



The Kansas Sonshine

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WINTER 2019

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE KANSAS

*How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet
of the messenger who announces peace,
who brings good news, who announces salvation,
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." (Isaiah 52:7)*



: *Where Are They Going?*

Believe ♦ Proclaim ♦ Serve ♦ Go

Romans 10

Dear LWML Kansas District Sisters-in-Christ!

We have just completed the breathtaking seasons of Advent, Christmas, and we are now in Epiphany. Continuing the theme of **Beautiful Feet**, imagine with me for a moment:

- the **Beautiful Feet** of nervous Joseph and Mary traveling anxiously from Nazareth to Bethlehem,
- the holy and perfect **Beautiful Feet** of the newborn Christ child,
- the tired, dusty and calloused **Beautiful Feet** of the shepherds,
- the aching, wrinkled, and gnarled **Beautiful Feet** of Simeon and Anna,
- the elegant **Beautiful Feet** of the worshipping wise men,
- the **Beautiful Feet** of the grieving and distraught Bethlehem families whose sons age two and under were killed by the jealous and treacherous Herod, and
- the **Beautiful Feet** of obedient and frightened Joseph and Mary as they fled to Egypt to protect their Son.



What do the people with these **Beautiful Feet** have in common? They followed God's will. They were obedient. They understood that they were his servants, called to do His work. Was it always easy? No. Did they always understand the big picture? Probably not. Did they follow Him? Yes.



As we continue to reflect on **Beautiful Feet** following our 2018 convention, how does this relate to us? Your Kansas District Executive Committee is already deep in planning the **Kansas Assembly of Leaders on Saturday, August 3, 2019, at Holy Cross Lutheran in Wichita**. ALL Board of Directors members, Special Appointed Personnel, Zone Presidents, Zone Committees, Zone Pastoral Counselors, and ALL Society Presidents are invited to attend the 2019 KAOL, **Follow the Leader**. Save the date and mark your calendars to bring

your enthusiasm and your **Beautiful Feet** to Wichita. If you are on the list of invitees and are unable to attend, please send another person from your society or circle. We would like for every congregation with a Lutheran Women in Mission group to be represented in Wichita! If your congregation does not have an active Lutheran Women in Mission group, please contact me. I would love to visit with you!

Not to sound like a broken record (do young people know what that even is?), but as your president, I remain committed to the tagline that reflects our purpose: **In Mission**. The Kansas District focus is not on meetings. We spend minimal, albeit necessary, preparation time in planning meetings—so that we can focus on being **In Mission**. And we invite and encourage you to focus on the same in your local groups: **Less Meetings—More Mission!**

Our opportunities to Believe, Proclaim, Serve, and GO to bring His Good News to others are unlimited. I challenge you, invite other women of all ages and backgrounds—and their Beautiful Feet—to be in this Mission with you!



In His Grace and Service,
President Brenda | president@kansaslwml.org

Counselor's Corner
Pastor Rocco Mallardi
Junior Pastoral Counselor, Kansas LWML



The Gospel of John starts out with these iconic words. “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” (John 1:1-5) At the beginning of Advent season my mind is always drawn to these ancient words, because in these few words we are told the whole story of the universe, ourselves, and the nature and character of God himself. These words seem to be a commentary on the first words of the book of Genesis. They tell us how all things were created through Christ, as they place us, in this grand creation narrative. John’s words also tell us about God’s nature and character, when Jesus came declaring, “I am the light of the world” and as he walked, sickness and death fled from his presence. But as Jesus breathed his last it seemed that darkness had won, as his lifeless body hung, darkness overcame the land; yet the work of the Son was not done. For after the Sabbath days’ rest, the light burst forth from the tomb just as it had as the light came forth from the womb. It’s just as the words of the old hymn proclaim “from the manger new born light; shines in glory through the night. Darkness there no more resides; in this light faith now resides.” (LSB 332)



CORRECTION – LWML Kansas District 75 Years History Booklet

Please make this correction in the history booklet that you received at the Hutchinson Convention: The correct spelling of the last name of the first President of the LWML in Kansas is Hass, not Haas. We apologize for our error, and we thank her great niece for helping us keep our legacy as correct as possible! You may make the correction on the picture on page 4, and on pages 6, 10 (2 x), 15 (2 x), 27 (2 x) and 62.

If you find any other errors, please contact me. Thanks for your understanding!

