



Hello PSD Women (and Men) in Mission!

Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For he is our God and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. (Ps 95:6-7)

Wouldn't it be nice to hear someone say, "You are Treasured!"? Come join us at the LWML Pacific Southwest District convention in Tempe, Arizona, June 3-5, 2022, and you will hear how your Father in heaven treasures you! You can even buy a shirt that says, ***You are Treasured!*** Let your Pastor know that he is treasured by the LWML-PSD. Invite him to apply for a scholarship to join us – and his wife too! The scholarships cover registration and the three meals. If you stay at the hotel, breakfast is also included. The committees are getting their activities together and have so much planned for you. You will see all those details throughout this edition, as well as in the registration materials on the psdlwml.org website. Registration is open, so get yours completed and mailed today.

We thank those of you who participated in the PSD Connections Sessions by Zoom in 2021, where we featured a new pastor each month and a member of the LWML PSD Board and finished each session with time to connect. As we proceed into 2022, we hope you continue to join us for a time of Bible study by Zoom. We are beginning on the 3rd Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. (Pacific Time) with an LWML-sponsored one-session Bible study and prayer time for about an hour. Watch the email blast for the details. If you want to be added to the email blast, go to the psdlwml.org website and look for the blue envelope icon on the left called "Email Sign Up."

Spring Celebrations or Rallies at the Zone level are such a wonderful opportunity to get together with friends from other local churches. If your zone has not scheduled one yet, I encourage you to plan something fun at your church. There are a LOT of innovative ideas at the lwml.org website – search for "Faith Building Help," "Mission Service Activity" or "Prayer Service" as a starting point! My church just used the Prayer Service as a kick-off to our Visioning Process and it was really the best way to do so! What's Your 80?? The LWML is celebrating 80 years of God's Grace in 2022. To commemorate this special birthday, each person, group, zone, etc. is encouraged to reflect God's love by blessing others with 80 of something, remembering events from the last 80 years, or sharing legacy concepts for carrying forth the LWML mission. Be sure to take a picture of your 80 – details to follow on how to submit those to be included in a montage to be shared at the 2023 LWML Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

We are working on a fresh look for our website – psdlwml.org. I think you will like it, but keep in mind things will look a little different soon. The basic categories will be similar, so hopefully you will be able to find what you need or connect with the right person. We would love to hear your feedback.

I encourage you to stay in the Word, pray for each other, support your Mite Box, plan a servant or fellowship activity – and connect with your LWML Sisters and Brothers because **YOU ARE THE HEART** of LWML. May God bless and keep you until we see each other again!

Nila Rodriguez
LWML PSD District President



Chariots of Fire... Running the Race



The Counselor's Corner

Have you seen the 1981 movie, *Chariots of Fire*? What a moving and inspirational movie – the music alone is unbelievable! The movie was nominated for a total of seven different Academy Awards, winning four, including Best Picture, Best Music, and Original Score (I am writing this article the day after the Academy Awards Nominees were announced). The movie is about two runners who represent England in the 1924 Paris Olympics. Each of these two men, one a Jew and the other a Christian, must overcome numerous obstacles in order to run and achieve glory. A word of caution – if you do a Google search, you will find that not everything portrayed in the movie is as it actually happened ...

Remember the article I wrote for the Fall 2021 WOW? Using the movie *It's A Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World* to talk about the theme from the Lexington Convention ... “Running the Race ... Looking to Jesus”? If you haven't figured it out, *Chariots of Fire* R-E-A-L-L-Y fits that theme as well!!! My favorite quote from *Chariots of Fire* is from the Christian runner, Eric Liddell, who is also known as the ‘Flying Scotsman’: “I believe God made me for a purpose, but he also made me fast. And when I run I feel His pleasure.”

Isn't that also true about each and every one of us? Not only as a Christian, but also as an LWMLer! Let me re-write that movie quote – “I believe God made each one of us for a purpose. And He also made us LWMLers. And when we gather, we feel His pleasure.” Convention time is fast approaching. This will be the tenth LWML District Convention that I will attend (Grand Forks, Jamestown, Bottineau – God's Light Shines Bright! Fargo, Bismarck, Grand Forks again, Wahpeton, Anaheim, Las Vegas & now Tempe) along with eight National LWML Conventions (Tampa, Sioux Falls, Portland, Peoria, Pittsburgh, Albuquerque, Mobile, Lexington).

