

The Joyful Servant

California Nevada Hawaii District
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Winter 2015

President's Message



"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

It is hard to believe that it is December already! I have had a wonderful and busy Fall. It started with an inspiring LWML CNH retreat held at Silver Spur Christian Camp. Many of us got to go on the zip line and learned from Cindy Steinbeck, our Bible study leader, more about how to be a strong woman of God. I was able to attend two zone events: one in Ferndale, CA for Zone 13 and one in Sonora, CA for Zone 3. I also attended a LWML meeting at Peace Lutheran in Fresno, CA to share district information with the ladies there.

Now that these activities are done, it is time to look toward our LWML CNH Convention scheduled for April 15-17, 2016 at the Wyndham Hotel in Visalia, CA. Planning is in full swing for our 2016 Convention and we are also looking for our 2018 Convention location. I feel excited and a bit overwhelmed! The Bible verse at the beginning of this article is the theme verse for our LWML CNH Convention. As I reflect on this verse, I am reminded that I need continue to follow Jesus and He has overcome the world.

As in earlier Joyful Servant articles, I have an LWML Story to share with you. Here is Cherylene Brueckner's LWML story, excerpted from her talk she gave at Bethany Lutheran Church in Vacaville, CA in October 2015 while representing LWML CNH.

"My LWML story began in 1966 at Bethany Lutheran Church in San Diego. I was a new bride, a military wife (Navy), and new to the Lutheran Church. We arrived in San Diego in August and immediately went looking for a church home. My husband was born and raised Missouri Synod Lutheran, but I had no church affiliation. Bethany Lutheran Church, LCMS was just a few blocks from our apartment in the Ocean Beach area of San Diego, so it seemed a perfect fit. We began worshipping at Bethany; I joined the pastor's class and was soon baptized and confirmed.

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President's Message

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San Diego had a large Navy presence in the 1960's so the people at Bethany were used to welcoming young couples. That fall I was invited to my first LWML meeting. My husband encouraged me to go, and the women of Bethany warmly welcomed me. I had no idea what LWML was! I guess the president (she is the one who had invited me) figured that maybe I wasn't the only one that had no clue about LWML – so she told us!

L W M L = LIVING WITH MY LORD

You know, that has stuck with me all of these years! And it is a lot easier to say than the actual name! But she did tell us about the Lutheran Women's Missionary League and their Mites for Missions.

Well, I kept going to those LWML meetings. My husband was a company commander at the Naval Training Center in San Diego for three years. Each time he was assigned a company of 60 new recruits, I didn't see much of him for several weeks. We only had one car, but I could walk the few short blocks to church. I joined the women's Bible study (I had never been in a Bible study before), and I thrived! I thrived on the Word, I thrived on the fellowship, and I thrived on the love of those women. They showed God's love for me, and they lived their love for the Lord. I wanted to be like them!

My husband finished his three years at the Naval Training Center, but he was career Navy, so it was time to go back aboard ship. That meant more time apart! By this time we had two small children and our own home. Fortunately, his ship was home ported in San Diego. Bethany had become our church home. The men and women of Bethany had become our family.

The more I participated in the LWML at Bethany, the more I learned about the LWML at large. I went to a district retreat - a "mountaintop" experience at Arrowhead Springs in the foothills of the San Bernardino Mountains! I went for the fellowship, but came home nurtured in the Word. I started going to zone events at Lutheran churches in our area. I met more LWML sisters. I filled my Mite Box and my heart for Missions!

A few years later – still in the Navy – we went to Japan for three years. That was the only time in my married life that I did not actively participate in LWML, but only because there was no LWML group. My LWML story didn't stop completely while I was in Japan. You know those Bethany women? Well, they didn't forget me. They wrote letters to me. They sent pictures. They waited for me to come home!

And we did! Back to San Diego and another duty station. The kids were in school, and all of the younger women at church and in my neighborhood had gone to work. I was lonely. We had a second car now. I went back to school at the local community college, but I still made time for Bible study with those faithful Bethany women, and for LWML. I took part in LWML district conventions and retreats. I served in leadership positions at the society and zone level of LWML. I grew as a Lutheran woman – **Living With My Lord**.

