

The Joyful Servant

California Nevada Hawaii District
Volume IX, Issue 2



Summer 2015

President's Message



And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

2 Corinthians 9:8 NIV

The LWML Convention theme "Bountiful! Sow • Nourish • Reap" is based on the above Bible verse. This verse reminds me that God is with me as I complete the tasks needed to ensure that our zone delegates, Young Woman Representatives and Pastoral Counselor are registered and prepared for their roles. As I prepare for the LWML Convention in Des Moines, Iowa, my excitement builds. I remember the fun times I

have had in past LWML conventions and the friends, new and old I meet. Please pray for peace and safe travel for me and all who will travel to convention in June. Check out all the information about Convention at www.lwml.org/convention.

Tell Your LWML Story! As I continue to interview people about their LWML story, this quarter I have had the pleasure of interviewing Past LWML CNH President, Helen Bartz. Here is Helen's LWML story:

Lynnette Campbell - How has LWML impacted your life?

Helen Bartz - I first became acquainted with LWML 52 years ago when I moved to California with my pastor-husband. I was a bride of six months, pregnant with our first child, with no friends or relatives here. That changed very quickly!

The women of the congregation immediately took me under their collective wing, and made me feel very much at home. It didn't take me long to learn that most of them were members of the local LWML group, and what a caring and loving group it was! The first thing they did was give me a large, surprise baby shower that helped me get to know them in a relaxed setting away from the church building. They invited me to their monthly evening meetings, eventually encouraging me to serve as an officer. Most of them were considerably older than I was, but their love and example of Christian service really helped me learn how to become a "pastor's wife." Some of my closest friendships were formed in that LWML group.

(continued on page 2)

In This Issue

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

President's Message

(continued from page 1)

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

HB - Actually, I received encouragement from so many LWML women – and men – it's impossible to single them out! Women and men from California, Nevada, Hawaii, and throughout the United States have built me up in my faith and encouraged me in my Christian walk. The women with whom I served on the national LWML level broadened my horizons and showed me the "big picture" of LWML. I cherish the memories of the times I spent with them.

But I absolutely must name LWML CNH Past District Presidents who taught me a great deal, and with whom I love to reminisce today: Rebecca Calloway, Gloria Edwards, Carol Petronzio, and Louise Rickey. They are great women, and such fun to be with!

I owe so very much to this marvelous organization and to the people of God who belong to it!

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

HB - I'll give you two. The first is my husband. He took care of our children so I could attend meetings and other LWML events. He even cared full-time for our 3 year-old girl and 18 month-old boy for four days while a carload of us went to the national LWML convention in San Diego!

When I didn't think I was capable of serving on an LWML committee or in an LWML office beyond the local level, Herb said, "Of course you can do it!" He continually encouraged me to move forward, through many offices on the zone and district level. At one point he assured me that someday I would be LWML CNH President, and then national LWML president. (He was only half right on that one!)

Agnes Frincke (LWML CNH President 1970-1974) was another mentor, and like a mother to me. She was already very active in LWML, and helped me understand what the organization was all about. Like my husband, she encouraged me to step out and use my abilities on the zone, district and national level. Her positive attitude and enthusiasm for LWML served as great examples to me.

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

HB - Be open to reading and hearing about LWML. The organization offers great opportunities for women of all ages, some that you may not find in your local congregation. In addition to being a great mission arm of our church, the LWML's retreats and conventions/conferences offer wonderful opportunities for growth in faith and service. And they're fun!

Even if you don't attend LWML events, have the LWML *Quarterly* delivered to you via snail mail or online. It's a very interesting, relevant publication that can inspire you and lift your spirits. Well worth the small annual cost!

Lynnette Campbell
LWML CNH President

LWML Convention



If you plan to attend the LWML Convention in June and I don't already have your name, please contact me by phone at 925-864-3627 or by email president@lwmlcnh.org so I have your contact information. We want to have all the LWML CNH folks in our district photo. California-Nevada-Hawaii district photo will be taken Thursday, June 25, 2015, Group 3 — Memorial Hall West-Mezzanine Level, Board Room 2, at 4:10 pm. Our district Caucus will be held right after our photo in room 317 from 5:10-6:00 pm.

