



LWML Pacific Southwest District



WOMEN OF THE WORD

Spring 2025 Newsletter

**As Lutheran Women in Mission, we
joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions,
and equip women to honor
God by serving others.**

***Rejoice in hope, be patient in
tribulation, be constant in prayer
(Romans 12:12).***

**Salutations Pacific Southwest District
Women (and Men)!**

We are Blessed

Greetings Women and Men in Mission,

Welcome to the Spring Edition of *Women in the Word*. I have enormous gratitude for all of our women who joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions and honor God by serving others. No one can do a job alone. It takes many dedicated people to come together to make things happen. This is especially true in our Pacific Southwest District LWML.

Our knowledgeable Executive Committee members are dedicated to carrying out their assigned duties to the glory of God. They pass down their knowledge by mentoring others and



**President's
Message**

**Nancy Heredia
LWML PSD
President
2024-2028**

dedicating numerous hours to their responsibilities. Our Zone Presidents faithfully attend Board of Director meetings, sharing information with the LWML groups in their zones and gathering their sisters together in celebration of what Christ has done for us.

I see this faithfulness in our LWML groups who joyfully come together to share the Word in person and on Zoom. I see it in the individuals who donate their time and talents at their churches and in their communities and reach out beyond the boundaries of where they live to make a



difference in the lives of others, bringing the love of Christ to those who don't know him. What a treasure it is to be part of Lutheran Women in Mission, sharing the love of Jesus with those we know and those we don't know!

We have district committees on the move as well! I would like to thank the retreat committee, which did an amazing job! Everyone had a great time at the Crowne Plaza in Phoenix. What a joy to have 30 first-timers at the retreat! It was a memorable event that included our guest speaker, Dr. Kari Vo, who shared with us her life story and how with God's help we can share the Gospel with others. The mission service activity was making prayer books for the homeless. We had prayer partner activities and prayer pockets. We enjoyed music and song with Elizabeth Schrank and had worship and communion with our Pastoral Counselor, Sean Pica. Check out the photos in this WOW.

Thank you to the Gospel Outreach Committee for their dedication to moving forward! I would like to thank Linda Koch for stepping up to be the VP of Gospel Outreach. Chairman Barbie Aden and her committee put together an outstanding Mission Grant Seminar to help those who are interested in writing a Gospel Outreach Mission Grant. Thank you to the committee members who will be mentoring those of you who are interested in writing a viable mission grant. If you are interested in writing a Gospel Outreach Mission Grant, check out the recorded seminar on our website and sign up to have a mentor:

<https://www.psdlwml.org/mission-grants>.

A few weeks after being sworn in, there is nothing better a new president can hear than she has not only one, but two dynamic women who have volunteered to be Co-Chairman for the Pacific Southwest District 2026 Convention. Thank you, Nila Rodriguez and Michelle Jenks! This convention is only 16 months away and these women are off to a great start, but they will need help. If you are interested in being on one of the convention committees, please send them an email that you are available to lend a hand.

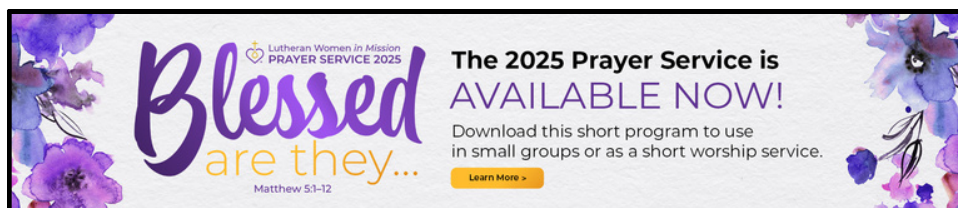
In a few short months our Zone delegates, YWRs, H2H Sisters, Pastoral Counselor and I will be attending the National LWML Convention in Omaha, Nebraska. There will be exhibits, speakers, events, meetings, worship and prayer, Young Women in Mission, Heart to Heart Sisters, seminars, and more. It will be an amazing time that makes you realize that you are part of something bigger and that the time and effort is worth it. It's not too late for you to come to the convention and be inspired. For more information check out this link:

<https://www.lwml.org/convention>.

I am so thankful for Lutheran Women in Mission, who really make a difference. Thanks for sharing God's love with others and working together as God intended.

God's abundant blessings be yours!

