

The Kansas Sonshine



Volume 80 : Number 4

Fall 2023

LWML Kansas District

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" (John 8:12).

Zone Rally, Meeting, Fall Festival, Spring Fling, Bible Study ... EVENTS!

We are Lutheran Women in Mission. We proclaim Christ, support missions, equip women, and serve others. In part, our LWML Kansas District Mission Statement says we will nurture, motivate, and prepare LCMS women to serve the Lord with gladness. I know the members of the LWML Kansas District Executive Committee are committed to this mission statement. We hope we have been nurturing and motivating you, but, to fully do that means that we must be in each other's presence. So, what can we do to improve our attendance at in-person events?

We have over 4,000 women across the state who consider themselves to be part of LWML. Less than 10% of those women will attend the district convention. And less than 6% will attend their zone event.

As we approach the season of Fall zone events, my thoughts turn to those who choose not to attend a zone event. I wish I had a Mite offering (quarter, dime, or nickel) for every time I heard someone say, "I don't have time for zone events." And wasn't it just a few years ago that we were grumbling because we could not get together in person???

Why do I make time for zone events? Simply because I LOVE being with my purple sisters and brothers in Christ. It's so much fun to see old and new friends and to be able to catch up with their lives. It's also a time when I get re-energized to be a Lutheran Woman in Mission, and **ON** a mission. I am absolutely fascinated with hearing and seeing how each zone shares information with their groups. And it is a privilege to provide LWML Kansas District information to the zones to keep our women in mission prepared, nurtured, and motivated.

We are encouraging zones to focus more on "less meeting, more meaning." Along with that, we are turning our attention to becoming TODAY'S Lutheran Women in Mission and not so much our "Grandmother's LWML." Please do not be offended by that statement, because we all know it worked great for them! As we adapt and refresh our traditions, I have noticed some very positive changes. Some zones have a Bible study, some have a guest speaker, most enjoy servant events and gathering Gifts from the Heart, and others get together just to socialize. We even have a few zones combining their fall events! It's all about what works best for **your** zone.

I would like to challenge all of you to become more involved in your Zone and see for yourself. I think you'll be surprised.

follow the N!

Kim Burdett
District President



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COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Rev. John Werner | Pastoral Counselor

Satan is the enemy, the accuser. In reading recent headlines, I'm often struck at how the world abhors a spiritual vacuum. As our society becomes more secular, it should not be surprising that pagan and even Satanic practices swoop in where Christ is not present. News articles including "family-friendly demon summoning" at publicly-funded museums (themessenger.com/news/minnesota-art-museum-holds-family-friendly-demon-summoning; yes, this is real!) have become part of the news cycle.

Satan is the one our Lord called "a murderer from the beginning" and "a liar and the father of lies" (see John 8:44). And we have no chance against him on our own. However, as many of us will sing A Mighty Fortress next month, "But for us fights the valiant one." We may ask, "Who is this?" "Jesus Christ it is," Martin Luther responds in this hymn, "of Sabaoth Lord." Our Messiah — the promised Son of David — is the Lord of Sabaoth, that is, the Lord of the armies of heaven.

But our Lord Jesus does not fight with a sword or a shield. Our Valiant One won by dying in battle, His weapons a cross, nails, and a crown of thorns. Satan tried to destroy Jesus, but it was the devil who fell in defeat in the battle at a place called Golgotha.

The old evil foe still seeks to tear us from our Valiant One, but he cannot succeed. "One little word can fell him." Speaking of his hymn, Luther explained the meaning of that "one little word" in two ways: the little word is the Name of Jesus, the crucified and resurrected Lord who defeated Satan at the cross and empty tomb. But, according to Luther, the one little word is also the defiant shout, "Liar!" Satan may try to bring you down with him, trying to convince you that your sins are too many and too great, that you cannot be forgiven. When the enemy employs his "deep guile," Luther tells us to defy the enemy to his face: "Satan, you lie!" Our defiance in the Name of our Lord Jesus, our Valiant One, will bring the devil down. The Word made flesh always remains by our side in the fight. And in this earthly battle, if all else is taken from us, even our lives, the lying devil cannot win. Our victory has already been won and "the kingdom ours remaineth."

Therefore, we do not need to be afraid. Jesus is Lord. We need not dwell on the devil and his lies, but rather on Jesus as Lord, who has conquered sin, death, and the devil through His Gospel. We are called upon as the church to be thorough in our catechesis and so awaken to our Lord Jesus who is present through His Divine Service to comfort His people and free us from all our fears. As the stronger man, Jesus gives His gifts, namely Absolution, Baptism, and the Lord's Supper, whereby the strong man must flee. We Christians are exhorted to renounce syncretistic practices that give ground to Satan and remain faithful to the exclusive claim of Jesus as Lord. Rather than being scared of Satan and his lies, we are called to fear and love God, placing our trust in Christ above all things.