In 1979, my husband retired from the Navy, and we moved north to Concord. Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Concord welcomed us and we have been here for 36 years. I went to work not long after our move north, but I never lost my need and love for LWML. I have served in many positions in my society and zone, have attended many district conventions and events, have traveled to two national LWML conventions, and have been blessed and nurtured all of the way. And now I have LWML sisters in northern California, too!

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President's Message

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What about those wonderful Bethany women? I have lost touch with some of them, and many have passed on to be with our Lord, but I still correspond with several. All of my LWML sisters have played a special role in my life. We have lived, laughed, labored, and loved together. (We pray together too, but "pray" doesn't start with "L". 😊) They have been there for me, and I for them. And we still are!

- We study God's Word and pray for on another.
- We collect Mites for Missions!
- We work together.
- We enjoy each other's company.

There was **Lois, Wanda, Mary** and **Lynnette**, to name a few of my LWML sisters.

My LWML story will not be your story, but it will share some of the same "threads." We live in a changing world. The sisterhood of LWML is changeless, but the packaging will change."

Joyful in Jesus,
Lynnette Campbell
LWML CNH President

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

Wyndham Hotels have purchased the Holiday Inn in Visalia so it is now the Wyndham Visalia Hotel. Still the same place, just different name. You will be required to make your room reservations directly with the hotel and that information will come out in the first call packet sometime in January or February. Room costs will be \$89.00 each. The Wyndham Company is doing a lot of renovations in the hotel and the guest rooms will all be newly redecorated. Also, many other areas in the hotel will be renovated and new.

Friday afternoon, for early arrivals, the Christian Life committee is planning a time of **SWAPP**, "Song. Worship. And. Prayer. Praise." Information on that will be in your first call packet.

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

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

SAVE THIS DATE – APRIL 15-17, 2016

Human Care

Greetings,



Dogs have been called man's best friend. Most of us are familiar with seeing-eye dogs and other types of service dogs. In this article I'd like to acquaint you with another type of dog-comfort dogs, specifically the Lutheran Church Charities (LCC) K-9 Comfort Dog Ministry. This is a national ministry utilizing the unique skills of dogs, specifically Golden Retrievers, to open opportunities to touch people with mercy and compassion. LCC is an LCMS Recognized Service Organization. These K-9 Comfort Dogs are used in many ways:

- Bring comfort to individuals and families suffering pain or loss
- Create bridges for compassionate care when disaster strikes
- Impact any setting where people gather for celebration, commemoration or comfort
- Help relieve loneliness or depression
- Brighten the lives of the home bound and those in nursing homes

These K-9 Comfort Dogs have travelled all over the country following disasters such as the Boston Marathon bombings, the Sandy Hook shootings, and most recently in our area, the Valley and Butte fires, as well as numerous other locations where these precious animals have been used by God to bring comfort and healing. Each of the dogs has its own Bible verse and Facebook page so people can see where the dog has been ministering.

St. John's Lutheran in Napa, CA, has its own dog, Comfort Dog Aaron. If you would like to schedule an LCC K-9 Comfort Dog visit or would like to learn more about the program contact Lutheran Church Charities at 866-455-6466 or info@K9Comfort.org.

Please pray for this much needed ministry and support it as you are able.

Serving the Lord with Gladness,
Sherry Bell, VP of Human Care

News from the LWML CNH Financial Secretary

Reminder of New Deadlines- Pro-Rate and Quarterly Remittances

Couldn't miss one last opportunity to remind you of the new deadlines for both the Yearly Pro-Rate and the Quarterly Subscription remittances. The due dates remain January 1 but the deadlines have been changed to **February 15**. This is a change from previous years, so please get word out to your society treasurers. The revised forms are included with the newsletter and will also be updated online. Thank you to the societies that have already sent in their Pro-Rate and Quarterly remittances for 2016!

May you all have a blessed Christmas!

