 100:2-3a). DON'T PANIC if you haven't sent in your registration, because there is still time! A registration form is included in this issue of the Sonshine, as well as being available on the LWML Kansas District website under the Christian Life icon.

Christian Life Highlight: Committee chairman Tammy Songer is preparing a review of a Bible study of *Fruits of the Spirit*, which will soon be available on the LWML Kansas District website under the Christian Life icon. Be watching the website in November when committee member Amanda Williams adds a review on a study of *Ruth*.



CARING SERVICE NEWS



Laura Hunter, Caring Service Committee Chairman

Have you ever noticed a need in your church, community, or at a mission you support and thought "I wish we had the funding to take on that project"? Did you know that there are sources of funding your society or zone can tap into to get those projects going? Below is information and ideas for 3 avenues for funding.

Thrivent Action Teams: Thrivent members can request \$250 for supplies for a project team. You could request quilting materials and then hold a quilting day for the ladies of your congregation. Another idea would be to purchase the bags for LWR school kits and then organize school supply donations and assembly of the kits in your LWML society or congregation.

***([Website for more info: thrivent.com/making-a-difference/living-generously/thrivent-action-teams](http://thrivent.com/making-a-difference/living-generously/thrivent-action-teams))

LCMS 'Stand with Your Community Grants' commemorating the 500th LCMS anniversary: You can submit an application for \$1,000 to \$25,000. You could set up a food pantry in your congregation, start up an ESL program or build a preschool playground. But hurry, the deadline for applications is November 16th!

***([Website for more info: lcms.org/standgrants](http://lcms.org/standgrants))

Wheat Ridge Christian Crowdfunding: Wheat Ridge has set up a platform and training to teach you how to engage your congregation, community and friends in funding and supporting health and human care programs. Raise funds for mission trips, or to send your pastor on a sabbatical. In fact, Wheat Ridge will provide a \$500 incentive towards the sabbatical and provide free coaching on how to make a sabbatical work for your congregation.

***([Website for more info: weraise.us](http://weraise.us))

These are just a few of many ideas you can find on the websites. Program information was sent back with your zone and society presidents at Kansas Assembly of Leaders in August. Talk with them about your ideas and look up additional information on these websites; application processes are very easy. Come up with an idea and put your plan in motion!



CARING SERVICE NEWS



Gloria Raab, VP of Caring Service

SLEEPING MATS

These comfortable mats, which are given to Orphan Grain Train, help retain body heat while sleeping, as they create a comfortable barrier between the ground and the body. Bugs don't like them, so they provide a clean sleeping surface. They can easily be hosed off when dirty, shaken out, and ready to use again. Each mat takes approximately 500 bags. Recycling plastic bags that we all get from supermarkets is a wonderful way of keeping them out of our landfills. Illustrated instructions for making a simple sleeping mat are available on the LWML Kansas District website Caring Service link.



KAOL NEWS

Two thank you notes have been received from the recipients of the 2015 KAOL Ingathering:

Dear Members of KAOL,

Grace Lutheran Church Social Ministry Food Pantry wishes to thank you for your most generous and overwhelming Ingathering for our Pantry. We could not continue to serve, sometimes as high as 18 families on a given Tuesday morning, without the generous support of others. We have been blessed.

Our thanks and love through Jesus Christ, Grace Social Ministry

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thanks so much for your wonderful donations of diapers, clothes, gift cards and cash to Birthline, from the Kansas District LWML. It is much appreciated and truly enables us to help our moms and babies. God bless you.

Gratefully, Birthline



FINANCIAL NEWS



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

Mite GOAL 2014-2016 Biennium

\$152,750.00

(\$6,364 needed each month to meet our goal)

MITES RECEIVED through 8/31/2015

\$ 99,898.50



\$108,188 was the amount needed through August to be “on track” to reach the biennium’s Mite goal. This means we were \$8,289.50 short at the end of August.

We ask God to bless our mighty Mites, as they are used to fund both our LWML Kansas District and national mission grants, as well as meet the other financial commitments of the Kansas District’s work program.

NOTE TO TREASURERS: A remittance voucher is to accompany all money sent to the district. Please make all checks to: LWML Kansas District.

Checks should not be written to “LWML Kansas District Financial Secretary” or to me personally. Thank you.

LWML KANSAS DISTRICT NOW PARTICIPATING IN THRIVENT CHOICE PROGRAM

The LWML Kansas District is now enrolled as a participating organization in Thrivent Choice. Grant funding received through Thrivent Choice will be directed to the LWML Kansas District to benefit the God’s Gracious Gift Fund.

Thrivent Choice is a charitable grant program that allows eligible members to recommend where Thrivent Financial distributes part of its charitable outreach grant funds each year. LWML Kansas District will now be listed in the program’s searchable online catalog.

If you are an eligible Thrivent member, please consider the LWML Kansas District when directing Choice Dollars®. This will be a wonderful way to contribute to the God’s Gracious Gift Fund and support the GGGF grants.

To learn more about Thrivent Choice, visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice, or call Thrivent at 800-847-4836, and say “Thrivent Choice” when prompted.



The 2015 KAOL Mite Challenge was \$1251.75! Thank you ladies!

2015 KAOL Ingathering

God instructs us in Galatians 6:2 to “carry each other’s burdens and so you will fulfill the law of Christ”. The Ingathering for the 2015 Kansas Assembly of Leaders in Wichita was collected for Birthline Pregnancy Care Center and Grace Lutheran’s Food Pantry, both located in Wichita. We gathered the following items:

44 packages of diapers	90 baby onesies
109 cans of meat and vegetables	27 boxes of cereal
44 jars of peanut butter	28 Wal-Mart and Dillons \$5 or \$10 gift cards
\$40 cash	30 miscellaneous items

Thanks to everyone who donated items for this ingathering!

2016 LWML KANSAS DISTRICT CONVENTION NEWS

CONVENTION MISSION WALK

The Gospel Outreach Committee recommended to the Executive Committee that the recipient for the Convention Mission Walk be the International Student Ministry at Kansas State University. They need money to help with food that they have each semester to welcome the international students to campus. They are also in need of Bibles for the international students. Some of the students are not Christians when they first arrive at KSU. They live with host families if they arrive before the dorms are available.

CONVENTION OFFERING

Lutheran Heritage Foundation-Spanish Bibles with Small Catechism

It costs Lutheran Heritage Foundation \$5.00 to publish one small catechism into any language. There are Lutheran churches in the Kansas District that could use the catechisms and Bibles in Spanish.

DAY OF PRAYER RECIPIENTS FOR 2015-2016

Ed & Cherie Auger- Missionaries to Honduras and Nicaragua, Children's Ministry

Long time missionaries Pastor Ed and Deaconess Cherie are planting new churches in villages in Honduras and Nicaragua. As we know, if you can reach the children, you have a better chance of reaching the whole family. The money would be used for the Children's Ministry in the churches that are being planted in these countries.

NOTE: Have you recently added a new email account or changed your previous email address? If so, you will want to go to the LWML Kansas website to "SUBSCRIBE" to receive *The Kansas Sonshine* and other important news! Go to <http://www.kansaslwml.org/newsletter.html> and click the SUBSCRIBE button at the bottom of the page. It's that simple!

The eQuarterly has lots of new features and extras!

Features in select issues may include:

Videos

Photo albums

Animation

Interactive Table of Contents

Music

Interactive LWML Shop page with "Add to cart" feature

Zooming capabilities

Bookmarks

Don't have an eQuarterly subscription?

We encourage you to order an individual print or eQuarterly (or both for the same price!) for a one-year subscription price of \$6.50. You can order eQuarterlies and/or *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* print subscriptions at:

www.lwml.org/subscribe-to-quarterly.

