



A publication of
Lutheran Women's
Missionary League
Rocky Mountain
District

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Tidings

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How's your race going? This was the question that Deaconess Heidi Goehman asked during her Bible Study on Friday and Saturday at the National LWML Convention in Lexington. She used the metaphor of running a 5 K race wearing a backpack. Inside the backpack are all the worries, fears, and sufferings that weigh us down in our journey. Our hope is in Jesus who gives us endurance as He assumes our hardship, pain, and discomfort. We are not alone as we run our race. In this issue, Pastor Scheele also interprets the convention theme verses from Hebrews 12. You can find his article on page 2.

The convention is the main focus for this issue of the *Tidings*. President Debbie relates her convention experience and notes some of the highlights of the convention for her. VP of Servant Resources, Shelley Stewart was blessed to attend with her daughter as well as serve as a delegate from her zone. The Gospel Outreach column focuses on the generosity of the attendees at the National Convention. Tanya Hall has shared her article space with Katie Stewart who writes of her first convention experience. Emily Geisler, writing for the Christian Life committee, encourages all ladies to become involved in social media and sharing what their societies are doing as they run the race set before us.

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Additionally, as Amy Schultz will not be able to finish out her term as Gospel Outreach Vice President, Beth Nagy has agreed to finish the term for her. Thank you so much, Beth! If you have any questions about submitting Mission Grant Proposals, please direct them to vpgospeloutreach@lwmlrmd.org. Reverend Tim Davis from Wray, Colorado has been appointed to complete Pastor Schultz' term as Senior Pastoral Counselor.

So, how is your race going? Whatever your answer, we know that with Jesus there is indeed hope and we can run our race knowing that he can remove our burdens as we connect with God through confession, the Word, and the Sacrament. God's blessings to you as you run your race.

Tidings Editor, Sue Giddings

DEBBIE YOCKY
PRESIDENT



*Let the word
of Christ
dwell in you
richly*

*Colossians
3:15-17*

*Biennium
Theme Verse*

After months of hoping and praying that the LWML would meet in person for the Lexington Convention it is still hard to believe that it actually happened.

Thank you to the city of Lexington for welcoming us with open arms and southern hospitality. Being together with our LWML sisters was amazing! We laughed and cried, sang praises to our Lord, and heard wonderful stories about Mites in Action. We gathered early in the morning for Bible studies, and stayed up late reconnecting with old friends or meeting new friends. We hugged! It was amazingly normal and so wonderful! The song leader Elinor Paulison was a last minute replacement and is from Peace with Christ in Aurora. She did an amazing job!

The LWML Rocky Mountain District was well represented in Lexington by women of all ages. We have many women serving on national committees and three of our Vice Presidents were in attendance. Servant Resources Vice President Shelley Stewart was accompanied by her daughter, Katie, our youngest attendee. YWRs Abby Bridgette, and Stella Shoultz, as well as a Heart to Heart Sister Trainer, Heidi Norton and Jr. Pastoral Counselor Pete Scheele also traveled to Lexington. Nine zones sent delegates. Thank you to our zone presidents and alternates for being willing to serve in this

capacity. Abby and Stella will be sharing their experiences in the President's blog and at Zone Rallies.

President Debbie Larson presided over her first convention. President Debbie shared exciting news about our Mission Grants. Since we met and exceeded our 2019–2021 Mission Goal we will actually fund 2021–2023 Mission grants in excess of our Mission Goal. She also announced that going forward 90% of Mites received will go directly to mission grants. To God be the glory! Watch for more information about the new mission grants funded, which include two from the Rocky Mountain District.

Reverend Gary Piepkorn from Portales, New Mexico was elected Jr. Pastoral Counselor. Please pray for Pastor Piepkorn as he begins his service at the national level.

I met so many new people and enjoyed reconnecting with ministries in our district. The Lexington Convention was an amazing mountaintop experience. If you weren't able to attend in person I hope you were able to stream it.

I was so honored to represent you as your district president. Make sure to check out the pictures from our RMD attendees.

