

The Joyful Servant

California Nevada Hawaii District
Volume IX, Issue 1



Spring 2015

President's Message



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.

These words of our LWML Mission are very familiar to those of us who have participated in LWML over the years. We often recite them at our LWML events, but do we really listen to what we are saying?

Recently, I have been thinking about what our mission statement says to us and what it can mean for the women who are not currently involved in the LWML. It seems to me that most of us are doing the things we have always done. We invite women and expect them to come and join our regular meetings. These events usually consist of a devotion and/or Bible study, refreshments, special speaker and a project for those in need. However, there may be many more ways to "assist each woman...in affirming her relationship with the Triune God." I'd like to suggest that "The Time is Now" to brainstorm, with other LWMLers, new ways that you can support someone's relationship with the Triune God. Take your favorite idea and put a plan together to implement it.

In addition we, who are members of LWML, need to get to know the women around us and discover their gifts and talents. If we know what women around us are good at and what they like to do, then we can help them use those gifts and talents to serve others in need. This may sound like a lot of work, but if we build relationships with women who are not yet involved in LWML, it will be much easier to connect them to projects which involve their areas of expertise. This will help all of us to serve those in need.

Looking anew at our LWML Mission Statement may lead to some interesting changes in our local, zone, district and national LWML. Think about what your LWML group is doing to assist each woman in affirming her relationship with the Triune God.

We may all see some areas where we can improve. It will help us truly serve the Lord with Gladness!

In This Issue

President's Message	Page 1
Human Care	Page 3
News from Your Mailing Coordinator	Page 3
LWML CNH Convention News	Page 4
Parliamentarian TIDBITS	Page 4
Greetings from Your Treasurer	Page 5
Christian Life	Page 6
News from the LWML Financial Secretary	Page 7
Gospel Outreach	Page 7
LWML 2015 Convention Banner	Page 8
Nominating Committee	Page 9
News from the Zones	Page 10

(continued on page 2)

President's Message

(continued from page 1)

Tell Your LWML Story! As I mentioned in the last Joyful Servant, I hope to publish an interview each quarter, telling someone's LWML story. This quarter I had the pleasure of interviewing Diane Conrad, LWML CNH VP of Gospel Outreach. Here is Diane's LWML story:

Lynnette Campbell - How has LWML impacted your life?

Diane Conrad - LWML has enabled me to travel to many new places and meet new people. I believe that is why I now enjoy traveling. I also feel more comfortable around people than I was several years ago... Also, LWML has given me the desire to reach out to other women.

LC -Do you remember any LWML ladies who taught you something you still use today?

DC - The ladies at my first LWML showed me how important it is to be involved with other women. Take time for myself. They were also mentors for me; I was a young mother and they had older children. I was also a young Christian, and they, being sent by the Holy Spirit, helped me understand God and the plan He had for me. I can remember many times I would share with them about my children and they would offer me advice.

LC – Please share how a specific person encouraged you in LWML.

DC - Sylvia Peters was my angel that God sent to help me. At the time, I was a new member at Prince of Peace and her husband and mine were alcoholics. Hers was a recovering alcoholic, and mine was still under the influence of drugs and alcohol. Sylvia was that person in my life who already knew what was before me and what God could do for me.

LC - What advice do you have for women who are **not** currently involved in LWML?

DC - I would advise ladies who are not involved in LWML to seek an LWML group and get involved. Consider what you can bring to LWML, not what you can get out of it. I joined LWML just because... It is the official women's group of our church, and I wanted to get involved in our church.

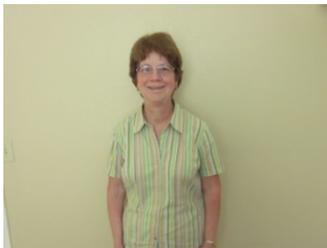
I am very concerned that LWML is on the downward trend. I think we need to inform the ladies of our church that LWML is the official program for the women of our church. And through the LWML we can be the Christian God wants us to be. LWML is a way for women to "work out their salvation," as Paul mentions in Philippians 2:12-13, "Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure."

