



Perspectives from President Bonnie

My journey in LWML started 18 years ago when I joined Lamb of God Lutheran Church in Las Vegas. I sang in the choir and sat next to Henrietta Henlser. Every time there was a break in singing, she started talking to me about LWML. I knew about LWML because they had a very active society at Zion Lutheran in Anaheim where I grew up. But churches on military bases rarely had Lutheran chaplains and no LWML groups, so I never got involved in this ministry until Henrietta invited me. I finally agreed to join her at a society meeting so she would quit talking about it. Before the meeting ended, I knew that I would be back because I was spiritually energized during the Bible study and while listening to the work of the LWML. At the next meeting they asked me to be the Historian. I love doing scrapbooks so I said yes. A few weeks later, the president called and said the VP of Christian Life moved away and would I take that position. I said yes. A few weeks later the president called to tell me she was moving away and according to the bylaws, I was the president! When I told the ladies that I wasn't ready to be the president, they prayed with me and assured me they would be with me every step of the way. Then our Zone split into two zones and I was asked to be the Zone President. Well, the journey continued by my serving as VP of Growth and Development, Planner, Retreat Chairman and now President. This has been an amazing journey and I am blessed to be a part of a ministry that believes in Bible study, mission work, and encouraging one another. So, when you are asked to become involved in LWML, prayerfully consider where the Lord needs you, and know He will be with you every step of the way – and so will your LWML Sisters in Christ!



Convention

The time for our 2018 Convention is rapidly approaching! This is a time when we come together to worship, explore God's word, conduct business, sing, and enjoy fellowship. At the hotel, there are activities such as a bowling alley, movie theater, swimming pool, and golf. Within a short distance is the Cowabonga Water Park, Zip Lines, the Linq, Red Rock Canyon and lots of other unusual sights. Come early or stay late – make it a vacation for the family. They'll find lots to do while you're attending the convention.



I would like to stress how much work and planning has gone into this convention and also encourage you to attend, and to stay and eat at the South Point, where all the convention activities will occur. This hotel is packed every weekend. Eating elsewhere will be time consuming and hectic. Staying somewhere else will mean you encounter "weekend tourist traffic" on the I-15 which locals try to avoid. It's time consuming and frustrating. It may cost a little more, but it's important that we come together as LWML women in ministry and have time to share together during the serious and fun times. The bottom line is finance. We have to meet minimum food and beverage monetary requirements and hotel rooms to get the meeting rooms for free. If we don't meet the minimum requirements, we have to pay for the meeting rooms and hotel rooms. So, we as individuals may spend a little more, but as a group, we save a lot of money. I ask you, please stay with us and encourage your women to do the same.

Joyfully,

President Bonnie

WOMEN OF THE WORD

Pastor Brad,

Outgoing Pastoral Counselor



This is my last article for the Pacific Southwest District of the LWML. I have been in this district for 14 years and have been involved in the LWML most of that time. I was the Sage and Sand Zone Counselor for several years. I have been actively involved in the LWML for most of my ministry, either as Zone or District Pastoral Counselor. I served as pastoral counselor in the North Dakota district before moving to Southern California. My wife Lynda was also on the district

board during those years in North Dakota. As I served as Zone Counselor, I was approached on two separate occasions and asked to let my name stand for district counselor. On those two occasions, while I knew that I wanted to serve, I knew that the timing was not right. I had children in school and was busy with their activities, as that was a priority for me. So, when they were done with high school and I was asked again, I said yes, and was elected in San Diego almost four years ago.

Because I had served in the past, I thought I knew what to expect, but each district is different—and it was now more than 14 years ago. I have thoroughly enjoyed serving with the faithful women of the LWML and continue to count it as a highlight of my ministry. I have been blessed in so many different ways: through new friendships, many prayers, and great conversations about life and faith. I love having individual conversations with the many ladies around the district, and have many memories to share. I have a side of me that likes to be creative in various ways, and this position on both zone and district levels has given me opportunity to write lyrics for about 8 different hymns for zone celebrations and district conventions. I enjoy leading Bible study and worship, even beyond my own congregation, so this is a great opportunity.

