

Wyoming Spiritual Newsletter Winter 2012



Wyoming District LWML Spiritual Resource Newsletter Winter 2012



President's Message—



Dear LWML Friends;

The planning is in full swing for our 21st Wyoming District LWML Convention! June 21-23, 2012 in Powell Wyoming is the time we look forward to spending with you. The pre-convention packets are nearly ready and will arrive in the mail soon. Please look for them, and plan now to attend this wonderful convention. We are all very excited as we will experience “God’s Grace through faith and not of yourselves.”

LWML President Kay Kreklau recently shared her vision for the LWML. We are women of the LWML Serving the Lord with Gladness. We are women who will: **Learn from and live for Jesus** – understanding that Bible study and prayer provide support, insight, and encouragement as we live for Jesus. **Take joy in being**

His voice, hands and feet – our service shows the love of Jesus in our actions, as we offer our hands, our feet, and our voices to work for Him. **Focus on missions, not meetings** – realizing that Jesus’ focus was His mission, not the often traditional meetings or events He attended. That is where our focus should be as well.

We have just begun the season of Lent, and I pray that your Lenten worship is helping you to focus on all that our Lord has done and continues to do for us. May each of you have a Lenten journey that will enrich your lives and strengthen your faith.

Many times in the season of Lent we are encouraged to “give something up”, but this Lenten season I would like to challenge you to add something to your life. If you are not already doing a daily devotion why not start now, with a daily walk with Jesus. There are many helps available for little or no cost if you want more guidance in your personal study. You may consider reaching out in a way you have not done before, by volunteering in your community. This could include reading portals of prayer to residents in your local nursing home, or taking a meal to a shut-in, or visiting someone who may be lonely. See what sharing the riches of God’s blessings can do for those around you.

As I continue my own Lenten journey I will pray for the Wyoming District LWML and the mission that God has given each of us. May He guide us each day as we continue to serve Him with gladness.

Gladly Serving with you!
Carrie Brumbaugh
Wyoming LWML District President

The pre-convention packets are nearly ready and will arrive in the mail soon!

Inside this edition: Invitation to District Convention in Powell, Wyo.; VP Servant Resources Melvina Dillman; VP Gospel Outreach Connie Cordes; Senior Pastoral Counselor Allen Strawn; VP Human Care Terri Denniston; Young Woman Rep Bridget Scherbarth; Treasurer Jan Vogelsang; Secretary to President Barbara Coverdale; Chimney Rock Zone President Donna Reker; Pine Ridge Zone President Barbara Schaer



The Yellowstone Zone Welcomes you to Powell, Wyoming!!!

Powell is a farming community located in northern Wyoming and the home of Northwest College! We are excited for your visit!



Join us for

The 21st Biennial Wyoming District Lutheran Women's Missionary League 2012 Convention June 21 – 23, 2012



*God's Grace Through
Faith and Not of
Yourself!*

Ephesians 2:8-9

- Bible Study
- Inspiring Speakers
- Guiding our Organization in Business
 - Selection of Mission Grants
- Worship Service with Communion
 - Great Food
- Music, Fun, Fellowship!!!



Convention Co-Chairmen Linda Fischer, left, and Joyce Veland, right, with District President Carrie Brumbaugh.

Nominations Still Needed

What comes to your mind when you hear the word **nominations**? We suddenly feel we are going to be asked to do “something” out of our realm of comfort. We follow God’s Will and His direction in our life, but some of that direction is in fear. As we read scripture we find our comfort and direction for situations in our life we never felt we would be in. I have found this in my life doing service to our Lord in positions I never felt I could do-- as an officer in LWML, whether on the local level, zone or district. It was not me, but God leading as I learned, “I can do all things in Christ who strengthens me,” *Phil:4:13*. This verse stays with me as I pursue the work of the LWML, and HOW it has strengthened me! I thank and praise God for these opportunities in my life! “BUT THEY GAVE OF THEMSELVES FIRST TO THE LORD,” *II Corinthians :5b*.