Since God has commanded us to go and spread the Word, what better way than to be in LWML with all the opportunities there are. I think more can be done as a group working together than on our own. I think somehow we need to impress on other women the value of being with the other ladies of God's family in our church.

LC - What would you suggest LWML women do to get connected with others?

DC - What could we do to get connected with other women? Do research into what women of other age groups are "made of," what are their likes, etc. Get with our pastors and ask for help, hopefully he is a supporter of LWML. Do outreach projects in our community and invite others to join in the projects... maybe that will excite others. We have tried having Bible studies and we are having some success. Tell others what LWML has done for you. Personally invite others to LWML activities. Ask others to help in areas where they have skills and/or interests.

Human Care



Greetings dear LWML sisters,

It is a privilege to once again share some thoughts with you as we continue on our journey through life as servants of Christ.

What do you think of when you hear the word “compassion”? The dictionary defines it as “deep awareness of the suffering of another.” It comes from a Latin word meaning “to suffer with.”

The Bible contains several references to compassion. Lamentations 3:22 -“The Lord’s loving kindnesses indeed never cease, for His compassions never fail,” which we sing in one of our most-beloved hymns “Great Is Thy Faithfulness.” In Matthew 10:36 we read “seeing the people, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dispirited like sheep without a shepherd.” God has shown the ultimate compassion in sending His only Son Jesus Christ to be our shepherd and to redeem us from sin, death and the devil by His death and resurrection. What is our response to God’s compassion for us? In Colossians 3:12 St. Paul describes very clearly what our response is to be as new creatures in Christ: “So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience...”

So it seems to me that compassion is a two-way street. As we have been blessed with eternal life through God’s compassion for us, we in turn show compassion for others.

As LWML sisters we have several opportunities to show compassion – through our daily prayers for those in need of God’s intervention in their lives; through our mites that support mission grants to show our care and concern for the needs of people in many different people groups; through being willing to lend a listening ear to someone who really needs a friend; through our support of relief efforts when disasters strike in different parts of the world; through our support of ingatherings at our conventions and retreats – so many ways to show that because of God’s great compassion for us, we are willing to spread that care and concern to those in need.

May God bless our efforts to daily find ways to show His compassion!

Sherry Bell
VP of Human Care



News from your Mailing Coordinator

Just a reminder, complete the Society Record form, or The Roster of Zone Officers and Committee Chairmen form, when you elect new officers and mail (or email) it to me. It is the only way to guarantee I will have updated information for future mailings. Forms can be found on our website, lwmlcnh.org.

Anyone who wishes to be put onto the mailing list for all “general mailings” please email me a request and I will add you on.

Karen Mauer, Mailing Coordinator

The Joyful Servant – Spring 2015

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



The plans for the April 15-17, 2016 LWML CNH Convention at the Holiday Inn in Visalia, CA are slowly coming together. I hope you have reserved these dates and plan to attend. We are working on a “country/western” theme. Line dancing anyone? Bring your blue jeans or denim skirts and western blouses, cowboy boots and hats. We hope it will be a good old-fashioned hoe-down!

Goal: In the midst of life’s challenges, I have peace because Christ overcomes the world.

Objective: Overcome . . . through

- His Word
- Worship and Praise
- Prayer
- Fellowship

There is a park next door to the hotel for our pledge walk. If your husband wants to come along and if he plays golf, there is also a golf course close by. Visalia has the feel of a small town atmosphere that you will enjoy. I don’t have much else to share with you at this time but more will be coming as our plans take shape.

Charlene Garrett
VP of Convention Planning

Parliamentarian TIDBITS

But everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way. 1 Corinthians 14:40 (NIV)

Minutes of your meetings should report the actions and decisions of the group.

