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Missionary League  
Rocky Mountain District

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## GOD'S CONTINUING CARE FOR HIS CREATION

As we enter the Lenten Season and approach spring, we are reminded of God's continuing care for our world and the people in it.

In this issue, please note that we have paid \$35,000 toward funding our 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Thanks be to God and thank you for your continued prayers and contributions to these worthy causes that touch people in our district, nation, and the world. Also note how your contributions and Gifts from the Heart from the recent District Convention in Fort Collins have reached a Lutheran Church in Latvia as well as women connected with pregnancy care centers in Colorado. Many of our Fall Rallies and gatherings have also included donations to various needs of people in our RMD. We can see God's continuing care at work!

The Rocky Mountain District Board of Directors met and shared information about the upcoming National Convention. Each zone should be sending a delegate who will come back with a renewed heart for the mission of the LWML. Delegates will vote on the mission grants that our National LWML will fund in the 2025-2027 biennium.

Did you know that LWML RMD offers scholarships to students from our district who attend synodical schools? Sue Frauenfeld shares a thank you note from one of our recipients.

Check out our district website at [lwmlrmd.org](http://lwmlrmd.org) for a powerpoint that details our mission grant recipients for this biennium. God continues to care for His creation by sending His people out to minister to others through missions funded by our faithful Mite offerings.

*You visit the earth and water it; you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide their grain, for so you have prepared it.*  
Psalm 65:9

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Shelley Stewart

PRESIDENT

## CREATION

From the very beginning in Genesis we are told we were created in God's image

*So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.*  
Genesis 1:27

When we see a new baby, we talk about whose eyes, whose nose, and so on when we ought to say we look just like God? I saw a bumper sticker the other day that said "God loves you. But I'm His favorite." Why don't we say these things? I would like to think that it's because it's too presumptive. But, in fact, God thinks that we're special. In Matthew 10 Jesus talks to His disciples about their worth, about how God has numbered every hair on their heads and how they are worth

more than many sparrows. Jesus is reassuring His disciples that they are "seen" and are part of the Divine plan. That is what we all want, to know that we matter and are doing what we are meant to do, right? Because God made us in His image it is our job to be a representative for Him. Redeemed by God through Christ, He is proud to claim you. That doesn't mean we will never make mistakes, but just like our earthly children, we will never be loved any less. Be confident in this assurance, and let it give you the confidence to be a representative for God. You can never "out-sin" God's love, and this should bring us much needed comfort.

# IN THE BEGINNING

*Since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made... Rom. 1:20 (NIV).*

What a remarkable verse this is! Can we really know the one, true God's power and divinity from His creation? Evidently, we can! This makes me wonder if we shouldn't spend more time stopping to smell the proverbial roses.

It's easy to find ourselves so distracted by the responsibilities, cares, and pursuits of this life that we walk right past creations of God worthy of our contemplation and admiration without noticing them. This is perhaps especially true for those of us who live in the concrete jungles of cities built by man, where God's creations aren't as readily seen. But if we have eyes for it, we'll find them. What might a browned leaf, falling from a tree after the first cold spell of Winter tell us about God? How about the way a mother bird gathers food for her chicks, or the reliability of the sun's rise over the Eastern horizon every new day? Jesus Himself teaches us to look to creation for specific information about God: *Why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the*

*grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you?" (Matt. 6:28-30 NIV)*

God works through cycles and seasons; God provides; God brings life from death; God is powerful; God is wonderful; God is good. All these things, and many more, can be seen and known through His creation. Thanks and praise be to God!

What comes next for us, after we've been taught something about God, be that from creation, or from a faithful person's proclamation of truth, or from a Bible verse? The answer is, we respond. The end of the Romans 1 :20 verse quoted at the very beginning of this article states that, because of creation's witness, "people are without excuse." Paul goes on to teach that the more we know about God, the more we should be moved to turn away from Godlessness and wickedness, and move toward glorifying Him with our lives and giving Him thanks. We are to recognize ourselves, too, as God's creatures, not only created by Him, but re-created by His Spirit through His Son, called and equipped to give Him glory, from the rising of the sun to its setting.



