



**LUTHERAN WOMEN IN MISSION  
PACIFIC SOUTHWEST DISTRICT CONVENTION  
JUNE 5-7, 2026 – WARNER CENTER MARRIOTT, WOODLAND HILLS, CA**

The 2026 Convention Hosting Zones 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 invite you to join us in the beautiful San Fernando Valley in California where we will explore the theme "Whatever!" based on Philippians 4:8:

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

With the help of our Bible study leaders Deb Burma and Cindy Steinbeck, we will focus on whatever is true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, commendable, excellent, and worthy of praise.

Expanding on our theme will be a pre-convention session by Kari Vo, who will also provide another special session on Saturday at lunch.

On Friday afternoon, there is an opportunity to hear from a wide variety of speakers, participate in servant events, and visit our exhibitors.

Friday evening, we officially begin convention with the Opening Worship Service at Canoga Park Lutheran Church, about two miles from the hotel. The congregation has invited everyone to a reception following the service.

Saturday's activities will include a mission walk to raise funds for mission grants, a Men's Bible study, time in God's Word, learning about mission projects, great food, awesome fellowship, fun, and entertainment, which includes the music of Kedma Wenz, and an 80's-themed Name that Tune.

We look forward to seeing you in Woodland Hills, where we can be "valley girls" together!

Nila Rodriguez and Michelle Jenks  
HOST COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

CONVENTION PINS  
select  
"Convention Pin" on your  
registration form for a  
"Whatever!" Convention Pin.



## Important Information to Read Before You Register



### Heart-to-Heart Sisters



Welcome, Heart-to-Heart Sisters!

(If you are ethnically diverse, feel free to join us!)

We invite you to connect with other ethnic women from across our Pacific Southwest District for a time of meaningful fellowship, encouragement, and joy in the Lord.

Share how you're spreading the Gospel in your community and be inspired by others as we support one another in using our God-given gifts, skills, and talents for His glory.

Learn more about how we are part of the sisterhood and global mission of the LWML.

Join us on Friday, June 5 at 4:30 PM in Salon H-I

Then, come back Friday evening after the Opening Worship Service for a time of fun and friendly competition with board games—also in Salon H-I.

We can't wait to see you there!

### Join the Mission Walk

Raise money toward our mission goal and stroll the grounds of the Warner Center Marriott with fellow "valley girls."

All Mission Walk participants receive the choice of a feminine cut or unisex crew neck shirt as part of the Mission Walk registration fee. The feminine cut style runs smaller, so consider ordering one size larger than your actual size.

If you wish to support mission goal funds and receive a shirt without walking, register as a Mission Walk contributor.

Pick up your shirt at the Mission Walk table when you arrive at the convention. Don't forget to drop off your donations for mission grants at the same time.



### Gifts From the Heart

Your Gifts From the Heart for our convention will provide help to three local organizations. This year we are asking for gift cards. We ask that you mark your donated gift cards with the dollar value in permanent marker. We suggest gift cards in the amount of \$25 or \$50 for these categories:

Gas gift cards  
Uber gift cards  
Walmart gift cards  
Target gift cards

### Our Gifts From the Heart Recipients

**Sarah's House in Simi Valley, CA** is committed to ending the cycle of homelessness and abuse in women and children through comprehensive case management, counseling, educational classes, and resources through pregnancy and beyond. They have been sharing Christ, saving lives, and strengthening families for over 34 years.

**Impact Ministries**, sponsored by Zone 1 & 2, is the ministry started by Pastor Eddie and Alice Perez. The goal is to minister to single mothers and women who have been released from incarceration, who are struggling with addiction, or who are healing after being trafficked.

**Avenues Crisis Pregnancy Clinic of Southern California in Glendale, CA**, is a licensed medical clinic serving the Southern California community for 25 years. As a Christ-centered organization, their mission is to protect women and men facing unplanned pregnancies and preserve the life of the unborn, with evangelism at the core of their ministry. Their dedicated staff and volunteers are committed to providing unconditional love and support to anyone facing a crisis pregnancy.

## Child Care

Child Care and Youth Activities will be held Saturday, June 6, beginning at 8 a.m. for the morning session and 1:15 p.m. for the afternoon session. Children up to 12 years old whose parent(s) are attending the 2026 LVVML Convention may register for child care and youth activities.

