

## President's Message



Dear sisters and brothers of the LWML CNH District,

On your mark, get set, GO! The time is flying by and soon we will be "Running the Race ... Looking to Jesus" as we join many sisters and brothers in Lexington,

Kentucky, be it in person or virtually!

June 24 through June 27 will be a time to gather for the election of officers, find out who will be the Mission Grant recipients, listen to Bible Study leader, Heidi Goehmann, be encouraged by our Keynote Speaker, Linda Reiser, be inspired by the messages of Mites in Action Speakers, giggle with the humorous interrupters, Jan Struck and Abby Goehring, and worship and celebrate. Opportunities to serve, to grow, to be encouraged abound.

Since I last wrote, the LWML CNH Executive Committee and the Board of Directors met via Zoom in February to go through reports and receive information in preparation for the Convention. I was absent from this meeting because I was in the hospital, but am thankful that all is well now. Thank you for your prayers and notes of encouragement. (P.S – One thing I learned is that excessive consumption of licorice tea can cause high blood pressure! No kidding)

In March, I participated in a Zoom meeting with LWML President Debbie Larson and the District Presidents and welcomed the news that our Convention would be held in person. A lot of work has been done to make this Convention possible and we are very thankful to have the opportunity to go. At this point there is a limit as to how many people can register. We pray that Kentucky will open up and that all who desire to attend in person will be allowed to come.

The ladies of Zone 11, from Hawaii, invited me to an online event, Women in Mission, on two Saturdays in March. Presenter Beth Zier had a very meaningful presentation and we had a chance to get to know each other a bit more by being in chat rooms. The event was very well attended and included ladies from Hawaii, California, Nevada and even Hong Kong.

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It is good news that other Zones are planning events in April and May, some online and others in person. There are events such as a Virtual Pajama Party and The Main Event presented online by Mt. Diablo Zone 7, and an in-person Prayer Service event put on by North Sacramento Zone 12, to name a few.

I'm thankful that a pandemic cannot stop the LWML from functioning and realize how adept you have all become with technology. Congratulations on honing your skills on the computer and on being willing to learn and use the technology that is available. I know it might be scary sometimes, but with God nothing is impossible.

On a personal note, I'm thrilled to announce that my husband and I will be meeting our first grandchild in September. I'm looking forward to learning all about being grandma. Any advice is welcome.

May you be encouraged with the words of our new Mission Statement, "As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others."

Serving Him with gladness,

Martha E. Dubke  
LWML CNH District President

# Christian Life

## LaVada Terrell, Vice-President

I'm here to tell you more about the resources you can find on our LWML website (lwml.org).

This time, I'll share with you what is under the tab labeled *The Word*, e.g., program resources, group and personal meditations.

### BIBLE STUDIES

- A synopsis of the latest and most popular Bible study. At this time, a highlight of a two-session study by Linda Koch called *Steps of Faith*, searching the Scriptures and spending time reflecting on individual and collective experiences and the journey ahead.
- LWML continues to support missions and missionaries in Europe with a series of Bible studies translated into Russian and Ukrainian. The Bible studies, written by well-known author Donna Snow, were originally published by the LWML in English. With grants from several districts, and in cooperation with the WORDrus Mission Society, eight multi-session Bible studies are now available to missionaries and individuals as free downloads.
- There is a link to the LWML/CPH store where Bible study books can be purchased.
- *Lutheran Women's Quarterly* Bible studies can be downloaded, some with leader guides, some in Spanish, and archived from the present back to 1998.
- The following can all be downloaded:
  - Long/Multi-session Bible studies
  - Short/Single session Bible studies on numerous topics and themes, church year, and seasons.
  - Sketches/dramatizations, creative crafts, litanies, responsive readings, and short programs.

### MUSTARD SEED DEVOTIONS

- Individual Mustard Seed devotions may be read and downloaded.
- Compilation booklets and packets of Mustard Seed devotions may be purchased.
- History of Mustard Seed devotions
- Uses of Mustard Seed devotions

### PROGRAM RESOURCES

- Program examples to include icebreakers, devotions, Bible studies, service projects
- Links to Bible studies, dramatizations, sketches, craft projects, litanies, short programs
- Retreat packages on different topics
- Tab for seasonal themes

### COLORING SCRIPTURES

- Themed bookmarks, notecards, and pages, to download and color
- Some in Spanish

### ALL SPIRITUAL GROWTH RESOURCES

- All of the above in shortened form
- Also specific devotions for Gospel Outreach, Mission Grants, Podcast, Mite Box
- LWML league pledge and songs

# LWML CNH Retreat

August 27-29, 2021

Episcopal Conference Center Oakhurst (ECCO)  
43803 Highway 41, Oakhurst, CA 93644



## Plan Now To Attend!

Join your sisters-in-Christ for a RELAXING weekend of fun, fellowship, renewal & inspiration!