SAVE THE DATE

Holy Cross, Wichita
Women's Retreat

Saturday, January 30, 2016



Be sure to view the updated projects poster on the Kansas LWML website. Click on the Gospel Outreach link. We thank you for your continued and faithful giving of mites!

2018 Convention Theme ideas needed!

In 2018, our Kansas District will meet in convention in Hutchinson. Your Executive Committee is requesting theme ideas to present and vote on at the April 2016 Board of Directors meeting.

What we need:

- ◆ Theme Title and Scripture reference verse

What we do not need right now:

Art work ideas (that request will come next summer after a theme is selected)

Theme information is **due to President Karen by Jan. 15, 2016**. Email to: president@kansaslwml.org.

ZONE NEWS

The LWML members from the Linn Zone met on April 11, 2015, for the Spring Rally (Ladies Spring Retreat) at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Bremen, Kansas. Our speaker was Bethany Ramse, Regional Outreach Representative for MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) International. She gave us a very informative message about her MOPS ministry. Childcare was provided by the Immanuel Ladies to encourage young mothers to attend. There were 8 guests and 50 members and pastors in attendance. Sherri Rose, Kansas District Vice President of Special Focus Ministries, gave the district report. New zone officers were installed by Pastor Rikli, Zone Pastoral Advisor. Our members assembled hygiene kits for Orphan Grain Train, and trimmed and sorted stamps. The ladies from Immanuel provided a tasty luncheon.



On Saturday, April 18th the Kansas City CrossRoads Zone met for its Spring Rally at Our Saviour Lutheran Church. The theme for the day was "God is our refuge and strength" – Psalm 46:1. We began the morning with a devotion, given by Vicar Robert Jones from Beautiful Savior, on Psalm 46. Linda Burow did a wonderful job sharing with us her musical gifts by leading us in song and praise. We were blessed to have Anita Stohs speak to us about what the church can do to help families with children with disabilities. She shared from her own personal experiences with her daughter, Miriam, and the stories of several other mothers with children who have disabilities and what they have encountered in churches. In our business meeting, we elected Tiffany Harkins as our Zone President, Loree Gardner as the VP of Caring Service, Marie McDermid as VP of Special Focus Ministries, and Connie Denney as Treasurer. Food pantry items were collected for Lutheran Urban Ministries Association for our Ingathering. There was a time of fellowship among the women after our meeting, as we enjoyed a lovely Italian lunch provided by the ladies of Our Saviour.

Submitted by Christy Stapf, Zone Secretary

The program for the Spring Rally in the Wichita Zone featured a presentation by Janet Crosby about Bethesda Lutheran Homes and the Bethesda store, Gently Used Resale, in Wichita, KS. Janet has volunteered for many years at the shop. Janet and members of the host congregation, Holy Cross, of Wichita, presented a style show of clothing purchased or borrowed from Gently Used Resale.

Submitted by Betty Amey, Wichita Zone President



This September marked the second year of the young women's group Eve Circle in the KC CrossRoads Zone. The group was founded last fall (2014) by Amanda Williams (Hope Lutheran, Shawnee) and Alli Bauck (Beautiful Savior, Olathe). Alli Bauck reports, "We sat down with some of the ladies and asked them how we could improve the group going forward. The unanimous response was more fellowship time." Now Eve Circle is meeting twice a month. On the first Sunday, they will be at Black Dog Coffee House (in Lenexa) for fellowship and discuss chapters of "Ruth: More Than A Love Story" (CPH). The third Sunday of each month, the ladies will meet at local churches to participate in service projects. If you know of a young Lutheran woman in the Johnson County area who would be a blessing to the LWML, please contact Amanda at amandak116@hotmail.com.

(Submitted by Alli Bauck)

LWML members from the NE Zone attending the Des Moines Convention in June. (There were more in attendance but this is the group captured for a photo.)



Front row, left to right: Kathy King, Kathy Heiniger, Esther Ideker, Cindy Manche, Michaela Lowe

Back row: Becky Meyer, Nancy Manche, Angela Williams, Jamie Lowe, Jill Lowe, Karen Bauman

St. Paul's, North Ellsworth, has served homemade ice cream at the Ellsworth 4th of July celebration for the past 3-4 years. The event is held at the old Armory grounds the Saturday evening before the 4th. We set up our tent around 5:00 and try and shade the ice cream as much as possible. We usually make 15-16 gallons of several flavors of ice cream. The event has jump houses for kids, a barrel train, several food vendors, and music, with fireworks to end the evening. This event draws a good crowd, which contributes to the profits at our ice cream stand. We have never had a problem getting rid of most of it before it melts.

(Submitted by Barb Choitz, St. Paul's LWML, North Ellsworth)



Lutheran World Relief Gifts

Many LWML societies participate in Lutheran World Relief projects such as making quilts, assembling personal care or school kits, etc. But did you know that LWR also has a program whereby you can finance any of a number of gifts that are given to people living in extreme poverty around the world? These gifts range from \$16 for a can of worms to \$5700 for a crop storage facility. Projects include seeds and seedlings for farmers, water purification systems, medical supplies, animals, and many more. When the LWML of Christ Lutheran in Topeka, KS learned about these gifts they thought it would be fun to buy a goat for \$100. In Third World countries where food supplies are scarce, a goat can thrive even under harsh conditions and give milk that nourishes and sells. Christ LWML then received a letter from LWR that said our goat had gone to a group of women in Burkina Faso, a small country in West Africa. Women there struggle daily to feed their families. When the goat herd produces young, these kids are given to another woman to help her build a herd. Are you interested? You can access a list of these gifts and their descriptions at LWRGIFTS.org or send for the pamphlet "LWR GIFTS."

(Submitted by Mary Davis, Mission Service Chair, Christ LWML, Topeka, KS)



The LWML society from Trinity, Colby, has been serving concessions the last four years at the annual Pickin' on the Plains Bluegrass Festival held in Colby each July. We serve pulled pork sandwiches, hot dogs, baked beans and potato salad, nachos and ice cream sundaes. This annual weekend event has been a great fundraiser for our society and allowed us to support a variety of mission projects both in our community and beyond.

(Submitted by Relda Galli, LWML member from NW Zone)

SCHOOL KIT COLLECTION UPDATE

The ladies of Holy Cross LWML would like to thank all who helped in the gathering and packing of school kits over the last few months. Thanks to the generosity of the churches of the Wichita Zone, Holy Cross congregation members, Holy Cross Parent Teacher League, and the children of Holy Cross VBS. 73 school kits were assembled and were taken to the LWML National Convention in June in Des Moines, Iowa. They will be added to others from all over the country and distributed by Orphan Grain Train to needy children all over the world.

(Submitted by Maria Keil, LWML member at Holy Cross)

10,000 REASONS

One of the songs repeated at the national convention in Des Moines was "10,000 Reasons." One of our members who could not attend, but followed many sessions via live streaming, was touched by this song and started wondering how long it would take her to generate a list of 10,000 reasons/blessings to thank God for. She concluded that if she listed one a day, it would take her over 27 years. However, she wondered how long it would take if we worked together as a society, so at the Beautiful Savior society July meeting, she presented the challenge that each lady keep track of distinct blessings for a month, so we are not just in a rut of repeatedly offering the same thanks each day without realizing all the other blessings we also receive, and she even provided mini journals for us to use in keeping track of them. At our August meeting we shared how many we had each recorded and were excited to have a total of 535 from 14 ladies! It will be fun to watch our number grow as we meet and report out each month!