Blessings,

Debbie

Running the Race

PR. PETE SCHEELE

JUNIOR PASTORAL
COUNSELOR



The 2021 National LWML convention has been completed and some of you have had the pleasure of being there with all the excitement and reminders of the theme of this years National LWML Convention which was *Running the Race ... Looking to Jesus*. This theme comes from Hebrews 12:1-2 which says, *Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.*

The writer of Hebrews is talking about the great cloud of witnesses who had proclaimed the Love of God given to all of us by the apostles and disciples of Jesus Christ and this was maybe thirty years after Jesus had lived a perfect life for us. He had taken all our sins with Him to the Cross of Calvary and given us His perfect Righteousness. He had died to make the payment for our sins and then on the third day rose again proclaiming His victory over sin, death and the power of Satan. This is what all the disciples of Jesus were a witness to. This is what they had proclaimed to all the people of their region of the world, even though they were being persecuted for their faith and trust in the Triune God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Since then, over the past 2000 years there have been millions and billions of more witnesses of the power of God's love, grace, and mercy in this world in times of persecution and in peace. In fact I'm sure that each of us have had a great cloud of witnesses leading, helping and guiding us along the path of the race that God is leading us to run.

Yes, we all at times are weighed down with the problems of this world and our sins, as they try to stop us from running the race that God has given to us to run. Thus, if we are truly going to run the race that God has given us to run, we have to give all the trials, problems and sins of our world and life to God. He has taken them to the Cross of Calvary and made the full payment for them, so why do we want to hang onto them? They only slow us down from running the race set before us. So, Look to Jesus, not yourself for He is the founder of this incredible world and each of us, so that we can have faith and trust in Him. He has done this for us so that we can run the race of faith which leads us to be one of those witnesses of all that God has given to us.

What a joy it is to give all the trials, problems, and sins of our life and this world to Jesus. For Jesus has not only made the payment for our sins, but He gives us the ability to follow in His footsteps and run the race along the path to our heavenly home, that enable us to be a witness of God's love, peace, and joy now and forever.

As you go through the summer months, look to Jesus to help you through the good times and the bad, for He gives us the ability to find joy in the race that we are running. We know that at the end we will be in the glory of God's love, peace, and joy at the heavenly throne. Yes, as we are all encouraged to do this at all times, *Run with endurance the race that is set before you, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith!"*

Running the race ... Looking to Jesus, may God help us to do this at all times. Amen.

BETH NAGY

GOSPEL OUTREACH VP

Sue Giddings

GUEST AUTHOR

To God Be the Glory



LWML women are a generous bunch! Not only did National LWML meet this past biennium’s mission goal, but we exceeded it. These extra funds will carry over to the new National LWML Biennium (2021-2023). Following are some further examples from the National LWML Convention of our membership’s generosity.

Tee Up for Mites involved 69 golfers on 18 teams and generated \$30,710 for Mites.

The Mission Pledge Walk was a 1.5 mile loop in downtown Lexington. Members who could not attend, did their walks in neighborhoods across the country. So far there have been contributions towards our mission grants totaling \$92,232.92.

Many contributions of infant care items for Assurance for Life Ministries and eyeglasses for MOST Ministries were received.

Gift Cards and online donations to Assurance for Life, Concordia Seminary, St Louis, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne and MOST ministries totaled \$7,487.

Convention Offerings were another way generosity was shown. Offering #1 for the Mission Goal—\$43,494; Offering #2 for Kings Community Outreach, Ft. Wayne—\$27,43; Offering #3 Gifts for All God’s Children Detroit—\$28,206; and Offering #4 POBLO International Ministries, Clinton Township, Michigan—\$27,079.

When we send our Mite donations to the Rocky Mountain District, we are also contributing a portion to the 28 Missions selected at our National LWML Convention.

To God be the glory!

