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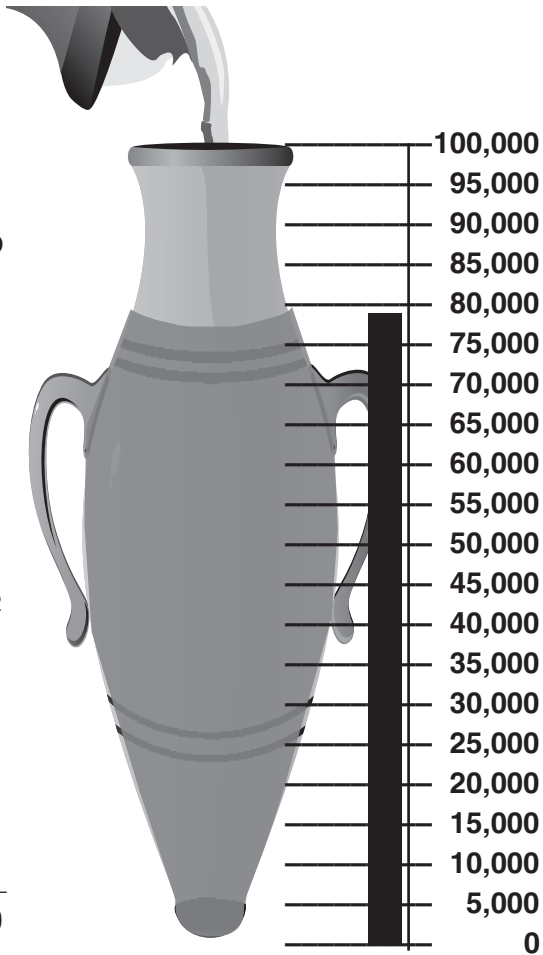
**Deadline for next Echo. . . May 1, 2016**  
Please send news from your society to:  
Karen Christner • PO Box 321 • Wauneta, NE 69045-0321  
E-mail: [echoeditor@lwmlnesouth.org](mailto:echoeditor@lwmlnesouth.org)

Address Service Requested

## 2014-2016 Mission Grants

*“We consecrate to our Savior...our silver and our gold to extend His Kingdom”*

	Amount	PAID
Nebraska South LWML Scholarships	32,000	16,000
2015 Orphan Train Shipment to the Baltics	10,000	10,000
Mercy Meals of SW Nebraska	16,000	16,000
Trinity/HOPE	5,000	5,000
His Kids Camp/Camp Luther	8,000	8,000
Training Evangelists for the Vietnam Lutheran Church	7,000	7,000
Evangelism Materials in the Russian Language	5,382	5,382
Concordia Theological Seminary, Food & Clothing Co-op	5,000	
Lutheran Braille Workers' Lutheran Library for the Blind	5,000	5,000
Human Care/Gospel Outreach Muslim Immigrants-Lincoln	5,000	5,000
YWR project	1,618	1,618
<b>2014-2016 TOTAL MISSION GOAL</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>	<b>\$79,000</b>



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## Don't Keep the Bikes in the Shed



I went to Russia for the first time in 2014. One of the orphanages that we visited had received a special gift of some bikes from their sponsor. Pastor Reehl had delivered them himself to the orphanage a couple of weeks before we arrived. When we went to the orphanage, Pastor asked the kids how they liked the new bikes. The kids had a very puzzled look on their faces, and the director had an expression on her face that told us she knew that her secret had been exposed. We soon found out that she had put the bikes in the shed and locked the door to keep the bikes for a time later in the year. The bikes were out of the shed and the kids were riding them before we left that day. The bicycles were no longer hidden away, but they were being used as the sponsor wanted them to be. The bikes weren't intended to be kept in the shed, they were to be used!

What do "bikes in a shed" have to do with you?  
What gifts have you been given by God? (I'm not talking about material things here, although that could be a gift that you have received.) I'm talking about talents and interests. Maybe you are really good at working with kids or you're great with a sewing machine or you are a great cook or you're good at one (or more) of many other things. Are you using these God-given gifts or are you "keeping them in the shed", saving them to be used "someday"? God gave you gifts and He doesn't want you to lock them away. He wants you to use them to glorify Him and to help spread the news about God's love and about Jesus' death and resurrection!

We have to wonder about the logic of locking away a gift to keep it hidden. Bicycles locked in a storage shed seem ridiculous. Don't keep your gifts locked up, either. God gave you many gifts. Use them to His glory!

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

Serving with humility and joy as your district president,

**Linda Fees**  
**308-457-3303 (H) or 308-627-6143 (C)**  
**[kfees@kearney.net](mailto:kfees@kearney.net) or [digital.linda@gmail.com](mailto:digital.linda@gmail.com)**

### Christian Life Materials for Purchase

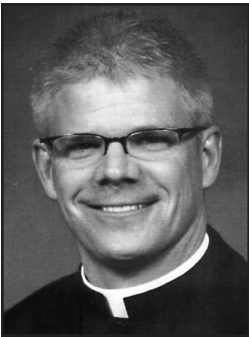
We have two new Bibles purchased at the National Convention for \$35 each. We also have coffee mugs, Mustard Seeds and Bible studies, other printed materials, plus jewelry. We still have some Mustard Seeds and other printed materials on sale.

## Official Call to 38<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League of Nebraska South District will meet in convention at the Younes Conference Center, Kearney, NE, September 17, 2016.

According to Article V, Section 2 of the District Bylaws, the voting body of the convention shall be two (2) certified delegates from each society, elected district officers, zone presidents and past district presidents who are currently members of the Nebraska South District LWML.

The credentials of the delegates shall be in the hands of the Recording Secretary at least two weeks prior to convention.