(Submitted by Tiffany Harkins, KC CrossRoads Zone President)

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Next Sonshine news deadline:
DECEMBER 5

Shelly Keller, Sonshine Editor
sonshine@kansaslwml.org

IMPORTANT LWML DATES TO REMEMBER

- ♦ **November 6-7:**
LWML KS District Christian Life Retreat in Wichita
- ♦ **January 15, 2016:**
YWR application deadline
- ♦ **April 15-17, 2016:**
**36th Biennial LWML KS District Convention
in Manhattan**

WEBSITES TO VISIT:

www.kansaslwml.org
(Kansas site)
www.lwml.org
(National site)
www.kslcms.org
(Kansas LCMS site)
www.lcms.org
(Synod site)



HAPPY BIRTHDAY #99 to **Minnie Wiese** of Hunter, (from the Lincoln Zone), who is one of the rock-solid foundations of our LWML Kansas District. She's very close to holding the record of attending more District and National conventions than anyone, and the years haven't dampened the enthusiasm she holds for our organization. May we all follow her example of serving our Lord with gladness.

SAVE THE DATE

**LWML KS DISTRICT
CHRISTIAN LIFE
FALL RETREAT**

NOVEMBER 6—7

**DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel
Wichita Airport**

Speaker: Danielle Tietjen

Lutheran Women in Mission

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.

2014-2016 LWML Kansas District Focus Areas

Nurturing Faith in Christ

We are committed to helping every woman find personal opportunities in her daily life and in her congregation to be nurtured in faith in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit to discover her unique gifts and value in God's family.

Making our Mission Meaningful

We challenge and equip women of all ages, stages, ethnicities, and experiences to make meaningful differences in the lives of hurting, helpless, and unbelieving people at home and throughout the world.

Sharing Encouragement

We believe that women value the friendship, support, and encouragement from other women and strive to offer warm, welcoming opportunities for women to grow in faith and relationships as sisters in Christ.

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!



GOD'S GRACIOUS GIFT FUND APPLICATIONS
\$17,938.00 AVAILABLE

EACH PROJECT WILL RECEIVE THE FULL AMOUNT REQUESTED OR UP TO \$2,690.00

- 1. Bethany Lutheran School, Overland Park, KS: Lockers for Middle School—————\$2,075.00**
The student population is growing. We are reaching students and their families not just within the congregation but also in the community. As the school gains students we have to accommodate for their learning needs and that includes lockers. There is no room in the present lockers for the students to share lockers.
(Submitted by Bethany Lutheran School, Overland Park, KS)
- 2. Hope Lutheran School, Shawnee, KS: Tables and Chairs—————\$6,203.81**
The money is needed for replacement of 19 tables for three classrooms, 6th, 7th, and 8th grades, and 76 chairs for the 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th grades. The chairs that students are using are in really bad condition. Most are cracked or busted. The tables in the 8th grade have collapsed a number of times this year. Hope Lutheran School started in 1983 and was the only Lutheran school in the area. The school is a great outreach for the church as many of the students are not members of the church.
(Submitted by Hope LWML, Shawnee, KS)
- 3. St. Paul Lutheran Preschool, Pratt, KS: Christian Books and Videos —————\$750.00**
St. Paul Lutheran Preschool is a vital part of education for our Pratt area students. The money is needed to add Christian books and videos to the library at the school. Some of our children come from families that do not attend a church. It is so exciting to see our little 3 and 4 year olds learn about the love of Jesus.
(Submitted by Bethany Guild/LWML, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Preston, KS)
- 4. Knot Sew New Quilters, Dodge City, KS: Quilt Batting and Thread—————\$250.00**
The money is needed for quilt batting and thread to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief. To extend our efforts in making quilts for distribution to areas of need both locally and abroad. We are a group of two to five ladies working one morning a week. Most of the ladies are over 80 years old.
(Submitted by Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Dodge City, KS)
- 5. Immanuel Lutheran Church, Norton, KS: Complete Set of Arch Books—————\$350.00**
Immanuel has enjoyed an increase on the number of small children in the congregation over the past few years. Also our Midweek program has been an effective outreach tool to the young children in the community. The Arch books would provide the congregation with a valuable teaching tool and a valuable outreach tool to the families of the children we reach in the Midweek program.
(Submitted by Immanuel Lutheran Church, Norton, KS)
- 6. Lutheran Valley Retreat, Woodland Park, CO: Bind the Bruises—————\$500.00**
Lutheran Valley Retreat (LVR) shares God's grace and glory in His creation. Since the 1980's teens from Kansas have come to LVR for a week to worship and grow in their faith. Part of the camp experience is playing in His creation which leads to hunger and sometimes injury. Ice is used for the camp kitchen and medic needs. Currently, icepacks and ice trays are the tools available. An icemaker would greatly enhance the ease of providing ice for the camp.
(Submitted by Angela Johnson, Lutheran Valley Retreat, Woodland Park, CO)

7. **Lutheran Student Center, Wichita State University, Wichita, KS: New Furniture——\$1,000.00**
The furniture at the Lutheran Student Center is 30 years old. Much of it has served its purpose very well, not only outdated but falling apart. The students are very good about it and they have not complained. The place where we meet to discuss God's Word should be a respectable, comfortable and attractive place where students enjoy spending their time, sharing a cup of coffee and discussing their faith.
(Submitted by Dr. John Tape, Lutheran Stent Center, Wichita, KS)
8. **Capstone Ministries, Kisumu, Kenya: Job opportunities for Women——\$3,000.00**
Capstone Ministries is a Christian organization that is an RSO of the LCMS and is affiliated with the Kenya Evangelical Lutheran Church. Capstone Ministries has been working with street children in Kisumu, Kenya since 2002. The encapsulators will be used by the Capstone Program to provide local income and also provide job opportunities for the women in the Kisumu area.
(Submitted by Trinity LWML, Winfield, KS)
9. **Summer Arts for Community Kids, Wichita, KS: Supplies, Intern & Publicity——\$4,000.00**
Parents and their children find many ways to occupy the days of summer break. Holy Cross would like to offer four classes that would appeal to the artistic side of students to help them explore new activities and improve already held skills. Classes are designed primarily for middle school age students both from Holy Cross Lutheran School but especially from the broader community. The four one-week classes are: Summer Theater, Summer Drummers, Summer Band, and Summer Art Projects.
(Submitted by Kent Stephens, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Wichita, KS)
10. **Come Build Hope in Mexico, Trinity, Garden City, KS: Fuel——\$6,000.00**
Trinity, Garden City has been taking families, youth, and adults to Mexico for the last 15 years. These trips not only have been helping the poor in Mexico by providing them a home but has opened up mission eyes for the Kansas people. Eighty-eight people participated in 2015 from all over Kansas. The money will help make the trips affordable for the families of Kansas to participate.
(Submitted by Leland Jackson, Trinity, Garden City, KS)
11. **Lutheran Heritage Foundation, Macomb, MI: Lutheran Catechisms for Lithuania——\$2,000.00**
Part of the Lutheran Heritage involves Lutherans from the Baltic States. These countries are trying to re-introduce Christianity in their countries. The opportunity to teach the catechism in the Lithuanian public schools is mind boggling. We have a chance to reach children with theologically correct Lutheran doctrine.
(Submitted by Holy Cross LWML, Wichita, KS)
12. **Lutheran Valley Retreat, Woodland Park, CO: Horse Ministry——\$500.00**
Whispering Spurs is an organization that uses horses as an opportunity to enjoy God's creation from the back of a horse. Each trail experience lead by Whispering Spurs is begun in prayer and glorifies God in his creation of the nature explored and the animal used for the ride. Currently Whispering Spurs provides horses and wranglers for the Lutheran Valley Retreat. Kansas youths and families attend Lutheran Valley Retreat. Funds are requested to update tack supplies for the horses that are used for rides at Lutheran Valley Retreat.
(Submitted by Stephanie Schauland of Whispering Spurs, Woodland Park, CO)