In His service,
Kathy Richardson
Financial Secretary



Lutheran Women’s Missionary League
California-Nevada-Hawaii District

**YEARLY PRO-RATE
REMITTANCE FORM**

Pro-rate is due annually January 1, deadline of February 15. The rate is \$3.00 per member. Please complete the form below and mail it with your check.

Pro-rate is used to assist delegates in paying for transportation costs to District conventions. If not paid yearly, your society’s delegate will not receive funds for mileage to convention.

DATE: _____ ZONE NO: _____

Number of Members: _____ Pro-Rate Submitted: \$ _____

Name of Church _____

Church Email Address: _____

Name of Society: _____

Zone Number: _____

Society Contact Name: _____

Society Contact Email Address: _____

Society Contact Mailing Address: _____

Contact Phone No: _____

Make Checks Payable to LWML

Mail Form and Check to:

Kathy Richardson
236 W. East Ave., Ste A, PMB#199
Chico, CA 95926

Pro-Rate Questions: Call 530-680-2322 or Email: calsgirlkathy@gmail.com



**Lutheran Women's Missionary League
California-Nevada-Hawaii District**

QUARTERLY REMITTANCE FORM

Annual remittance for the LMWL Quarterly subscriptions (including increase or decrease in numbers) begins JANUARY 1. All monies must be received by February 15th as the national organization will no longer accept any decrease in numbers after that. Increases in number of subscriptions may be placed at any time.

Subscription rate for March 2016 – April 2017 is \$5.00 each with a minimum of 10. Individual subscriptions are \$6.50 each. Subscription rate for 1-9 copies is \$6.50 each.

Please return the completed lower portion of this form with your remittance.

Please Note – The contact name and email information may be used to send future LWML CNH mailings to your society and church.

Society Name: _____ **Zone #** _____

Name of Church/City, State: _____

Address Quarterly is to be sent to:

Contact Name: _____

Contact Email Address: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

Number of Quarterly subscriptions requesting: _____

Total Remittance \$ _____

Make checks payable to: **LWML**

Mail form and check to: **Kathy Richardson, Financial Secretary**
236 W. East Ave., Ste. A, PMB #199
Chico, CA 95926

Quarterly Questions: Call 530-680-2322 or Email: calsgirlkathy@gmail.com

Christian Life



As winter approaches, we're noticing changes, aren't we? Days of light are shorter, darkness is longer, weather is colder, trees are bare, snow in the mountains. Winter solstice is a time of quiet, firelight, dreaming, seeds germinating the cold earth, still waters, and a state of repose. And yes, many struggle with the bleakness of the land, the emptiness of trees and flowers, and gray skies. It seems like all the life and energy of the summer and fall dwindle away as birds fly south, the sun seems not as bright or as warm, sweaters and coats becoming the norm.

However, winter darkness does have a positive side, too. We are encouraged to recognize and honor the beauty in this often unwanted season. It reminds us of the wonderful rhythm of God's creation. Seeds were sown in spring, grown, fruited, and now provide for our needs. Barren trees provide nutrients in the earth for the coming year. Plants, which are lying dormant within the ground, are preparing to emerge again in the spring and will bring us joy and beauty. Let winter wisdom bring us teaching about the earth's need for withdrawal as an essential part of renewal. It invites our hearts to be glad for the courage winter proclaims and celebrates the return of hope to our land and the sun – and hope builds in us, as well.

We thank the darkness when we are exhausted and are need of sleep. Darkness and quietness is a time that nurtures dreams, a time of reflection, a time of healing, a time that nourishes our bodies and souls, a time to prepare for the next season of life, a time not to cover our fears but to seek out our Light – Jesus – A time to be still and listen to our Lord speaking to us.

It is also a time of preparation of our hearts during Advent awaiting the Christ Child, and of a new year that lies ahead.

You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being. Revelation 4:11

This is the God we serve –

- a God of love, of healing, of power, of strength
- a God who loves us with a Father's love
- a God who laughs as we laugh
- a God who suffers as we suffer
- a God who brings light into dark places
- a God who brings warmth into hearts that are chilled
- a God who sees within us the potential of spring
- a God of all seasons
- a God of hope and a future
- a God who makes all things new, clean, and beautiful in His sight.

