

Perspectives from President Bonnie



How quickly the months have flown by! It seems like we were just packing and heading to Albuquerque, now another year in ministry begins and Fall Celebrations and meetings have begun! I know those who attended the Convention returned home filled with joy from the work accomplished and the friends we spent time with, energized from the Bible study and mission presentations, exhausted but eager to share new challenges and opportunities for mission with their Zones!

It was exciting to set our new Mission goal of \$2,075,000! We will fund 22 grants in the next biennium, so we need to begin the work of collecting Mites and find creative ways to encourage giving. I encourage everyone who was unable to attend the convention to go on the LWML website and watch the videos of the Convention.

It was a pleasure to learn about the history of LWML and some of the women who served in ministry. It was also apparent to me that our history includes many changes, which have encouraged us to move forward in ministry and find new avenues of service. The new LWML logo was revealed and it was exciting to see us move forward and introduce a logo that touches the hearts of our women in different ways. Every woman can find a personal meaning in this logo.

I enjoyed meeting with our YWRs at the Convention and listening to their ideas for ministry that excites them. While they love spending time in God's word, they are not excited about meetings. But they are talking about a mission trip to Alaska and running a VBS! Different strokes for different folks; let's embrace their enthusiasm and encourage them. There's lots of room in the mission field for all kinds of service. One of my goals this year is to implement activities that will encourage more young women to join LWML and become our future.

I want to invite everyone to mark their calendars for June 8-10, 2018 and join us at the South Point in Las Vegas for our 2018 Convention! Bring your families and enjoy some of the sights and fun in Las Vegas! The Host Committee has some exciting activities planned, so don't miss this time of ministry, Bible study, fellowship, food and fun!

Joy from my heart to yours!
President Bonnie Karch



WOMEN OF THE WORD

500TH
Anniversary
OF THE REFORMATION

Ponderings from Pastor Brad



“You are wrong, so you should die.”

Does that sound a bit extreme? I sure hope so! We live in a world of extremes. Religious, political, cultural, sexual, sports – even soft drinks are extreme.

Extremism: “belief in and support for ideas that are very far from what most people consider correct or reasonable.” - Miriam-Webster. Do you hold opinions or beliefs that most would consider unreasonable? Research shows that about 1/3 of the world claims faith in Jesus Christ as Savior. That means that most people in the world (2/3) feel that Jesus is not God and does not save. So, Christianity is a minority religion, making those who insist on its validity and truth – Extremists.

Christianity is indeed a radical, an extreme religion. The Bible makes it quite clear that only those who are covered in the blood of Christ are saved from condemnation (John 3:16-18, 36; John 14:6; Acts 4:11-12; 1 Timothy 2:5; 1 John 5:11-12 and many more). To be a Christian is to trust that Jesus is fully God and fully man and that He lived a sinless life and died on Calvary’s cross for the sins of all humanity. To be a Christian is to trust that your sins are forgiven because Jesus paid the price for your sins (all of them). To be a Christian is to know that you are going to spend forever in God’s perfect paradise with all believers in the presence of the only God. To be a Christian is to know that all non-Christians are condemned to hell for all eternity, unless they are converted to faith in Christ by the working of God’s Holy Spirit. This message is a narrow-minded view.

But that does not mean that we are to go around beating, attacking, insulting, striking, or killing those who disagree with God’s Holy Word. We are called by God to realize that we too are sinful people, right along with the rest of humanity. We are to humbly live lives that reflect God’s perfect will so that we might reach others for salvation. If we are insulting and attacking those who do not share our faith, we are using Satan’s methods. We are called to bring Christ to the Nations, and to do so in such a way that others are snatched from the grasp of Satan by our sharing of God’s Holy Word.

Rather than insisting that I am entitled to have my way with things, I am called, you are called, we are called to live our lives as Christ’s ambassadors (2 Cor. 5:16-21). Paul writes to Pastor Timothy, **“Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory”** 2 Timothy 2:10 ESV. Maybe I won’t get my way, maybe I will have to let someone else think that they are better, that I am a loser, so that they might listen to God’s Holy Word and thus be saved.

So, Extremists – be extreme servants – for Christ’s sake.