Mites

Remember to send mites to our treasurer:

Yvonne Steeby
LWML RMD Treasurer
PO Box 1657
Alamogordo, NM
88310

Kingdom Kids’ Camp at Lutheran Valley Retreat: \$5,000 | Paid in Full

Concordia Theological Seminary Food & Co-op Financial Assistance: \$8,000 | \$3,250 Paid

God Cares About You – “Children’s Weekend Food Bag Ministry”: \$8,000 | Paid in Full

Mercy Meals of Colorado Springs: \$5,000 | \$3,500 Paid

Interns at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, Navajo, NM: \$9,000 | Paid in Full

Support for University Lutheran Chapel, Boulder, CO: \$8,000 | \$3,250 Paid

Introducing Muslims to the Savior — Lutheran Heritage Foundation: \$5,000

Filling Haitian Tummies Opens Ears to the Gospel — Trinity HOPE: \$5,000 | \$3,500 Paid

Bringing Christ’s Light to Those Living in Darkness — Lutheran Braille Workers: \$8,000

The Table at Bethlehem Lakewood, CO: \$5,000 | \$2,500 Paid

Reaching the Hispanic Community of Commerce City, CO: \$7,996 | \$7,996 Paid in Full

LWML Global Bible Studies by Donna Pyle: \$3,964.28 | Paid in Full

\$77,960.28 | \$49,960.28 64% Paid

*Bethesda grant removed ...

Training for the Race

Convention this year in Lexington was special for me. My daughter, Katie, attended with me. I was a little concerned about how much she would get out of it, after all, she's only 11. But, she reassured me that she wanted to go to spend time with me. Be still my heart! So she went. And she LOVED it! I have been in LWML her whole life, but now she sees why I am involved. I am reminded of Proverbs 22:6, *Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it.*

To avoid tooting my own horn, I remind myself of the scripture in Deuteronomy 11 that exhorts us to

teach these ways to our children, speaking of them often. I try to lead by example, but God was the One at the Convention speaking to Katie. We can talk and tell, but it takes the power of the Holy Spirit to bring souls into a relationship with Him. This takes some of the pressure off of us, that it is not by our work alone that people do or don't come to Christ. He's got this with or without our help. She is planning to attend the retreat, the Fall Rally, and all following Conventions. To sum up Katie's opinions of her experience, she loved the food, the comfort dogs, the opening worship, the humorous interrupters, and the pool the best.

SHELLEY STEWART
SERVANT RESOURCES
VP



Convention Reflections

Hi, I'm Katie Stewart (Shelley Stewart's daughter) and recently my mother brought me to the Lexington, Kentucky LWML convention. I really enjoyed the convention, there were a lot of things to do that were fun. My favorite thing that was there had to be the exhibit hall or the luncheons. I decided not to go to the kids club so that I could see what convention actually looked like and felt like. The morning and sending worship services were super cool to me. I was surprised at how many pastors walked in at the worship service. I think that coming to this convention will impact me coming to LWML conventions and other LWML get-togethers in the future. In the end, I was super happy I decided to come

to this LWML convention and meet so many wonderful, kind ladies.



Tanya Hall
COMMUNICATIONS
VP
Katie Stewart
GUEST AUTHOR



National
LWML
Convention
2021
Lexington, KY





Sharing the Word

The Southern Zone held their Spring Workshop at Bethany Lutheran Church in Pueblo, CO.

Reverend Bob Mann led a Bible Study based on the theme, *Sharing God's Light*. Jan Schmidt led a presentation from Lutheran Hour Ministries titled, *Sharing Your Story*. The presentation focus was Christian witnessing. After the morning presentation and Bible study, participants met in small groups to discuss witnessing and sharing your story in different situations. The workshop closed with a sketch, *Let's Go Fishing*, presented by Vicki Riddle and Sara Austin.



Go and Make Disciples

The Northern Zone held a half day, in person event on Saturday, April 24th at Risen Savior Lutheran Church in Broomfield, CO. Our theme was *Go and Make Disciples* based on Matthew 28:19. Rev. Dr. Fungchatou Lo was our speaker. A missionary to the Hmong people in Southeast Asia, Dr. Lo admonished, challenged, and inspired us to witness by starting casual conversations with people God puts in our paths each day. Instead of serving lunch, everyone was sent home with a To-Go Snack and encouraged to Go Too.





Spring Tea

On April 17, 2021 the North Central zone met at Gethsemane Lutheran Church for a Spring Tea. Pastor Eli Lietzau gave a Bible Study on the Parables. Ladies brought tea cups to plant with pansies to take to the shut ins of their congregations. Twenty nine ladies attended from seven societies.