ALLELUIA! WE PRAISE YOUR GLORIOUS NAME!! ALLELUIA!

Lavada Terrell
VP of Christian Life

Greetings from Your Treasurer

I recently visited www.lwml.org in search of a clear definition of LWML's "The Time is NOW". This is what I found:

What is "The Time is NOW"?

It is an initiative to help the LWML refocus on our basic common core values: being in God's Word, missions, service, and fellowship. It is imperative, even urgent, that women share with other women the contagious joy that results from being a member of LWML! The Time is NOW!



Well, that's clear enough, but how do we do that? A start is to sign up for "2-Minute Tuesdays" online at www.lwml.org. You will receive an e-mail every Tuesday with a short message: timely tips, insight, and wisdom to share. The September 29, 2015 "2-Minute Tuesday" was written by our own CNH Past President Gloria Edwards. She encouraged us to share a favorite activity or pastime, enlarging it enough to include others and adding time for spiritual sharing.

In October, I was honored to represent LWML CNH at two LWML events. In both cases the LWML women were reaching out to all women of the church with the message that LWML is not "just about meetings." I shared "My LWML Story" at Bethany Lutheran Church, Vacaville's fall luncheon. At the Zone 18 Fall Rally (The Lutheran Church of Our Savior in Cupertino) I was able to bring greetings from CNH and promote our 2016 LWML CNH Convention in Visalia. It was a joy to be with these LWML women - sharing God's Word, missions, service and fellowship. The Time is NOW!

LWML's new initiative can be the lead-in for us in many ways. The Time is NOW to:

- Be in God's Word.
- Be faithful as we fund our remaining LWML CNH Mission Grants. **As of 10/31/15 Mission Grants #1-13 have been paid, \$88,900. Mission Grant #14 is funded (\$5,000 – ready to pay), and we are working on #15 (\$3,5000). Mission Grants #16 -21 (\$27,600) await funding by 3/31/16.**
- Pray for our CNH and LWML Mission Grant recipients.
- Plan now to attend the LWML CNH Convention in Visalia.
- Remember the Rubin and Steinbeck Funds in your giving plan.
- Sign up for **Joyful Response®** for your monthly mite giving.
- Praise the Lord, and give thanks to God for our many blessings this holiday season.



Thank you for "Serving the Lord with gladness."

Cherylene Brueckner
LWML CNH Treasurer

Parliamentarian TIDBITS

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

Have you seen the LWML website recently? The LWML Handbook has been revised (June 2015). So checkout the LWML website and look for the category “About” and then “Bylaws and Structure.”

The broad categories of the content of the 2015 LWML Handbook include:

- Introduction
- Section A – Societies (Local Organizations) and Individual Members
- Section B – Zones
- Section C – Districts
- Section D – LWML
- Section E – Corporate Documents
- Section F – Meeting Helps
- Section G – Resources
- Section H – Definition of LWML Terms

Within each section there is more information pertaining to the specific organization. The entire handbook is available online and has a wealth of information in one place.

May your meetings be blessed!

Donna Herzog
LWML CNH Parliamentarian

Nominating Committee

We often think of stewardship when we give our treasures to God. But stewardship is also the giving of our time and talents. The Nominating Committee is asking each of you to pray about using your God-given time and talents in a leadership role in the LWML CNH District. At the April 15-17, 2016 LWML CNH Convention in Visalia, the delegates will have an opportunity to vote for new leaders. Will you or someone you know be on the ballot? The committee is currently seeking names for the positions of Vice President of Christian Life, Vice President of Human Care, Vice President of Gospel Outreach, and Treasurer.

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

Marcia Houseworth
Sandy Haugner
Linda Bradley
Jan Sorge

Servant Resources

The District Bylaws are currently being reviewed by the committee. Some changes will be proposed at the upcoming District Convention. Watch for more information as the convention gets closer.

Do you have structure or bylaws questions? Please contact Cheryl Hamil, VP of Servant Resources or Donna Herzog, Parliamentarian.

