

The Joyful Servant

California Nevada Hawaii District
Volume X, Issue 1



Spring 2016

President's Message



“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing: it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.” Ephesians 2:8-10

This verse is the basis for LWML President Patti Ross' vision, which she shared with the LWML District Presidents and the Executive Committee in St. Louis, as we met for the winter Board of Directors meeting. Patti's vision is that we in the LWML will "Engage, Encourage, Equip, Enjoy." The final word struck me close to the heart as I often forget to enjoy as I am participating in LWML. I encourage each of you to adopt this vision for your

group of women and engage others in your projects, encourage women who may be feeling left out, equip those who don't know what to do and ENJOY your journey in the LWML!

I am looking forward to seeing many of you, as we prepare to meet in convention at the Wyndham Hotel in Visalia, CA, on April 15-17, 2016. Encourage the women in your congregations to come to Visalia! You should have already received the 1st and 2nd packets about convention with the registration forms and other information you need. If you have not received convention information, check out our website at lwmlcnh.org or email me at lca4him@gmail.com.

We have planned many exciting things to do and see. We have on site servant events, a Pledge Walk for Mites and Mission Action Speakers. Our Bible study will be led by Pastor Aaron "bring your Bible" Smith. Feel free to dress casual and bring your western wear along for the banquet on Saturday night. Engage your voting delegates in conversation about the officers, mission grants and bylaw updates, so they can represent your group well. Select YWRs (Young Woman Representatives) for your zone and plan to help them understand what the LWML is about.

Put on your western garb and come on down to the LWML CNH Convention in Visalia, CA, April 15-17, 2016! Our theme is "Overcome...by Him." Meet national LWML President, Patti Ross; be inspired by mission in action talks; choose a servant event; fellowship with sister LWMLers and have fun line dancing after the banquet! We'll have a stompin' good time!

Lynnette Campbell, LWML CNH President

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Christian Life



SPIRITUAL SPRING CLEANING

When spring arrives, more sunlight brightens your home as the days grow longer and fresh air blows in once the temperatures warm up enough to open your windows. But all the light and fresh air reveal what you may not have noticed during the dark, cold days of winter. It's not fun to see the clutter and dirt that needs to be cleaned up around your house, but the more light and air that flow in, the more motivated you are to do some spring cleaning.

Spring cleaning can be more than just a chore, however. It can actually be exciting if you use the time to start cleaning up something far greater than your house – *your soul*. The closer you get to Jesus – the Light of the world – and the more you invite the Holy Spirit to blow the fresh air of His love into your life, the more you become aware of how messy your soul has become. Thankfully, there's no sin too messy for God to clean up when you follow His divine cleaning plan of confession, repentance, and reconciliation. So while you're spring cleaning your house, invite God to clean your soul. Here's how:

Eliminate clutter. Get rid of distractions that block your intimacy with God. Are you devoting more time and energy to working, watching TV, shopping, sports, socializing, hobbies, or something else, than you are devoting to time with God? How much time are you really spending doing activities that nurture your connection with God, such as praying, church activities, reading, studying, and meditating on the Bible? Are frazzled thoughts cluttering your inner life or are you making time regularly for quiet reflection and asking the Holy Spirit to renew your mind?

Scrub away dirt and disinfect. Cleanse dirty attitudes and behaviors and purify your soul. Are you harboring bitterness against people who have hurt you? Do you entertain judgmental thoughts about people you don't like? Are you infected with anger, fear, or selfishness? How do impure behaviors affect your life? Are you struggling with a bad habit or even an addiction that causes trouble whenever it rears its ugly head? Pray about each dirty attitude and behavior, asking God to help you scrub away each specific one. Whenever negative thoughts enter your mind, purposefully replace them with positive ones that reflect biblical truth. Whenever you're tempted to slide back into a bad behavior, pray for God to empower you to resist and overcome temptation.

Vacuum. Suck up everyday annoyances and persistent resentments that will stain your soul if you let them accumulate. Ask God to help you learn how to deal well with difficult people and those whose personalities differ significantly from yours. Whenever people offend you in minor ways, be willing to let the issues go. Whenever people offend you in major ways, be willing to forgive them and reconcile, if possible. Remember that God expects you to forgive others since He has forgiven you. Trust Him to empower you through each step in the forgiveness process. Do all you can to live at peace with others and resolve conflicts quickly and wisely.

