

ACCENT

On Lutheran Women's Missionary League

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English District

Summer 2010

LWML President Speaks to LCMS Convention

LWML President, Jan Wendorf highlighted three target areas underlying the service of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League during her greetings to the convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod on Tuesday, July 13, 2010.

As the LWML continues to support Christian mission outreach at home and abroad, President Wendorf said the women's auxiliary is emphasizing the study of **God's Word, embracing diversity and building the organization's identity.**

Explaining the three focuses, Wendorf said intentional Bible study will provide guidance and encouragement for women's personal walks with the Lord. Noting the emphasis on diversity, she said, "The body of Christ grows and is strengthened when people of every age and culture are sought out to participate." With the third focus—"sharing the heart and identity of LWML,"—Wendorf said the intent is to enable and equip members and advocates to share the vision of the LWML as it emphasizes mission outreach locally and globally.

Wendorf reported that the LWML is embarking on a multimedia campaign to "dramatically build awareness of LWML while supporting women who think they don't fit into LWML." With images of women who represent various cultures, ages and seasons of life, the campaign "will encourage women to tell their story of how the LWML has impacted them." She said multiple pictures of women will be used in the campaign. (*The pictures were taken at the 2009 LWML convention.*)

At the conclusion of Wendorf's presentation, LCMS President Dr. Gerald B. Kieschnick thanked the LWML, noting that LWML members provide "millions of dollars in support of the Synod's mission." During the current biennium, the LWML has a \$1.825 million goal to support 19 national mission projects. Since its founding 68 years ago, the LWML's gifts—gathered mainly through "mite box" banks—are approaching \$100 million. ►

Beautiful News

"How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news...." Romans 10:15

It's fun to deliver good news, don't you think? You get to watch the expression on their face as the jaw drops, the tears come down, and you hear the laughter. There was an incredible amount of beautiful news for me at the LWML convention in April this year. The presentation I heard from "Mission Central" in Iowa is now helping to support a member of our congregation who is currently a seminary student. He is getting ready to travel to Kenya, Africa as a short term missionary for one year. It was fun to give him the news that financial support was on its way to help him reach his goal. I wish you could have seen his face.

I must confess, however, I still feel a little shy when I witness to other people. Why? It's beautiful news, right?

I felt shy not too long ago when my neighbor said, "Here, this looks like something you could use." My neighbor Larry handed me a tract from his front door which read in bold, "THE END OF THE WORLD IS ALMOST HERE! HOLY GOD WILL BRING JUDGMENT DAY ON MAY 21, 2010."

Now I know our Lutheran churches would never make the mistake of predicting the day of the Lord's Second coming or use such a date to frighten people into becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ. My neighbor Larry, however, wouldn't know the difference between a Lutheran and a Pentecostal because there're all just Christians to him. The tract ended up to be a "beautiful" opportunity to tell Larry what Lutherans believe regarding the Second Coming of Christ and what Lutherans believe in general. I was grateful to God for the opportunity because I don't seem to get that many of them with my neighbor.

Larry is a great neighbor and he knows that I am a Lutheran pastor. He considers my job very important and once cleared my driveway after a blizzard at 5 a.m. on a Sunday morning because he wanted to make sure I could get to church on time.

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“Greetings in Christ!! ”

Shirley Holle, President
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It seems a little strange to say I am the English District LWML President since I could not attend the convention where I was voted into office. I received the President’s Pin and Gavel at the May meeting of the Ascension Lutheran Church WINGS society. I will be installed along with Pastor Roegner and Mary Rinda at the first Executive Committee meeting in August in Pittsburgh, PA. So I say it is time we all get busy.

The words from President Janice Wendorf are words to encourage us to action...

Lutheran Women's Missionary League;
Lutheran Women in Mission who are:
in the Word, of the Word
walking with the Lord.

It is only by knowing Christ through His Word that we can be equipped to share His Word and compassion with those around us and be able to walk with the Lord.

From Bishop Stechholz we hear we are to “*Serve in our communities, connecting with the unchurched and dechurched, growing in faith and numbers, and reproducing by planting new churches.*”

In one of my real estate classes it was stated that there are over 4200 religions in the world. The fastest growing religious affiliation in the US is unaffiliated. The most popular religion by 2050 will be Islam. This shows how active we need to be in connecting people to Christ.

As your beautiful feet carry you on your journey make sure you are taking time to offer the hope found in Christ to those you meet. These are your neighbors, the people in your church, the people in your office, or book club or quilting group.