I came across this story in some of my readings: “A youngster was impressed with a challenging mission service in which people were inspired to give generously to send out more missionaries. He didn’t have any money to give, so after the service he asked an usher to please put the offering plate down real low. When the usher did, the youngster placed his foot on it and solemnly prayed, “Dear God, I have no money to give, but I give myself.” He later became a missionary.

“I Give Myself”—Nominations start with “myself” whether it be our local society, zone district, or national. Our LWML missionary work continues with “all” areas of service, so we look to nominations to fill the area of leadership of LWML. We find nominations for offices of LWML challenging as we search for ladies willing to step into these positions, even in our local societies. It is a process, but with our prayer of trust and faith in our Triune God, we can be led to opportunities of service that may seem fearful, but later we find it a wonderful opportunity to serve with our Sisters in Christ in LWML. Can you continue to spread the Word of God in the mission work of our LWML as an officer of LWML? Are you ready to put your foot in the offering plate? My prayer is that we all prayerfully consider a term of office in LWML. God uses each of us as a tool for spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ, as our Savior.

We still need ladies to serve in an office of the district LWML. My prayer is that it is YOU.

Nominations for District LWML as of this date are:

VP Christian Life: Donna Reker, Trinity Lutheran, Sidney, Neb.

Karen Lininger, Trinity Lutheran, Riverton, Wyo.

VP Gospel Outreach: **(None--please prayerfully consider this position)**

Recording Secretary: Christina Counselor, Our Savior Lutheran, Cheyenne, Wyo.

Danyne Six, St. Luke’s Lutheran, Worland, Wyo.

Financial Secretary: Brenda Ellis, Christ the King Lutheran, Cody, Wyo.

Thelma Cornwall, Trinity Lutheran, Wheatland, Wyo.

Pastoral Counselor: Rev. Kenneth Humphrey, Trinity Lutheran, Morrill, Neb,

Rev. Christopher Brandt, St. John Lutheran, Lovell, Wyo.

Please go to our Wyoming District website and find the job description for each office and a form to fill out. I pray for God’s continued guidance in His Will as we all consider “nominations” and “giving of ourselves first to the Lord” as we continue to “Serve the Lord with Gladness!”

You can send names to me via email at www.wyolwml.org. I would also like to add a "Thank you and Praise God" for a wonderful nominating committee--Judy Christensen, Marian Leonhardt, and Gerry Neeriemer.

Wyoming District VP Servant Resources
Melvina Dillman

ospel Outreach

Oh, what joy! We are about to meet our goal! The Grant Proposals for the biennium 2010-2012 are soon to be met. Do you remember how many there were? Do you remember what they were?

*Select one of the Mission Grant Projects to bring before the Lord. Read its description. Through Jesus Christ, give God thanks for the joy of His provision for this project. Give God thanks for all the people involved. Give thanks for the missionaries.

Project # 9

Lutheran Blind Mission for \$2,100.

More than 55 million people in the world today are blind. In the United States alone, there are 12 million blind and visually-impaired children and adults. Of those 12 million people, 82% do not read Braille (95% are unchurched). Lutheran Blind Mission duplicates over 11,000 audiocassette tapes annually from master tapes through the dedicated efforts of many volunteers. The Wyo. District LWML is helping to support the production of audiocassette magazines (such as: *In His Hand*, *Lutheran Digest*, *Lutheran messenger*, *The Lutheran Witness*, *LWML Quarterly*, *Portals of Prayer*) for blind and visually-impaired people through our grant of \$2,100.

*Let us continually glorify God for revealing through His Word His loving plan for all people, and through our faith, our prayers, and the gifts of our mites reach out with compassion to a world thirsting for the life-giving water only our God can supply.

2010-2012 Wyoming District LWML Mission Grants

| | | |
|---|---------|------|
| 1. Orphan Grain Train, Rocky Mountain Division | \$3,500 | Paid |
| 2. Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Food Co-op | 5,000 | Paid |
| 3. LCMS Joint Seminary Fund | 2,500 | Paid |
| 4. Trinity/HOPE Lutheran School-Haiti | 5,000 | Paid |
| 5. WY District-LCMS Evangelism Committee | 3,000 | Paid |
| 6. Training Pastors for Gospel Outreach in Africa | 5,000 | Paid |
| 7. Veterans of the Cross | 4,000 | Paid |
| 8. WY Unit of Good Shepherd Auxiliary | 3,900 | Paid |
| 9. Lutheran Blind Mission-Partial Pay | 2,100 | Paid |

Look for the new Grant Proposals in your convention packets.