Dust. Wipe away shadows of the past that are hindering you from moving into the future with confidence. Ask God to show you ways you need healing from past traumas and losses. Patiently work through the healing process as God leads you through prayer, journaling, support groups, and counseling. Expect that each time you deal with one layer of dust from your past, you can see a bit more clearly as you move into the future.

Polish. Make your relationships shine by serving others as God leads you. Be creative about figuring out how often you can bless others through your words and actions. Remember that even a brief encouraging comment or small act of kindness can make a significant, positive difference in someone's life. Every day, look for opportunities to encourage or help the people with whom you come into contact. Be willing to commit to longer-term service (such as volunteering for special projects) when you sense God calling you to do so.

Organize. Rearrange your life so you can dream new dreams. Clear out your own agenda and invite God to show you His dreams for your life. Then build your decisions for how to use your resources (time, energy, talent, money, etc.) around pursuing those dreams, so you can focus on what is important without being sidetracked. Set specific and measurable goals to help you move closer to fulfilling God's dreams for you. Check your progress regularly, and make whatever adjustments you need to make to keep your life organized well.

[adapted from an article by Whitney Von Lake Hopler]

[See you at Convention; visit us at the Christian Life Display, SWAPP, and the Prayer Service](#)

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LWML CNH Convention News



"Overcome . . . by Him"

"I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." John 16:33

Wyndham Hotels have purchased the Holiday Inn in Visalia so it is now the Wyndham Visalia Hotel. Still the same place, just different name. You will be required to make your room reservations directly with the hotel and that information came out in the first call packet in February. Room costs will be \$89.00 each. The Wyndham Company is doing many renovations so many areas in the hotel will be newly redecorated.

The Christian Life Committee is planning a time of "Study, Worship and Praise, Prayer" (**SWAPP**) on Friday afternoon, for early arrivals. Information on that is in your call packet. If you plan to attend this, you need to check the box on the registration form.

There will be in-servant events planned for you to take part in, a Pledge Walk around the park next to the hotel, displays to browse through and a book store by the Concordia Publishing House with many LWML items to purchase. The ingathering information will also be in the call packet from the Human Care Committee.

As I have told you before, the weekend will be a country western theme. The apparel for the weekend will be jeans, denim skirt and western shirt, so leave your cocktail dresses at home. We will be learning to line-dance at the Saturday night banquet. This will get you up out of your seat and having a fun time. If you don't want to dance, you can watch the rest of us and have a good laugh!

SAVE THIS DATE – APRIL 15-17, 2016

Charlene Garrett, VP of Convention Planning

Nominating Committee

The mission of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League is to assist each woman of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod in affirming her relationship with the Triune God so that she is enabled to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the world. Is one of your God-given talents and gifts leadership in LWML CNH District? The Nominating Committee continues to identify women who have a willingness to serve in an elected capacity.

At the April 15-17, 2016 LWML CNH Convention in Visalia, the delegates will be voting for Vice Presidents of Christian Life, Human Care, Gospel Outreach and Treasurer. Will you or someone you know be on the ballot?

Please send your suggestions or your personal interest to Marcia Houseworth mghouseworth@hotmail.com. Any member of the committee is happy to provide information or answer questions about any of the positions.

Marcia Houseworth
Sandy Haugner
Linda Bradley
Jan Sorge
Jennifer Stone

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Human Care



Greetings dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

It is a joy to once more be able to share with you some hopefully helpful information in my last article for The Joyful Servant as VP of Human Care.

As Christians, we have been given the unique privilege of being Christ's hands on earth. As we minister through various deeds of kindness and compassion, we show the love of Jesus to those who otherwise might never even know about Him.

This year, at our LWML CNH Convention, we have an opportunity to once again demonstrate the love of Christ to those whose lives are in much turmoil. Our ingathering will support two organizations: Rescue the Children and Visalia Rescue Mission. Both of these groups are helping people whose lives have been turned upside down by drug and alcohol use, domestic violence, and homelessness. Please make sure the people in your congregations see the flyer which is included in the first call packet for convention that was recently sent via email. If you haven't seen that information you can look on the website lwmlcnh.org. The convention information, including the flyer for the ingathering, is available there. Please post it and publicize it with your congregational members so they can contribute.

