

LWML Mission Statement

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

THE DISTRICT PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Share your ideas for collecting mites

Roxan Schwab, LWML CNH District President



The first Sunday of each month at my home congregation we have a **Noisy Collection for Mites**. An LWML member educates the congregation about one of the LWML CNH current mission grants. As we go to communion we place our loose coins and bills in metal buckets, sitting on a large Mite box (see photo). The children love to hear the noise that the coins make when they drop their mites. It has proven a great way to collect additional mites as well as help the members understand what LWML is all about. **Please share the way your group educates your congregation and supports our mission grants.**

Three Mission Grant checks presented

In the last month, I have been blessed with the opportunity to present the checks for our first three mission grants at the congregations where they were received.

What are your plans for LWML Sunday?

I have been able to attend three LWML Sundays at three different churches, even in Hawaii. It is so inspiring to hear our song **Serve the Lord with Gladness** sung at them all. When I attended Zion Lutheran in Terra Bella, I had an additional treat: Their children's choir sang **A Mighty Fortress is Our God** acappella!

If you have not held your LWML Sunday yet, make sure to get it on your church calendar. This year's Lutheran Women in Mission Sunday theme is **"Ready to Serve"** based on Luke 1:38. As redeemed children of God, Lutheran Women in Mission give thanks for the opportunity to serve others as we have been served, to proclaim that Jesus is our Lord and that He came for all nations, and to respond with our mite offerings to support God's mission.

Please share what you did for this special Sunday in our next Joyful Servant.

Blessings to you all as we enter the holiday season. ♥



*This giant mite box has metal buckets on top for a **Noisy Mite Collection**. Children love to hear the noise the coins make!*



Did you know?

Mustard Seed Daily Devotions are available online.

Follow this link to see today's devotion and/or sign up to receive it in your email:

[Mustard Seed Daily Devotions](#)

MESSAGE FROM LWML CNH AMBASSADOR

Introducing Nikki

By Bev Vietor, LWML CNH Ambassador

Hello LWML Ladies,

Some of you may not know me, I am Penny's sister. My name is Nikki, short for Nickel Mites. I am in the family business, Mighty Mites for your LWML mites boxes. I am the new LWML CNH Ambassador.

One of the primary duties of the Ambassador position is to welcome Called Church Workers in our CNH District. Called Church Workers are Pastors, Deaconesses, Directors of Christian Education, School Principals and teachers. Call day 2024 brought new pastors to CNH from our LCMS seminaries. I have coordinated delivering welcome gifts with cards to each of the five new pastors and one new Vicar. We (Roxan, myself and other representatives) have attended the installation services as LWML CNH representatives. Each gift has a handwritten welcome note. In September, I attended the installation of Pastor Jonahan Zoch as pastor of Trinity Lutheran in Gardnerville, Nevada. LWML CNH gave him a purple tin of SEE's candy so he can taste the goodness of God. (See photo).

Called commissioned workers are teachers and school administrators. CNH has 60 new called commissioned school workers in the district starting the new 2024-2025 school year. The new commissioned workers received Care Packages from the District recently. LWML CNH partnered with the District by providing a welcome gift packet of SEE's mini pops and LWML resources. That was several days labor of love working on living room floor!

It's Fall Rally time, which means I am traveling to Zone Rallies to meet you all in person. Please come join me at these special gatherings, as I have a new outfit for you to see!

Onwards to Advent, dear ones.

Nikki ♥



Pastor Jonahan Zoch, new pastor of Trinity Lutheran in Gardnerville, Nevada, with Bev Vietor.

MESSAGE FROM HUMAN CARE COMMITTEE

Steinbeck Scholarships awarded to 20 young adult missionaries

By Lori Fisher, LWML CNH Human Care Committee / Scholarship Recipient Coordinator

The Steinbeck Scholarships, in the amount of \$880 each, were sent out to twenty missionary young adults for their higher education needs following our September planning meeting. Some were freshmen and some were going for their PhD. So far, we have received 12 of 20 thank you stories and have them ready for you to share with your ladies and congregations. We have four that are sensitive so they will not be on our website but will be available through my email. Please watch your mail for these thoughtful thank you notes along with their smiling faces. Following, is an excerpt from the thank you letter received from Evan Magness: ***"As a junior and pre-seminary student at Concordia University Chicago, this scholarship will help provide for my needs while I'm living away from home. Your support significantly reduces worry about finances, and that helps me to stay focused on my theology studies. Once I complete my degree, I hope to attend seminary and become a pastor of the LCMS. Again, thank you for supporting me as I seek to enter the holy ministry."*** ♥



Scholarship recipient
Evan Magness

MESSAGE FROM VICE PRESIDENT CONVENTION PLANNING

Plans: We all make them!