# Money, Money, Money

*“He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity.” (Ecclesiastes 5.10 ESV)*

Money. Mammon. The root of all evil (1 Tim. 6:10). As I write this article, we are on the heels of the largest Powerball Lottery drawing in history: an estimated \$1.59 Billion payout. It is an unimaginable sum, and yet all kinds of people have been imagining what they would do should they win it. Who can imagine such a sum?

Pastors (and their Vicars) aren't immune from such monetary musings, either. (If I live another 50 years, I'd have to spend upwards of \$87,000 per DAY before I used it all up!) The picture attached to this article is the ticket of none other than yours truly. I walked to the local Casey's with my Vicar and we both purchased ourselves a shot at the big payout. (This, in spite of God's clear Word on the subject: (1 Tim. 3:3).

But before you judge us (Matt. 7:1), consider that we both spent (!) some time judging ourselves after our purchase. The questions we pondered ranged from, "What might I do with the money if I win?" to "Why did I buy this in the first place?" We talked about how "If we just have the right attitude, God could let us win." But in reality, and even before the drawing numbers were called, I knew what a curse it would be to win.

Oh, sure – I know that having that amount of money could do all sorts of good. I know that as a responsible, God-fearing person, I could even do some good – lots of good – for others and still have plenty left over for me without looking selfish. But all that stuff aside, I knew that I should've never bought a ticket in the first place. If, despite the astronomically small odds I'd win, I would thus have to consider the ramifications of such a win. I'd likely have to quit my ministry to manage the windfall. I'd likely have people in need (or more likely "want") hoping for a share of the winnings. How does one pick and choose who gets what? There'd be jealousy, strife, greed, and division all resulting from a silly random drawing. The bottom line is that even though the money *could* do some good, the question was if it *would*. None of these things glorify God. Rather, they detract from Him and His will.

To discern God's will, we look to Scripture and see money as the topic of teaching all through God's Word. Our minds quickly race to the Widow and her mite (box!) (Luke 21), or the story of the rich young man (Matt. 19:16ff), and we might be tempted to think money is evil. But we can also see people of great wealth such as King Solomon (2 Chron. 9:22), or Zacchaeus (Luke 19), and understand that you can be both rich and faithful simultaneously. Money, then, is a responsibility. It is a burden and a blessing that demands our attention and must be managed (Eccl. 2).

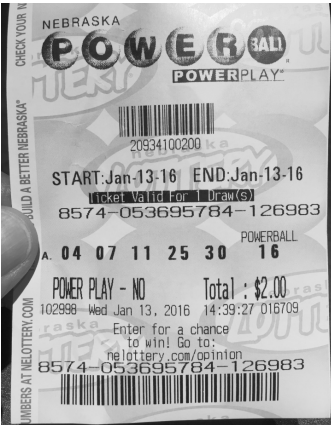
As 21st Century Americans, we are continually worried about money. Not just Powerball drawings, but our 401K's, 403B thrift plans, investments, stocks, retirement savings, loans, school loans, bills and the like. Our lives revolve around if we think we have enough money or not. We even worry about giving it away. We vote at convention how we will spend our money and who is the most deserving of our generosity. Money, Money, Money! At every turn, there is opportunity for us to sin with respect to money.

Thanks be to God in Christ Jesus, we find true wealth. Jesus paid for our sins that relate to money as well as all sins of all time. And He didn't need money to do it – instead, He shed His own precious blood to make payment and satisfaction to God for your sins.

<sup>18</sup>... you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, 19 but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. (1 Peter 1.18–19 ESV) There at the Cross, Jesus made you a winner without even needing to buy a ticket. It was a free gift (Rom. 5:15-17; 6:23) ratified on Easter Sunday morning when Jesus rose from the dead. It's actually better than winning the lottery, because it will happen for you too, and it will last forever!

Is it God's Will to make you rich? You bet it is! See John 6:40. But now that we're rich, we have to manage our riches. We can do good – lots of good – with the overabundance of our riches we have in Christ. So share it. Give it away freely! You couldn't possibly use it all up. Praise Christ! Amen.

Rev. Kevin McReynolds  
Senior Pastoral Counselor



## District LWML Calendar

April 2, 2016	Peace, Grand Island, "Days for Girls" Project
April 16, 2016	Trinity, Blue Hill - EC Meeting
June 11, 2016	Holy Cross, Kearney - BOD Meeting
September 16, 2016	Younes Center, Kearney - Pre-Convention BOD Meeting
September 16-17, 2016	Younes Center, Kearney - District Convention
October 1, 2016	Christ, Juniata - Transition/EC Meeting

# "Days for Girls" Event Planned

Join your Christian (purple) sisters on Saturday, April 2 as Nebraska North and Nebraska South LWML Districts join together to host the first ever district-wide Servant Event. The place is Peace Lutheran Church, 1710 N. North Road, Grand Island, NE beginning at 9 a.m. CT. During the day Deb Burma will lead us in Bible study and we will be making/assembling reusable feminine hygiene product kits for schoolgirls in Africa. You do not need to know how to sew to serve! Some generous ladies have donated items but we still need:

- (1) 100% cotton in bright but dark colors for the bags and for the shields;
- (2) 100% cotton flannel in dark colors for the tri-fold pads;
- (3) Terry washcloths;
- (4) Girls brief panties (size 10-14) in dark colors
- (5) Ziploc freezer bags (gallon size) must be Ziploc brand only/freezer bags (NO Slider bags); The girls will soak and launder their pads in these bags with very little water; also will be able to transport soiled items.

The girls will use all the products that are donated at least 3 years – so high quality things that will last a long time is required. Donations to this event are optional and may be brought the day of the event. You may donate one or more items, if you desire. Sewing supplies/equipment (i.e. sewing machines, sergers, scissors, rotary cutters, mats, rulers, thread, etc.) labeled with your name would also be much appreciated for the event.

