

The Kansas Sonshine

Volume 72: Number 1

WINTER 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*

Bountiful! Sow • Nourish • Reap **LWML Convention** **Des Moines, Iowa** **June 25-28, 2015**

Will You Be There?

Why should I attend a national convention?

- To be fed by God's Word through Worship Services and Bible Studies.
- To participate in Servant Events that support agencies in Des Moines and nationwide.
- To make new friends and fellowship with LWML sisters you have known for years.
- To be a part of the offerings collected for the newly selected Mission Projects and other selected agencies.
- To share in a mountain-top experience that will inspire you to return home on fire to Serve the Lord with Gladness.

The Time is Now to make the commitment. Do something just for you this summer. Grow your faith-walk. Grow your servant-heart. Grow your mission-mind. The Time is Now to be a Wonderful Witnessing Woman.

What is – Bountiful! Sow • Nourish • Reap ?

Bountiful means to provide in abundance.

Sow means to scatter or plant (seed) for growing.

Nourish means to feed or sustain with substances necessary to life.

Reap means to gain or obtain as the reward of action, conduct, or work.



Convention Theme Scripture Verse: *And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. - 2 Corinthians 9:8*

As a woman of God in attendance at convention you will receive God's abundant grace and be equipped to carry out the work of planting His seed in others, feeding their searching souls, and offering them the reward of eternal life found only in Christ Jesus.

Join Me! The Time is Now to be a leader in your congregation. Gather a car load. Book a hotel room. Invite! Invite! Invite! Kansas is just a hop, skip and jump from Iowa. The LWML convention has never been closer. The Time is Now to take advantage of the easy trip.

In order to be Bountiful, we must first Sow the seed of attendance, Nourish excitement about the opportunity and then Reap the reward that God has planned for you during your experience.

I can't wait to see each of you there!

President Karen

Book your hotel rooms early! Early discounted registration is 2/2/15 - 3/14/15; regular registration is 3/14/15 - 5/8/15. For more information, check the Winter 2014 issue of the Quarterly or go to <http://www.lwml.org/events/conventions/2015-des-moines>.

Counselor's Corner

Pastor Jay Hobson



"Our Father"



When the disciples asked the Lord to teach them to pray, He did not give them a great detailed instruction booklet on the proper protocols for prayer nor did he tell them to just say whatever they would like to say to God. No, when the disciples asked the Lord to teach them to pray He just puts the prayer into their mouths. In Matthew's Gospel that prayer is recorded for us like this:

Pray then like this: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

- Matthew 6:9-13

When the disciples desired to pray earnestly to God, Jesus puts his own prayer – *The Lord's Prayer* – into their mouths. There are three things that we can immediately take from this:

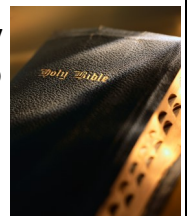
First, it is that God guides His people to pray with His Words in their mouths. Whether it is from the psalms (as we heard Pastor Duncan and Deitrich Bonhoeffer encourage us to do in the last "Counselor's Corner" article!), the catechism, or from the daily reading in our morning devotion God wants us to pray with His Word in our mouths. And, honestly, is there any better way to pray with a firm faith than with God's great and precious promises ringing in our ears? I encourage you to do so!

Second, it is that we pray to God as our loving Heavenly Father. Luther states it like this in the Small Catechism: "With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask Him as dear children ask their dear Father." There is certainly a time and place to speak about being prayer warriors. Indeed, the devil and his demons are at hand and prayer in the Word is a mighty weapon against him! However, we ought to also consider and cherish that we pray to God who is our loving Heavenly Father. He is no tyrant god that we must turn toward us with our many prayers. No, He is "our Father in heaven" who listens to the prayer of even one small Christian saint just as intently as He listens to the prayers of many.