If you are unable to attend you may join the convention via the internet. The LWML will live stream the convention again as they did in Pittsburgh. The link will be available on the LWML website, as will a video of the 33 Mission Grants.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you in Des Moines.

Lynnette

LWML CNH Convention News

“Overcome . . . by Him”
LWML CNH Convention
April 15-17, 2016

“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 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!

With the aid of some very dedicated LWMLers in Region 4, the next convention will be a “not to be missed” event. Our first Planning Committee meeting will be on August 1st at Peace Lutheran Church in Fresno. We still need someone with publishing experience to edit the convention manual. If you have such skills or know of someone who does and would be willing to work on this, let me know at madam81@sbcglobal.net .

Charlene Garrett
VP of Convention Planning

Human Care



Greetings dear LWML sisters,

It is a joy to once again greet you and share some ways that we can show God's love to others in need. As I write this article the country of Nepal has been hit by two devastating earthquakes in the past two weeks. Loss of life is in the thousands, with many more injuries and thousands of homes destroyed. We must first pray for the people of Nepal that they will see God's light of love shining on them through the efforts of others helping them. We can also be involved in actually supplying financial resources which are desperately needed. Lutheran World Relief is working tirelessly to help the people of Nepal who have lost so much. Donations of money, as well as quilts and various types of kits are needed. For specific information, visit www.lwr.org.

Another way to help is through Gifts from the Heart for Des Moines, Iowa 2015. These are donations of specific items to various agencies at the LWML convention. This year the agencies being supported are Luther Care Services, Orphan Grain Train, and Lutherans for Life. For more information about specific items needed, see lwml.org and look under Mission Servants. If you're not attending the convention please try to send some gifts with someone you know who is going. We pray for God's richest blessings on the people who receive these gifts.

Last, but not least, we have an opportunity at our LWML CNH retreat August 28-30, 2015 to help the homeless, those who are destitute and have few resources. Interfaith is an organization which provides several services for homeless people. We are collecting warm socks and school supplies for kindergarten-6th grade.

Let us remember Jesus' words: "Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me." Matthew 25:40

In Christ's love and service,
Sherry Bell, VP of Human Care

News from the LWML CNH Financial Secretary

Coming in 2016...

New Deadlines for Pro-Rate and Quarterly Remittances

2016 will bring a change in deadlines for both the Yearly Pro-Rate and the Quarterly Subscription Remittances. While the due date for both of these has not changed and remains at January 1, their deadlines will now be **February 15**. Online forms will be updated for your use. Zone presidents will also receive the revised forms. Please get word out to your society treasurers about this change.

Thank you to all who faithfully send in mite money monthly. What a blessing to see our mites growing and mission grants being funded.

In His service,
Kathy Richardson,
Financial Secretary

Christian Life



LWML CNH FALL RETREAT
August 28-30, 2015
Silver Spur Christian Retreat Center
17301 Silver Spur Drive
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, giant swing, paintball, waterslide flume, zipline, swimming, hiking trails, basketball, softball, volleyball, tennis, horse shoes, frisbee, board/card games, conversation areas.

Saturday Workshops:

- Feet – the shoes we wear as we walk with the Lord!
- Heart – prayer, Bible study, meditation, & devotional life
- Beauty (inner/outer) – stewardship of our body; appearance; attitudes; emotions; attributes, personality, body language

Sunday Morning Worship/Communion

CINDY STEINBECK – GUEST SPEAKER

Cindy is a fifth generation Paso Robles, CA farmer working with her parents and son at Steinbeck Vineyards & Winery. She is president of their various businesses and serves as director of marketing, sales, and public relations. Cindy created CRASH COURSES in her vineyard, providing an experience into wine through the eyes of the vineyard. She loves speaking her heart on Jesus' words "I am the Vine" while riding through the vineyard in the family's vintage jeep.