I would strongly encourage anyone who might consider serving to say “yes” as it will be very rewarding. Yes, you will be busy, but it will be a blessing to you and many others in your life, and I guarantee, that if you allow it, you will make many new friends who share your faith and will be a part of your life for years to come.



Note from the Editor: You will notice the word “outgoing” a few times in this issue. This issue focuses on those officers who have served this District so well and so faithfully over the past four years. At the upcoming Convention, you, the women of our District LWML will be electing their predecessors. We’ve asked these faithful servants to share with us their ‘story’ about being part of this organization and a little bit of information on how things worked out for them. Words cannot express how grateful we are that God placed these people here “for such a time as this” and that they willfully followed His leading to be a blessing to us. We pray for God’s continued presence in their lives and His continued blessings on our District LWML



PSALM 100:2, ESV





WOMEN OF THE WORD



Linda Merkle,

Outgoing Recording Secretary

As we approach the new biennium, I recall how I began my journey in this office four years ago. I had run for this office once before, and lost. Marge Barckholtz, my Zone president at the time, suggested I run again. After much prayer and thought, I did submit my name for the ballot and was elected to the office. I expected this job to be fairly simple and straightforward, not much more than “taking minutes.” Instead, I was surprised by how detailed and structured, and how much of a blessing it has been.

As we prepare for the next district convention, I urge you all to consider my advice: if you are asked to run, jump at the opportunity. This office has been an immense source of joy for me, more than I could have ever imagined. While serving, I have strengthened friendships with my fellow LWMLers, instead of just knowing who they were, and I have discovered the impressive inner workings of LWML.



It has been my privilege to serve as the District Recording Secretary and as a “first-timer” as a District officer of the Pacific Southwest District of the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League for the past four years. Thank you for the opportunity to serve in this great organization. I pray for the Lord’s continued blessings as we move forward in the new biennium.

Linda Merkle



Nila Rodriguez, Outgoing Treasurer

Parting is such sweet sorrow . . .

After the officer elections at the June LWML PSD convention in Las Vegas, I will be leaving the office of District Treasurer. God had been preparing me for this role from a very young age. He gave me the love for numbers long, long ago. I have five older siblings and they found that, before I was even in school, if they taught me and prepared math problems for me, they could occupy my time so I wouldn’t bug them to play with them and their friends! And Mom was pretty pleased, too, when I begged to learn how to balance her checkbook when I was in 4th grade! God built me for this role as Treasurer. Yet all good things must come to an end, and I will be blessed with other ways to be involved in the mission field.



One thing that really surprised me was meeting all the other District Treasurers and Financial Secretaries at the gathering held by the national LWML Finance office at the Albuquerque convention. There are so many smart and gifted ladies in the LWML – and everyone is willing to share ideas and knowledge!

And guess what – YOU are a smart and gifted woman of LWML. I really want to encourage you to use your gifts and talents. Step out of your comfort zone and respond to the calling from God (via the Nominating Committee) with

“Here am I, send me”!!

Nila Rodriguez

WOMEN OF THE WORD

Mighty Mites Making a Difference

It is amazing how much can be done with a few coins. Remember when you had a piggy bank that you saved your money in? Maybe you saved up for a bike, a pair of roller skates, or a new outfit, and later, a car. At first it didn't seem like much money but as you added to that piggy bank, you could see the sum multiplying until you finally had enough money to afford what you wanted to buy.



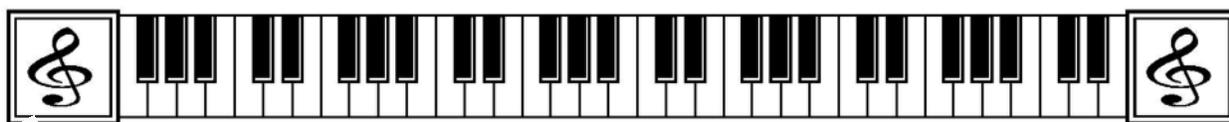
Thanks to the Lutheran Women's Missionary League and all the mite boxes that have been collected, you are helping to change lives around the Pacific Southwest District and around the world. These mighty mites make a difference in our zones, our churches, our communities, across the country, and in other nations as they bring blessings and the message of Jesus' love to many people who are lost, in need, feeling hopeless, or trying to find their way in a culturally biased society.