Childcare will be located in the Malibu Room, across the hall from the convention ballroom.

Children will participate in a variety of age-appropriate activities (e.g. crafts, Bible stories, games, sing-a-longs, etc.).

**Admission and snacks  
are included in the registration fee.**

Please denote any allergies on the registration so appropriate snacks can be ordered.

Due to space limitations, children must be pre-registered to participate.

To allow for preparation of on-site activities and appropriate staffing levels, all registrations must be received by May 1, 2026. NO on-site registration is available for Child Care.

## Young Women

Step into an event designed to inspire, empower, and unite! The 2026 LVVML District Convention -Whatever!!- is more than just a gathering—it's a chance to connect with other women your age who are passionate about making a difference.

From engaging speakers to meaningful conversations, you'll find encouragement for your journey with Christ while also helping raise funds to support missions that bring hope and practical aid to communities around our District.

Together, we can use our voices, talents, and energy to create lasting change. Don't miss this opportunity to be part of something bigger—come ready to grow, connect, and impact lives!

**Scholarships** for registration and meals are available! Check [PSDLVVML.org](https://PSDLVVML.org) for these forms by selecting Resources and clicking on General Forms - deadline of March 31, 2026.



Convention 3



## For Sure, Fer Shur, Coffee for Everyone

Like, you all know how much we Lutherans love coffee, strong or weak, day or night, so.... Gather all your faves - your Congregation, co-workers, friends, family, neighborhood and/or your LVVML group or zone and share in a way to participate in our totally awesome 2026 LVVML-PSD '80's-themed Convention.

### BECOME A COFFEE SPONSOR!



Like, you can do this for a \$300 donation! I kid you not, you'll get special recognition in the really rad Convention Manual and at the coffee station during the convention. It'll be simply outrageous, not to mention fun. The Coffee Sponsorship Form will be available on our stellar website soon.

Don't be an airhead, check it out!!

## CONVENTION CHOIR



**CHOIR MEMBERS NEEDED FOR  
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP, JUNE 7**



**DO YOU ENJOY SINGING PRAISES TO THE LORD?  
JOIN THE 2026 PSD LVVML CONVENTION CHOIR.**

**CLICK THE CHOIR BOX WHEN YOU  
REGISTER AND THE COST OF \$5.00  
FOR SHEET MUSIC WILL BE ADDED TO YOUR REGISTRATION  
FEE.**

**REHEARSAL WILL BE HELD ON  
SATURDAY AFTERNOON AT 5 P.M. IN SALON A.**

**YOU WILL RECEIVE INFORMATION  
ON THE CHOIR DIRECTOR AND  
MUSIC SELECTION AFTER YOUR REGISTRATION IS RECEIVED.**



**BRING YOUR  
OWN BAG**

**NEW THIS YEAR... BYOB to the Convention!** We are going eco-friendly this year by asking attendees to re-use a bag from a prior convention (district or national) or event. What a fun way to share memories of prior conventions or LVVML gatherings. Prizes will be awarded for the oldest, newest and furthest distance bags. We will have bags on hand should you forget to bring one. Can't wait to see what you bring!



## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

### REGISTRATION FOR THE CONVENTION WILL BE ONLINE ONLY

Log on to [psdlwml.org](http://psdlwml.org). Select the "Events" tab, the "2026 LWML PSD Convention" link and the "Register Here link." The registration form will lead you through the possible selections. You may select Pre-Convention Sessions, order a Mission Walk T-shirt, choose a special luncheon or post-convention tour, purchase meals, and lastly, submit your payment. Confirmation of your registration will be sent to you via email. If you don't receive a confirmation email, check your spam/junk folder. If none found, contact the Registrar, Stephanie Arruda, at [sarruda818@gmail.com](mailto:sarruda818@gmail.com).

### You must have an email address to register.

If you do not have an email, ask your church secretary, a friend, or family member if they are willing to receive convention information on your behalf. The same email may be used for more than one attendee. Know the name or number of your District Zone e.g., Estrella Zone 29, when you register.

Delegates are voting members and are generally selected by your group or zone. Voting credentials must be submitted to Kathy Baumhofer at [presidentassistant@psdlwml.org](mailto:presidentassistant@psdlwml.org) no later than April 10, 2026. If you are an Alternate Delegate, you would use General Attendee designation.