Cindy has written *The Vine Speaks* and *The Grapes of Grace*, Concordia Publishing. This work reflects her passion for the vineyards and Scriptures, which she communicates in an in-depth study of Jesus' words, "I am the Vine" from John 15. Cindy holds a Master of Arts in History and Theology from Concordia University Irvine, where she serves on the Board of Regents. Cindy's diverse life as vineyard owner, farmer, teacher, business strategist, writer, and mom has provided amazing life experiences from which her touching stories and humor flows. Her passion for God's Word and work is the foundation of her thinking, writing, and being.

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND THE RETREAT!!

The Publicity/Registration Package was sent out in March; check with your Society President

Lavada Terrell
VP of Christian Life
Financial Secretary

PR Updates

“This is the day the LORD has made, let us rejoice and be glad!”

Zone presidents, what is going on in your zone? Please provide details, flyers, etc. for the events.

- Are you hosting a summer event?
- When is your fall event?

Do you have an ingathering idea you would like to share?

I hope as your PR Director to provide this information on the LWML CNH webpage and Facebook. We want our LWML sisters to know what is happening in the sweetest district in synod!

Don't forget to search and “like” LWMLCNH on Facebook!

Joy in Him, Shelly Alba
Public Relations Director

Parliamentarian TIDBITS

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

MATTERS REGARDING OFFICERS’ AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

No motion is necessary to accept officers’ reports – they are for informational purposes.

- If a recommendation arises from an officer’s report, a motion on the proposal should come from a member of the assembly and not the officer giving the report.
- However, the chairman of a committee can make a motion on behalf of her committee and no second is needed before the president states the question.
- A motion arising from the report of an officer, board, or committee is taken up immediately since the object of the order of business is to give priority to the classes of business in the order listed.

Motions are not necessary for accepting minutes and financial reports.

- After the reading of the minutes, the president asks for corrections, then says, **“If there are no corrections (or further corrections), the minutes stand approved as read (or as corrected).”**
- While questions may be asked of the financial officer, **the financial report requires no action by the assembly.**
- However, if the financial report has been audited or reviewed (as *at the end of the fiscal year*), the chair (without *motion or second*) states the question on adopting the audit or financial review and the vote is taken immediately.
- The reason for action on the audit or financial review is that its adoption has the effect of relieving the treasurer of responsibility for the period covered, except in the case of fraud.

The above is from <http://www.lwml.org> -> Service -> Group Resource -> Bylaws and Meeting Helps/ Meeting Helps from LWML Handbook/ LWML Handbook

May your meetings be blessed!
Donna Herzog
Parliamentarian

Greetings from Your Treasurer

It is a crisp, clear day in May as I write this article. A year ago we were meeting in convention in Sacramento – “Stand Firm. Stand Victorious.” Today we stand in the glow of Easter 2015; we stand firm and victorious in Christ’s victory over death and sin.

A year! We can ask, “Where has it gone?”, but we can also say “Thank you, Lord, for the many blessings you have bestowed on us, for the sorrows you have carried us through, for the changes and challenges you have walked with us, and for your promise to never leave us.”



This first year of the LWML CNH biennium 2014-2016 has seen us **fund and pay** the first 10 of our 21 Mission Grants. Yes, the \$7,500 check for Angel’s Nest Child Development Center, Sacramento, was delivered to President Lynnette yesterday (5/11/15)! Through your generous mite giving, we have paid for fresh water in Kenya and Cambodia, and Bibles and outreach in Merced, Chico, Hawaii, Redding and Hayward. We are currently over half way to fully funding Mission Grant #11, the Kyrgyzstan Medical Van Project (\$10,000). As we “count down” to the end of our biennium, we continue to pray for our Mission Grant recipients and for Mites to fund the \$50,000 in grants remaining to be paid.

Looking ahead – Our calendars get full with graduation, weddings, family reunions and summer vacations – all blessings from our Lord!