You may wonder, why so many Conventions? Not because I'm obligated to be there, not because I need to be there so that I can spend a bit more time with my wife (who is an LWML Junkie), but because, just like the movie *Chariots of Fire* – they are moving, inspirational, and the music is unbelievable! I attend because of the moving stories of how our mission dollars have been used for the glory of God! I attend because as mentioned in the re-quote – He made us LWMLers, and when we gather, we feel His pleasure. I attend because that is God's purpose for us! I attend to be reminded that before God, I am treasured!!

I look forward to gathering and seeing ALL of you in Tempe! And having you share with me your favorite quotes from *Chariots of Fire*!

I almost forgot – do you know the rest of the story about that Christian runner, Eric Liddell? *The Final Race*: the incredible World War II story of the Olympian who Inspired *Chariots of Fire* will tell you how he died living out his Christian faith.

In HIS service & love – Pastor Tim





Sleepless nights can create a whole gamut of feelings and emotions. They may be the result of cares and concerns of the day, multiple aches and pains in the body hindering a comfortable resting position, or struggling with the circumstances we have yet to face. It is seldom because we are overwhelmed with the realization that, no matter the causes, we remain in the presence of God. Wrapping a blanket around our heads in frustration is so much easier than wrapping our hearts and souls around the promises of God through His Word. During the passionate season of Lent there is a way to change that. Rather than giving up something for Lent, we can strive to take our eyes off ourselves and redirect the eyes of our hearts on the service we can do for Christ. Rather than “giving up” something for Lent, perhaps “giving to” others for Him is the answer. It may not change our sleepless nights, but it will prepare our minds to praise Him as long as we live, to be satisfied with the rich Spiritual food He has to offer, and to sing for joy under the cover of His wings. In these moments, we are in the presence of God. Find this single-session Bible study on Joy in the Journey at [Making Lent an Opportunity](#) or with [Leader Guide](#)

Posted on LWML October 22, 2020 3:05 PM by System Administrator

Quarterly Subscription Renewals Due Deadline - April 1, 2022

It is that time of year to renew your *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* subscriptions. The price of each subscription remains the same as last year, which is \$6.00 each for orders of 10 copies or more or \$7.50 each for orders from 1-9 copies. Please use the Quarterly Order Form (2021) that is found on psdlwml.org under Forms and Resources, Quarterly Subscription. Your orders should be sent to District Financial Secretary, Barb Virus. Her contact information is stated on the form.

Did you know that we have beautifully designed **Memorial Cards** to use in honor of a loved one's special occasion or in memory of someone who has gone to be with the Lord? Undesignated gifts accompanying these honorarium/memorial cards go to District Mission Grants. Contact me for information. As your group officers may have held elections and new leaders are taking on new roles, please be sure that your church group treasurer has the correct information to send mite offerings. God's blessings!

Barb Virus District Financial Secretary 2021-2024
542 E Lomita Ave., Orange, CA 92867-6848
714-801-5252 bvirus@juno.com

District Mission Grants Paid in Full

Woo Hoo! All of our 2020-2022 District Mission Grants have been paid thanks to all your generous mite contributions. But don't stop there. We need to start collecting mites for our new District Mission grants that will be voted on at the June 2022 convention.

Grant #4 Lutheran Indian Ministries Phoenix, AZ was withdrawn. Our bylaws state that the mission grants must be within the Pacific Southwest District. This ministry has pulled out of our District and is focusing on other areas within the United States at this time. Hopefully they will be able to reopen a ministry with our District in the future.





Convention Updates



Two Shirt Styles Available - Both styles are 4.3-ounce, 100% ring spun combed cotton in Heathered Loganberry.

All Mission Walk participants receive this special t-shirt as part of the Mission Walk registration fee on the convention registration form.

If you do not intend to participate in the Mission Walk, you may order a shirt on the convention registration form.

If you have not already registered for the convention, what are you waiting for? Get your registration in as soon as possible! Also don't forget to let your pastors know that they are invited as well and there are scholarships available to pay for their registration and meals. All registration forms are on the website for you to download.

