

QUARTERLY ECHO

Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Nebraska South District

Volume 42, No. 3

Fall 2016

Pub. No. (USPS-339-670)



I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers (Ephesians 1:16)

We seem to celebrate "first times" in our life...a baby's first word or step, first car, first day of a new job, first day in a new home, first LWML convention, etc. I believe that we should also try to mark the moments of "last times"...

The last day before your child starts school, the last day of college, the last day of your job, the last time that you speak to a friend or parent or sibling. Sometimes we may not know when that last time is, but we should always take time to treasure each of the gifts of our life!

This is a "last time" for me to write the President's article for "The ECHO" and it does mark the end of an era in my life. When we have our convention in September, there will be a new district president elected and my term will be complete. I will always look back at these four years as a gift given to me by you, my sisters in Christ. The mission and the members of the LWML make it a little bit of Heaven on earth. God uses us and it is our joy to tell others about Him. Along this four year path, I got to spend time with the nicest people in the world...the members of the LWML. We are truly on our path to forever together.

Now, I write the last words, even though our convention is still several weeks away. Thank you for your prayers. I have been praying for you, too, and I will continue to pray for you, and for your new district president, too.

Thank you for these four years. They are a treasure and a joy that I will never forget. Ah, tears. (Those of you that know me won't even be surprised at that last part!)

My last DP words to you- Remember that wherever you are, and in all circumstances, that you are a missionary and that God has put you where you are for His purpose! God bless you all-

Serving with joy and humility as your district president for the last four years-and your friend forever!

Linda Fees
308-457-3303 (H) or 308-627-6143 (C)
kfees@kearney.net or digital.linda@gmail.com



Keep on Fishing!

[Jesus said]: "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men." (Matt.4:19 ESV)

A few weeks back, I spent a week or so in Canada with my father, brother, nephew and son on a fishing trip. It was a much-needed break from work where my days were occupied with nothing but how to catch the next fish.

As a "Fisher of men (and women)", I welcomed the change of pace this trip afforded me. But as we stood at the counter to even up our bill with the lodge owner, he remarked, "Why do you want to go back to the U.S., eh? Things have gone mad down there this last week.!" And he was right. [*The Orlando shooting had occurred while we were away along with plenty of silliness on the election front... (I'll leave it at that)*! For our part, we had been blissfully unaware of the news from our home Country as we were in a remote part of Canada without cellular phone service or wifi (#firstworldproblems). I'll admit, I thought he was right. Not only was vacation coming to an abrupt end, but the stark reality of the world we were returning to was hitting me like a ton of bricks. Rather than write that sermon during the long drive home, I wanted to remain away on vacation and keep on fishing!

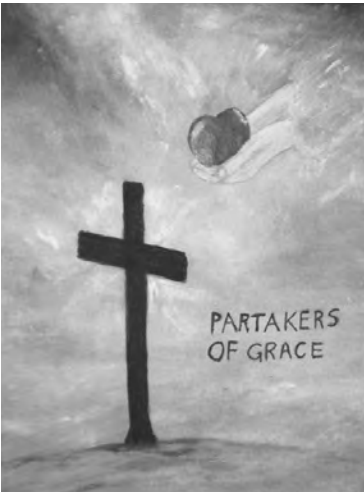
God is completely un-relatable to me on this point: I didn't want to go back home and face the harsh reality of sin in the world around me. Thank God His thoughts are not my thoughts and His ways are not my ways (Is. 55:8-9). Instead of keeping all of the Heavenly glory for Himself, He sent His Son to take the suffering and sin of humanity into His very flesh, dealing with it once, for all, there on the Cross.

The sinful reality of this world still surrounds us today, but let us not forget that the victory has been won over sin, death and Satan. And since Christ hasn't returned yet, we still have time. Time to be fishers of men and women. Time to share the Gospel of salvation with people who need to hear it. It is what motivates me back to work after a refreshing break. My prayer is that it would motivate you as well. Fish on!,

Rev. Kevin McReynolds, Senior Counselor



Convention is Here!



Time does fly! As you receive this Fall Echo it will be only days until we all gather at the Younes Center in Kearney for the District Convention, "Partakers of Grace". The registrars have tallied the registrations and sent out reports so each person responsible for an activity, meeting, choir, servant events and the Younes Center personnel can prepare for the weekend.

Don't forget to bring your Gifts of the Heart (Ingathering). The YWR's will be helping us sort and pack those items.