Bible study | praise & worship | music to soothe your soul | singing | gathering of old and new friends |  
| servant events | delicious meals | games | free time | morning & evening devotions

Bible Study Leader: Judy Huber

Musicians: Pastor Hal Toenjjes and Pastor David Floyd

Servant Events: Days for Girls; Phil's Friends

Retreat Weekend

Registration includes: 1-4 per room, 5 meals, linens

Friday, Aug. 27: Registration opens at 4 pm. Dinner at 6 pm.

Sunday, Aug. 29: The retreat ends after Sunday worship.

Check with your Zone or Society President or go to [www.lwmlcnh.org](http://www.lwmlcnh.org) to see complete retreat details.  
*REGISTER EARLY!! SEE YOU THERE!!*

# Gospel Outreach

Bev Viotor, Vice-President

Aloha, as they say in Hawaii. Zone 11-Hawaii had virtual gatherings at the end of March. They requested a video visit from Penny. The response was so positive to Penny's video she is making it available for everyone to see where Penny lives.

Click on this link: [https://youtu.be/1\\_n4CiRJoXM](https://youtu.be/1_n4CiRJoXM)

Spend 5 minutes as Penny attempts to make mighty mites in her hometown, a small village with a four way stop sign in the foothills of California. You'll visit her home church and meet her 92 year old Bible study teacher. Plus, the video provides important information on how to keep current with our grant projects. Get your pencil and paper ready with a cup of coffee as you enjoy 5 minutes with Penny.

Speaking of keeping current with mites, here's a quick update. Time wise we are half way through our biennium, sadly we are only at 36% funding for our grant goal. One sad fact, as we have some really great grants that need funding so the gospel of our Lord can be shared in some unique ways. Keep collecting your mites and just as important, pray for our grants and the people who are working with them. Pray for your LWML CNH leaders, your church family, LWML nation, LCMS, and our nation. Prayers are powerful.