Pastor Brad



**am free
from all, I
have
made
myself a
servant to
all, that I
might win
more of
them.**

**I have
become all
things to
all people,
that by all
means I
might
save
some. I do
it all for
the sake
of the
gospel,
that I may
share with
them in its
blessings.**

**1 Cor.
9:19, 22b-
23
ESV**



WOMEN OF THE WORD



Chatting with VP Christian Life, Chenette



Greetings in the Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ!
Summer is almost over and soon we will enter the Fall Season. The Fall season will lead to the Winter season. During the Fall and Winter seasons activities can be both joyful and stressful; fun yet tiring; exciting and at times depressing depending on where we are emotionally, physically, and spiritually. Thanksgiving and Christmas are holidays that we participate in and celebrate knowing that Christ is the center and the reason for our praise, worship, and thanksgiving. I pray that Christ remains the cornerstone of our lives during the holiday times and every



day in between.

Let's remember to lift our LWML women and their families in prayer. Let's remember to pray for our Lutheran pastors and their families; our fellow Christian clergy and members of the Christian church at large; our neighbors, co-workers; and our country. We can also use these upcoming seasons to check on our family and friends. Checking in with them can go a long way. Many times people need to hear a word of encouragement or hope to assist them when handling the many challenges that life presents. Let's remember to take the time to check in on someone. Whether we say hello; drop a note or card in the mail; send an email or text greeting; or connect via social media... trust and know that the kind gesture that you demonstrate will be welcomed and is able to provide much needed support.

"So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interest of others." – Philippians 2:1-4 ESV

I wish each of you a Happy Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year! God's peace, joy, and blessings,

Chenette Cole

PSD VP of Christian Life



To all Zone Presidents

Thank you to all who have sent in their information for Fall Celebrations and Rallies. To those who have not, please do so as soon as you can. This will help the Executive Committee to schedule their time in the fall. As you know there are only so many Saturdays and it is hard to get the executives to attend your event if they already have something scheduled.

Thank you all!

Barbara Carter, Assistant to the President



WOMEN OF THE WORD

Greetings from Growth & Development Chair, Linda



Greetings from Growth & Development! I am your current VP, Linda Moat. Growth & Development handles a variety of areas for LWML. One in particular is YWR. We were blessed to send three young women to the National Convention in June, where they were invigorated to get involved. I am excited to see what they have in store for the 2018 convention! Start thinking of young women in your zones and societies you would like to send to this next district convention to hear from these ladies. G&D also covers Bylaws, the very important guidelines each Zone and Society must maintain. Any changes that take place need to be looked over and reviewed by us. We are currently working on some changes, nothing too big, that have come down through National. Those should be distributed at the September Board of

Directors meeting for approval. A copy of the District Bylaws is on the website along with samples of Zone and Society Bylaws.

Leadership Training is another area G&D handles. I have been working with President Bonnie on some hour long training sessions for Zone Presidents, the first being rolled out at our September BOD meeting. I would love feedback from the Zone Presidents on your thoughts about the session.

On a personal note, many may have noticed I am a relatively new face to PSD LWML and that is very true. Growing up in a Lutheran church you would have thought I'd know all about us, but sadly that was not true. My parents were very active in our church but we did not have an active LWML. It wasn't until much later in my life, well into adulthood, that I saw my mom faithfully filling her mite box. Of course I had to ask what this little box was and why she was putting change into. Her answer was very thought provoking to me. How could something so small make such a huge difference?? When we joined our current church in 2010, Faith Lutheran in Hesperia, I was approached by someone most of you know, Lynda Viken, to come to an LWML meeting and Bible study. My first thought was: why aren't more young women involved? After attending a short while, sadly our treasurer became ill and I was asked to fill in for her. Of course I had absolutely no idea where that would lead me today! In each position I have filled, I find I have also grown. Of course that's God working in me! In serving on the current PSD Executive Committee I pray that I am always available to you. I may not have the answers but I will do my best to find them. I know it's not possible to get to all of them, but I would like to try and attend different Zone Celebrations so I get to meet as many of you as possible.

Blessings to you and yours as the new school year begins. Please pray for me as my youngest starts 4th grade and my gray hair really starts to show!

Linda Moat, VP G&D

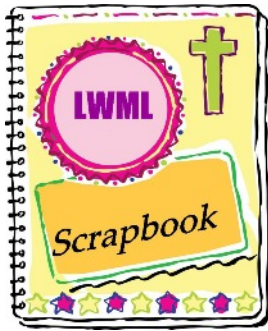


**DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**

Deadline for the Winter 2017 WOW is November 15, 2017. Please submit news from your societies/zones (pictures always welcome!) to lyndaviken@gmail.com.

WOMEN OF THE WORD

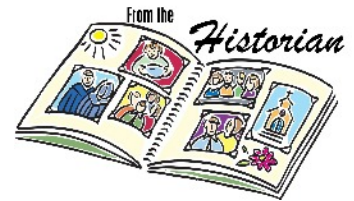
A LITTLE HISTORY, ANYONE?



