



"I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people" Luke 2:10



THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Gayle Caruso

Hello! I am Gayle Caruso and your new LWML FL-GA District President. Because of COVID-19 we were unable to meet for our district convention where I would have been able to greet you all. I am looking forward to working with each of you, and cannot wait for us to be able to meet in person again! I know that 2020 has been very strange and has taxed our flexibility in many ways. We have had to learn how to Zoom, and how to do things differently by stretching our imaginations. Some of you have had small gatherings or Zoom meetings, and still others have not met at all. Through all this there is one constant: Jesus Christ! I have had my down days and wondered what is next. But I know that God is with us, in this storm and many others that may come. That gives me assurance that I am anchored in Christ and with Him WE can make it through!

I encourage you to participate in the following: 2020 LWML Convention in Lexington, KY, June 24-27, 2021. The theme is *"Running the Race... Looking to Jesus"*, based on Hebrews 12: 1-2 (more information soon).

GIVING TUESDAY DECEMBER 1!!

Your personal opportunity to help with an extra donation to both district and national LWML mission goals!

To donate go to www.flgalwml.com and use the icon in the right hand corner. All monies collected will go to missions.

Our district retreat, *"Water Walk"* (Isaiah 43:2) will be held September 24-26, 2021 at the Crown Plaza Oceanfront Hotel in Melbourne, FL. Wendysue Flugge is our retreat and music leader. I'm sure by September we will be ready to walk on the beach (or play in the water) and be refreshed and rejuvenated!

As I finish writing this article our first grandson, Luke Pridgeon, was born. Due to COVID-19 we were unable to be with them in the hospital so we had to wait by the phone! As we waited to hear that he had been born, it reminded me of Advent.

During Advent we wait with anticipation the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ. We wait and rejoice that He will return soon. My prayer for this season is that you be filled with wonderment and awe as we wait in anticipation the birth of Jesus.

Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!



Baby Luke

VP COMMUNICATIONS

Pat Powell

LWML Has a Smartphone App!

I want to share some information about the app, written by Joy Anderson, who is the national chairman of LWML's Growth and Development Committee. She writes:

"The LWML App is full of items that you might have separate apps for already. Did you know there is a Bible in the app? No need for a separate devotion app — devotions, Bible studies, and a prayer wall are available. Need information on a mission grant? It's there, along with the League Pledge and songs in case you need them for quick reference at a meeting or event. Read the LWML President's Blog and listen to the podcast, 'LWML on the Go' while you wait at an appointment. There are so many things in this app that will assist you in affirming your relationship with the Triune God and enable you to use your gifts in ministry to the people of the world. Make it your #1 app!"

An intelligent heart acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge. (Proverbs

18:15).

The app also works on an iPad! Let me add that the app is really useful when you are attending the national convention! During the convention in Mobile, the app had additional features to help you plan your time at convention. You can prepare for the Lexington convention next



summer by taking a few minutes to download the app and getting in the habit of using it! It's free for iPhone and iPad users in the App Store, and for Android users in the Google Play store.



VP MISSION GRANTS

Karen McCarthy

Since its release in the early 1990s, "How Beautiful" by Twila Paris gives me goosebumps each time I hear this wonderful reminder of Jesus' hands and feet serving on this earth, His heart and life sacrificed willingly for our sins to deliver forgiveness. How awesome that we have the opportunity not only to serve our Lord with our feet, hands, and hearts, but also to spread the Good News of Jesus through our mite offerings to those close by and far away. Feet, hands, and humble hearts become beautiful when serving our Lord!

The mission grants selected at the 2019 Mobile convention and the 2020 district convention show our support to expand God's Kingdom, care for His sheep, and show He cares for all people. Thank you, dear brothers and sisters in Christ, for these wonderful love gifts.

Here are two thank you note excerpts from our new mission grant recipients:

Live UCF: ...What a blessing [being selected is!] We are accomplishing some of our ministry on Zoom, and using a local congregation for worship. The mission grant will enable us in personal and leadership development. [Thank you] and God's richest blessings!

Giving a Voice to the New Missionaries to America: Wow! What a wonderful blessing the LWML FL-GA [District] is giving to new missionaries to America. For centuries we sent missionaries to other countries, but today God is sending back to us sons and daughters, granddaughters and grandsons of those brought to Christ in other lands. ...Thank you.

Blessings and joy in the Lord!