### SCHOLARSHIPS



Scholarships Available to Pastors or General Attendees- Deadline March 31, 2026

We appreciate and value the pastors in our district and wish to strengthen relationships between LWML and our congregations. We warmly invite pastors to join us for the entire convention for a time of Bible study, worship and learning about missions. We are offering scholarships covering registration and meals (Friday dinner, Saturday lunch and banquet) to pastors wishing to attend the convention.

We also offer scholarships to women desiring to attend the convention who might not have the financial means to do so. These scholarships cover registration and meals only. Lodging and transportation costs are on your own. Application forms are available on our website [psdlwml.org/resources-2](http://psdlwml.org/resources-2) under "General Forms".

## HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION

Warner Center Marriott Woodland Hills

21850 Oxnard Street

Woodland Hills, CA 91367

Main Telephone: 818.887.4800

Guest Room Accommodations: Two Queen Beds per room

Room Rate without breakfast: \$149 (Ordinance Fee will not be on the final bill)

Room Rate with two (2) breakfasts included: \$169 (Ordinance Fee will not be on the final bill)

Self-Parking rate is \$18 / day with unlimited entry and exit

Complimentary WiFi and access to Fitness Center

To reserve your room, use one of the following methods:

Via telephone: 818-227-6127

Via Hotel links (with or without breakfast):

Book your group rate for 2026 LWML Pacific SW District Convention I Breakfasts Included

Book your group rate for 2026 LWML Pacific SW District Convention

Convention 4

Review the Pre-Convention Sessions information in this packet before making your desired Friday pre-convention selection(s). There is no additional charge to participate in a Pre-Convention Session. Select only one session for each time slot.

### REGISTRATION DATES

Early Registration- January 1-March 31, 2026: **\$135**

April 1-May 1, 2026: **\$160**

After May 1, 2026: **\$185**

(Note: meals and Mission Walk T-shirts may not be available after May 1)

### REGISTRATION PAYMENT

At the end of the online registration, you will be prompted to make a secured payment. Your credit card information will be required.

No cash or checks will be accepted.

A \$25 cancellation fee will be charged for all approved refunds.

NO refunds will be given after May 16, 2026.





## HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION CONTINUED

- ATTENDEES ARE ENCOURAGED TO REGISTER FOR THE PSD CONVENTION PRIOR TO RESERVING THEIR HOTEL ROOM. THE CONVENTION REGISTRATION LINK WILL BE AVAILABLE JANUARY 1, 2026, AND LINKS FOR THE HOTEL RESERVATION WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE CONFIRMATION PAGE.
- IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE PAIRED WITH A ROOMMATE, CONTACT JANICE HOPKINS, SITE TRAVEL COORDINATOR, AT 818.424.4626 OR [ECINAJM@AOL.COM](mailto:ECINAJM@AOL.COM) WHO CAN LET YOU KNOW IF A POTENTIAL ROOMMATE IS AVAILABLE.
- UNRESERVED ROOMS HELD FOR THE LVWML CONVENTION WILL BE RELEASED TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE AT THE GROUP RATE AFTER 12PM (NOON) ON MAY 21, 2026.
- IF YOU PLAN ON STAYING AT THE HOTEL UP TO THREE DAYS PRIOR TO JUNE 4TH OR UP TO THREE DAYS AFTER JUNE 7TH, PHONE THE HOTEL TO RESERVE THESE ADDITIONAL DAYS. THE HOTEL WILL HONOR THE SPECIAL CONVENTION ROOM RATE FOR THESE DAYS.
- IF YOU NEED SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS, SUCH AS A WALK-IN SHOWER, SELECT ROOM REQUESTS AND ACCESSIBILITY ON THE COMPLETE YOUR BOOKING PAGE WHEN MAKING YOUR RESERVATION.

## CONVENTION DELEGATE INFORMATION

Per the District Bylaws those eligible to vote are:

1. Voting Members of the Board of Directors - those eligible to vote at meetings including all Zone presidents.
2. Past Presidents of the District who currently are LVWML members residing within the District.
3. Past Presidents of any LVWML district who are currently LVWML members residing within the PSD.
4. Two delegates from each unit (group/society) of the District.