By LaVada Terrell, Vice President Convention Planning

Firstly, I'd like to thank you all for your prayers and cards since my foot surgery in August, followed by seven, yes seven, weeks in a rehabilitation center. It took me a week to get through the accumulated mail, and over 1400 emails (remember I have a dumb phone-only phone/text). I have a couple of weeks longer in the boot, then change to the shoe/sandal—at least it will be lighter! Hopefully, by November, we can discuss driving once again. What a process!



This week, my thoughts and actions are toward LWML. Planning for what lies ahead...

Yes, Plans! We all make them, don't we—from what to wear, what to eat, where to vacation. What's on my mind is our next LWML event!

In Luke 21, the rich were putting their gifts in the offering boxes, as well as a poor widow who put in two small copper coins. Jesus said that she put in more than all those rich people. She gave out of her poverty, not out of abundance.

What do you think her plan was for the day when she awoke that morning? Of course, going to the temple was part of her everyday life. Did she think about what those small coins would be used for? Probably not. Did she expect to see Jesus there? Probably not. She went to the temple to give to God part of what she had from what He had first given her, out of love and gratitude to Him. She trusted in God.

We, like the widow, do not always know the effects of our actions, and our actions may not always have the effect we expect. We know when we give our small coins (mites), it will be used for numerous projects far and near. We know our mighty and powerful God can use our ordinary mites and actions to accomplish His purpose in spreading the Gospel message of salvation through Jesus Christ. So let's keep those mighty mites coming!!

Prayer: Almighty and Powerful God, we give thanks that You can take our ordinary actions and our mites and use them for Your purpose. May our actions always be pleasing to You. Amen.

Save the date! April 24—26, 2026

The LWML CNH CONVENTION will be at the Doubletree by Hilton in Sacramento, CA from April 24 to 26, 2026. At the Executive Committee meeting on February 7, 2025, the Convention theme and scripture will be selected. Our first Host Committee meeting will be at the hotel on Friday, February 21. Those are my plans for now!!



MESSAGE FROM VICE PRESIDENT CHRISTIAN LIFE

Coming August 1–3, 2025: CNH LWML RETREAT

By Cathey King, Vice President Christian Life



Plan now to attend!

St. Francis Retreat Center
San Juan Bautista, CA
Bible Study Leader: Lindsay Hausch, Rocklin, CA

More information to follow.



... welcome one another as
Christ has welcomed you. for the
glory of God. Romans 15:7

ZONE 4: WEST SACRAMENTO

LIGHT OF THE VALLEY | ELK GROVE CA



Please join us for this
Morning of Prayer Service
Led by Pastor Jay Reed
Saturday, November 23, 2024
9:30am - 12:30

Lunch follows

Light of the Valley Lutheran Church
9270 Bruceville Road, Elk Grove, CA 95758

RSVP for seating/lunch count

Pam Hogge 916-275 4055

pghogge@aol.com

ZONE 19: EAST SACRAMENTO

ST. MATTHEW | ROCKLIN, CA

Caregivers Workshop provides valuable info, plus support for caregivers

By Sharon Junge, President, Lutheran Women in Mission

Over 40 caregivers and potential caregivers attended a Saturday morning workshop in September organized and hosted by St. Matthew's Lutheran Women in Mission (LWM) and Care Givers Support Group. Attendees heard the unique journeys of three caregivers who shared their experiences. A Marriage and Family Therapist moderated the panel and gave insights on a range of issues faced by caregivers and their families. This was followed by a Geriatric MD and Nurse Practitioner, who presented Holistic Health: Care for a Caregiver, and discussed ways others can support caregivers.

All attendees received a packet of information and heard about resources available through St. Matthew's, including the Handyman Services for Caregivers & Shut-ins and the Caregivers' Support Group. Both programs were established by LWM after the first workshop held five years ago. The program was well received, and Lutheran Women in Mission will offer additional workshops this spring, including ones on aging and financial planning. ♥



The Caregivers Workshop was attended by over 40 caregivers and potential caregivers. Lutheran Women in Mission plans to offer additional workshops to include Aging and Financial Planning.

ZONE 18: SANTA CLARA

MT. OLIVE | MILPITAS, CA

Fall gathering: Gifted to Serve by God's Grace

By Linda Bradley, Zone 18 President

On September 28th, 57 women from Zones 2, 3, 8, 16 and 18 came together for the Zone 18 Women's Fall Gathering, "Gifted to Serve by God's Grace," at Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Milpitas. Realizing that only four women from Zone 18 attended the LWML CNH Convention in Redding, Jane Hoffmann was invited to present the same Bible study, "*How May I Serve?*" that she led in Redding...giving more local women an opportunity to hear this inspiring Bible study.

