

## KANSAS DISTRICT OF THE LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE

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“Serve the Lord with Gladness” Psalm 100:2 Esther L. Ideker and Judy Carlson, Archivist/Historians

History of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League – Kansas District 2012-2014

### **Kansas District LWML Focus Areas, 2012-2014 Biennium**

- Growing in the Lord: Women of today find guidance for their lives, encouragement for their walk, and inspiration for joyful service through intentional study of the Word.
- Valuing All Women: Women of all ages, stages of life, races, locations, and cultures are welcomed, mentored, and encouraged to be active partners in the shared mission of the LWML.
- Living the Mission: As the “Face of LWML,” women are engaged in the opportunities to use their gifts to impact the world for Christ in their daily lives.

Membership reported by our President to the Recording Secretary of National LWML covering the biennium April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2013 in the 13 zones, comprised 134 units, 136 societies, and 2962 members.

Under the guidance of the **Kansas District LWML Executive Committee**, those serving during this biennium were:

President: Karen Morrison

Vice President for Caring Service: Gloria Raab

Vice President for Christian Life: Debbie Lehman

Vice President for Communications: Brenda Piester

Vice President for Special Focus Ministries: Becky Schotte

Vice President for Mission Outreach: Kim Burdett\*

Recording Secretary: LaJean Rinker

Financial Secretary: Kerri Lynne Brown

Treasurer: Marj Aufdemburge

Meeting Manager: Elaine Engelman

Pastoral Counselor: Pastor Gaylen Burrow

Pastoral Counselor: Pastor Jeff Duncan

\* appointed to unexpired term of Eden Keefe

### **Committee Chairmen and Appointed Personnel:**

Caring Service Committee Chairman: Laura Hunter

Christian Life Committee Chairman: Kris Osler

Special Focus Ministries Committee Chairman: Joylynn Harlow

Gospel Outreach Committee Chairman: Karen Eskew

Communication Committee Chairman and Sonshine Editor: Shelly Keller  
Distribution Manager/Sonshine and Quarterly: Cathi Clark  
PR Coordinator: Sherri Rose  
Store Manager: Tammy Songer  
Web Master: Mark Fuchs  
Facebook Chairman: Darla Abbott  
Structure Committee Chair: Kathryn Richard  
Archivist/Historian: Esther Ideker  
Assistant to Archivist/Historian: Judy Carlson  
Short-Term Mission Coordinator: Ann Jedele  
2014 District Convention Chair (Wichita Zone): Jean Wellner  
2014 Convention (Wichita Zone) Carol Nix  
2014 District Convention (SE Zone): Kathryn Richard  
2014 District Convention (SE Zone): Elaine Engelman  
Family Retreat Committee: 2012: Kathy Gehrke, Barb Hackbart, Karen Morrison, Marilyn Reimer, (2013) Sara Deepe  
Nominating Committee Consultant: Immediate Past President Betty Kruse  
Young Women Representatives to 2012 National LWML Convention, Pittsburg: Tiffany Harkins and Ann Harms

The proposed mission goal for the 2012-2014 was \$140,000.

Lutheran Family Retreat was held on August 3-5, 2012 at Camp Webster, Salina, KS with something for everyone: hiking, swimming, canoeing, paddleboats, archery, Frisbee golf, game night, low and high challenge courses, rappelling, climbing wall, zip line, crafts, game room, great food, campfire, devotions, singing, Bible study and making new friends. There were 102 in attendance. The retreat with the Kansas District LLL and LWML working together had been held for more than 50 years, with Rock Springs 4-H Ranch the location for a number of years.

Assembly of Leaders was held on August 24 and 25, 2012 at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Wichita. Bible study was based on "Your Strong Suit" Ephesians 6:10-18. Day of Prayer for 2012 for the Kansas District Disaster Fund final total was \$4,289.12. Payments made since the April Convention reported paid were: God's Gracious Gift Fund recipients totaling \$7000.00 to Grace Lutheran Social Ministry, Wichita (\$1050), Lutheran Family Retreat Scholarships (\$500), Capstone Ministries, Kenya (\$2,350), St. John Lutheran School, Alma (\$1,050), Orlovka Orphanage, Kyrgystan (\$1,050), and Zion Lutheran, Offerle (\$1,000). Mission Project #1 – Four School Roofs for Guinea (\$6,000) and Mission Project #2, Kansas Division of Orphan Grain Train, Stuttgart, KS (\$5,000) as well as Student Financial Aid – Fall Semester of \$10,350 had been paid with 29 students supported. The KAOL gathering was for school supplies for Grace Lutheran Church of Wichita.