Christ's Peace,

Pastor John Werner



LWML KANSAS DISTRICT ASSEMBLY OF LEADERS (KAOL)



President Kim Burdett

Worship



Pastor John Werner

2023 KAOL — Adventures in Equipping Leaders

Leaders from across Kansas met in July at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Wichita, for an Interdepartmental Meeting and a Zone and Group Leadership Training. Learning experiences occurred during team building activities, district committee group discussion, special interest sessions, skits, prayer, mite challenge, and more! Our LWML Kansas District leaders had the opportunity to attend two interest sessions, choosing from *Me, a Leader?*, *Adventures in Planning, Equipping our Treasurers, Joining Church Workers on Their Adventure*, and *Adventures in Organizing Resources and Archiving History*; and for pastors, *LWML Pastoral Counselor 101*.

Gifts from the Heart items were given to Passageways, a charitable organization in Wichita, serving veterans. See Caring Service Chairman Linda Stanton's report on [page 4](#).

The LWML Kansas District strives to equip and train leaders to help you, the members of LWML, *proclaim Christ, support missions, and serve others*.



KAOL Attendees



Gospel Outreach Committee

Kathy Heiniger, Heather Van Slyke, Sandra Childs



Pastor Schmidt and Pastor Werner take a selfie during a Mite challenge

KAOL 2023 INGATHERING for PASSAGeways			
Baking Pans/Sets	14	Miscellaneous Items	60
Pots-Pans/Sets	18	Blankets	3
Silverware & Cutlery/Sets	42	Towels	4
Food Storage Container Sets	50	Rug	1
Kitchen Linens	200		
Glasses & Cups/Sets	27		Total 780
Dinnerware Sets	5	Gift Cards & Cash	\$395.00
Appliances	4	Donation Colby Am Legion	\$500
Cooking Utensils/Sets	175		
Scrubbers, Sponges, Etc.	36		
Food Wrap	6	FOR ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN	
Soap	6	Hygiene Kits	50
Scrubbers/Sponges	36	School Kits	56
Measuring Utensils	58	Quilts	12
Pyrex Items	35	Lots of Stamps & Eyeglasses	

CARING SERVICE

Linda Stanton | Caring Service Chair

Gifts from the Heart Report from Kansas Assembly of Leaders (KAOL)

GRATEFUL That's how we feel about your exceptional generosity at the 2023 KAOL ingathering for
Thankful Passageways! Thank you for the many items that were donated to help veterans set up a
& BLESSED home/apartment of their own. Passageways is a charitable organization formed by two fellow LCMS ladies in Wichita. They strive to help veterans achieve success in life by helping in several various ways. You can find more information about their ministry at passagewaysltd.org. All praise to God for His abundant goodness!

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples!

Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works!

Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!

(Psalm 105:1-3)



KAOL GIFTS FROM THE HEART SUMMARY

Kitchen Shower for Passageways: 744 wonderful kitchen items, along with \$395 in gift cards and cash

Kits for Orphan Grain Train: 50 Hygiene Kits, 56 School Kits, 12 Quilts

Lots of stamps and eyeglasses!

COMMUNICATION

Kris Osler | VP of Communication

What wonderful opportunities we have ahead of us! Our Christian Life Committee has planned a wonderful joy-filled retreat for this November 10–11, just in time to fill your spiritual tank before the holiday season! Then, during the long winter season, we can all look forward to celebrating another LWML Kansas District Convention, April 12–14.

These are great opportunities to strike up conversations with those in your church who might be interested in getting involved but don't know much about Lutheran Women in Mission. The district retreat is an especially good opportunity to invite a friend or acquaintance, maybe a young mom or a newly retired friend, who could use a getaway to rest, rejoice, and rejuvenate!

The Convention would be a wonderful way to ignite a fire in someone who may be on the fence about "joining" your group. There's nothing like hearing from the people who experience the effect of our mite offerings, first hand, to fan the spark the Holy Spirit has planted in her heart to get involved.

We can advertise these events all we want through *The Kansas Sonshine*, on the website, and even in your local church bulletins, but nothing is as effective as a smiling face offering a personal invitation!

Pray for the Lord to open your eyes and your heart to the opportunities in your church to invite someone who needs to be part of the LWML!

Blessings in your journey toward discovering who that might be!

ARCHIVISTS/HISTORIANS

Marie Roth | Co-Chairman

CAN YOU HELP US?