A day spent in Bible study, making a difference, having fellowship, laughter, eating and building camaraderie. Please invite your friends and other women in your congregation. You do not need to be an LWML member to participate.

For further information, contact the website: [daysforgirls.org](http://daysforgirls.org)

Jan Beck  
Planner/ Meeting Manager

## "DAYS FOR GIRLS" REGISTRATION

Peace Lutheran Church      Saturday, April 2, 2016  
1710 North Road      9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Grand Island, NE 68803

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Congregation/Society: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Cost for day (including continental breakfast and lunch) \$15 per registrant.  
Make checks payable to: **Nebraska South District LWML.**

Please mail registration form and payment to:  
**Jan Beck, 1820 Broadmoore Drive, Lincoln, NE 68506-2314** by March 22, 2016.

Any questions, contact Jan Beck by e-mail at [jnalbeck@gmail.com](mailto:jnalbeck@gmail.com) or phone/ text at 402-488-1203.





# The Time is Now!



**2016 Convention Committee**  
Back Row, l to r: Susan Thomas, Beatrice Zone, Music Chairman; Joyce Rathe, Falls City Zone, Co-Hospitality; Vicki Hegeholz, Seward Zone, Chairman; Sandi Carl, Lincoln Zone, Food & Facility; Linda Hammer, Seward Zone, Registrar; Gretchen Gebhardt, Seward Zone, Ass't Registration  
Front Row: Kristine Riggert, Beatrice Zone, Co-Hospitality; Judy Fritz, Falls City Zone, Treasurer; Becky Obenland, Lincoln Zone, Secretary; Marge Wollenburg, Beatrice Zone, Hospitality; Not pictured: Rita Luebbe, Seward Zone, Ass't Registrar; Angela Mueller, Advisor

Convention Center, Kearney on September 16-17, 2016.  
On a business note, the committee will be recruiting Ushers, Altar Guild and Hostesses from the hosting zones, Beatrice, Falls City, Lincoln and Seward. So if you are from one of those zones, I encourage you to volunteer. When you receive the Summer Echo make it your priority to grab the registration form, fill it out and get it mailed.

Looking forward to meeting many of you at the District Convention,

**Vickie Hegeholz**  
**Convention Chairman**



## Keep the Gladness in the Serving

Serve the Lord with gladness! This verse from Psalms is well known to LWMLers across the nation. We say it. We sing it. We proclaim our gladness to serve the Lord at many times, in many places. But you know what? Sometimes, when we are totally honest, our service to the Lord is not given with 100% gladness. Sometimes we may be tired of leading in the same office or doing the same zone or society activities year after year. If you have ever felt this way, then I would guess it would be acceptable to presume that those servants of the Lord around you have as well. Paul, in his first letter to the church of Thessalonica reminds them to *“encourage one another and build each other up” (1 Thessalonians 5:11a)*. Encouragement is an expectation of us in the Word. It is also a gift we can give each other as we serve our Lord together. Here are a few ideas to keep the “building up” going with your fellow servants.

- ✓ Snail mail a note or leave one in a friends church mail box. Include a Bible verse and a thank you for all she is doing.
- ✓ Send a Facebook message, text, or email with an image with a Bible verse.
- ✓ Do you usually see each other at church? Be intentional about getting together out of church. A coffee chat, get pedicures together, learn a new craft.
- ✓ Call a friend just for fun.
- ✓ Give a hug. Not a side hug, one armed squeeze, but a “I’m here for you” hug.
- ✓ Offer to pray. Not just a “Oh, I’ll be praying for you”, but a “Let’s pray together now” prayer.
- ✓ Smile while you serve. Having someone smiling at you as they present a devotion, chair a meeting, or lead a project can be especially encouraging.

**Kathy Gifford**  
**VP Servant Resources**

So why start the District Convention article with this program title? Well, many of us have subscribed to receive 2-Minute Tuesday. The main purpose for those emails is to help us refocus on the LWML basic common core values. What better way to share the Word, the mission, the service, and the fellowship, than by inviting someone to the District Convention. So I encourage everyone to invite someone to convention.  
The theme chosen is “Partakers of Grace” taken from Phil. 1:7b *“Because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace.”*

I am hoping all of you are as excited as myself to hear what our keynote speaker, Heidi Floyd; Bible study leader, District President Rev. Richard Snow; Mission Speaker, Gary Theis; Song Leader, Karen Reynolds; Humorous interrupter, Jan Struck; and National LWML President, Patti Ross have to share with us. So, I invite you now to mark your calendar and plan to attend the 2016 Nebraska South District Convention at the Younes

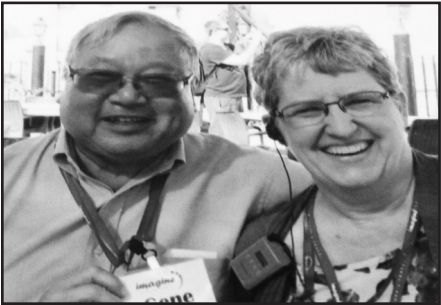


# Bylaw Blues?

Are your Bylaws up to date? Are you actually doing what your Bylaws dictate? If not, it is probably time to update them to read what you are actually doing in your society. If Bylaws have not been updated within the last five years, they need to be reviewed. One particular item that needs to be addressed is the official name of our district which should be LWML Nebraska South District.  
If you have questions, please feel free to contact the Structure Committee personnel listed below. After reviewing and updating your society bylaws, please send them to either Maydelle or Ruth. We want to hear from you!

