

The Joyful Servant



California Nevada Hawaii District

Spring 2020

President's Message

Dear LWML friends,

It is hard to believe that less than a month ago, we were celebrating Our Savior's birth, and now, in about a month, we will be starting the Lenten Season where we take time to reflect on Our Savior's suffering as He traveled the difficult road to the cross. How wonderful to know that Jesus loved us so much, He was willing to suffer all, even death, so we could be with Him forever! I look forward to rejoicing that He is Risen, He is Risen Indeed.

As I write this letter, I am attending the first President's Assembly in St. Louis, Missouri. I look forward to meeting with our President Debbie Larson, all of the elected officials and the 40 District Presidents who are gathering to learn about how to implement new ideas and hopefully, come back to the CNH District and share with all of you.

I pray that the groups that are planning Spring Events will seek to reach out to the ladies in their congregations, to encourage them to come and enjoy fellowship and learn about the mission of our LWML.

Thank you for your continued faithful giving of mites. Don't forget to pray for the grant recipients, that the proclamation of the Gospel would always be central.

Our Vice-President of Convention Planning, Roxan Schwab, is working very hard with Zone 10 and the Convention Committee to welcome you to Sparks, Nevada, June 19 through June 21, under the theme "Trust in the Lord's Timing" We are looking forward to having you participate in the activities planned, the Breakout sessions and to enjoy Beth Zier, our Inspirational Speaker, and Michelle Ule, our Bible Study leader. Please note that since the convention is in June, the convention packets will be coming out a bit later. Make sure to advertise and encourage the women to come and enjoy.

God's continued blessings on each of you as you begin this new year and new decade seeking ways to serve Our Lord with gladness in all that you do and say.

In His Service,
Martha E. Dubke, LWML CNH District President

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Christian Life

Happy New Year! Here we are in year 2020 – can you believe it? A start of a new year brings thoughts of Zone retreats, rallies (gatherings), and other events, and also District Convention! These thoughts are, of course, thoughts of LWMLers anyway! LWMLers who are in the planning stages of these events, and those LWMLers who plan to attend these events. It's never too soon to start planning one way or another!!

Wikipedia defines a convention thusly: *A convention, in the sense of a meeting is a gathering of individuals who meet at an arranged place and time in order to discuss or engage in some common interest.*

LWML CNH Convention - June 19-21, 2020

Scripture: Psalm 62:8

Theme: Trust in God's Timing

I sure hope you have put these dates in your calendars and are planning to be there!

The Christian Life Committee (CLC) will have a booth in the Exhibit Hall with photos from the District Retreat that was in August at ECCO (by Yosemite –sorry if you missed it—we had a great time!) along with other Christian Life information and items.

There will be workshops at this convention because we have extra rooms to do so. I, myself, am working on one – *Rallies, Retreats, and Other Events*. There are many different formats that can be used and the LWML website has a plethora of resources for day and weekend events, devotions, Bible studies, litanies, readings, short programs, crafts, and so much more. Check it out if you haven't done so.

Other workshops include: Chair Exercises, Mites to Missions, Women of the Bible, Bible Journaling, LINK Ministry, Orphan Grain Train, Youth Ministries, Hmong Ministries. Don't they all sound exciting and informative?

SWAP – **S**tudy, **W**orship, **A**nd **P**rayer – will be Friday afternoon in the main hall. A Bible **S**tudy based on the Convention's theme and scripture will be led by one of the Pastoral Counselors. **W**orship and praise will be led by our musicians/song leaders for the weekend – Brian and Tracy Widstrand. And a time of devotional **P**rayer will finish our time together.

CLC will also be setting up the Prayer Chapel -- a place to go when you might need some quiet meditation or wish to speak to a pastor. There will be a Saturday morning prayer service to start your day.

So much more will be happening at the Convention: Bible Study Leader Michelle Ule, Inspiration Leader Beth Zier, delicious food, mission moments, fellowship with our sisters – a great time away from our everyday routine lives, a time of renewing and strengthening our relationship with our Lord, and learning about His timing in our lives.