Peace and mercy,

Bev Viotor, VP Gospel Outreach



## Convention Planning

Roxan Schwab, Vice-President



## 2022 CONVENTION NEWS!

**Save the Date: June 10-12, 2022**  
(NOTE: Date is in June due to chance of snow over the pass for travelers)

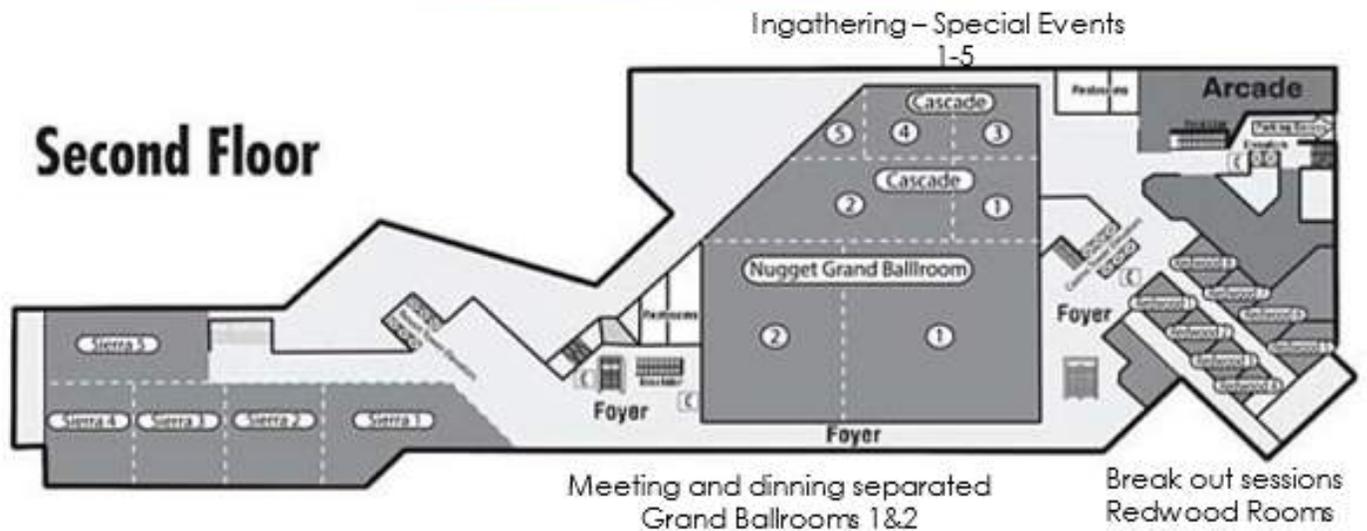


**Nugget Casino Resort, Sparks, NV**

## Convention Speakers and Breakout Sessions More to Come

- ▶ Inspirational Speaker : **Beth Zier**
- ▶ Bible Study Leader: **Michelle Ule**
  
- ❖ Getting Started In Bible Journaling: **Cathey King**
- ❖ Orphan Grain Train: **Steve Magee**
- ❖ Raising Up Leaders so that Our Cities Will Know Jesus: **Rev. Aaron Putnam**
- ❖ Rallies, Retreats, and Other Events: **LaVada Terrell**
- ❖ Ways to Share and Plant Jesus with Others: **Rev. Doua Xiong**

## Entire Second Floor for LWML Convention



## Spacious Newly Remodeled Hotel Rooms



Up to four people per room at \$119.00 per night

## **Nominating Committee 2021-2022**

How often have we recited the LWML League Pledge? As Lutheran Women in Mission, we can all answer, “lots and lots of times.” We are so blessed as an organization to say that we have heeded the call: ...and in obedience to His call for workers in the harvest fields, we pledge Him our willing service wherever and whenever He has need of us. In our societies, zones, and district, women are sewing, teaching, building, filing, visiting, cooking, serving, mentoring, writing, donating, leading, planning, sharing, etc.

Dare we, as a Nominating Committee, ask for more? Yes, we are. We are seeking names for the positions of

- Vice President of Convention Planning
- Vice President of Organizational Resources
- Recording Secretary
- Financial Secretary
- President

Are you that person or do you know someone with leadership abilities willing to “tackle another job”?

Please send your suggestions or your own personal interest to Marcia Houseworth, [mghouseworth@hotmail.com](mailto:mghouseworth@hotmail.com). The Nominating Committee is grateful for your help.

Marcia Houseworth

Jill Ellwanger [jille9@hotmail.com](mailto:jille9@hotmail.com)

Sherry Bell [sheryl-bell@comccast.net](mailto:sheryl-bell@comccast.net)

Carole Sell [geocann65@yahoo.com](mailto:geocann65@yahoo.com)

## LWML NEWS

### Updated Mission Statement

The LWML recently updated the LWML Mission Statement. The new mission statement replaces the one which was written in 1988. Please make sure to update this in all your publications, websites, and printed materials.

#### **LWML Mission Statement**

**As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.**

Assisting the women of the LWML to put the new Mission Statement into practice, the committee also provided five LWML Core Values:

- Christian Women — We live as redeemed children of the Triune God.
- In God's Word — We live in joyful response to the Holy Scriptures.
- Mission-Focused — We answer God's call to share His Gospel at home and abroad.
- Embrace Diversity — We are sisters in Christ who value and benefit from each other.
- Servant Leaders — We are called and equipped by God to serve others.

A new LWML brochure was also created with the new LWML Mission Statement inside. These are now available from the LWML Office for you to order.

Lutheran Women's Missionary League  
801 Seminary Place, Ste. L010  
St. Louis, MO 63105  
Phone: 1-800-252-5965  
Fax: 1-314-505-7506  
Website: [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org)  
Email: [lwml@lwml.org](mailto:lwml@lwml.org)

# Convention in Lexington

## Convention Registration Capped!

Due to COVID-19 restrictions the Rupp Arena at Central Bank Center, where the LWML Convention will be held June 24–27, 2021, can only allow a limited number of people to attend at this time. This restriction caused LWML to shut down convention registrations temporarily.

The LWML Board of Directors prayerfully anticipates that the percentage allowed will increase and suggests anyone interested in attending [click HERE to be placed on a waitlist](#). When/if capacity is increased LWML will supply a link to registration and honor the early registration price for a limited time. Registrations for all delegates and special guests will be accepted. Please contact the LWML with any questions.

LWML President Debbie Larson asks that you continue to pray boldly, knowing God hears and answers prayers. She asks for your patience and understanding as we continue to “Running the Race ... Looking to Jesus.”

