



The Kansas Sonshine

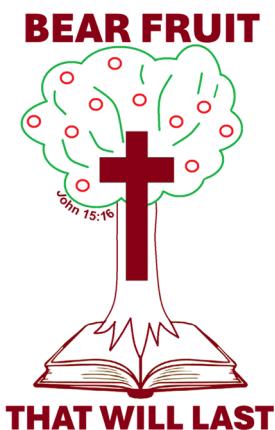
Volume 83
Number 2
2026 Convention Registration



CONVENTION REGISTRATION ISSUE

PRESIDENT'S OFFICIAL CALL TO CONVENTION

41st Biennial Convention



Hilton Garden Inn
410 South 3rd Street
Manhattan, Kansas
April 17-19, 2026

CONVENTION GOAL STATEMENT

As people chosen by God, we will bear fruit by

- abiding in His Word;
- living our life in Christ; and
- working in His service.

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you (John 15:16).

The voting body of the convention will vote on mission grant proposals, God's Gracious Gift Fund proposals, and elect new officers for the 2026–2030 terms of office.

Attendees will learn about the mission of the LWML Kansas District, mission grants that have been funded as well as those to be funded by mite offerings, and be grounded in Christ in order to continue serving Him with gladness.

On behalf of the LWML Kansas District, I am honored to invite you to Manhattan for the 41st Biennial LWML Kansas District Convention! We pray that you will be uplifted by the hearing of God's Word and the singing of His praise; that you will be encouraged to live your life in Christ by bearing good fruit; and that you will be excited to continue to bear the fruits of service through the Holy Spirit that will glorify God our Father.

LWML Kansas District President Elaine Engelman

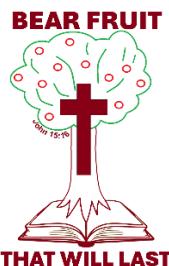
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Mission Grant Proposals, God's Gracious Gift Fund Proposals, Officer Candidates, Featured Speakers information, and all other convention information will be published in the PRE-CONVENTION INFORMATION issue of *The Kansas Sonshine*.

Last Name _____



41st BIENNIAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION
Lutheran Women in Mission Kansas District
April 17–19, 2026, Manhattan, Kansas

**ALL attendees, including spouses, must complete
a registration form. Please print legibly.**

Badge Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Congregation/City: _____

LWML Zone: _____

Please Check Only One:

General Registration
 Past President of the Ks. District
 Voting BOD Member - District
 Non-voting BOD Member - District
 District Committee Member
 2026 Convention Committee
 Clergy
 Special Guest *and/or* Speaker
 Spouse
 Teen; Age _____

First Time to Convention? YES NO

Registration Fees

<input type="checkbox"/> Early Registration (postmarked before March 1) (includes two meals on Saturday: luncheon and evening meal/entertainment)	\$ 140	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Spouse Registration (includes two meals on Saturday: luncheon and evening meal/entertainment)	\$ 115	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Only Registration (includes two meals on Saturday: luncheon and evening meal/entertainment)	\$ 115	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Clergy Registration: option 1 (includes two meals on Saturday: luncheon and evening meal/entertainment)	\$ 85	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Clergy Registration: option 2 (includes only Saturday luncheon; does <u>NOT</u> include evening meal/entertainment)	\$ 30	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Convention Choir Music Fee (circle one: S A)	\$ 5	\$ _____

For registrations postmarked March 1 or later, add \$ 10 \$ _____

Optional Meals See complete meal menus in *The Kansas Sonshine* Registration Issue, page 6.

<input type="checkbox"/> Friday Dinner Buffet	\$ 27	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Buffet Breakfast	\$ 25	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Extra tickets for those <u>ONLY</u> attending Saturday Evening Banquet meal	\$ 40	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday Christian Life Breakfast Buffet, Speaker: Rev. Dr. Craig Muehler	\$ 25	\$ _____

Registrations received after March 28 will not include meals. Please allow time for the snail mail service!