Committee on Young Women

Young women - are you searching for resources and/or ideas for your society meetings or get-togethers in your congregation? Please visit the LWML site - there are many resources available, as well as a page and links just for you.

You can view the YWR newsletter at: www.lwml.org/ywr-impressions-newsletter

Leader Development

Greetings in the name of the Lord!

Societies throughout the LWML CNH are making plans in their churches and communities for the joyous holiday season ahead. In addition, many groups are holding elections for new officers. It can be a challenge to find women who will run for office; our seasoned members might tell us, "I've served as treasurer three different terms in the past!" and our newer members might say, "Well, I'd serve as secretary, but I could never take those minutes, I've never done that before!" or "President? Are you kidding?"

Then, just as we begin to despair of filling the slate of candidates, new or recycled leaders step forward. Thankfully, God knows who will lead His LWML, and He calls and prepares each woman for leadership. An important resource is available for leaders on the lwml.org website, *LWML Leaders Manual*, updated as of October 2015. For the new or recycled leader, this handbook is a comprehensive guide to LWML leadership. It's available to download in full or by individual chapter at the link below. It's important to use the information as a resource rather than a strict "how-to" manual because each society looks and operates a little differently.

To download the newly revised LWML Leaders Manual, go to:

<http://www.lwml.org/bylaws-and-meeting-helps#LM>

Serve the Lord with Gladness!

Cheryl Hamil, VP of Servant Resources

Linda Allen, Leader Development

NEWS from the Zones

Zone 3 News

Zone 3 held its Fall Rally on October 17, 2015, at St. Matthew Sonora, with a theme of "Mighty Mites & Mighty Missions" based on the story of the Widow's Mite in Mark 12:43-44. There were 57 members present. The guest speaker was Jean Harvey who spoke on "Gracious Giving," real giving must come from the heart given out of love. A skit entitled "A Revealing Conversation," was given by Jeanette Lambert and Gwen Eaton about the work our mites do by giving our coins and to the large amounts they grow to help others.

The "Gifts of Love" ingathering dedication was led by Cindy Harley and Cathie Peacock, Interfaith Director. After lunch, a group sing-a-long was led by Jan Sorge and Pat Shoemaker.

LWML CNH President, Lynnette Campbell, reported on the 2015 LWML Convention in Des Moines. She also gave us information on using the websites and on Bites for Mites updated information. The LWML CNH Convention will be held in Visalia, April 15-17, 2016, and the Regional Retreat will be held in Hawaii in October 2016.

The Nomination Committee presented members running for Vice President and Secretary, and thereafter we elected Inez Null as Vice President and Jane Morgan as Secretary. President, Lynnette Campbell, installed the new officers. We also were able to fill the vacancy on our Human Care committee. Cathy King and Chyrl Ikenberry volunteered to co-chair that committee.

Charlene Garrett, Vice President of Convention reported that the theme for the LWML CNH Convention is "Overcome by Him," John 16:33. The convention will be about Word, Worship, Praise, and Fellowship. Zone 3 has hostess duties, and Mary Morey is in charge of the Hostess Committee.

The Zone 3 Board of Directors Meeting will be January 16, 2016, at St. Luke/St. John, Valley Home. The Zone 3 Spring Rally will be March 27, 2016, at St. Paul, Merced.

Submitted by:

Diane Beaver, President, Zone 3

Zone 7 News

FAITH LUTHERAN: Sharon Hunter, President, reported that Women of Faith held a delightful Afternoon Tea in September for 63 women. Hostesses set the tables with their fine china, fresh flower arrangements, and lovely linens. The tea arrangements included delicious finger sandwiches, scones with homemade lemon curd, petit fours and shortbread cookies. The works of six of the artists and craftswomen from the congregation were featured, including weavings from the collections of Linda Hartmann and Francine Tchan, oil paintings of Irene Desmond and Sylvia Crout-Bruns, and crocheted and knitted items by Paula Thompson and Ollie Anderson. Jan Kawal entertained with songs from the Great American Song Book, and Cindy Woodward shared a violin solo. All funds raised from the event went to support the Youth fund.