Each accredited delegate shall have an alternate to the convention. Each Zone president shall have an alternate to the convention. Consult your zone/group bylaws regarding selection of alternates.

The credentials form for local groups must be signed by the group president and the pastor of the congregation of which they are a member.

There are two different credentials forms:

1. For the Board of Directors and Past District Presidents
2. For the local group delegates

Credentials forms must be sent to the Credentials Chairman (Assistant to the President) by April 10, 2026, via U.S. Mail, at 16660 S 37th Pl, Phoenix, AZ 85048.

For groups who have only one delegate or do not have alternates, complete the Credentials form and register anyway.

Alternates should be persons who have registered for and will attend the convention. The alternate should be prepared to substitute for the named delegate if necessary. When registering for the convention only delegates should indicate they are delegates on the registration forms. Alternates should register as a general attendee.

It is imperative to have an email address to receive delegate information and voting instructions. If you do not have an email address, arrange with another trusted person to use his or her email address.

Please note that there will be on-line delegate orientation times that will be provided once the delegate registers for convention.

It is likely that some parts of the voting process will be handled electronically. Contact the Assistant to the President if you are unable to vote electronically.

Kathy Baumhofer  
Assistant to the President  
[presidentassistant@psdlwml.org](mailto:presidentassistant@psdlwml.org)  
480-577-3755

## Tentative Convention Schedule

Friday, June 5

- 8 a.m.----- Registration & Hospitality Open
- 1-4 p.m.----- Pre-Convention Sessions, including Servant Events
- 4 p.m.----- First-Timer Session
- 4:30 p.m.----- Heart to Heart Sisters
- 5 p.m.----- Dinner
- 7:30 p.m.----- Opening Worship Service at Canoga Park Lutheran  
Reception in the Canoga Park Lutheran gymnasium  
following worship  
Heart to Heart Sisters Fellowship at the hotel

Saturday, June 6

- 6:30 a.m.----- Mission Walk
- 7 a.m.----- Men's Bible Study
- 8:30 a.m.----- First Business Session: Singing, Bible Study,  
and Other Business
- 12 p.m.----- Lunch (with option for a speaker)
- 1:30 p.m.----- Second Business Session: Singing, Bible Study,  
and Other Business
- 5:00 p.m.----- Choir Rehearsal
- 7 p.m.----- Dinner Banquet & Entertainment

Sunday, June 7

- 8:30 a.m.----- Third Business Session: Singing, Results of Voting,  
and Celebration
- 10:30 a.m.----- Closing Worship Service -  
Dedication & Re-Installation of Officers
- 11:30 p.m.----- Post Convention Tour

## PRE-CONVENTION SPEAKERS

1:00 p.m.

Cindy Koch Salon A  
Pastor Eddie Perez Salon B  
Cindy Steinbeck Ballroom E-F

2:00 p.m.

George Agak Salon A  
Laura Malinowski Salon B  
Kari Vo Ballroom E-F

3:00 p.m.

Darlene Pettis Salon A  
Heart to Heart Sisters Salon B  
Deb Burma Ballroom E-F

### Servant Events

Available at 1:00, 2:00 and 3:00 p.m.

Lutheran Braille Workers  
Salon C-D

Stitchin' for Missions  
Salon H-I

### First Timers

4:00 p.m.

Nancy Heredia Ballroom E-F

## Pre-convention Sessions and Servant Events

We have three opportunities for you to partake in Pre-Convention Sessions. These include sessions in five different rooms, with choices of both SPEAKERS and SERVANT EVENTS. There is also a bonus session at 4 p.m. for FIRST TIMERS. The sessions are numbered with the time, then the room (i.e., 1A is at 1 p.m. in Salon A). Choose one session for each time slot on your online registration. Good luck narrowing down your choices!!

**What  
ever!**  
LWML PACIFIC SOUTHWEST DISTRICT  
41<sup>ST</sup> BIENNIAL CONVENTION



## Convention Schedule Details

Friday, June 5

8 a.m.----- Registration & Hospitality Open

1-4 p.m.-- Pre-Convention Sessions, including Servant Events

1-6 p.m. -----Exhibits Open

4 p.m.----- First-Timer Session

### Pre-convention and Servant Events Leader Biographies and Descriptions

#### **Cindy Koch, Author and Biblical Scholar,**

lives in Southern California with her family of five children. She has authored three books, is currently pursuing a PhD at Concordia, St. Louis, is a blog contributor, and publishes Bible studies on [substack.com](http://substack.com). More information about Cindy's ministries can be found at [www.cindykochwrites.com](http://www.cindykochwrites.com).