TOTAL PAYMENT (include all registration fees and all optional meals) \$ _____

Make your check or money order payable to: **LWML KANSAS DISTRICT CONVENTION**
(Registration continued on page 2)

**LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE KANSAS DISTRICT
PARTICIPANT INFORMATION, ACKNOWLEDGMENT, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND RELEASE FORM**

The purpose of this Participant Information, Acknowledgement, Assumption of Risk and Release Form is to identify each person ("Participant") who wishes to volunteer with the Lutheran Women's Missionary League Kansas District ("LWML Kansas District") or to participate in LWML Kansas District-sponsored or LWML Kansas District-related activities. As a condition to becoming a Participant, LWML Kansas District requires you to provide the following information and to release LWML Kansas District from any liability for your safety and wellbeing when volunteering for LWML Kansas District and while participating in any LWML Kansas District-sponsored or LWML Kansas District-related activities, including optional activities scheduled in conjunction with conventions or any meetings. LWML Kansas District may copy this form for use at optional activities. Please return the form as requested. The forms will be securely stored for use in this biennium by the Kansas District Meeting Manager, meetingmanager@kansaslwm.org.

Name/Address: _____

Allergies and Other Known Health Risks/Problems: _____

Special Diet Restrictions (not preferences): _____

Reaction to Diet Restriction/Medication Needed: _____

Person to Contact in the Event of an Emergency (Name, Address, Telephone Number(s), Relationship):

NOTE: If you have any major health changes during the biennium, a new form will need to be completed and filed with the Kansas District Meeting Manager with that updated information.

GENERAL RELEASE

The undersigned acknowledges and agrees as follows: LWML Kansas District assumes no, and disclaims all, liability for my safety and well-being while I am a Participant. In consideration of LWML Kansas District permitting me to be a Participant, I (a) acknowledge and agree that LWML Kansas District cannot and does not accept any (and expressly disclaims all) responsibility for my safety and well-being; and (b) waive all claims arising from my volunteering for LWML Kansas District and participation in LWML Kansas District-sponsored or LWML Kansas District-related activities. Knowing and understanding the risks relating to my being a Participant, I release and discharge LWML Kansas District, its directors, officers, employees, and agents from all claims, demands, actions and causes of action that I may have, now or in the future, relating to or resulting from any illness or injuries (including death), loss or damage suffered by me while I am a Participant.

PHOTO RELEASE

I grant to LWML Kansas District and its assigns the right and permission to take photographs and audio and video recordings during my participation, and to retain, publish and distribute, without charge or fee, such photographs and audio and video recordings. Without limiting the foregoing, I agree that these images and recordings may be used in publications, including electronic publications and websites, and in audio-visual presentations, promotional literature, advertising, and in other similar ways.

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

PRINTED NAME: _____

DATE: _____

PARENT'S SIGNATURE (if under 18): _____

DATE: _____

PRINTED NAME: _____

REGISTRATION FORM GUIDELINES

Please consider these guidelines when completing your registration form.

- If more than one family member is attending the convention, please fill out a registration form for each person.
- When completing your registration, it is important that you write as legibly as you can.
- Please print **first name first** for your badge name.
- A zone map may be found at www.kansaslwml.org/organizational-resources, Leadership Guidelines, Appendix E1, page d.
- To complete the right hand box, choose the option that is the highest possible for you within the Kansas District. For example, if you are a zone president you would choose "voting BOD Member - District."
- Registration fees include two meals on Saturday — lunch and dinner. Optional meals that will be offered are listed in the section below registration choices. PLEASE consider adding these meals to your registration form. It will be more convenient for you than going outside of the hotel and it will benefit LWML by counting toward the food and beverage total that we are required to pay to the hotel.
- You are in charge of making your own room reservations unless you have received a letter from the president telling you otherwise. The LWML special room rate is **only available until March 21**. A credit card is REQUIRED to hold your room reservation.
- If you have any **SPECIAL NEEDS**, please be sure to complete the Special Needs section on page 2 of the registration form.
- There are two (2) Leader Development (LD) sessions on Friday. Both speakers are available during both session times. You may attend either speaker during either session, please indicate your choice.
- There are four (4) Interest Sessions (IS) on Saturday. Each speaker will present during each afternoon time session. You may visit two of the four sessions. Please indicate the time slot for each of your selections.
- The LWML Kansas District Participant Information and Release Form (PIRF) is required with your registration. The form is found on page 5 of this newsletter.