Financial Aid Recipients 2015-2016

❖ Freshman - \$403.00

Concordia-Seward: Kaleb Weinkauff, Kasaundra Kosberg, Monica Lennington, Elizabeth Frakes, Leah Werling

Concordia-St. Paul: Elizabeth Jobst

❖ Sophomore - \$440.00

Concordia-Seward: Karlee Romaine, Ethan Hughes, Molly Goltl, Courtney Roberts

❖ Junior - \$540.00

Concordia-Seward: Marie Webb, Sloane Crawshaw

Concordia-Chicago: Jonah Schultz

❖ Senior - \$540.00

Concordia-Seward: Casey Roberts, Elizabeth Stephens, Alexandria Koplin, Rachel Dahlke, Christian Schultz

Concordia-Ann Arbor: Katelynn Twenhafel

Concordia-Mequon: Lauren Shoaff

❖ Seminary 1 - \$1,400.00

Concordia Seminary-St. Louis: Bryan Meadows

Concordia Seminary-Fort Wayne: Raymond Doubrava, Lawson Short

❖ Seminary 2 - \$1,400.00

Concordia Seminary-St. Louis: Nicholas Cordt, Michael Apfel

❖ Seminary 3 - \$1,900.00

Concordia Seminary-St. Louis: Andrew Hatesohl

❖ Seminary 4 - \$1,900.00

Concordia Seminary-Fort Wayne: Reed Shoaff

MISSION PROJECTS PROPOSALS

\$40,000.00

1. Lutheran Valley Retreat-Shelter for Staff-----\$5,000.00

Lutheran Valley Retreat shares God's grace and glory in His creation. Focusing on Christ, the Colorado camp values the inerrant Word of God, loving all people as God created them, providing fun, safe outdoor experiences for all, and transforming Christ-like servant leaders who love the people of their community. Since the 2002 Hayman fire that burned through the property, housing is being replaced, but there is a shortage. During extremely busy weeks, some of the Lutheran Valley Retreat staff volunteer to stay in tents or on the floor to allow for another child to experience God's grace at camp. Funding will help to continue to renovate or build more housing at LVR. (Submitted by Angela Johnson-Lutheran Valley Retreat, Woodland Park, CO)

2. Bethany Lutheran School-Desks and Chairs-----\$4,800.00

The school at Bethany is growing, especially our middle school. The student population at Bethany is 70% non-members. Every day, we have an incredible opportunity to share God's word in a Christian setting. We are bringing a new generation of students into God's Word. New desks and chairs are needed, as the long skinny tables that are currently available, do not allow them adequate space to learn. (Submitted by Bethany Lutheran School, Overland Park, KS)

3. Jesus El Buen Pastor Lutheran Church-Spanish Bibles & Food Pantry-----\$3,000.00

The church is located in a low-income Spanish-speaking community. The bilingual Bibles and devotional materials are given out to people as they come to the church. The church is also the local food pantry that is open one day a week. The church is helping people transition into productive citizens starting with their faith walk with Jesus Christ. There is a strong community outreach on both the Missouri and Kansas sides of the state line. (Submitted by Our Saviour Lutheran Church, Kansas City, KS)

4. Kansas Nebraska Good News Radio-Program Development-----\$4,000.00

KNGN is one of the two LCMS radio stations in the US. Our programs preach Christ crucified, cross focused, and Law and Gospel to all that listen. We also create new programs to reach individuals where they need it. Because we are on the public radio band, many non-believers come across our channel on the radio dial and hear the proclamation of the Gospel. With the creation of new programs and the ongoing support of the existing programs, KNGN can continue to serve our listeners in Kansas with LCMS programs. Devotions by local pastors and Bible studies from local congregations are added to the lineup. (Submitted by St. John's Lutheran Church, Oberlin, KS)

5. LCMS ministry to the Armed Forces/Operation Barnabas-Help for Veterans-----\$4,000.00

Operation Barnabas is a network of care to our nation's military members and their families. The ministry's purpose is to provide care for our military and their families during and after their deployment, through training of district counselors and congregations and the establishment of local Barnabas Chapters. The money will be used for on-site visits to congregations creating local outreach efforts, evangelism training to Lutheran veterans in their local congregations, and materials and training for Barnabas Chapters in local congregations. (Submitted by Mary Hamilton, LCMS Grants Coordinator, St. Louis, MO)

6. The Lutheran Student Center-Wichita State University-Student Missionary-----\$5,000.00

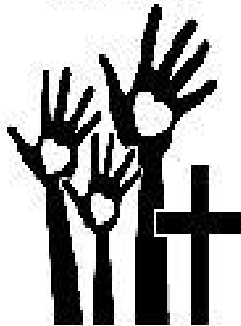
In our outreach to the students at Wichita State University, we have found that there is no substitute for one-on-one person contact. We need help in developing this important area of our ministry. The Lutheran Student Center would like to hire a student missionary who would focus entirely on reaching out to the university students. This would ideally be a student who has a heart for sharing the Gospel and who has numerous contacts in the university. He or she would spend 20 hours a week talking with the students, sharing the Gospel and inviting them to the University Lutheran Student Center. (Submitted by Dr. John Tape, Lutheran Student Center, Wichita, KS)

7. **Concordia Seminary-Fort Wayne-Food Bank-----\$5,000.00**
The Food and Clothing Co-op, on the campus of Concordia Theological Seminary, plays a key role in helping students feed and clothe their families during their seminary years. Nearly 60% of the students are married and second career with families. Most of the spouses cannot find a job because the employers know that they will only be available for a short time. The money will be used to purchase perishable food items for the Food and Clothing Co-op. (Submitted by Karen Fuelling, Director of the Food and Clothing Co-op, Fort Wayne, IN)
8. **Concordia Seminary-St. Louis-Food Bank-----\$5,000.00**
It is likely that food is not the first thing you think about when someone is preparing for the Holy Ministry. Tuition, books and a place to live are probably what comes to mind almost immediately. However, seminarians must also figure out how to afford the cost of providing food for their families while preparing for the ministry. Stretched to the max by other expenses, putting food on the table (especially healthy food) can be an immense challenge. The money will be used to buy perishable food for the Food Bank. (Submitted by Jenny Wagener, Gift Processing Specialist, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO)
9. **Haskell LIGHT Campus Ministry-Native Students, single moms & children-----\$5,000.00**
Haskell LIGHT Campus Ministry expands with the new facility being built on the campus in Lawrence, KS; additional opportunities will be afforded to work with the students. The money is needed for programs offered at Haskell LIGHT for Native students, single mothers and children. One aspect of the possible programs is to equip and empower women through theological training. Another aspect is mentoring women in the areas of money management, cooking skills, developing healthy relationships, setting boundaries and much more. Also a children's ministry has been started on Sunday mornings. (Submitted by First Lutheran Church, Paola, KS)
10. **Good Shepherd Lutheran Homes ,Dominican Republic-Housing-----\$5,000.00**
The money is needed for alternative community-based living supports in Lutheran host homes for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the Dominican Republic. The money will be used to help them find host families for the children and train the family to take care of the child. The LCMS first sent missionaries to begin work in the Dominican Republic in September of 2005 with the intent to plant congregations, train church workers and establish a mercy ministry with people who have intellectual and developmental disabilities. Several Dominican Lutheran congregations and two schools have been established. (Submitted by Teryl Putman, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Tillamook, OR)
11. **Children Christian Concern Society-Sierra Leone-School Equipment-----\$5,000.00**
Children Christian Concern Society Lead-a-Child has been working in Sierra Leone since 2005. The program has expanded greatly. Now the Lutheran Schools in Sierra Leone have 5,865 students in 29 Lutheran Schools with 178 teachers. CCCS Lead-a-Child helps with the teachers' salary assistance; however, they don't help with school equipment or furniture. Christian Education is very important to the Lutherans in Sierra Leone. This project will help with the Christian Education of the children in Sierra Leone and will help bring hope for now and their eternal future. (Submitted by Sandy Bachofen, Grace, McPherson)
12. **First Lutheran Preschool, Sabetha, KS-Copier-----\$1,000.00**
The money will be used for a copier for the preschool. Not all the students who attend our preschool come from a Christian home. Therefore, materials are copied and sent home to provide an extension of Christian education in the home. Also, monthly newsletters include Bible stories that are being taught to our students. These provide constant communication with the parents and our congregation. (Submitted by First Lutheran, Sabetha, KS)