Maydelle Messerschmidt, Chairman  
901 East 11th Street  
Lexington, NE 68850  
308-324-2482  
mfmessers@q.com

Ruth Probasco, Committee Member  
7810 Katrina Lane  
Lincoln, NE 68516  
402-328-0091  
ruthprobasco@windstream.net



**Gene Eng and Yvonne Lunney share LWML Mite History**

to keep him off the streets or to use it as a kid sitting service. Gene said True Light Lutheran would not have been there if not for the help from LWML. God was at work at True Light because that is where he learned about Jesus, and for that Gene is ever thankful. Gene is glad to share with you also.

After returning home, Marie wanted to learn more about this, so she reread **WHEREVER GOD SENDS US**, Inspiring Stories of LWML Mites in America book and this is what was found. The first Chinese Lutheran mission in America was True Light Lutheran in New York City in 1935. By April 1, 1936 the work with the Chinese was officially underway by LCMS Atlantic District and Mary Banta, known as “Chinatown’s angel of Mercy” was the one who held the work together, and was hired as a full time worker to assist Rev. Louis Buchheimer. The mission was founded in a loft. In the early years people came to learn English, boys turned it into a clubhouse on Fridays and the girls rolled bandages and played ping pong on Saturday, but they also heard the Gospel. The loft was sold. They purchased a dilapidated building and remodeling began with the financial help of the Atlantic District and the LCMS Board of Missions. The building was \$65,000, but it would take over \$200,000 for remodeling. Their treasury was practically empty.  
“LWML members also saw the vast mission field in Chinatown in those early years and realized there was much to be done. Therefore at the 1951 convention, the league granted \$75,0000 to True Light Chinese Lutheran Church to help liquidate its indebtedness.” (Excerpt taken from the WHEREVER GOD SENDS US book.)  
In 1967 the mission became the True Light Lutheran Church. Even though many of the Chinese have moved from the area, True Light is now a neighborhood church for Lutherans in downtown New York. “So, True Light Lutheran Church keeps the true light shining in Manhattan.”

**Yvonne Lunney**  
**Zion Lutheran, Garland**

## Mites in Action!

My sister Marie, a member of LWML Michigan District-Blue Water Zone, and I joined a tour group to the Holy Land this past fall. One night we met as a group to share a little about ourselves. Marie and I both shared how we are involved with LWML. As we went around the room, Gene Eng from Indian Land, South Carolina said he really had to thank Marie and me because of LWML. Since we had just met him, we were confused. Gene went on to say, “I became a German Lutheran at True Light Lutheran in New York’s Chinatown.” You see, his father was a Chinese laundry man in New York City. Gene shared how his father sent him to True Light Lutheran probably

**LWML Church Worker  
Scholarship Applications  
Due June 1**

NOW is the time to encourage all students in the Nebraska South District who are studying to become full time church workers to apply for LWML Scholarships. These \$1000 scholarships will be given for the 2016-2017 school year. The forms may be obtained online at [www.lwmlnesouth.org](http://www.lwmlnesouth.org) or from any congregational society president. All applications must be postmarked on or before June 1, 2016.  
If you have any questions, please call Angie Ratcliffe at 208-369-7774 or e-mail [pastorandangieratcliffe@gmail.com](mailto:pastorandangieratcliffe@gmail.com).



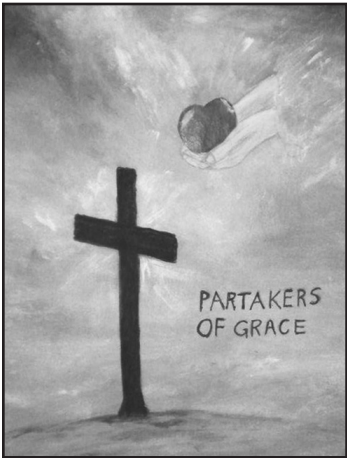
## Convention Logo Design Selected

The following article is written by the convention logo designer. Her design was one of five relating to the convention theme, "Partakers of Grace". Congratulations Myrna! And, a "thank you" to all those who submitted such appropriate designs.

**Karen Christner**  
**Echo Editor**

"I am excited beyond words that my art design has been chosen for the LWML Nebraska South District Convention. Just a bit about how the design came about. I attended our LWML meeting in the Fall. Marion, our president, had received the information about the Convention Logo. Since I love art and painting for art shows, I was given the information. Driving home, I wondered what I had gotten into. Later that evening during my evening devotions, I opened up a magazine from our church. There, was a picture of a glowing cross. That immediately made me think of God's grace and His dying on the cross. As I turned to another page, I saw our heart in God's hands! I knew immediately that God answered my prayers. He had given me these ideas and I was able to paint, "Partakers of Grace". I have often wondered what I could do with my art for God, so I feel God answered my prayer.

**Myrna Baade**  
**Trinity LWML, Lincoln**  
**Lincoln Zone**

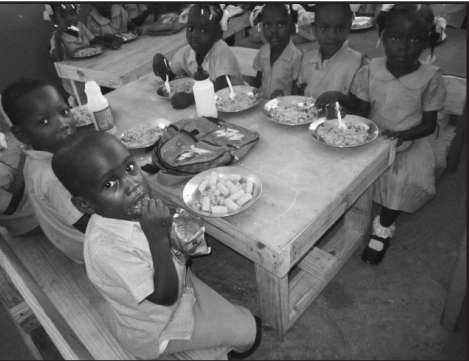


## Mites: Nearing our 2014-2016 Biennium Goal!



With the recent funding of:  
\$5,250 - Student Scholarships;  
\$8,000 - Balance of Mercy Meals;  
\$5,000 - Trinity, Hope  
\$5,382 - Evangelism Materials in the Russian language;  
\$5,000 - Lutheran Braille Workers Lutheran Library for the Blind;

our Mission Grants paid now total \$79,000!



Children fed through Trinity/HOPE.