Nancy



Still thinking about what to do for your spring event? The prayer service Blessed are they... <https://www.lwml.org/home> is a wonderful example of how we can come together to thank God for the gift of His Son, to share God's love, and build up our sisters in Christ.

Inside this Edition of the WOW- Print the pages you need!

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Learning the Same Thing Again

I am writing this article just a few weeks after I experienced my first LWML retreat. After months of hearing about the retreat and sitting in on meetings, it was great to actually see it all come together. Overall, it was a wonderful time of fellowship, encouragement, worship, and growing in God's word.

Speaking of growing in God's word, one of the takeaways I got from the retreat is when Dr. Kari Vo shared that her devotions for Lutheran Hour are written at a level that is accessible to all. (An upper elementary student or junior-higher could understand them.)

Throughout our lives, we are learning many new things, but when it comes to the Gospel, it isn't so much about learning something new as it is about re-learning the same thing again.

It is certainly appropriate to keep gaining knowledge about God's word. One 15th century prayer suggests that we should "read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest" the word of God.

Luther wrote, "Let nobody suppose that he has tasted the Holy Scriptures sufficiently unless he has ruled over the churches with the prophets for a hundred years" (AE 54:76).

Yes, studying the Word of God and gaining more knowledge of its meaning is important. But there is another side to the study of God's word.

A phrase often attributed to St. Augustine says that the Bible is "shallow enough for a child not to drown, yet deep enough for an elephant to swim."

There is always more to learn about the word of God, but even as we seek to better understand it, we never outgrow the basic message that we first learned in Sunday School:

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

Pastor Pica



**Junior Pastoral
Counselor's
Message**

**Rev. Sean Pica
LWML PSD
Junior Pastoral
Counselor
2024-2028**



DISTRICT

NEWS & EVENTS

2025 Retreat Memories

The Pacific Southwest District held the 2025 Retreat at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Phoenix, AZ from January 24 to 26. The Bible Verse for the weekend was

"Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer" (Romans 12:12).

Our Spiritual Counselor was Rev. Pica, who led all our devotions.

The keynote speaker was Dr. Kari Vo from Lutheran Hour Ministries.

Friday

Friday morning there was a tour of the local Orphan Grain Train Site. Several ladies participated in the tour and packed boxes that will be distributed locally. The evening began with dinner, then singing with Elizabeth Schrank, who blessed us throughout the weekend with song. We were treated to personal experiences about how Jesus is Faithful. The Prayer Pockets were introduced and each retreat participant was then paired up with a prayer partner for the weekend.



Saturday

Saturday was a busy day which began with singing with Elizabeth and a devotion by Rev. Pica. Then Dr. Vo shared how we can always Rejoice in Hope. We know that Jesus is always there for us and we are always guided by His Plan. We then had our first session, Salvation, of the Bible study lead by Debbie Okubo. She led us in the study **"Experience the JOY - then share it!"**, written by Miriam Maassel Neumann. It is a study on how God's joy acts like a shock absorber against the bumps we encounter here on earth. Service to others helps even out their bumps, too!

We started our breakout sessions:

- Mission Service Activity (prayer books for La Mesa Tempe)
- Prayer Walk-3 stations-
 - A. Hope Cards (passing hope to another person)
 - B. Tribulation Bible Verses were constructed (reminder to us that "God has this, no matter what!")
 - C. Prayer was discussed and shared OR free time with prayer partners

Lunch was served, and then we had session two of the Bible Study, God's Protection, followed by another rotation of the breakout sessions, a third session of Bible study, devotion with dinner, and the last rotation of the breakout sessions.

Available at:
<https://www.lwml.org/resources>



Sunday

Sunday Morning we began with singing and Dr. Vo shared what we can do to be Getting Closer to God. Her whole story is very amazing and inspiring. Her talk was followed by a Worship and Communion Service led by Rev. Pica. It was a lovely weekend of singing, praying, "doing", learning, as well as meeting new friends and reconnecting with "old" ones!

submitted by Rita Grover



A First-time Attendee's Joy!

Seeing is believing God's work in action. Attending my first LWML Women's retreat was an amazing experience. I felt so inspired by the LWML passion shown by the women there and the uplifting atmosphere.

There is no time to feel alone with all the planned activities and your prayer partner at your side.