We all know and love the convention songs written in recent years by the wonderful Shelly Keller. We recently discovered the *SONflower Song* in the archives from the 1994 district convention in Dodge City, Kansas. The verses are printed below. Can you help us find the tune? Contact Marie Roth at archivist.marie@kansaslwml.org with any information you have.



Verse 1: We are SONflowers, we are SONflowers, and we work together for the Lord our maker. We will serve Him well within the mission field. We are SONflowers giving praise to the Lord!

Refrain: We are SONflowers, we are SONflowers, and we always do our part. We are SONflowers, we are SONflowers, praising God with all our heart!

Verse 2: Skies are fair in Kansas, clouds are rare in Kansas, never saw a place that could compare with Kansas. So we're going out into the mission field, with the SONflowers from the Sunflower state.

Verse 3: Yes, we know God blesses, and we know He loves us and we know we're saved and we praise Him for it. Yes, we serve Him in the gladness that He brings. We are SONflowers serving Jesus our Lord.

Verse 4: Oh, the moon is brighter and the stars are bluer and the gals are sweeter and their hearts are truer. And we're here to state, there's One who's really great. It's the Lord our Savior in the SONflower state.



FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Kathryn Richard

Even though mite giving has slowed a bit the past several months (which is not uncommon for the summer months), we continue to be ahead of our goal for this point in the biennium. Also helping our mite offerings was the \$5,544.09 received at the Kansas Assembly of Leaders (KAOL) event in July. *To God be the glory for KAOL attendees' generosity!!* Keep those mite offerings coming so we can fund the remaining Mission Projects before the 2024 District convention next April.

Just a reminder to send a remittance voucher when mailing your mite offerings to me. If you are giving online, a remittance voucher is not needed. If you have not tried online giving, you might want to give it a try. It seems that more and more local LWML groups are using online giving for submitting mite offerings. If you have questions about sending mite offerings by mail or online, feel free to contact me at financialsecretary@kansaslwml.org.

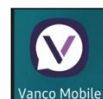
Kathryn Richard
Financial Secretary
PO Box 314
Arma, KS 66712

TREASURER

Relda Galli

Just a reminder that your mite offerings and donations to God's Gracious Gifts, Student Financial Assistance, Day of Prayer, memorials, etc., can be submitted to LWML Kansas District electronically using Vanco Online or Mobile App.

VANCO



It's simple and easy to set up a Vanco account — the log-in information will be the same whether you use your desktop or your smart phone. Vanco is safe and secure, and you have the option to either ACH funds to LWML Kansas District from a checking or savings account (no charge) or from a debit/credit card (2.75% processing fee, which you have the option of covering so your entire offering amount is submitted for use by the district).

There are many LWML members who have Vanco accounts. Some choose to have a recurring donation each month and some choose to donate on their own schedule. There are also Group Treasurers utilizing this easy-to-use method of submitting mite offerings and other donations.

If you're interested, you can set up a Vanco account by visiting kansaslwml.org; click on 'Donate Now' under the 'Giving' tab. You may also visit secure.myvanco.com/L-YZM1/home; choose the 'Sign-Up' button at the top of the page and follow the prompts to enter information and set up your account.

For questions or more information contact LWML Kansas District Treasurer Relda Galli at treasurer@kansaslwml.org.



Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver
(2 Corinthians 9:7).

ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES

Carol Olsen | Committee Chair

By the time you read this, the kiddos will be settled into their back-to-school routine and learning new things, all at different levels. Have you thought about what all you can learn when you are part of your zone's bylaws review committee? It may be the first time you've ever read the bylaws. And you ask questions like: "Do we really do that?" or "I'm not really sure what that statement means," or "Em Dash — what's that?". These are all great questions and the reason bylaws are reviewed regularly — to make sure they match what your zone currently does; and that they are in line with any updates made at the national and district levels.

Bylaws review can be a tedious and time-consuming process, and our committee appreciates everyone's questions. We work to answer them the best we can. The process is a labor of love that we leave for the women who follow in our footsteps so they will have a path to follow as we *Serve the Lord with gladness* (Psalm 100:2a)!



The next zones in the rotation are Northeast Zone and Hutchinson Zone.

LWML Kansas District Public Relations Director

The purpose of this newly created special appointed position is to create a consistent message about LWML, heighten the awareness of its mission, and enhance LWML visibility to all women of the LCMS. Some of the duties will be to seek out and represent LWML at various LCMS conferences and events (some travel involved); maintain a highly visible social media presence, including making sure our website is current and inviting; manage email blasts; be a liaison to the LCMS Kansas District; and invent ways to promote LWML. If interested, please contact LWML Kansas District President Kim Burdett at president@kansaslwml.org.