Zone 7 News

(continued from page 11)

HOLY CROSS: Joyce Liebe, President, shared the many activities of Women of Holy Cross. The March meeting's theme of "Where in the World Have You Been?" led to women taking turns sharing their travel stories and pictures. Travels to Europe, coming to America for a better life, a Disneyland Thanksgiving family tradition, a newlywed's first cruise and more were shared, some serious, others hilarious. Cherylene Brueckner helped everyone laugh and share and learn.

The April Spring Rally the WoHC hosted was successful, with 47 attendees, who heard a presentation by Futures Explored, a non-profit supporting adults with disabilities. The ingathering reflected the generosity of the participants, with art supplies, canning and storage equipment, and other items needed for the programs that Futures Explored have developed. Lunch was delicious, and the purple tablecloths and special prayer boxes for each woman delighted all.



The May tradition of Congregation BBQ and Games for Armed Forces Day was again well received. Thirty people attended, dressed patriotically, and the food was great, with BBQ Hot dogs, courtesy of the Council. It was grand way to honor Military personnel, past and present.

LWML Sunday was held in September, and following the service, women celebrated the Welcome Back "Mugs and Muffins" event, to learn about the program for the upcoming year. Women brought a mug that had a story, and they shared examples of God's working in their lives, like forgiveness, or relaxing control to let God work.

OUR SAVIOR: Glenna Sanlis took our nine quilts to Antioch for the ingathering at St. John's after they were blessed for service by our school Principal, Evan Anwyl. Ann Brand continues to lead us in a yearlong study of First and Second Thessalonians, a video study by Beth Moore. The Fall Rally day was beautiful, with 28 in attendance, and with Karen Mauer speaking and a presentation by City Serve Christian group, lead by Gloria Gregory.

Submitted by Susan R. Contreras
Zone 7 LWML CNH President

Zone 8 News

The LWML CNH Zone 8 societies met for their Fall Gathering on Saturday, October 24, 2015 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Pacifica, CA. Despite a forecast of fog and sprinkles and possible traffic jams due to a Pumpkin Festival weekend event in Half Moon Bay, eight congregations were represented, including two pastors, 23 women, two children and one guest. The two women, who represented the newly organized LWML group of Faith Lutheran in South San Francisco, were warmly welcomed. The morning view of the seacoast hills and beaches, viewed as we approached the church's location along Coast Highway 1 was clear and spectacular!

Zone 8 News

(continued from page 12)

A welcoming breakfast coffee was served by the women of Our Savior's (President, Kay Vanderpool). At 10:00 AM we opened by joining in the LWML Hymn and then were led in a Bible study led by Pastor Dan Kistler on the topic "**A Matter of the Heart: Comfort from God's Word in Hard Times.**" Following the Bible study, LWML CNH Vice President of Servant Resources Cheryl Hamil reported on the upcoming LWML CNH events and especially encouraged those present to attend the LWML CNH Convention in Visalia on April 16-18, 2016.

Societies contributed to an ingathering organized by Justina Fisher, Zone 8 Vice President and Historian. Items collected were originally intended for the Haven Family House administered by InnVision of the Bay Area. Due to the "last minute" inability of InnVision to send a representative to the gathering to speak and receive the ingathering items, the women voted to donate the generous supply of items to the **local Pacifica Resource Center** and **Safe Harbor**.

Pastor Kistler, filling in as "speaker" at late notice, shared slides and comments about his three month sabbatical/pulpit exchange with a pastor from a small town in Northern Germany who, in turn, served the congregation at Our Savior's in Pastor Kistler's absence. The beauty and grandeur of the old cathedrals and churches and historical buildings and beautiful countryside of northern Germany were aptly captured by Rev. Kistler's photography!

At noon, all present sat down at nicely decorated tables (purple tablecloths!) to socialize and consume BYO lunches topped off by a choice of two delicious homemade desserts baked by the Pacifica LWML sisters.

The business meeting led by Zone President Barbara Guevara followed. Elections were held and all current officers were reelected. Barbara reported on her attendance at the LWML Convention in Des Moines, Iowa, which was a POSITIVE despite travel difficulties being a NEGATIVE!!

