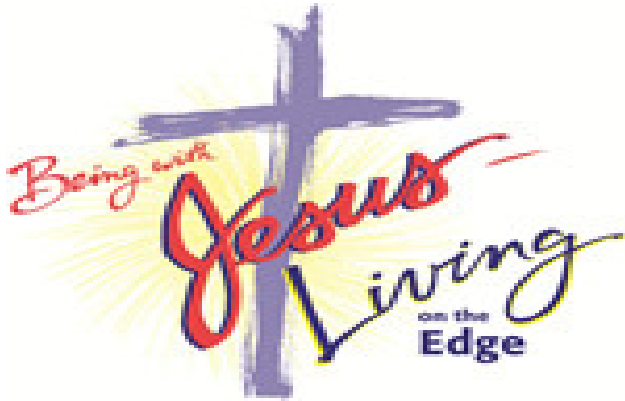


ACCENT

VOL. LIV, No. 46

On Lutheran Women's Missionary League
English District

Summer/Fall 2011



LWML Sunday 2011

LWML Sunday is traditionally celebrated the first Sunday of October across our country. However, the second, third or fourth Sunday's are fine too, just as long as you begin planning for your celebration at your home congregations now.

Dr. Ken Klaus, Speaker Emeritus of the Lutheran Hour, is the author of the LWML Sunday materials, based on the theme **Being with Jesus—Living on the Edge**.

LWML Sunday is a time to celebrate the work of the LWML. Also, it's a wonderful opportunity to share what's going on in your society, your zone, your district and nationally with our congregations.

LWML Sunday materials and ideas for celebrating are available through the LWML office in St. Louis. Orders should be placed by September 1, 2011. Each congregation received a packet with all the information needed to order your materials. Work with your pastor and get ready to celebrate LWML Sunday 2011.

Share the joy and the work of the LWML this October with your congregation, friends and family! Invite everyone to join you. ►

Start Strong to Finish Strong

This biennium LWML has pledged to provide funding for 19 mission grants in at least 21 countries around the world. Some grant recipients will share Christ's love by providing treatment for malaria and malnutrition, safe homes for orphaned and disabled children, and spiritual and physical food for the impoverished. By God's grace, ministries to Native Americans, missionary families, and youth will build them up in their faith in Christ. Newborns, prisoners and people who are hurting will have a chance to hear about the saving grace of Jesus Christ and experience His love

What can you do to help? ***Pray often and give often.*** Check out our giving, at LWML.org, for the past three months by clicking on [Mission Grants](#) and scroll down to **Mites Received**. Examine the **printable monthly update** to see how "mightily" the 4,660 women and men who attended the LWML convention in Peoria contributed to our mission goal. We have started strong. **Let's keep the momentum going every month!**

Marilyn McClure

LWML Vice President of Gospel Outreach

ACCENT Deadline: November 1, 2011. Please send current news, zone and society reports, minutes, photos, etc. to: Cherie Voorhees 1305 Lower Ferry Road, Trenton, NJ 08618 or FAX to: 609.896.0341 or send me an attachment through e-mail: voorhees@rider.edu

“Living on the Edge!”

Shirley Holle, President
shirleyh@longrealty.com



What a great national convention “Living on the Edge” in Peoria, Illinois. I was proud and humbled to represent the English District. I learned so much at the Board of Directors meeting preceding the convention. And there was so much to gain from the convention itself– worship, mission reports, speakers, humor, friendships, Bible study, personal witness and a mission walk.

Following is the definition of Living on the Edge by the LWML Senior Counselor, Rev. Kris Whitby: *“The intersection or border where my life with Jesus meets the life of someone else – even at risk to myself.”*

We have all been with Jesus. He was with us at our baptism, as we study His Word and as we live in His presence. He has touched us with healing, with answers to prayers, with forgiveness and has given people we love eternal life. Jesus went to the edge – the edge of life and death. He gave His life so we can cross the edge to heaven.