It's time to lace up your walking shoes! Complete your registration forms for the 2022 LWML Southwest District Convention and Mission Walk. Then come join us in Tempe, Arizona for an early morning walk on Saturday, June 4, 2022. Awake to the beautiful Arizona Sunrise, fellowship in prayer and a brisk walk at the Embassy Suites by Hilton. The majority of the walking path will be sidewalk, and shaded by the beautiful hotel and lush landscape. Join in prayer and fellowship as you walk to support worldwide missions, it will be "Treasured Walk". Be sure to print the pledge form included in the registration packet and order a shirt to witness the message, YOU are Treasured! The pledges collected will go to support the district mission grant goal. For more information on missions, visit psdlwml.org/mission-grants

COVID Statement – District Convention – June 3-5, 2022

Concern has been expressed whether the District Convention will go forward due to the uptick in COVID in our states. LWML Pacific Southwest District President Nila Rodriguez and the Host Convention Committee are proceeding with plans for the District Convention to occur as scheduled. There are no restrictions in place as to masking or social distancing at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Tempe, Arizona. Staff do wear masks and deep-cleaning protocols are in place. We encourage you to register for the convention as soon as you are able. In the unlikely event the convention is cancelled, refunds will be given to those who registered. Please watch the psdlwml.org website for updates.

Another casualty of COVID has been the hotel shuttle at the Embassy Suites in Tempe. **There will be no hotel shuttle**, but the Hospitality Committee is working hard to provide airport pick-up and return. When a convention registrant receives their confirmation they will also receive a "Travel Information and Request for Hotel Shuttle" form if that person indicated they were traveling by air. Please complete that form and return to Marion Herzinger, our Hospitality Committee Chairman (address on form), so we may better assist you.

Please communicate this information to your zone boards and local societies.

Kathy Baumhofer, 2022 Convention Co-Chairman 480-577-3755

Men's Bible Breakfast at Convention!

Don't adjust your glasses or eyes – you read that correctly! At the Tempe Convention this June, a Men's Bible Breakfast will be offered for all those 'LWML Groupies' – those husbands of avid LWML members who go with their wives to Convention. It will take place Saturday morning with both the Convention Counselor Pastor Dave Poedel and our Senior Counselor Pastor Tim Jenks.

If your husband will be at Convention, or if you know of any men who will be at Convention, or if your pastor attends Convention (please encourage him to do so!!!) please get their info (email and mailing address) to Pastor Tim Jenks so they might receive a special invitation to this Men's Bible Breakfast, which will take place immediately following the Mission Walk! Remember – even those husbands should be in God's Word to be reminded that they also are Treasured!



Since 1942 the LWML has been proclaiming Christ, supporting missions, equipping women, and serving others. What do you have planned to celebrate these last 80 years? Will your group donate 80 cans of food to the local food bank? Could your group donate an extra \$800 to your district? Maybe each zone could donate 80 pairs of socks to a local homeless shelter. Think out of the ordinary and share your ideas, spreading the excitement of this milestone with others. Don't forget to take photos of each activity for the photo montage to be shown at the 2023 LWML Convention in Milwaukee.

2023 National Convention Polo

The Order Form is available on the 2023 Convention webpage. Now is your chance to order a shirt for yourself. The Convention Programming Committee would be thrilled if you would wear it at upcoming district gatherings - meetings, conventions, retreats, etc. Thank you for helping the Convention Host Committee by purchasing a beautiful polo shirt! Here's the direct link to the form: [2023 Convention Polo Shirt](#)

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) Nominating Committee has asked for nominations to be considered for election at the 2023 LWML Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.



Offices to be filled are: **President, Vice President of Organizational Resources, Vice President of Special Focus Ministries, Treasurer and Nominating Committee (5).** Any member of the LWML may suggest a name to be considered for nomination. **The deadline for nominations is August 15, 2022.** [Guidelines for Selection of Nominees](#)
lwml.org/nominations [Nomination Form for Officers and Nominating Committee](#)

New LWML Church Workers in Mission Brochure Available

The 2021-2023 Church Workers in Mission Committee's purpose statements reads: Engage all pastors and church workers and build relationships as we partner in spreading the Gospel; and provide LWML resources and support to involve and connect all LCMS rostered workers.

Their committee's goal is to offer helpful resources to the women of the LCMS to reach out and care for church workers in a variety of formats. It is important that church workers know they are appreciated, whether they are newly called church workers or have been serving for many years.