*Gleaned from Mite Devotions written by Elaine Perry and Berny Rothlisberg

Published by Lutheran Women's Missionary League- 2009

By Connie Cordes, VP Gospel Outreach

From Our Pastoral Counselor—

Our Never-Ending Easter Joy!

As I'm writing this final newsletter article as the Wyoming District Pastoral Counselor, the weather outside is over 50 degrees. The sun is shining and it looks like a beautiful spring day. All of the signs of spring are telling a new story. It is hard to believe that my time is almost up, just as it is hard to believe that winter won't continue to rear its head for a while longer.



Yet also as I write this, we are still in the season of Lent, looking around the corner to the celebration of Jesus' death on Good Friday. In the church year sense, spring has not yet sprung. The gloom and darkness of the winter of Jesus' death are still around our corner. The decay of the tree of Calvary still is hanging lifeless.

But just as we know spring is around the corner, when the trees are budding (and allergies kick in) and the grass is greening and the temperatures are warming, so to the signs of a theological spring are around the corner. Again and again we read throughout the pages of Scripture the promise of new life, new hope, a new heaven and a new earth. The signs of Easter are upon us. Just as, rest assured, spring will come every year, so too, the celebration of the Resurrection follows the gloomy winter of celebrating Jesus' death.

In our looking forward to the beautiful weather of Spring, we wonder how long will the cool nights and the beautiful days and the moisture last? How long will our theological Spring, Easter, last? If we were to answer that question only on the basis of Mel Gibson's portrayal of the Passion of the Christ, Easter would last about 30 seconds. While Gibson's main goal wasn't to focus on the Resurrection, he does at least give us a glimmer of something more than the pain and suffering of Christ.

But unlike a movie about the Passion of the Christ, our lives must make Easter last longer than 30 seconds, or even one Sunday. For our lives as Christians depend on the Resurrection. If Jesus remained in the tomb, we are still dead in our trespasses and sins. (1 Cor 15:17) But since Jesus has indeed been raised from the dead, so also we have the eternal joy of our resurrection as well. Forgiveness of sins, eternal life, and salvation all go hand in hand.

When we live in Resurrection joy we are continually celebrating Easter. Each and every Sunday is a return to Easter. The Alleluias pour forth from our mouths with the same vigor as they do on Easter day itself. The celebration is complete and never-ending. That is how it is witnessed in our lives as well. Never-ending Easter joy. In the midst of sorrow, there is joy, in the midst of hopelessness, there is hope, in the midst of trial there is the unwavering certainty of our Savior that goes with us eternally.

Now maybe the real question is... "how long can you make the candy in the Easter basket last?"

We will be in the season of Easter for all but one Sunday of April and all of May, except the last Sunday. The last Sunday in May is the Day of Pentecost. Pentecost, which falls 50 days after Easter, so
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often seems like it's the beginning of a new season, almost like it is a new time being ushered in. Almost like we have the time of God the Father, in the Old Testament, and the time of the Son, Jesus, in the Gospels, and now beginning with Acts we have the time of the Holy Spirit. But this couldn't be farther from the truth.

In actuality, Pentecost is quite the completion of Easter. On the night when Jesus was betrayed, Jesus promised them "the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom that Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and remind you of everything I have said to you." (*John 14:26-27*) All this while He was telling them that He would be leaving them. But He wouldn't be leaving them alone.

The resurrection and ascension accounts can leave us feeling alone, for our Savior has gone ahead of us. But the living Jesus keeps His promises sure. He has sent the Spirit into our lives through the Word and the Sacraments. These produce the same fruit of faith that has been promised throughout the entire work of the Triune God. Jesus is not separate from the work of the Spirit, but truly connected. The Spirit's work is to always point back to the words and life, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus. Thanks be to God for always reminding us of His good gifts so that we never believe that we are left alone!