The Pacific Southwest District LWML has a long and interesting history, and it has been my honor to serve as district archivist historian since fall, 2014. I have enjoyed learning more about the history of LWML, as well as being more involved in the current events at the district level. Some of my regular duties include keeping and filing signed copies of the minutes of the Executive Board and Board of Directors meetings, filing copies of all officers' reports, writing a biannual report to be filed at the national LWML archives, and maintaining records of conventions, retreats, and other events.

The district convention in June 2016 was a highlight for me. Preparing the historian exhibit was a lot of fun, and a challenge. My car was loaded with scrapbooks, banners from previous events, lots of memorabilia and more - and more and more. Fortunately, the convention was local for me; I only had to drive about 10 miles. And the response from those coming in to view the exhibit was very positive. It is always fun to see the 'stuff' that we collect from various events, so if you have an item that you no longer want, let me know. Maybe it will appear on a table or a display board at the next convention.

I have gathered a few guidelines for keeping the history of your society and zone in good order. (Keep in mind that these are guidelines, and not all units will be able to follow them to the letter.) I know that many of our zones do not have appointed historians. If at all possible, please try to find a person interested in keeping these records intact. If you would be interested in doing this at the zone level, be sure to let your zone president know.



Helpful Hints for Societies & Zones

1. Identify and date everything.
2. Label pictures accurately and clearly by including a piece of white paper with name(s), date, place and purpose. Do not write on back of photos unless you use a photo safe pencil. Photo safe boxes are available at most hobby or stationary stores. Ideally, photos are stored in these boxes rather than in scrapbooks.
3. Remove all tape, paper clips, and staples.
4. Photocopy all newspaper clippings; newsprint is very destructive to everything it touches. For copies, dry toner copiers and acid free paper are best.
5. Keep materials in labeled folders in the order in which they were produced. Non-acidic file folders and/or large envelopes are best for storage.
6. If scrapbooks are used, use those with acid free pages and top loaders of polypropylene for best protection.
7. Items to retain in society files include:
 - Society Charter



- Minutes of all meetings maintained in good order.
- One copy of the year-end financial reports
- Current copy of society bylaws and standing rules
- Program folders, brochures, name tags, mementos, etc. worth keeping for future enjoyment or reference

If you have any questions, or I can help you in any way, feel free to contact me. I am always happy to help, or at least to try..

Blessings,
Kim De Wolf



WOMEN OF THE WORD

WHEN YWRs & ALBUQUERQUE COLLIDE!

BREE

I am a fourth generation LWML woman. My great grandmother, grandmother and my mom were/are proud of their LWML membership. Throughout my entire life, they spoke of the friendships and the fellowship they found in this group. Even though I knew better, I had a preconceived notion (like many young women) that LWML was an organization of older women. When I applied for a YWR position, I did it out of love for the women of my family. I wanted to help preserve something they loved. I was wholly unprepared for what I experienced at the National Convention. LWML is a diverse group of women of all ages and all backgrounds. 81 young women were officially representing at the convention, but that number is small when I looked around and saw the sheer volume of YWR alumni who bore their pin with pride. It was at that moment that I realized LWML seemed like an organization of older women only because it was an organization that grew up with those women. The friendships made in LWML are lifelong friendships. The other YWRs, in both our district and in other districts, whom I now call friends, are going to be the same group of women I call friends when we are 40, 70, and beyond. That is the power of the bonds forged in LWML and fortified through fellowship, prayer, and sisterly love.



CRYSTAL

My name is Crystal Aguilar, I worship at Faith Lutheran Church in Hesperia California. I had the privilege to attend the LWML National Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico this past June as a young woman representative. When I say privilege, I mean it was truly an honor to be a part of such an amazing group of like-minded women of faith. The weekend was really packed full of various speakers, events, and new friends waiting to be met! I was amazed at how big LWML really is! One of my favorite moments I walked away with was of the big dazzle parade hosted the last night, showing LWML through the last 75 years. The one that stood out the most to me was during the civil rights era, when LWML was ahead of their time and stood against the majority even cancelling a convention at a hotel that refused to allow black women to attend. After this convention, I took away that LWML was and still is a force to be reckoned with.

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WOMEN OF THE WORD

WHEN YWRs & ALBUQUERQUE COLLIDE!

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My time in Albuquerque was amazing. As a YWR (Young Women Representative), we were given a very busy schedule, joining every part of the convention we could and soaking in all that it had to offer. Women from around the country came pouring in. In the airport, during layovers and picking up our bags, a sea of purple grew. There was no mistaking that LWML was there to take over the city!