LWML Kansas District

2016 Convention Shirt Order Form

FOR SUCH A TIME
AS THIS.



FOR WE ARE HIS
WORKMANSHIP EPH. 2:10

This year's convention Shirts - purple Dri-Fit Polo that can be ordered in Ladies and Unisex sizes. The convention logo is on the upper left breast. The cost is \$20 per polo.

Also available this year - a sturdy purple and black convention bag with shoulder strap and outside pocket, with convention logo and date printed on the front pocket. The cost is \$10 per bag.

Shirts will be available for purchase, ordering and/or pick up at:

- LWML Retreat in Wichita in November (while available -all sizes available to try on!)
- Pre-order
- LWML Convention in Manhattan (pick up only)

*** Make checks payable to: LWML Kansas District ***

ALL CONVENTION SHIRT ORDER FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY FEB 20, 2016

Please mail payment with order form to:

Allison Lehmann, 6201 SE 69th St, Berryton, KS 66409

or email: lehmann726@msn.com

Name: _____	Size	Ladies	Unisex (mark quantity)
Address: _____	Small	_____	_____
Phone: _____	Med.	_____	_____
Email: _____	Large	_____	_____
QUANTITY: POLO _____ x \$20 each = _____	XL	_____	_____
BAG _____ x \$10 each = _____	2XL	_____	_____
TOTAL DUE: _____	3XL	_____	_____

Convention Bag (quantity) _____

Lutheran Women's Missionary League Kansas District

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"Serve the Lord with Gladness" Psalm 100:2 *Special Focus Ministries Committee*

To: LWML Zone Presidents
 LWML Zone Special Focus Ministries Chairmen

Attention all Zone Presidents and Zone Special Focus Ministries (SFM) Chairmen: Please see that each society counterpart listed below gets a copy of the enclosed pages.

* * * * * * * * * * *

To: LWML Society Presidents
 LWML Society Special Focus Ministries Chairmen
 LWML Members

Greetings from the LWML Kansas District Special Focus Ministries Committee!

The LWML Kansas District Special Focus Ministries Committee will be hosting a special program for Young Woman Representatives at the LWML Kansas District Convention April 15-17, 2016, at the Four Points Sheraton, in Manhattan, Kansas.

Each Zone in the Kansas District will be able to sponsor two Young Woman Representatives (YWRs). The suggested age is 20 through 35 (as of April 15, 2016). Other information about the application process is listed in the attached guidelines.

Please encourage any young woman fitting the guidelines to apply. The application does not have to be given out only by the Presidents or Special Focus Ministries Chairmen; any LWML member may, and should, encourage a young woman to apply!

The completed application forms need to be postmarked no later than January 15, 2016, and should be returned to the Zone President. Each Zone will be responsible for selecting two Young Woman Representatives and submitting the two chosen YWR applications to the SFM Committee, along with the convention registration forms and a check to cover the registration fees. Hotel reservations will be made by the LWML Kansas District Special Focus Ministries Committee. Each Zone will be responsible for paying the hotel expenses for their YWR upon checkout.

All forms and fees are to be submitted to the LWML Kansas District Special Focus Ministries Committee by February 1, 2016. Please direct any questions and the registration forms to:

Allison Lehmann
6201 SE 69th
Berryton, KS 66409
785-379-9010
lehmann726@msn.com

In His Name,

Allison Lehmann ☺

Allison Lehmann, LWML Kansas District Special Focus Ministries Committee Chairman

Lutheran Women's Missionary League Kansas District

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"Serve the Lord with Gladness" Psalm 100:2

Special Focus Ministries Committee

GUIDELINES FOR APPLICATION FOR LWML KANSAS DISTRICT YOUNG WOMAN REPRESENTATIVES

What is a Young Woman Representative? The YWR (acronym) is a young woman who represents her church, society, zone and district for the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML); she does not have to be a member of LWML! She will attend the District convention as a special guest and have the opportunity to see how the LWML operates in its missionary service. More importantly, she is mentored on how to develop a strong relationship with God and others through her work in LWML.

Who may apply?

1. She must be a mature young woman between the ages of 20-35 (as of April 15, 2016) who is a member of the Kansas District Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.
2. She shall have a deep love and devotion to her Lord Jesus Christ and be willing to participate in all aspects of the YWR program of the LWML.
3. She must be able and willing to attend all sessions and YWR activities of the convention. YWRs will be seated together but will not vote.
4. She must be able to be away from home and/or work for the convention.

What can the YWR expect from the experience?

1. She will be given a "mountain-top" experience that will be spiritually uplifting, inspiring, fun-filled, entertaining and interesting.
2. She will be a special guest at the convention, and the her LWML Zone will cover registration, travel, housing and meal package costs.

What can the District expect of the YWR?

1. The YWR will become an active participant in her society, zone and the district.
2. The YWR will encourage other young women to become part of the excitement.
3. The YWR will complete a Personnel Resource Profile after the convention.

How to apply:

1. Complete the attached forms (4 pages) and return it to your **Zone President**:
Zone President Name _____
Address _____
Telephone _____ E-mail _____
2. The application must be returned and/or postmarked no later than **January 15, 2016**.
3. Each Zone Committee will select two YWRs to attend the LWML Kansas District Convention, and should send their selections to the Special Focus Ministries Committee by **February 1, 2016**.
4. All applicants will be notified by their Zone President, also by February 1, 2016, with the selection of the applicants chosen to represent their zone as a YWR at the LWML Kansas District Convention.

Questions? Contact Allison Lehmann at 785-379-9010 or lehmann726@msn.com

Lutheran Women's Missionary League Kansas District

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"Serve the Lord with Gladness" Psalm 100:2

Special Focus Ministries Committee



YOUNG WOMAN REPRESENTATIVE APPLICATION
Manhattan, Kansas April 15-17, 2016

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____, Kansas Zip Code _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Occupation _____

Home Congregation _____

Church City _____

LWML Zone _____

Lutheran Women's Missionary League Kansas District

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"Serve the Lord with Gladness" Psalm 100:2 *Special Focus Ministries Committee*

Please answer the following questions. You may use the back or another sheet if needed.

1. The LWML motto is "Serve the Lord with Gladness" (Psalm 100:2).
How do you do this in your life?
2. What is your knowledge of and level of participation in LWML, if any?
3. Why do you desire to be a Young Woman Representative for this Zone at the Kansas District LWML Convention?