Let's Connect

Lutheran Women one, and all, we have heard the social media call? I can hear you now, “I don’t have social media!”, “I don’t want social media!”. That is just fine! If you do have social media however, especially Facebook, are you following the LWML-RMD page? If not, here are some of the things you would see daily: Mite Box Challenges, Mission Grant information and updates, information on District Convention and National Convention. You will also find the Mustard Seed Devotions, as well as posts shared from LCMS, other LWML districts, and the various Concordia Musical Groups.

I would like to see societies share what they have been doing such as the Faith Lutheran Church float in the Milliken Parade of Lights, or the Christmas Tea at Bethlehem

Lutheran in Lakewood. I would also like to see event notifications for the various Fall Rallies, and Spring Workshops and share events from the various societies about the blizzard of craft fairs, soup lunches, and holiday bazaars that everyone hosts.

Now, if you don’t have Social Media, and you want to get started this would be a great way to reach across generation gaps, reach out to young women, have them help you! Get to know them, and invite them to your Spring Workshop, maybe even encourage them to apply to be a Young Woman Representative to a National Convention or to the next District Convention.

As we begin to expand into other aspects of social media, we will be looking for ideas on what to include.

DEAREST FRIENDS IN CHRIST,

Our family will soon move to Great Falls, MT, where Pastor has accepted a Call to serve at Trinity Lutheran Church. While we are excited about new opportunities, we find this move to be very bittersweet. We love our dear friends in the Rocky Mountain District. We also take comfort in knowing that we are still one in Christ, and that we will continue to be together in spirit. We have enjoyed serving the Lord with you for the past 12 years. Thank you for the opportunity to share the Gospel through mites and missions throughout the district, nationally, and across the globe. Thank you for the wonderful conversations, spiritual growth and mentoring you have provided us and our family. We hope to see you all in the future at conventions and other events, and if you’re ever in the area, please look us up for a visit.

LWML Hugs,

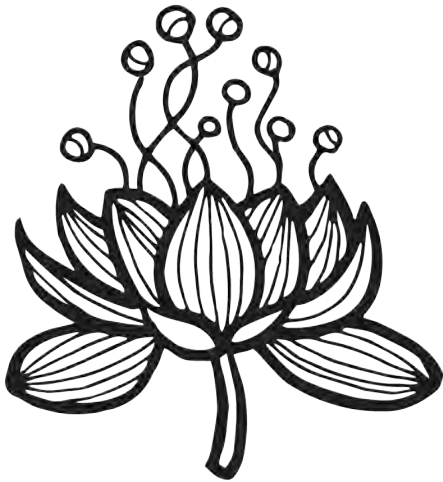
Pastor Jonathan and Amy Schultz

pastor.jschultz@gmail.com

schultz.amy9@gmail.com



You are beloved



Looking to Jesus
the founder
and perfecter
of our faith



When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth (John 16:13a).

Perhaps our Lord knew that finding truth would be difficult for us. The voices of the world, the devil, and our own sinful inclinations so often lead us astray. As such, Jesus not only came as the Truth (John 14:6), but also promised, and gave His Holy Spirit to us to guide us into all truth. This truth is the very foundation of our life in Christ and in the world. It is this truth upon which the work of the LWML is built, and it is this truth that the women of the LWML seek to proclaim through study and support of missions around the world. Through your generous contributions to Gifts of Love, this work will carry on for years to come.

Annual physicals, going to the dentist or getting the eyes checked are things we understand that we need to do to promote good health. Review of one's estate plan is something that needs this regular attention, too. Assessing the pieces to make sure that everything is in place requires a review every five to seven years. Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can help get you organized.

Contact Carol von Soosten for more information by Email: Carol.vonSoosten@lwnd.org by Phone: 800-741-4138 or on the website: lwmlgiftplan.org. You may also contact the Rocky Mountain District Gifts of Love Advocate Elizabeth Weber by email at weber4342@acsol.net or on her Cell: (970) 361-0794.

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