Also, this year we will be taking applications for the Steinbeck Memorial Scholarship, which is a scholarship offered to children of missionaries. An offering is taken at convention to help support this effort, so please give generously either at the convention or if you are unable to attend, love gifts for this scholarship can be given at any time – the form for this is on the website.

Thank you for all of your support and encouragement over these past four years. The time has certainly gone by quickly. I look forward to continuing to "Serve the Lord with Gladness."

"I am not sure exactly what heaven will be like, but I know that when we die and it comes time for God to judge us, he will not ask, 'How many good things have you done in your life?' rather he will ask, 'How much love did you put into what you did?' — **Mother Teresa**

In Christ's Service,
Sherry Bell, VP of Human Care

News from the LWML CNH Financial Secretary

The end of the 2014-2016 Biennium on March 31st is fast approaching (who can believe that it's already March?). In order for your Mite dollars to be applied to this Biennium, please get them in the mail no later than March 15, 2016 so that they can be received, recorded and deposited by March 31. We still have a ways to go to meet our 2014-2016 goal so every mite counts.

Thank you to our societies for adjusting to the change of deadlines to February 15 for the Quarterly and Pro-Rate Remittances. This has been very helpful in meeting our Quarterly deadline with St. Louis and also very important for the pro-rates especially during a convention year.

Hoping to see you at convention in Visalia!

Serving the Lord with Gladness,
Kathy Richardson, LWML CNH Financial Secretary

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Greetings from Your Treasurer



Greeting from your LWML CNH Treasurer,

I pinch myself as I look at today's calendar. It is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. I **almost** have all of my Christmas decorations put away 😊. 2016 seems to be on "fast track!" Will I meet all of my deadlines and finish all I have planned for this year? I am a list maker, and can be a bit of a worrier, but one of my favorite scriptures helps keep me on track:

*Do not be anxious about anything,
but in everything by prayer and supplication
with thanksgiving let your requests
be made known to God.
Philippians 4:6 ESV*

At a LWML Bible study, the leader encouraged us, "When in a fix, Philippians 4:6!" That catchy phrase stuck with me and it works. I still plan, make my lists, and probably worry a bit, but God's Word, prayer, my faith in God, and the love and encouragement of my sisters in Christ keep me on track.

I see that same pattern at work in the LWML. We are racing along, just weeks away from the March 31 end of our 2014-2016 LWML CNH biennium. At convention in Visalia we will be selecting new Mission Grants for 2016-2018! It is a blessing to report that **as of January 31, 2016 we have fully funded the first 18 (of 21) LWML CNH 2014-2016 Mission Grants, totaling \$104,400.** Grants #1-16 have been paid, grants #17-18 await payment, and grants #19-21 (\$20,600) remain to be funded. Pray for our mission grant recipients, and pray for funding, be it God's will. With prayer, faith and encouragement we strive to fully fund our 2014-2016 LWML CNH Mission Grants. Praise the Lord for faithful Mites in our CNH District!

"Bites for Mites" continues to help boost to our LWML CNH Mite giving, with \$4,851.46 contributed through January 2016. There is still time to host a "Bites for Mites" event at your church before the end of the current biennium!

Do you want to **simplify your mite giving** and save on postage (more \$ for mites!)? **Joyful Response®** is the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) service that provides the ability for LWML CNH to offer an electronic, automated method for making mite contributions from zones, societies, or individuals. You can set up a scheduled automatic withdrawal from your bank account – no check to write, no postage, no deadline date to remember. It's easy and convenient! Contact LWML CNH Financial Secretary Kathy Richardson to get started.

Submitting this article for the spring 2016 issue of the Joyful Servant is bittersweet for me. I will be completing my term as LWML CNH Treasurer and you will elect my replacement at the upcoming LWML CNH Convention. Monthly treasurer reports and quarterly articles for The Joyful Servant will no longer be on my "to do" list, but prayers and support for LWML CNH will always be on that list. I have been richly blessed while serving these past four years with the awesome women (and men) of LWML. Thanks be to God!

I look forward to seeing many of you in Visalia as we gather to "Serve the Lord with gladness."

Blessings,

Cherylene Brueckner

LWML CNH Treasurer

Parliamentarian TIDBITS

“But everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way” I Corinthians 14:40 (NIV).

Below are voting terms for some of the types of voting which are used in a meeting.