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"Serve the Lord with Gladness" Psalm 100:2 *Special Focus Ministries Committee*

- Questions? Contact Allison Lehmann at 785-379-9010 or lehmann726@msn.com
➤ This complete application (4 pages) must be mailed to your Zone President and postmarked no later than **January 15, 2016**.

Lutheran Women's Missionary League Kansas District

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"Serve the Lord with Gladness" Psalm 100:2 ***Special Focus Ministries Committee***

YOUNG WOMAN REPRESENTATIVE APPLICATION

Letter of Reference

Applicant's Name _____

"Why do you feel that this individual would be a good Young Woman Representative (YWR) to the Kansas District LWML Convention?"

Reference written by:

Name _____ Phone _____

Relationship to Applicant _____ E-mail _____

Local LWML Society President Signature _____

Return this letter of reference to the YWR applicant, so she may return it to her Zone President with the YWR application forms.

Questions? Contact Allison Lehmann at 785-379-9010 or lehmann726@msn.com

The application must be postmarked no later than **January 15, 2016**.



Seventy-five (The Time is NOW) **BIG IDEAS!**

The Time is NOW is an initiative to help the LWML refocus on our basic common core values: being in God's Word, missions, service, and fellowship. It is imperative, even urgent, that women share with other women the contagious joy that results from participating in the LWML. The Time is NOW to look to the future of the LWML!

These BIG Ideas shared by members of the LWML Board of Directors, show how this initiative could be shared throughout our LWML. The challenge is to try to use these 75 BIG Ideas before the 2017 LWML Convention in Salt Lake City, Utah, when the LWML will celebrate its 75th Anniversary!

Begin to think "outside the box" and be creative. Share at least one BIG Idea with a sister in Christ today!



Lutheran Women's Missionary League
www.lwml.org

Seventy-five

BIG



(The Time is NOW)

IDEAS!

1. The Time is NOW to hold an "Advent by Candlelight" evening in December, and invite a new friend to attend with you. Sit at specially decorated festive tables and enjoy the fellowship!
2. The Time is NOW to learn how to access the great LWML resources for meetings, personal devotions, and Bible studies on the Internet. Share the excitement of www.lwml.org with a friend! Easy to Access! Easy to Share!
3. The Time is NOW to find out how LWML is involved in social media. See what's happening on Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest. Get involved! "Follow," "friend," "like," and most importantly, "share" with your sister in Christ.
4. The Time is NOW to encourage others to go on a mission trip! Perhaps you can't go, but you can identify and encourage ... even support ... a special woman in your life to tell the Good News about Jesus!
5. The Time is NOW to have more than one LWML group in your congregation! Perhaps groups might create quilts, assist the elderly, or work at a clothing bank or food pantry. Make Bible study a part of each activity. Serve the Lord with Gladness!
6. Women of all ages and cultures have gifts to share. The Time is NOW to use the talents of these women ... involve them in your special projects ... listen to them ... encourage them!
7. The Time is NOW to be a local missionary — get your group involved in an eyeglass project! Help sort eyeglasses that can be used or recycled for distribution during mission trips. Think of other ways to be involved in missions. Ask a sister in Christ to join you.
8. The Time is NOW to make a joyful noise to the Lord! Make noise by encouraging everyone (young and old) to put their mites into a purple metal bucket ... what a noise, perhaps heard around the world!
9. The Time is NOW to intentionally be in God's Word at every gathering with your sisters in Christ — read a devotion, use a Bible study, or share a Mustard Seed Devotion.
10. The Time is NOW to take a prayer walk around your neighborhood at your next gathering and pray for your community, local businesses, and first responders. Follow up these "prayer walking" activities with a "we're praying for you" letter.
11. The Time is NOW to set up a timeline and checklist for your next LWML gathering. Identify the gifts of your sisters in Christ, and give them responsibilities in those areas. Ready, set, go!
12. The Time is NOW to start a Book Club! Connect with sisters in Christ and take that opportunity to share Christ's love with them.
13. The Time is NOW to hold a "For Women Only" event in your church for all sisters in Christ! Spend time once or twice a year in Bible study, crafting, singing, and eating. Invite the women in your life to join you in the fellowship!
14. The Time is NOW to encourage a far-away friend or a homebound person in her faith by reading the Daily Mustard Seed Devotion together on the phone.
15. The Time is NOW for each LWML district to design a pocketbook-sized Missions Grants Booklet. Update it each year with either the new district mission grants or the new national mission grants.
16. The Time is NOW to challenge the YWRs from your district by asking them to invite and bring several young women to join in the celebration at the 2017 Convention in Salt Lake City. What an impact this will be!
17. The Time is NOW to remember our LWML heritage, recall why you joined LWML, and find someone you can mentor as a future LWML sister-in-Christ.
18. The Time is NOW to visit or study a historical site/person in the history of the LCMS, and give recognition to their work by replicating their efforts in your community.
19. The Time is NOW to have a Monday Mighty Mite emphasis. Every Monday, or each month, learn more about where and how our mites at the national and district levels are being used.





20. The Time is NOW to be **inclusive** rather than **exclusive**! Stress **participation** instead of **membership**! Invite those outside of your regular LWML circle to all events including Bible studies, leadership workshops, fellowship, and servant events.
21. The Time is NOW to use innovative games to get to know one another. Host a craft session before game night and make the pyramid-shaped LWML ornaments, available at www.lwml.org. Use them as prizes, with a note inside for either a door prize of chocolate candy or a certificate redeemable at the LWML store.
22. The Time is NOW to look for needs of people in your community and share the love of Jesus with them through servant events and Gifts from the Heart. Check with local agencies for specific needs... *that we (they) may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need!* (Hebrews 4:16b).
23. The Time is NOW to put God and His outreach example first in your life by showing kindness and love to a stranger. Move out of your comfort zone!
24. The Time is NOW to develop a relationship with a sister in the pew whom you don't know very well. Consider mentoring her, or being mentored by her!
25. The Time is NOW to connect technology to all, using tech-savvy women sharing their knowledge through mini-classes, starting in your local group.
26. The Time is NOW to bloom where you're planted! The Lord plants His people; prayerfully reflect how the Lord entrusted you with His gifts and talents to give Him glory, in every aspect of your life.
27. The Time is NOW to spur inactive societies to reactivate and to reach out to new congregation plants and encourage the formation of new LWML societies. Go to www.lwml.org and use the resources on the Service/Group Resources page.
28. The Time is NOW to make a big whoop! Celebrate ministries in creative ways that encourage involvement and identify faithful servants.
29. The Time is NOW to hold a District Servant Event Retreat! Contact a food pantry, a homeless shelter, a resale shop, or a youth center, and ask if there is a hands-on project your group could do. Include a Bible study, good food, and fellowship!

30. The Time is NOW to recognize that we are connected to God by the Holy Spirit – our “Power Source” – and that through Bible Study and leadership resources, the women of the LWML are enabled to identify and develop their own God-given gifts and talents to do His work whenever and wherever He has need of them.
31. The Time is NOW to connect with the younger generation in our church (ages 18-35) by developing a relationship with them, one-by-one. Get to know a young woman, invite her to events, and share the mission of the LWML. She is our future!
32. The Time is NOW to praise God that we live in a free country where we can still Serve the Lord with Gladness!
33. The Time is NOW to step out in faith and use your God-given gift of leadership! Go to www.lwml.org and use the resources on the Service/Group Resources page.
34. The Time is NOW to pray for, and plan to attend, your upcoming district LWML conventions, that God would continue to work in and through the LWML in a mighty way to show His bountiful love and blessings to all nations and generations as we reach out in His name.
35. The Time is NOW to prayerfully consider how God wants to use the talents of each member of the LWML to serve Him and reach others for Christ on the society, zone, district, and/or national level.
36. The Time is NOW to trade an old event for a fresh new idea! Let your leaders hear new ideas. Just because you've “always done it that way” doesn't mean you can't make some changes.
37. The Time is NOW to find great event ideas in the *Impressions* newsletter found on the Young Woman page at www.lwml.org!
38. The Time is NOW to create a journal to celebrate and observe the Reformation anniversary and/or LWML's 75th anniversary. It could include Bible studies, Lutheran history, and your LWML experience. Perhaps you can scrapbook “Why I am a Lutheran Woman.”
39. The Time is NOW to be brave and embrace new technology. Implement online meetings. Invite district leaders to a workshop and teach them how to use various online meeting tools.