LWML Sunday October 7, 2012 was observed in many Kansas District LWML societies with the theme: “Salted for Service,” based on Mark 9:50 authored by Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, President of LCMS.

October 9, 10, 11, 12, 2012 at Wichita, Hays, Salina and Topeka, were the dates of Lutheran World Relief pick up.

Karen Morrison, Brenda Piester and Kerri Lynne Brown attended the Inspiration 2012 Training Event in St. Louis, Missouri on October 19-21 with the theme: PING – Prepare, Inspire, Nourish and Go.

The 2013 Day of Prayer Service offering was designated for the Kansas District Guinea Task Force with the first \$1,000 to the choir in Gueckedou. The theme of the 2013 Prayer Service was “Joyful, Joyful!” authored by Rev. Larry A. Miller, Former LWML Pastoral Counselor, First Lutheran Church, Helena, Montana. Day of Prayer offerings for this project totaled \$4,000.86.

On June 27-30, 2013, 67 Kansas District LWML members attended the 35<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention at David L. Lawrence Convention Center, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania under the banner, “Quenched! by the Water. John 4:14: (Jesus said): ...” but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” Over 3,100 LWML members and guests were present. Voting delegates from Kansas were: Great Bend Zone: Kathie Thurman, Pratt; Herington Zone: Marilyn Reimer, Hillsboro; Hutchinson Zone: Jo Wiebe, Haven; K C. Crossroads Zone: Connie Denney, Leavenworth and Yvone Brown, Kansas City; Lincoln Zone, Janet Dowlin, Barnard; Linn Zone: Shawna Spiehs, Linn; Manhattan Zone: Peggy Flagler, Maple Hill; Northeast Zone: Dee Bacon, Holton; Northwest Zone: Gloria Gobin, Hill City; Southeast Zone: Susan Owens, Humboldt; Southwest Zone: Dorothy Sponsel, Ulysses, Topeka Zone: Ileen Meyer, Emporia; and Wichita Zone: Amanda Cornett and Lois Winter. Tiffany Harkins, Olathe, and Ann Harms, Wichita served as Young Representatives and had their photo taken with LCMS President, Rev. Matthew Harrison. From Kansas, Rev. Will and Patricia Main, Lutheran Campus Ministries directors at Haskell Indian Nations University, Lawrence, introduced two young women students and shared the ministry of the Light House at the Haskell campus.

One hundred twenty five Kansas District Leaders attended the KAOL event on August 23 and 24, 2013 at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Wichita. A video welcome given by President Kay Krelau was shown from the original PING training in October, 2012. The event was patterned after the national training event. The mite challenge of \$1,000.00 was toppled over and blessed with \$1,287.00. The ingathering of personal care items was to be given to homeless shelters in the Kansas City and Wichita areas.

October 6, 2013, LWML Sunday theme was “You Are My Witnesses,” Matt 35:55.64 authored by the Rev. Dr. Dien Taylor.

October 8, 9, 10, 11, were the dates of the 2013 LWR Pick-up. Totals for the four collection sites were 2,589 boxes and 53,171 lbs. Ken and Muriel Greene, Ada, Kansas, members of St. John's Lutheran Church, rural Lincoln, Kansas, having served 30 years as coordinators of the Lutheran World Relief pick-up in Kansas announced retirement. Ken and Muriel have traveled to the sites each fall with their RV with a big Lutheran World Relief magnet on the door, staying in church parking lots. They have directed the volunteers who load the trucks, and record the weight and number of boxes loaded. Fall Rallies were held in the Zones during the months of October.