Voting Terms:

- **Aye and No** — voice votes and the type of vote most often used in deliberative assemblies.
- **Division of the Assembly** — always means a standing vote. “Division!” may be called out without obtaining the floor when there is any doubt about the result of a voice vote that has just been taken. The vote does not have to be counted, but the chair may direct that this be done.
- **Majority Vote** — a vote count amounting to more than half of the votes cast.
- **Plurality Vote** — the largest number of votes given one candidate when three or more choices are available. It is used in elections where there are several names or items to be chosen, such as grant proposals or the nominating committee. To decide an election of one person by plurality vote is not in the best interests of a group.
- **Rising Vote** — a vote where the members of the assembly stand to have their vote counted.
- **Two-Thirds Vote** — two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast. For the motion to pass, the affirmative vote must be at least twice as large as the negative vote. A two-thirds vote should be taken by a rising vote. (Don’t combine terms by saying “two-thirds majority.” It confuses the issue.)
- **Vote by Raising of Hands** — a vote where the members raise hands in response to voting. This also allows the chair to count the votes if needed.

The above is from <http://www.lwml.org> ---> About ---> Bylaws and Structure ---> LWML Handbook

May your meetings be blessed!
Donna Herzog, LWML CNH Parliamentarian

Gospel Outreach

LADIES, HERE IS THE CURRENT GRANT UPDATE - Keep those mites coming in; the deadline is getting close so bake those cookies and cakes and pass the Mite Box.

GRANT # 19

ENHANCING SUSTAINABLE FOOD SECURITY AND INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITIES FOR THE VULNERABLE CHILDREN AT CHRISTIAN RESCUE CENTRE - \$11,090

Diakonia Compassionate Ministry (DCM), Kisumu, Kenya has provided hope to the hopeless orphans and vulnerable children in Nyanza province for 12 years. DCM desires to expand its existing support by providing sustainable food security and income generating activities. It also hopes to provide spiritual, moral, psychological, and social support to the poor, neglected, or abandoned orphans at Christian Rescue Centre, built with support from Zion Lutheran Church, Portland, OR.

Diane Conrad
Vice President of Gospel Outreach



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NEWS from the Zones

Zone 3 News

Zone 3 will hold its Spring Rally at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Merced, on March 19, 2016, with a theme of "Make Me A Servant," based on Luke 1:38. The guest speaker will be Sierra Saving Grace, which provides housing for veterans. The ingathering will be end-of-the-month food bags for Sierra Saving Grace clients.

Zone 3 is one of the zones hosting the LWML CNH Convention in Visalia, and we will be discussing our various hosting duties and asking for volunteers for hosting duty. The theme for the Convention is "Overcome... by Him," based on John 16:33.

We held our Fall Rally on October 17, 2015, at St. Matthew Sonora, with a theme of "Mighty Mites & Mighty Missions" based on the story of the Widow's Mite in Mark 12:43-44. The guest speaker was Jean Harvey who spoke on "Gracious Giving," real giving must come from the heart given out of love.

Our Board of Directors Meeting was held on January 16, 2016, at St. Luke/St. John Valley Home. We had some representatives attending who are interested in forming a new Society in Zone 3.

Submitted by:

Diane Beaver, President, Zone 3

Zone 7 News

Women of Holy Cross

Women of Holy Cross celebrated LWML Sunday on September 27, with women participating in all aspects of the worship service, including greeting, ushering, serving on the altar, reading and taking the offering and counting. The musical team of Marla on the organ and Diana leading the choir completed the all LWML service, led by Pastor Chu. How to top that enthusiastic support of LWML and the mites offering? Well, just segue into the Parish Hall for the annual Welcome Back event for LWML women. The years program was announced, and the popular theme of "Mugs and Muffins" prompted women to bring their own mug and tell their stories of the mugs – stories of forgiveness, trust in God, letting go of worry, and letting God "take the wheel." They had muffins and fruit and shared the special times and people in their lives.

- November found the women baking goods and serving in the Holy Cross Corner Café, to fundraise \$1,264, half for the Parking Lot fund and half for the LWML Mighty Mites!
- Combining Outreach and Fun, the women had a delicious Christmas party in December, dining at the Diablo Valley College's Norseman restaurant, singing carols and having a "white elephant" exchange. They also sponsored 30 children from the Christmas Angel Tree program and hosted a lunch party for the children and their families. Games, activities, and Bible lesson by Pastor Chu engaged the families, and as they left, each child received a gift purchased on behalf of their incarcerated parent.
- In January, the Women of Holy Cross met at a member's home, where they reviewed the clothing, shoes, purses, briefcases, jewelry, etc., donated to the Wardrobe for Opportunity organization. Men and women who need to prepare for job interviews and need appropriate clothing can go to that organization for professional looking outfits. Fun-filled Bunco games followed and dessert, of course.