Dr. Kari Vo's messages really touched my heart and strengthened my understanding of the Bible and prayer and how to act with them. A visit to the Orphan Grain Train was a bonus as we worked together to give back to the community. I left the retreat feeling empowered to support and mentor others. The prayer pockets display was a way to show your love to your sisters in Christ, and because of that I introduced it to our church and Pastor, and it became our LWML project. With that, I end with my favorite scripture reading:

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Phil 4:13).

submitted by Arlene Blas
Peace Lutheran Church of the Desert
Palm Desert, CA

Prayer

During the Retreat ladies were asked to give some thoughts about prayer and here are some of the responses:

* Write notecards for all for whom you pray for on a regular basis and link them together.

* Have a cross wall

* Set aside a specific time of day just for prayer.

* Always start by exulting God for who He is, praying and glorifying His precious name and how great He is.

* Start the day with a blessing : In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit (with cross on forehead and heart, in honor of my baptism).

*Use a word to help with constructing your prayer:
PRAY = Praise, Repent, Ask, Yield
ACTS = Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication

* Repeat Martin Luther's Morning Prayer before your feet hit the floor in the morning and the Evening Prayer before you go to sleep at night.

Hello All:

The ladies attending the LWML District Retreat in Phoenix made 150 prayer books and decided to give them to La Mesa Tempe! Deb Bergman and I distributed over 100 books to La Mesa attendees Thursday, January 30, at Beautiful Savior. They were given out as people arrived to get bus passes, snacks, toiletries, clothing, and a dinner of pulled pork sandwiches, mac and cheese, green beans, and jello poke cake followed by a half-hour worship service with Communion. We had 152 in attendance for the meal and 44 in attendance for the worship service following the meal! Several people told us their faith stories and expressed their appreciation at having these books of Bible verses!

submitted by Sandra Wardwell



Happiness is...a pile of boxes for Orphan Grain Train. They were collected at the Pacific Southwest District BOD meeting at Redeemer Lutheran Church on Saturday, December 7, 2024.



Women's Bible Study on Zoom

Join us on the 3rd Monday of the month. Enjoy fellowship with Lutheran women around the district. Explore the Bible study at your leisure and share your thoughts at the Zoom meeting.

There is a new Bible Study Leader every month. There is no commitment. Come when you are able. register at : psdlwml.org Scroll down to get the link.

2026 District Convention Update

LWML Ladies,

As a reminder, the 2026 Convention will be held:

June 5-7, 2026

At the Warner Center Marriott in Woodland Hills, California

The Theme is "Whatever" and is 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.

We are very blessed to report that we have most of the 13 Committee Chairs filled for the 2026 PSD "Whatever" Convention. Thank you, Jesus, and to all the ladies that have selflessly volunteered for these important server roles.

**There is ONE remaining position awaiting God's perfect fit –
the Chairman of the Childcare Committee (new role).**

Does this position sound appealing to you? Can you spare a few hours a month of your precious time to lead this important convention function? Please pray for guidance in making your decision. We would like to offer childcare to encourage younger women to attend our Convention. We have outlined a process in the attached description (see page 19 for the flyer), but are considering contracting an existing daycare/childcare business to manage it at the convention hotel with coordination by our Childcare Chairman.

If you are interested, or know someone else who may be, you can email: president@psdlwml.org or one of the Host Co-Chair emails shown below. We very much look forward to hearing from you.

Always in Christ,

LWML 2026- PSD Host Co-Chairs

-Michelle Jenks (mljenks81@gmail.com)

-Nila Rodriguez (nilarodlwml@gmail.com)

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

(Phil 4:8)



ENCOURAGEMENT from the Scriptures

Servant Leaders – Another Word.

*Therefore encourage one another and build one another up,
just as you are doing (1 Thessalonians 5:11).*

Encouragement from others lifts us up and supports us in our everyday activities. You can be that encourager for those around you and those serving the LWML with you. **Begin by taking time to pray to the Lord for the strength to be that person who brings an encouraging word to others.** Then- Let your team know that their efforts are making a difference and that they are appreciated, especially when they may seem unsure of themselves and their place in the LWML. Be sincere. Help others find a way to serve that brings them joy, uses their gifts, and enriches the team. Let others see the joy you have as you serve the Lord with gladness.