For updated information on the 2021 Convention in Lexington, KY go to the LWML Convention Central [Convention Central](#)

## Live Streaming

The Lexington Convention will be live streamed as in the past. Click on this link [livestream.com/TheLWML](https://livestream.com/TheLWML) to see the live stream of the 2019 Mobile convention. The live stream for 2021 Lexington, KY will appear at the same link.



Here’s a Great Idea! ... Gather a group to watch the live stream together at someone’s home or even at your church. Of course you will want to follow CDC COVID guidelines. Or have a watch party on Thursday, June 24, 2021, at 7 pm Eastern Time (4 pm Pacific Time, 1 pm Hawaii Time). Here is the [tentative schedule for Convention](#)

**DID YOU KNOW:** All Convention Delegates will be able to vote on the Mission Grants electronically, before Conventions. Even if you will not be attending the convention in person, you may want to review the [Mission Grants](#) which are on the ballot. Your delegate may ask you for your opinion on which Mission Grant for which she should vote!

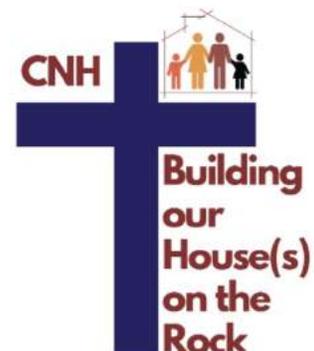
## CNH-LCMS NEWS

Did you know that our CNH-LCMS District has a newsletter? It is called the InTouch. You may subscribe to this newsletter of our LCMS District [here](#).

[CNH District Website](#)

[CNH District Convention](#) Information

72nd Convention  
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod  
California-Nevada-Hawaii District  
Doubletree Hotel – Newark /Fremont, CA May 5-7, 2022



# **NEWS from the Zones**

## **Zone 3 - North San Joaquin**

### **In Memoriam**

Zone 3 again announces with great sorrow and great joy the passing of a board member. Our secretary, Jeanne O'Connell, recently passed into glory. Jeanne had heart issues and was in hospice care. She was a member of St Andrew's Lutheran Church in Stockton. Her friendly smile, joyful laugh, and willingness to do whatever was needed will be sorely missed.

If you would like to send a card to her family, the address is:

Tim O'Connell  
10624 RIVERMONT DR  
Stockton CA 95209

An added note of sorrow is that her son was killed on Highway 4 heading home after his final visit with her. Please keep the family in your prayers.

A Zoom Board Meeting got us back on track for LWML on March 13. Sometime during the Lockdown, I lost track of my responsibilities as a Zone President, a Senior Moment of great length! It was good to see all the ladies and talk about plans. Our Zone Human Care project through May is again collecting food for local food banks due to the large numbers of people still having hardships.

Being in the Central Valley, some of us are still in the purple and red tiers. Gatherings, even small ones at the churches, are frowned upon by those in authority. Most societies are only collecting mites while others have Zoom or masked in-person meetings depending on local rules.

Zone 3 is planning a Zoom Rally on Saturday April 17. Good Shepherd, Turlock, is hosting. Our speaker is from Westside Ministries and we have been promised a children's chorus for our entertainment! Naomi, Grace, Modesto, plans to meet at the church to "attend" the Rally together. There is some talk that the Zone President will provide lunch. Hmmm.

I hope to have a much healthier report next time, but for now, at least I remember that I have a job to do! Get your purple on and serve the Lord with gladness!

Cathey King, President  
Zone 3



## Zone 5 - South San Joaquin

As our Zone 5 is not active at this time, I am sending an update on what our LWML is doing here at Zion, Terra Bella. As you know LWML is about "*Serving the Lord with Gladness*" and that is literally what we have done since January. Since our Christmas Bazaar was so successful with its modifications and pretty well attended, we decided to host a soup luncheon after church on Feb. 28. This was open to the congregation and was done as a "big thank you" to all of our church staff and volunteers. So in honor of them, our LWML ladies made a variety of soups and had bread, drinks and cake and "*served*" many of our congregational members with a choice of eating inside, outside, or as a take out luncheon at no charge. Everyone enjoyed a good meal and a good time!

We also were blessed to receive a donation in memory of a former member and we decided to use that money to help our Zion School children by providing a hot lunch for them when we could. So we had the privilege of providing a hot lunch and "*serving*" them in early February when they celebrated Lutheran Schools Week and also in April. It was fun to see their smiles, happy faces and their "thank you's"!