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Zone 7 News

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- Young, old, and older women shared lots of laughter and side conversations during the games. **It was a reminder that our friends are a gift of God – a priceless gift that can never be bought, sold or forgotten.**

Joyce Liebe is President of Women of Holy Cross, leading an active group to successful mission oriented events.

Our Savior, Livermore, continues with quilts and gathering mites. Resurrection, in Brentwood, is considering hosting the Spring Rally. St. Phillips, Dublin, plans to host the Fall Rally.

Praising our Lord for all the mission work in our Zone 7 churches.
Submitted by Susan R. Contreras, Zone 7 President

Zone 11 News

Twenty-two members of the *Malia Maleka League* of St. Mark Lutheran Church, Kaneohe, HI, sponsored an "Afternoon Tea" on Sunday, November 15, 2015 from 2-5 p.m. They invited the other LCMS Oahu church ladies and their pastors to attend. It was a beautiful afternoon gathering with a Bible study led by Pastor Mitch Gowen, using the theme from the LWML Convention. There were also highlights/reports/power point presentations given by Sarah Kuske, the Zone 11 delegate to the LWML Convention, the Young Woman Rep. Kathy Gerling (who was also the chairperson of the Afternoon Tea), and Nancy Kunert (Zone 11 President). It was awesome to see young and not so young women representing the various LCMS congregations on Oahu gathered around the eight beautifully decorated tables. Each table was "sponsored" by a hostess who used her own special tea settings. We even had a chance to play some games that highlighted the history of LWML. Several women who attended were excited about LWML and how it could be started in their congregations. It was wonderful to meet Lutheran ladies who share the same faith and who have a heart for missions and fellowship.



Report submitted by Katie Gerling and Nancy Kunert

"Overcome...by His Creation!"

Zone 11 Regional Retreat at Kilauea Military Camp

Hawaii Volcanoes National Park

October 14-16, 2016

Please complete the following for each attendee:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Home Church/Congregation/City: _____

_____ Yes, I will attend Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. I've enclosed my check for \$200. This covers registration, two nights lodging, and five meals.

Checks should be made out to **ZONE 11 LWML**

Deadline: September 1st, 2016

Send Registration form (s) and check(s) to:

Dian Mahoney, Zone 11 Treasurer
743 Kaumana Drive
Hilo, HI 96720
Email: dianhilo@gmail.com

Hilo Airport Arrival Information:

Airline: _____ Flight #: _____ Day and time: _____

_____ Yes, I will need to be picked up at the Hilo Airport.

_____ No, I do not need to be picked up at the Hilo Airport.

Any Questions, please contact Dian Mahoney at 1-808-935-5690 or dianhilo@gmail.com

KMC has ADA compliant accommodations, if needed.

We look forward to a wonderful event!

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Zone 11 News

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COMING UP: MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Zone 11 is planning a regional retreat for October 14-16, 2016, at Kilauea Military Camp at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. If you want to see the wonders of God in an active volcano, unique flora and fauna, and in the lives of fellow Christians, then come to Hawaii, the Big Island, for a three-day retreat. We begin on Friday at 3 p.m. and end at noon on Sunday. Registration, lodging, and five meals are included for \$200.

Transportation from Hilo Airport can be arranged, if you are not renting a car.

The theme of the retreat will complement the convention theme – “Overcome....by His Creation.” The retreat speaker will be announced later. Lots of varied activities will be offered: a guided Bible study tour through the park, hiking, volcano viewing, music, hula, free time, etc. More information will be forthcoming.

Hope you can join us!

Report Submitted by Dian Mahoney
Zone 11 Treasurer and Mary Martha President, Hilo, Hawaii

Zone 12 News

Zone 12 society ladies have been busy! Our ladies in Redding, CA, at Trinity Lutheran started a ministry called Helping Hands several years ago. It continues to grow. They have relocated to another building on the church property. It is Grant recipient number 9 in our current LWML CNH mission grants.