Third, it is that Jesus has given us in this prayer a simple prayer that prays for everything we could ever ask for. Indeed, there is no prayer either in your mind or even in the Psalms that is not asked for in the Lord's Prayer. You desire good government? You ask for it when you ask for daily bread. You want to pray for our missionaries here and abroad? You do so every time you pray "Thy kingdom come." You want to lead a holy life knowing that God must work it in you? You ask for that too when you pray "Hallowed be Thy name," asking that God's Word be taught to you in truth in purity and that your life is conformed to it. Jesus gives us all prayers in this one prayer. How wonderful!

Dear Christians, when you have trouble finding the words to pray, fear not. Jesus said, "Pray then like this." This is God's beloved Son; listen to Him. He has given you His prayer, a prayer to our loving heavenly Father, and a prayer for everything we could ever need.

God's grace and peace be with you always,
Pastor Jay G. Hobson



Have you visited the new LWML Kansas District website yet? Thank you, Mark Fuchs (webmaster), for all your work! It's a whole new format and is easier to navigate through the pages.

The new website address is: www.kansaslwml.org.

WICHITA ZONE NEWS

Submitted by Karen Morrison

The Risen Savior LWML Society in Wichita recruited a new "Mite Lady" this fall. Kris Driskill strolls around during the Fellowship/Coffee time between early service and Bible class on the first Sunday of each month, accepting coins and paper bills, especially those purple five dollar bills. Since her arrival, Mites for the society have been on the rise. In return for their Mite offering, contributors receive a snack baggy with M&M's (Mites for Missions) and a highlight on an LWML Mission Project. Maybe there is a "Mite Lady" in your congregation just waiting to be asked to help raise Mite awareness.



NORTHWEST ZONE NEWS

Submitted by Michela Hiesterman

The First Lutheran Church ladies of Phillipsburg have been busy creating special items to be sent along to those that can use them the most. With leftover material, dresses have been lovingly sewn with each having their own unique character with a variety of pockets, buttons, rick-rack, and lace.

The first donation of mission dresses was made for little girls, and there was a total of 50 sewn. Then material with beautiful embroidery work was donated to the Orphan Grain Train (OGT). Four dresses were designed from this donation (see picture below). All these dresses awaited that special someone. Wherever the destination, hopefully they yielded a smile to a young face.



Left to Right: Joyce White, Luetta Hanchett, Verna Dusin, Lilo Pestotnik, and Donna Jean Townley



Left to right: Lois Bredemeier, Luetta Hanchett, Evelyn Ferguson, and Gladys Ehm

The lady responsible for making these dresses said she smiled the whole time as she stitched them. It was a joyful project, so this past summer 50 more dresses were sewn--each stitched with love as many accessories added were donated by loved ones that have gone to be with our Lord. It just makes the dresses that much more special and unique.

Many of these dresses have been given to OGT for shipment to those in need, and some of them have been sent to the House of Hope in Haiti. May God Bless the little girls and young women that will be able to enjoy them.

Quilting continues also at First Lutheran Church in Phillipsburg. Various ladies have kept the tradition going for over 23 years. The first group met in 1991, and twenty-three years later some of the faces are still the same, some have been called to their heavenly home, and some are experiencing the tying of quilts for the first time. The group meets six to seven times a year from January through March.



We average eight to twelve ladies each time. Several ladies make the tops then a group assembles to tie the quilts. They are folded, packed, and sent on to Orphan Grain Train (OGT) for delivery. In the years past they have sent several quilts to Lutheran World Relief also. Gladys Ehm and Lilo Pestotnik are the organizers. Ehm has been doing it from the beginning. She just turned 91 in April. "Lucile and Clarence Bohl cut many, many blocks when we first started," Ehm expressed. "It has been interesting to see how other people are so willing to help over the years."

Each LWML Sunday, the quilts are displayed on the pews before they are packed and sent on. The group has constructed three crib quilts, thirty lap robes, and 1,101 quilts from 1991 to present. The group prides themselves in making a quilt yearly that is donated to the Hospice Services Fundraiser. Every year, the monetary total the quilt brings for Hospice is humbling. Quilts are also given to local families that have experienced a disaster of some sort. All of these gifts are gifts of hope and love extended through God's grace over the years.