CHRISTIAN LIFE

Cathi Temple | VP of Christian Life



What is it that fills you with joy? Is it time spent with the Lord, a day with friends, a visit with grandchildren, maybe a vacation to a new place? For me, one activity that never fails to fill me with joy is hearing and singing those favorite hymns with sisters (and brothers) in Christ.

As we enter the autumn season of the year, moving toward the final days of the church year, and looking forward to the joy-filled Christmas season, let us ask the Lord to fill us with the gifts of the Spirit, which fill us with His joy.

The Christian Life Committee invites everyone to join us at the LWML Kansas District Christian Life Retreat, to be held at the Doubletree by Hilton, Wichita Airport, on November 10 and 11, to discover ways to keep the joy of the Lord in our hearts. Come and share *Continuous Joy*!

The Christian Life Retreat brochure, with registration form, may be found in this publication on pages 8-9 or on the LWML Kansas District website, at kansaslwml.org/2023-christian-life-retreat.

*Continuous
Joy*



*Rejoice always, pray without
ceasing, give thanks in all
circumstances; for this is the will
of God in Christ Jesus for you.*
1 Thess. 5:16-18

Enjoy a relaxing weekend of
connecting with old friends and
meeting new ones.

ENJOY MUSIC

MEDITATE IN GOD'S WORD

LIGHTEN YOUR SPIRIT
WITH LAUGHTER

WIN PRIZES

The LWML Kansas District Store
will have items available for
your shopping enjoyment.



***Lutheran Women
in Mission
Christian Life Retreat***

**Featuring
Author
Sharla Frits**



**November 10-11, 2023
Double Tree by Hilton
2098 Airport Road
Wichita Kansas
Sponsored by the
LWML Kansas District**



Sharla Fritz has been described as an amazing, eye-opening speaker and author. Her books *Measured by Grace*, *God's Relentless Love*, *Enough for Now*, *Waiting*, *Soul Spa*, *Divine Design*, and *Bless These Lips* have given thousands of women the tools to dig into Scripture and experience a transformation of their attitudes and heart. With light-hearted stories and thought-provoking applications, she makes Bible study fun and uplifting.

Sharla's articles have appeared at *iBelieve.com*, *incourage.com*, *The Mudroom*, *The Redbud Post*, *Today's Christian Woman*, *Just Between Us*, and *Lutheran Women's Quarterly*.

Stitching her messages with humor and honesty, Sharla speaks to hundreds of women each year at retreats, luncheons, and mom's groups.

Sharla makes her home in the Chicago area where she is also a pastor's wife, mother, grandmother, musician, and confirmed chocoholic. If she isn't sitting at her piano or computer, you might find her stalking fabulous fashion finds at the local resale shop.

AGENDA

FRIDAY ~ November 10

— *Dinner on your own before the event starts* —

5:00 p.m. - Registration Opens, check into rooms / Shopping Open until 6:30 p.m.

6:30 p.m. - Welcome / Session I

7:30 p.m. - Evening Prayer Service

8:30 p.m. - Fellowship:

SATURDAY ~ November 11

7:15 a.m. - Registration Opens

7:30-8:30 a.m. - Breakfast provided
Shopping Open until 9:00 a.m.

9:00 a.m. - Welcome / Session II

11:00 a.m. - Break / Shopping Open until 12:30 p.m.

11:30 a.m. - Lunch Served

12:30 p.m. - Session III

2:15 p.m. - Closing Thoughts

The LWML Kansas District Christian Life Committee would like to thank an anonymous donor for her contribution toward this year's retreat expenses. Thanks to her kindness, the registration fees for the 2023 retreat remain at the 2021 rates! Praise the Lord for His faithful servant's generosity!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Home Church: _____

Special Needs: _____

REGISTRATION:

(PLEASE CHECK YOUR CHOICES AND ENCLOSE AMOUNT ACCORDINGLY)

Hotel Room, Meals & Activities for One Great Price!

Rooms are Double w/Double Beds

- ☐ 1 person/room \$170.00
- ☐ 2 persons/room \$115.00 per person
- ☐ 3 persons/room \$90.00 per person
- ☐ 4 persons/room \$82.00 per person
- ☐ I plan to attend the retreat, but will not stay at the hotel. Registration cost: \$55.00

Includes Breakfast and Lunch

PLEASE ADD \$10 if postmarked AFTER

September 29, 2023

* I have a roommate/s: (Please List)

_____ The Committee may assign me a roommate.

Lunch Choice (choose one)

- _____ Steak Medallion Salad (w/bleu cheese crumbles, onion crisps, field greens, red onion vinaigrette)
- _____ Italian Chicken Sandwich (w/ prosciutto, fresh basil, fresh spinach, tarragon mayo on ciabatta)

Make checks payable to

LWML Kansas District.