"The Echo". Please keep these missions in your prayers as well, that God may guide our decisions for those that will ultimately be funded, and that God would provide for those applications that are not funded. May God continue to bless each of you in your mission to reach others with the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

We hope and anticipate that God will continue to bless our donations so that we may complete our 2014-2016 Biennium funding by the end of March! Thank you to all of you who have been diligently keeping our missions in your prayers and in the minds of our members! The work of spreading the Gospel could not be done without you.

Mission Grant Applications for the 2016-2018 Biennium were presented and approved by the Board of Directors at their February meeting. These mission grants will be listed in your next edition of



Materials for those in Russia.

### PASTORAL COUNSELOR CANDIDATES

**Rev. Jon M. Dickmander**  
**Ogallala Zone**  
**St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church, Brule**



**Congregations Served:** St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church, Brule  
**Seminary:** Fort Wayne, 2008 Graduate  
**Zone:** Ogallala Zone Counselor  
**Community Activities:** Active in Brule Lions Club serving as Vice-President and President, participated in local park improvements, and worked as Nebraska registered basketball official  
**Other:** Assisted Booster Club at South Platte Schools with school functions/events  
**LWML Mission Vision:** To teach and lead the LWML Zone members the importance of supporting pastors and church workers in their efforts to bring Christ to a lost and dying world.

**Rev. Andrew B. Ratcliffe**  
**Seward Zone**  
**St. John, Seward**



**Congregations Served:** St. Paul's Lutheran, Sac City, IA; St. John Lutheran, Seward  
**Seminary:** St. Louis, 2007 Graduate  
**Zone:** Sac Zone LWML Counselor, Iowa West; Seward Zone Counselor  
**Synodical/District:** Summer Program Director, Heit's Point Lutheran Camp, MO District; Family Ministry, IA District West; Unofficial Twitter "guru" of District Pastors' Conference, NE District  
**Community Activities:** Kiwanis Club of Seward; Ministerial Association, president, Sac City, IA & Seward; Religious Sector representative for Bridges to Prevention Coalition of Seward County; unofficial "chaplain" work for Seward Police Department; participant and emcee for National Day of Prayer and annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Prayer Service  
**LWML Mission Vision:** With the foundation of the Lutheran Confessions and the solid truth of Scripture, the Lutheran Women's Missionary League has consistently been a powerful force in regard to mission and sharing the message of forgiveness and eternal life secured in Jesus crucified and risen. While the LWML remains a mission power house within the LCMS and beyond, we face welcome challenges that we are more than ready to tackle: continued collection of mites, reaching newer and younger women within our church body, promotion of this amazing organization beyond our church and synodical walls, updating the availability of technological resources for our members, and continuing to heed our Savior's call to extend His kingdom as we pray in the Lord's Prayer, "Thy kingdom come".

## Giving a Bible for a Gift

Have you ever received a Bible as a gift? Was there an occasion with it and who was it from? When you received your Bible what were your thoughts? Many of us have received a Bible as a confirmation gift. I did and I was so proud of it. My name was even imprinted with gold lettering on the front cover. I received it from my parents. Using this Bible is still my favorite. I recently received a Bible from another LWML member. We had worked together on a committee and she shared a copy of the new *Today's Light Devotional Bible* with me. This Bible has devotions in it, guides to reading it in a year or two years. It has an order of worship along with prayers. What a special gift it was to me. I felt so special after she gave it to me. I had given my children their Bibles at the time of their confirmation. However, I had never thought of giving one to someone else as a gift. What was I thinking? How many times would this have been the perfect gift?







After I received the Bible as a gift, God was guiding me to give others a Bible. I did not know to whom it would be given. However, I purchased the *Today's Light Devotional Bible* and one day needed a spiritual gift for a friend. Through God's guidance, I gave it to her along with the Portals of Prayer devotional booklet. She was spending time with her son who was receiving cancer treatments. She wholehearted thanked me the next time I saw her and stated that she is reading it daily and that it helped her so much. Giving the Bible as a gift is another way to share God's love with others. Won't you consider giving a Bible to someone through the e-mail listed below? The *Today's Light Devotional Bible* can be purchased by going to the lwml.org website and then clicking on the LWML store. This will take you to the Concordia catalog site to make your purchase.

I'm looking forward to the District convention in Kearney at the Younes Conference Center, September 16-17. Please do attend. It is so rewarding to be in fellowship with others of the same faith, at the same time and in the same place.