- Consider using **Joyful Response®** for your monthly mite giving. This free electronic funds transfer opportunity for individuals and societies of the LWML, offered by Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF), enables recurring transactions from your checking or savings account. Your mite giving doesn’t stop when you are away! Contact LWML CNH Financial Secretary Kathy Richardson for forms at calsgirlkathy@gmail.com.
- Please remember the Rubin **Memorial Fund** and the **Steinbeck Memorial Scholarship Fund** in the giving plans of your societies and zones.

Have a wonderful summer!

Serving the Lord with gladness,
Cherylene Brueckner
LWML CNH Treasurer

Nominating Committee

The LWML CNH Nominating Committee has been actively seeking names for the positions of Vice President of Christian Life, Vice President of Human Care, Vice President of Gospel Outreach and Treasurer. Will you help us in identifying women in your societies and zones whom you have recognized as someone with leadership abilities? In the last issue of *The Joyful Servant*, I listed “earmarks” of what a leader looked like. The committee is praying that the women in our district know other women with vision, integrity, connected to Jesus, and have a passion for LWML. Please send your suggestions or your own personal interest to Marcia Houseworth, mghouseworth@hotmail.com. The Nominating Committee thanks you for your help.

Marcia Houseworth, Chair
Sandra Haugner
Linda Bradley
Jan Sorge
Jennifer Stone

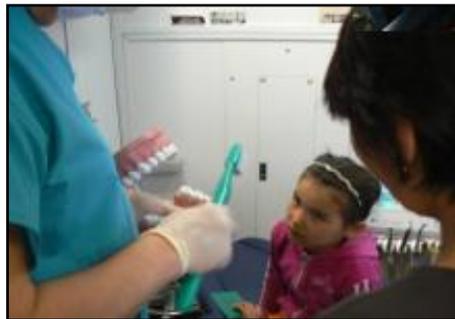
Gospel Outreach



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

Grants 1-10 are now funded. Praise God for His love to us. Keep those mites coming! We are now working on #11: Kyrgyzstan Medical Van Project, Amount: \$10,000!

The Mobile Medical Van Ministry in Kyrgyzstan has served local women and children with medical, dental care, and testing for more than 10 years. It has opened the door to sharing Christ with thousands of Kyrgyzs, resulting in Bible study groups, preaching stations, and even congregations being established. The yearly budget for the medical van is approximately \$119,410; a major supporter has been providing a little less than half the amount needed each year. This grant will help fund a portion of the balance of the cost of the Kyrgyzstan Medical Van Project.



The time is getting close for submission of grant requests for 2016-2018. Cut off date is September 30, 2015. The forms you need to submit can be found at www.lwmlcnh.org by selecting resources and forms and scrolling down to grant forms. There are 5 selections to print and read. Make sure you read the guidelines and be thorough when completing the application. Be sure to include pictures.

In His Service
Diane Conrad
VP of Gospel Outreach

LWML Convention Banner – It's ready for Des Moines!

In the Spring 2015 Joyful Servant, LWML CNH President Lynnette Campbell issued a call for workers to make the LWML CNH banner that she will carry at the June 25-28 LWML Convention in Des Moines, Iowa. Shirley Dyson from Zone 3 had created the design for the banner, along with a full-sized pattern to facilitate the banner making process. The next step – willing hands to make it!

Zone 14 President Elaine McFarlane (St. Mark, Santa Rosa) rose to the challenge! She enlisted the help of Kathy Murrin, also from St. Mark, to select the fabric that would become the banner. The next step was to gather the volunteers for the banner assembly.

(continued from page 9)

LWML Convention Banner

(continued from page 8)

On Saturday morning, April 18, eight women met at St. Mark to work on the banner. The full sized pattern was positioned on the banner backing material. A second copy of the pattern was taped to a glass door where we traced the pattern pieces to a fabric fusing material. We ironed the shapes to pink, blue, purple, black, white, gold and green fabric and felt. Each shape was meticulously cut out and positioned on the banner fabric. We all held our breath as each heart, hand, circle and letter was fused to the banner. What a joy to see all of the pieces come together on the beautiful banner! This was truly a labor of love – a common love for the Lord that “fused” these women together for a Saturday of work and fellowship.