Need more ideas? Use the National LWML website:

<https://www.lwml.org/posts/leadership/leader-development-and-training-tools>

<https://www.lwml.org/posts/leadership/how-to-mentor-and-encourage-others>

JoAnne Sloan, VP Organizational Resources

New Things

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away;
behold, the new has come (2 Corinthians 5:17 ESV).*

Recently, Lutheran Women in Mission in Bedford, Mass., were faced with a problem. Several of their older members don't drive at night anymore and weren't able to come to their long-standing second Tuesday of the month evening meeting. Rather than going with the "we've always done it that way" mindset, the group members decided it was time for a change. They revamped their traditional model of evening meetings and moved them all to Saturday mornings or Sundays after church. This change not only allowed those who don't drive at night anymore to come but also made it possible for some working moms to come and others who lived farther away to stay and join the group after church. They tried out some new activities, too. Faith journalling was a big hit, as was a Zoom Bible study with a favorite leader, Donna Snow, who lives far away. **Change isn't always easy, but sometimes it is needed.**

Our God is the God of new things. We are made new because of Jesus. As Lutheran Women in Mission, we have the joy and privilege of sharing this good news with others and trying new things!

National 2023–2025 Group Development Committee
submitted by Nancy Heredia



Returning God's Blessings

**Financial Secretary
and Endowment Chair's
Message**

**Barbara Virus
LWML PSD
Financial Secretary
2024-2028**



Considering distributions from your estate that will directly support ministries of the Church may present competing priorities that have existed in you throughout your life.

Greg and Deb sat down after Christmas to have a serious conversation about their future goals for the distributions of their estate, especially those that will go to ministry. For the last twenty years, Deb has been involved in an afterschool outreach effort through a local urban congregation that has opportunity to provide tutoring and intentional sharing of Jesus with young children. Greg is a trustee at their own congregation and is known as the guy who fixes everything. In their conversation, Greg expressed his desire to make a gift to their congregation's endowment fund, specifically for long-term care of the building. Not surprisingly, Deb desires to support the local congregation involved in the children's ministry. At first, they were getting into a bit of an argument, as both were passionate about their feelings. Finally, Deb said, "I think we need to ask someone to help us work through this. Maybe it doesn't need to be an either-or proposition."

Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can be the one to talk and pray with you as you discern God's will.

Contact LWML Gift Planning Counselor, Linda Gage. Her contact information is Linda.Gage@lfnd.org, Phone 800.741.4138. Also see lwmlgiftplan.org.



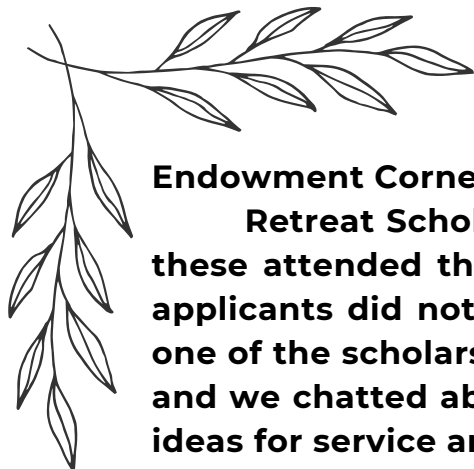
**Barb Virus
LWML PSD Financial Secretary
542 E. Lomita Ave.
Orange, CA 92867-6848**

**Do you need a speaker for your next event?
Contact one of your LWML PSD Gift Planning Advocates:**

Cheryl Keithly	ckeithly@keithlywilliams.com	Phone: 928-726-2566	Cell: 928-581-9299
Linda Koch	lwmlbutterfly@gmail.com	Phone: 858-271-6852	Cell: 858-414-4618
Barbara Virus	bvirus@juno.com	Phone: 714-639-1970	Cell: 714-801-5252

These gift planning advocates have the opportunity to attend a training event at the end of March 2025. They will also plan for their part at the Omaha convention – Friday luncheon, Exhibit Booth, and Legacy Circle reception on Saturday night following entertainment. Pray for safe travel for all gift planning advocates as they conduct their volunteer activities, including this training.

Special note to Legacy Circle Members – there will NOT be a dinner at the national convention as we have had in the past; rather, a reception will recognize and thank Legacy Circle members, including past national LWML presidents. This change has been made to better accommodate convention programming and allow for more choice of fellowship for the dinner period. If you're a Legacy Circle member (have remembered the district or LWML in your estate plan), you will receive more information directly from the LWML office.



Endowment Corner -

Retreat Scholarship Update – We received 15 applications and 13 of these attended the 2025 Retreat in Phoenix, AZ in January. Two of the applicants did not attend due to illness. I had the joy of sitting next to one of the scholarship recipients. She was thrilled to come to the retreat and we chatted about many aspects of Lutheran Women in Mission and ideas for service and providing encouragement to her local group. Thank you to the donors who made these 13 scholarships possible.