Duane Meisner

SENIOR  
PASTORAL  
COUNSELOR



## MISSION GRANTS MITE PROGRESS

ANDI NOBLITT

**GOSPEL  
OUTREACH VP**

REMEMBER TO  
SEND MITES TO:

ANN  
HERNANDEZ  
LWML RMD  
TREASURER  
PO BOX 971848  
EL PASO, TX  
79997

	GRANTED	PAID
Mt. Zion Lutheran, Boulder, CO	\$5,000	\$2,500
Concordia Lutheran Radio Ministry, Sud-Est, Haiti	\$5,000	\$2,500
Concordia Seminary Food Bank/Re-Sell It Shop	\$5,000	
Concordia University Acts 1:8 Fund	\$6,500	\$3,250
CTSFW Food and Clothing Co-op	\$5,000	
Kitchen Renovation at God Cares About You	\$8,000	\$4,000
Mission Evangelical Luterana Confesionalen Honduras	\$6,500	\$3,250
LHF Bible Books for Ghana's children	\$5,000	\$2,500
Lutheran High School Missions (LuHi)	\$8,000	\$4,000
MOST Ministries Feet on the Ground	\$6,000	\$3,000
Orphan Grain Train Shipping Container	\$5,000	\$2,500
Redeemer Lutheran School Scholarship	\$5,000	\$2,500
Set Apart to Serve LCMS Office of Pastoral Education	\$5,000	\$2,500
Math Curriculum/ Manipulatives Trinity Lutheran	\$5,000	\$2,500
	<b>Total \$80,000</b>	<b>\$35,000</b>

## MISSION GRANT UPDATE

*For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*

Ephesians 2:10

God's creations are wonderful, but there is little more wonderful than children. We thank God for the people who are taking on the difficult task of caring for and teaching our children. This biennium we are supporting many schools including three different programs for younger children. We are helping Mt. Zion in Boulder, CO rebuild their playground so that they can show people in Boulder what great childcare looks

like. We are also supporting a scholarship for Redeemer Lutheran school to allow a family to take advantage of the great education available at our Lutheran schools. Finally, we are supporting an update to the math curriculum and manipulatives for the school at Trinity Lutheran which will teach kids math while also helping them to learn about God. These are important tasks that will support and strengthen our kids, and plant the seeds of faith which we pray will continue to grow throughout their lives.

# CREATING LEADERS

How do we create things as leaders? Being a leader is an interesting endeavor. The amazing thing about the LWML is that no two members are alike, therefore no two leaders are alike. A large part of creating as a leader is supporting and guiding the group of people you are overseeing, sparking discussion but allowing their creativity and ideas to be communicated and merged to form a new vision. As a leader you want to make sure that you are communicating the guidelines and requirements of a job, but it's equally important to listen and learn from the other people in your group.

Luckily there is always more than one way to accomplish a goal.

Being able to mentor the people you are working with is another wonderful part of "creating" as a leader. When you mentor your fellow members it allows you to help them create confidence and knowledge and sometimes you can even help "create" a new leader! Mentorship is so important in keeping any group alive. Without new members and leaders all groups will eventually become obsolete. Where can you mentor or foster creation in your life?



Christina Bean  
SERVANT  
RESOURCES VP

# FALL RETREAT

Making Plans for FALL?

Be sure to include the LWML Rocky Mountain 3<sup>rd</sup> Biennial FALL RETREAT. Join us once again at Glorieta Camp on September 5-7, 2025.

We will gather to worship our Almighty God and fellowship with one another. Rev. Mike and Cheryl Mattil will lead us through the weekend with music, prayer, and worship. They have authored a Bible Study entitled *Blood and Water Flowed* from 1 John 5:6-8 which they will share with us. Start planning now!

Roommates will share a comfortable motel like room and gather in a spacious meeting room. Watch for the registration form in the May/June Tidings. Be ready to commit to a weekend of Bible study, fellowship, singing, and praising. We will be able to register by mail or online. You may contact me with any questions or concerns at [retreat@lwmlrmd.org](mailto:retreat@lwmlrmd.org) The Retreat Committee is looking forward to a wonderful weekend with you.

Bios and a photo of the Mattils can be found on page 10.



Belinda  
Burmeister  
RETREAT  
CHAIRMAN

# BUYING LWML ITEMS

We have often enjoyed getting to shop at the LWML store. If you go to the District Convention or the National Convention, the LWML store is always a nice draw. There are many items, from clothes to kitchen items to devotional books. It is always fun to look around and see what you would like to have.

However, National is making an important change to what you can buy at the LWML store. They will no longer carry articles of clothing for you to look at and buy on site. Instead, you will need to go to the LWML website, select the item you want to buy, give them your size, then order it and wait for it to be delivered. While many people are very used to ordering clothing online, many others like to buy things at a store. They can pick it up and even try it on to see if it works for them. However, life is full of things that change and call for us to adjust, and this is one of those things.