D.C.M. Diakonia Compassionate Ministry is grant #19 and was initiated through its association with Redeemer Lutheran in Chico, CA, and the Mary-Martha Society. I met with the Director, Rev. David Chuchu in Kenya, Africa, on a Mercy trip to help Point of Grace, Kenya's Kids, Rev. Dennis Meeker and Deaconess Lorna Meeker.

The Fall Rally was held at Our Savior Lutheran in Paradise, CA. Pastor Brandon Merrick led a Bible study. We were treated to reports of the Zone 12 committees, mite news at all levels, and a presentation by Ruth Handelman on disaster preparedness through the Red Cross. An ingathering and in-service project was done. Sunshine boxes with encouraging scriptures and small gifts were put together at the end of the rally.

Your Sister in Christ,
Kathy Sweet
President, Mary-Martha, Chico

Zone 13 News

On January 5, Faith Crist, our Zone 13 treasurer went to be with her Lord and Savior. A memorial service was held on January 23rd with standing room only. The sanctuary capacity is about 225. Faith not only loved her Savior, but the community she lived in. Faith's teaching career spanned 35 years. After retirement, she continued her involvement in education as an elected member of the Del Norte County School Board for over ten years.

Never one to sit still, Faith filled her life as a member of Grace Lutheran Church and was involved with many community organizations. Some include: California Retired Teachers Association, LWML, Crescent City Women's Club, Delta Kappa Gamma Society, Lighthouse Repertory Theater, and various choirs and card groups.

Faith is preceded in death by Richard, her husband and is survived by three children and one grandson.

We will miss Faith's positivity and can do attitude. Constantly, she relied on Christ to guide her in all things. Our next Zone 13 Rally will be dedicated to her memory.

The Zone 13 Quilters met on January 30th in Ferndale for a tying party. We managed to tie three quilts and pinned the backing on three more. Our plan is to donate them to LWR in the fall.

The next Zone 13 Rally was held in Crescent City on March 12th. The chosen theme is "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13)

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Munz
Zone 13 President

Zone 15 News



Celebrating our Baptism!! Our LWML ladies celebrated our "Baptismal Birthdays" after our meeting on Tuesday, January 12.

We began with a devotion and prayer led by Linda Okland. At our previous meeting, everyone had been encouraged to bring some memorabilia from their baptism or that of a relative to share at this meeting. We enjoyed seeing many photos, beautiful baptismal booklets and certificates, some even in frames and written in German. One gal brought a lovely dress she wore and another brought her husband's dress and cap which she said was 95 years old. One gal shared the story that when she was sitting on the couch one day and glanced at a picture on the wall, it brought to mind that her mother told her to never give that picture away because her Baptismal Certificate was behind it. So she carefully took down picture removed the backing and sure enough there was her mother's Baptismal certificate. After a wonderful time of sharing, it was time for refreshments. A beautifully decorated cake and punch was awaiting us.



Submitted by Carole Sell
Grace LWML President

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Zone 15 News

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Women of Grace of Emmanuel Lutheran in Clovis, CA had a very busy and rewarding fall and winter and anticipate an equally busy spring. In November, we had a Boutique for the community. It was a huge success and some of the monies have been used for protective shade film on the windows of our sanctuary.

December brought two wonderful events. We hosted a dinner for the residents of Terry's House which is affiliated with Fresno Community Hospital. The temporary housing is made available for family members of patients in trauma, burn, and neonatal units. Our Advent by Candlelight was a wonderful way to begin the Advent season.

In January, we had a fun afternoon of Bunco for the ladies of our church. February will bring a soup-a-thon following our business meeting. A Ladies Tea for Emmanuel members and their friends will be held in March. During the LWML CNH Convention in April, our group will be participating in the Pledge Walk and on site kit collection. Angels of Grace, Terry's House and Alisha Ann Ruch Foundation will be recipients. We will also host another dinner for Terry's House. May will bring the Zone 15 Spring Rally to Emmanuel. Our guest speaker will be the director of Terry's House.

Submitted by Cheryl Deis,
President, Women of Grace, Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Clovis

The next publication date for *The Joyful Servant* is June 1, 2016. Please submit articles by May 10 to Linda Bradley ~ lindab@bethany-mp.org.

Please make sure all articles are submitted in a word document and please include or attach any photos you would like to use in your article. Thanks!

Angelina Ortiz, News Editor