Requests for funding for one more Young Woman Representative and one more Heart to Heart Sister to attend the Omaha, NE, convention were received. These additional attendees from our district were not included in our biennial budget (two YWRs and one H2H sister). Gifts have come to the Special Gift Fund to help cover these requests. Again, thank you for the donations that will provide training and wonderful fellowship opportunities to these women at the Omaha convention.

If you wish to donate to the Special Gift Fund, the Special Gift Fund Donation form is available under the resources tab on our website psdlwml.org.

**There are many different ways to support LWML and District missions.
Options for various giving plans are listed below:**

Online:

Employee Matching Funds (check with your employer for eligibility).

Online Bill Pay Service (you direct your bank to write us a check either on an individual or recurring basis).

Joyful Response using Vanco Mobile App to direct payments to us either one time or on a regular basis.

Good Search – use this site as your internet search engine and/or for shopping and you will earn a penny per search or a percentage of your purchase for mites. Click on “find a cause to support” and type in LWML, select “Lutheran Women’s Missionary League” with the St. Louis, MO address. Continue with your search or shopping.

Thrivent Choice Dollars ® search ‘Pacific Southwest’ to choose Lutheran Womens Missionary League Pacific Southwest. Donations go to Mite Offerings.

Check or Money Order:

Offering Time during your group gatherings or during congregational worship

You can also give to our Special Gift Fund or Endowment Fund. Make a meaningful gift to District Mission Grants in honor of or in memory of someone special to you.

Make a check or financial instrument payable to LWML Pacific Southwest District (our legal name) and send funds to the Financial Secretary at her listed address. Include your church name and zone number so that we can properly credit your group.

Thank you for your heartfelt mites for missions donations! We are slightly behind our biennium target for mite box offerings as of the end of 2024. Your gifts for missions are needed to support mission grants in our district, the U.S. and the world.

The 2025 Retreat Offering was \$2,188.65 and will go to mites. We received \$2,100.00 in gifts for the 2024 Giving Tuesday campaign for District Mission Grants.

Serving the Lord joyfully,

Barb

**bvirus@juno.com
714.801.5252**

Gospel Outreach News

Greetings to the Women (and men) in Mission of the Pacific Southwest District! As newly elected Vice President of Gospel Outreach, LWML PSD, I am delighted to share with you the exciting and wonderful activities our department has accomplished recently.

Mission Grants Training

Our Mission Grants Committee planned and carried out an inviting and thorough Mission Grant training seminar for anyone interested in proposing and submitting a Mission Grant proposal for our next biennium. At least 13 people signed in on the Zoom meeting on February 8, while another 6 who had registered did not make it for this presentation. The seminar was well-received, and all applicants will have one of the committee members serving as their coach throughout the application process.

Melissa Salómon and Maria Espinoza will host two more Zoom seminars, focusing cross cultural ministries, on March 27, 6 pm and March 29, 10 am.

The seminar is now available on our website, www.psdlwml.org under the Mission Grants tab, for anyone to view. The grant application is on the website and may be completed and submitted online; additionally, we have a form that may be printed, completed and mailed in.

The absolute deadline for online submissions is September 30, 2025; for mailed copies it is September 15th. However, we strongly encourage any applicant to work with one of us as a coach and to submit the application as early as possible – August is not too soon – so that any errors, omissions, or incomplete information may be corrected in time to meet the final deadline.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask. My contact information is listed at the end of this article.

Mission Grant Committee:

Barbie Aden, Chairman

Melissa Salómon

Linda Olson

Carlise Parham

Maria Espinoza, Committee Chairman, Heart to Heart – Sisters of All Nations

Susan Thomas, VP Special Ministries

Rev. Sean Pica, Pastoral Counselor

Mission Grants Funded!