HERINGTON ZONE NEWS

Submitted by Susie Dittman

The Herington Zone Fall Workshop was held at Strong City with 30 present. The Servant Leadership Program was presented by our Zone President Marilyn Riemer. Zone members participated in a Mite challenge and \$170.00 was collected. LWML KS District President Karen Morrison told her story. She said that we are all "pennies", and when you put all the pennies together and tell people about LWML with our Mites, quilts, and kits, we are sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ to all the world.

We were privileged to have the Strong City Chime Chorus perform as our entertainment. President Karen presented an LWML information packet and gift bag to Pastor Gilkey, the new pastor of Immanuel-Shady Brook and St. Johns-Lyons Creek, and welcomed him to the LWML Kansas District.

SOUTHWEST ZONE NEWS

Submitted by Bernie Reetz

The Southwest Zone Fall Rally met at the Nursing Home in Kinsley with several residents for a sing along. Opening devotion was led by Pastor Palmer. Gripper socks were donated to the residents, and then we shared cookies and punch with the residents. After the opening, we carpoled to Offerle for the Zone meeting. Pastor Wehling, SW Zone LWML Counselor led us in a Bible study of "Less Well-known Women of the Bible". Vice President Ruth Stice presided over the meeting in the absence of President Sherry Fick.

Each society donated \$20 to mites, instead of having an ingathering. After a delicious lunch, the beautiful handmade centerpieces were given to many of the LWML attendees.



LINN ZONE NEWS

Submitted by Rita Wollenberg

The Friendship Circle of St. Paul Lutheran, Clay Center, decided to start giving the congregation an opportunity to help with Mites for Missions. Mite boxes and information about the missions that mites supported were provided on the LWML table over a year ago on LWML Sunday in October of 2013.

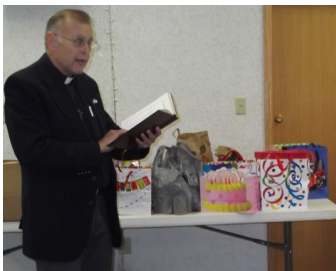
The Friendship Circle members bought a purple LWML apron and on the first Sunday of every month, beginning in November of 2013, the members wore the apron and took turns collecting mites before and after both Sunday services. Some of the congregation members actually brought in their filled mite boxes and others would contribute loose change, dollar bills, 5's, 10's & 20's! A reminder was placed in the church bulletin each month, along with information about mission projects that were being supported with mites.

After the October 2014 collection, the Friendship Circle totaled the mite contributions for the year. They were thankful for the amount of \$1,069.34 collected from the congregation alone. We would encourage other LWML societies to try this to help boost the mites for missions!

NORTHEAST ZONE NEWS

Submitted by Kathy Heiniger

The Northeast Zone Fall Workshop was hosted by St. Paul LWML/Dorcas Society of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Fairview on Saturday, October 11, at the Fairview Community Building. Pastor Michael Dunaway led the Bible study *Overflowing Abundance* by Donna Pyle. District President, Karen Morrison, brought news from the district and national LWML. A salad luncheon was served at noon. The ingathering was for the North Brown County Food Pantry. Seventeen sets of "A Birthday Party in a Bag" were collected. These included plates, napkins, candles, a cake mix and can of frosting in a gift bag. Several boxes of soup, saltines, pasta, pasta sauce, cereal, canned vegetables, canned fruit, dish soap, and feminine products were also collected.