God's Blessings to All,

**Carolyn Nelson**  
**VP of Christian Life**  
**Carolynnelson99@yahoo.com**



NOMINATING COMMITTEE CANDIDATES	
<div><div>Diane Johannes Lincoln Zone Immanuel, Eagle</div><div></div><div><p><b>Local:</b> LWML President, past congregation-LWML President, Secretary, Member Development Committee, Human Care Committee; served on Board of Stewardship, church Treasurer, Board of Education, Secretary of Voter's Assembly</p><p><b>Zone:</b> Zone President-Grand Island Zone, Secretary, Human Care Chairperson, Lincoln Zone Secretary, Christian Life Committee</p><p><b>District:</b> VP for Christian Life, served on Structure Committee, served on Convention Steering Committee</p><p><b>National:</b> Attended Nine Conventions</p><p><b>Community Activities:</b> I enjoy being with my grandchildren</p><p><b>Employment:</b> Work for Capital Business Systems, Inc.</p><p><b>LWML Mission Vision:</b> To answer the Lord's call for willing workers in His harvest fields.</p></div></div>	<div><div>Pauline Niederklein Beatrice Zone Zion Lutheran, Tobias</div><div></div><div><p><b>Local:</b> Ladies Aid, LWML; Sunday School; VBS Teacher, Bible Study leader; Monthly Bible Studies at Nursing Homes</p><p><b>Zone:</b> Human Care Committee; attended rallies and workshops; helped with Servant Events</p><p><b>District:</b> Human Care committee; attended conventions and retreats; helped Orphan Grain Train committee</p><p><b>National:</b> Attended several National Conventions; helped with Servant Events</p><p><b>Community Activities:</b> Relay for Life Coordinator, Memory Walk; County Fair; Coordinator for Sterling Connections through Bryan Health Care AARP programs; food drives; knit stocking caps for Blue Valley Community Action and Peoples City Mission</p><p><b>Employment:</b> Home Health Nurse Jefferson Community Health Care; Coordinator for Sterling Connection at Fairbury</p><p><b>Education:</b> LPN</p><p><b>LWML Mission Vision:</b> Involving more young women in LWML, reaching and teaching the love of Jesus Christ through our Grant Missions.</p></div></div>
<div><div>Elinor Kuehner Hastings Zone Trinity Lutheran, Blue Hill</div><div></div><div><p><b>Local:</b> LWML President, Vice President, Treasurer, Christian Life, Human Care; Confirmation teacher, VBS teacher, Sunday School, choir, quilter; Orphan Grain Train volunteer worker</p><p><b>Zone:</b> President, Vice President, Christian Life, Leader Development; attended rallies, Workshops; auditor of books, assisted with District Convention preparation when one of host zones</p><p><b>District:</b> Recording Secretary, Vice President of Communications, Human Care Committee member, Assembly of Leaders Zone presenter, attended Conventions, served as delegate, attended Retreats, Now is the Time Training Meeting, duties</p><p><b>National:</b> Attended eight conventions, served as delegate at Tampa; attended Assembly of Leader Training</p><p><b>Community Activities:</b> Webster County Food Pantry-Giving Tree Coordinator, Community Club member</p><p><b>Education:</b> BS in Education Concordia University, Seward</p><p><b>Employment:</b> Retired parochial school teacher; substitute teacher</p><p><b>LWML Mission Vision:</b> "God would have all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth." 1 Timothy 2:4 I pray that God will use me in His mission field as I "Serve the Lord with Gladness."</p></div></div>	<div><div>Betty Noffke York Zone St. Peter, Hampton</div><div></div><div><p><b>Local:</b> LWML treasurer; serve on Altar Guild; taught Sunday School and VBS</p><p><b>Zone:</b> York Zone Christian Life Chair</p><p><b>District:</b> Attended District Conventions and Retreat</p><p><b>National:</b> Attended four National Conventions</p><p><b>Community Activities:</b> Coordinator for Red Cross Bloodmobile in Aurora</p><p><b>Employment:</b> Retired teacher</p><p><b>Additional Information:</b> Went on a Mission Trip to Russia with Pastor Reehl in 2010.</p><p><b>LWML Mission Vision:</b> Would like to see greater participation in LWML by younger women.</p></div></div>
<div><div>Pat Moss Grand Island Zone Peace Lutheran, Grand Island</div><div></div><div><p><b>Local:</b> LWML President, Treasurer, Secretary</p><p><b>Zone:</b> Treasurer, Secretary</p><p><b>District:</b> Attended District Conventions and Retreat</p><p><b>National:</b> Attended several conventions</p><p><b>Community Activities:</b> Elementary School volunteer; Hospital Gift Shop volunteer; Red Cross volunteer</p><p><b>Employment:</b> Retired bank employee</p><p><b>LWML Mission Vision:</b> My vision for LWML is that we encourage all women of all ages, especially young women, to be inspired and uplifted through the support of our Mites and Missions.</p></div></div>	<div><div>Marcia Swan Ogallala Zone Zion Lutheran, Grant</div><div></div><div><p><b>Local:</b> Sunday School Teacher; Confirmation teacher</p><p><b>Zone:</b> LWML President, President-elect, Treasurer, and on several committees</p><p><b>District:</b> Financial Secretary and on several committees through the years</p><p><b>National:</b> Attended several Conventions</p><p><b>Community Activities:</b> Armchair Travelers Book Club, Past 4-H Leader</p><p><b>Employment:</b> Teach sewing and quilting classes at a local quilt store; run my own sewing alteration business</p><p><b>LWML Mission Vision:</b> I see the LWML helping every woman of the church live out her Christian faith in service to her Lord, her family and her church family so that Christ is glorified and so that others may come to understand how much God loves them.</p></div></div>

# Zone Banner Directions for District Convention

The Zone Banner to be carried in the banner procession at District Convention should be 3'x5'. Each zone president is responsible for bringing the pole and pole holder base for the banner. The name of the Zone should be on the front of the banner.

- Information needed for the convention manual:
- 1) A picture or drawing of the banner design.
  - 2) A description of the design indicating the symbolism to the theme.
  - 3) The designer(s) of the banner.
  - 4) The maker(s) of the banner.
  - 5) Home congregation, city and zone.

**Deadline: May 1, 2016**

Please email or send to:

Sue Hoffschneider, Media & Marketing Chairman  
suehoffschneider@gmail.com  
2310 Rd 10  
Waco, NE 68460  
402.366.1137

or

Linda Potter, Media & Marketing Member  
farmgirl54@windstream.net  
2 Cranbrook Lane  
Hastings, NE 68901  
402.462.6497

## “This is the Day”

*“This is the Day that the Lord has made, let us be glad and REJOICE in it!”* Psalm 118:4 (from the daily LWML Mustard Seed devotion.)

First of all, I would like to thank ALL of you for sending me the names of officers for your societies and zones. This allowed me to provide our President, Linda Fees, with a tally for each society to receive the LWML Quarterly and District newsletter, *The Echo*.

Additionally, you will receive a ‘hard’ copy of the directory at the February 13 BOD meeting. Providing me with the names and number of magazines needed is huge. I so appreciate all of you respecting the December 1 deadline.