It has been my joy and privilege to work among the Wyoming District LWML and its leaders always being centered and focused around this Lenten message of repentance and forgiveness, and the joyful Easter message of our new life in Christ's resurrection. Soli Deo Gloria!

Pastor Allen Strawn
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Bridgeport, Neb.
WY District LWML Senior Counselor



SCHOLARSHIPS



WYOMING DISTRICT

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE

Six (6) scholarships for the 2012-2013 school year will be awarded to students who are residents of the Wyoming District Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and will be attending a Lutheran school studying for full-time church work. The amount of each scholarship is \$1,100.00, which will be equally divided between the first and second semesters. Two alternates will be chosen as recipients in case one of the original recipients becomes ineligible.

DEADLINE TO APPLY IS MARCH 31, 2012

To obtain an application form, OR Access a form on line at
 please write or email to: <http://www.wyolwml.org/>

Terri Denniston

Wyoming District LWML

Vice President of Human Care

150 Aspen Circle

Torrington WY 82240

(307) 532 0113

wyolwml@gmail.com

Special Invitation for Young Women!**Come one, come all, to The Wyoming District Convention in Powell, Wyo. June 21-23**

My name is Bridget Scherbarth, the Wyoming District Young Woman Representative, and I would like to personally invite each and every woman to join me and other Lutheran women for fellowship, service, Bible Study, and future planning for the Wyoming District.

By attending the District Convention you will be able to see the detailed process used to decide on mite funding and other decisions for the next biennium. As the National Convention helped me understand the work of the LWML, encouraged me to stay involved, and gave me a chance to make new life long Christian friends, I am sure the District Convention will give that to you!

I hope you will prayerfully consider attending this year's District Convention so I can get to know you and work beside you! We will have special fellowship and events for young women and teens attending District Convention as well! Come and see!

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE
WYOMING DISTRICT
PROPOSED BUDGET 2012 – 2014

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| District Mission Grants | \$36,000.00 |
| Scholarships | \$13,200.00 |
| National Mite Share | \$16,000.00 |
| Mileage | \$ 3,500.00 |
| Printing & Supplies | \$ 700.00 |
| Newsletter | \$ 250.00 |
| YWR/Teen Promo | \$ 500.00 |
| Postage & Telephone | \$ 1,000.00 |
| Insurance, Bond, & Audit | \$ 1,200.00 |
| LWML Quarterlies | \$ 1,000.00 |
| Meals & Motels | \$ 3,000.00 |
| National Convention | \$ 3,000.00 |
| District Convention | \$ 1,100.00 |
| Seminars, Workshops, & Educational Materials | \$ 500.00 |
| Miscellaneous Expenses | <u>\$ 500.00</u> |
| TOTAL | \$81,450.00 |

Submitted by Jan Vogelsang, Treasurer

Sending Your Quarterly Orders and Officer Forms

Quarterly Subscriptions

The 2012 Quarterly invoices were sent to the societies in October 2011. If you have not done so, please submit your payment to: **Jeannette Stahl, 8939 Road 40. Potter, NE 69156. Thank you.**

Increases in the number of subscriptions that your society receives may be made at any time during the year and, if communicated according to the following schedule, will go into effect with the next issue.

Decreases in the number of subscriptions will only go into effect with the Spring issue each year.

Summer 2012 Issue -- Submit **Increase** information by March 20, 2012

Fall 2012 Issue -- Submit **Increase** information by June 19, 2012

Winter 2012 Issue -- Submit **Increase** information by September 20, 2012

Spring 2013 Issue – Date to submit **Decrease** or **Increase** information has not been determined by national LWML yet but usually it is in early December. The date in December 2012 will be listed on the Quarterly invoice that will be sent to societies in October 2012.

Please send increase or decrease information to **Barbara Coverdale PO Box 493 Daniel, WY 83115.**
E-mail: bcoverda@wyoming.com Phone: (307) 871-5875. Thank you.

Zone and Society Officer Lists

If you have not done so, zone and society Presidents are requested to submit updated lists of officers. On the district level:

- one copy goes to Wyoming District President Carrie Brumbaugh. PO Box 149, Lyman, Wyoming, 82937
- and a copy goes to Barbara Coverdale at the address above. If you need a copy of the form, please contact Barbara Coverdale. Thank you.