Pastor Michael Dunaway



(L-R): Jill Lowe,
Kathy Heiniger,
Karen Morrison

TOPEKA ZONE NEWS

Submitted by LaJean Rinker

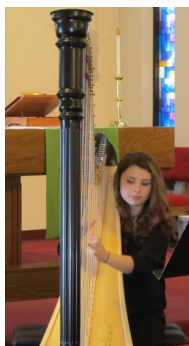
The LWML ladies of Topeka's Christ Lutheran Church made 6 quilts which were delivered to Haskell LIGHT on November 20. Patricia Main took us to the dormitory at Haskell so we could personally give the quilts to the students who needed a quilt. It was wonderful to see the smiles on their faces as we handed them a quilt. This was a very uplifting experience and we thank Will and Patricia for the meaningful relationship they have with these students. The interaction between Patricia and the students was rewarding to watch. The photo shows the ladies and some of the students who received a much-needed gift of warmth.



KC CROSSROADS ZONE NEWS

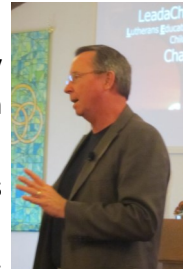
Submitted by Sue Anderson

The KC CrossRoads Zone held their Fall Zone Event at King of Kings in Gardner, KS, on October 18, with guest speaker David Saving, Executive Director of the Children's Christian Concern Society



Tamieka
Melancon

Lead-A-Child program, who enlightened ladies about this wonderful mission organization with a slide-show presentation. What a joy it was to listen to Mr. Saving tell of the outreach that Lead-A-Child has accomplished in thirty countries around the world to share the love of Jesus with children through Christian education. You can go to LeadaChild.org for more information. The attendees were also graced with the beautiful music of Tamieka Melancon, as she played her harp for us before and during our breaks at our meeting. President Tiffany Harkins closed the meeting with the singing of "Praise, Love, Serve", a song based on the LWML pledge, followed by a salad and dessert potluck with BBQ sandwiches and fellowship.



David Saving

Zone President
Tiffany Harkins



Submitted by Tiffany Harkins

Beautiful Savior LWML, from the Kansas City CrossRoads Zone, teamed up with Thrivent Action Teams to accomplish some mission-minded tasks this past fall. For their October meeting, they made fleece blankets to give through Metro Lutheran Ministries. For their November meeting, they packed Thanksgiving meal boxes to donate through Catholic Charities. All ladies in attendance had a great time of fellowship while accomplishing their important tasks!



DID YOU KNOW...that Lutheran World Relief has a Facebook page for quilters and kit-makers? After logging in to Facebook, search for [LWR Quilters](#) and join in their group conversation. There are over 750 people in the group so far!

FINANCIAL NEWS

MITE GOAL 2014-2016 Biennium \$152,750.00

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

MITES RECEIVED through 11/30/14 \$49,622.02



\$50,912 is what was needed through November to be “on track” to reach the biennium’s Mite goal. We are \$1,290 short at this point.

Ladies, we made great strides this past quarter and are very close to exactly where we want to be at this point in our biennium. We thank God for His faithfulness and ask that He continue to provide the Mites needed, on the district level as well as the national level.

This is the time of year when societies are reminded to pay for their Quarterly subscriptions. Societies will receive a statement and information from the Kansas District Quarterly Manager, Marj Aufdemberge. The Kansas District is required to pay national LWML for the Quarterly subscriptions – if societies do not pay their share, it comes out of Mites. And that takes Mites away from their true purpose of supporting mission grants.

Treasurers: When you send the Quarterly payment to me, please remember to include a remittance voucher. Also, please make out all checks to: LWML Kansas District. (Checks should not be written to “LWML Kansas District Financial Secretary” or to me personally.)

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

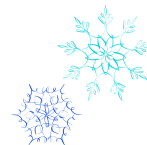
2015 LWML Prayer Service

“God Given Hats”: A Vocational Prayer Service

The link to download the service is: <http://www.lwml.org/events/prayer-service>. The author is Rev. Kristopher Whitby, who was the Bible Study Leader at the 2014 LWML Kansas District Convention. The 2015 Prayer Service offering recipient is Kansas Nebraska Good News (KNGN) Radio Station.