More exciting news! In cooperation with President Nancy and Treasurer Dawn Langemeier, we were able to authorize payment of five (5) more grants! Presentations of checks are either in process or have been made to:

Grant #11 – Children’s Adventure Time, Faith Lutheran, Vista, CA for \$10,000

**Grant #12 – Scholarships to Attract Lutheran School Students,
Grace, Lancaster, CA for \$10,000**

**Grant #16 – Going Mobile and Expanding to Save More Babies,
Cali Choice, Paramount, CA for \$9,964**

**Grant #17 – Early Childhood Education Center Scholarships, Zion Lutheran,
Anaheim, CA for \$10,000**

**Grant #5 – Student Ministry Online Mission Outreach, Salem Lutheran,
Orange, CA for \$10,000**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow – and heartfelt thanks to all who support these ministries through generous donations to our mission grants! We now have only five grants left to pay or complete payment, totaling \$54,945. Please remember that although our biennium ends with the June 2026 convention, all financial gifts to the LWML Pacific Southwest District must be received by March 15, 2026, in order to be counted and recorded for the convention report. Let’s keep those Mite boxes filled up and the gifts for ministry flowing in!

Scroll to the end of this newsletter for a poster of the current Mission Grants.

GOSPEL OUTREACH CHALLENGE – Zone presidents and district officers, please consider and discuss with others some ideas – or activities you have found successful - for groups or individuals to reach out to your communities with God’s Good News. Send ideas to me; I plan to gather a Gospel Outreach committee to help us discover, coordinate, and carry out our Lord’s Great Commission. (Also, let me know if you would like to be on that committee!)

Linda Koch, VP Gospel Outreach, LWML PSD

lwmlbutterfly@gmail.com

858-414-4618 (call or text)



ZONE

NEWS & EVENTS

Trinity Lutheran Church in St George, UT

Our group created a special Valentines for the Dove Center's women's shelter. Two of us sewed purse Kleenex holders, and at our meeting, our members filled the purses with Kleenex and a card verse. Thirty purses were delivered to the Dove Center for Valentines Day.

Submitted by Judy Lehman, President



Zone 6

Zone 6 conducted a Blankets of Love Drive in December, 2024. We collected a little over 37 blankets and donated them to Hope's kitchen, which was able to pass out a hot meal and warm blanket December 21 to people in need on the streets in the community right in time for the holiday winter season. So proud of my ladies and our wonderful success. The recipients were very very thankful, grateful and appreciative.

Submitted by Marie Burkhardt, President

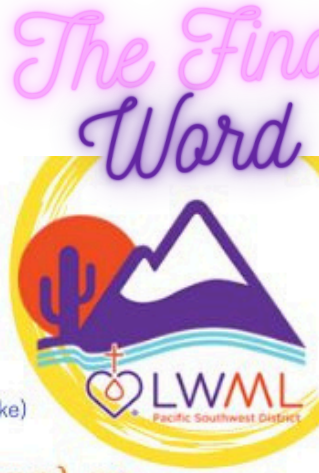


From left to right Gail, Carlise, Fifi and Marie. Truly Blessed.



LWML

Pacific Southwest District
Mission Grant Training for Cross Cultural Ministries
Invite as many of your staff/key volunteers as you would like)



FREE MARCH 27 AT 6PM (THURSDAY) AND
MARCH 29 AT 10AM (SATURDAY) ON ZOOM

Learn how to submit a grant to the Lutheran Women's Missionary League that will help your church reach people for Jesus. LWML is committed to mission work that shares the Gospel and grows the Kingdom of God.

You will:
Get tips on what makes a good ministry advancing program.
Go through the grant writing process in real time.
Get assigned a coach to help you through the grant writing process.

We want to make the process accessible so that EVERY multi cultural ministry feels confident and supported to submit a grant request to the LWML.

RSVP here: <https://forms.gle/HCD4eLt7WCj2rYd97>

Contact Melissa Salomon at mgsalomon@gmail.com



sign up here



Travel Site Coordinator Needed

The Site/Travel Coordinator shall:

- be responsible for travel and facility arrangements for the District meetings, conventions, and events, securing reservations as directed by the President;
- develop and administer support services for conventions, retreats, and other District events;
- serve as chairman of the Convention Site Committee; perform other duties as outlined in the District Leaders Manual.

For more information contact:
president@psdlwml.org

Women of the Word PSD LWML Spring 2025

Women of the Word (WOW) is published quarterly with periodic special editions.

Brenda Hood, Editor and Layout
Pastor Hall, Doctrinal Review
Nila Rodriguez, Copy Reader
Linda Koch, Copy Reader
Kathy Baumhofer, Copy Reader

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Send submissions to james67brenda@gmail.com.

Send copy in the body of emails and attach photos separately. Please do not imbed photographs into Word or Google documents. Attach them to your email.

Summer Submission Deadline is May 15, 2025.