I hope I have whet your appetite about attending the LWML CNH Convention in June. Put it on your calendars, and plan now on bringing your Society and Zone sisters by carpooling, train, or bus - make it fun!! SEE YOU THERE!! (And it's never too early to plan!!)

Respectfully submitted, by *LaVada Terrell, VP of Christian Life*

Gospel Outreach

Mighty mites report.

Grant #16, *Every One His Witness*, for \$4,000 has now been funded by our mighty mites. One last grant to fund for \$5,000 and we will have completed our mites goal of \$100,274 for this biennium. Thank you our Heavenly Father and dear ladies for you generous and faithful support these past 2 years!! Remember, we need to get all our mites in to fund this last \$5,000 by March 31st, our fiscal year end.

I want to share with you a portion of a letter from Pastor Doua Xiong of the Hmong Outreach Ministry of St. Paul, Merced.

“Last year around we welcomed and baptized Tou Pao and his family of seven. This past summer, we celebrated baptism again! After months of catechism and confirmation, on June 16th, the Hmong outreach ministries at St. Paul, Merced baptized five new believers and welcomed them into the family of God. We welcomed new family members Lily, Michelle, and Ashly Vang, Johnson Yang, and Ker Lee. This, reminds us again that we are only His instruments, and it is the Holy Spirit who draws these people to the Lord Jesus. How amazing is His grace? Thank you for your support and prayers as always. You are His instruments in the way that you support Hmong ministries. Peace to you from God our Father and Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Your mites have support this ministry over the years. We rejoice and celebrate with Pastor Doua and St. Paul, Merced for the fruits of their work. The Holy Spirit, the Xiong family, the family at St. Paul, LWML ladies and their mites and LCMS CNH are all a team in the Central Valley of California. Farmers on the Lord's farm. Oh taste and see the fruit.

Deaconess Carol Lee Halter will be on home service in CNH the month of May 2020. She has served as an evangelistic missionary among the Chinese people in Hong Kong since 1981. From 1969 to 1981 Carol served as a missionary with the Chinese Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit in San Francisco. She does humanitarian, evangelistic and educational work among Chinese people of all ages who live in Hong Kong. She would like to speak at any LWML Rallies, to Bible studies and any other gathering. Please contact her directly at her email: Carol Lee Halter carolh@netfront.net

For more information about Carol's work, you can check out the following website: <http://www.lcms.org/halter>

Respectfully submitted, Beverly Vietor, VP Gospel Outreach

Convention Planning



LWML CNH Convention

2020 CONVENTION NEWS!

Save the Date: June 19-21, 2020(NOTE: Date is in June due to chance of snow over the pass for travelers)

Nugget Casino Resort, Sparks, NV

Convention Theme:

Trust in God's Timing



Convention Objectives:

All women will leave the convention knowing;

- God's timing is perfect
- We can trust in Gods at all times
- Praising and praying at all times
- Willing to share their good news!

Convention Goal:

To be assured of God's timing

Convention Bible Verse:

Psalms 62:8 RSV: Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us

Reasons to attend:

- Spirit Filled Bible Study Leader: Michelle Ule from Santa Rosa
- Amazing Inspiration Leader: Beth Zier from Hawaii
- Gifted and uplifting Song Leaders /Choir Director: Brian and Tracy Widstrand from Paso Robles

Breakout sessions:

- Breath and Stretch – Chair exercise – Sandy Blevins
- Rallies, Retreats, and Other Events – Lavada Terrell VP of Christian Life
- Mites to Missions and More! - Lois Herbel CNH Treasures and LWML Treasurer, Karla Koehler
- Women of the Bible - Teri Margullis
- Getting Started in Bible Journaling – Cathey King
- LINK Ministry – Arron Putnam
- Orphan Grain Train – Steve Magee
- Corey Garrity – Youth Ministries
- Rev. Doua Xiong – Hmong Ministries

Great Venue:

- Great Convention Center all on one floor
- Reasonable Room Rates – 4 to a room - \$119.00 plus \$15.00 resort fee
- Family Friendly Area – Bowling Alley Arcade, Water Park, Beautiful Lake Tahoe
- Great Venue

Respectfully submitted, Roxan Schwab, VP Convention Planning

Pastoral Counselor

Trust in the Lord at all times. Psalm 62:8

Five months until the convention! Hear a few words as you prepare.