Here are some examples of what should be included in the minutes.

1. Date and time of the meeting.
2. All main motions as finally adopted.
3. The approval of the previous meeting’s minutes.
4. The time of adjournment.
5. Signature of the secretary.

Examples of what should not be included in the minutes:

1. The name of the person who seconds a motion.
2. The detailed discussion of each motion.
3. The type of refreshments served.
4. The detailed content of the officers’ or committee reports.

May your meetings be blessed!
Donna Herzog
LWML CNH Parliamentarian

Greetings from Your Treasurer



January 2015 marks the 10th month of our 2014-2016 biennium, with 14 months remaining. That's 14 months of opportunities – opportunities to grow in the Word; opportunities to grow our missions; opportunities to share the Gospel; and opportunities to serve in our congregations, societies, zones and district. LWML is telling us “The Time is NOW” for Word, Missions, Service, and Fellowship - more opportunities! As we journey the six weeks of Lent, we have the opportunity to reflect on our sin. At the same time we are reminded of the Easter promise of salvation and eternal life. Thank you, Lord, for the blessings of “opportunity.”

Each one of our twenty-one 2014-2016 Mission Grants is full of opportunities for us to be a blessing to others.

As of January 31, 2015, the following Mission Grants have been paid:

1. Water Filters for Kenyan Communities - \$6,000
2. Outreach to Public Schools for Bible Clubs, Merced, CA - \$5,000
3. Outreach to Chico State/Butte College Students - \$2,200
4. Bibles for the Unchurched & Impoverished, Kaneohe, HI - \$5,500
5. Joy of Harvest Ministries, Merced, CA - \$20,000
6. Fresh Water Storage, Battambang, Cambodia - \$4,300

And, the following Mission Grants have been funded:

7. Safe Place to Play Outreach Ministry, Hayward, CA - \$12,000
8. Outreach Expansion/Bethesda Communities, Redding, CA - \$1,500

And, we have \$3,052.85 available for Mission Grant #9 (\$4,900).

And, Mission Grant #1 from the 2012-2014 biennium, Zion After School Program - \$22,650 was paid in January. They have resolved their contractor issue and are moving ahead with their project. Praise the Lord!

And, LWML CNH has forwarded over \$18,000 to LWML for LWML Mission Grants in the last 10 months.

Also, please continue to remember the Rubin Memorial Fund and the Steinbeck Memorial Scholarship Fund as giving “opportunities” for your societies and zones.

Thank you, Lord, for the opportunities that abound for LWML CNH. Enable us to step forward in faith to serve, assured of your love and grace, and the resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen

Serving the Lord with gladness,

Cherylene Brueckner
LWML CNH Treasurer

Serving the Lord with gladness, *Cherylene Brueckner*, LWML CNH Treasurer

Christian Life



LWML CNH FALL RETREAT

August 28-30, 2015

Silver Spur Christian Retreat Center
17301 Silver Spur Drive (off of Hwy 108; near Jamestown/Sonora)
Tuolumne, CA 95379

Theme: *A Strong Woman of God*

Scripture: Psalm 28:7 (NIV)

The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in Him and I am helped. My heart leaps for joy and I will give thanks to Him in song.

Cost:

- \$175 (2 nights, 5 meals, bed/bath linens)
- \$200 – late fee (after 8/15/15)
- \$50 – day only (lunch/dinner)
- No refunds after 8/21/15

Music: *Sounds of Grace*

Friday Afternoon Activities: Come early and *play!* Archery, climbing wall, giant swing, paintball, waterslide flume, zipline, swimming, hiking trails, basketball, softball, volleyball, tennis, horse shoes, frisbee, board/card games, conversation areas

Friday/Saturday Evening Speaker: Cindy Steinbeck

Saturday Workshops:

- Feet – our walk with the Lord
- Heart – prayer & devotional life
- Beauty (inner/outer) – stewardship of our body; appearance; attitudes; emotions; attributes; personality; body language

Sunday Morning Worship/Communion

START PLANNING NOW TO ATTEND THE RETREAT!
The Publicity/Registration Package will be sent out in March.