Those of you who are voting delegates, make sure you do your homework by studying the Mission Grants and Candidates Bio's. You will have an opportunity to meet the candidates on Friday evening. We have quite a number of first timers. Those of you who are seasoned convention attendees, please make them feel welcome.

Can't wait to see you all in Kearney!

Vickie Hegeholz, Convention Chairman

Zones Plan Fall Rallies

Zone:	Date:	Site:	Theme:
Hastings	September 25	Trinity, Blue Hill	
Seward	September 25	Our Redeemer, Staplehurst	"Salvation is Ours by the Grace of God"
Lincoln	October 2	Calvary, Lincoln	
Grand Island	October 8	Grace, Grand Island	
McCook	October 8	Zion, Imperial	"Joy in Witnessing of God's Love"
Deshler	October 9	St John, Chester	"The Office of Ministry & Teaching in Sumatra"
Falls City	October 15	Faith, Humboldt	"Building Up the Body of Christ"
Kearney	October 15	Buffalo (First Lexington)	"Count Your Blessings"
York	October 15	Faith, York	
Beatrice	October 22	Immanuel, Daykin	"Declare God's Glory"
Ogallala	October 22	St Paul, Ogallala	
Holdrege	October 23	St John, Oxford	



"What's Cookin' in the Kitchen"?

Come and See! The LWML Nebraska South District Fall Retreat has been set for September 8,9, and 10, 2017 at the Hotel Grand (formerly the Holiday MidTown), Grand Island. "A Life of Service - Through All Generations" is the theme that has been chosen to help celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the LWML. Based on the verse from Joshua 24:15b - "as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord". Join with fellow LWML'ers to celebrate the Lord's work through the LWML - past, present and future during this retreat.

Keynote speakers following the Saturday night banquet will be our two LWML presidents from Nebraska who served back-to-back terms: Virginia Van Seggern and Linda Reiser. It will be a joy to hear from them as they share experiences and celebrate this organization that the Lord has used to spread the Gospel and encourage women through the years.

More information about Retreat will be available at convention and in future Echo publications. "What's cookin' in the Kitchen? It's gonna be sweet & delicious"!

Sherry Burger & Lisa Paul
Co-Chairman 2017 Retreat



Nebraska South District Scholarship Recipients 2016-2018

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom... (Colossians 3:16a)



Brady Fehlhafer
Utica
Teacher-Seward



Michael Duffy
Kenesaw
Pastor-Seward



Jalynn Brase
Staplehurst
Teacher-Seward



Paige Borchering
Lincoln
Teacher-Seward



Jacob Tuma
Cordova
Pastor-Seward



Allana Blakeman
Lincoln
Teacher-Seward



McKenna Schardt
Davenport
Teacher-Seward



Leah Werner
Davenport
Teacher-Seward



Jason Steffenson
Goehner
Pastor-St. Louis



Karlene Embretson
Falls City
Teacher-Seward



Cassie Boeka
North Platte
DCE-Seward



Joseph Beran
Lincoln
Pastor-St. Louis



Aaron Ferguson
Hyannis
Dir of Music-Seward



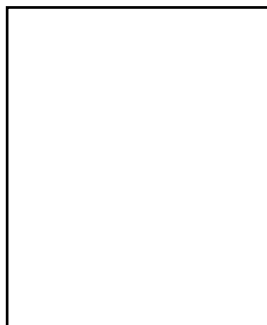
Jamie Nikodym
Red Cloud
Teacher-Seward



Caleb Staehr
Grand Island
Teacher-Seward



Madison Schmeackle
Lincoln
Teacher-Seward



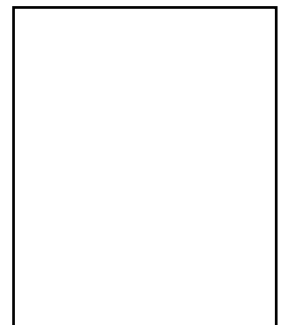
Emma Heidorn
Utica
Teacher-Seward



Benjamin Kuefner
Lexington
Teacher-Seward



Sarah Niemeier
St. Libory
Teacher-Seward



Danielle Peartree
North Platte
DCE-Seward



Special Gifts Fund Recipient Shares Gospel in Alaska



With the support of a grant from the Special Gifts Fund, I was able to return to Kiana, Alaska with Lutheran Indian Ministries (LIM). This was my second year as a volunteer to go to the village north of the Arctic Circle to teach Vacation Bible School, participate in adult Bible Study and interact with teens.