FedEx will tell you approximately when the package will arrive. A local appliance repairman may offer a window for his arrival. You can choose when your flight leaves SFO.

But troubles and turmoil, sickness and sorrow, and the insincere and wicked among men rarely make appointments ... or check in: “Is today okay to hear the poor health report? Reduced retirement benefits? A daughter’s straying from the faith?” How often have they crept into life and shouted “Aha!” startling you?

So trust in the Lord at all times. Whatever the day, whatever the circumstances, whatever the seasons in life. And pour out your heart before Him.

Our Lord does not break the bruised reed or quench the smoldering wick, but people ... they are ready to push us and tug us to the ground ... whenever we seem like a crumbly clay wall or a rotten wood fence ... whenever the time is full of rips and tears, weeping and losing, mourning and dying.

So trust in the Lord at all times. Whatever the time of life, trust in the Lord.

Trust not in fickle and foolish man. For while at times we might fear what some men could do, we know that we have nothing to hope from them. They can be no anchor when the storms blow through. For what makes a man weighty in this world renders a man light in the eyes of God ... a breath ... dry husks (Psalm 1:6; Luke 16:). But what makes a person light or inglorious in the eyes of the world (look weak) ... faith in the crucified and risen Lord ... is what makes him heavy (faithful unto glory) in the sight of God.

Are we tempted to use flattery and lies to extricate ourselves from man’s evils? Maybe. But what about the uncertain riches of this life? Cushions accumulated since we started working? They would lure us away from the true refuge toward certain regret and tormented conscience. For “riches do not profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death” (Proverbs

11:4).

Trust in the Lord in the morning and commend yourself to Him at night. Sit silently ... not bitterly complaining and not being tossed about by doubts ... but with ears that hear His promises and mouths that cry: Lord, have mercy. Though in this life we will never attain perfected composure ... when severe trials do not affect us ... He is the One that delivers His people; He will judge the wicked and show His steadfast love to His people.

Your vindication-- the visible revelation that you are the child of God--is on the horizon. The end of sorrow and weeping is soon. The time is about to arrive. Wait for Him. "Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through Him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us." (Romans 5:1-5)

So, don't miss that pronoun "my" connected to God and His work (9x in vv. 5-7). David, part of the great cloud of witnesses, with that "my" reminds us: He has named you in Baptism and sealed you with His Holy Spirit; you are His treasured possession even during trials. Ponder also Paul's personal confession (based on the Lord keeping His promises): "But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me." (2 Timothy 1:12).

Trust in Him only; hear, O Church, your God He is the only Savior (Psalm 62:1, 2, 5, 6). By His power He rescued Israel at the Sea; by His steadfast love He forgave their sin. By His power He will raise you at the Last Day; by His steadfast love in and through the crucified and risen Christ He has forgiven your sin. "Though you have not seen Him, you love Him. Though you do not now see Him, you believe in Him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls." (1 Peter 1:8,9)

Trust the Lord at all times. For He has appointed the time for your laughter and dancing and your eternal life.

In His peace, Pastor Crown, Senior, District Counselor

Illustration: https://www.wallpapervortex.com/wallpaper-50591_1_miscellaneous_digital_art_life_seasons.html#.XiqIVUN7ITY

accessed January 23, 2020

Mailing Coordinator

I would like to remind all Societies and Zones to complete and mail/email to me an updated roster of officers. This should be done yearly to make sure I have any updated contact information. The forms for both are on the LWMLCNH.org website.

Karen Mauer, Mailing Coordinator

News from CNH District

Seventh Annual CNH District Mission Conference



The seventh Annual CNH Missions Conference - Good New People is happening this March! Put it on your calendars now and get ready to register in a few days.