The committee supports and encourages local LWML groups to partner with pastors, deaconesses, Directors of Christian Education, teachers, and all other church workers. The committee wants to also encourage them to connect with new called church workers as well. Check out the new online brochure that you can share with your church workers at

[Church Workers in Mission](#) — *And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ (Ephesians 4:11-12).*





Imagine that Herb and Edith are core members of their congregation. They have raised three children in the faith, as those children attended the Lutheran school. Now six of their seven grandchildren are attending that same Lutheran school.

Herb is a retired plumber. Together with Edith they ran their own plumbing business. The Lord blessed them with success. Five years ago they sold the business to someone else. The business maintains its original name and all the clientele passed to the new owner. When they sold it, it netted them \$800,000, in addition to the \$2 million they have saved in their retirement account.

Ten years earlier they had created an estate plan with their attorney. That was before they sold their business. At the time, they had created a \$20,000 gift to ministry as a "tithe" of what would pass through their will. They had not even considered making a gift from the leftovers of their IRA when the Lord calls them home. They put the \$800,000 into an investment account and now it is worth \$1.4 million. At the end of their earthly life they expect there will be over \$2 million of assets remaining, and the investment account and IRA have their children receiving 100% of these assets through beneficiary designation.

In recent months, motivated by their thankfulness for the ministry of their home congregation and a desire to see its ministry continue long into the future, they have reconsidered their plan for gifting. They are wondering how to calculate the size of the ministry gift coming from their will. They are also wanting to add to it with disbursements from their investments and IRA. They are wondering from which fund they should choose and how to fill out the beneficiary designation forms correctly. They want to make a \$500,000 gift to their church for the sake of scholarships for the school. Much to their surprise, each of their children will receive \$500,000 as well.

In a situation like this, your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can help to cut through the clutter and to illustrate options, looking to optimize tax savings as well. She can coordinate work with your professionals, attorney, tax advisor and financial advisor. Contact Linda Gage, LWML Gift Planning Counselor, for more information.

Email: Linda.Gage@lfnd.org Phone: 800-741-4138 lwmlgiftplan.org

As the 2020-2022 biennium comes to a close, I thank God for all of the people of the Pacific Southwest District who have supported the LWML Mission Goal with their mite offerings and prayers. All of the coins, currency and checks combine together to share the Good News of Jesus near and far. Please continue to be generous with your mite offerings as our District will soon have new mission grants to support as well as the national mission goal.

Let all you do be done in love. 1 Corinthians 16:4
Barb Virus, LWML PSD Financial Secretary 2021-2024
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Million Dollar Life Match applications now open



A baby sleeps at Redeeming Life Maternity Home in Sanford, Fla. The support of maternity homes such as Redeeming Life is one possible use of grant funds in the Synod's Million Dollar Life Match initiative. (LCMS/Erik M. Lunsford)

Applications are now open for the [1 John 3 Initiative Million Dollar Life Match](#), a program of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) that seeks to support LCMS congregations involved in providing beginning-of-life care in their local communities. The program allows for up to \$1 million in matching-fund grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$50,000. Any LCMS congregation is eligible to apply.

Some possible uses of the funds are:

- Congregational efforts in pregnancy and infant support (for example, Swaddling Clothes).
- Congregational partnerships with LCMS Recognized Service Organizations in adoption services and maternal and family support (for example, Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries).
- Congregational partnerships with Christian pregnancy resource centers (for example, Care Net).

The above list should not be considered comprehensive or limiting to congregations that wish to apply for a grant. If desired, congregations and circuits may collaborate on a project and application. The congregation completing the application will be the one to receive the grant award.

The Million Dollar Life Match grant process will be conducted in three phases, with the following application deadlines and award dates:

- Phase 1: Applications are due April 8, with awards made in June and reports due Nov. 15.
- Phase 2: Applications are due July 1, with awards made in September and reports due March 1, 2023.
- Phase 3: Applications are due April 1, 2023, with awards made in June 2023 and reports due Nov. 1, 2023

For more information, or to begin the application process, visit the [Million Dollar Life Match webpage](#).