Special Focus Ministries

Sherri Rose, VP of Special Focus Ministries



As I am writing this article, we are very close to the deadline for choosing the next two Kansas District Young Women Representatives to the National LWML convention in Des Moines. Please pray that these young women will have a wonderful experience at the convention and will be prepared to Serve the Lord with Gladness!! We will be excited to hear about their experience at our District convention in 2016!

Have you been a YWR? Are you a young woman interested in learning more about LWML? Are you a “seasoned” LWML member who would like to learn more about LWML’s ministry to young women? Check out the National LWML website at www.lwml.org. Choose “Young Women” under the Ministries tab. There, you may read the *Impressions* newsletter for young women, read FAQ’s about attending a national convention, and more! Share information by printing *Impressions* and distributing it to the young women in your congregation. Let’s continue to encourage and involve our young women in LWML!

CHRISTIAN LIFE

Elaine Engelman, VP of Christian Life

“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; we are His people, the sheep of His pasture.” Psalm 100:2-3 (NIV).

This is the theme text for the **Women’s Christian Life Retreat** in Wichita, November 6-7. We hope that you are making plans now to join us at the Double Tree by Hilton Airport Hotel for an inspiring get-away. Our speaker will be Danielle Tietjen from North Minneapolis, MN. She is a wife and mother of three and this is what she says about herself:



“Even though these kids and my husband are a huge piece of everything I am, I still remain me. I am the gal who loves music, growing her own food, reading cookbooks, running, sewing, rejoicing, painting, making pots out of clay, and creating get-togethers where the atmosphere draws people in and relationships are built and strengthened. I love tradition and taking the extra step to create a memory or experience that inspires the creativity in other people. People who feel valued, loved, and inspired lead healthy lives that in turn allows them to move past their own lives, and see how they fit in the bigger picture of mankind. Being healthy gives people more energy and focus to pour out into helping and caring for others.”

If you would like more information about Dani, you can go to her website, www.danietietjen.com. Over the next several months, we will be working with Dani to bring you a great retreat, full of fun and music and sharing our love of the Lord. Keep watching the Sonshine and the LWML Kansas District website for more information.



LEAD-A-CHILD MISSION TRIP PLANS

A Short-Term Mission trip is being planned for April 11-21 to Central America! This is a mission trip and education symposium sponsored by Lead-A-Child (CCCS). You will experience the people, sites and culture of Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua. The cost is \$2,150 per person, which includes airfare from Houston, lodging, most meals, and ground transportation. There is a \$200 deposit due upon registration. For more information go to the website: www.leadachild.org. If you cannot go yourself, consider sponsoring someone from your zone or society! More information can be obtained from Ann Jedele at shorttermmission@lwml.org.

LWML and CPH Collaborate on Store and Shipping



The Lutheran Women’s Missionary League (LWML) and Concordia Publishing House (CPH) have joined together giving the LWML an increased visibility. This collaboration will also allow the LWML Office and Store to run with a greater effectiveness.

Beginning Monday, November 3, 2014, all LWML Store items may be purchased through CPH, which is just a click away on the [LWML website](http://www.lwml.org). CPH will manage the sale and shipping of LWML products and resources.

Anyone wishing to order material from LWML will click on the Store tab found on the LWML website, as they always have, and follow the simple directions given. When they have chosen their items and are ready to check out, they will be asked to create an account with CPH – this will simply allow CPH access to information needed for shipping and payment. The LWML and CPH are pleased to offer this secure and easy shopping experience.

Many LWML customers are also CPH customers, and this will allow orders to be combined and save on shipping costs.

To celebrate this improvement, the LWML is having an Inventory Reduction and Closeout Sale (through February 1, 2015) on many items. Check out all products and resources and save today!