Reviewing my notes one of the speakers said “To live courageously on the edge is to live securely in the center of God’s will, centered on the solid foundation of Christ.” Jesus showed compassion to the world. He intentionally touched the untouchable. He sacrificed a life in heaven for a life on earth with all of its pain to sacrifice His life for us. Now we are at the edge – that intersection. Will we accept the challenge placed before us? Will I accept that challenge on a daily basis? Will we stop for the broken and hurting? Will we have time to touch a friend with kindness? For every one of us the edge is different. How? What? Where? When? and Who? We have been with Jesus and we are changed. The convention is over and now it’s time for us to live on the edge!

We have three mission grants left that have not been paid. As president I challenge you to raise the \$9,000 we need to pay these last three grants. We made a commitment at our convention last year and with God’s grace we can fulfill it. I include myself in this challenge. We have eight months to do this since our books close on March 31, 2012. Ask yourself, “Am I giving only what I can spare or will I give whatever it will take?” I encourage you to tell others about our mite grants. If everyone knows where their mites are going and what their mites are doing they will get excited to give too. At your zone fall rallies talk about our mission grants and encourage more giving. The increase belongs to God.

It’s time to start planning to join your LWML sisters at our 2012 English District Convention in Tucson, AZ April 20 – 22, 2012. Mark your calendar now and plan, plan, plan. The theme is **Rejoice...Bloom...Shout for Joy**. *The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy.*” Isaiah 35:1-2a NIV More information will be coming out in the Fall/Winter ACCENT.

Remember to check out www.lwml.org and www.englishdistrictlwml.org. Patricia Hirshman, our website coordinator has done a marvelous job of keeping the website current. There are pictures from the national convention and information you need to know for your societies and zones; mites: equalization, convention information and much more. ▶



LWML Peoria Convention



Invitation to 2013 LWML Convention



Highlights

“Let’s Live on the Edge!”

Margaret Stuenkle, Vice President Gospel Outreach
rstuenkel@aol.com



Pushed to the edge – that’s what we were, at the 34th biennial LWML convention in Peoria, Illinois. And that’s a good place to be, living on the edge, risking for Jesus. Each speaker at the convention urged us to live “on the edge.” And that’s what we have come home to do, sharing with our sisters in Christ the goal of raising \$1,825,000 for new mission projects worldwide.

Also, sharing with those who don’t know our Savior and about His redeeming love for them.

Being with 4,668 others who share the joy of our Savior was quite an experience. Hearing a choir of 400 plus voices was awesome. Seeing and hearing bell ringer Kristi Stout was amazing. Listening to mission speakers share what mites have done for their mission was inspiring. It was a privilege to vote for 19 new mission projects for the 2011-2013 biennium. Yes, living on the edge is a good place to be.

I’d like to share some quotes I heard that I thought were worth remembering. They are:

- ✦ “When the Bible is well used, the devil is not amused.”
- ✦ “It doesn’t matter how often you’ve been through the Word, but how often the Word has been through you.”
- ✦ “It is in “being with Jesus” that we can “live on the edge.”

I made a purchase at the convention that I would encourage each society to make also. It is a book recently published titled God Gave the Increase. It contains the stories of our LWML mites at work around the world - a truly inspiring read. One of the stories you’ll read about is the Lutheran church in Latvia and how important Christian reading material is there. This is one of our proposed district mission grant recipients but yet to receive our mites.

All 19 of our mission grants on the national level from this past biennium were funded to completion. How awesome is that! I hope we can do the same on the district level. Fourteen months into this biennium we have funded just two of our six grant goals. Let’s “live on the edge” and gather those mites to finish the job of sharing our Savior’s love with those to whom we’ve promised help. ►



**Join us in
Pittsburgh
in 2013!**

LWML National
Convention

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

1. **Trinity/Hope (Feed Lutheran Children in Haiti) - \$3,000—PAID.**
2. **Bible Translation at the Theological College of Northern Nigeria - \$3,000-PAID.**
3. **Concordia Seminary Food Bank—\$3,000.**
4. **Children’s Books for Evangelical Lutheran Church in Latvia—\$3,000.**
5. **Uniforms for Nakuru School, Kenya—\$2,400.**
6. **Let the Children Come—Let the Children Sing, Detroit, MI.—\$600.**

EQUALIZATION FOR THE ENGLISH DISTRICT CONVENTION IN TUCSON, ARIZONA April 20-22, 2012

Time is running short for planning to be at the convention in Tucson, AZ in April of 2012. The Executive Committee raised the amount of Equalization to \$200 per delegate to cover the increased expenses of travelling.