#### Session 1A: Once Upon a Curse

Why are things so hard and confusing in our world right now? We will journey back to the Garden of Eden for the root problem, find our community of hope, and take comfort in the final answer.



#### **Pastor Eddie Perez and Alice Perez, Founders of Impact Ministries,**

serve as Senior Chaplain for the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Department and a member of the Sheriff's Department team, respectively. They founded Impact Ministries to help women in the Santa Barbara area who have been trafficked, incarcerated, or abused.

#### Session 1B: Keep watch with me. Pray with me. Do not be afraid

Pastor Eddie and Alice Perez will share their experience, strength, and hope in their work, the beauty of sacrificial love to God's glory, the working of the Holy Spirit in their ministry, and the redemptive power of prayer. Most importantly, they will leave a good deal of time for questions, sharing, and conversation.



#### **Cindy Steinbeck, Author and Convention Bible Study Leader,**

has authored five books, each reflecting her passion for the vineyard and the Vine, Jesus Christ. Cindy married Steve Schedler in 2021. Together they founded Voice in the Vineyard Ministries, a place in Steinbeck Vineyards for church leaders to rest, grow, and be encouraged.

#### Session 1E: Finding Sabbath Rest -- Sabbath Rest Finding You

In this session, Cindy will weave together our story and our intentional ministry, drawing participants into a deeper understanding of Jesus, our Rest, gifting us Himself, and relentlessly pursuing us to give us rest.

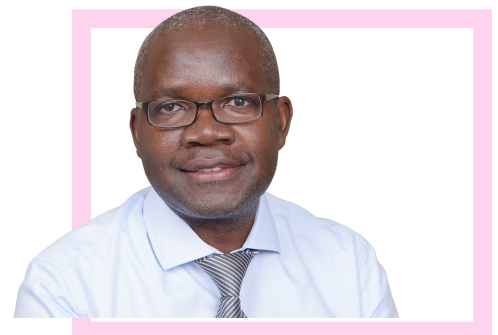


#### **Dr. George Agak, Founder of The Agak Foundation, Kenya, Africa,**

is passionate about making a positive impact through his work as the director of the Agak Foundation ([Agakfoundation.org](http://Agakfoundation.org)). He lives in Simi Valley, California with his wife and three sons.

#### Session 2A: Agak Foundation

Join Dr. George Agak for a look at the mission, challenge, impact, future plans and achievements of The Agak Foundation, which serves the educational, spiritual, and medical needs of orphans and children with special needs and their families.





## Pre-convention and Servant Events Leader Biographies and Descriptions cont.



**Laura Malinowski, Executive Director, Sarah's House Maternity Homes,** has been the Executive Director for 11 years and involved in the life-giving ministry of Sarah's House in Simi Valley for the last 21 years. She and her husband have been married for 34 years and have 4 children ranging in age from 19-32. Laura is passionate about serving women and children, meeting them where they are and providing the education, love and support they need to heal and reach independence.

### Session 2B: Sarah's House Maternity Homes

Laura will share about Sarah's House, a privately funded non-profit organization celebrating 34+ years helping pregnant mothers from Simi Valley and around the United States. Emphasis is on a warm family style environment fostering Christ-centered values.

### **Dr. Kari Vo, Writer for Lutheran Hour Ministries,**

shares her love of Christ in the devotions she writes. She lives in St. Louis with her husband, Pastor Minh Chau Vo, and their son James. Her family has served as missionaries to the Vietnamese refugee and immigrant population of St. Louis for the past 35 years.

### Session 2E: Jesus, our Whatever

Paul's letter to the Philippians is centered on Jesus Christ. He is the one who is "true, honorable, just," and so forth, and as we think about him, and stay focused on him, our whole lives come into balance. This is especially necessary now, in our polarized times. We are Christ's, and his Spirit lives in us, and we walk in him. This means that Jesus' own truth, honor, justice, etc. shine out through the way we live, both toward believers and unbelievers.