The mission of LIM is “to raise Native leaders to do ministry in their own rural communities and to assist Native youth in acquiring life skills and mentors”. With trips by volunteers to the villages, LIM can reach children, teens and adults who can be future Christian leaders in rural Alaska.

Kiana is one of the 250 remote villages which can only be reached by plane or boat. There are about 350 people in the village. Although the village is remote, they are not cut off from the rest of the world. They are connected with cell phones, internet service and planes which come into the village two to three times a day.

For Vacation Bible School this year, I helped select the curriculum, sent craft materials to the village and took along my puppet and flannel graph figures so I could teach the Bible lessons to the youngest students. Our team included four “old ladies” (as the teens called us) and a young lady who had just graduated from high school. Each of us had special gifts that were used to make VBS week successful. I was blessed to be able to make a return trip to the village to use my past experiences and to have new opportunities to witness.

In early June, it does not get dark at night in Kiana and the children are out late to enjoy the sunlight that they don't see in the winter, so we waited until after lunch to have VBS classes for the preschool through sixth grade students. These sessions included Bible lessons, singing, crafts, snacks and recess. After supper, the adults came for Bible Study using the same Bible lessons based on Psalm 23. The concerns they shared with us were: education of their children, alcoholism and suicide. During Teen Time, we had devotions, made crafts and played games. We had a total of about 70 children, teens and adults who participated in our activities during the week. Our goal for the trip and future ministry is to walk beside the people of Kiana.

One of my favorite things to do in Kiana was singing. I really enjoyed singing along and doing the actions with the children using the DVD we brought along. The songs were based on the theme for the lessons. We ended our Bible Study time with the adults by singing together. I sang along on the alto part with one of the ladies. Lots of singing was included in the services we attended. The congregation no longer had a piano player but they praised God by singing in their native language, Inupiaq and English.

It took eight years from the time I first considered going to Alaska. For me to finally “get my bike out of the shed” (as President Linda would say) and use the abilities God has given me to share the message of God's love through LIM. I thank you LWML sisters for supporting my trip. Please remember Lutheran Indian Ministries and the people in Kiana in your prayers. I encourage you to look for ways to use the abilities God has given you to “Serve the Lord in gladness”.



Eileen Zentner, Falls City Zone President
St Paul's, Falls City,



Celebrating 75 Years of LWML

God’s guiding hand has led the women of the LWML for 75 years. This anniversary will be celebrated at the 2017 LWML Convention in Albuquerque, NM.

As a reminder of the blessings we’ve received over the years, we have two beautiful banners to promote the occasion. Using one or both of them at

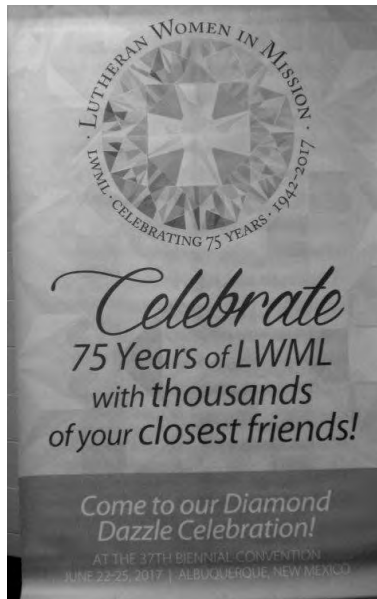
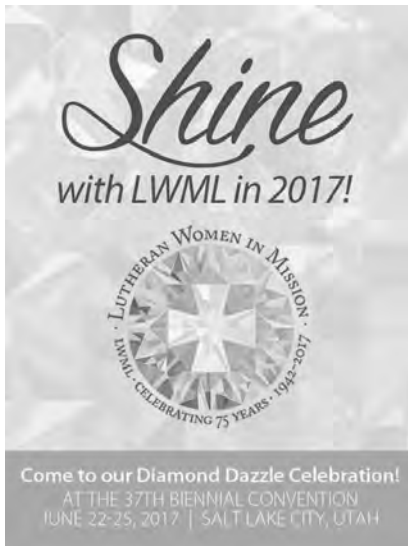
your zone or society meetings would be a perfect way to promote the “Diamond Dazzle”. They will be available for your use on a “first come, first serve” basis. If you’d like to reserve them, please contact Sue Hoffschneider. Include the dates you’d like to have them on display, so a schedule can be set up.