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

Soli Deo gloria

2024–2026 Mission Grants

- 1) Outreach to Students with Disabilities,
Trinity Lutheran, St. George Utah.....\$10,000
Trinity Lutheran School has been providing Christian education and Gospel Outreach in the St. George, UT area for over 30 years. This grant will provide financial assistance to new families with special needs/disabilities children, while the school qualifies for state scholarships.

PAID

- 2) La Mesa/Tempe Gospel Outreach,
Beautiful Savior Lutheran, Tempe, AZ.....\$ 7,900
La Mesa LLC is continuing to grow the ministry of serving the Lord, least and marginalized in Tempe, Arizona at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church where the word of God is not only spoken but acted upon and lives are changed through showing the love of Jesus Christ.

- 3) Providing Hope and a Meal: Hope Lutheran, L.A. CA.....\$10,000
Inner-city churches see daily the extreme needs of the poor, homeless and single mothers in need. HOPE LA Lutheran Church and HOPE Kitchen shows the love of Jesus and shares His word while providing a weekly meal to those in need.

PAID

- 4) Youth Music Ministry,
First Good Shepherd, Las Vegas, NV.....\$ 6,981
Youth Music Ministry, in downtown Las Vegas, shares God's love while teaching music. This grant would allow us to purchase musical instruments and educational supplies to enhance our program. Youth will have the opportunity to praise God through music and develop life skills.

PAID

- 5) Student Online Mission Outreach,
Salem Lutheran, Orange, CA.....\$10,000
Salem Student Ministry requests funding to start an online ministry through podcasts, vlogs, and videos to reach unchurched students in our public schools and connect them to ours and other LCMS congregations, and to keep God's transformative Word in their hearts every day of the week.

- 6) Outdoor Community Outreach,
Centro Cristiano Emanuel, Santa Paula, CA.....\$10,000
Centro Cristiano Emanuel wants to bring the living Lord to the many Spanish speaking people who have not heard in our community. Through community outreach they will learn and know about the goodness of God through Gospel nature outings.

- 7) Bringing Christ-Centered Education **\$5000 PAID**
to Grace Lutheran, Henderson NV.....\$10,000
Grace Lutheran Classical Academy seeks to proclaim the Gospel by partnering with homeschool families to provide a Christ-centered, classical education to children in grades K-5 by offering two days of instruction on campus and providing support for parents for 3 days of instruction at home. Scholarship money will help serve more families.

PAID

- 8) Audio Visual Equipment Upgrade,
Bethel Lutheran, Buena Park, CA.....\$10,000
Bethel Lutheran is looking to update the audio-visual equipment around campus to be able to offer more community events using technology, engage a local Jr. College in modern worship, and to livestream their service to a retirement home within the community.

- 9) LMS BR55 Project-Brazilian
Outreach, San Diego, CA.....\$9,945
This grant supports the BR55 Project's outreach to San Diego's Portuguese-speaking immigrant community, foster fellowship and aligning with PSD-LCMS's diverse group focus. Collaborating with Bethany Lutheran Church and Lutheran Mission Society San Diego, it funds Gospel-centered outreach to share Jesus Christ's message.

PAID

- 10) Refuge Pregnancy Center, Indio, CA.....\$9,600
Refuge Pregnancy Center serves the Palm Springs area with Pregnancy Tests, Ultrasounds, and Parenting Education. We share the love of Jesus with our clients. Bright Course Parenting classes equip Mom's and Dad's to be the best, most loving, stable parents possible. God is building strong families through our Center.

- 11) C. A. T. After-School Program,
Faith Lutheran, Vista, CA.....\$10,000
Children's Adventure Time, our after-school Gospel outreach program provides families in our community safe, loving care, for their children while introducing them to Jesus through Bible study, prayer, chapel time and hymns. Scholarship money will enable us to extend our outreach to more children in the community who need to know Christ.

PAID

- 12) Scholarships for
Grace Lutheran School, Lancaster, CA.....\$10,000
Expanding the scholarship program at Grace Lutheran School would help attract families to have their children experience a Christ-centered education and further the school's mission "to know Christ and make Christ known."

- 13) Chromebooks for Christian Education,
Lamb of God, Las Vegas, NV\$10,000
Technology is ever increasing, and the addition of 30 new Chromebooks will greatly enhance the Christian education experience and Gospel outreach of Lamb of God Lutheran School and allow our students to be better prepared in faith and academics.

