

Wyoming Spiritual Newsletter Summer 2013



Wyoming District LWML Spiritual Resource Newsletter Summer 2013



President's Message—

Today was the last day of school for this school year. As this day unfolded, I was fondly remembering some of the experiences my students and I had through the year. Watching all the children today and comparing them to the nervous and yet excited students coming through the doors last fall, I am amazed to see the changes and growth they have had. As I reminisced I was also reminded of the changes I have experienced through the years, as a teacher yes, but so much more as a child of God! I am refreshed to know that He promises to be with me always *“And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age”* Matthew 28:20. I know that today I am not the person I was growing up, but the Holy Spirit has taken me, molded me, and changed me. I pray that He continues to change me as He guides my life, until He takes me home. *“In your unfailing love you will lead the people you have redeemed. In your strength you will guide them to your holy dwelling.”* Exodus 15:13

The Excitement of the Pittsburgh convention is really building up! I hope that if you are unable to attend that you will pray for the convention attendees. In addition to your prayer, you might consider sending an offering with someone who is attending. There are a number of different convention offerings to choose from. After the convention is over, be sure to invite someone who did attend, to share their experience with your group. My own congregation plans to have a convention coffee for a time to share in the Pittsburgh WOW! I hope that they will be Quenched right along with me!

Thanks to all who attended the PING events around the District. Christina, Karen and I hope you were Prepared, Inspired, and Nurtured to Go! We enjoyed our time with each of you. I thank Christina and Karen for their extra effort in preparing and presenting to the zones around our district. I also thank Lori Lewis for stepping in and helping for the High Plains session. It was so nice to have another presenter so we could meet the needs of each zone.

May you each have a wonderful summer, blessed by God!

Serving Gladly with you,
Carrie Brumbaugh
Wyoming District LWML President.



From Our Counselor –

It seems that our world is changing at an ever-increasing pace. Things that were taken for granted are now up for grabs; venerable institutions have disappeared while others have changed so much as to be unrecognizable. If you're into cars consider this: twenty years ago would you have thought it possible that Plymouth, Oldsmobile, Pontiac and Mercury would join the list of vanished American marques like Studebaker and Hupmobile? Media has changed so rapidly that it makes your head spin—newspapers and magazines have been hardest hit. Many newspapers that were around for decades are gone (e.g., the *Rocky Mountain News*) with information via the Internet filling the void. *Newsweek* magazine is for sale—quite cheaply if you're in the mind to have a national periodical. Our political landscape keeps on changing—what's a sure mandate for a politician or party evaporates like a summer mist. And our culture? Where to begin? What was considered beyond the pale a few years ago is now mainstream. Do you remember some twenty years ago how many folks were upset over *The Simpsons* and Bart's statement that he was "an underachiever and proud of it"? Heavens, if we could have it limited to that nowadays I think we'd be thrilled.

Things haven't remained the same in the Church, either. A while back, I read an article about how Claremont Divinity School, a Methodist seminary in California, was going to be offering courses leading to ordination for rabbis and imams in addition to their hundred years of training Christian ministers since, in their words, it didn't really make a difference because everyone's interpretation of God is entirely valid. Another example: on the questions and answers section of the ELCA's website, a person asked if one must believe in the "theory of the Trinity" to be saved. The response was that a person needs to believe in God as He has revealed His love to us (so what does that mean? Yes, no or whatever you want it to mean?). It's hard to imagine that a church that goes by the name "Lutheran" would be alright with a denial of the Triune God, isn't it? However, that seems to be the route that much of "Christendom" is taking these days. Even churches that would be considered conservative, Bible-believing congregations have quickly have downplayed mankind's sinful state and our need for a redeemer. There are churches which have no cross in them at all, in keeping with their minimizing of sin: church-growth consultants have convinced people that to mention sin and a need for repentance is something that should never be done, for it doesn't help people "feel better about themselves." We're not immune to this notion in the LCMS, either. On the website of a large and prominent LCMS church they have the reasons for why one should be baptized: "There are lots of reasons why we baptize. Here are some of them: Because God tells us to be baptized. Because Christians have been baptizing people for the past 2000 years. Because we receive amazing blessings from God when we are baptized. Because it brings God great JOY and DELIGHT when we are brought into His family through baptism." You'll note that although none of these answers are wrong in themselves, there is something missing in their statement: forgiveness of sins, life and salvation—that's why we baptize.