40. The Time is NOW to sponsor a "Witness, Mercy, and Life" Saturday luncheon event to inform people about human trafficking and how to respond to victims. Use resources provided by the LCMS and Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service team on the LCMS website.
41. The Time is NOW to give your sister-in-Christ a great big LWML hug! You may never know how much that hug might be needed.
42. The Time is NOW to stand for what you believe, without timidity, bravely confessing your belief in Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord to your family, neighbors, and community.
43. The Time is NOW to speak! Reach out in love! Use your God-given strengths, talents, and abilities for HIS glory! "...Who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" (Esther 4:14).
44. The Time is NOW to ask a church worker (pastor, teacher, etc.) what would really help them. Listen to them. Then go do it, or get it for them, regardless how big or small the request.
45. The Time is NOW to contact MOST Ministries and make plans to participate in a short-term mission trip. Join an existing team or set up a new one with MOST's help, to serve in one of the LCMS mission fields.
46. The Time is NOW to honor God by being in HIS Word. Keep a daily appointment with Him! Pray earnestly.
47. The Time is NOW to accept the challenge to serve when and where you see a need. God equips those whom He chooses to serve in His Kingdom.
48. The Time is NOW to live a blessed life. Look for the good that comes along with the trials in your life.
49. The Time is NOW to prayerfully remember the mission goal daily and to give Him thanks for His work done through us and these mites!
50. The Time is NOW to make an appointment with your pastor and share the partnership of LWML and the work of the LCMS. Equip him with resources like Pastor to Pastor so he can talk to other pastors about the work of LWML and how the women in their care can help them.
51. The Time is NOW to give someone a fresh flower and share how they, like the flower, are God's masterpiece and how much He loves them.
52. The Time is NOW to organize a "Spa Day" at a care center. Give foot massages and share the story in John 13:1-17, where Jesus washes the feet of the disciples.
53. The Time is NOW to show your faith by sharing God's love; even a simple smile can lift someone's outlook on life. Ask how they're feeling, and listen to their response. Consider praying with them.
54. The Time is NOW to start a service project, like marking Bibles for a prison ministry, crafting Gospel bracelets, or tying a quilt. Close the event with an LWML sketch, and of course, enjoy fellowship at lunch.
55. The Time is NOW to publicize LWML events or Bible studies in a new way. Take photos of these events and post them on social media to encourage women to come to your next event; use the photos in your church newsletter, too, or make a poster.
56. The Time is NOW to ask your pastor if you can do a Mission Moment at worship services one Sunday of each month, using the resources from the LWML website. Highlight a mission grant, including a brief summary of the project and a prayer.
57. The Time is NOW to purchase a new medium-sized Mite Box to display at church. Refresh LWML bulletin boards or LWML displays. Be sure publicity is eye-catching. Change out photos and mission grant posters monthly.
58. The Time is NOW to review district goals and expand them to include new ideas which will motivate women for service to the Lord.
59. The Time is NOW to support and pray for our missionaries abroad. Pray for world peace.
60. The Time is NOW to stop storing up treasures on earth. Donate those size 10 dresses that will never fit again and provide them for someone in need!
61. The Time is NOW to hide Bible passages and tracts in the pockets of clothing you give away so that people may find them and seek God and His righteousness!

Seventy-five

BIG



(The Time is NOW)

IDEAS!



62. The Time is NOW to decide if you should speak or to be silent, to keep or to cast away, in order to make your LWML group grow stronger. Celebrate diversity.
63. The Time is NOW to celebrate your Baptism and rejoice in our risen Savior. Host a "Baptism birthday party" for the whole church or a particular group, giving thanks for Christ's love and redemption.
64. The Time is NOW to share what LWML is about – Bible study, mission outreach, service to others, and fellowship. Invite at least one new friend to your next LWML activity; provide a ride; sit with her; and introduce her to others.
65. The Time is NOW to recognize that women lead very busy lives and struggle to have time with God. Point out that LWML has online daily Mustard Seed Devotions that take one minute to read, but will give her strength and joy all the hours of her day.
66. The Time is NOW for Jesus to return very soon! A joyful thought for those of us who are Christians, but what about our neighbors who are not? Share the Good News! Give them one of the new LWML Bibles!
67. The Time is NOW to sparkle like a jewel! Women of all ages love jewelry! Ask each woman to bring a piece of unwanted jewelry and a Bible verse which is especially meaningful to her, then hold a creative jewelry exchange and explain her Bible verse.
68. The Time is NOW to share with others the stories of real people impacted by LWML grants. People all over the world are hearing about Jesus Christ and experiencing acts of mercy done in His name. Get excited about what God is doing in and through our mites! Thank Him that He has allowed us to be a part of His story. Tell everyone you know. Be a mission advocate. www.lwml.org/mission-grant-resources

69. The Time is NOW to order an individual subscription to the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*, along with a complimentary digital eQuarterly. Then give away your paper copy, saying, "I think you will enjoy reading this."
70. The Time is NOW to intentionally and actively show God's love and encourage a woman who is seeking to be in God's service. Help her explore the challenge to become more involved in serving the Lord through the LWML. Let her know you will support her and answer her questions.
71. The Time is NOW to share Jesus with our family, friends, and neighbors. As gifted women of God, let's be BOLD in our witness for Him. Call someone you haven't talked to in a while and share what Jesus is doing in your life.
72. The Time is NOW to tell everybody about Jesus, true God, who became man, took on everyone's sins, died for them, conquered death in the resurrection, and gives salvation to all believers. Have a faith statement ready to incorporate into your daily interactions.
73. The Time is NOW to show love to a missionary or a mission church. Send emails or greeting cards of encouragement!
74. The Time is NOW to pray for God's guidance before each event as we make decisions and look for ways to serve Him.
75. The Time is NOW to make plans to attend the LWML's 75th anniversary celebration at the LWML Convention in Salt Lake City, Utah, June 22-25, 2017! Mark your calendar! Save the dates! Watch for registration materials in early 2017.



RETREAT

Expecting... HIS Presence

*"Worship the LORD
with gladness,
come before him with
joyful songs. Know
that the LORD is God.
It is He who made us,
and we are HIS ..."*

— Psalm 100:2-3a NIV

2015 RETREAT
Sponsored by the
Christian Life Committee



NOVEMBER 6 & 7

Tentative agenda

FRIDAY— 5:00 Registration Opens / check into rooms
Shopping OPEN! 'til 7PM

6:00 Welcome Reception

7:00 Special Guest Speaker & Activities

8:45 Vespers

9:15 Fellowship: After Hours Fun & Games

SATURDAY— Early Meditations/ Walkers

7:30-8:30 Breakfast served
Shopping OPEN! 'til 9AM

8:00 Registration Opens

9:00 Welcome & Prayer

9:10 Session I

11:15 Break / Shopping OPEN! 'til 12:30 PM

11:30 LUNCH SERVED

12:30 Session II

2:30 Closing thoughts



DOUBLETREE
BY HILTON

2098 Airport Road

Wichita, KS 67209

Enjoy a range of amenities, including an indoor pool, a spa tub, and a 24-hour fitness center, wireless Internet, gift shops/newsstands, and a fireplace in the lobby.