CONVENTION MEALS

Friday Evening Buffet

Baked Potato Bar

Baked potatoes, toppings include bacon bits, chopped ham, cheese, onion, sour cream, broccoli, salsa, and more, chef's choice dessert, iced tea.

Saturday Breakfast Buffet

Scrambled eggs, potatoes, bacon, sausage, pastries, coffee or juice.

Saturday Buffet and Men's Luncheon (*both are included in registration fee*)

Wrap — club, southwest chicken, or Caesar chicken; pasta salad, house made potato chips, cookie, iced tea.

Saturday Evening Banquet (*included in registration fee*)

Roast beef with gravy, roasted herb potatoes, salad, green beans, roll, assorted cakes, iced tea.

Sunday Christian Life Breakfast

Veggie Quiche, sausage patty, fruit, juice, coffee.

CONVENTION SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS

2026 LWML KANSAS DISTRICT CONVENTION SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS APRIL 17–19, MANHATTAN, KANSAS

Thursday, April 16

6:00 p.m.
7:00–10:00 p.m.

(Pre-Convention Activities)
Board of Directors Dinner and Meeting, Hilton Garden Inn
Exhibitors and Committees Setup

Friday, April 17

7:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.
7:30 a.m.
8:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m.
8:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m.
10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
11:15 a.m.
1:00–4:30 p.m.
1:00–1:45 p.m.; 2:00–2:45 p.m.
3:45–5:00 p.m.
5:00–6:30 p.m.
7:15 p.m.
7:30 p.m.
9:00 p.m.
9:30 p.m.

(Pre-Convention Activities)
Registration and Gifts from the Heart (GFTH) ingathering open
Executive Committee (EC) Prayer Breakfast
Prayer Room Open
Exhibitors and Committees Setup
Exhibits Open; CPH and LWML Stores Open
YWR/Mentor lunch (by invitation only)
On-site Servant Events (come and go, self-guided projects)
Leader Development Sessions
Choir Practice
Dinner Buffet
Pre-service Music
Convention Opening and Worship with Holy Communion
Reception with the Executive Committee
YWR Friday Night Party

Saturday, April 18

6:30 a.m.–10:00 p.m.
6:30–7:30 a.m.
6:30–8:30 a.m.
8:15 a.m.
6:30–9:00 a.m.
7:00–8:00 a.m.
7:45 a.m.
8:00 a.m.
8:15 a.m.
11:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m.
11:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m.

Convention Session 1
Prayer Room Open
Breakfast Buffet
Registration
DELEGATE REGISTRATION CLOSES AT 8:15 A.M.
Gifts from the Heart ingathering
Exhibits Open; CPH and LWML Stores Open
Pre-session Singing
Banner Procession
Bible Study; Business Meeting with Voting for Grants and Officers
Lunch and Men's Luncheon
Exhibits Open; CPH and LWML Stores Open

Saturday, April 18

12:45 p.m.
1:00 p.m.
3:30–5:00 p.m.
3:30–6:00 p.m.

Convention Session 2
Pre-session Singing
Mites in Action Speakers
Interest Sessions
Exhibits Open; CPH and LWML Stores Open

Saturday, April 18

6:30 p.m.
9:00 p.m.

Convention Session 3
Banquet/Inspirational Music with Harmony Hill Farmstead and Band
YWR Gathering with LWML Representative Shari Miller

Sunday, April 19

7:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
7:00 a.m.
8:45 a.m.
9:00 a.m.
10:45 a.m.
NOON

Convention Session 4 and Sending Service
Prayer Room Open (*public prayer requests may be left until 10:30 a.m.*)
Christian Life Breakfast with Speaker Chaplain Craig Muehler
Pre-session Singing
Final Business Meeting with Bible Study
Sending Service with Installation of Officers
Convention Adjournment

PLEASE NOTE: This is a preliminary convention schedule which may change.