If you have any questions, contact the LWML Office at (800) 252-5965 or lwml@lwml.org

Date received _____

**MISSION PROJECT PROPOSAL APPLICATION
LWML KANSAS DISTRICT**



_____ of _____
(society/individual) *(congregation/city)*

is submitting the following project for consideration to the 2016 LWML Kansas District Convention. **The deadline for submission is June 1, 2015.**

The proposed project is for _____
(organization)

in _____
(city/state/country)

The recipient contact person is: _____
(name)

(address)

(city/state/zip code)

(phone number)

(email address)

Recipient must be affiliated with one of the following. Please check the one that applies to this request.

LWML _____ LCMS District _____ LCMS _____

Recognized Service Organization (RSO) of LCMS _____

The money is needed for _____
(Be as specific as possible. Attach sheet if necessary.)

Amount requested: _____ Is the need current? _____

When would the money be needed? *(keeping in mind this proposed project must be viable during the 2016-2018 biennium)* _____

Has the project other funding sources? _____ If yes, list other funding sources and amounts.

Date received _____

How does this project share the Gospel with those who haven't before heard or believed it?

Why do you think this would be a good project for the LWML Kansas District?

This application submitted by:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Return to: Pam Popp
LWML Kansas District
745 N Spruce St
Gardner, KS 66030
(913) 856-7051
pampopular@kc.rr.com

Deadline for submission is June 1, 2015.

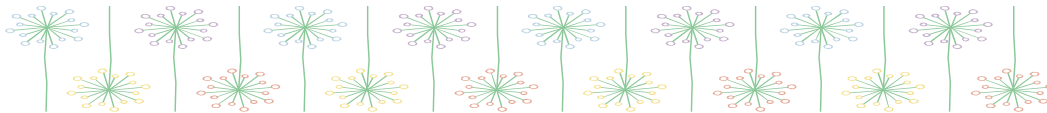
THE TIME IS *now*

Des Moines LWML Convention – The Time is NOW!

The excitement is building! Will you be a part of the 36th Biennial LWML Convention that will be held in Des Moines, Iowa, June 25-28, 2015? The Time is NOW. What an occasion we have to offer this opportunity within our congregations for women of all ages to join us! This gathering will give attendees the opportunity to be assembled under the theme, "Bountiful! Sow • Nourish • Reap," as we focus on the words of St. Paul to the Corinthians: And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work (2 Corinthians 9:8 NIV).

This is an event in which thousands from across the country will be gathered in worship, hear mission speakers, learn how our mites are used in the mission fields, participate in servant activities, and be a part of the group as a new mission goal is adopted, new grant recipients are determined, new officers are elected, and much more. Be a part of this "Bountiful Happening"! For many this will be a "once in a lifetime experience." Many women, men, and children will be together focused on Christ's love and blessings of Word and Sacraments and equipped by the Holy Spirit to work in our Father's harvest field. The Time is NOW to share this exciting news with the women in your lives and encourage them to join you. Please don't miss this magnificent gathering to celebrate and be filled with God's bountiful goodness!

Marguerite Christman, LWML Convention Manager



SAVE THE DATE

CHRISTIAN LIFE FALL RETREAT

NOVEMBER 6—7, 2015

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel
Wichita Airport

Speaker: Danielle Tietjen

Lutheran Women in Mission

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.

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.

IMPORTANT LWML DATES TO REMEMBER

- ◆ June 25-28: 36th Biennial LWML Convention in Des Moines, Iowa
- ◆ November 6-7: LWML KS District Christian Life Retreat in Wichita
- ◆ April 15-17, 2016: 36th Biennial KS District Convention in Manhattan



Speaker Resource Directory

Praise Him! (Psalm 22:23)

The Speaker Resource Directory is compiled from recommendations and self-submissions given to the LWML Kansas District Communication Committee. This directory can serve as a valuable resource in selecting society, zone, retreat or workshop speakers. It is our prayer that this directory of Lutheran individuals or agencies will be an important tool for planning your LWML programs. **Additional recommendations are welcome!**

Each speaker provides her/his own biographical information. The LWML or LWML Kansas District is not responsible for the viewpoints of the speakers; therefore, it is the responsibility of the local program committee to confirm that the viewpoints held by the speaker complement the desired outcome of the LWML sponsored event.