I am so impressed with the many ways Women in Mission have reached out to impact the lives of others. It is such an honor to be among this sisterhood of women who love and care for each other and share ideas with their sisters around the district. Thank you for being part of Women in Mission. Thank you for using the gifts God gave you to bring glory to his name. Thank you for sharing Jesus' love in action.



We are coming to the end of our biennium and this March will be the cut off for our mite collections. Let's really emphasize our mite giving right now, so that we can start our 2018-2020 biennium off strong. Hoping to see all of you at convention!

Love and Hugs, *Nancy Heredia*, VP Gospel Outreach



YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS!

Whether you want to be a spectator or whether you are willing to be a participant, this is the night for you!!

The Saturday night of the convention - you will have an amazing meal and then you will be part of our Series Finale of "LWML's Got Talent". Simon Cowell won't be there, but our head judge is none other than our own District President, Dr. Larry Stotereau!!

See you there!!





DON'T MISS THE DISTRICT CONVENTION!

June 8-10, 2018

South Point Hotel

Las Vegas, NV

Forms On the Website And Also in this Issue

**Registration Form (pages 1 & 2)
Mission Walk Registration
Talent Show Registration**

Hotel Information

Hotel Reservations must be done on the website or by calling 1-866-791-7626.

If you call: You MUST identify yourself as being with the **Lutheran Women's Missionary League, PSD District Convention.**

If you register on the Website: Got to Southpointcasino.com. Click on "Book Now." From there you can book your reservation using the code **LUT0606**

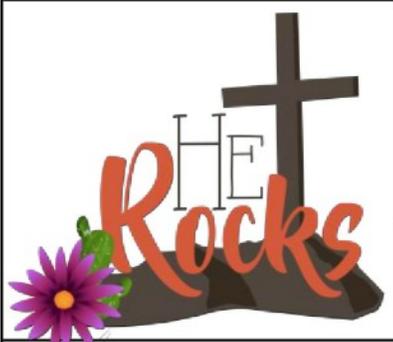
Convention Choir

Join your sisters in singing praise to our glorious God!

Women interested in singing please contact **Verla Niebuhr** by phone or text at **702.403.2720** or email: **verhelen25@gmail.com** to sign up. Please indicate if you are a Soprano I, Soprano II or Alto.



South Point Hotel



REGISTRATION FORM

LWML Pacific Southwest District Biennial Convention

June 8-10, 2018

South Point Resort, Las Vegas, NV

Only one (1) registrant per form. All persons in your party must register.

Circle if applicable: Heart to Heart Sister Young Woman Representative

Title (circle): Rev. Mr. Mrs. Ms.

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Emergency Contact _____ Phone _____

Church _____ City, State _____

Special diet needs: _____

Attention to those traveling by plane : _____ YES, I require transportation from airport.
(We will contact you for more information.)

Early Registration Fee (Packet & general expenses) postmark by FEBRUARY 1, 2018	\$ 165	\$ _____
Registration Fee (Packet & general expenses) postmark FEB 2 - MAY 8	\$ 175	\$ _____
Registration Fee - PASTORS/SPOUSE	\$ 100	\$ _____
Registration Fee - EXHIBITOR	\$ 115	\$ _____
Late Fee - postmark after MAY 8	\$ 25	\$ _____
Friday Boxed Lunch	\$ 25	\$ _____
Friday Dinner Buffet	\$ 48	\$ _____
Saturday Continental Breakfast	\$ 22	\$ _____
Saturday Boxed Lunch	\$ 25	\$ _____
Saturday Plated Dinner	\$ 55	\$ _____
Sunday Continental Breakfast	\$ 22	\$ _____
Convention Pin (indicate quantity)	\$ 5 X _____	\$ _____
Mission Walk T-Shirt - circle size below		\$ _____
S M L XL	\$ 14	
2XL 3XL 4XL	\$ 18	
Donation (to offset convention costs)		\$ _____
TOTAL		\$ _____

Make checks payable to PSD Lutheran Women's Missionary League
Mail registration form, check and a self-addressed/stamped 4-1/8" x 9-1/2" envelope to:

Sonya Higgins
P.O.Box 50254
Las Vegas, NV 89016

Questions? Call 702-458-3923. Email: snhiggins@cox.net

Office Use: Check # _____ Date: _____

Registration Deadline: MAY 25, 2018. No refunds after JUNE 1, 2018



PRE-CONVENTION SESSIONS REGISTRATION FORM LWML Pacific
 Southwest District Biennial Convention Friday, June 8, 2018
 South Point Resort, Las Vegas, Nevada

Name _____

(First)

(Last)

(e-mail address)

Friday Afternoon Pre-Convention Sessions – June 8, 2018

Register Early--Space IS Limited

Admittance to Pre-Convention Sessions by Pre-Registration only (realizing space is limited to a first-come first-served basis for each time slot, please indicate your first, second, and third preference by marking a "1, 2, or 3" in the appropriate box)

1:00-2:00	2:00-3:00	3:00-4:00	
			<p>Paper Bags and Paper Bookmarks of Love Create interesting thoughtful gifts for those who are ill or infirm with simple paper bags. Napa Room B 1:00-2:00pm</p>
			<p>Angel Beaded Bookmarks Create an Angel Bookmark for yourself or as a gift. Napa Room B 2:00-3:00pm</p>
			<p>Witness Bracelet Create a bracelet that will help you start a conversation about your relationship with God Napa Room B 2:00-3:00p</p>
			<p>Heart to Heart for Everyone Learn more about this important ministry with our own Angelina Jauregui Napa B 3:00-4:00pm</p>

Lutheran Women's Missionary League
Pacific Southwest District
Biennial Convention
June 8-10, 2018
South Point Hotel
Las Vegas, NV



MISSION WALK REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____
(Please Print)

Address: _____
(Street) (City/State) (Zip)

(Phone) (E-mail)

Medical Information: _____
(Allergies/Medications)

(Emergency Contact/Relationship/Phone)

WAIVER AND RELEASE

I will not enter the walk unless I am medically able. I agree to abide by all directives of the walk director relative to my ability to safely complete the walk. I assume all risks associated with walking in the event including, but not limited to, falls, contact with other participants, the effects of the weather, conditions of the walking surface, all such risks being known and understood.

Upon acceptance of my entry, I release the Lutheran Women's Mission League, The South Point Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada, sponsors their representatives and successors, from all claims or liabilities of any kind arising out of my participation in this event.

I grant permission to the LWML to use any photographs, video recordings or any other record of this activity for any legitimate purpose. In consideration of the safety of all participants I agree that baby joggers, baby strollers, headphones and animals, skateboards, skates and rollerblades are all prohibited.

I acknowledge and agree that LWML is a service agency of the Lutheran Church=Missouri Synod and cannot and does not accept any responsibility for my safety and well-being related to my participation in the walk.

Furthermore, I consent to such medical treatment as LWML, or any of its authorized representatives, deems necessary or appropriate in the event of my illness, accident or other medical emergency, and I accept full financial responsibility for fees and expenses relating to such treatment.

SIGNATURE: _____
(Participant, Parent or Guardian of Child under 18)

DATE: _____ PRINTED NAME: _____

“And all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ.” 1 Corinthians 10:4

LWML's got Talent

Talent Show
Saturday, June 9, 2018

*As part of the
PSD LWML District Convention
June 8-10, 2018*



Heran Women in Mission

What's Your Talent!!!



*Share your talent with your sisters (and brothers) in Christ at
our 2018 Pacific Southwest LWML District Convention!!*

Name (group, individual, etc - as you would like it announced):

Short description (Vocal, instrument, comedy, skit, lip sync, etc or any other information you would like announced:)

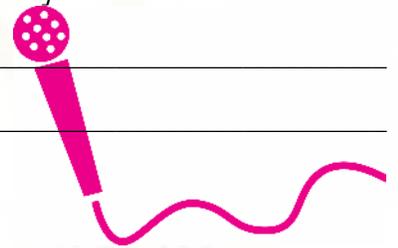
Equipment Needed: [Microphone(s), chair(s), table(s), keyboard]

Contact Person:

Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____



Please join us for the fun! Do not fear – Simon Cowell said he could not make it!! But wait til you see who will be there!! To sign up, please send this form to:

Lynda Viken
PO Box 400043
Hesperia, CA 92340
lyndaviken@gmail.com