### **Darlene Pettis, Center Manager, Salvation Army Food Pantry,**

knows this is exactly where God has chosen her to be. She would be the first to tell you that if it wasn't for God, she would not be here today. A firm believer in prayer and outreach, she has been able to marry ministry and work in her position at the Salvation Army Simi Valley food pantry.

### Session 3A: Salvation Army Food Pantry

Hear how the Lord has led Darlene to organize the pantry's method of providing both food and services to her clientele, giving those clients a feeling of agency over their lives. Darlene and her staff, trusting in the transformative power of God, have created a place of hope, healing, love, and joy where the mission is to make clientele feel better for having been there and experience the love of God through them.



## **Heart to Heart Sisters (H2H)**

### **Maria Espinoza, Co-Chair of H2H,**

is a retired educator who serves as Parish Administrator, Sunday School Director and Youth Chairperson at Immanuel First Lutheran in West Covina. She has been married for 42 years, has two adult daughters, and enjoys playing with her 3-year-old grandson, Sonny.

### **Diani Voss, Co-Chair of H2H,**

has been married for 20 years to Rev. Tardelli Voss and is the proud mother of three children. She holds degrees in Business and Social Work and, with her husband, helped plant a Hispanic church in Northwest Arkansas and another in Copacabana, Rio de Janeiro, in her home country of Brazil. Now, living in San Diego, she serves as Missions Coordinator at St. Paul's Lutheran Church and Office Assistant at Hope Lutheran Church.



## Preconvention and Servant Events Leader Biographies and Descriptions cont.

### Session 3B: Come Share Your Story (Heart to Heart Sisters)

Mark 5:19 - Go home to your friends and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you. For this session, we're inviting each participant to **bring 3-5 family photos**. Using the supplies we'll provide, we'll guide you in creating a scrapbook page. The goal is to open a discussion on how each of us has a unique story rooted in our ethnicity and how those stories can build bridges to women of different backgrounds. We'll also share the mission of H2H and its purpose of connecting ethnic women to LWML.



#### **Deb Burma, Convention Bible Study Leader and Author,**

is a forgiven child of God who loves her Savior, Jesus. She has a passion for sharing His Extravagant Grace in an engaging way, touching the hearts of women, meeting them in the moments of their everyday lives, and leading them in the study of God's Word.

### Session 3E: Serving Side by Side: Leaning on Jesus Together

Serving alongside others, you can trust that God will use you right where you are, in a position and in a posture that says, "I'm here to help!" How are you positioned as you recognize your combined gifts for the benefit of others? Every one of us has a unique usefulness, and God gives it purpose...as you and I come alongside others, build bridges, and connect people to Christ, serving side by side.

#### **Nancy Heredia, PSD LWML President,**

is a life-long Lutheran who was baptized, confirmed and grew up on Long Island in New York. She now lives in Henderson, Nevada, near her two daughters and their families. Nancy has served in numerous LWML positions at the Local, Zone, District, and National levels. She is blessed and grateful for the loving and talented women whose leadership supports our Mission, and for our Pastoral Counselors who serve, teach, and pray with us and for us.

### Session 4E: First Timers

Welcome to the Lutheran Women in Mission, Pacific Southwest District Convention.

We are so glad that you could join us this year. Our time together will allow you to meet new Sisters in Christ, form new bonds, and learn more about Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML). You will have many opportunities this weekend to joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions and honor God by serving others. Meet with your District President for an opportunity to ask questions about the Convention and about LWML programs.



## **Servant Events (both available at 1:00, 2:00, and 3:00 p.m.)**

### **Lutheran Braille Workers Servant Event**

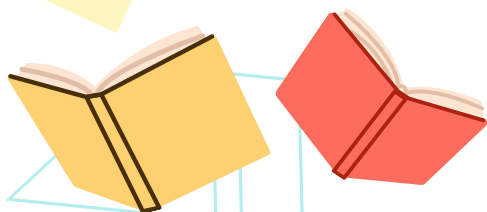
#### Session 1C, 2C, 3C: Sharing the Light of God's Word

Join Lutheran Braille Workers in sharing the light of Christ through His Word! You'll help produce Braille and Specialized Large Print Bibles and Christian materials for people who are blind or visually impaired. These are provided around the world, free of charge. No experience is needed! Come enjoy fellowship, learn about this life-changing ministry, and make an eternal impact - one page, one book, and one life at a time.