INTEREST SESSION SPEAKERS (Saturday afternoon — choose two)

PLEASE NOTE: All four Interest Sessions are offered during both time slots. You may attend two sessions by indicating on your Registration Form which session you will attend during each time slot.

Light of the World, Lutheran Church Plant

Rev. John Kastner, Pastor of Light of the World Lutheran Church, De Soto, Kansas

All of our churches have a beginning. Some might be old enough there's no one around to remember the beginning. This session will show what it takes to begin a new church today — both the blessings and the difficulties. Light of the World in De Soto, Kansas, has labored to spread God's Word and establish a congregation through the work, not only of those with boots on the ground, but also of those across Kansas who have worked to support it. With the LWML's help, the Word of God has been spread and handed down for all who need to hear it.

Campus Ministry in the LCMS Kansas District

Rev. Sean Kilgo, Campus Ministry Coordinator for LCMS Kansas District

What goes on in the campus ministry world? How can you be involved in supporting our students as they transition into adulthood and maturity? What can be done to encourage our Lutheran students to remain faithful, as well as reach out to students currently outside the Lutheran church? Pr. Sean Kilgo, campus pastor at the University of Kansas and Campus Ministry Coordinator for the LCMS Kansas District, will answer these questions and more in this interest session.

Lutheran Early Response Teams: What it Means to Serve

Donna Williams, District Disaster Response Coordinator, LERT Kansas District

Is Disaster Response in the Kansas District limited to only disaster events or critical incidents? This is one of the most asked questions I hear. Yes, we train to respond to these extraordinary events both locally and across the U.S. and internationally. Yes, our training makes us hyper-aware of the weather and the damage and recovery that follows our stormy seasons. The beauty of the LERT training curriculum is that it prepares us to respond with other LERT volunteers in these environments. It also equips us to partner with Christ Care groups and staff within our congregations, and gives outreach opportunities in our communities. LWML has been a valuable partner since Disaster Response became an active ministry in 2015. Our prayer is that together we can continue to grow and adapt as we respond to the needs of people who need to see Grace and Mercy in action — people Jesus puts in front of us every day.

Show up and Shut up: A Bridge to Comfort

Carol Kratzer and Comfort Dog, Keren, Lutheran Church Charities K-9 Comfort Dog Ministry®

Interest Session topics will include the history of the LCC K-9 Comfort program, Emmanuel Lutheran Church's introduction to the program, and what the program has done for the community, church, and team. If time allows there will be pictures of some of Keren's visits and her work with hurting people.

And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it:

You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Matthew 22:37-39).

LEADER DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS *(Friday afternoon — choose the time you will attend)*

PLEASE NOTE: Both of the Leadership Sessions are offered during both time slots. You may attend both sessions by indicating on your Registration Form which session you will attend in each time slot.

Bearing Fruit Requires Cultivating Culture

Presented by Rev. Mark T. Frith

Christian mission organizations seek to proclaim the Gospel for the sake of saving men and women, boys and girls. But how do you combat a growing repressive and renewed opposition to the Gospel? It begins by remembering and engaging God's Two Kingdom approach to the world, the culture, and the mission field. The Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty has launched the Champions Network to equip men and women to re-engage the culture not just with the Gospel, salvation evangelism, but also intentionally cultivating good government and civic responsibility. We need to cultivate a healthy relationship between Church and State, which is a Biblical teaching. If we don't, the LWML, and organizations in kind, will be criminalized. Let's talk about how to cultivate culture so that you can bear fruit for generations to come.

Everything YOU Ever Wanted to Know about Lutheran Women in Mission But Were Afraid to Ask!