Please send registration form with payment to:

Heather Rolf
928 Wayside Road
Westphalia, KS 66093

CHURCH WORKERS IN MISSION (CWIM)

Joyce Duitsman | CWIM Coordinator



A warm LWML welcome to these **PASTORS**, new to the Kansas District:

Rev. Mark Gaschler, Immanuel, Linn

Rev. Mark Mozeik, St. John, Meade

Rev. Nicholas Belcher, St. John's, Topeka

Rev. Magdiel Fajardo, TIG Partnership, Ulysses

Rev. James Woelmer, Christ, Manhattan

A warm LWML welcome to these **CHURCH WORKERS AND TEACHERS**, new to Kansas:

Hannah Elsey, DCE, Faith, Topeka

Bradley (Kyle) Erickson, Principal, Good Shepherd, Marysville

Allison Klipp, Teacher, Good Shepherd, Marysville

Katie Nelson, Teacher, Holy Cross, Wichita

Janet Begley, Teacher, Hope, Shawnee

Heather Meyer, Teacher, Trinity, Winfield

HEART TO HEART — SISTERS OF ALL NATIONS

Sherri Rose | District Leader

Are you a Christian ostrich?? Do you keep your head down and away from those who are different from you? Take your head out of your hymnal and look around! Who, in your congregation, is different from you — in appearance, in speech, or in age? Who would benefit from the fellowship of your LWML group? Is there someone who seems to be “on the outside, looking in?” Take a minute of your time to start a conversation, give a compliment, or even just a smile. You just might start a new relationship, leading to a lifetime friendship! Pray to our Lord, who hears every prayer, to guide you. Also, take time to learn more about Heart to Heart — Sisters of All Nations at lwml.org/heart-to-heart.

SPECIAL FOCUS MINISTRIES

Sarah Kleopfer | VP of Special Focus Ministries

It is time to start thinking about Young Women Representatives (YWRs) for the 2024 LWML Kansas District Convention! Each zone may have up to two young women (between the ages of 20–35) attend the convention in Wichita. The Special Focus Ministries Committee has already started planning special events during the convention for these young women and is excited to meet them. The YWR application is available on the website, kansaslwml.org/2024-lwml-kansas-district-convention. Please encourage the young women of your congregation (or even someone you know from across the state) to attend the 2024 convention, to apply for this great opportunity, and to learn more about LWML. The application deadline to your Zone President is **January 15, 2024**.

Young Women
IN MISSION



Special Focus Ministries Committee
LWML Kansas District
Sarah Kleopfer, Vice President
Pam Popp, Chairman

Greetings from the LWML Kansas District Special Focus Ministries Committee!

The LWML Kansas District Special Focus Ministries Committee will host a special program for Young Woman Representatives at the LWML Kansas District Convention, April 12–14, 2024, at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, Wichita Airport, Wichita, Kansas.

Each zone in the LWML Kansas District will be able to sponsor two Young Women Representatives (YWR's). The suggested age is 20 through 35 (as of March 28, 2024). 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, 2024, and should be returned to the zone president. **Each zone will be responsible for selecting two Young Women 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's upon checkout.

All forms and fees are to be submitted to the LWML Kansas District Special Focus Ministries Committee by **February 1, 2024**. Please direct any questions and the registration forms to:

Pam Popp
31741 W. 168th Court
Gardner, KS 66030
pampoppular@gmail.com

In His Name,

Pamela Popp

Pam Popp, LWML Kansas District Special Focus Ministries Committee Chairman



GUIDELINES FOR APPLICATION LWML KANSAS DISTRICT YOUNG WOMAN REPRESENTATIVE

What is a Young Woman Representative (YWR)? The YWR is a young woman who represents her church, group, zone, and district for the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML), Lutheran Women in Mission; 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 March 28, 2024), who is a member of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, Kansas District.
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. YWR's 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 her zone LWML will cover registration, travel, housing, and meal package costs.

What can the district expect of the YWRs?

1. The YWR will become an active participant in her group, 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 form (located on the LWML Kansas District website, kansaslwml.org/2024-lwml-kansas-district-convention, and return to your zone president. Her email address can be found at kansaslwml.org/zone-presidents.
2. The application must be returned and/or postmarked no later than **January 15, 2024**.
3. Each zone committee will select two YWR's to attend the LWML Kansas District Convention, and will send their selections to the Special Focus Ministries Committee by **February 1, 2024**.
4. All applicants will be notified **by their zone president** by February 1, 2024, with the selection of the applicants chosen to represent their zone as a YWR at the LWML Kansas District Convention.