The "Saturday Banner Ladies" include: Elaine, daughter Theresa Lee, Patti Doyle and Char Grech all from Zone 14 (St. Mark, Santa Rosa); Meredith McCay and LWML CNH Mailing Coordinator Karen Mauer from Zone 17 (Our Savior, Pinole); and Barbara Carr (First, Concord) and LWML CNH Treasurer Cherylene Brueckner (Holy Cross, Concord) from Zone 7. Elaine put the finishing touches on the banner, and it is now ready for Des Moines!

A BIG "Thank you!" to Shirley, Elaine, and the "Saturday Banner Ladies"!

NEWS from the Zones

Zone 3 News

Zone 3 held 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 guest speaker Nancy Kruger spoke about the Good Samaritan and how we are to be servants and good neighbors. Words of Wisdom were given by Zone Counselor, Pastor Jeff Morey based on the Book of Isaiah, chapter 11 about the branch from Jesse, from his roots a Branch will bear fruit – the gift that keeps on giving.

Jan Campbell from the Sierra Delta Chapter of the Red Cross spoke about the work the volunteers do and the training they receive in preparation for this work. Pastor Jeff Morey did the ingathering dedication, which were Teddy Bears from all the societies to be given to the Red Cross for people in time of a disaster to calm them.

Prior to lunch, the members of the Mary Martha Circle and the Naomi Circle entertained attendees with an Old Testament Apron Fashion Show.

Diana Kriegel, District Representative/Historian, spoke about what we need to save for the archives and how to preserve documents and pictures.

The Zone 3 Board of Directors Meeting will be August 15, 2015, at St. Andrew, Stockton. The Zone will be electing a new Vice President and Secretary at the Fall Rally, which will be held October 17, 2015, at St. Matthew, Sonora.

Submitted by:
Diane Beaver

Zone 7 News

The **Women of Holy Cross Lutheran Church** led by Joyce Liebe, President, blessed 47 participants with the Spring Rally held April 25, 2015. The theme was "Reach Out and Touch." The Bible verse was from Philippians 2:3-4, "Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others." The Devotion by Pat Easby, Zone 7 VP of Christian Life, was a great reminder of the many ways we can touch the lives of others. Annaliesa Liedtke, Nancy Hoffman, and Chris Roman assisted her. Cheryl Hamil, LWML CNH VP of Servant Resources, shared what her role was and gave encouragement to all. Futures Explored participants and directors discussed the aims and achievements of this non-profit which provides life skills and work-related training to adults with developmental disabilities, helping consumers reach their potentials. The ingathering of items needed at Futures Explored was phenomenal, with canning equipment for jams, crayons and pencils, Ziploc bags for boxed lunches prepared in their café, and \$371.70 of the offering went to the program. Reverend Bill Chu led us in Bible study and worship. Lunch was a delight, with a variety of sandwiches and salads, and individual cheesecakes for dessert. The favor was a decorated prayer box, with special cards for prayer remembrances.

(continued on page 11)

Zone 7 News

(continued from page 10)

Women of Holy Cross also have had a WIC "Baby Shower" for participants, a "Bites for Mites" bake sale, and a fun March meeting with the theme "Where in the World Have You Been?" where each woman shared serious and hilarious stories and pictures. They hosted a barbecue with games for Armed Forces Day, honoring those who have served in the military.

Women of First have been collecting mites, reaching out to new members and parents of preschool children, and encouraging new women members to participate in Bible study, and babysitting their children so that they can do so.

Women of Our Savior just completed the yearlong study of "Believing God" by Beth Moore, under the leadership of Ann Brand and Laura Gong, who are also leading the same study in the mom-to-mom group. Members have really learned a lot about the difference between Believing in God, and Believing God. They have had the first 5th Sunday mite collection and soon will have the second one. Quilting is ongoing. Women of Our Savior will host the Fall Rally on October 17.

Women of St. Philip have been busy year round, collecting money for Heifer International, having Bible studies, and cleaning the church kitchen. They collected goods for the Family Emergency Shelter Coalition in Hayward (FESCO). They took Easter baskets to elderly and shut-ins. For May, they are learning how to prepare for emergencies.