Deb Burma was the Bible Study leader at the Christian Life Retreat on November 1 and 2, 2013, hosted by the Kansas District Christian Life Committee. "Living the Chocolate Life" Bible study was based on Ephesians 1:7-8. The event was held at the Double Tree, Wichita, Ks.

The 2014 LWML Day of Prayer Service "This is What We Are Baptized For—" authored by Rev. Bernhard Seter of North Dakota included an original hymn written by Rev. Seter which is based on the LWML pledge. Day of Prayer offerings were designated for LeadAChild (CCCS) school bus for Nigeria and amounted to \$3907.61.

The Kansas District 35<sup>th</sup> Biennial LWML Convention was held on March 28-30, 2014 at the Marriott Hotel and Convention Center, Wichita. The theme, "On Wings, Like Eagles," was based on Isaiah 40:31: "...but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." Total convention registration was 363 including 38 first time attendees, 16 Young Women Representatives and 2 teens. The Convention goal stated: Comfort for God's people comes from our hope in Christ, which assures our future, and from our renewal by the Holy Spirit, which empowers us daily to trade old for new. As our weakness gives way to God's strength, we are enabled to soar to new heights, grow in the Lord, value all women and live the mission.

Registration began at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, March 28, with banner practice, opening of exhibits, and choir practice before the Mentor Lunch with Young Women Representatives. Executive Committee, Past Presidents and District Committee Chairmen. Pre-convention activities began on Friday afternoon with Round Table Bible Study Samplers led by members of the Kansas District LWML Executive Committee:

Final Witness: Pastor Jeff Duncan  
At Table with Jesus – Brenda Piester and Elaine Engelman  
Bless These Lips –Kim Burdett and Gloria Raab  
Pew Sisters – Kerri Lynne Brown and LaJean Rinker  
I Surrender – Debbie Lehman and Marj Aufdemberge

These samplers were followed by the Mission Walk and Prayer Labyrinth. On Friday evening, an organ concert was presented by Brett Valliant prior to the Communion Service at Holy Cross Lutheran Church. Pastor Scott Snow of Holy Cross Lutheran served as Liturgist, Pastor Dan Myers of Holy Cross Lutheran as Celebrant, Junior Pastoral Counselor, Jeff Duncan, as Reader,

and Senior Pastoral Counselor Gaylen Burow as Proclaimer. Service music was provided by Pat Boughton and Judy Hanneman, piano, Brad Bone, trumpet; Jan Carduff, flute, and Deb Snow, organ. The convention choir, directed by Dodie Copley, Humboldt, sang two selections and the Bell Choir of Holy Cross Lutheran provided music for the procession.

The service began with a procession led by Crucifer, Rebekka Hepford and Acolytes, Anna and Debi Fiegenbaum. Carrying the LWML motto banner was Kelly Hamerle, the President's Page. The 35<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention Banner was carried by Elaine Engleman, who was accompanied by Convention Chairmen Jean Wellner and Carol Nix. The YWR banner was carried by Ann Harms. Each Zone President carried their Zone banner. Great Bend: Lisa Brack; Herington, Marilyn Reimer, Hutchinson: Mary Schmidt accompanied by YWR Zana Manche, Kansas City Crossroads: Tiffany Harkins accompanied by YWRs Alli Bauck and Amanda Williams; Lincoln: Beverly Wiese; Linn: Arlyce Klipp accompanied by YWR Helena Hagedorn; Manhattan: Judy Kolterman, accompanied by YWRs Christina Calvert and Lindsey Blevins; Northeast: Kathy Heiniger; Northwest: Janice Cundiff, accompanied by YWRs Danielle Leitner and Jessica Wyrill; Southeast: Kathy McGowen, accompanied by YWRs Heather Owens and Jenell Baker; Southwest: Bernie Reetz, accompanied by YWRs Tasha Jackson and Abby Hogan; Topeka: Cathi Temple, accompanied by YWRs Heather Rolf, Kathryn Hunter, and Kirsten Oschwald; and Wichita: Betty Amey, accompanied by YWR Naomi Budenholzer. Next in the procession were the four Past Presidents – Irene Duitsman, Velma Bass, Judy Carlson and Betty Kruse. The pastors of the LWML Wichita and Southeast Zones who participated in the celebration of Holy Communion were followed by Pastoral Counselors Jeff Duncan and Gaylen Burow. Completing the procession was the LWML Executive Committee composed of Marj Aufdemberge, Treasurer, LaJean Rinker, Recording Secretary, Kerri Lynne Brown, Financial Secretary, Gloria Raab, Vice President for Caring Service, Brenda Piester, Vice President for Communications, Debbie Lehman, Kim Burdett, Vice President for Mission Outreach, Karen Morrison, President and Lector, accompanied by Pat Riechert, LWML Vice President of Special Focus Ministries and Eden Keefe, LWML Vice President of Christian Life.