OUTGOING FINANCIAL SECRETARY**Linda Peters**

I want to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for the support you gave me the last four years as Financial Secretary. I have enjoyed every minute of it and believe it or not, I am going to miss getting all your checks. I am now turning over the reins to Chris Jennison, our new Financial Secretary, so from now on, your checks should be mailed to her. I will continue to forward any checks I receive to her so it may take some time before your check is cashed. If you have your church mail the check, make sure you ask them to update the name and address of the Financial Secretary. Just be patient during this time of transition. Her address can be found on the website, flgalwml.com under the Zones tab, Remittance Slip.



I am also happy to report the convention offerings from the Virtual Convention. Thanks to all who gave to these two offerings.

Offering #1 - District Mission Grants: \$2,715.00
Offering #2 - Endowment Fund: \$1,239.16



I look forward to seeing you all at future LWML events.

On behalf of the LWML FL-GA District, I would like to report the following donations:

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

St Paul Lutheran Church, Miami, FL
In loving memory of Garrett Littlejohn
- Faith Lutheran, Parrish, FL
In loving memory of Mary Ann Hile
- Suzie Miller
In loving memory of Nicki Haynes
- Lois Rhodes

CONVENTION OFFERING #1 - DISTRICT MISSION GRANTS

In loving memory of Jesse Johnson
- Carolyn Johnson

**DEADLINE for the
WINTER *EVANGEL*:**

February 5, 2021

Send articles & photos to:
evangel.flga@gmail.com

Please write them in Word (250 words), with pics as attachments.
Zone articles 1 paragraph plus pics

INCOMING FINANCIAL SECRETARY**Christine Jennison**

Greetings, fellow LWML members! Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve God and you in the position of Financial Secretary. It's all very new to me but with help and support from Linda Peters, Ada Jarmosevich (treasurer), and you, I am certain I can put the numbers in the right places! Praise God that we have reached our mission goal, and with His help we'll do the same in two years.

Please make sure you mail your checks to:

Chris Jennison
114 Fairlane Cir.
Sanford, FL 32773

The new remittance slip is in this *Evangel*.



LWML FLORIDA-GEORGIA DISTRICT RETREAT!!

Water Walk

LWML FL-GA District Retreat

September 24-26, 2021
Crown Plaza Oceanfront Hotel
Melbourne, Florida

Featured Speaker/Musician



wendysue

More info soon!

*When you pass through the waters,
I will be with you... Isaiah 43:2*

LWML FLORIDA-GEORGIA DISTRICT REMITTANCE SLIP

	LWML Florida-Georgia District 2020-2022 Biennium - Remittance Slip Make all checks payable to LWML FL-GA District
Date: _____	Check #: _____
Mites: \$ _____	LWML Sunday: \$ _____ Prayer Service: \$ _____
Scholarship Fund: \$ _____	District Mission Trip: \$ _____ Endowment Fund: \$ _____
LWML Convention Fund \$ _____	
Church City, State _____	Church Name _____
Your Name _____	Telephone _____ Your Email _____
Your Address _____	MAIL TO Christine Jennison, Financial Secretary LWML FL-GA District 114 Fairlane Cir, Sanford, FL 32773
Revised - 10/01/2020	

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Church City, State _____	Church Name _____
Your Name _____	Telephone _____ Your Email _____
Your Address _____	MAIL TO Christine Jennison, Financial Secretary LWML FL-GA District 114 Fairlane Cir, Sanford, FL 32773
Revised - 10/01/2020	

VP MISSION SERVICE

Deaconess Liz Borth

Your response to our Crosses for Losses Servant Event where we made hand written cards, and Angel Flight Southeast Gifts from the Heart projects was awesome and humbling. The LWML FL-GA women are surely dedicated to caring for others in the name of Jesus Christ!

We collected \$4,020 for Angel Flight of Southeast. The thank you note we received from Angel Flight is printed in this newsletter for you.

Lutheran Church Charities' Hearts of Compassion was amazed at the time spent in writing heartfelt words of compassion in cards that will accompany the crosses, and are honored to be recipients of such loving care.

Our 2021 district retreat in Melbourne, Florida, will again allow you to walk with Jesus in water-themed gifts and service.