What: Good New People - CNH Missions Conference
When: March 21, 2020

Where: Our Savior Lutheran Church, Livermore
Registration Opens: February 7, 2020

Keynote Speakers: Justin Hannemann, Heather Choate Davis, Joe Robb

Follow News about Mission Opportunities in the CNH District at this link.

https://www.cnh-lcms.org/pages/page.asp?page_id=310699

NEWS from the Zones

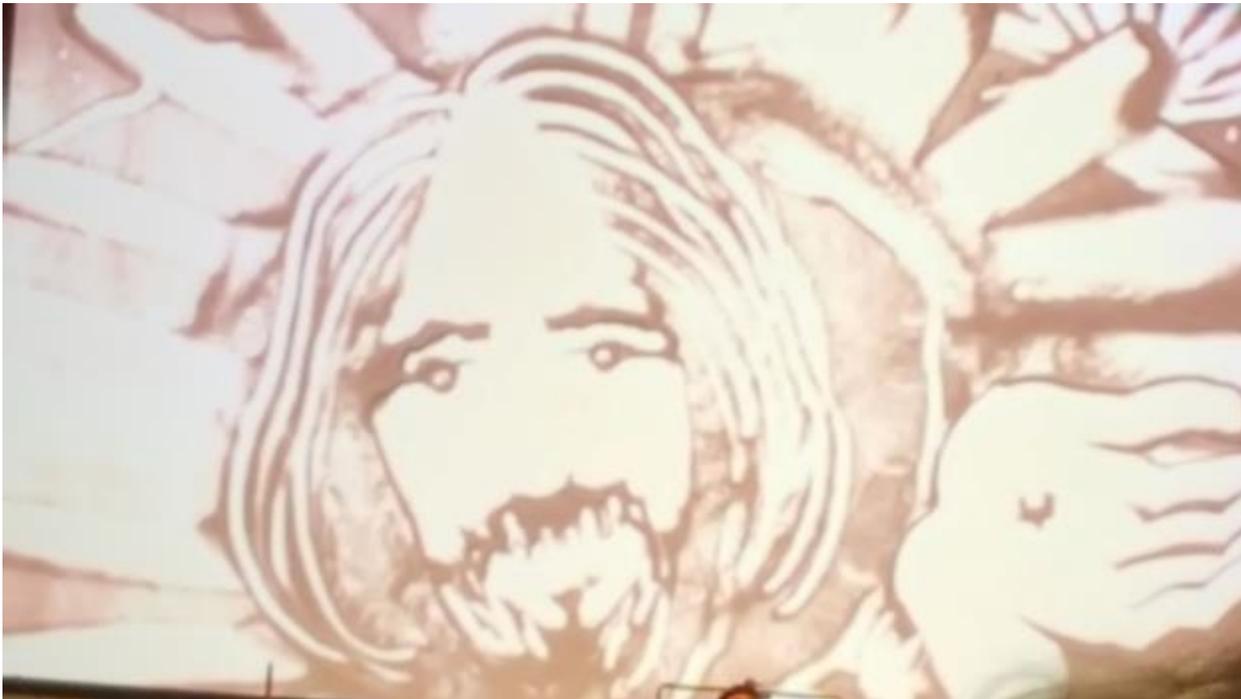
Zone 3 - North San Joaquin

JOYFUL SERVANT NEWSLETTER-FEBRUARY 2020-ZONE 3-CATHEY KING, PRESIDENT

Zone 3 held our board meeting at Redeemer, Lodi, hosted by their lovely LWML members. The ladies in this society are mostly 90+ years old! Their group is slower than it once was, but they are still serving the Lord with gladness and were delighted to host us. We were delighted to be hosted by them!

The Zone 3 ladies will gather at Good Shepherd in Turlock on Saturday March 21 for our Spring Rally, "Jesus Loves the Little Children" based on Matthew 19:13-15. The program will be presented by the West Side teachers and children. Our in-gathering will be new shoes and jackets for children. The Turlock ladies have recently re-started the LWML at Good Shepherd and we are blessed to have them serving with us again.