**Secretary to the President
Barbara Coverdale**



CHIMNEY ROCK ZONE REPORT

Events in 2010—

The Christian Life Spring Workshop was hosted by Zion Chappell LWML on April 25, 2010 with 38 in attendance. Pastor Ted Bourret, Zone Counselor, led the Bible Studies, using "Why Do We Exist?" as the theme. The ingathering, Quarters for Haiti, totaled \$1,150, which was collected by congregations, Sunday Schools and LWML members.

On a beautiful weekend in June, the Chimney Rock Zone hosted the Wyoming District Convention in Gering, Neb. There was much work involved, but the success of the convention made it a rewarding experience for all in attendance. The ingathering was clothing for Orphan Grain Train.

Our Fall Rally was hosted by the LWML of Mount Calvary, Bayard, Neb., on Oct. 17, 2010, with 38 present. The theme was "Grace, Faith, Peace, Joy and Hope" with Pastor Ted Bourret leading the Bible Study. We were privileged to have Wyoming District LWML President, Carrie Braumbaugh give her president's report in person.

The highlight of the day was the informative slide presentation by Rev Jeffrey Grams on his trip to Israel. After learning of Pastor Grams' trip to Sierra Leone to teach other pastors there, it was decided to put the offering (\$240) towards his trip.

The ingather was a collection of many items to assist the mentally challenged living at the Cirrus House in Scottsbluff, Neb.

Events in 2011—

The Christian Life Workshop with 27 present was held on April 30, 2011, at Salem, Gurley, Neb. The theme was "All Things Through Christ" with Rev Daniel Larson leading the Bible studies. The ingathering was food pantry items for "Community Action Partnership of Western Nebraska."

The Fall Rally was held on Oct. 8, 2011, at St. Paul, Bridgeport Neb. with 40 present, and a theme of "Gifts From the Heart." Rev. Daniel Larson led the Bible Study. The ingathering was for the Bridgeport food pantry.

Rev. Jeffery Grams gave a very interesting slide presentation on his trip to Sierra Leone, Africa.

The Zone retreat was canceled due to lack of enrollment. The ingathering was still collected, resulting in nine kits for Doves, and 40 lbs. of items for Joplin, Mo.

Donna Reker, Chimney Rock Zone President



Pine Ridge Zone LWML

Events in 2011—

Spring workshop was held on Saturday, March 5, in Torrington, Wyo., with 24 guests and five pastors in attendance. Six societies were represented. Pastor Humphrey led the opening devotion.

Pastor Pflughoeft from Lusk led the morning Bible study and Pastor Bertram of Chadron led the afternoon Bible study, both were based on the 2011 LWML National Theme, “Being on the Edge, Living with Jesus.”

The young woman representative for Wyoming District for National Convention, Bridget Scherbarth was introduced. Bridget is a member at Immanuel in Alliance and is currently attending college at Chadron State.

Fall Rally was held on Oct. 2 in Alliance. There were 31 members, four pastors, two guests and four children present. Marie Rader of Scottsbluff was the guest speaker and told of her mission trip to India. Young Woman Representative Bridget Scherbarth gave a presentation about the 2011 LWML Convention.

We had special music with Pastor Phil Found on his cello, Susan Shaver on viola, and Johanna Safarick on violin and we joined in a hymn sing with them.

An ingathering of \$268 was received and sent to Orphan Grain Train to help with transportation expenses as needed.

A brief business meeting was held. Karen Schlais of Chadron and Terri Denniston of Torrington each accepted a second term of office for their respective positions.

The Alliance ladies hosted the afternoon and served a supper.

**Joyfully Serving,
Barbara Schaer
Pine Ridge Zone President**

For the next edition: The next issue of Wyoming Spiritual Resource Newsletter, the Spring edition, is scheduled to be sent out by June 1. Send news items to Christina Counselor, Newsletter Editor, at WYDistNewsEditor@gmail.com by May 21, 2012. Thank you for getting your articles to me to make your publication a useful tool.