What I pray at this half-way point in my term is for all of LWML Florida-Georgia District

societies to remember the projects and servant events that you can continue to include and make your own:

Lake County School System teachers' Apple Mart; Angel Flight of Southeast; pillowcase dresses sent to Haiti, Dominican Republic, and other LCMS mission locations; handwritten messages to comfort hurting people throughout the United States; school supplies; nursing home gifts; hospice chaplains' supplies; children's hospital cancer centers; hospital NICUs; Diana's Angels (stillborn loss); women's abuse centers; pregnancy centers; LCC comfort dogs; donations honoring military, fire department and police department personnel; and the list continues!

The field is ready for harvest, and LWML has many workers!



SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRMAN

Carol Alberts

Notes from our Scholarship Recipients:

Josh Leborious, fourth year seminarian, St. Louis: "I have been elected class president for this year's graduating class at the Seminary. I would covet your prayers in this endeavor. I am looking forward most to a class called Making Christian Counseling More Christ Centered, and to Systematics II. These classes already have provided awesome insights and new understanding".

Christian Einertson, fourth year seminarian, St Louis: "Since returning this fall, I'm settling into a new position as research assistant at Concordia Historical Institute, assisting callers researching people and events from the nearly two-century long history of the Synod. I've already been involved in some really fun projects, from cataloging blueprints of Missouri Synod seminaries in India and China to working with the handwritten sermon

manuscripts of C. F. W. Walther. My classes are going well".

Hannah Engwall, final year at Concordia Wisconsin: "I am taking 19 credits, working about 14-18 hours a week between two on-campus jobs- Student Worker

in the library, and Music Theory Tutor for music students looking for extra help understanding certain music concepts (it's always nice seeing that light bulb moment when the information clicks)! I also fill in as organist on different occasions.

As a Parish Music major, I often help out with services on campus, and have served as a substitute organist at two different churches in the Milwaukee area.

Thank you all for your support and prayers!"



Einertson
Wedding



COUNSELOR'S CORNER**SR. COUNSELOR— Rev. Paul Meseke**

Greetings in the name of the Lord!

As we now do the work of LWML in a time like no other, we question what to do (how, why, when). I was impressed by God's work through all of you with the many and varied mission grants that are to be awarded. Truly we are trying to get into the mission fields even as we are locked down (or at least harnessed) in our ability to get out and do some things.

I recently read: *He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field". (Luke 10:2)* My mind was taken back to the hymn "Hark, the Voice of Jesus Crying" and the question "who will go and work today?" Two of the verses end "Here am I, send me, send me!"

That is how I view the LWML—as those who have said "Send me, send me!" As we walk forward together and see all that God does through the LWML, you are the few workers and we need to walk closer and closer together and watch God work through you, the ladies of the LWML.

My first exposure to the Florida-Georgia "LWML-ers" was a few women with beautiful Christian hearts. We sat and chatted in the last row of the convention hall. They were from the Bahamas, and you could see their joy on their faces. I will never forget that day, and I pray we will all have the hearts of love to do God's work as those women showed to me. God bless you all as you prepare for the celebration of the One who says, "Follow Me!"

**VP SPIRITUAL GROWTH****Carol Jones**

"I can't wait until this year is OVER!" I have heard that sentiment so many times in the past few months and I'm sure that you have, too. A year that seemed to begin with such promise on January first quickly changed into a year unlike any we have seen in our lifetime. Nothing seems to be as it was. Such significant alterations to our "normal" habits and lifestyle have left us feeling that we are standing on shaky ground. Thanks be to God that His Word is full of messages that assure us otherwise!

How blessed we are that when the world around us is shifting and swirling, and when we feel we are losing our footing, we can climb back onto that Rock and rest securely! We can take this opportunity to explore the many verses throughout Scripture that refer to God as our Rock and our Fortress. All the reasons that we should fear not! I've listed some of them below for you.

As we enter into the season of Advent we are surrounded once again by reminders of God's faithfulness to us. Christ has come! Christ comes to us today in Word and Sacrament! Christ will come again! May God bless us in the new year with His mercy and peace, and when the trials and troubles come our way once again, may we sing boldly, at the top of our lungs, "On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand!"

Matthew 2: 24-25

Psalm 62: 5-7

1 Corinthians 10: 1-4

Isaiah 26: 4

Deuteronomy 32: 4

Psalm 89: 26

Psalm 31: 2-3

2 Samuel 22:2

Psalm 61: 1-3

1 Samuel 2: 2

Ephesians 2: 19-22

Psalm 18: 2



YOUNG WOMAN DEVELOPER **Jamie Bass**

Meaningful Connections & Social Distancing

I'm not a hugger. There, I said it! While I don't miss the physical embrace of friends, I can't help but think of the long-term effects of social distancing on our mental health. Now that hugging and handshaking are frowned upon, and masks and wipes have become the new accessory, I've started thinking of alternate forms of human connection that we all crave.