I had the pleasure of sharing my 2019 Convention report with the group at St Peter's, Lodi, on Tuesday January 14. Along with my report, I presented each lady with a copy of my favorite convention photo (see below). This is a photo of Jesus done in sand by Joe Castillo, who presented our Friday evening entertainment. President Shirley Dyson instituted an "on-time" raffle to encourage promptness! Those ladies are enthusiastic, joyful, and on-time!



Respectfully Submitted, Cathey King, President

Grace Lutheran Church, Modesto

Zone 7 - Mt. Diablo



The women of Mt. Diablo LWML Zone 7 are looking forward to our Spring EVENT! Yes, we have decided to retire the aging, well used and well loved "Rally" label for our spring and fall get-togethers and are springing forward in 2020 with a **Spring Event** on Saturday, May 16th.

F M F

The women of St. Philip Lutheran Church in Dublin are hosting our **Spring Event, Fashion Meets Faith**, under Galatians 3:27, "for all of your who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ." Our speaker is Kim Nowlin, the Northern California representative of **Fashion Meets Faith** is a Shari Braendel organization. She is the author of *Help Me Jesus, I Have Nothing to Wear*. Kim will bring a fun and informative view of how today's Christian woman can look both fashionable and dignified. She will talk about how color and shape can enhance your true individual style.

St. Philip Pastor Brady Blasdel will lead us in an old-fashioned Prayer Meeting and LWML Zone 7 Pastoral Counselor Nick Teller will lead us in Bible Study.

Please join us! Registration is at 8:30 am with the Event starting at 9:00 am. The suggested donation of \$10 includes lunch and continental breakfast and lunch.

St. Philip Lutheran Church 8850 Davona Dr., Dublin, CA /925-828-2117
RSVP to Andrea Green 925-487-7586

Following are updates from the women of our Zone 7 congregations:

Women of Holy Cross - Holy Cross, Concord organized a "giving tree" at Christmas for Lutheran Social Services. The donated gifts were then wrapped and turned over to LSS for delivery. They host a Game Night once a month for women (members, family, and friends) as a fellowship event, are planning a "Bites for Mites" fundraiser on February 9 and will host a congregational supper prior to the worship service on Ash Wednesday.

Our Savior Lutheran Church, Livermore women have completed 67 quilts for Lutheran World Relief, donated books to LSS, and raffled off two "Around the World" quilts at their Christmas boutique for \$500 which was donated to the 8th grade youth for their upcoming Washington DC trip.

Benicia Lutheran Church women continue to enjoy their Book Club. The group plans to expand their activities to include banner making.

Women of Faith, Pleasant Hill held their annual Rummage Sale in October, raising \$6,700 for various charities they vote to support. In November they hosted a flower arranging demonstration where the arrangements were raffled off.

Women of First Lutheran, Concord supported the annual Thanksgiving Dinner where 336 people were fed! They are working on "ramping up" their women's group and may do a tea in the spring. They will be celebrating LWML Sunday on February 2.

Our Savior Lutheran Church, Pinole women make lap robes for military veterans and collect coffee mug for the Greater Richmond Interfaith Project. At the first Advent service they sponsored a spaghetti dinner, and collected 62 pairs of mittens, scarves and hats to be donated.

Resurrection, Brentwood does not currently have an LWML group, but they do have an active Human Care group that did an Angel Tree in December to provide gifts to those in need. A "Line Dancing" event is planned for January. Proceeds from this and other fund raisers are used throughout the year on community outreach projects.

St. Philip, Dublin women send care packages each fall to college students and military members in their St. Philip family. In December they made Care Kits for the homeless and sent blankets to LWR. Bake Sales are held to cover their shipping costs, with any excess going to Blue Star Moms.

Zone 7, Serving the Lord with Gladness!