Please return the contact information of a potential speaker to the Vice President of Communication.

Speaker Resource Profile

Name: _____ Phone: () _____

Address: _____ Fax: () _____

City, State Zip: _____ Email: _____

Home church/zone: _____

General biographical (personal background) information: This will be posted on the LWML Kansas District website, so we advise against naming minor children or ages of anyone. (Add lines as needed.)

Areas of interest, experience or expertise: (Add lines as needed.)

Fees: It is the responsibility of the requesting society, zone or other group to discuss fees, honorarium, or other expenses such as travel, lodging or meals. (Add lines as needed.)

<<< Approval of this form grants LWML Kansas District permission to publish this information in written form and/or on the LWML Kansas District website at www.kansaslwml.org . >>>

Return to: Brenda Piester, LWML Kansas Dist. VP of Communication, 29063 64th Road, Coats, KS 67028
Email: communication@kansaslwml.org
Telephone: 620-862-5658 (h) 620-546-3964 (c) Fax: 620-862-7280

LWML Kansas District Speaker Resource Directory – January 2015

DON'T FORGET: THE HOLY CROSS WOMEN'S RETREAT IN WICHITA IS ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 8:30 am—2:30 pm. COST: \$20 (includes lunch!). Go to www.HolyCrossLutheran.net for the registration form.

Dear Kansas District LWML,

I want to formally express my sincerest gratitude for the generous support you have collected and donated to the ministry God has made me a part of here in Ghana. I have been overwhelmed by the support and encouragement I have received from my brothers and sisters in God's family and I thank Him continuously.

As you may be aware, I was originally headed to Guinea, where the Kansas District has placed a lot of support, as a GEO (Globally Engaged in Outreach) missionary to teach English as a Foreign Language while building relationships with the people there to bring the Gospel message into their lives. However, it seems that God had other plans and now has me in Ghana teaching Bible classes and serving at a Lutheran primary school and doing outreach in the surrounding community. I am overjoyed to be doing the Lord's work here in Ghana. It is a new adventure each day and the love of Christ continues to grow among these people.

I have been in Ghana for over seven months now and continue to learn more each day about the culture, the language, the people, and myself. But even more importantly, I continue to learn about the sovereignty of our God, His mercy and grace, and His everlasting love for His people.

Once again, I would like to say thank you for your wonderful support, encouragement, prayers and commitment in mobilizing the Gospel so that all may hear the Good News!

If you would personally like to receive my monthly newsletter about what God is doing here in Ghana, please contact me by email at Rachel.Cassada@lcmintl.org with your own contact information (email, address, etc.) and I will add you to the list. Also, if at any time you have questions or prayer requests, please feel free to email me. I would love to hear from you!

God bless you and keep you! In His service, Rachel

Dear Friends of the LWML Kansas District -

About a month ago we concluded another exciting week of VBS. Every year, I serve as the director and Enoch leads the opening and closing sessions. This year, Sydney was a crew leader and Lucas was the tech-guy.

I always come to the end of this week with an exhausted relief, but also a bit of sadness. This year we had over 70 kids attend, including several Turkish families, and over 40 volunteers. It is so amazing to see the body of Christ come together to proclaim the love of Jesus in the country of Turkey and it is a joy-filled time! However, we can't all stay together; we need to go out and spread that Good News.

So, with that, we thank you for your financial support that provides a way for us to be here. We ask for your prayers and that the seeds planted during our VBS week will produce much fruit and that we will continue to be effective in our work here.

In His love, *The Petersen's*

**LETTERS OF THANKS RECEIVED
LAST FALL FROM OUR
MISSIONARIES:**
*Rachel Cassada in West Africa
and
Kristin Petersen in Turkey*

WEBSITES TO VISIT:

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

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Next Sunshine news deadline:

MARCH 5

Shelly Keller, Sunshine Editor
sunshine@kansaslwml.org



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