I am so thrilled to have an additional two societies join our Nebraska South District, namely Bethlehem Lutheran Evening Circle, Ravenna and Hands of Mercy, Seward. Blessings and praise be to God!

**Kathy Anderson**  
VP Communication

## Zone Presidents Attend Meeting

**Back Row, l to r: Vicky Hegeholz, Seward Zone; Kathryn Mousel, Hastings Zone; Ruth Ann Guse, Deshler Zone; Eileen Mertens, Holdrege Zone; Kathy Aufdemberg, Grand Island Zone; Ruth See, Lincoln Zone; Diana Armknecht, Ogallala Zone;**

**Front Row: Phyllis Bach, McCook Zone; Donna King, Kearney Zone; Margaret Dunn, Beatrice Zone; Irene Gruber, York Zone; Eileen Zentner, Falls City Zone.**





# Nominees for 2016 Convention Ballot

## PRESIDENT CANDIDATES

**Katy Gifford**  
Falls City Zone  
St. Paul's Lutheran, Falls City



**Local:** Bible Study leader, VBS, Sunday School, Choir, Midweek, Altar Guild  
**Zone:** Zone President-Plainview Zone, Nebraska North 2006-2010; Member Development-Plainview Zone 2001-2005  
**District:** VP of Human Care, Nebraska North 2004-2008; Teen Task force, Nebraska North 2008-2010; VP of Servant Resources 2012-2016; Bible Study Leader at KS District Convention 2012  
**National:** YWR (2003) OKC; Teen Task Force 2005-2009, Leader Development Committee 2011-2013, Mission Servants 2013-2015, Nominating Committee-present  
**Community Activities:** Band and Choir Parents, Special Olympics Liason  
**Employment:** Currently teach Lifeskills/Special Education at Falls City  
**Education:** BA-Elementary Education 1994 Concordia-St. Paul; MA-Special Education 2013 UNK  
**LWML Mission Vision:** In Nebraska South District, LWML should be a resource for every woman in our LCMS congregations in building a relationship with her Lord, being in the Word and connecting her with opportunities to serve the Lord with gladness. This is done with guidance of the Holy Spirit.

**Connie Hansmeyer**  
Lincoln Zone  
Holy Savior, Lincoln



**Local:** Society President, Treasurer; Church Council Secretary; Leadership team; Altar Guild  
**Zone:** Zone President, two terms; Zone Leadership Development chair; Zone Treasurer  
**District:** Chairman Gospel Outreach; Corresponding Secretary; Christian Life Committee; Nominating Committee  
**National:** Attended five National Conventions (two as delegate)  
**Community Activities:** Circle of Security parent educator; Every Child Ready to Read trainer (parents and teachers); Safe With You trainer (child care providers)  
**Employment:** Early Childhood Special Education Teacher, worked 21 years for Educational Service Unit #6; retired March 2015  
**Education:** Master of Education degree in Special Education  
**LWML Mission Vision:** Every woman will have the opportunity to nurture her personal relationship with the Triune God and out of love for Him, be His missionary in her home, church, community and world.

**Carolyn Meyer**  
Deshler Zone  
Centennial Lutheran, Superior



**Local:** LWML President, LWML Christian Life; Altar chairman; Sunday School teacher and Super-intendent; Midweek teacher; VBS teacher, coordinator and meal coordinator; Church Council Secretary; Board of Education Chairman  
**Zone:** Zone President, Human Care, Christian Life, Member at Large/ Public Relations  
**District:** Parliamentarian, Treasurer, Retreat Committee  
**National:** Attended four National Conventions (one as delegate)  
**Community Activities:** 4-H leader; Angel Tree Committee  
**Employment:** Farmer, church secretary, accounting, substitute teacher.  
**LWML Mission Vision:** As we, the women of the LWML, are refreshed by God's Word, forgiven by the blood of Jesus Christ, and held fast in our faith through the Holy Spirit, then we will joyfully use our time, talents and treasures to share the Gospel message with all people.

## VICE PRESIDENT OF GOSPEL OUTREACH CANDIDATES

**Linda Potter**  
Hastings Zone  
Zion, Hastings



**Local:** LWML Society President, Secretary; Altar Guild  
**Zone:** Secretary  
**District:** Nominating Committee 2013-2014; 2014 District Convention Committee  
**Community Activities:** Hastings Quilt Guild/Secretary  
**Employment:** Legal Secretary/Retired  
**Education:** Associates Degree in Paralegal Studies; diploma in Office Management  
**LWML Mission Vision:** As LWML, Lutheran Women in Mission, we study God's Word so that we can carry that message to others, not only in mites, but also through our time and talents.

**Eileen Zentner**  
Falls City Zone  
St. Paul's Lutheran, Falls City



**Local:** Dorcas Circle President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Member at Large; Congregation Treasurer, Board of Education, Sunday School and VBS Teacher, Choir  
**Zone:** Zone LWML President, President-Elect, Christian Life Chairman, Assistant Christian Life  
**District:** Attended Conventions and Retreats; presented workshop on Faithbooking at Retreat  
**National:** Have attended five National Conventions  
**Community Activities:** Adams County Election Committee  
**Employment:** Preschool Teacher  
**Education:** BA Bethany College; Masters in Curriculum and Instruction, UNL; Early Childhood Endorsement, Peru State  
**Additional Information:** Have taken two mission trips: one to see the work of Orphan Grain Train in Russia and the Baltic States; served on a team with Lutheran Indian Ministries to teach VBS in a native village  
**LWML Mission Vision:** With the help of God-to strive to be faithful in prayer, devotion, and Bible study-to recognize and use the gifts God has given me to serve Him.