**Submitted by,
Cherylene Brueckner, LWML Zone 7 President**

Zone 15 - Central San Joaquin

The Winter Rally will be February 8th at the St. Nicholas Retreat Center in Dunlap, east of Fresno. The theme is *Count Your Blessings*. In four sessions, we'll learn all about blessings and how we too can be a blessing to others. It'll be a beautiful day, beautiful setting, delicious food, and fellowship with our sisters.

The Spring Rally will be on April 18th at First Lutheran Church in Dinuba. The Pastoral Counselor will lead us in a Bible Study and then share about his mission trip to Guatemala this last year. There will be Guatemalan decorations and a Mexican lunch for all to enjoy along with a quilt and gift basket raffles.

Submitted by Zone President LaVada Terrell

Women of Grace from Emmanuel Lutheran in Clovis, California, had a very busy and productive 2019 and are planning much more for 2020. Guest speakers have indeed led us to discoveries of need - meals, monetary, yard improvements, personal products, furniture, household items, etc.

- Terry's House, a temporary residence for family members of patients at Fresno Community Medical Center in trauma, burn, and neonatal care units.
- Supporting Evangel Home, who house women and their children facing physical and substance abuse and homelessness, has been welcoming to our efforts.
- Reaching out to local schools with their need for school supplies is a new mission we have undertaken.
- WINGS is a nonprofit, volunteer organization that sets up apartments or hotel rooms for approved homeless individuals and their families.
- HOW, **H**elping **O**ne **W**oman, chooses one woman each month with medical issues of either herself or her family and provides monetary support.

We will continue to Love God, Love Others, and Show It by our prayers, money, and actions!

Submitted by Cheryl Deis, Society President

The LWML Martha Society of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Selma is an active part of the congregation. As such, we work together with the youth group to fill Shoebox Christmas gifts for children around the world. This year we prepared 36 boxes which were sent to Cuba and Puerto Rico. We also give monetary support to our seminary's food pantry to assist young men preparing for the ministry. We support the Lutheran Hour Ministries and Lutheran Braille Workers. In September we host a birthday party at Bethel Lutheran Home to celebrate birthdays of residents.

Submitted by Gladys Griffith

Peace Lutheran LWML -- We begin the year by collecting backpacks and take them to Thomas Elementary. The teachers come to the office and request backpacks for children that might not have one or theirs is torn or lost. In November, the society collects canned goods and with the help of Thrivent provides turkeys for families that are needy. At Christmas, we provide jackets for children. Our Octoberfest is a fundraiser for this project and Thrivent also helps. In February at our meeting, we make valentines for our shut ins and they also get cookies and a visit from a member. In December, our shut ins get a basket with goodies and homemade cookies and a visit. These events are very gratifying our LWML members.

Submitted by Rosie Cruz



Grace Lutheran/Visalia News

Our first society meeting of 2020 was January 14th. Each year Pastor Bob Schroeder leads our Bible Study. This year his study was on the Genealogy of Jesus according to Matthew's gospel which was very interesting. We always look forward to his Bible Studies, but this year is bittersweet since this was his last. Pastor Bob is retiring after 15 years of shepherding us here at Grace Lutheran. He and his dear wife Sue were such a blessing to us in so many ways and we wish them well in the new chapter in their lives. Eventually they plan to move down to Southern California to be closer to family, especially those special grandchildren.



Annual Candy & Crafts Sale

Sunday, December 15th, 2019

By Grace LWML Gals

In December each year we ladies make an assortment of candy; fudge/chocolate & orange, brittle, nut & fruit bark, etc, etc. We also bring out the crafts remaining from the Boutique we had in October. Our members can shop after both Worship services and we encourage them to bring their Christmas shopping list for those one of a kind crafts made by our Mary/Martha Craft Group besides members of Grace. This was an exceptional year and brought in almost \$800.00. All the money received from our fundraisers throughout the year is donated to local and worldwide charities besides our monthly support of 2 student attending Concordia Seminary in St Louis & Fort Wayne.