Questions? Contact Pam Popp — 913-314-5470 or pampoppular@gmail.com

GOSPEL OUTREACH

Julie Hatesohl | VP of Gospel Outreach

A few weeks ago, I was talking with a friend about a letter where the author was requesting funds for a project. This was a sizable project and I told my friend, "There is no way they are going to get funded. It's impossible!"

Soon after this conversation, I was in Wichita attending the Kansas Assembly of Leaders (KAOL). The Gospel Outreach Committee was responsible for putting together a Mite Offering Challenge for the event. At each break the committee counted the money collected and by the end of the day, we had collected over \$5,500; perhaps the most ever collected for a KAOL mite challenge. On the way home from KAOL, I remembered the conversation I had with my friend earlier and was reminded that, with God, all things are possible (Matthew 19:26). I now have confidence to continue to pray for this author's request as I know, if it is God's will, the project will be funded.

Mite offerings remind us that no matter what our current situation may be, that, with God, all things are possible. The LWML mite goal for the 2023–2025 biennium is \$2,350,000, which may seem impossible, however, during this past biennium, mite offerings raised over the \$2.1 million goal.

Next April, the LWML Kansas District will announce its 2024–2026 biennium goal. I know in my heart that God will guide the Executive Committee to establish a mission grant goal that He can and will make possible.

At the time of this article, the Gospel Outreach Committee is reviewing 46 applications for God's Gracious Gift Funds and Mission Grants that have been received for the LWML Kansas District. The process is rigorous and thorough to ensure that the final list of recommendations that are presented to the delegates next April, 2024, have been fully validated, and will need prayers and consideration next April. Each application will be reviewed by the LCMS, either the national or Kansas District office. Each application will be reviewed by the Gospel Outreach Committee and finally reviewed by the entire LWML Kansas District Executive Committee.

2023 LWML CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS, MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN



Lutheran Woman's Quarterly and Web Maintenance Fee FAQ's **payment due by April 1, 2024**

Why make a *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly (LWQ)* payment?

The *LWQ* is sent out four times a year to each LWML local group that elects to receive them. They are sent by the LWML office in St. Louis. LWML sets the rates for each subscription a group receives. The current rates are \$6.00 each for 10 or more subscriptions and \$7.50 each for nine or fewer subscriptions. The LWML Kansas District is billed by LWML for the total amount of all the *LWQ*'s the district receives. **If an LWML group doesn't pay for the subscriptions it receives, the money to pay for the *LWQ* comes out of mite donations.**

Why make the *LWQ* payment at this time?

The LWML office allows an LWML group to increase the number of subscriptions it wants to receive at any time during the year. However, decreases in the number of *LWQ* subscriptions a group wants is allowed only one time a year – in the spring. That is why there is a due date listed on the *LWQ* remittance form each group is asked to send with their payment. Payment by the requested date allows the LWML Kansas District to send the changes to the LWML office in St. Louis by their deadline date.

Why make a Web Maintenance Fee payment?

The web maintenance fee is a one-time yearly payment of \$10.00. **Every LWML group in the Kansas District is asked to pay this fee.** This fee helps pay the LWML Kansas District website hosting fee, website domain registration, and the website administrator's fee. The website has an abundance of useful information that each group, zone, and district leader can use and share with others to keep everyone informed. Check it out at www.kansaslwml.org.

Where is the form to send with the *LWQ* and/or Web Maintenance Fee payment?

The form may be found on the Organizational Resources page of the LWML Kansas District website, www.kansaslwml.org. The form is listed under the heading of "Forms". The form is also on the following page of this issue of *The Kansas Sonshine*.

Where is the payment sent?

Lutheran Woman's Quarterly and Web Maintenance Fee (2024) payments should be sent to the LWML Kansas District Distribution Manager. The Distribution Manager keeps track of how many *LWQ* subscriptions each LWML group has requested and of the *LWQ* and web maintenance fee payments made by each group.

The current LWML Kansas District Distribution Manager is:

Marj Aufdemberge, 2232 E. Elk Dr., Lincoln, KS, 67455, distribution@kansaslwml.org.

All other payments such as mite offerings, Day of Prayer offerings, or donations should be sent to the LWML Kansas District Financial Secretary.

Thank you for making your 2024 *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* and web maintenance fee payment on time. Remember – nonpayment by your LWML local group reduces our mite donations for missions.

***Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* and Website Maintenance Fee Remittance Form (2024)**

Complete this form and mail it with your payment by April 1, 2024.