Sincerely,

Linda Lynch, President

Zion, Terra Bella

At a couple of our meetings we focused on the important topic of Pro-Life, and received information from our local groups and was able to support them as well as Lutherans for Life with our "Love Gifts".

At our March meeting we learned about the "Women with Jesus at the Cross and the Tomb" from a short Bible Study from the online LWML Resources, which I highly recommend for other groups.



## Zone 6 - North Bay

### SMILES FOR SHUT-INS

On Sunday, February 14, the LWML members of Bethany Lutheran Church in Vacaville, California constructed simple Valentines for 18 shut-ins. Some went to church members, and others were in a skilled nursing facility nearby. The Valentines held a Bible verse and a word search puzzle and each lady signed her name to the card. Because candy is a traditional treat, each shut-in also received a small heart box of assorted chocolates.

Ladies pictured are: Georgia DeBarr, Debbie Duncan, Barbara Hermann



Georgia DeBarr

Contributor, "Joyful Servant"

sharplady33@gmail.com

## Zone 7 - Mt. Diablo

April greetings from Zone 7. I write this article on the eve of our Spring Event, *Young Women & the Young at Heart, Sisters in Christ!* . . . *In this ever-changing world, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever." Hebrews 13:8.* As we gently ease ourselves from the pandemic, we are once again having our event on Zoom. We are excited about getting together, and we are most thankful for God's gifts that enable us!

Friday evening, we are hosting a *Zoom Pajama Party*, with *fellowship, encouragement, and a candlelight devotion* as we re-connect. Saturday morning, we will continue with the *Main Event* with *devotions, "fast track" business meeting, Bible Study with Pastor Nick, exercises to God's Word, Miss Penny video, Mite challenge, District Rep. Roxan, music, and prayers.*

We are borrowing this theme and model from a retreat held by the Northern Illinois District. **Do any other zones have an interest in teaming up with us to host an online winter retreat in January?** The idea of having a pajama party with our sisters near and far from Crescent City to Reno, to Bakersfield, to Hilo, and all points in between sounds like fun to me! Let me know your interest. We can make this happen!

### **Sisters in Christ . . . Ordinary women . . . Extraordinary God!**

The women in Zone 7 keep busy, despite a pandemic! See what they have been doing!

#### **Benicia Lutheran Church – Sherry Bell**

Our church has not had a specific women's activity over the past year. However, at Christmas 2020, many members of the congregation used Amazon Smile to donate wish list items to Noah's Ark Preschool. Books, arts and craft items, playground equipment and classroom supplies were donated--a double benefit because the preschool received the needed items and the church received donations via Amazon Smile. The church youth group used some of their funds to purchase Christmas gifts for a needy family. This was sponsored through Benicia Community Action Council, a local nonprofit that provides many vital services for underserved families in Benicia. Our church has worked with the CAC many times over the years, usually at Christmas, but also during the year with food donations.



The Benicia Community Action Council is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization founded in 1967 to provide services to the economically disadvantaged in Benicia. Through dedicated volunteers and an experienced professional staff, a broad range of services are offered. The mission of the Benicia CAC is to provide guidance, resources, and referrals to those striving for self-sufficiency. Whether delivering hot nutritious meals to home-bound seniors or helping low-income youth take advantage of on-the-job training, the BCAC stands ready to meet the needs of the community.

#### **First Lutheran Church, Concord - First Lutheran Ladies – Lynnette Campbell**

During the COVID 19 pandemic our ladies have continued to contribute our mites. We participated in 2 Thrivent Action teams. One which involved marking Bibles for a Prison Ministry based in El Paso, TX. We were able to provide 100+ Bibles in English and Spanish.



The second project was to host a Virtual Easter Egg Hunt and Food Drive for our local community. We are excited about the upcoming Zone Event on Zoom and hope that there will be in person gatherings in the not-too-distant future.



### **Our Savior Lutheran Church, Livermore – Susan Contreras**

Kris Back continues to lead the quilting group, aiming for another 100 quilts this year.

Beth Young has skillfully led us through the Lois Tverberg book, *Reading the Bible with Rabbi Jesus*, as a Bible Study. The book has chapters with an essay and then questions to answer, so we had to read many passages from the Bible, and we gained an understanding of how the Hebrews viewed Jesus and His Ministry. Ms. Tverberg gave us a new understanding of ancient Hebrew thinking and practices. Did you know that Hebrew boys had to memorize the Torah, and Psalms and the Prophets? That is why they could understand Jesus' statements that indirectly pointed to Him being the Messiah. Our next Bible Study comes from Concordia Press, *LifeLight: Hebrew Feasts*.