Christian Life Line is sent out monthly and gives information and resources that can be used in your personal, society, and zone prayer life, devotionals, and Bible studies.

May God bless you richly this year, so you can bless others with your love, encouragement, compassion, and service.

Lavada Terrell
VP of Christian Life

News from the LWML CNH Financial Secretary

What a blessing and privilege it is to receive your mite offerings and watch them grow. Each month we start out with a few and they grow week by week as you faithfully gather your mites for God's work. Following is a mite devotion taken from "Overflowing Love" A Mite Box Devotional Resource by the LWML.

"God's Miracles"

Speaker 1: Looking at this mite box I wonder:
How can our small mite box offerings be worth anything?

Speaker 2: The Bible speaks to us through the words of a miracle:
"And He directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, He gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then He gave them to the disciples. (Matthews 14:19a NIV)

Speaker 3: As Jesus multiplied the bread and fish to provide food for more than 5,000 people, each mite we give is multiplied and used to reach many people and nations. Our gifts are used to enrich and equip others so that through our mission projects we may all serve the Lord with gladness.

Sing: (Tune: *Glory be to Jesus*, LW#98 and TLH #158)

Here are all the people waiting to be fed
But there's just a little, not enough to spread.
Jesus gave the blessings, passed the bread and fish,
It just kept on coming, all that they could wish.
Little becomes plenty if we trust the Lord.
Mites can reach so many. That's the great reward.

Speaker 2: Lord, thank you for blessing, multiplying, and using our mites to increase Your kingdom. Bless each mission project that it may assist in reaching the unreached for Christ. In Jesus' name. Amen.

In His service,
Kathy Richardson
Financial Secretary

Gospel Outreach

GOD IS GOOD ALL THE TIME AND ALL THE TIME GOD IS GOOD



Grant update! Grants through #8 have been funded. Grants 1-6 have been paid. We have also paid Zion Zone After School and Summer Program, Grant 1, adopted at 2012 convention. Thanks to God they are moving on with their grant.

We are currently working on #9 HELPING HANDS REACHING OUT TO FAMILIES WITH FREE CLOTHES AND CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S BOOKS for \$4,900. We have about \$2,000 to go.

(continued on page 8)

Gospel Outreach

(continued from page 7)

As I am writing this note, I am reminded that it is time for us to pay "Uncle Sam." This is a good time for me to review my devotion to God this past year. I keep in my record drawer, all the projects and programs that I have supported last year with my time, talents and treasure. What have I supported, what have I volunteered to help, what have I donated funds to? Am I going to be happy with my findings or am I going to be disappointed? God has always supported me in my life's journey, both monetary and directional. When I have been short to pay the bills, He sends me what I need to get them paid. When I am in need of help, support, guidance, He sends me just what I need, a Scripture, a friend, a TV message – you would be surprised how He sends me messages. I learned very early in my walk with Jesus, that all I have is from Him, and when I give to Him first, He always gives to me.

As you review your records for April 15th, review your records for your life in Jesus. Am I happy or disappointed with my response to God's giving?

"Give to God what belongs to God" (Mark 12:17). When the Lord says "Give to God what belongs to God," He is making no little request! In fact, it is only in "giving that we receive" and this is true first and foremost in our fundamental relationship with God: He gives His whole self to man. And so, we respond and entrust into His hands our whole self. How often the Sacred Liturgy we celebrate leads our hearts and minds to explore this "admirable exchange": we offer God our poverty so He may give us His richness!