Sue Hoffschneider, Media & Marketing

Chairman

402-366-1137

suehoffschneider@gmail.com



Celebrating the Past

Women of the church have always been willing to serve their Lord and their church. Ladies Aid groups abounded in U.S. congregations for years prior to the forming of LWML. In 1929 an inspired group of women petitioned Synod for a united national organization through which they could assist their church and missions worldwide. This petition was denied. This did not deter women across the country. Here in Nebraska South an annual event was held at the Concordia, Seward campus for women to enjoy working together for common religious interests and mission goals.

Eventually, on July 7, 1942 in Chicago, IL the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League had its beginning . Mrs. Otto Schmidt of St Louis, MO was elected President. One of Nebraska South’s own was elected the first Corresponding Secretary. Who was this lady who later also served as our third District President? You’ll find the answer elsewhere in your newsletter.

Editor’s Note: We hope to bring you more interesting facts in the coming year to “Celebrate the Past, Present and Future” and how God has blessed the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League these 75 years. Information for this article was taken from the Fall 1977 edition of “The Quarterly Echo”, celebrating the 35th anniversary of the LWML.





Gatherings or Meetings?

Although most of us would prefer Bible study and mission work to meetings, there are times when meetings are necessary. In those instances the meeting should first be opened with prayer and devotions. A well-planned meeting using an agenda and parliamentary procedure will not only speed up the meeting but make it more interesting. Minutes of the meeting should be kept for future reference. Always begin on time out of courtesy to those who have arrived on time. The person leading the meeting should try to foster an environment of Christian love and encourage participation of all members with fairness and impartiality.

Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised is the parliamentary authority adopted by the LWML. It covers a lot of information but I would like to share a simplified version of motions. There are three steps to bringing a motion to the floor:

1. A member makes the motion
2. Another member seconds the motion
3. The chair states the question of the motion (places it before the assembly) and it is then open to debate (discussion).

Until the chair states the question, the maker has the right to modify it or to withdraw it completely. Any member can ask the maker to modify the motion. The maker of the motion can accept, not accept, or offer different wording. If the modification is accepted, the chair states the question and then it is open to discussion. Finally, the chair puts the question (puts it to a vote).

Amendments to a motion are made if the question has already been stated and is in debate. If an amendment is made and has a second, then the question of the amendment is stated and debate on the amendment is allowed. A vote on the amendment must be taken before a vote on the original motion. If the amendment is accepted by the voters, then the main motion is stated as amended and open for debate. The chair puts the amended question and a vote is taken. If the amendment is rejected, the original motion is stated and open for debate. The chair puts the original question and a vote is taken.

The answer to our question is yes. Sometimes we have gatherings and sometimes we have meetings. Whether you are serving the Lord with gladness at a gathering or a meeting your societies and zones can find many helpful, free resources on the LWML website and in the LWML Handbook (also available on the website). But all things should be done decently and in order (1 Corinthians 14:40).

Carolyn Meyer
Parliamentarian



Share the Gospel

Did you know a good way to share the gospel is through the Mustard Seeds? I like to leave one when I leave a tip when I go out to eat or stay in a hotel. Make sure the mustard seed is open so they see it when they pick up the tip. This is a great way to let others know about LWML and our Savior. Some of the Mustard Seeds that I have on hand will be on sale at the district convention in September.

There will be sales on other items also. PLUS new items--polo shirts and sweatshirts and many other LWML items.

Be sure to visit the Christian Life table and do your shopping!

Ruth Wright
Christian Life Committee Chairman

You are Invited to a

*“President’s
Cookie Reception”*

at the Comfort Inn Lobby
Friday Evening of Convention
Following Closing Devotion

District LWML Calendar

September 16, 2016	Younes Center, Kearney - Pre-Convention BOD Meeting
September 16-17, 2016	Younes Center, Kearney - District Convention
October 1, 2016	Christ, Juniata - Transition/EC Meeting
February 11, 2017	TBA - BOD Meeting
April 1, 2017	TBA - EC Meeting
June 10, 2017	TBA - BOD Meeting
June 22-25, 2017	Albuquerque, NM - LWML Convention
September 8, 2017	Hotel Grand, Grand Island - EC Meeting
September 8-10, 2017	Hotel Grand, Grand Island - District Retreat



Ride the Bus to Albuquerque



Travel to the National Convention via bus will be possible, thanks to Pauline Niederklein and her travel friend Doris, who have made the plans for us.