A Panel Discussion

Do you have questions about any aspect of service within the LWML? Questions about LWML at the group, zone, district, or national levels? This panel of Lutheran Women in Mission have experience in all levels of LWML. A question and answer time will be a major part of this presentation. In order for the panel to prepare, please send your LWML questions to President Elaine at president@kansaslwm.org, by April 3. You may also bring written questions with you to this session. No question is insignificant, so, ask away!



All men attending convention are invited to have lunch together on Saturday! Have lunch with LWML Kansas District Pastoral Counselors Pastor John Werner and Pastor Kenton Abbott, as well as Pastor Mitchel Schuessler, convention Bible study leader and past national LWML pastoral counselor.

Spouse registration, Saturday only registration, and Clergy 1 registration all include *both* Saturday lunch and dinner. Clergy 2 registration includes Saturday lunch only. The Saturday lunch includes the Men's Luncheon. If you would like additional meals during the convention, please complete the optional meals section on the registration form as needed.

Friday Evening Worship

Worship with us in the main ballroom, with pre-service music beginning at 7:15, worship with communion begins at 7:30 p.m. A reception will follow the service.

Registration is NOT necessary to attend the worship service or the reception.



CONVENTION CHOIR



Do you love to sing with others? Please join the convention choir as we worship the Lord with song! Sign up on page one of the registration form, please indicate if you sing soprano or alto. The \$5 fee will cover the cost of the music. Choir practices on Friday at 3:45, and sings during the worship service. Let's make a joyful noise together!

CHRISTIAN LIFE BREAKFAST

Chaplain Craig Muehler, retired U.S. Navy Captain, serves as the director of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Ministry to the Armed Forces. Chaplain Muehler will be the speaker at the Christian Life Breakfast on Sunday morning at 7:00 a.m. He will share the wonderful story of our LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces and the great partnership with LWML over the years in caring for those who selflessly serve, and have served, our nation in the Armed Forces.

The breakfast is a buffet, and the meal description is on page six of this document. Register to attend the Christian Life Breakfast on your [Registration Form Page One \(page three of this newsletter\)](#).

CONVENTION HOTEL INFORMATION

Hilton Garden Inn, Manhattan

410 South 3rd Street, Manhattan, Kansas 66502, Phone number: 785-532-9116

Please use THIS link to make your room reservations: [**LWML KANSAS DISTRICT CONVENTION**](#),

or copy and paste the following address into your browser:

www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/mangigi-93u-aa8c0bc4-3d13-4a59-821f-367695c804e4/

Room Rate: \$125 (2 Queen Beds or 1 King Bed) plus applicable tax and fees.

A credit card is **REQUIRED** for guest room reservations.

Cancellations within 48 hours of arrival will incur a charge for the first night's room and tax.

Check in time is 3:00p.m. Check out time is noon. Early arrivals are accommodated based on availability.

***You are responsible for making your own reservations by March 21
for the LWML block of rooms.***

IMPORTANT HOTEL INFORMATION

The weekend of the convention is also Open House Weekend at Kansas State University. Fraternities and sororities will likely plan special events. It is important to make your reservation by the cut-off date of March 21 so that our rooms are not released to the general public.

Please make your reservations early!

HOTEL PARKING

Parking fees for the parking garage south of the Conference Center have been waived for LWML convention attendees for the convention dates in April. Levels two and three are the zones that will be free. Parking on level one belongs to the city and cannot be waived by the hotel. Anyone parking on level one will be charged fees by the city of Manhattan. If you enter the Conference Center from the northeast corner of the parking garage you will be directly in the hallway where the convention registration area is located.

HOTEL DIRECTIONS

From I-70 Westbound, take exit 313 to KS-177N. Use the left lane to continue on Pierre St. Turn left at the first cross street onto S 3rd St. Destination is on the right.

From I-70 Eastbound, take exit 303 for KS-18E toward Manhattan. Turn left onto KS-18E and turn left onto S 3rd St. Destination is on the left.