Margaret  
Blazek  
CHRISTIAN  
LIFE VP



GROWING IN  
GOD'S GRACE

2 Peter 3:18

Sue Giddings

TIDINGS EDITOR

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETS

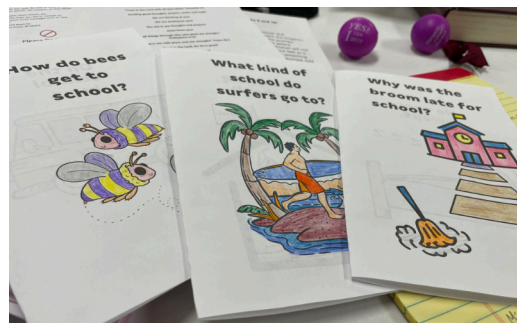
The Rocky Mountain District Board of Directors (BOD) met in Denver Feb.7-8. With the theme of *Growing in God's Grace*, Pastor Duane led a Bible study on *Giving and Receiving in the Kingdom of God*. Andi Noblitt gave Mission Grant information in the form of Mission Minutes. Planner, Becky Meyer had us answering probing questions while coloring cards for Phil's Friends.

Our Zone Presidents reported on their preferred dates and locations for Fall Rallies. We voted on the banner design for our National Convention in Omaha, the YWR who will attend the convention, and also the logo for our own convention to be held in Colorado Springs in 2026.

Debbie Yocky and Carol Von Soosten gave an interesting presentation centered on how we fit into the Body of Christ.

We looked at the Convention Registration Packet. This is also available on-line at Convention Central on the LWML website or in the Winter Quarterly. Ladies are advised to purchase the meal package as there are few other options for eating close to the convention center. Registration will be accepted starting on March 1st.

Sylvia Bean monitored the LWML Store during the meetings. She reminded people that clothing can no longer be purchased online except when there is an online sale. Clothing will be made available in May.



CLOCKWISE RIGHT TO LEFT

SHELLY STEWART PRESIDENT, CARDS FOR PHIL'S FRIENDS, BECKY MEYER LEADS AN ACTIVITY, SYLVIA BEAN DESCRIBES THE STORE, REBA, OUR COMFORT DOG



**ORDER FORM FOR LUTHERAN WOMAN'S QUARTERLY  
PLEASE REMIT NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 28, 2025**

Society Name \_\_\_\_\_

Zone \_\_\_\_\_

Church Name \_\_\_\_\_

Church Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code (9 digit) \_\_\_\_\_

Society Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

**If the church address is not acceptable for delivery, attach a note indicating what address should be used.**

**QUARTERLY SUBSCRIPTIONS**

Quantity \_\_\_\_\_ (10 or more) at \$6.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity \_\_\_\_\_ (less than 10) at \$7.50 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Return this form with your check made payable to: LWML Rocky Mountain District Mail

form and check to:      LWML RMD Treasurer  
                                    PO Box 971848  
                                    El Paso, TX 79997

**LARGE PRINT SUBSCRIPTIONS – Lutheran Braille Workers (LBW)**

If you would like a large print subscription to the LWML Quarterly, please contact LBW. Materials from LBW are free, but a donation to LBW would be appreciated.

Contact Information:    [lbwloveworks.org/materials/large-print/](http://lbwloveworks.org/materials/large-print/) or 800-925-6092 or  
Lutheran Braille Workers 13471 California Street  
                                    P.O. Box 5000  
                                    Yucaipa, CA 92399

Questions/Comments, contact Maritza Munoz [assistant2treasurer@lwmlrmd.org](mailto:assistant2treasurer@lwmlrmd.org)



## GIFTS FROM THE HEART BOUND FOR LATVIA

What a fun surprise it was to read the article in an Orphan Grain Train newsletter and discover our Gifts from the Heart were shipped to Latvia.

LINDA HARSH

MISSION  
SERVANTS  
COMMITTEE  
CHAIRMAN

I confirmed that the socks and underwear we gathered at our Rocky Mountain District Convention last summer were shipped along with the teacher kits we assembled. Muriel, the branch's secretary, wanted us to know that they were still amazed over the contribution received from our convention. She also said that it was a blessing to their branch and an overwhelming gift to so many in dire need.

In the photo below, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Pampali, Latvia is excited soon to be receiving 168 Christmas boxes, teacher and school kits, sewing supplies, medical equipment and other aid from the Rocky Mountain Branch in Julesburg, CO. These are wonderful gifts to brighten the lives of many in need. Praise be to God!



A quick update on Life Choices Pregnancy Care Centers in Longmont & Loveland, CO: their Christmas card listed the names of 27 babies born to their clients this year. Please keep the babies and their families in your prayers!