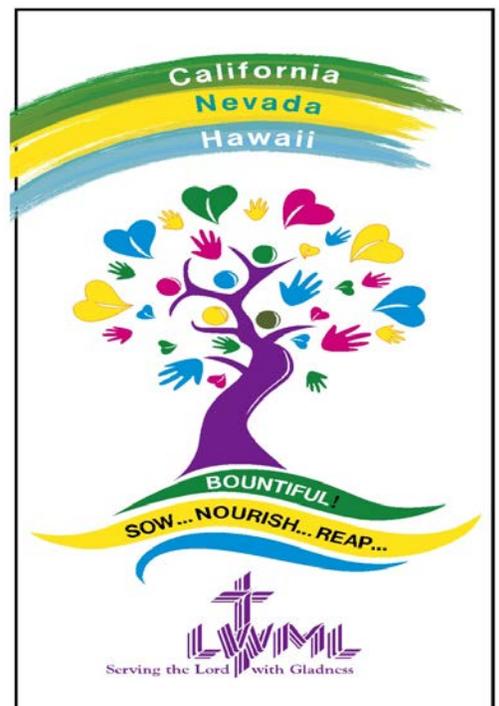
Go Learn ... Go Serve ... Go Share

In His Service
Diane Conrad
VP of Gospel Outreach

Help Wanted! – LWML 2015 Convention Banner

We have a design, created by Shirley Dyson of Zone 3, for our LWML CNH banner for the Des Moines Convention scheduled for June 25-28, 2015. Shirley will provide full size patterns for us to use in cutting out the pieces and letters. So far, we have two volunteers to help construct the banner and we need 2 more who have experience in making banners. Please contact me by phone at 925-864-3627 or email at president@lwmlcnh.org, if you are able to help.

Thank you in advance,
Lynnette Campbell
President, LWML CNH



Nominating Committee

In January, the Nominating Committee met to begin the process of preparing a list of candidates for the LWML CNH District Convention. The five of us – Linda Bradley, Sandy Haugner, Jennifer Stone, Jan Sorge and I had an exciting time brainstorming and reviewing names we all viewed as potential candidates for leadership roles in our district.

While we were able to generate a list of names, we knew that the list could certainly be expanded with the help of the men and women of the LWML CNH District.

“Look of a Leader”, an LWML resource, can help all of us get a good picture of what a leader looks like:

Connected to Jesus: It is impossible to be a good LWML leader without being connected to The Leader. A good leader needs to be in constant communication with Jesus, praying for wisdom.

Vision: Vision is looking ahead and being able to see the possibilities of where you and your organization could go. It is using a proactive approach to motivate all the group members to take action to accomplish the dream.

Passion: When one is passionate about something, one cares enough to get something done. Passion takes the vision into reality.

Integrity: A leader should have the followers’ respect. With respect, a sphere of influence is built up. A person of integrity is caring, honest and has a listening ear.

Humility: Humility is shown by exhibiting: a servant heart, a caring heart, a listening ear and a teachable attitude.

Courage: A leader should have the courage to try new things without being paralyzed by the fear of failure.

Problem Solver: A leader sees problems as challenges that are opportunities for growth. A leader looks for new and innovative solutions to problems.

Personal Commitment: A leader may have all the essential qualities for leadership, but if she is lacking time and commitment, she will be unable to lead. Personal involvement is necessary.

The committee is asking for your help in identifying women in your societies and zones whom you have recognized as someone with leadership abilities. Offices to be filled are Vice President of Christian Life, Vice President of Gospel Outreach, Vice President of Human Care and Treasurer. Please send your suggestions or your own personal interest to Marcia Houseworth, mghouseworth@hotmail.com.

The Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9

2016 Nominating Committee
Marcia Houseworth

NEWS from the Zones

Zone 3 News

Zone 3 will hold its Spring Rally on March 21, 2015, at Grace Lutheran Church, Modesto with a theme of "God of All Comfort", 2 Corinthians 1:3-7. The proposed guest speaker is Nancy Kruger. Zone Counselor, Pastor Jeff Morey will give words of wisdom. The ingathering will be stuffed teddy bears for the Red Cross. The local society will also be presenting a fashion show for entertainment during the luncheon.