President Brenda

FINANCIAL NEWS

Ella Schempp
Financial Secretary
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Shawnee KS 66216

financialsecretary@kansaslwml.org



Mites Update as of November 15, 2018:

\$37,523.14 mites, \$1,002.00 from Thrivent Choice, \$1,320.00 District Mission Grants, and \$1,609.31 God's Gracious Gift Fund. **Thank you for your faithfulness!**

In the last two Sonshine newsletters, I have listed three questions on **"Where Does the Money Go."** Below are three more questions and answers for you to review. If you need help, check out the LWML Kansas District website. Watch for more questions to come. Mark all that apply.

1. When sending in a check to the Financial Secretary, what should the payee line show?
 - a. **LWML Kansas District**
 - b. Ella Schempp
 - c. None of the above.
2. What do the Mites fund?
 - a. Mission Grants
 - b. Student Financial Aid
 - c. District Operating expenses
 - d. National LWML mites.
3. A portion of District mites are sent to National LWML monthly. What is the percentage?
 - a. 0%
 - b. 10%
 - c. 25%
 - d. 50%

Answers: 1. a, 2. all, 3. c



COMMUNICATION

Shelly Keller

VP of Communication

communication@kansaslwml.org



Thank You!

Many thanks to Mark Fuchs for his past 10 years of service to the LWML Kansas District as Website Administrator. His hard work and dedication in keeping the website current and user-friendly have been appreciated very much. Best wishes and God's blessings to Mark in his future endeavors.



WELCOME!

The LWML Kansas District would like to welcome Karl Peschel from Garden City as the new Website Administrator. Karl has a lot of experience with website building and maintenance, and we look forward to the future of the Kansas District website and upcoming changes.

The LWML Kansas District is pleased to announce that we have an additional Co-Archivist-Historian, Marie Roth. Marie has accepted this appointment to serve alongside and be trained by our current Co-Archivist-Historians Esther Ideker and Judy Carlson. Marie has experience at the Concordia Historical Institute in St. Louis. Her husband is Rev. Timothy Roth, and he is the pastor of St. Peter Lutheran Church in Humboldt. They are parents of three children. Welcome, Marie!



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Racing to the Finish! by Patti Ross, LWML President

It's time to put on your racing shoes!! LWML has 11 weeks to collect \$449,159.01 in order to meet the biennium's Mission Goal. There are still grants to pay and other expenses that have to be fulfilled by March 31, the end of our 2-year Mission Goal cycle.



This past week the LWML Mission Grant Selection Committee met in St. Louis to go through 81 grant submissions for the next biennium and narrow those down to 31 to put on the ballot at our convention in June in Mobile, Alabama. They were all good opportunities to support missions and missionaries who, working with the Holy Spirit, are spreading the Gospel and doing works of mercy. It's a shame to have to turn any of them down.

The grants we have this biennium are also great opportunities for you to support when you can't do the work yourself or when you have a ministry that you are especially attuned to. But, we are short in our Mite Box offerings for grants. We still have several that need payment. If you go to our website, www.lwml.org and click on the Missions tab, you can see the grants that still have to be paid and a breakdown of each month's Mite Box offering receipts.

What can you do to help? It's easy to donate online and/or send a check to the LWML at our new address: 801 Seminary Place, Suite L010, St. Louis, MO 63105. Please keep our Mission Goal and the fulfillment of it in your prayers, and then open your heart and pocketbook to give some extra offering to the Lord.

You may also donate through your local groups and remind the treasurer to send those mites to the Kansas District Financial Secretary, Ella Schempp, 12601 W 60th, Shawnee, KS 66216, by March 15, so they can be forwarded on to national LWML by the end of the biennium. This is a WIN-WIN as mites sent this route will support BOTH Kansas and national Mission Grants! – President Brenda

At the grant meeting it was discussed as it is every biennium, lowering the Mission Goal. Financing less ministry. Not having to work so hard. The economy is forecast to go down or stagnate, the church is losing membership, the LWML is not promoting the mission grants like they used to. Are we to give in to that type of thought? Are we that weak that we can't take on a challenge and meet it? Are we to abandon the promises we made at the Albuquerque convention to those grant recipients depending on our financing?

I say NO! We are strong, we have prayer, we have resources, and we just need to work a little harder over the next 11 weeks! So put on your running shoes and let's race to the finish, together! -- President Patti

CARING SERVICE

Laura Hunter
VP of Caring Service
caringservice@kansaslwml.org



The Kansas District Executive Committee had the opportunity to tour the new Orphan Grain Train (OGT) warehouse, located at 911 W. Maple in Wichita on December 1st while in town for our Executive Committee meeting. Wichita is now the 26th regional OGT warehouse in the United States. Members from Lutheran churches in the area purchased and completed major renovations to the new warehouse and the doors opened in June 2018. Several local LWML ladies are involved with sorting and packing at the warehouse, which happens every Wednesday and Saturday.