Saturday morning activities began with a Prayer Breakfast with Donna Pyle as guest presenter who spoke to us about comfort based on Is. 40:1: "Comfort, comfort my people, says your God." The First Session of the 35<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention was called to order at 8:30 a.m. on March 29, 2014, by President Karen Morrison. The Past Presidents led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and the Pledge to the Cross and led the League Pledge. The Past Presidents were introduced and a card was read from Cleone Neff who could not be present. Rev. Kris Whitby, past LWML Pastoral Counselor, led the first Bible study on Renewal. Pat Reichert, LWML Vice President of Special Focus Ministries brought greetings from President Kay Kreklau and the LWML Executive Committee. She invited us to the 2015 Convention in Des Moines and emphasized that "The Time is Now," to embrace and grow God's mission for the future.

Marj Aufdemberge, Treasurer, presented the Kansas District LWML Proposed Mission Goal for

2014-2016. of \$ 152,750.00 Karen Eskew, Mission Projects and God's Gracious Gift Fund Chairman, presented the Mission Projects proposals:

Proposed Mission Projects for 2014-2016 Biennium (delegates may vote for 4 projects):

1. The Lutheran Student Center – Wichita State University, Wichita, Ks. \$5,000
2. Concordia Seminary – St. Louis, Mo. – Food Bank \$5,000
3. Lutheran Braille Workers Kansas Work Center \$5,000
4. Lutheran Heritage Foundation-Lutheran Books in French for Africa \$5,000
5. Family Shield Ministries – Radio Stations in Kansas \$4,000
6. St. Paul Christian PreSchool, Fairview, KS. – Preschool equipment \$1,000
7. Kansas Division of Orphan Grain Train – Shipping costs \$5,000
8. Bethany Lutheran, Wichita, KS, Faith Legacy, Faith Ministry \$1,550
9. Children's Christian Concern Society, Lead Child-Bangladesh \$6,000
10. Holy Cross Lutheran Braille Work Center, Wichita, KS. – Braille Paper \$2,000
11. Christ the King, Salina, KS., P-98 Praise Band Equipment \$3,000

Proposed God's Gracious Gift Fund Grants for 2014-1016 Biennium (delegates may vote for 4 projects)

1. Scholarships for LLL/LWML Retreat \$1,000
2. Lutheran Student Center WSU, Wichita, KS \$1,000
3. Kansas Nebraska Good News Radio \$1,500
4. In His Hands Preschool/Day Care, Cheney, KS. \$ 540
5. The Christmas Store, Humboldt, KS \$ 500
6. Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo. \$1,000
7. Little Lamb Preschool, Salina, KS. \$4,000
8. St. Paul Lutheran Preschool, Preston, KS. \$ 850
9. Risen Savior Preschool, Wichita, KS \$ 500

The slate of officers for election was presented and the candidates introduced:

Vice President for Christian Life: Sharon Daugherty and Elaine Engelman

Vice President for Gospel Outreach: Bernie Reetz and Ella Schempp

Vice President for Special Focus Ministries: Sherri Rose and Shawna Spiels

Treasurer: Kim Burdett and Chyleen Pauesick

Pastoral Counselor: Rev. Luke Brown and Rev. Jay Hobson

Balloting took place at the end of the morning session.