Activity reports were given by a representative of each of the societies present. Many local charities are supported by the societies as well as great support for the current LWML mission grants. Some of the projects supported are: Bites for Mites Bake Sales; pull-tabs from cans given to Ronald McDonald House; Christmas shoe boxes assembled for Samaritan's Purse's Operation Christmas Child; a live outdoor Nativity, Christmas caroling, and home baked refreshment, is an annual event of Our Savior's LWML. Trinity, Palo Alto, reported on the creation of a new women's Bible study group, meeting biweekly in the evening to encourage working women's attendance. They will use Bible studies from the LWML Quarterly as well as other studies.

It was voted and passed that the freewill offering received at the gathering be given to Our Savior's LWML to augment their mite contributions to LWML CNH. The closing devotion and prayer were led by Zone 8 Counselor Pastor Aaron Smith of St. Paul's in Mountain View, CA.

Submitted by Marilyn Taddey
LWML CNH Zone 8 board member

Zone 11 News

We are planning a regional retreat for October 14-16, 2016 at Kilauea Military Camp at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. Want to see the wonders of God in an active volcano, unique flora and fauna, and in the lives of fellow Christians, then come to Hawaii, the Big Island for a three day retreat. We begin on Friday at 3 p.m. and end at noon on Sunday. Registration, lodging and five meals are included for \$200. Transportation from Hilo Airport can be arranged, if you are not renting a car.

The theme of the retreat will complement the convention theme. The Retreat Speaker will be announced later. Lots of varied activities will be offered: a guided Bible study tour through the park, hiking, volcano viewing, music, hula, free time, etc.

More information will be forthcoming.

Hope you can join us!

Report submitted by Dian Mahoney
LWML CNH Zone 11 Treasurer

Zone 13 News

LWML Zone 13 met October 24, 2015, for our Fall Rally in Ferndale, California. Our guest speaker was LWML CNH District President Lynnette Campbell. She spoke on her last MOST Ministry trip to Nicaragua teaching people how to purify water for drinking.

A thank you was given to our outgoing president, Beverly Hansen Givens. Beverly served us for many years as president. She has been very dedicated to our small zone. She managed to attend LWML CNH board meetings and never missed LWML CNH District and National LWML Conventions.

Zone 13 quilters met several times this past year to tie quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Under the tutelage of our dedicated leader, Jeanie Tardif of Grace Lutheran Church, we shipped 38 quilts.

Grace Lutheran Church of Crescent City held its annual LWML Christmas Bazaar on November 7. The ladies of Grace Lutheran have been making "Grace Cooper Frozen Pies" since July using only local donated fruit. One member of our group, Patsy Nettlelton, "loves" to make pies. She single handedly made close to one hundred pies in her home kitchen. With a friend, she scoured the county looking for blackberries picking enough to make 85 blackberry pies.

God gives all of us gifts. I am thankful Patsy knows her gift of pie making and uses that gift in serving her Lord.

Zone 13 will hold its next Spring Rally on March 2, 2016. The chosen theme is "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn E. Munz
Zone 13 President

Zone 14 News

LWML Women in Mission Mite Harvest “Go and Do Likewise.”

September became the “Women in Mission Mite Harvest Month” for St. Mark’s Ladies Society who invited their brothers and sisters in Christ to join them in their Mite Harvest. The “Mite” was inspired by the scriptures in Luke 21:1-4 and Mark 12:41-43 as far back as the 1800’s. Women’s Mission to Women (Baptist) urged members in its first circular letter in 1871 to use their new mite boxes to raise funds.

Under the original 1928 Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Endeavor organizational plan, each woman in every congregation would receive a Mite Box if she participated in the Ladies Aid. The result was that the receipts from the 92 Ladies Aid societies totaled \$6,651.31 in 1930. Our Lutheran Women’s Missionary League, formally recognized by the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod in 1942, required by the newly adopted constitution and bylaws that 25% of all missionary contributions, received by the districts, be given to the national organization.