This August, the Wichita OGT warehouse sent their first shipment to Moldova (which is located in Eastern Europe and is the poorest nation in Europe). The shipment included bikes, school kits, desks, sewing fabric, quilts, hygiene kits, medical equipment, wheelchairs, clothes, coats, and shoes.

For more information about OGT and how you and your local LWML groups can support the organization, you can find more information on the OGT website.

<http://www.ogt.org/>



SOCIETY NEWS

Camp Tomah Shinga Auction

The annual Quilt Auction for Camp Tomah Shinga in Junction City, KS, was held on September 22, 2018, and raised \$14,000, plus an additional anonymous gift of \$10,000, for a total of \$24,000. Two quilts were donated by Trinity LWML Society of Salina, KS. Loeda Gross is pictured next to the purple patchwork quilt that sold for \$25 and Sonja Welch is pictured next to the gold patchwork quilt that sold for \$40. The money from this annual quilt auction will be used to further the mission of Camp Tomah Shinga by "providing opportunities for all ages to experience Christ's love, to grow in faith and to serve God" in the camp's beautiful setting! The next auction for Camp Tomah Shinga will be held again in September 2020.



Submitted by: Phyllis Von Fange

Concordia Publishing House has partnered with Lutheran Women's Missionary League to bring you an updated shopping experience while still providing the full range of LWML products and resources.



National LWML has a National LWML Pinterest page. Check out the great resources!



Kansas LWML is on Facebook! Be sure to "like" our page. You can also follow the National LWML on their Facebook page too! Join today.



ZONE NEWS

NE Zone LWML Fall Workshop

Twenty – four ladies brought their BEAUTIFUL FEET to LWML Northeast Zone on September 22, 2018, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Fairview, Kansas for the Fall Workshop.

The ladies helped pack 50 hygiene kits for Lutheran World Relief and donated over 100 pairs of fun children's socks for Samaritan's Purse.

The entire day reflected on BEAUTIFUL FEET. The ice breaker was an activity where the women needed to find someone who had the same size shoe, as well as other feet questions. Pastor Sean Kilgo, from the NE Kansas Partnership led the Bible study from Romans 10. The 2018 LWML Kansas District convention song "Beautiful Feet" was sung, and the mite challenge included trivia questions about our beautiful feet.



Anne Arneson gave a presentation on "Dignity for Girls". The ladies gave her a generous donation to help support the project.

SAVE THE DATE! Kansas Assembly of Leaders - "Follow the Leader"

WHEN: Friday, August 2 – Saturday, August 3, 2019

WHERE: Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Wichita



WHO: ALL SOCIETY PRESIDENTS (August 3)

Zone Presidents (August 2 beginning at 3:30 p.m. - August 3)

District Committee Chairmen (August 2, BOD Meeting beginning at 5:30 p.m. - August 3)

Special Appointed Personnel (August 2, BOD Meeting beginning at 5:30 p.m. - August 3)

2020 Convention Chairmen (August 2, BOD Meeting beginning at 5:30 p.m. - August 3)

District Committee Members (August 3)

Zone Committee Chairmen and Committee Members (August 3)

Zone Pastoral Counselors (August 3)

Zone Archivist-Historians (August 3)

District Executive Committee (August 1-3)

MORE KAOL DETAILS WILL FOLLOW NEXT SPRING!

ZONE NEWS

On October 20, the ladies of the Wichita Zone attended their fall workshop. Donna Burton spoke about her missionary trips to Alaska, and Beth Heiney updated everyone on their work in Guinea. Sara Deepe from Winfield led the bible study, and backpacks were packed for the Wichita Children's Home.

The first four pictures show the women assembling the bags. The last picture shows the personnel at the Wichita Children's Home receiving the donations.

Maria Keil, Wichita Zone Caring Service Chair



SOCIETY NEWS

Fifty-five women attended the Kansas City CrossRoads fall event at Our Saviour in Kansas City on Saturday, September 29, with the theme “Beautiful Feet.” Alli Bauck, from Beautiful Savior, did a great job assembling items to create centerpieces based on different seasons of life and seasons of the year. Alli also joined others from Beautiful Savior in presenting the “Ready, Set, Grow” sketch to the group from the LWML 2017-19 *reSOURCES for Planning Programs*.