### **St. Philip Lutheran Church, Dublin – Andrea Green**

The Mary-Martha group from SPLC, Dublin put together over 50 boxes for Christmas Child this last year.



For Easter this year, we built a Living Cross for our altar display.



### **Resurrection Ministries, Brentwood – Jan Perry**

Like all our sister churches, we have held on-line services since the beginning of the Pandemic, along with on-going Bible Studies via Zoom and even Zoom communion services, preceded by the recipe for making unleavened bread if we wished to make it in our homes! We have recently been holding services in the church parking lot and plan to move inside in the coming weeks.

Our Human Resources ladies and our youth have made a point the past year to periodically put little “thinking of you” tokens on the porches of various members, which have resulted in pleasant surprises and smiles.

At the end of 2020, Resurrection members were challenged by Pastor Dave to engage in a pledge to read the entire Bible in 2021 and were provided with a few guided options as suggestions. A good number of members have taken up the challenge and are using the App found on bibleinoneyear.org (led by Nicky and Pippa Gumbel). For anyone interested, it is a wonderful study and format. I highly recommend it!

We are all looking forward to greeting and worshipping with our sisters and brothers in Christ in person again soon! Be well!

**Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Concord – Women of Holy Cross – Joyce Liebe**



Our ladies' group continues with Monday morning "Coffee & Conversation" Zoom calls – 4-12 gals attend. We held our 1st evening "Keeping Connected" Zoom call in March (pix at left). We had a topic "share a funny story from high school". We also shared pictures. What a joy to learn & share with one another! *And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as*

*you see the Day drawing near.* Hebrews 10:24-25

We hosted our 1st annual Ragin' Cajun Valentine Occasion. It included a sled full of Shrimp Boil (prepared by Pastor Mundinger), Gumbo over Rice, & Mardi Gras decorated cupcakes. It was a fun, socially distant, tailgate meal with several meals taken to-go. \$384 collected from free will offerings was sent to Food Bank of Contra Costa & Solano County



We ended the event with a short service of burying the alleluias.



Our congregation constructed a new Advent wreath at the corner of our property. We lit a new candle each week during Advent.

We were happy to team up with Lutheran Social Services once again for Christmas, with a “Giving Tree”. We collected and wrapped many gifts!

#### **Our Savior Lutheran, Pinole - Karen Mauer**

The ladies of Our Savior, Pinole did not meet during the shut down of the church. Their last meeting in 2020 was on March 2. They continued to contribute to the society with their dues and mite offerings. After services on You-Tube and meetings on Zoom each Sunday, the church members were happy to get together again with indoor services on February 28.

LWML had its first meeting on April 5, 2021. What a glorious day to be able to meet again. Some ladies did not feel they could attend yet and we hope that will change in the near future. During the past year they continued to support the student food banks quarterly at Concordia Fort Wayne and Concordia St. Louis. Also, Bethesda Home and Lutheran Bible Translators were supported. Our mite projects received \$833 at this time. Looking forward to getting back to meeting together and activities.

Blessings from Zone 7,

Cherylene Brueckner

LWML Zone 7 President

## Zone 10 - Sierra Nevada

**Zone 10 – St. John’s Evangelical Lutheran Church, Fallon, Nevada - Sylvia Dankers**

Our group is small but we keep busy! Normally that is – COVID put a stop to our activities since March but I wanted to show a little about what we have done. We meet monthly to enjoy each other’s company, talk church news, and plan for fellowship snacks for events, after church, or whatever church may need.



Meet the Fallon LWML Society Back Row L-R Sylvia Dankers, Pat Peterson, Marsha Goodman, Donna Lewis, Denise Turnbow, Gail Clutter; Front Row L – R Mary Slate, Rita Sanderson, Denise Turnbow, Gloria Stillman (has since moved to Minnesota and we miss her!)

Not pictured: Tami Bennett, Magdalena Biar, Debbie Jourdonais, Ruth Olsen, Sally Rae, and Georgine Scheuermann.



Denise Moorman (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) recently brought us patterns to make “Little Dresses for Africa.” Those who don’t sew, donated fabric, notions etc and their prayers! Great job, ladies!