LWML GROUP INFORMATION:

Group Name _____ Church/City _____

Address *Quarterly* is to be mailed to _____

Attention _____

Group Treasurer's name _____ LWML Zone _____

Treasurer's phone _____ Treasurer's email _____

REMITTANCE INFORMATION:

Number of *Quarterly* subscriptions requested # _____

Multiply by rate (1-9 copies, \$7.50 each; 10 or more copies, \$6.00 each) x _____

SUBTOTAL = \$ _____

Add Yearly Website Maintenance Fee (*****see explanation below***) + \$ **10.00**

TOTAL REMITTANCE DUE = \$ _____

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

Mail only this **form** and the **payment** to: **(DO NOT send a district remittance voucher)**

**Marj Aufdemberge
LWML Kansas District Distribution Manager
2232 E. Elk Drive
Lincoln, Kansas 67455**

Contact information: (email) distribution@kansaslwml.org
(phone) 785-531-1768

*****Website Maintenance Fee explanation:*** *This \$10.00 fee helps pay the website web hosting fee (paid yearly), the website domain registration (paid yearly), and the website administrator's fee (paid every six months). It takes all of these things to make the website work for our district, our zones, our groups, and all of our members, congregations, and guests who use the LWML Kansas District website. The website has an abundance of information that group, zone, and district leaders use and share with others to keep everyone informed. It is requested that ALL groups in the LWML Kansas District please pay this minimal annual fee, and it is very much appreciated. Thank you for your support of the LWML Kansas District website.*

2024 LWML KANSAS DISTRICT CONVENTION NEWS



We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as forerunner on our behalf
(Hebrews 6:19-20a).

SOMETHING NEW IS COMING!

Watch for a new issue of *The Kansas Sonshine*, coming in November, with all the 2024 LWML Kansas District Convention information you'll need to complete the registration form! You'll be able to register early!

Don't forget to put April 12-14, 2024, on your calendar. Come to the DoubleTree Hotel, Wichita Airport for a weekend of LWML fellowship!

Your LWML Kansas District Executive Committee and the 2024 Convention Planning Committee are working hard to plan many activities for you. Please pray for these women, as well as the pastors, Bible study leader, and all other speakers. Also, please pray for the mission grant proposals and the God's Gracious Gift Fund proposals, that God's will may be carried out by the voting assembly.



CONVENTION BANNER CHAIR

Jill Lowe

Once again, each LWML Kansas District zone is invited to create a banner for the Kansas District Convention. Each zone is encouraged to bring their own unique banner to the convention. The banner procession is always an exciting opening to the convention, and all the banners displayed bring joy to the convention hall.

A letter with detailed banner specifications was mailed to Zone Presidents. Banner specification summary is as follows:

- Finished banner size is to be 3'x5'; although fringe may be longer.
- Banners should be based on the convention theme: Jesus is My Anchor.
- Your zone's name MUST be on the front of the banner, along with a small tag on the back side.
- Place two ribbons to tie your banner to the pole on the back of your banner (details on Zone President letter).
- Please attach the banner to a 1" dowel with a screw eye on each end (details on Zone President letter).
- Stands and poles for the banners are provided by the Host Committee.

We will also request a photo and information about your banner before the convention, along with the designer's and crafter's names of the banner and a brief description of your banner.

Please contact your Zone President, or visit the convention page on the LWML Kansas District website at kansaslwml.org/2024-lwml-kansas-district-convention, for detailed banner specifications. We are looking forward to seeing all the beautiful banners you bring to this convention!

LWML KANSAS DISTRICT ZONE AND LOCAL GROUP NEWS

The **HUTCHINSON ZONE** will have their Fall Meeting on Saturday, October 21, 2023, from 9 a.m.–2 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Preston. About ten ladies and gentlemen from the Hutchinson Zone attended the LWML Convention in Milwaukee this past June 22–25. What an amazing time to *Celebrate the Lord of the Nations*.



Kansas Delegation



Tammy Taylor, Angela Campbell,
Nancy Hawkes, Ashley Campbell



Elise Cleary, LWML President
Eden Keefe, Tammy Taylor

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The **TOPEKA ZONE** Fall Event will take place Saturday, October 7, at Zion Lutheran in Vassar. *Let all that you do be done in love* (1 Corinthians 16:14), will be the theme for the day. Gifts from the Heart will benefit SOS (Domestic Violence Victims).

We had a tremendous response with our first Orphan Grain Train pick up last year and plan to have another this fall! The Orphan Grain Train pickup will be Friday, October 13, from 9 a.m. to noon at Christ Lutheran, Topeka.

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The **LWML GROUP OF RISEN SAVIOR, BASEHOR**, served sack lunches to the Milwaukee-bound bus of LWML members. It was a good time for them to get out of the bus, and they picked up a few more riders while there.