For the program portion of the morning, Jody True-Fangman and her family thanked the group for the LWML family MOST scholarship that enabled them to all serve together in Belize. They then shared details and pictures from their trip. The MOST group they travelled with visited five churches to set up eye clinics and each clinic had five stations: evangelism, nursing assessment, eye testing, dispensing and fitting. One quote they shared was “You are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to abandon it,” and they reminded the group that while they were able to serve as goers, those who are able to give support as senders are just as important to the mission.

The group also heard from Sara Carroll from Redeemer, who attended the 2018 District Convention in April as a YWR. Sara is a recent graduate from Wichita State University and thoroughly enjoyed the convention. Sara started in LWML serving with her mom...helping with mission collections, assembling kits and serving



breakfast to those in need. More recently, she benefitted from an LWML Mission Grant to serve with other students on a mission trip sponsored by Fairmount Ministries. At the convention, she particularly enjoyed getting to jump in with participation (carrying the procession banner and cultural flags and ushering during the opening worship service), rather than just being a passive observer. She also enjoyed bonding time with the other YWRs with morning devotions and making journals. Her takeaways were the Christian sisterhood bonding, seeing the bigger picture of LWML, and the comedic interruptions with cake ingredients. The two ingredients that stood out to her were vanilla, representing faith (a little goes a long way), and flour, representing kindness (a main ingredient that’s easy to access).

An ingathering was held for the Our Saviour food pantry, which serves 1500 families a year. The morning concluded with fellowship and a potluck salad luncheon.

This "Thank You" was received from Britt Odemba in Kenya. Britt is one of the women sponsored through Mission Central from the 75th Anniversary special Thank Offering. You may read more about Britt on page 10 of the Fall 2018 Sonshine."



Dear LWML Kansas District,

Greetings from Nairobi! I just wanted to say thank you for the wonderful monetary gift you gave towards my ministry here in Kenya. I greatly appreciate your mission hearts!

Things are going well here. Our schools are closing this week as it is the end of the second term. We will re-open for the last term in September. In the mean time we are preparing for the opening ceremony of our sixth Project 24 children's boarding facility. Nyambiri will be the home of 25 new students who will now be supported by the LCMs and our local partner church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Kenya. We know that these children will now receive a good education and Christian instruction through the local church.

Thank you again for your support! In Christ,
Britt

Connecting to the True Vine to Bear Fruit that Lasts—

Women's Retreat

Presenter: Donna Pyle



Where

Love

Abides

"I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in Me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing."

John 15:5

Saturday, January 26, 2019

Tickets: \$20 early registration, \$25 after Friday, January 11

Registration forms will be available at <https://HolyCrossLutheran.net/LWMLretreat>

- for more information about Donna Pyle visit www.artesianministries.org -

*Doors open at 8:30 am for registration & breakfast, retreat begins at 9 and ends at 2:30,
lunch is provided*

Holy Cross Lutheran Church - 600 N Greenwich, Wichita KS



38th Biennial Convention
Mobile, Alabama
June 20-23, 2019

Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Invites you to the

38th Biennial Convention

Thursday, June 20–Sunday, June 23, 2019

Mobile Convention Center | Mobile, Alabama

“In Praise to the Lord”

The convention theme is based on the Scripture verse,
*Sing to the Lord, all the earth! Tell of his salvation from day to day.
Declare his glory among the nations* (1 Chronicles 16:23–24a).

Convention Goal

Led by God's power, we praise and proclaim
the Lord among all the nations.

Convention Objectives

- Sing and rejoice in celebration of His Word.
- Tell of His salvation for all.
- Declare His glory among the nations.
- Go forth in His joy!

Convention Logo Explanation

To declare His glory among the nations is the heart of who we are as Lutheran Women in Mission. Guided by the Holy Spirit and God's marvelous works, we will be equipped in 2019 at Mobile, Alabama, to tell of His salvation from day to day. The **Cross** and the **Heart** mark the work of Christ Jesus to all the Earth and lead us **In Praise to the Lord**.



www.lwml.org

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE KANSAS DISTRICT
Invites you to the 38th Biennial Convention

Friday, April 17 – Sunday, April 19, 2020
Topeka Capitol Plaza Hotel | Topeka, Kansas

BE THOU MY VISION



“LET US FIX OUR EYES ON JESUS...” HEBREWS 12:2
LWML KANSAS DISTRICT – 2020

Theme Verse:

*...looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith,
who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross,
disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand
of the throne of God (Hebrews 12:2 NRSV).*

Convention Goal Statement:

As we focus on Jesus with 2020 vision, we will

- see the Author of our faith more clearly
- open our eyes to the joy of enduring crosses daily, and
- share with others the vision of the glory of God.



www.kansaslwml.org