### **Stitchin' for Missions**

#### Session 1H, 2H, 3H: If You Can Tie a Knot ...

Have you ever wanted to reach out to that abused woman fleeing her husband or the 5-year-old with cancer? Maybe make a life changing difference for the hurting (and cold) families in Mexico or the teen struggling emotionally or aging out of foster care? Join us for stitchin' together quilts for God's people in need. We will sew... and TIE quilts (YES, we need people who can tie a knot). Gathering around a quilt is a great time of fellowship and a way to get to know Stitchin' for Missions sisters. All supplies are provided.



Friday, June 5  
4:30-Heart to Heart Sisters  
5 p.m.—Dinner  
7:30 p.m.—Opening Worship Service at Canoga Park Lutheran  
Reception following worship in the gymnasium

### Opening Worship Service Information

You are invited to the 2026 Pacific Southwest LWML Convention Opening Worship with Communion to take place on Friday, June 5, 2026 at 7:30 p.m. at Canoga Park Lutheran Church. The church is located just two miles from the Marriott Warner Center at 7357 Jordan Avenue, Canoga Park, CA. A map to the church will be located in your registration materials.

There is limited parking, so please plan to carpool. Transportation for those who need a ride will be available to and from the church. For planning purposes, please indicate your need for a ride when registering for the convention. *Canoga Park Lutheran Church invites you to a reception in the gym following worship.*

### Rev. Dr. Michael Gibson will be our proclaimer.

Prior to his election as President of the Pacific Southwest District - LCMS, Mike served as lead pastor at Christ Lutheran Church and School, Costa Mesa, CA from August 2006 to August 2018, leading the congregation's vision of supporting, equipping, and launching people into mission locally and globally. His pastoral ministry service includes Redeemer Lutheran Church, Huntington Beach, CA (1984-1987) and Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Milpitas, CA (Silicon Valley, 1987-2006).

He is the author of Out of the Bleachers and Onto the Field - How to Witness Without Hang-ups (CPH, 1992), and a contributor to numerous periodicals and books. His new book, Mountains and Valleys - Living the Christian Life, is currently "under construction" in partnership with Concordia Publishing House.

Mike was born and raised in Sacramento, CA. He and Kathy were married in 1979 and live in Huntington Beach, CA. Kathy is now enjoying her retirement from Concordia University Irvine, where she worked as the Assistant Director of Advancement Services. The Gibsons have two adult sons, Andrew and Tim.



Once back at the hotel - Heart to Heart Sisters Fellowship in Salon H

Saturday, June 6  
6:30 a.m.—Mission Walk  
7 a.m.—Men's Bible Study  
8:30 a.m.—First Business Session: Singing, Bible Study, and Other Business

### Bible Study Leader Deb Burma



is a sought after author, speaker, and women's ministry leader who travels extensively for women's retreats, conferences, and other ministry events. Christian author of bestsellers JOY: A Study of Philipians, Living a Chocolate Life, and Be Still & Know, Deb has penned an assortment of Christian-living books, Bible study books, retreat kits, and devotionals, which also include her newest releases, Immeasurably More and Leaning on Jesus.

Deb is mom to three amazing married adult children AND she's a new grandma too! She is a devoted frou-frou latte/coffee drinker who also considers herself a bit of a chocolate connoisseur. (Deb never travels without chocolate in one hand and a flavored hot latte in the other!) Above all, she is a grace-filled woman of God who loves to share with others her love for the Lord.



## Bible Study Leader Cindy Steinbeck

is the owner-president of Steinbeck Vineyards & Winery in Paso Robles, California. She is a frequent speaker at conferences, conventions, and retreats and the author of four books, including The Rock Speaks, Grapes of Grace, Redemption Through Divorce, and The Vine Speaks: Eleven Lessons from John 15—a book that reflects her passion for the vineyard and for the Vine, Jesus Christ. Most recently Cindy and her husband Steve founded the Voice in the Vineyard Ministries. Cindy enjoys time in the vineyard and works closely with her husband, two children and their spouses, and enjoys playing with her five grandchildren.