The day began with a delicious continental breakfast. The program opened with a beautiful opening devotion led by Marla Stein and sung by women from Prince of Peace Church. The Bible study inspired attendees to think about their lives and ways to joyfully serve the Lord regardless of their age and circumstances. A wonderful lunch was enjoyed by all. LWML President Roxan Schwab shared the latest information on our mission grants and other important topics. Two representatives from Teen Challenge Women and Children's Center, San Jose, shared how this Christ-centered program has brought healing and hope to the students in recovery. Attendees blessed Teen Challenge with an abundance of paper products. Special thanks to Thrivent Financial for their financial support and to the several volunteers who helped make the day a success. The day was truly blessed by God! ♥



Last September, 57 women from Zones 2, 3, 8, 16 and 18 came together for the Zone 18 Women's Fall Gathering, "Gifted to Serve by God's Grace," at Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Milpitas.



Teen Challenge Women and Children's Center, San Jose, shared how this Christ-centered program has brought healing and hope to the students. Attendees blessed Teen Challenge with an abundance of paper products.

ZONE 8: PENINSULA

TRINITY | BURLINGAME, CA

Fall gathering benefits Phil's Friends

By Lori Fisher, Zone 8 President

Trinity Afternoon Circle (Trinity Burlingame) hosted our Fall Gathering on October 19. Reverend Jeffrey Schufreider, Bible Study Leader, discussed the preeminence of Christ (Matthew 25:31-45) and Philip Zielke of *Phil's Friends* was our Guest Speaker. Phil, Founder and President of Phil's Friends, joined us from Chicago by Zoom. This organization is Christ-centered, giving support and hope to those affected by cancer.

During this gathering we had greeting cards of hope and bookmarks for the ladies to color. Many bags, boxes and baskets of ingathering items were brought from our Zone 8 churches. A collected love gift offering of \$173 along with \$200 from our zone will be added to this ingathering. ♥



Fifteen ladies from Zone 8 as well as two pastors attended the Fall Gathering at Trinity.

ZONE 7: MT. DIABLO

OUR SAVIOR | PINOLE, CA

Fall begins with fundraising, road trip, and holiday plans

By Shirley Schmeyer, President

Our LWML has been busy and looking forward to the Holiday Season. We had a fundraiser for GRIP (a homeless assistance program in Richmond) and donated diapers and adult products to them. We also enjoyed a road trip to Vacaville to visit Karen Mauer and had a great lunch and meeting there. Along with a Harvest Festival Dinner in November, LWML will have a potluck Christmas party and crafts during our December meeting. We are also raffling off a Turkey Quilt made by our quilting ladies with money going to Mites and the quilting fund. We will be celebrating LWML Sunday with a presentation and snacks after our regular Sunday services.

RESURRECTION | BRENTWOOD

Resurrection Ministries hosts successful Zone 7 fall event

By Jan Perry

The women of Resurrection Ministries hosted the Zone 7 Fall Event on October 19. Our theme was *God's Daily Bread: Nourishment for the Body and Soul*. Our event included a speaker from the Solano, CCC Food Bank, a Bible Study, "Mission Moments" from our zone president, installation of officers and lunch. It was a full and eventful morning and we enjoyed seeing our zone Sisters in Christ!

HOLY CROSS | CONCORD

First-time event: Adult VBS!

By Joyce Liebe

Holy Cross, Concord, held a first-time event this summer: Adult VBS. It was a three-day gathering of Bible Studies, songs and music, games, outreach projects, fellowship, lunch and more. Many fond memories were made. This may become a Holy Cross tradition! While this was not solely an LWML event, The Women of Holy Cross played a large part in the planning, publicizing and organizing. We thank our Pastor Mundinger for his leadership, as well as Pastor Klotz, Grace Lutheran, and Pastor Belter and Vicar Sam, Messiah Lutheran, for sharing their gifts & teaching us. ♥



Our Savior, Livermore ladies sew quilts for many places, including local nursing homes, veterans homes, and Orphan Grain Train.

ZONE 5: SOUTH SAN JOAQUIN

ZION | TERRA BELLA, CA

Zion Lutheran celebrates receipt of mission grant

By Linda Lynch, Zone 5 Contact, Zion Lutheran LWML President

The Zion Lutheran LWML ladies of Terra Bella were very excited to have received their Mission Grant check this last Sunday, October 13, at our LWML Sunday celebration. The celebration continued with a congregational lasagna luncheon hosted by our LWML ladies and a display of LWML history/memorabilia. We are now so happy to have the funds to install ten new and efficient windows for our two school classrooms! We hope to get them installed a few days before Thanksgiving Day.