Village Tour and Travel, Wichita, KS will provide two coaches. The I-80 route will begin on Wednesday, June 21, 2017 in Lincoln, followed by Seward, York, Grand Island, Kearney, Lexington, North Platte and Ogallala. We will have an overnight stay in Walsenburg, CO with plans to arrive in Albuquerque by noon on Thursday. The busses will leave at the end of Sunday activities (approximately noon). The return trip will include an overnight stay in a Colorado motel (site to be determined)

If you'd like to reserve a seat, please send your reservation with a \$300 check to Travels with Doris. Checks will be held until departure time is closer. Send to:

Travels with Doris
1794 County Road 1500
Wilbur, NE 68465

If you have any questions, please contact Pauline at 402-446-7467 or email: Ln41719@windstream.net

Don't wait to sign up. Once the seats are filled, you're on your own. It's a very reasonable price and your travels are worry free. And... the camaraderie that is formed with sisters in Christ on a bus trip can't be over stated!

Pauline Niederklein
Bus Coordinator



Celebrating the Past

Pauline Roehrkasse of (then) Grand Island served as the first national LWML Corresponding Secretary and Nebraska South's third District President from 1948-1952.

Nebraska South District Proposed Bylaw Changes

The following proposed Bylaw changes were approved by the Board of Directors on February 13, 2016 to go before the Nebraska South District Convention Delegates for adoption on Saturday, September 17, 2016.

Article VI--Officers and Elections, Section 2a

Existing bylaws read: The elected officers shall be elected by ballot at the convention to serve for a term of four(4) years, or until their successors are elected, and shall not be eligible for reelection to the same office.

Proposed Amendment: Strike: shall not be eligible for reelection to the same office

Insert: no person shall be eligible to serve consecutive terms in the same office.

Rationale: To allow for LWML members from Nebraska South District to hold the same office more than once but not to be able to hold it consecutive terms.

If adopted will read:

The elected officers shall be elected by ballot at the convention to serve for a term of four(4) years, or until their successors are elected, and no person shall be eligible to serve consecutive terms in the same office.

Article XVI-- Mission Grants-Mission Grants, Section 1a

Existing bylaws read: Mission grant proposals may be submitted by individual members, societies, zones, and the Nebraska LCMS District Mission Committee.

Proposed Amendment: Strike: the Nebraska LCMS District Mission Committee. Insert: LWML before the word individual and LCMS boards.

Rationale: To clarify individual members and to allow the LCMS Boards to submit mission grants. The Nebraska LCMS District Mission Committee has been dissolved.

If adopted will read: Mission grant proposals may be submitted by LWML individual members, societies, zones, districts, and LCMS boards.

LWML Quarterly ECHO
682 38 Rd.
Minden, NE 68959

Periodical
 Postage Paid

Lutheran Women's Missionary League **QUARTERLY ECHO** (USPS: 339-670, ISSN: 8750-5270) is published quarterly by the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, Nebraska South District, an auxiliary organization of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod at 682 38 Rd., Minden, NE. 68959. Printed by Morris Press, Kearney, NE 68847. Periodical class postage paid at Minden, NE 68959.
 Postmaster send address changes to:
QUARTERLY ECHO, 682 38 Rd., MINDEN, NE 68959
 Cassandra Tomsen Phone: (308) 830-9199

Deadline for next Echo. . . November 1, 2016
 Please send news from your society to:
 Karen Christner • PO Box 321 • Wauneta, NE 69045-0321
 E-mail: echoeditor@lwmlnesouth.org

Address Service Requested

2014-2016 Mission Grants Paid in Full!

"Give thanks to Him and praise His name." Ps 100:46

	Amount	PAID
Nebraska South LWML Scholarships	32,000	32,000
2015 Orphan Train Shipment to the Baltics	10,000	10,000
Mercy Meals of SW Nebraska	16,000	16,000
Trinity/HOPE	5,000	5,000
His Kids Camp/Camp Luther	8,000	8,000
Training Evangelists for the Vietnam Lutheran Church	7,000	7,000
Evangelism Materials in the Russian Language	5,382	5,382
Concordia Theological Seminary, Food & Clothing Co-op	5,000	5,000
Lutheran Braille Workers' Lutheran Library for the Blind	5,000	5,000
Human Care/Gospel Outreach Muslim Immigrants-Lincoln	5,000	5,000
YWR project	1,618	1,618
2014-2016 TOTAL MISSION GOAL	\$100,000	\$100,000