Our main fundraiser is an annual Craft Fair – of course we did not have one last year, but we will this year!!! Our society makes items to raffle – our vendors also donate an item from their booth towards our efforts! The proceeds from our fair are used to send donations to Domestic Violence Program in our community; A home of adults with limitations, our church, Senior Centers for the Meals on Wheels programs, our local high school for yearbooks; World Vision and other community programs.



Mary and Rita man our LWML Table at the fair - We make goodies and donate items to sell at our craft fair.”

Rita, Pat, Marsha, Donna and Denise show some products of our “Purses” program. We fill new or gently-used purses filled with toiletries (i.e. toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, sewing kits, lotion, tissues, brushes, combs, etc) and take to our Domestic Violence chapter. Women (with children) come to the shelters sometimes with nothing but what they are wearing, and we not only provide them with emergency items necessary but they also get a nice purse!



We love to “Serve the Lord with Gladness”  
Sylvia Dankers

## **Zone 11 - Hawai‘i**

Aloha from Hilo, Hawaii,

How awesome it was that you were able to join one of the two groups that gathered recently on ZOOM. Here is some feedback from the sessions that we wanted to pass on to you.

During the icebreaker with small groups, participants were asked “what skill, asset, passion, etc. have you learned since the pandemic began that has made a positive impact on your life or others?” Responses included organizing quilting materials and making 100 quilts, puzzling, finding encouraging websites as Lutheran Public Radio, Zoom Bible studies and prayer groups, gift baskets for Pastor’s wife to provide encouragement for them, and a new perspective on how short life is and to keep it precious.

Congregations were asked to share ideas as to how they accomplished service projects during the pandemic. Phone calling and zoom learning highlighted some of their responses, as well as, having secret pals, leaving bags at the door for members not able to attend, Bible studies, email prayer chains, celebrating birthdays by sending cards, pajama party retreat, meeting with masks, sanitizing, and social distancing, and working with the homeless.

When asked how to get more women to become involved in our church, the personal touch was mentioned: asking face to face, making phone calls, and giving a personal invitation.

The ladies in Zone 11-HI were pleased to welcome all of you from CA, NV and Hong Kong. Thanks again to Martha Dubke and Bev Vietor for their participation.

Joy in Jesus always,

Nancy Kunert, Zone 11 LWML President

"...Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

## “WOMEN IN MISSION” Zoom

Event March 20 & 27, 2021



Over two Saturdays in March, 64 women from California, Nevada, and Hawaii and one each from Colorado and Hong Kong met for two hours on Zoom with Pastor Mark being our technical advisor. He opened with a devotion on “Looking Forward” from Isaiah 43:16-21 and finished with a moving song from Danny Gokey “Tell Your Heart to Beat Again.”

Beth Zier, our speaker, shared her survival stories of her accident and breast cancer saying “God can bring good out of any situation.” She talked about the importance of touch, power of love, choosing life and “we’ll survive things together” (John 16:33).

Nancy Kunert was our emcee for this event with Dinnie Kysar, Lana Wold, Beth and Dian Mahoney assisting during the icebreaker with small groups. Participants were asked “what skill, asset, passion, etc. have you learned since the pandemic began that has made a positive impact on your life or others?” Responses included organizing quilting materials and making 100 quilts, puzzling, finding encouraging websites as Lutheran Public Radio, Zoom Bible studies and prayer groups, new perspectives on how short life is and keep it precious.

Messages from our National President Debbie Larson, District President Martha Dubke, and Beverly Vietor as “Miss Penny” were well received by the group. Debbie shared the newly revised mission statement printed below, that convention is a “go” in Lexington in June, which Nancy will attend, and that **\$2.1 million dollars** was raised **early** for mission projects around the world!!! New projects will be selected this summer in Kentucky June 24-27. Martha and Miss Penny spoke of our local projects of which **six of the 22 have already been paid!** Martha spoke of our own CNH convention that will be held in Nevada next year after being cancelled last year.



Congregations were asked to share ideas as to how they accomplished service projects during the pandemic. Phone calling and zoom learning highlighted some of their responses, as well as, having secret pals, leaving bags at the door for members not able to attend, Bible studies, email prayer chains, celebrating birthdays by sending cards, pajama party retreat, meeting with masks, sanitizing, and social distancing, and working with the homeless.

When Nancy asked how can we get more women to become involved, the personal touch was mentioned: asking face to face, making phone calls, and giving a personal invitation. It was suggested to the Hawaii churches that since we are an island state, we might consider having zoom meetings monthly, since flying between islands isn’t easy these days. We closed our time together with the Lord’s Prayer. All in all - **GOD works wonders!!** We look forward to what might be next!