Sleeping Rooms are reserved by the committee for you. Do not book with the hotel!



DANIELLE TIETJEN is a common girl with a common story. She questions her judgments, tries her best, and sacrifices a lot for her children. She understands that women need one another for encouragement, love, and forgiveness. Even while being a Christian, Dani has made some unfavorable choices with her life. She is a mom who makes more mistakes than she claims as successes. She understands that knowing the Lord is a journey through life. She is passionate about walking alongside her audience as they search the word of God for the truth that will guide them through life.

Dani brings her own stories and history to life inside the truth of scripture. She studied Mission and Outreach with a focus in Theology at Concordia University in St. Paul, MN. Her studies fueled a love for diverse cultures and how the poor are treated around the globe.

TIME WITH DANI WILL ENCOURAGE YOUR HEART, LIGHTEN YOUR SPIRIT WITH LAUGHTER, AND HELP FILL YOU WITH IDEAS ON HOW TO TACKLE LIFE'S EXPECTATIONS AND SERVING OTHERS.

Please reserve my spot! I want to:

*"Worship the Lord with gladness,
come before him with joyful songs. Know
that the Lord is God. It is He who made us, and we
are HIS ..." — Psalm 100:2-3a NIV*

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Special Needs: _____

RETREAT REGISTRATION:

(PLEASE CIRCLE YOUR CHOICES AND ENCLOSE AMOUNT ACCORDINGLY)

Hotel Room, Meals & Activities for One Great Price!

1 person/room	\$161.00 (\$85 room/\$66 meals/\$10 Materials)
2 person/room	\$102.50 per person
3 person/room	\$ 83.00 per person
4 person/room	\$ 73.25 per person

ADD: \$10 if postmarked after October 1st please!

Expected Roommates: _____

TEEN REGISTRATION:

Teens are encouraged to come with adult supervision. A special \$63 fee is necessary to cover the meals and activities, but the Christian Life Committee will not charge for the extra person in the sleeping room.

Name: _____ Age _____

We encourage you to attend the entire RETREAT event, but realize that is not always possible. Our reduced fees are based on the number of people participating and the number of hotel rooms we expect to have reserved. *Please come if you can!!*

COMMUTER RATE: \$75.00

Enjoy a relaxing Friday evening
café-style fellowship, connecting with
old friends and meeting new ones.



LIGHTEN YOUR SPIRIT
WITH LAUGHTER



WIN PRIZES



Concordia Publishing House and the LWML
Kansas District Store will have items
available for your shopping enjoyment!!

*Invite your friends,
sisters, mothers,
sponsor someone from
your church family,
co-workers or teens!!*

SEE YOU IN WICHITA ON:

NOVEMBER 6 & 7

Mail Registration by **October 1**,
to RSVP your hotel room, meals and
place to enjoy all the fun activities!

Make Checks Payable And Mail To:

CHRISTIAN LIFE RETREAT
C/O JOLENE STACKHOUSE
4119 REDBUD DRIVE
JUNCTION CITY, KS 66441

MAY YOU LEAVE

ALWAYS
Expecting...
HIS
Presence



TASTE OF THE SEM

Andrew Hatesohl, 2321 9th Street, Clay Center, KS 67432
andrew.hatesohl@cune.org

Off to England!

I leave for England August 19th for a year of study at Westfield House in Cambridge. We will have a weekend of orientation, and classes start the following Monday. I am thrilled for this wonderful opportunity God has given me. I look forward to conversing with Christians from all around the world, being stretched mentally by a cross-cultural context, traveling across Europe, and the chance to study at Cambridge. Several of my professors who have taken advantage of our international program have said that this experience "revives their love of learning." Don't get me wrong; the seminary has been great. But I am excited to have some flexibility in what I will learn and study.

I will be taking several classes at Westfield House/Cambridge: World Religions, English Reformation, Early Christianity, Isaiah and the Prophets, Aramaic, Pastoral Theology, and a class covering the history and literature of the time between the Old and New Testaments. Several of these classes are not offered back in St. Louis! I have planned well enough that all of these should transfer back to Concordia, too, so I may be able to graduate a half year earlier!

If you remember, this summer I worked part time at the pool and visited shut-in members

at my church. Both jobs were enjoyable, but especially fulfilling was visiting our shut-ins. It was such a joy to be able to bring the Word of God to those who are unable to come to church. At times, I feel like they were ministering to me as much as I was to them, when I heard the stories of how the Lord had worked in their lives and continued to be faithful to them.

As always, thank you for everything. You will be in my prayers.

The Lord be with you,

Andy Hatesohl

Specific Prayer Requests

- Safe travels for those returning to school
- Continued healing for my back
- Growth in wisdom and learning during my year in England
- My brother and his family as they transition to Maryland where he will start medical school

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD ALWAYS FOR ALL OF YOU, CONSTANTLY MENTIONING YOU IN OUR PRAYERS, REMEMBERING BEFORE OUR GOD AND FATHER YOUR WORK OF FAITH AND LABOR OF LOVE AND STEADFASTNESS OF HOPE IN OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.

— 1 THESSALONIANS 1:2-3

The Dig

I arrived back from Israel on July 21st. The dig at Abel Beth Maacah was a wonderful experience. Every week my back continued to improve; by the fourth week the pain was nearly gone! (Still some discomfort remains, though; I

Continued on Page 2

Dig from page 1

would appreciate your continued prayers. I miss being able to run and play sports without any consequences). As an excavation team we found some interesting items and architecture. Some of the volunteers found intact vessels, beads, and even a human skeleton! The site now has more Iron I layers (the time of Joshua/Judges) than any other place in northern Israel which is important to understanding the geo-politics of the day.

My digging "square" found a 3000 year-old metalworking installation. The ancient inhabitants would have smelted and worked bronze material in this area. Even more exciting, an archaeologist who specializes in metal said the installation may also contain the oldest evidence of iron working in the Holy Land. Bronze was eventually phased out for iron, and we seem to have a place where both were happening.

In the picture to the right, you can see the metalworking installation. The overhead shot shows the pot surrounded by a circle of stones. Inside the pot we found dark ashy soil, indicating



it contained burned material. We also found bronze residue in the soil, bone fragments, iron filings, and an air nozzle (a "tuyère") which would have been used in the smelting process. The bone fragments were tinted green, showing that copper was present nearby (bronze is ~90% copper).

Though the dig was gratifying, I was most amazed at the community of the dig team. I have never been in such a diverse group of people. At least seven countries were represented, three religions (with a wide range of theological convictions), and every political view under the sun. Despite our differences, everyone was gracious to each other and hard working. God truly blessed me with such a wonderful excavation team. (If you want to see more dig photos and even videos you can visit <https://www.facebook.com/AbelBethMaacah>).

I did manage to spend some time exploring the country, too. I attended church several Sundays at the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in Jerusalem. I ventured through the bustling shops of the Old City, meeting up with one of my friends who owns a shop. I ate traditional Arab food at a Christian restaurant in the West Bank near Bethlehem. I visited the impressive excavations at Magdala (the hometown of Mary Magdalene) on the Sea of Galilee. Overall, the trip was another wonderful experience. I hope the thrill of walking where our Lord was born, taught, died, and raised, never grows old.



Evidence that I did in fact excavate. My left hand rests on a "standing stone," used to represent a deity in many religions of the day (See Deut. 12:3 where the Lord commands the Israelites to destroy the Canaanite standing stones.)