Questions - Kris Freeman, manager of LCMS Life Ministry, at lifeministry@lcms.org or 314-996-1217

The Reporter

Posted Jan. 21, 2022



Around the District...Jesus' Love in Action



Desert Red Rock - ZONE 31/32

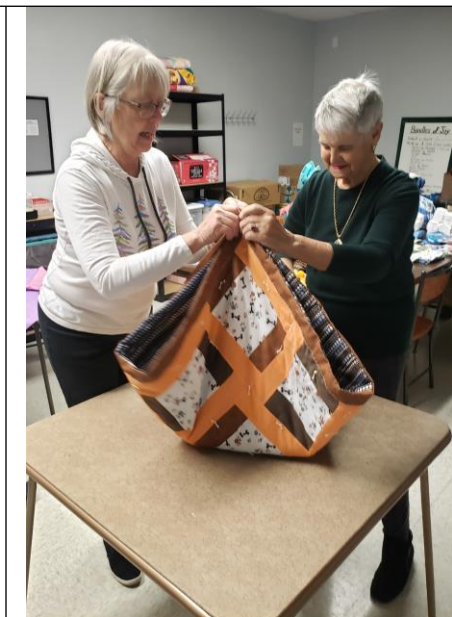
Grace Lutheran Church LWML in Henderson, NV, had a Baby Shower for Jesus in December. They collected over \$2,000 in clothing and baby essentials to create eight layettes made with laundry baskets. Each layette included a list of baby items requested by the Women's Resource Center in Las Vegas, NV. This included new items that go into a baby layette: 4 blankets (2 large, 2 receiving), 1 package of newborn or size 1 diapers, 1 tub of wipes, 3 bottles, 1 towel and 4 wash cloths, 4 pajamas (assorted sizes - newborn, 3 months, 6 months, 9 months), 4 onesies, 3 outfits, 4 pairs of socks, 1 pair of shoes, 2 hats, 4 bibs, 2 pacifiers, 1 new stuffed animal, 1 rattle or other small toy, 2 Bibles - for mom and child, one each of shampoo, baby wash, and rash ointment. The congregation enjoyed shopping for all the items needed by selecting a card with specific items needed for either a boy or girl. The 2 large baby quilts were donated by the Grace Quilters. At the shower, LWML member, Paula Voightmann spoke about her mission work with children that had been abandoned at an orphanage in China. The LWML has committed to continue supporting the Women's Resource Center in the future with more "Baby Showers for Jesus."



Around the District...Jesus' Love in Action

Desert - ZONE 25

Christ Lutheran Church LWML in Yuma, AZ is busy in the **DO ROOM**. We assembled eight **Bundles of Joy**. We will deliver them to the hospital to give as gifts to new moms. Last month we delivered seven to the Life Pregnancy Center. We are going to try to assemble eight bundles a month. The cards attached to the outside of each bundle are blue for boy and pink for girl. Shown in the pictures are the front side, back side, and inside of card.



Around the District...Jesus' Love in Action

Saguaro - ZONE 26

Crown of Life LWML in Sun City West, Arizona celebrated **Advent by Candlelight** on Tuesday, December 14, 2021. The tables were decorated with a variety of Nativities. Pastor Phillip Robbins shared the advent message and Damon Bailey from Youth Haven was our speaker. Youth Haven in Eloy, Arizona provides life-changing, Christ-centered experiences and fills the needs of disadvantaged children, as they discover that someone loves and cares for each one of them. Our church donated a variety of toys to help make Christmas special for these children.



Around the District...Jesus' Love in Action

Palm - ZONE 19

“What should we do when a needy person asks for money?” was the question posed to a speaker on homelessness at a recent **Trinity Lutheran, Indio, CA LWML** meeting. “Give them a Mercy Bag.” Mercy Bags are one gallon plastic bags containing a small can of Vienna sausage, fruit cup, small water, energy bar, fork, spoon, religious insert, and directions to the homeless shelter. At a recent 5th Sunday picnic, the ladies of the LWML invited the members of the congregation to fill bags and take them with them to give out as needed. They also recently made up gift bags for residents of a convalescent hospital. The items were writing implements, small note pad, small calendar, lotion, lip balm, and a religious tract.



You're Invited ... To Bible study via Zoom 3rd Monday of the month

Isn't it great to stay connected to your sisters in Christ?

Go to psdlwml.org and select EMAIL SIGN-UP at the top left side of the Home Page to get the Zoom notices. Join the fun!

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Nancy Heredia, Editor and Layout

Pastor Ramon Contreras, Doctrinal Review

Kathy Baumhofer, Copy Reader

Linda Koch, Copy Reader

Email news in word document and pictures in jpeg to wow@psdlwml.org

Summer submission due May 15, 2022

Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/psdlwml post pictures and make comments but remember not to tag photos.