The **LWML GROUP OF RISEN SAVIOR, BASEHOR**, made 40 school backpacks for the students of Risen Savior Academy, and collected the necessary school supplies, with help from the congregation. Dayle Reynolds and Mary Ellen Ballard assembled the bags, which were given to the students on the first day of school.



LWML KANSAS DISTRICT ZONE AND LOCAL GROUP NEWS

CHRIST THE KING, SALINA, LWML had their annual Salad Supper on Monday, August 28. Jane Anderson, with Friends of the River Foundation was the guest speaker. The Friends of the River Foundation strives to restore the natural channel of the Smoky Hill River to its role as an integral part of the aesthetic recreational and economic life of Salina. This is being done in conjunction with the City of Salina and the Corp of Engineers. We enjoyed delicious salads and desserts and were blessed to be joined by our sisters in Christ from **Trinity Lutheran Church**.



In August, **CHRIST THE KING LWML** received a Thrivent® Grant to help purchase supplies for 20 Teacher Kits for Orphan Grain Train (OGT). In September, the congregation will help us work on hygiene kits for OGT. Plans are to have a blessing of the kits on LWML Sunday and deliver them to the Wichita OGT warehouse.



LWML members of **ST. PAUL LUTHERAN, PRESTON**, organized a collection for Kansans for Life, Wichita. Congregants were invited to participate in the Kansans for Life (KFL) 2023 Baby Bottle Project. On Mother's Day participants picked up baby bottle banks displayed in a small crib (handmade circa 1960's). Then, on Father's Day the baby bottles were brought back after they had been filled with coins, bills, and checks. We were able to send \$765 to KFL. We are thankful for the opportunity to work with organizations that promote pro-life issues. Praise be to God!



Open Door Health Services (ODHS) in Hutchinson requested volunteers to help assemble welcome back bags for Hutchinson Community College students. Helpers from Reno, Pratt, and Barton counties answered the call — including one retired policeman and one nine year-old girl. Leaders from Open Door were happy for the help, as they assembled 200 gift bags in early August. Contents of bags included information on services of ODHS, shampoo, cream rinse, lotion, and a home pregnancy test kit.

Donna Briggeman, President of St. Paul Ladies' Aid, appreciated the chance to get a guided tour of the facility. "I didn't realize all that is available: counseling services, educational classes for both women and men, a "store" stocked with baby-related items that can be purchased with points earned from taking classes, as well as, access to a registered nurse on staff who can administer sonograms. As Lutherans, we are thankful for those who help promote pro-life."

DATES TO REMEMBER

2023

Date TBD

November 10–11

Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting via Zoom

Christian Life Retreat, DoubleTree, Wichita Airport

2024

January 15

February 2–3

February 3

April 1

April 11

April 11

April 12–14

YWR Application due to Zone Presidents

Executive Committee (EC) Meeting, (location TBD)

Convention Planning Committee Meeting

Quarterly and Web Maintenance fee due

EC Meeting, Wichita

BOD Meeting, Wichita

LWML Kansas District Convention Wichita, KS

District Prayer Mail To be included on the **District Prayer Mail (P-mail)** group listing, please send your name and current email address to Velma Bass, pmail@kansaslwml.org. Requests, thanksgivings, and joys are distributed in "blind copy" manner so that your email address is not shared.

Contact information changes for groups and zones should be emailed to Brenda Piester at directory@kansaslwml.org.

UPCOMING LWML GROUP EVENTS

Promised Rest Women's Retreat

March 2, 2024, 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

600 N Greenwich Rd, Wichita

Speaker — Michelle Diercks

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust" (Psalm 91:1-2).

New on the LWML website, lwml.org:

- Mission grant resources are now available at lwml.org/mission-grants. Resources include a mission grant story, bulletin byte, bulletin insert, devotion, prayer guide, and a zoom background.
- A new video-based Bible study by Donna Snow is now available. Visit lwml.org/unshakable for information and online leader's guide about *Unshakable*.
- The 2023–2025 Program Helps is available at lwml.org/program-helps. Find a monthly featured Bible study and devotion, along with links to a suggested mission service project, featured mission grant resources, and featured stewardship meditations.

Check it out today!

New on the LWML Kansas District website, kansaslwml.org:

- * YWR application is now available at kansaslwml.org/2024-lwml-kansas-district-convention. Check often for convention updates.
- * Mission grant updates at kansaslwml.org/gospel-outreach. Find an updated mission grant poster and printable mission grant bookmarks.
- * Updated Giving page at kansaslwml.org/giving. Sign up here for online giving, find info on the Vanco app, find Endowment information, and more.



Mission Statement

Led by the Holy Spirit, the LWML Kansas District will equip women to proclaim Christ, support missions, and serve the Lord with gladness.