12 p.m.— Lunch (with option for a speaker)

## Saturday Luncheon Speaker Dr. Kari Vo

For the first time, we are offering convention attendees two options for Saturday lunch. You can choose to eat lunch with friends or listen to Kari Vo speak on the topic of "Loving Impossible People".



"Love one another as I have loved you," Christ says. But with some people, we are left asking, How? How can I love Uncle Fred, who starts arguments over the Thanksgiving dinner table, or my next-door neighbor, whose political views are exactly the opposite of mine—and she refuses to stop pushing them on me?" This session talks about practical, effective ways you can show love and maintain

relationships with people who are difficult to love for many different reasons. It offers strategies that work and real life—actions you can take to create a truly loving relationship without forcing one of you to change. In today's polarized environment, these suggestions offer a way for Christians to carry out Christ's command effectively and with kindness.

The luncheon with Kari Vo is limited to the first 80 participants who select this luncheon option. If you don't want to miss out on this special lunch session, register quickly!

Dr. Kari Vo uses her God-given gift of writing to bring the hope of the Gospel message to people across the globe as a daily devotion author for Lutheran Hour Ministries. As a southern California girl, Kari met her husband, who is Vietnamese and a Vietnam veteran, and moved to St. Louis to attend graduate school and seminary. Once in St. Louis, they discovered that there were 7,000 brand new Vietnamese refugees in St. Louis, with limited English skills and with no chance to hear about Jesus. Kari and her husband Minh Chau Vo saw the opportunity to teach English and share their love for Jesus and thus their church was born.

1:30 p.m.—Second Business Session: Singing, Bible Study, and Other Business

5:00 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal

7 p.m.— Dinner Banquet & Entertainment

## Dinner Banquet Entertainer Kedma Wenz

is a musical artist celebrated for her work spanning contemporary Christian and Brazilian Jazz and distinguished by her deep contralto tones. Her musical journey began at the young age of five, performing alongside her father, which rooted her sound and led to performances in the US, Brazil, and various Spanish-speaking countries. Beyond her artistry, she is a noted speaker and is actively involved in social work and community service in the U.S., Mexico, and Brazil.





Entertainment is available to all convention attendees and their families. Please indicate on the registration form if you plan to attend the Saturday Entertainment without the meal. Families or friends of convention attendees may purchase any of the meals, including the banquet meal, without being registered for the convention. Payment for additional guest meals is included in the Meals section of the registration form.

## 80's Entertainment Leader Pastor Jenks

was "voluntold" for his first Zone LWML Event (by wife, Michelle) back in the mid 90's and hasn't stopped supporting the LWML since! This LWML supporter graduated from high school and attended college in the 80's and L-O-V-E-S Music from that era. He can like totally name thousands of tunes from that era after hearing just a couple notes and hopes there are numerous Convention attendees who can do the same! WooHoo! Celebration!! Whatever!



Want to get in on the fun? Consider dressing in your best 80s-themed outfit! We'll be giving out prizes to those who really embrace the theme.



Sunday, June 7

8:30 a.m.—Third Business Session: Singing, Results of Voting, and Celebration

10:30 a.m.—Closing Worship Service: Dedication & Re-Installation of Officers

11:30 p.m.—Post Convention Tour

### POST CONVENTION TOUR

Do you want to walk where seven presidents walked? If the answer is yes, you definitely want to take the Post Convention Tour to the

**Reagan Library in Simi Valley, California.**

While there, make sure to go through Air Force One used by Presidents Nixon, Ford, Carter, Reagan, Herbert Walker Bush, Clinton, and George W. Bush. Highlights

also include a replica of the oval office, a piece of the Berlin Wall, and a display of first lady Nancy Reagan's fashion.

**A tour bus will pull into the Warner Center Marriott parking lot at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, June 7**

**and return back between 4:00 and 4:30 p.m.**

**The cost of \$83 per person covers transportation and registration for the Reagan Library docent-led tour.**

Lunch is available at the Reagan Library and can be eaten inside or outside in the rotunda overlooking the beautiful rolling hills of Simi Valley.

There is also an opportunity to pay your respects to President and Nancy Reagan who are buried on-site.

If interested in touring the Reagan Library, please select the Post Convention Tour on the online registration form. There will be no cancellations/refunds after May 1.