SERVING THE LORD WITH GLADNESS

At this convention, our Gifts from the Heart are items for Cancer Care Kits, Military Personnel Gift Bags, and specific food and personal care items for Flint Hills Breadbasket, a Manhattan charity. Items are listed below. *Please bring only these items to convention.*



Cancer Care Kits

Smaller size throw blanket

Curel (only this brand) hand cream

Tea Bags

Hard Candy

Gum

Mints

Chapstick or lip moisturizer

Military Personnel Gift Bags

Granola Bars

Trail Mix

Drink mixes

Gum

Candy

Flint Hills Breadbasket, Manhattan

Peanut Butter

Canned Meat

Shampoo

Toilet paper

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace (1 Peter 4:10).



Servant Events will take place on-site on Friday, from 1:00–4:30 p.m., and are come and go events. *There is no need to register for servant events.*

Assemble Cancer Care Kits

Assemble Military Gift Bags

Coloring Cards will be available for cancer patients and for military personnel

QUICK LINKS TO CONVENTION INFORMATION

Hotel Information: [LWML KANSAS DISTRICT CONVENTION](#), or copy and paste the following address into your browser: www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/mangigi-93u-aa8c0bc4-3d13-4a59-821f-367695c804e4/

LWML Kansas District Convention webpage: kansaslwm.org/2026-lwml-kansas-district-convention

Convention Registrar: Jolene Stackhouse, conventionregistrar@kansaslwm.org

2026 LWML Kansas District Convention T-Shirt Order Form



Please mail payment with order form to:

Claire Banion, 6101 SW Brookfield Circle, Topeka, KS, 66614

Questions? Text 785.250.8905

ORDER INFORMATION

**ORDER AND PAYMENT
MUST BE RECEIVED BY
MONDAY, MARCH 16TH**



This t-shirt is a Gildan soft-style tee in a heather berry-colored "Antique Heliconia" with the convention logo on the front and no design on the back.

CUSTOMER INFORMATION

NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

PHONE

Adult	Qty
<input type="radio"/> S	
<input type="radio"/> M	
<input type="radio"/> L	
<input type="radio"/> 1X	
<input type="radio"/> 2X	
<input type="radio"/> 3X	

PAYMENT METHOD



Cash



Check payable to "LWML Kansas District Convention 2026"

QUANTITY ----- X \$20

TOTAL DUE -----

DELIVERY METHOD

ALL SHIRTS ORDERED TOGETHER
WILL BE GROUPED TOGETHER TO
BE COLLECTED AT THE
CONVENTION ON APRIL 17-19

NOTES

CONVENTION DATES AND DEADLINES TO REMEMBER

February 7	Convention Planning Meeting #3, St. Luke's, Manhattan
March 1	Zone YWR Registration Forms Due to VP of Special Focus Ministries
March 1	Deadline Convention Early Bird Registration
March 15	2028 District Convention Theme and Bible Verse Ideas Due to President Elaine
March 16	Deadline Convention Shirt Orders
March 21	Deadline Convention Hotel Reservations at LWML Rate
March 28	Deadline Convention Registrations to include meals
April 16	BOD Meeting, Hilton Garden Inn, Manhattan
April 17-19	LWML KANSAS DISTRICT CONVENTION, Hilton Garden Inn, Manhattan

Each zone convention banner will be accompanied by a description of the banner design, the banner designer(s), and the idea behind the banner. Photographs of each banner will be taken at the convention in order to post online following the convention. Information about banners will not be printed prior to convention.

Banners will be displayed following the banner procession on Saturday morning.

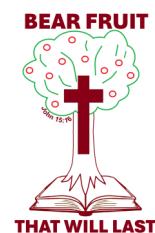


Bring Your Own Bag to Convention!

Bring a previous convention bag to hold all your “convention stuff!”

Bring extras to share with first-timers and attendees who may not have a bag.

The 2026 Convention Logo was designed and submitted by Marsha Stohs, Linn Zone. The logo was digitized by Elisabeth Heath. Thank you to both contributors for the convention logo!



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.