PAID

- 14) LINC SoCal – Mentoring Movements, Azusa, CA.....\$10,000
LINC SoCal is passionate about emerging generations who want to share the Gospel in creative ways through non-profits, churches, and redemptive businesses. Mentoring Movements workshops would come alongside these individuals offering accessible and inspirational resources to help equip them for their calling as Gospel-bearing leaders.

- 15) "Enduring Faith" Curriculum/Outdoor
Classroom, Monrovia, CA.....\$3,200
First Lutheran Preschool has a mission to teach little children about Jesus and introduce them to lessons from the Bible. Using LCMS curriculum, "Enduring Faith" provides a guide and plan that will equip and prepare them for lifelong Christian identity and living.

PAID

- 16) Going Mobile to Save Babies for Jesus,
Cali Choice, Paramount, CA.....\$9,964
Cali Choice is a sanctuary for LIFE saving babies and souls for Jesus. We want to serve more women by expanding services via brick-and-mortar clinics, a mobile unit and providing "gold standard" medical services to those experiencing crisis pregnancies.

PAID

- 17) Early Childhood Scholarship Fund,
Zion Lutheran, Anaheim, CA.....\$10,000
Zion Lutheran scholarships will support parents who demonstrate a financial need for tuition assistance so their child may attend our Early Childhood Education Center and receive a Christ-centered education.

PAID

CHILDCARE COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

PERSONNEL TO WORK WITH:

- A. Host Committee Chairman
- 1. Vice Chairman
- B. Hosting Zones Committees
- 1. Properties
- 2. Registration and Badges
- C. District Officers
- 1. District President
- 2. VP of Communications/Editor
- 3. Site/Travel Coordinator

II. DUTIES

- A. Follow the Lutheran Women in Mission Child Protection Policy.
- B. Select workers for the childcare program.
- 1. All workers will need to be screened by completing the application form supplied by the LWML. The application form will be maintained in confidence on file at the LWML Office.
- 2. Two of the applicant references will be checked. References should be from organizations where the applicant has worked with children in the past. Documentation of the reference checks will be maintained in confidence on file at the LWML Office.
- 3. Workers will be required to fill out an authorization form allowing LWML to run a criminal background check. The authorization form and results of the criminal background check will be maintained in confidence on file at the LWML Office.
- 4. All workers must sign the Acknowledgement of Child Protection Policy.
- 5. A minimum of two unrelated adult workers will be in attendance at all times when children are being supervised during programs and activities.
- 6. Dependent on approval of the Executive Committee, a stipend may be paid to childcare workers.

Plan programming for children ages 0-17.

- 1. Determine supplies needed for programming.
- 2. Work with Site/Travel Coordinator and seek approval from the Board of Directors if any off-site travel is planned.

Work with Site/Travel Coordinator on meal planning for children.

Determine hours for childcare with the Host Committee Chair and the District President.

Property Requests

- 1. Request properties in writing on designated form from the Properties Chairman by the designated date.

III. AFTER CONVENTION

See Host Committee Standing Policies

Review Childcare Committee section of the Convention Manual and update duties as needed.



Growing IN GOD'S grace

2 PETER 3:18

Lutheran Women *in Mission*
41ST BIENNIAL CONVENTION
Omaha, Nebraska



June 26–29, 2025



Lutheran Women in Mission

invites you to the

41st Biennial Convention

Thursday, June 26–Sunday, June 29, 2025

in Omaha, Nebraska

Convention Theme:

Growing in God's Grace

Scripture Verse:

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen (2 Peter 3:18).

Convention Goal Statement:

Through Word and Sacrament, I will grow in grace to serve our Lord and proclaim His glory.

2025 Convention Objectives:

Each convention attendee will be:

- Inspired to dig deeper in God's Word.
- Nurtured to share the love of Christ with enthusiasm.
- Encouraged to support missions and our mission goal with joy.

Convention Logo Explanation:

The 2025 Lutheran Women in Mission Convention logo features green leaves sprouting up and revealing the Lutheran Women in Mission icon to signify Growing in God's Grace. It is based on the convention verse, 2 Peter 3:18 — *But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.*

A fresh, bright green color is used for the leaves and the word "grace" to indicate new growth and to connect it with God's grace. Including the Lutheran Women in Mission icon links the logo with our organization and the convention goal "Through Word and Sacrament, I will grow in grace to serve our Lord and proclaim His glory."

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