My favorite part of the convention was actually before the convention – YWRs were encouraged to fill a slot to serve at the Gifts from the Heart booth. My fellow PSD YWRs and I were there early and asked if we could help with anything. Since the booth was not yet open, we assisted in setting it up, and, while we waited for the donations to come pouring in, we chatted with the wonderful ladies who were in charge of the booth. They were wonderful ladies who filled us with encouragement and stories of their time in LWML. Once registration opened, donations came pouring in! We set to work organizing gifts according to where they would go, and time went quickly. Anywhere we went as Young Women Representatives, we were greeted with thankful hearts, overjoyed to see “youth” (as they called it) joining the ranks of LWML.



While we had a spectacular time, we are also that much more determined to show our congregations how much LWML is in need of new faces, to continue the amazing work that God has done in the past 75 years.

As we move forward to expand the ranks of LWML, please keep us in your prayers. Pray for wisdom, encouragement, and a renewed drive to show our peers just how amazing this organization is, and all the ways that God is working through us, his hands and feet.

Parliamentary Procedures from Barb



Think about the order that is evident in God’s creation of this earth found in Genesis. In Leviticus we can also see tiny details that were important to our God – offerings had to be presented in certain ways, priests were instructed on how animals were to be cut and killed for sacrificial offerings.

1 Corinthians 14:40 – ***“But all things should be done decently and in order.” (ESV)*** We could translate this passage as: “Let everything be done in a fitting and proper manner that is organized, well planned, respectful, well-mannered, and polite.”

I think you are getting the message: Scripture shows that order and respect (parliamentary rules) are important to any business meeting of large and small groups. I hope that if you are a new member of our LWML District Board, you will learn something about these guidelines at each meeting, or if you are a seasoned member, you will be reminded of something you learned in the past.



Barbara Paetzel, Parliamentarian

WOMEN OF THE WORD



What is a Site/Travel Coordinator? What do they do?

The Site/Travel Coordinator for our Pacific Southwest District (PSD) Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) is a "busy bee" - making sure you all get where you're going, get there on time, and are comfortable as you travel. The Site/Travel Coordinator works with all the committees in our PSD LWML to schedule and book our District Conventions, our Retreats, our Executive Committee meetings, and our Board of Directors meetings - and a few things in between. So, when you get to the airport and your name is on the reservation list, you get to the hotel and you have a bed, lunch is ready at your BOD meeting, and all goes smoothly at the district convention - this is the Site/Travel Coordinator working behind the scenes to prepare your travel. The Site/Travel Coordinator tries to accommodate everyone's wishes (sometimes that happens, sometimes it doesn't!) However, it is important that if you have comments, suggestions, etc., you bring them up as soon as possible - so we can always improve the service you receive. LWML will pay for required travel and, at any time, any individual can reimburse LWML treasurer for their travel - to boost the Mite Goal monies. Have any questions? Please feel free to contact Susan Shiller, your Site/Travel Coordinator at [818-519-1122](tel:818-519-1122) or smshiller@aol.com



Susan M. Shiller



This month, we are going to ask our questions based on the PSD LWML website! (Psdlwml.com)

Website Trivia Questions:

1. Are you signed up for the e-mail blast?
2. Under which section can you find information about which mission grants have been paid?
3. Where can you find the calendar (not just upcoming events)?
4. Under which section can you find the names of the Zone Presidents?
5. Under which section can you find the application form for the Mission Grants as well as the guidelines?
6. Under which section can you find out information about the National Grants?
7. Where can you find a link to the National LWML website?
8. Under which section can you find information about the various Zone Celebrations?

Your 2016-2018 District Officers

President.....	Bonnie Karch
VP Christian Life.....	Chenette Cole
VP Communications.....	Lynda Viken
VP Gospel Outreach.....	Nancy Heredia
VP Growth & Development.....	Linda Moat
VP Human Care.....	JoAnne Sloan
Recording Secretary.....	Linda Merkle
Financial Secretary.....	Cynthia Burell
Treasurer.....	Nila Rodriguez
Sr. Pastoral Counselor.....	Rev. Brad Viken
Jr. Pastoral Counselor.....	Rev. Tim Blau

Congratulations to our trivia contest winner from the previous issue of WOW -

Judith Theel of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Kingman, AZ! Judie has won the beautiful coaster set pictured here. Judie is currently the Co-Host Chairman for the 2018 PSD LWML Convention in Las Vegas. She has served many offices in her society, zone and district over the years. Yet, she still found time to answer the trivia questions!! Whoot!! Congratulations, Judie!!