At the second Convention Session, President Karen Morrison welcomed Oklahoma District President, Susan Brunkow, who brought greetings from our LWML sisters in Oklahoma. Pastor Jim and Sally Bender and two daughters, Meredith and Lydia, spoke to the assembly about their mission trip to Guinea last summer. They were there to assist missionaries Jack and Cathy

Carlos in Siguiri, Guinea Young Women Representatives to the National Convention in Pittsburg, Ann Harms and Tiffany Harkins, shared their experiences at the convention. They participated in the Servant Events and ingathering. They thanked everyone for making this mountain-top experience possible. Kansas District LCMS President, Keith Kohlmeier brought greetings from the Kansas District.

Interest Sessions followed:

- A. Rev. Geoff Boyle – Home Catechesis: Training Up Our Children in the Way They Should Go
- B. Karen Bartos – LWML Gift Planning Counselor Assistant, Gift Planning
- C. Carly Hatcher – M.O.S.T. Ministries
- D/E Donna Pyle: “Known by God”
- F. Rev. Tom and Arleta Harmon – Islam in the United States

Servant events followed. The evening began with a banquet with entertainment by the Vogts Sisters. This was followed by a presentation by the YWRs and a tribute to our dear departed LWML sister, Vice President of Special Focus Ministries Becky Schotte. The evening concluded with a 70’s celebration with a trivia contest and cupcakes.

The third Session came to order at 8:30 a.m. on March 30, 2014. The ladies from the Manhattan, Northeast and Linn Zones invited us to the 2016 Convention in Manhattan, Kansas on April 15-17. The theme for the convention is “For Such a Time As This,” based on Eph. 2:10. Laura Hunter, Chairman of Caring Service thanked St. John’s, Lincoln, for the 20 quilts which were tied at the servant event and reported 329 hygiene kits , 440 sacks for the lunch program in K. C, completion of 5 books of II Chronicles in Braille, and for 50 boxes of food and staples. LLL President John Johnson brought greetings from the Kansas District LLL.

Karen Eskew, Chairman of the Tellers gave the following report: These proposals will be funded in the amount of \$40,000:

- |   |               |
|---|---------------|
| 1. The Lutheran Student Center, WSU               | \$5,000       |
| 2. Concordia Seminary – St. Louis Food Bank       | \$5,000       |
| 3. Lutheran Braille Workers – KS Work Center      | \$5,000       |
| 4. Lutheran Heritage Foundation                   | \$5,000       |
| 5. Family Shield Ministries                       | \$4,000       |
| 6. St. Paul Preschool, Fairview, KS.              | \$1,000       |
| 7. Ks. Division, Orphan Grain Train               | \$5,000       |
| 8. Bethany, Wichita, KS. Faith Legacy             | \$1,550       |
| 9. CCCS LeadAChild/Bangledesh                     | \$6,000       |
| 10.Holy Cross, Wichita, Lutheran. Braille Workers | \$2,000       |
| 11. Christ the King, Salina, Praise Band          | \$ 450 (part) |

Election of Officers Ballot Results:

Mary Schmidt, Chairman of the Tellers for Election of Officers gave the following report:

Vice President of Christian Life:

Sharon Daugherty	65
Elaine Engelman	130

Vice President of Gospel Outreach:

Bernie Reetz	104
Ella Schempp	91

Vice President for Special Focus Ministries:

Sherry Rose	106
Shawna Spiels	90

Treasurer:

Kim Burdett	150
Chyleen Pausick	46

Pastoral Counselor:

Rev. Luke Brown	49
Rev. Jay Hobson	147

Kim Burdett, Chairman of the Tellers for the God's Gracious Gift Fund reported the following:

1. Scholarships for LLL/LWML Retreat	\$428.00
2. Lutheran Student Center, WSU	\$428.00
3. KS/Nebraska Good News Radio	\$428.00
4. In His Hands Preschool, Cheney	\$428/00
5. The Christmas Store, St. Peter's, Humboldt	\$428.00
6. Concordia Seminary, St. Louis	\$428.00
7. Little Lamb Preschool, Salina	0
8. St. Paul Lutheran Preschool, Preston	\$428.00
9. Risen Savior Preschool, Wichita	0

Pastor Whitby led the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bible Study on Strength. Grace is the source of strength God gives us throughout our lives. He gives us the strength so we can share His redeeming love and grace with others. Rev. Jeff Duncan conducted the service of installation of new officers and offered thanks to those who have served and leaving office/.