I am glad to hear of our mission grants totaling \$15,000 over the next two years. In thankfulness for all that God has done for us let us contribute mightily to these missions so that as soon as possible they have the money to reach those in need of God’s saving grace. Remember to use www.goodsearch.com when you want to look for something on the internet. Specify LWML for you charity and one cent will go to mites for every search you do.

Take time and check out the new look at www.LWML.org. While you are there sign up to receive and LWML Mustard Seed devotion sent to your inbox every day. It is another way to be “in the Word.” ►

English District LWML Board Secretary Appointed

We extended our thanks and prayers to Pat Glide who resigned as secretary due to health reasons for both her and her husband Lou. The board accepted her resignation with respect to her decision. Through email balloting by the Executive Committee Mary Rinda has been appointed as secretary to fill this four year term. We are grateful to Mary for accepting this position. She is eager to begin and we are excited to have her join the Executive Committee.

What is a “mite”?

Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny (**mite**). Calling his disciple to him, Jesus said, “I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth, but she, out of her poverty, put in everything - all she had to live on”.

Mark 12:41-43



“Great Expectations!”

Margaret Stuenkel, *Vice President Gospel Outreach*
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Behold, on the mountains the feet of Him who brings good tidings, who proclaims peace! Nahum 1:15a

Yes, *your* feet are beautiful as you give your mites to help send the good tidings of the gospel out to various parts of our country and world. The following are the mission grant proposals voted on at our recent LWML English District convention in Romulus, Michigan April 23-25, 2010. They are listed in the order in which they were voted in, and in the order in which they will be funded.

Trinity/Hope (Feed Lutheran School Children in Haiti) - \$3000. This money will provide a noon meal for 125 children at one school. In Haiti, where the average child only gets six or seven meals *a week*, the hot lunch enables them to be better nourished, enhancing their ability to learn and be more receptive to the Word of the Lord.

Training of a pastor in Bible Translation at the Theological College of Northern Nigeria - \$3000. There are over 500 different languages in Nigeria, West Africa. Bible translations in native languages are necessary to bring people to faith in Jesus Christ. Lutheran Bible Translators has identified a young pastor who is willing to begin training in the disciplines necessary for Bible translation in the Boky language. \$3000 will provide one year of training.

Concordia Seminary Food Bank - \$3000. Many seminary students must obtain loans to pay for their education for ministry as well as many other expenses. The seminary food bank provides for adequate food and personal care items for students and their families.

Children’s Books for Evangelical Lutheran Church in Latvia - \$3000. Doors have re-opened for the preaching, teaching, and publishing of the Gospel in Latvia. However, few Lutheran materials exist for the growing number of children in the emerging Lutheran churches and Sunday Schools. This grant will enable the Lutheran Heritage Foundation to provide excellent quality translations of books from the “God Comes to Me” series.

Uniforms for Nakuru School, Kenya - \$2400. Students at the Lutheran school in Nakuru, must wear uniforms to be allowed to attend school. Many of these children are orphans or their families cannot afford to purchase a uniform at the cost of \$60 per uniform. Once these uniforms are obtained, they can be handed down from student to student so that more students can attend the school and hear the Word of God.

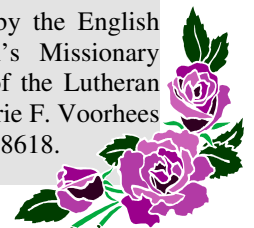
Our Mission Goal for the 2010-2012 biennium is \$15,000

1. **Trinity/Hope (Feed Lutheran Children in Haiti) -0 \$3,000.00**
2. **Bible Translation at the Theological College of Northern Nigeria - \$3,000.00**
3. **Concordia Seminary Food Bank—\$3,000.00**
4. **Children’s Books for Evangelical Lutheran Church in Latvia—\$3,000.00**
5. **Uniforms for Nakuru School, Kenya—\$2,400.00**
6. **Let the Children Come—Let the Children Sing, Detroit, Mi.—\$600.00**

Let the Children Come-Let the Children Sing, Detroit, Michigan - \$600. This children’s music education ministry is made up of mostly youngsters for whom this is their only guided experience with music and, more importantly, the only religious activity in which they participate. Funds are needed to provide transportation to and from the music classes and programs. The children often need to be fed. Concert attire must be provided for them. And music must be purchased.