I have made a conscious choice to smile with my eyes when I venture out of my house. Last week I extended a friendly "hello" to the person waiting in front of me at the post office. I was pleasantly shocked we kept the conversation going for a few minutes and realized we had a mutual friend! God certainly works within us to connect others to Him even while social distancing.

Cooler weather means outdoor events may become more comfortable than the humid

summer days. Last month, I led a ladies' night at my church. We sat in our own lawn chairs and enjoyed socializing, eating s'mores around a fire pit. It was a breath of fresh air (in more ways than one) reconnecting with my friends after seeing only their faces on a computer screen for 6+ months.

Don't get me wrong: the digital age has allowed us to connect with others during COVID by participating in virtual church services, weddings, baby showers, etc. Think outside the computer screen this winter. Ask God to show you how to connect with others in meaningful ways, even in this pandemic.



S'mores by the Fire




FREE DOUGHNUTS The Lutheran Women's Missionary League recently moved their offices to the seminary's campus, and every now and again, they like to host celebrations for the seminarians and their families. As their latest socially-distanced celebration, they brought a food truck to campus and gave us all free doughnuts. It was delicious!

Thank you card from Angel Flight:



Dear Ladies,

We are truly humbled by your generosity and thoughtfulness. The envelope you sent had such promise with its bulging sides, but then to open it and find such riches inside was an immense blessing.

We are so fortunate to have supporters like you who fund flights like Austin's. Austin and his mother need to travel across the state multiple times per month to meet with doctors who are fighting to retain his eyesight.

Your kindness helps keep Angel Flight Southeast pilots and passengers in the air!

Warm Regards,
The Angel Flight Southeast Team
Nicole Hazelgren, Steve Purello & Deb Aschmann

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the LWML FL-GA District is to share the love of Christ with women of all ages and diversities and to foster a recognition that the mission field exists both at home and abroad.

Around the Zones...

TREASURE COAST

Cheryl Nolte- President

Even during these pandemic times, we are busy in the Treasure Coast Zone. We are getting ready for our Virtual Zone Rally, November 14, at Grace Lutheran Church in Port St. Lucie, FL. Pastor Cris Escher will conduct our service.

Our Zone societies are planning their holiday activities, and I humbly suggest we remember those who cannot go out right now. Let us show our compassion and Christian love to those who need it most. Ask them to prayerfully help others, by being in the prayer chain, or calling others to check in and share a Bible verse, or pray with them. Help them stay positive and stay busy helping others in ways they can. This can also become part of your local LWML mission.

We are praying for 2021 to bring us freedom from COVID-19. We also pray that everyone has a safe, healthy, and happy holiday season. Treasure your blessings. Praise the Lord!

We want news about YOUR zone!

Send a **paragraph and pictures** after your next event to **evangel.flga@gmail.com** to be included in an upcoming issue!
Please identify everyone in your pics

EAST CENTRAL GEORGIA

Beth Strickland— President

Our virtual Fall Rally was October 10, at Christ Lutheran, Perry, Georgia, which is very blessed to have the technology to host a Zoom meeting. One thing 2020 has brought us is appreciation and inventive ways for together time.

While the technology is new to many users, more ladies were able to attend. This should be a component to all rallies. We hope to gather in person April 10th in Savannah.

Christ Lutheran participates in Children of Love Foundation and the Lutheran Mission Churches in La Paz and Tegucigalpa, Honduras. They are growing thanks to the Lutheran church. The lives these missions touch (ours included) are forever changed. The Gifts from the Heart offering of \$865 will go to these missions. Thank you to everyone who donated! January 23-30, 2021 is our next Honduras trip.

Our FB page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/320905629001780>

Like/love the Evangel? Forward the link you got to a friend!

FOR THOSE WHO LIVE ALONE

I live alone, dear Lord, stay by my side. In all my daily needs, be Thou my guide.
Grant me good health, for that indeed, I pray, to carry on my work from day to day.
Keep pure my mind, my thoughts, my every deed.

Let me be kind, unselfish, in my neighbor's need.

Spare me from fire, from flood, malicious tongues, from thieves, from fear and evil ones.