Submitted by:
Diane Beaver

Zone 7 News

Women of Holy Cross

The Women of Holy Cross have been very busy this fall, starting with LWML Sunday celebrated October 12, with Pastor Chu leading the worship service. Several women participated in a variety of functions for the service. Gathering afterwards in the church hall, the annual LWML/WoHC Welcome Back event featured "Mugs and Muffins" with delicious muffins, a devotion on coffee and cups, and women sharing why they brought the cup they had. The programs for the year were announced.

The November General Meeting was filled with Advent and Christmas wonder, with Pastor Bill Chu leading the Bible study with a thought provoking message, an example of which is, "The hope of the Christian Church is that Christ is coming back." Also, women carried out a craft project for the "Days for Girls" organization. In November, women staffed the "Our Corner Café" and raised \$1,232 for the parking lot fund.

December was filled with the joy of adopting 15 people for the "Adopt-a-family" event helping families to have a blessed Christmas, aided by Thrivent matching funds. The Christmas Dinner was a success, each table individualized by hostesses, and a program including a "white elephant" present exchange, and Christmas songs that uplifted all the participants.

January's General Meeting was focused on a program explaining the WIC program for women, infants and children. Of course there were games and desserts, but the focus was on the "Baby Shower" for participants of WIC. More than 2 tables were filled with clothes, handmade blankets, towels, shoes, socks, books and more. And these servants of Christ also prepared a Thank You Dinner in January for the Holy Cross Council members and gathered with them for food and fellowship.

Now they are preparing for the Spring Rally on April 25 called "Reach Out and Touch!" based on Philippians 2:3-4. Look the verse up. I would say Holy Cross has taken that verse to heart. The program for the rally is "Futures Explored," a non-profit that trains adults with developmental disabilities in life-skills and work-related training, so they can reach their full potential. The ingathering will benefit the group as well.

(continued on page 11)

Zone 7 News

(continued from page 10)



Above: The ladies at the Christmas Dinner



Above: The Adopt-a-Family wrapping "elves"

Women of Our Savior

Women participated in an Advent tea, always festive, but this year we were inspired by a historical and theological discussion of Advent by Nancy Mueller. The music and the food and the candles made it an awesome evening.

Several women worked in the Our Savior School event, where food packets were made for "Kids Against Hunger." The ongoing Friday morning women's Bible study on Believing God, by Beth Moore, had to be split in two due to large numbers of participants who are fully engaged in the Word.

Submitted by Susan R. Contreras, Zone 7 President

Zone 8 News

Zone 8 observed the Day of Prayer on February 28th at Redeemer Lutheran in Redwood City.

Upcoming is our Spring Gathering (formerly known as Spring Rally), which is to be held at Trinity Lutheran in Palo Alto on March 21. Our speaker is Brian Wo from the Bay Area Anti-Trafficking Coalition, who will give a presentation on human trafficking in our own county. Bible study will be led by Pastor Crown and lunch is BYOB (bring your own bag). Our ingathering for this event supports Freedom House of San Francisco. They are in need of basic necessities for women, including bath toiletries, sanitary napkins, socks, underwear, bras, bath towel sets, laundry detergent, shampoo and conditioner, and gift cards to Safeway, Lucky's, Foot Locker, and Forever21.

We look forward to seeing you at the gathering!

Justina Fisher
Zone 8 Acting Vice President

Zone 11 News

Hello fellow LWMLers,

My name is Katie and I've had the pleasure of meeting many Hawaii (Zone 11) LWML ladies over the past year. I moved to Hawaii about a year and a half ago as a Called teacher. As a member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, I feel blessed to have an organization like the LWML. Not only do LWMLers bake great food for bake sales, sew amazing quilts, and collect/send truckloads of supplies all over the world, but as a group we bring together Christian women to fellowship and encourage one another in Christ-centered activities and mission projects. This is what I feel is so special about being an active member of LWML.