Also at Zion Lutheran LWML, Terra Bella, the ladies are busy planning their upcoming annual Christmas Bazaar and Soup Luncheon for Sunday, December 8, to be held right after the church service. All proceeds go to support our seminary student for the year and to help fund other mission-oriented love gifts. We look forward to this day of Christ-centered fellowship with our congregation and community. ♥



Linda Lynch receives the Mission Grant check from LWML CNH President Roxan Schwab.

ZONE 6: NORTH BAY

BETHANY | VACAVILLE, CA

Activities support teachers, students and fundraising for new sanctuary

By Karen Mauer

The Bethany LWML ladies have been very busy since the Convention in Redding last April. We prepared a Father's Day luncheon after the service. A luncheon for the teachers and staff was also held in June, during the last week of school. With school starting up in September, LWML led a morning Prayer Walk on the first day of chapel for all classes, preschool through 8th grade. The children really enjoyed it. Later that month a Parking Lot Sale was sponsored by LWML, with proceeds going to the school to buy copy paper.

A dinner theatre was held recently. Carole Wilson lead the small theatre group in a mini play that was done in four parts. Between scenes a different item of the menu was served with a variety of desserts being served to complete the dinner. The money raised will help fund building of the new sanctuary for Bethany.

Ladies had some fun at the most recent LWML meeting making pumpkins (covering rolls of toilet paper). A Christmas tea with cookie exchange is planned for early December. ♥



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ZONE 11: HAWAII

October retreat held at Kilauea Military Camp

By Susan Hendricks, Zone 11 President

Zone 11 hosted a Retreat, October 4–6, at Kilauea Military Camp on the Big Island of Hawaii that was attended by 15 “mainlanders” and 20 Hawaii residents. The theme for the weekend was *Ephesians 2:8-10: “Growing in God’s Grace”*. It was a memorable experience, beginning with Friday evening’s Hawaiian cultural information session. Saturday included a morning opening devotion (by the women from Trinity Lutheran on Oahu) around the flagpole at the historic 108-year-old military camp, along with cultural hula demonstrations. There were multiple terrific speakers, and being near God in His land of lava was inspirational. The event concluded with LWML Sunday at Christ Lutheran Hilo. ♥



Twenty Hawaii residents were joined by 15 “mainlanders” at the October retreat at Kilauea Military Camp on the Big Island.



Trinity Lutheran, Oahu, presented Saturday’s morning devotion around the flagpole at the historic military camp.

ZONE 19: EAST SACRAMENTO

MT. OLIVE | FOLSOM, CA

Fall Rally theme: *Grace, mercy and peace*

By Elise Spleiss, Zone Communications Chair

More than 40 ladies ready to hear the Word of God, accomplish the business of the zone and enjoy food, music and the fellowship of their sisters in Christ, gathered at Mt. Olive in Folsom on Saturday, October 5.

The theme of *Grace, Mercy and Peace* resonated throughout the day. The mood was set by Pastor Daniel Vang of Mt. Olive and Zone 19 pastoral counselor with a prayer service in the sanctuary.

Back in the auditorium, Young Women Ariadne Vang and Aubrey De Coux spoke of their excitement at the prospect of attending the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans in July 2025. A love offering was taken to assist in their expenses to attend the gathering.

Nicole Manners, Mt. Olive-Deaconess, Distance Studies program Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, talked about what a deaconess is and how they are prepared for their various duties partnering with the pastor and congregation she will serve in the future. She graduates this summer. Linda Cruz of Zion shared that a deaconess worked hard in the neighborhood to help begin Zion Lutheran in North Highlands in 1954.

“Mission Grants—A Global Adventure”: Also adding to the theme of grace, mercy and peace, Jan Froh, Vice President of Gospel Outreach taught us a few words in Swahili as she and Bev Vietor, CNH Ambassador, gave a dynamic presentation of the work each of our 18 grants are accomplishing in our district.

A highlight of the day was the installation of Pastor Morris Stephens of Messiah, Citrus Heights, as the new zone pastoral counselor, and Sheilah Gall from Light of the Hills as the new Zone 19 president. It was fun to see longtime zone president Sherry Clifton, immediate past president Lana Sullivan and Sheilah Gall together.

Contributing to the success of the day was Trinity, Georgetown assisting with breakfast, and Light of the Hills, Cameron Park providing table centerpieces and party favors. ♥



More than 40 women attended the Fall Rally at Mt. Olive in Folsom October 5. A highlight of the day was the installation of Pastor Morris Stephens of Messiah, Citrus Heights, as the new zone pastoral counselor. and Sheilah Gall from Light of the Hills as the new Zone 19 president.

WATCH FOR THE ROLL OUT OF OUR NEW LWML CNH WEBSITE!

This is just the beginning!

You can expect a more user-friendly website, plus a blog and enhanced social media presence. As for the newsletter, stay tuned for more updates—you won't want to miss what's coming next!

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