These grant goals total \$15,000. Let’s see those beautiful feet as they walk to put mites in those mite boxes. Let’s continue that walk all through the summer whether we meet or not, and all through the biennium. These ministries await this funding to do the work they are called to do. We, too, are called to participate in these ministries through our mite giving. ►

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“Hearts on Fire for Others!”

*Sarah Reinstadtler, Vice President Human Care
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A very special THANK YOU goes out to all the women, men and churches who donated so many items for the Gifts From the Heart ingathering at the 2010 convention .The room was filled with boxes of items left over after the hygiene kits were put together. The extra materials will be used at a later time for the Lutheran City Ministries in Detroit MI.

THANK YOU to all who donated glasses for MOST MINISTRIES! There were over 100 pairs of glasses donated. Let us pray that God will bless all the recipients eyes to see NOT ONLY BETTER but also see Christ as their SAVIOR.

THANK YOU ladies who gave your time on Friday morning to participate in one of the three servant events. GOD has blessed the LWML English District with so many women who’s **Hearts are on Fire** for others. Following is a list of items that were put together:

284-HYGENE KITS
25 CREAM of CHICKEN SOUP
24 ITALIAN BEAN SOUP
12 LEMON MUFFIN MIXES

238 STAMPED GREETING CARDS

That were given to residents of the Lutheran Home of Lavonia,
so that they can send messages and reach out to others to.▶

“Convention Reflections”

Corrine Compton, Vice President Christian Life - toniccc@yahoo.com



The weather was perfect, clear skies with only a few clouds and the temperature was most accommodating as the 34th Biennial Convention started off on Friday, April 23 with a worship service at Angelica Lutheran Church. President/Bishop, Dr. David Stechholz, gave the sermon and Rev. Joel Holls, the pastor at Angelica and Greater Detroit Zone LWML Pastoral Counselor lead the worship. After the service a wonderful reception was prepared and they had the “Potato Chips Cookies” that are simply delectable along with an array of delicacies.

The convention site was perfectly arranged and the meeting rooms and conference areas were welcoming. All of which, our thanks is given to the Christian fellowship and care that Mary Kuenzel as Chairman of the Convention Committee and her members gave. Whenever there was a cliché or a reminder change, Mary’s demeanor was so pleasant. We couldn’t help noticing and complimenting her, which she never took the credit but gave accolades to the ladies that helped her.

Now a real treat for me was the short term mission report given by Cherie Voorhees. Mainly because two of the participants Cherie, and Shelby Kampert, were the first LWMLers I met at my very first convention in Arlington Heights, IL. What an experience they shared—they went to Neah Bay, Washington and stayed with a native Indian tribe called the Nuu-Chah-Multh. Spending their time at the Makah Lutheran Church and the Makah Cultural Center. Many arts and crafts by the young girls “Morning Star” mentoring club were brought to the convention, which could be purchased to help support the club. The artwork and crafts were simply beautiful. Four women went on this trip; Cherie, Shelby, Shirley Holle and Jurene Slaughter and they truly used their beautiful feet for this journey. My hope is all of us can someday go on a short term mission trip too.▶

“A New Journey with Beautiful Feet!”

Jan Simmons, Vice President Servant Resources
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There is a beautiful walker’s path, not far from my home. Whenever I get the chance, I try to walk in the morning. It is so peaceful and the air so fresh, the birds chirping. As I am walking I am reminded of the convention theme “*Beautiful feet for the Journey*” and reflect as to whether I am portraying all that I learned through Bible Study and experienced through the witness of mission speakers. Rev Carl Gnewuch lead a wonderful Bible study reminding us that it is not that our feet are beautiful looking but it is the spreading of the good news of Jesus Christ, by those feet that make them beautiful.

The mission speakers demonstrated the *Journey* through examples of their mission work from the short term mission trip of Cherie, Shirley, Shelby and Jurene, sharing the Love of Christ with the Makah Indians in Washington, to Rev Peter and Carla Kirby’s mission work in Jamaica, teaching the word of Christ and baptizing. We experience the mission work of Rev. Eric Erkkinen with the armed forces through a touching video. He encouraged us to reach out to the servicemen and chaplains with our prayers and support. The work of Joh Ribando at mission central work is never ending, generating funds to support our missionaries and providing them a place to rejuvenate.