## VICE PRESIDENT OF SERVANT RESOURCES CANDIDATES

**Sherry Burger**  
Deshler Zone  
St. Peter's, Davenport



**Local:** Church accompanist; church choir; LWML President, Christian Life; volunteer and teacher at St. Peter's Lutheran School; Altar Committee; various committees and projects  
**Zone:** Zone President; Zone Christian Life, twice  
**District:** Appointed to District Servant Resources Committee to help YWR and Teens; appointed to replace committee member for the 2015 Retreat  
**Community Activities:** Deshler Chamber of Commerce; American Legion Auxiliary Post 355; member of Thayer County Sacred Chorale  
**Employment:** Administrator for the After School Program for Deshler Public Schools; taught at St. Peter's Lutheran, Davenport, Wichita Public Schools, and Ravenna Public Schools

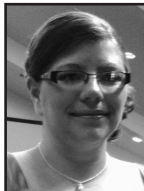
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## VICE PRESIDENT OF SERVANT RESOURCES CANDIDATES...CONTINUED

**Sherry Burger...Cont.**

**Education:** BA in Education and German, UNK; Masters Degree in Reading Education, UNK  
**LWML Mission Vision:** My favorite verse is Romans 8:37-39. Nothing can separate us from the Love of God. When I think of all the love Christ has shown for us, I see how the women of LWML past, present-today continue to share that love and joy with others. It's like the pattern of a quilt, woven together with love and the joy of the Resurrection.

**Kristin Wegner**  
Lincoln Zone  
Good Shepherd, Lincoln



**Local:** LWML President, Human Care, Choir Member, Sunday School and VBS Teacher  
**District:** Leader Development Chairman, YWR to Peoria National Convention  
**National:** Attended Peoria Convention  
**Community Activities:** Sings in Lincoln Lutheran Choir  
**Employment:** Work for Educare of Lincoln serving children ages 3-5  
**Education:** Associates degree in Applied Science, focus on Early Childhood  
**LWML Mission Vision:** Serve the Lord with gladness in all you think, say and do. You never know when you will turn the corner and find someone in need of our services.

## RECORDING SECRETARY CANDIDATES

**Deanna Dowding**  
Seward Zone  
St. John, Seward



**Local:** LWML Member Development, Christian Life, President, Secretary, Human Care Board; Tape Ministry; Stephen Minister & Stephen Leader  
**Zone:** Archivist, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, President, Member Development & Convention Committees  
**District:** VP Gospel Outreach and Mission Grants, District Conventions & District Retreats  
**National:** Attended Nine Conventions  
**Community Activities:** Relay for Life; Teammates; Boy Scout Den Mother; Red Hats  
**Education:** Concordia University Graduate, Completion Class A-1995 BS in Organizational Management  
**Employment:** Retired; Para-Educator SHS; Inventory Control Clerk-Tenneco Automotive  
**LWML Mission Vision:** "We are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand." **Eph. 2:8-10** God has given us all gifts which we should use to further his kingdom.

**Denise Hummel**  
Grand Island Zone  
Peace Lutheran, Grand Island



**Local:** In Central City-Society President, Secretary, Sunday School Teacher, Confirmation Teacher, Sunday School Superintendent, Choir Member, Altar Committee, Hospitality Committee, VBS Teacher  
**Zone:** Human Care  
**District:** District Archivist; Meeting Planner Manager; VP of Servant Resources; VP of Human Care; Committee member for Christian Life  
**National:** Attended six National Conventions; helped at the Leader Development Booth at Sioux Falls Convention; attended Leadership Training in St. Louis  
**Community Activities:** Volunteer at the State Fair; Member of a quilt guild; volunteer at Orphan Grain Train; teach a denim quilt class at CCC in Grand Island; make and donate quilts  
**Employment:** Retired from Central City Public Schools-Library para  
**LWML Mission Vision:** My LWML Mission Vision is to serve the Lord with gladness first and foremost. I feel it is so important to encourage each and every LWML sister to come to know her Savior through Bible Studies, which then leads to reaching out and helping those who are in need. What better way to be a witness for our Lord.

## TREASURER CANDIDATES

**Yvonne Lunney**  
Seward Zone  
Zion Lutheran, Garland



**Local:** LWML and Ladies Aid President, Member Development, Christian Life; 125th Church Anniversary Committee, past Sunday School teacher and Superintendent, VBS teacher; 2015 Delegate LCMS Nebraska District Convention  
**Zone:** LWML President, Leader Development, Christian Life, Treasurer, Member-at-Large; attended Zone Workshops and Rallies  
**District:** Retreat Committee (2 terms); hosted National Representative at District Convention; attended District Conventions and Retreats  
**National:** Attended 13 National Conventions since 1985, one as delegate  
**Community Activities:** Past Girl Scout Leader; dedicated Grandma to grandchildren's sporting and 4-H events  
**Education:** Concordia University Graduate, Completion Class A-1995 BS in Organizational Management  
**Employment:** Retired; 27+ years trust officer, U.S. Bank, Lab tech at Harris laboratory, Geriatric Aide at Milder Manor  
**LWML Mission Vision:** To spread the Good News, that salvation is ours by the Grace of God.

**Mona Vitosh**  
Beatrice Zone  
Our Savior, Odell



**Local:** Member of LWML since 1966; President, Secretary; Altar Committee, former organist, choir, sew banners  
**Zone:** President, Secretary; attended Workshops and Rallies  
**District:** Financial Secretary for one and one-half terms, Convention Chair; attended several conventions as delegate  
**National:** Attended several conventions  
**Community Activities:** Work at Bargain Box Thrift Store which supports MOSAIC; help at Red Cross blood bank  
**Employment:** Retired  
**Additional Information:** Spent six months in India as an International Farm Youth delegate. While there, lived with local families and helped instill 4-H education values.  
**LWML Mission Vision:** Help all women in our congregations and communities have a closer relationship with God. Encourage them in the study of God's Word and church attendance.