# A GENEROUS FALL INGATHERING

A generous outpouring of care was evident at the Fall Rally held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Gallup, New Mexico on September 21, 2024. LWML attendees brought gifts that enabled us to complete nine kids care kits. The kits included fleece tied blankets, diapers, wipes, socks, toothbrushes, toothpaste, a squishy toy, and a book. We also completed four young women's care kits with a fleece wrap, feminine care products, socks, and toiletries. Several smaller kits for young men were also completed. These kits were delivered to the Gallup Police Department where they were received with many thanks from

the chief and staff who took photos and expressed their gratitude.

We were also able to give additional diapers, wipes, toys, and other items to Battered Families Services. Our congregation had also given socks, hats and gloves to our *Giving Tree* for Christmas. These were delivered to the Christian Children's Home and the Manuelito Children's Home. We are very thankful for all who contributed to these projects, and thank everyone also for prayers for those who need them and have received them.



FALL RALLY  
NOTES

ANITA  
PALENSCHAT





# PHOTOS FROM AROUND OUR DISTRICT

## A HAPPENING IN THE DISTRICT



RISEN SAVIOR WOMEN IN MISSION HOSTED ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT, A PORTRAYAL OF WOMEN IN THE LINEAGE OF CHRIST. SHARED BY LINDA HARSH.



BANNER DESIGN BY ANITA PALENSCHAT, GALLUP, NM. CHOSEN BY THE BOB FOR THE NATIONAL CONVENTION BANNER.



DISTRICT CONVENTION LOGO 2026, DESIGNED BY CHRISTIE PEEBLES.

Fall Retreat Presenters, Mike & Cheryl (nee Thiele) Mattil met while they were students at what was then Concordia Lutheran College, Austin (now Concordia University – Texas). They were married in 1979, after which they completed their degrees in Elementary Education at Concordia, Seward. They then went to Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, from which they graduated in 1984: Mike with a Master of Divinity and Cheryl with a Master of Arts in Religion.

They have been involved with LWML on all levels throughout their ministry. Currently, Cheryl is the Strategic Plan Facilitator for the National LWML. Mike served as the LWML National Pastoral Counselor from 2007-2011.



# THANK YOU

Sue Frauenfeld shared a thank you note from LWML RMD scholarship recipient, Daniel Vanderhyde. The note read as follows:

"Dear Rocky Mountain LWML, Thank you for your support for me and my family during our seminary years! This is my final semester for the MDiv and we are amazed and thankful for the way God has provided for us through people like you! God's blessings on all the work you are doing! Thanks, Daniel and Jess, Eva, Caroline, Ellie, Caleb, Lydia, and Ezra."

LWML RMD awards scholarships to students attending synodical colleges and who plan to work in church service. You can find more information including an application form at [lwmlrmd.org](http://lwmlrmd.org) under resources. Or you can contact Sue Frauenfeld at [scholarships@lwmlrmd.org](mailto:scholarships@lwmlrmd.org)



Sue Frauenfeld  
SCHOLARSHIPS

## ARE YOU READY FOR CONVENTION?

The Winter 2024 issue of the Lutheran Woman's Quarterly has everything you need to know about the upcoming National Convention. Find out how you can be a part of "Growing in God's Grace" 2 Peter 3:18. The Nebraska North and South Districts are ready to welcome you to Omaha, June 26-29, 2025. Registration begins March 1-April 30, 2025. You can register late from May 1-June 1, 2025, but will pay \$50 more for late registration.

From the website, you can access a list of hotel information and catered meals, as well as speakers, Gifts from the Heart information, servant activities, and the mission goal/grants which delegates will vote on.

Don't miss out; register today! If you are an RMD delegate, most of your travel will be reimbursed. Contact President Shelley Stewart for more information.

## ATTENTION DRIVERS

Due to insurance requirements, LWML is requesting that those who drive other members to district or national meetings and events fill out a release form. The form can be found at the following address:

[https://lutheranwomensmissionaryleague.formstack.com/forms/transportation\\_release\\_driver](https://lutheranwomensmissionaryleague.formstack.com/forms/transportation_release_driver)

The purpose of this Transportation Acknowledgment & Release form is to identify each person (Driver) who provides transportation services on behalf of Lutheran Women's Missionary League national and/or district organizations.

# contact us

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*I lift up my eyes to the hills.  
From where does my help come?  
My help comes from the Lord,  
who made heaven and earth.*

Psalm 121: 1-2



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# connect with us

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