These were all wonderful examples of the *Journey* that *Beautiful Feet* can accomplish. I have to continually evaluate what my feet are like. Are they beautiful, or do they just keep Walking? What is my Journey? Simple things like collecting mites for missions, saying prayers for missionaries, being considerate to others in my daily life, help contribute to the *Beautiful Feet*. But what about the *Journey*, could I be doing more, helping at local missions, doing more for the church, witnessing more to others?

Hopefully as I continue to walk in the morning, I will remember the wonderful experiences of convention and the hard work the women of Detroit did to make it possible. I will try to begin a new *Journey* with *Beautiful Feet* and spread the love and Gospel of our Lord through my words and actions. How about you, are you ready to have “*Beautiful Feet for the Journey*”? “Behold, on the mountains the feet of Him who brings good tidings, who proclaims peace!

Nahum 1:15a (NKJV)▶

Convention Highlights



Convention Chair, Mary Kuenzel, awaits with the convention banner for the Processional to begin.



Attendees involved in servant events. On the left, a team poses with the dry soup and muffin mixes in Mason jars they assembled. On the right, another group puts together health kits. Both projects resulted in Gifts from the Heart for Lutheran City Ministries, Inc. of Detroit.



Convention goes designing greetings cards to be used at the Lutheran Home of Livonia. It was reported that residents had loads of fun looking at the cards and thought they were as good as those sold by Hallmark.



Visit our English District LWML web site for the latest news at:
www.englishdistrictlwml.org



Young Woman Representatives Meredith Postlewaite and Becky Franks

“Let Us Do Good to All People!”

Susan Fleischmann, Treasurer
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I can do everything through him who gives me strength.”
Philippians 4:13.

This is one of my favorite scripture verses and has always been a source of comfort to me, especially this past year professionally and personally. The Lord has placed many opportunities in my life expanding me beyond my comfort zone through job promotions and the nomination to the District Board. Along with challenges come many blessings, and the birth of a grandson has truly enriched my family. Thank you for your confidence in electing me as your District Treasurer. I am excited to get started and look forward to the privilege of working with all the zones and executive board members.

The 34th Biennial Convention held on April 23 – 25 in Romulus, Michigan, was a wonderful break from everyday routine. The “*Beautiful Feet for the Journey*” was experienced by everyone in attendance through inspiring Bible studies, worship services, servant events, mission ministry and fellowship in Christ.

The Missions Grant Proposals selected for the next biennial and to be paid in the following order are:

- ✦ Trinity/HOPE -Feed Lutheran school children, Haiti (\$3,000)
- ✦ Training of a pastor in Bible Translation at Theological College, Northern Nigeria (\$3,000)
- ✦ Concordia Seminary Food Bank, St. Louis, Missouri (\$3,000)
- ✦ Children’s Books for Evangelical Lutheran Church, Latvia (\$3,000)
- ✦ Uniforms for Nakura School, Kenya (\$2,400)
- ✦ Let the Children Come-Let the Children Sing, Detroit, Michigan (\$600)

During the Friday Festival Worship services conducted in the beautiful Angelica Lutheran Church in Allen Park, MI, collections were received in the amount of \$954. This amount will be applied toward our first mission grant.

As you enjoy the special season of summer and prepare for family functions, vacations, graduations and weddings, please remember how truly blessed we are and continue to send in your *Mites* to your zones to assist our national and global family of believers. We have seen over and over what our mighty *Mites* can accomplish. “*Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.*” Galatians 6:9,10.

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Beautiful News

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Larry watches what I do very closely and he considers me a Christian who “practices what he preaches.”

Still there are very few times over the past ten years where we discussed the Christian faith at any great length. I knew from our conversation, prompted by the tract, that I needed to speak the truth of the Scriptures.

As members of the body of Christ, we keep in mind that every sermon and every Bible study is something to share with others around us. The Word of God is part of the “beautiful news” we share when the Holy Spirit gives us the opportunity. The mission opportunities we support do more than supply the physical needs of other people for they are the timely ways in which we speak of the hope that we have inside of us. Continue to learn and grow in God’s word because the Holy Spirit will use you to deliver “beautiful news” when you least expect it. Remember; it’s fun to deliver good news.

*LWML Counselor,
Pastor Tim Holzerland, Lutheran Church of the Shepherd King, West Bloomfield, MI*



The English District Short Term Mission Trip Team
in Neah Bay, Washington.
Jurene Slaughter, Cherie Voorhees, Shelby Kampert and
Shirley Holle with the “Morning Star Girls Club”
from Makah Lutheran Church.