I've been an active member of the LWML for about 3 years now. I first started attending the meetings while I was separated from my husband. The group embraced me, encouraged me to take care of myself, and helped me see what I could do for others. It gave me the opportunity to look outside of my horrible situation and actively pursue Christ's mission. The first event I helped organize was making Gingerbread houses with the families at a Ronald McDonald House. The event changed my life because amidst my hurting, I recognized there were others who were hurting as well.

When I was Called to Hawaii for my next big adventure, I had the pleasure of meeting a new group of LWMLers. My LWML now has introduced me to new mission opportunities and many new Christian women. Last fall, I had the opportunity to attend an LWML retreat on the island of Hawaii. On the retreat, I met many new people from most of the islands, met other Called workers, grew spiritually, and also had a chance to appreciate the new state I was called to serve.



(continued on page 13)

Zone 11 News

(continued from page 12)

Living in Hawaii has been special in more ways than one. Recently, I was appointed the President of my church's LWML and have been asked to be the representative for the LWML Convention. I am very excited about the opportunity to attend the national convention. As a teenager, I attended the National Youth Gathering in Atlanta, Georgia, where it was breathtaking to see that there were other fellow Christians standing up for Christ in my community, state and country. I feel the LWML Convention will be uplifting to see women from all walks of life coming together to praise God. We will hear about wonderful mission opportunities and be able to vote on mission projects we feel will have the most impact on God's beloved world. I am so glad to be a part of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and have the chance to change the world through LWML! Stand strong in Christ, ladies!

Katie Gerling, age 33
Hawaii Zone 11

Zone 13 News

Our Spring Rally is scheduled for March 28, 2015. It will be held at Grace Lutheran Church in Crescent City. The Theme is "Under the Umbrella of God's Love". In addition to our usual activities we will have an Umbrella Contest. The planning meeting will be held on February 28, 2015, so no more details at this time except we will be tying quilts after lunch to continue our project for Lutheran World Relief.

As a fund raiser at St. Marks Lutheran Church in Ferndale each year, there's a Super Bowl Auction on Super Bowl Sunday. After a finger food luncheon, we auction off snacks and desserts. It's a fun auction and the people have plenty of time to get home for the 3:00 game. This very successful auction helps fund our different projects.

I plan to attend the LWML Convention in June and hope to get another person from our Zone to go also.

Submitted by Beverly Hansen Givens, Zone 13 President

Zone 15 News

Grace Lutheran Church, Visalia, CA



Our December 10th, 2014 meeting was a busy one. First we enjoyed the annual children's Christmas musical performance in the sanctuary: "Meet Me at the Manger". Our Grace Christian School musicals are always wonderful and we look forward to this each year. We gathered back in the Fireside Room, finished our business meeting and then assembled lovely little decorated baskets filling them with our homemade cookies. The name of one of our shut-in members of the congregation was tied to it then we chose the ones we wanted to personally deliver. We feel that this little holiday gift from Grace LWML will help those special people of our church family know they are being remembered even though they are unable to worship with us each Sunday. We also put together cookie baskets in May and deliver them also. It's a special tradition.

Zone 17 News

Zone 17 has been busy for a one society zone. In the past months they have prepared a spaghetti dinner for the congregation before the Reformation evening service, held a Christmas fellowship luncheon and collected toys for Shelter, Inc., sponsored a pot luck luncheon for a couple moving to Switzerland, and will be holding a Valentine luncheon with our LWML CNH district President Lynnette Campbell as speaker. They continue to collect coffee mugs for GRIP (a local shelter), make lap robes and bed quilts for various organizations, and have recently collected Bible study/devotional materials for Zone 16's prison ministry. Two of the members will be driving across country to the LWML convention in Des Moines this coming June.

Karen Mauer, Zone 17 President

The next publication date for *The Joyful Servant* is June 1, 2014. 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**