Zone 19 - East Sacramento

The Zone 19 Rally will be held on April 25th at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Rocklin. We will be hosting in our new church building, which we should dedicated prior to the Rally. “Disciples Making Disciples, Making Disciples” will be our theme. Executive Pastor, Nathan Hausch will the keynote speaker. We have a lively program planned with some special music, fun mixers, interactive activities and Bible study. The cost is \$10. We welcome all fellow LWML sister to join us for this inspirational day!

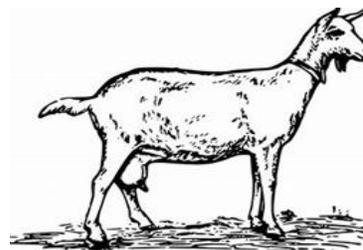
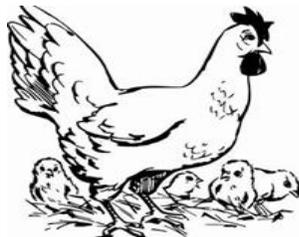
For more information please contact Sharon Junge at sharonkjunge@gmail.com or 916-472-6649.

The women of Mt. Olive Lutheran church in Folsom;



Attended the 90th Birthday party for Nelda Koch “a woman for all seasons” (center in pink top and white sweater), in January. Nelda has been a past President of LWML for Mt. Olive Lutheran church of Folsom as well as many other roles. Nelda is the beloved mother of Krista Hess and mother-in-law of retired Pastor Russ Hess. Praise the Lord for Nelda !

LWML Annual Cookie Walk- Feb. 9th



Proceeds from the Valentine cookie sale will purchase hens and goats for the Sacred Center for widows and orphans as well as sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ. More information on this mission at <https://dignityforgirls.org/>.



\$20 can buy a hen, \$100 buys a goat. Providing a hen or goat to vulnerable women is one of the most powerful ways to mitigate poverty. The milk and eggs supplied by just one hen or goat can provide crucial nourishment for families as well as products to sell. Hens are easy to raise and multiply quickly while a hearty goat can survive in harsh conditions.



Witness puppets for MOST (mission opportunities short term). We are crocheting them to mail off to Ann Arbor Michigan for the MOST volunteers to use in the witness field to teach of our Saviour Jesus Christ.



This year 4 million pairs of eyeglasses will be thrown away in the U.S. while 158 million people worldwide suffer from uncorrected vision



PROVIDE THE GIFT OF SIGHT BY ORGANIZING AN EYEGLASS COLLECTION DRIVE AT YOUR CHURCH OR SCHOOL

Mission Opportunities Short Term

Our LWML society is also preparing for our first eyeglass collection drive at Mt. Olive Lutheran church for this spring 2020. These eyeglasses will be mailed to Ann Arbor for the MOST, a recognized service organization of the LCMS. They will be reconditioned and sent to those in undeveloped nations who cannot afford eye care.

We thank the Lord for the ability to serve Him and others. We are also very thankful for those who support and participate in our mission projects at Mt. Olive. Thanks be to God. Blessings to all, Lana Sullivan

Communications Director

Thank you to all those who contributed to this issue of the “Joyful Servant” . Your contributions help our district to know what is going on in parts of the district which are far away

This is the Second Call: all ladies who would like to learn how to work collaboratively on the computer. I am looking for 2-3 of you who would like to improve the process by which we create the Joyful Servant. If you are interested in learning how to use Google Docs to create the “Joyful Servant”, please send me a note letting me know of your interest at llca4him@gmail.com

The Summer issue will be published on May 1, 2020. The purpose of this issue is to give Reports on Events and promotion of Convention (LWML and District). The deadline for articles is April 15 (right after Easter). Feel free to send your articles sooner if you have them. I plan to senda.

The next “Joyful Servant” will be published in May 1, 2020.

Please submit articles by April 15 to Lynnette Campbell llc4him@gmail.com and please put “Joyful Servant” somewhere in the subject line as well as your name, Zone number and Church or Society name.

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!

**In His Service,
Lynnette Campbell
LWML CNH Communications Director**