The closing Sunday morning worship service was led by Rev. Jay Hobson, newly elected Junior Pastoral Counselor and the message was given by Senior Pastoral Counselor Jeff Duncan. Music was provided by Risen Savior Praise Band. The 35<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention adjourned and the convention candle was extinguished.

Convention Offerings: #1 LWML Kansas District 2014-2016 Mission Projects	\$5,349.38
#2 Globally Engaged in Outreach Missionaries	\$4,132.28
Mission Walk/Prayer Labyrinth/Missionaries in Turkey	\$3,172.70



## **KANSAS DISTRICT LWML EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: 2014-2016**

President: Karen Morrison

Vice President for Caring Service: Gloria Raab

Vice President for Christian Life: Elaine Engelman

Vice President for Gospel Outreach: Bernie Reetz

Vice President for Communications: Brenda Piester

Vice President for Special Focus Ministries; Sherri Rose

Recording Secretary: LaJean Rinker

Financial Secretary: Kerri Lynne Brown

Treasurer: Kim Burdett

Meeting Manager: Debbie Lehman

Planner/Assistant to the President: Sharon Daugherty

Pastoral Counselor: Rev. Jeff Duncan

Pastoral Counselor: Rev. Jay Hobson

## **Committee Chairmen and Appointed Personnel: 2014-2016**

Caring Service Committee Chairman: Laura Hunter

Christian Life Committee Chairman: Tammy Singer

Special Focus Ministries Committee Chairman: Allison Lehman

Gospel Outreach Committee Chairman: Karen Eskew

Communication Committee Chairman and Sunshine Editor: Shelly Keller

Distribution Manager/Sunshine and Quarterly: Marj Aufdemberge

Public Relations: Communication Committee and Marj

Social Media Coordinator: Darla Abbott

Store Manager: Kathie Thurman

Web Master: Mark Fuchs

Technology Coordinator: Mandy Cornett

Structure Committee Chair: Kathryn Richard

Archivist/Historian: Esther Ideker

Assistant to Archivist/Historian: Judy Carlson

Short-Term Mission Coordinator: Ann Jedele

2016 District Convention Chair (N. E. Zone) Jill Lowe

2016 District Convention Co-Chair (Manhattan Zone) Gayle Grimm

2016 District Convention Co-Chair (Linn Zone) Lynette Scheele

Family Retreat Committee: Chyleen Pausick

Nominating Committee: Southeast Zone, Herington Zone, Lincoln Zone, Topeka Zone, Wichita Zone

Nominating Committee Consultant: Immediate Past President Betty Kruse

## **2014-2016 Kansas District Focus Areas:**

- **Nurturing Faith in Christ:** We are committed to helping every woman find personal opportunities in her daily life and in her congregation to be nurtured in faith in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit to discover her unique gifts and value in God's family.
- **Making our Mission Meaningful:** We challenge and equip women of all ages, stages, ethnicities, and experiences to make meaningful difference in the lives of hurting, helpless, and unbelieving people at home and throughout the world.
- **Sharing Encouragement:** We believe that women value the friendship, support and encouragement from other women and strive to offer warm, welcoming opportunities for women to grow in faith and relationships as sisters in Christ.

## **Calendar of Future Events:**

August 1-3, 2014 Lutheran Family Retreat, Camp Webster, Salina Theme: "Sent" John 20:21

October 5, 2014 LWML Sunday: "Fragrant Sacrifices and Offerings"

October 7, 8, 9, 10, 2014 Lutheran World Relief Pickup dates

LWML Kansas District Mission Statement: "Empowered by the Holy Spirit, the LWML Kansas District will nurture, motivate and prepare LCMS women to serve the Lord with gladness."

In closing this biennium historical report for 2012-2014, our prayer is for our Lord's continued guidance on the Kansas District LWML in our mission: "To serve the Lord with gladness." To God all praise and glory!

*"I remember the days of old. I meditate on all that You have done." Psalm 143:5*

Respectfully submitted,

Esther L. Ideker

Judy Carlson

Kansas District LWML Archivist/Historians

8-14-14