Equalization helps get our delegates to the convention by paying transportation expenses. Each zone and society is responsible for sending delegates and this fund helps pay their way if they have paid into the fund. ***Each zone is entitled to one delegate and societies two delegates.*** We must all participate for the Equalization Fund to work properly. Those delegates who live close to the convention site and have minimal transportation expenses must pay the \$200 per delegate, to help defray the cost of those far away. *That’s what makes it equal! Please send you equalization to me by March 31, 2012!*

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the convention next year. Please start sending in your Equalization payments now. Remit to: **Elsiena Velazquez, 2121 S. Pantano Rd. #326, Tucson, Arizona 85710.** You can also contact me at elsienavelazquez@juno.com or by calling 520-731-9475.

“Together in Peoria!”

Sarah Reinstadtler, Vice President Human Care
srein8@verizon.net



LWML Fundraiser for Makah Lutheran Church Neah Bay, Washington Traditional Makah Indian Quilt

The Peoria, IL LWML convention was my seventh national convention and I am more amazed each time I go to one. We heard all about the LWML women across the world who are Living On the Edge. We are not just home making jello, we are young and old, mature in age and wisdom, and everything in between. We are students, working women, home makers, mothers and grand mothers, women of all nationalities and ethnic groups. And we have one major thing in common, salvation through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! We strive to follow His example to love and serve others with our time, talents and mites!

Every time I hear the word MITES I think about how THE WIDOW probably held her head down as she quietly placed her single mite in the offering, not wanting anyone to see what she gave. Our Lord saw not only the mite, but He also saw her heart. She could never have known that she would be talked about for all times! The WIDOW set an example for us, she was a women living on the edge.

I was privileged to work a servant event at the convention receiving and packing the Gifts from the Heart. We packed 2,587 Quilts, 5,587 Kits, 2,795 pieces of Underwear, 2,382 Towels Sets, 13,205 Arch Books, and 3,875 miscellaneous items. A grand total of 30,431!! WOW!! I dare anyone to see this and not have tears of joy knowing that the love of our Lord and Savior Jesus is working through the LWML. We are helping to make a difference in all the people who will receive these kits!!!

JESUS sees our hearts and knows that the Lutheran Women's Missionary League will continue to live on the edge, following His example to love and serve others through our time, talents and mites.

I'm already starting to plan for the next convention so I can be amazed all over again!!!!▶

Debbie Coates, a member of Our Savior Lutheran Church in Norwood Park, Illinois, was presented with this Makah quilt designed and made by Native American Rose Tageant entitled "Journeys."



After being presented with the quilt, Debbie replied, "It is not just a quilt, but a work of art depicting the Makah culture and heritage."

The English District's first short term mission trip took place in the Fall of 2009 and four women traveled to the Makah Indian Reservation in Neah Bay, Washington. We met and worked with Rev. David and Rosemary Sternbeck of Makah Lutheran Church. It was a wonderful experience working with the Morning Star Girls Club and helping to teach the girl's sewing, cooking, painting of crafts and attending their Bible study. We met with the LWML and other members of Makah Lutheran Church and attended a tribal dinner.

We all vowed to continue to help Pastor & Rosemary in their ministry to the Makah people. Pastor David and Rosemary are working to help the Makah Indians on the Reservation with their instability, resulting from centuries of cultural clashes and neglect. Less than three percent of the approximately three million Native American people in this country know Jesus Christ as their Savior. The Indians are very spiritual people believing in a higher God, but they do not know Jesus.