Submitted by Susan R. Contreras

Zone 13 News

We had our Spring LWML Rally on March 28, 2015 at Grace Lutheran Church in Crescent City. We had a small group, but had the most enjoyable day filled with a lot of activities. The theme "Under the Umbrella of God's Love" gave way to many ideas for the day. A member of their church had been to Nepal and showed very interesting slides of the roads, housing, and water conditions. With the recent Earthquake in Nepal, I am glad we gave our love offering to the Nepal Mission. I feel like I can see the region and it has touched me deeply. We discussed ways to improve our meetings and did a survey which was compiled by a member of Crescent City and sent to me after the Rally. We also had a fun contest with everyone bringing an umbrella and prizes for different things. I will try to incorporate that information for our next rally in the Fall on October 24, 2015 at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Ferndale. The theme will be "God's Promise of a Rainbow."

The Bible verses will be from Genesis 9:13-17 with the 13th verse being the main focus. We will continue working on quilts for Lutheran World Relief so will meet on May 30th and again on September 26th.

Submitted by Beverly Hansen Givens, Zone 13 President

Zone 15 News

The Zone 15 Spring Rally was held at Our Saviour Lutheran Church in Caruthers on Saturday, April 25. All seven societies were represented; 44 in all came despite the rainy weather. Pastoral Counselor Eli Davis gave a Bible study based on Matthew 18:1-5 (The Greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven) - *Rescued by Christ*; interactive discussion provided some hallmarks of a childlike faith; differences between being humble and being humiliated; and the differences between vocation and self-sufficiency. The guest speaker, Priscilla Robbins, is the Program Coordinator from *Rescue the Children*, a ministry of the Fresno Rescue Mission. Their facility provides safe housing for mothers and children of abuse, homelessness, or previously incarcerated. An 18 month program provides schooling for the kids, learning day-to-day care for their families, budgeting, job training, find housing, counseling, and Bible study -- a place to heal broken spirits, educate lives, transform hearts, and restore family unity through Jesus Christ. What a wonderful program to help these families. We all brought selected items for the ladies, as well as gave donations of over \$1100! Fantastic day! The ladies of Our Saviour had prepared a delicious lunch before we headed back to our homes.

Peace Lutheran LWML in Fresno finished their year with a luncheon of salads and a theme of "Symphony of Flowers" on Saturday, May 9. Caleb Parker, 11-year old grandson of one of the LWML ladies, provided entertainment of piano classical music -- fantastic musician. Lots of flowers, door prizes, and fellowship was enjoyed by all 55 attending.

Emmanuel Lutheran LWML in Clovis will be having their year-end yard sale on Saturday, June 6. Half of the proceeds will go to the local police department for the activities they provide for their youth and adults. The rest of the proceeds go into their society treasury to fund their community outreach projects. The Youth of the church will provide beverages and snacks to the shoppers; their proceeds will go toward their trip to the July 2016 National Youth Gathering in New Orleans.

Ladies of Grace Lutheran in Visalia have been making cookie baskets for the shut-in members of their congregation for the past 9 years. Little green strawberry baskets are decorated with flowers and ribbon and then filled with homemade cookies. At their May and December meetings, these baskets are assembled and then they're off to deliver them to the members who are homebound or living in senior resident centers. Their hope is that these little gifts will help those special people in their church family know they are being remembered even though they are unable to worship with them each Sunday.



Grace LWML will be enjoying an English Tea on Tuesday, June 16, at the home of new President Carole Sell. All are to bring their favorite tea cup and share its heritage. Scones with clotted cream and jam along with other traditional English desserts and sandwiches will be served. Wearing afternoon tea attire, including hats will just add to the afternoon of fun!