*LWML Mission Statement: As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.*

## Zone 15 - Central San Joaquin

The month of April, the three larger churches – Peace, Fresno; Emmanuel, Clovis; Grace, Visalia – opened their doors for worship. Also, these three societies also had their first meeting since March 2020. PTL! I attended all six meetings to hear about their plans for the future.

- First Lutheran, Dinuba: ongoing collections of diapers and other baby items for local Pregnancy Resource Center; Dorcas Quilters started meeting again on Monday mornings; quilts go to LWR and local nursing homes; spent the month of April preparing for the Spring Rally.
- Our Saviour's, Caruthers: monthly Bible Study using the LWQ have continued since October with six in attendance; had their yearly LWML meeting in January making plans for the year. April brought the installation of their pastor, Rev. Scott Jacobsen; plans in place for their annual aebleskiver/ham breakfast on May 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Grace, Visalia: have knitted 541 caps for the Cancer Society; have set a date for their annual Fall/Christmas Boutique on Nov 6; working on cookie baskets for shut-ins; craft dates will soon begin.
- St. Paul's, Selma: working toward their annual yard sale on May 8<sup>th</sup>; have lots of items since they couldn't have one last year.
- Emmanuel, Clovis: planning a tea in June to bring their ladies back together; many of their ladies died this last year or moved away, including two of their officers; however, two ladies came forward to fill these positions.
- Peace, Fresno: planning to put together school backpacks with supplies for Sept at the local school; hoping to have their annual Oktoberfest; have resumed weekly Bible studies and craft days.

Our Zone SPRING RALLY was held at First Lutheran in Dinuba on Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup> with 32 in attendance. This was our first Zone gathering since January 2020. Our Zone Counselor, Vicar Travis Wright, led us in a Bible Study on *Mission Deo* (Mission of God). Vicar Travis has been on mission trips to Guatemala; shared how he got started going there, and what they did while there: built stoves, water filters, VBS, worship. Also, Heather Borders shared about an orphanage they also support there in Guatemala -- *One Child Beyond Int'l*. She is now a director for the organization and based out of Redeemer in Fresno. They presented a lovely video showing some of the beautiful landscape, the orphanage, the children, as well as the cardboard dwellings. Raffle items included a beautiful quilt made by a member of First, a Guatemalan handmade tapestry, and numerous gift baskets. Raffle monies and a generous offering was given to the mission fun and to *One Child Beyond* (\$834). First Lutheran LWML provided a Mexican luncheon of enchiladas, rice, beans, chips/salsa along with assorted salads and desserts. Such a fun day was had by all!



PTL! LaVada Terrell, President

## **Zone 19 - East Sacramento**

We are not having a Spring Rally, but we are having a special Mites Event! Our CNH Vice President, Bev Vietor, reported to us that the mite giving has been down this past year.

Because the mite giving in our district is down due to non-activity in our zones, all in our zone were challenged to give 5% (\$70.00) of their stimulus check to mites.

Wow! All societies had until April 30th to send their checks to our Zone 19 treasurer, Pam Haggard. Then, hopefully Pam will be able to mail one BIG check for mites to CNH.

We thought this a worthy way to spend our covid Spring...working for mites!

Zone 19 President,  
Sherry Clifton

## **Communications Director**

This issue of the Joyful Servant has been delayed due to technical difficulties. I hope you will enjoy the information everyone has contributed. Thanks to all who sent in articles and photos. The communications committee will be working on ways to make the publication of the Joyful Servant timely and relevant into the future.

Look for additional ways to find out what is happening in our district and the larger LWML. Hopefully many of you who will not be attending the LWML Convention in Lexington, KY will gather with those who are attending via livestream. As mentioned above, think of ways to view the livestream together. Our LWML CNH website will have the link needed to access the livestream.

**Remember you can access**

- [Forms for remittance](#)
- [Committee Meeting Dates](#)
- [District Retreat Information](#)
- [Current Steinbeck Scholarship Thank You Letters](#)
- [Current and Past Christian Life Line Articles](#)

**and much...much more at [www.lwmlcnh.org](http://www.lwmlcnh.org)**

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**The next "Joyful Servant" will be published on August 1, 2021.**

**Please submit articles by July 15 to [Lynette Campbell lca4him@gmail.com](mailto:Lynette_Campbell_lca4him@gmail.com) and please put "Joyful Servant" at the beginning of the subject line.**

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

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