However, we ought not weep and despair like Elijah did in I Kings 19: they have slain your prophets and I alone am left. No, we are not left alone, for Jesus has promised to be with us always, even to the end of the age (Matthew 28:20). Read that chapter from I Kings—what did

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the Lord tell Elijah? That despite appearances, He had reserved thousands who had not participated in pagan worship. Like Elijah, sometimes we are tempted to think that all things have been lost and that surely this is the end of our society. Remember, though that people have been saying these sorts of things for quite a while now; I recall reading an editorial written in the late 1920s which complained of radio shows which were “corrupting the youth of America.” Or, in the Church, consider that some five hundred years ago many people looked and saw how corrupt the Church had gotten and how bad off society was. They concluded that the end of the world must be near, for things were irretrievably bad. But what happened? The Lord raised up a little German monk and several others, and He used Luther and the other reformers to restore the Gospel to His Church. Even in our day, when we see church attendance dropping and congregations closing, there is good news: Christianity is growing at an explosive rate in African and Asian countries; areas where the Gospel hadn’t been heard is now being received with great joy.

At times it’s easy to look around at our world and wonder what is happening, whether the Church will continue and what sort of shape our nation will be in the next few years. But remember that not only did Jesus promised us He would be with us to the end of the age (as though that were insufficient!), but also that the gates of hell would not prevail against His bride, the Church (Matthew 16:18). He has given us, His elect, the Holy Spirit. The Small Catechism teaches us that the Holy Spirit calls, gathers and enlightens us and the whole Church, and He keeps it in the one true faith. You are in that faith, the faith once delivered unto the saints. Our sure hope isn’t in buildings or programs or governments or nations, but in the sure hope of Christ and the resurrection. Keep that in mind when you are next “wearied by the changes and chances of this passing world.”



Christ’s richest and continued blessings to you all— Pr. Ken Humphrey

Spread the word about www.wyolwml.org

In April, I had the privilege of presenting a portion of the P.I.N.G. program at the High Plains Zone Spring Rally. In the course of the presentation, I discovered that the majority of women in the group did not know that the Wyoming District LWML has its own website – or, if they were aware of its existence, they had never visited its pages. I have a hunch that the results would be similar in other Zones, so I’m asking for everyone’s help in increasing awareness about www.wyolwml.org!

Here are a few ways that you can help spread the word about the Wyoming District LWML website:

1. Visit the site and utilize one of the resources from it (perhaps the Mission Grant PowerPak bulletin inserts). Be sure to tell those that ask that you got the resource off of the website.
2. Put a note in your church bulletin and/or newsletter that includes the address for our website.
3. Include the website address in your email signature, especially if you are a society, Zone or District officer.

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4. Seek input from your societies and Zones about content that could be added to the website. If you have something to share, please send it to wyo1wml@gmail.com.
5. Include the website address on printed material, such as programs, yearbooks, calling trees, or bulletin inserts.

Our website has the potential to be a valuable tool and resource for our District!

In Christ's Service,
Lori Lewis, Wyoming District LWML Webmaster



HEADWATERS ZONE NEWS

Our Christian Life Workshop was held in Green River on April 27, 2013. The theme was "Children of the Promise" and bible study was lead by Jennifer Scheel, Christian Life Chairman. Pastor Martin and Pastor Rose gave the opening and closing devotions and five ladies did the PING Program – Kathy Barr, Jennifer Scheel, Karen Lininger, Carrie Brumbaugh, and Barbara Coverdale. There were 22 people in attendance. The Emmanuel Society served snacks and treated us to a delicious lunch. Our Fall Rally and Retreat will be held in Rawlins, Wyoming at Christ Lutheran on September 27 & 28, 2013. The Retreat

will begin on Friday, Sept. 27 at 5:30 p.m. with supper and registration and our Leader Development Chairman, Karen Lininger, will present session five of "Heirs Together of God's Gracious Gift of Life." The Fall Rally starts the next morning at 9 a.m. The Ingathering will be a donation to give to the Wind River Indian Reservation. Our speaker for the Fall Rally will be Pastor Rose of Pinedale and a Convention presentation by Ilene Hanson, the Headwaters Zone Delegate and Gerry Neeriemer, Headwaters Zone President--PITTSBURGH WOW! The LWML Convention is in Pittsburgh, PA on June 27-30, 2013.

He is our Living Water and We are Celebrating 70 years of LWML

Gerry Neeriemer, Headwater Zone President

We are all treasures in the Kingdom of God, we use the three "T"s:

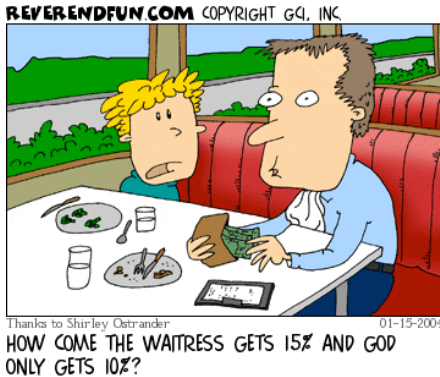
TIME: **Colossians 4:5** - Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time.

TALENT: **1 Corinthians 12:4-6** - ⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵ and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone.