With unemployment high, the desire to provide space for honoring and teaching native crafts, and a plan to teach marketing of their crafts, beyond their community, Pastor David and others had a vision to erect a building that would address these needs. Plans were drawn up for a community arts center and with surprise gifts of materials and money the building was well on its way at the time of our visit and would hopefully be completed by the Fall of 2011.

In working with Rosemary she said they needed help raising money for a quilting machine that the ladies of the community could use at the new Makah Lutheran Church Cultural Center. It was decided if Rosemary would send an authentic Makah designed quilt, each of the us would have a fundraiser and try to raise \$2,500 which was the cost of one quilt. Chicago received the first quilt and thanks to all the ladies of the Greater Chicago Zone, by the grace of God, they made their goal of \$2,500.

The explanation of the design on the quilt is as follows: At first sight, it's a canoe journey. Looking closer the pullers are whale tails, the head of the pullers are blow holes of the whale. The canoe is an eagle, the paddlers are feathers for flight, and if you look closely there is a person with praying hands which is referred to as the Holy Spirit blessing the journey. The Makah colors are red, black and white. The big circle represents the sun and the border around the quilt are bear claws.

This short term mission trip was a wonderful experience for us. We all plan to continue to help in the ministry of Makah Lutheran Church through our LWML and to fundraise for the quilting machine. It was a blessing to everyone involved!

Shelby Kampert, Trinity Lutheran Church Villa Park, IL

“Share the Good News Boldly!”

Jan Simmons, Vice President Servant Resources
simmfarm@comcast.net

It is hard to put into words in one article all the emotion, spiritual uplifting, and Christian fellowship that goes on at a LWML National Convention. Women, men, and children gathered in the name of Jesus from all over the country to hear His Word through Bible study and worship services. We celebrated the missions of the LWML through several mission speakers and voted on a mission goal and mission grants. Miss America, Katie Stam not only gave a moving testimonial of her love for our Lord and his work but also entertained us with four beautiful songs. The keynote speaker Deb Burma showed up with a pool inner tube ready to inspire us to take that plunge and live on the edge for Jesus. Heidi Floyd provided comic relief throughout the convention while urging us to jump in and live on the edge.

As with every convention there is business that needs to be done. One of the first official businesses of the convention was amendments to the bylaws. As Vice President (VP) of Servant Resources, unlike most convention attendees, I thought this was very interesting. New names were proposed for two of the VP's along with some changes in the organization of their committees. It was proposed that the VP of Human Care be changed to VP of Intentional Ministries and VP of Servant Resources be changed to VP of Organizational Resources. The rationale being that these names would create positions that more effectively carry out the LWML mission and to clarify the purpose of a position with a name change. The structure committee along with the executive committee worked long and hard to come up with names they felt better reflected these positions. However the convention body did not agree. They felt that VP of Organization Resources was appropriate but had many reservations about VP of Intentional Ministries. After much discussion and debate following the guidelines of *Robert Rules of Order* a name was adopted. The office Vice President of Human Care has been re-organized and renamed Vice President of Special Focus Ministries and The VP of Servant Resources have been re-named VP of Organizational Resources.

One of the reasons I bring this bylaws situation up is that we will also have many bylaw changes at our next convention. These will be published in the *Accent* prior to convention. Please study these carefully and discuss them with your societies. If you have concerns, be prepared to present them at convention.

Dr. Joe Meyer, pastor of the convention's host congregation (Redeemer Lutheran Church, Peoria), in his message on the last day of convention gave a challenge for Lutheran Women in Mission to “Live on the Edge,” rather than return to what is comfortable and predictable. As disciples of Jesus, women (and men) of all ages and from all backgrounds are called to share the Good News boldly, **Being with Jesus – Living on the Edge!**▶

“To God be the Glory!”

Pat Gilde, 100th Anniversary Committee English District
patqtl@verizon.net

Celebrating 100 years of God's Blessings as we continue to Serve, Connect and Grow.

On May 15th of this year we began celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the English District of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. During the year we will pay tribute to our Triune God to whom we owe everything and to the faith of our parents who were future focused and gave us the confessional and scriptural Lutheran stance we enjoy today. We will seek to reflect our love for Christ to serve Christ as we serve others just as the LWML does.