Inspired by the history of our organization, the ladies of St. Mark Lutheran Church in Santa Rosa, CA, Women in Mission gathered the harvest from the boxes that were filled during this month. Because that Sunday was also “LWML Sunday,” the Women in Mission took an active role in the worship service. We celebrate the joy of giving to further the mission work of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

The ladies of St. Mark also reached out to their sister societies in Zone 14 to join them, saying to them: “Go and do likewise.” It became a joyful time of communication and the phones lines were alive with news from each group to another. Of our nine groups of LWML societies, five gathered their mites for the zone, and the results were awesome. Final monies totaled \$1,094.03 from Zone 14.

It is with full hearts that the women in mission are joined together in Christ to support the great mission grants that will soon be fully funded.



Submitted by Nancy J. Hanke, Zone 14 President, St. Mark LWML

Zone 15 News

OUR SAVIOUR’S LUTHERAN – LWML IN ACTION

The congregation and **LWML** of **Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church (OSL) in Caruthers, CA**, has been busy creating a way to serve the members of the Caruthers community and its surrounding area. The LWML, under the leadership of our President, Sharon Massingill, has been moving forward with our involvement in many community based ministries. We welcome all to join us in worship and servant hood. Here are some of the opportunities that offer us the ability to reach many for Christ:

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We begin our year in late February with our **Community Aebleskiver Breakfast** where we serve and welcome ALL members of our community. We chose an organization, individual or group to earmark this fundraiser and accept a "free-will" offering for a delicious breakfast of Aebleskiver, ham, juice and coffee. Often we are able to have a representative from the organization/group that is our focus for giving and that person is able to engage our guests, informing them of the work they do, spreading the message of Jesus Christ. Our outreach with fundraising has benefited Rescue the Children, Poverello House, Caruthers Community Café, individuals undergoing medical treatment, Karios Prison Ministries and others.



We move on later in the year to staff **Our Saviour's Lutheran booth at the Caruthers District Fair**. At this four day event we have an up front and personal way to welcome the community to Our Saviour's. We serve Aebleskiver dinners, hamburgers, French fries and chili fries to people from all over the Fresno County area. What a wonderful opportunity to welcome new and old friends to worship with us in the coming weeks and months! Our receipts for this labor of love are used in part to fund the Operation Christmas Child, Shine for Jesus, The Fresno Rescue Mission, Poverello House, Bethel Lutheran Home and the Marjaree Mason Center.

Our LWML ladies (and husbands) volunteer their talents and time in support of the **Caruthers Community Café** each month. This "Café" provides hot meals, groceries, clothing and employment links to those attending. Our rural community is lovingly dependent on the generous outreach programs that many help to provide on a weekly basis. We are thankful for all the servant hands that step up to make this ongoing project "work" for the souls that participate each week. OSL has submitted a grant application for this ongoing mission and look forward to securing this additional funding to purchase food and Bibles for our community members and their children.



As you read through these various outreach programs, please pray for their support in the coming years. The need is great and the workers are eager to fulfill the request of feeding God's people, both with meals and the Word.

Submitted by LaVada Terrell

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Christmas Splendor Boutique/Bakery & Luncheon

The ladies of Grace Lutheran in Visalia just completed their 21st annual boutique & luncheon on October 24th. The weather was beautiful a perfect setting for such a wonderful day. The Mary/Martha Craft Circle of Grace meet monthly to work on crafts. Also, many ladies of the congregation and friends of members work in their own home throughout the year embroidering towels, crocheting, making jam, jellies and other crafts. Before lunch we were delighted with entertainment by a singing group of 5 teachers from Grace Christian School and then the Lahu Choir, dressed in their beautiful handmade traditional costumes, from our Lahu Congregation at Grace.



The proceeds from this event are donated to 18 local & worldwide charities. In addition, we provide financial support to two seminary students at Concordia Theological Seminary, St. Louis and Ft. Wayne.

Many charities were blessed because of all who came to support this worthwhile event. Thank you!!! God is good!!!!



Submitted by Carole Sell
LWML CNH Zone 15 Grace President

The next publication date for *The Joyful Servant* is March 1, 2016. Please submit articles by Feb. 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**