If sickness or an accident befall, then humbly Lord, I pray, hear Thou my call.

And when I'm feeling low or in despair, lift up my heart and help me in my prayer.

I live alone, dear Lord, yet have no fear because I feel Your presence ever near. Amen

Author Unknown



Around the Zones...

SUN COAST ZONE

Deb Schrader - President

Salty Sisters LWML group from Christ Lutheran Church (Brooksville, Florida) assembled and delivered 40 **Cheer Bags** to other sisters in Christ in their congregation on Labor Day weekend.



This service project was to share encouragement, uplifting support, and the love of Christ with those who could not worship with us during the past months. A sense of hope was evident as each person delivering was greeted with a smile, a knowledge that the recipient knew they were cared for, and that Salty Sisters LWML missed their fellowship.

Items in these Cheer Bags included cookbooks, adult Christian coloring booklets, colored pencils, fun snacks, Christian/Scripture refrigerator magnet, LWML Mustard Seed devotions and mite box and many other small items to show them the care and love of their family of faith.

To subscribe to *Evangel*: www.flgalwml.com
Click on Join Mailing List, then subscriptions

SARASOTA ZONE

Jean Roehrs - President

Faith Lutheran Church (Punta Gorda, Florida) celebrated the work of LWML the first weekend of October. We displayed some of the quilts completed by Faith Quilters before the pandemic.

GREATER ORLANDO ZONE

Kathy McCartin— President

The Greater Orlando Zone was unable to host a Fall Rally in 2020 due to the pandemic. We have rescheduled and look forward to our Spring Rally, on April 24, 2021 at Holy Cross Lutheran, Lake Mary. It will be a joyous day to see our sisters in Christ again. Some of our societies have been unable to meet. Please keep them in prayer.

Our Nominating Committee is looking for a new Treasurer, VP Spiritual Growth, VP Mission Service, and Pastoral Counselor.

2021 RALLY DATES

EAST CENTRAL GEORGIA

Trinity Lutheran, Savannah, GA
Sat., April 10, 2021

GREATER ORLANDO

Holy Cross Lutheran, Lake Mary, FL
Sat., April 24, 2021

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA

Our Redeemer Lutheran, Ocala, FL
Sat., April 24, 2021

SUNCOAST

Trinity Lutheran, New Port Richey, FL
Spring, 2021

LWML FL-GA DISTRICT**DISTRICT PRESIDENT**

Gayle Caruso

VP COMMUNICATIONS

Pat Powell

VP MISSION GRANTS

Karen McCarthy

VP MISSION SERVICE

Deaconess Liz Borth

VP SPIRITUAL GROWTH

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Bunnie Koelsch

WEBMASTER

Stephanie Edgar

YOUNG WOMAN DEVELOPER

Jamie Bass

EVANGELPublished Quarterly by
LWML Florida-Georgia District**MISSION GRANTS DISBURSED AS OF 11/1/2020**

MISSION GRANT RECIPIENT	GRANT	DISBURSED	BALANCE As of 11/1/20
1. Alaska LCMS Mission Church Outpost	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
2. Lizzie Comfort Dog Partnership Ministry Grant	10,000.00	0.00	10,000.00
3. LiveUCF- Outreach and Engaging University Students	8,500.00	0.00	8,500.00
4. Mill Neck's Deaf Christian Education Afterschool Program	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00
5. Body and Soul Ministry Food Pantry	10,000.00	0.00	10,000.00
6. Holy Trinity Food Pantry	10,000.00	0.00	10,000.00
7. Support for Lutheran Family Services of Haiti: Jacmel Lutheran Home	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00
8. Luke Comfort Dog, Alpharetta, Georgia	10,000.00	0.00	10,000.00
9. Making Jesus Known in U.S. Ethnic Communities	10,000.00	0.00	10,000.00
10. Support for New Missionaries to America	8,000.00	0.00	8,000.00
11. God's Closet Community Trailer #2	3,400.00	0.00	3,400.00
12. Lalisa Dukem Lutheran School	4,397.95	0.00	4,397.95
13. All Access Education- Providing Economically Disadvantaged Youth Access to Technology	4,397.95	0.00	4,397.95
14. Obe Bible Translation and Scripture Engagement	4,397.95	0.00	4,397.95
Total:	\$96,093.85	\$0.00	\$96,093.85

MERRY CHRISTMAS!