As LWML sisters there are ways we can serve, connect and grow by reaching out to the community and the unchurched. Articles on ways to celebrate have been and will continue to be mailed and emailed to congregations. Light 100 candles, bake and give away 100 cookies, invite 100 unchurched to worship. You get the idea!!

You may have wonderful stories of the local LWML mission work you are doing to celebrate this 100th anniversary that need to be told, and can be an inspiration to others. We would like to know how you are praising God through mission and ministry. Please contact the English District Office, poke@englishdistrict.org with any articles you want to share. This will be an exciting year.

There will also be a cookbook. I am requesting that each church “*Strive for Five*“. Please send in five (5) recipes, your favorite, family holiday favorites, ethnic recipes or food to serve 50 or more. I must have all recipes by **AUGUST 1** in order to have the cookbook ready for sale in time for Christmas. I may be a nag about this and will be sending out reminders. You can either email them to me at patqtl@verizon.net, or mail the recipes to Martin Luther Chapel, 4100 Terrace Avenue, Pennsauken, NJ 08109. All monies received from the sale will go to missions.

Let us all support Bishop Stechholz by spreading the news about The English District, we are faith driven and future focused, reaching out to others as we celebrate this important year. Strive for Five for our cookbook. And please continue to pray for our District and for those in need that we can serve. Show others that we are ***Always abounding in the work of the Lord***".

1st Corinthians 15. ▶

What are you going to do today
to show the glory, might and love
of the Lord?

“Let the Heavens Rejoice, Let the Earth be Glad! 1 Chronicles 16:31”

Susan Fleischmann, Treasurer
bfleischmann@verizon.net

How best to describe the four days of worship, praise and fellowship I experienced during my first national convention held in Peoria, IL on June 23 – June 26. This is very difficult to do in a few short paragraphs. I can begin by saying that the June 23rd Thursday evening worship service was extraordinary. It was truly a blessing to praise and worship Our Lord and Savior and commune with thousands of other Christians. The joy of hearing God’s Word, the procession of over 60 pastors in their matching red stoles, the choir of 500 white-robed women with angelic voices raised in song were just a few of the memorable highlights of the evening. Dr. Ken Klaus, with his booming voice and commanding presence, delivered an inspiring sermon message that I was compelled to share with my husband the day I returned home from convention. I thank the Lord for the opportunity to attend this convention and experienced a renewal of my faith.

I would like to report on the three convention offerings:

1. Convention Offering #1 for 2011-2013 mission goal of the LWML = \$45,383
2. Convention Offering #2 for three mission central projects = \$36,999
3. Convention Offering #3 for Amigos de Cristo mission outreach project = \$31,907

Delegates approved a mission goal of \$1,825,000 for a total of nineteen grants for the 2011 – 2013 biennium that will help support God’s mission of sharing the Gospel and serving the Lord with gladness:

Well, it has already been several weeks since the national convention. Unfortunately, we must return to reality. We can’t all play the banjo as well as Dr. Matthew Harrison or be as beautiful and talented as Miss America 2009, Katie Stam. Jesus said in John 8:23, “You are from below; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world.” Although convention attendees had to return to daily mundane tasks, it is refreshing to know that there is a prescription for work deadlines, family issues and stress. We can look forward to upcoming district and national conventions, as well as our spring and fall rallies to help us continue to grow and mature in our faith. As we mature in Christ, our lives will increasingly shift to living a life of service.

Our English District’s approved mission goal for the 2010 – 2012 biennium is \$15,000. We have only paid two grants to date. Please pray for our remaining goals and discuss unique ways within your zones and societies to generate more mite donations. All of our mission grants should be paid prior to the 2012 District Convention to be held in Tuscon, Arizona.

Blessings upon your upcoming zone fall rallies

Please feel free to contact me by email or phone:

1425 Washington Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15228

412-344-3691 ►

MEMORIALS

In loving memory of:

Ruth Taylor
Philadelphia Zone