TITHING: **2 Corinthians 9:7** - Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, [so let him give]; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

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A good example of the above is that we have already been able to pay all but two of the Mission grants in full that we voted on at the 2012 Wyoming District Convention. Praise Be to God! God gives us these gifts for ourselves to use and to share them with others.



God's Blessings
 Brenda Ellis
 Wyoming District Financial Secretary

Leadership Development/HOPE Committee Report

We were tickled "PING" at our spring workshop to take part in a PING presentation given by President Carrie, Karen and Christina. They did a wonderful job, and gave us lots of good ideas to try in our societies to get new members and encourage those who are already members.

As Leader Development Chairperson, I have gone to the LWML.org site and gotten some great ideas to present at our meetings.

I would encourage all of you to do the same. You can go to the LWML site and click on Leader Development, or even PING, and find some great ideas.

I wish all of you God's Blessings as you go into your summer of fun and maybe relaxation, for those of you who actually get a vacation!

I hope to see you at our BOD meeting in Oct.

Leaning on Him,

Linda Fischer



Wyoming District LWML Endowment Fund – Terri Denniston

This fund has been established for the purpose of managing funds received as the result of gifts, memorials, honorariums, and bequests and to use them for the mission and ministry of the Wyoming District LWML. The monies will be used for project, special expenses or programs on an as needed basis upon the approval of the Wyoming District LWML Executive committee.

The term Endowment may imply the use of the interest only while not touching the principal of the fund. Our intention, however, is to use the funds on an as needed basis for unexpected expenses encountered in the operation of the Wyoming District LWML. The account is established at the LCEF (Lutheran Church Extension Fund) as a Steward Account, and can be accessed at any time.

Contributions may be made for many occasions such as birthday, anniversaries, and graduations, as memorials or simply to the glory of God. Come up with your own unique way to Praise the Lord. The Wyoming District LWML financial committee will acknowledge all contributions.

Make checks payable to: Wyoming District LWML (Designate Endowment Fund)
Mail to: WY District Financial Secretary, Brenda Ellis, 221 N. 44th Street, Cody, WY 82414



Greetings from the Powder River Zone

Dist. Pres. Carrie and her team did their first PING presentation at the Powder River Zone Spring Workshop in Buffalo, WY on April 6, 2013. Debbie Lee, our Zone treasurer, will be our delegate to the Nat'l Conv. in Pittsburgh PA. This is her first opportunity to attend a Nat'l Convention. We are very excited for her and are anxious to hear her report at our Fall Rally to be held in Sundance, WY. Debbie and Joan Anderson are the Host Committee Chairwomen for the 2014 Dist. Conv. to be held next June in Casper, WY. The Powder River Zone is excited to have the opportunity to welcome all of you to Casper.

Your sister & servant in Christ
Bert Maki
Powder River Zone President

Hello there fellow LWML'ers!!!

Yes, it is me, your MITE BOX LADY!! And I want to tell you all how very proud I am of each one of you! Because of your generous gifts we have moved right along in meeting our mite box goal, in fact we only have 2 grants left to pay in full. We have 2 grants that were partial pays and are scheduled to be paid when the rest of the grants are finished but WOW!!! We are only ½ way through this biennium

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and we are almost there!!! You are an awesome bunch of ladies (and gents – I might add!!!) THANK YOU!!!!

Here is the list of projects for this biennium:

1. Four Lutheran Schools – Wyoming District	-	\$ 2,000 (paid)
2. Project Pastoral Education, Sierra Leone	-	\$ 4,200 (paid)
3. Tell the Good News About Jesus Convocation	-	\$ 3,000 (½ paid)
4. Trinity/Hope – Feed the Haitian Children	-	\$ 5,000 (paid)
5. Wind River Lutheran Mission Outreach	-	\$ 1,000 (paid)
6. Hands of Mercy – Poultry Project	-	\$ 3,000 (partial pay)
7. Wyoming District – Teachers Conference	-	\$ 3,500 (paid)
8. Concordia Seminary – Food Co-op	-	\$ 5,000 (paid)
9. 1001 Orphans – Kenya	-	\$ 2,000 (paid)
10. WY District School Scholarship Support	-	\$ 4,000
11. Lutheran Bible Translators (partial pay)	-	<u>\$ 3,300</u>
Total		\$36,000

So ladies – pat yourselves on your backs and keep on giving. Fill up those mite boxes – they like that full overflowing feeling! Then dump them out and start all over again. It makes them feel oh, sooooo good!!!

The mite box lady says thanks, keep up the good work – hope to see you in Pittsburgh at the National LWML convention where we will all be Quenched by the Water.

Blessings always!

Barb Schaer

The Mite Box Lady

VP Gospel Outreach



Here is a sneak peak of the WY District Banner that will make its premier at the 2013 Convention in Pittsburgh "Quenched! by the Water" Thanks President Carrie! It looks AMAZING!!!