Zone 19 News

Zone 19 held an old fashion mission day for their Spring Rally on April 11 at St. Paul in Auburn, California. The theme was *Answering God's Call*. Our mission focus and speakers at the rally were from hill tribes of Southeast Asia. These tribes are agrarian hill-dwelling people of ethnic minorities or indigenous groups. They live in small villages with unique languages and cultures often isolated from the dominant society of political nations in which they reside. The beliefs of these cultures are animist/spirit worshipers. The tribes live mostly in geographic and cultural isolation. The villages are spread out in 3,500' high elevation without any infrastructure: roads, electricity, schools, clean water or medical supplies. Tribal people strive to integrate, but even if they make it to the cities, or immigrate to USA, they face significant obstacles.

The Hmongs are from Laos, where the CIA recruited them during the war. After the Vietnam War many fled to other nations to save their lives. Once here in the USA they have to learn a new language, culture and yet strive to maintain their social identity. Vicar Doua and Sue Xiong are Hmong and they work with the Joy of Harvest Ministries based in Merced, California, reaching out to spiritual and social needs of various people from Southeast Asia. A \$20,000 LWML CNH grant helped fund this ministry this biennium. As mission minded LWMLers we appreciated hearing how our investment is being used for God's work in people's lives in our district.

In Thailand half of the tribal people lack basic rights of Thai citizenship, even for those born in Thailand with family residency going back generations. Identity card or Thai citizenship is essential for healthcare, education and legal protection. Until they receive official identity as Thai Citizens, these tribal people are stateless. Mali Saemee is from the Lisu hill tribe in Thailand. She shared her journey as a Christian from the village to the city of Chaing Mai, to India, China and as of August 2014 to California.

The Xiongs and Mali shared how they are *Answering God's Call* to the 90+ attendees during the rally. The Xiongs shared about the newly opened Hmong school and Mali sang hymns in her native Lisu language. Our love offering was a record high of \$930, which our speakers shared. The rally integrated the Asian focus with the *Answering God's Call* theme in all aspects of the day. You had to be there to hear the phone ring, with the old fashion operator on the other end of the line.



Mali speaking during the meeting



Lunch time with Marian Dunham, Sherry and Jerry Clifton, Mali, Vicar Doua, Jan Onishi, and Sandy Marshal.

Submitted by:

Bev Vietor, Zone 19 Treasurer, Trinity Lutheran Georgetown and Marian Dunham, Rally Co-chair, of St. Paul's in Auburn, California.

(continued on page 14)

Zone 19 News

(continued from page 13)

HELLOOO - HELLOOO??

Ringy-dingy (shades of Lily Tomlin) – that was the sound heard throughout the day at a zone wide event recently put on by Zone 19. The “Answering God’s Call” had an organization and flow to the event that made the day inspiring and exciting.

The ladies of Trinity, Georgetown and St. Paul, Auburn used a telephone theme for the day that was carried out from “Hello” (registration/coffee hour), “Good Morning” (welcome and blessing by church pastor), “Listen Carefully” (Bible study), “Directory” (zone business); “Just a Minute” (testimony); “On Hold” (lunch); “Connecting with” (Joy of Harvest presentation); “Good bye” (farewell and love offering); and “Voice Mail” (the closing prayer).

An “operator” rang her phone loudly several times from the back of the church saying “hello,” “good morning,” etc. The co-chairman of the event picked up her phone at the front of the assembly and made comments in a conversational way on the phone thereby introducing the next segment. The whole event was well put on and attended by 100 ladies. Chinese chicken salad in take out containers was served at lunch. The visual displays regarding upcoming events were impressive.

Thank you Zone 19 for a most enjoyable day.

Karen Mauer, District Representative to the Event

Supreme Court Set to Rule on Marriage

In June, the Supreme Court is expected to rule on the legality of same sex marriage in America. Let us all be in prayer that for God's will, will be done. Here is a prayer from the LCMS website: "Our Lord Jesus, You are the same yesterday, today and forever. Give the pastors and people of Your Church strength to face these challenging times with courage and compassion. Keep our witness faithful to Your revealed truth and filled with divine hope. Protect us from the temptations of despair or capitulation to the ways of the world. We join in Your great prayer: Thy will be done. Heara us, for we pray in your saving name. Amen"

The next publication date for *The Joyful Servant* is September 1, 2015. Please submit articles by August 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**



