

LWML Wyoming District Newsletter
Spring 2019



President's Message – Barb Schaer

Be still . . . how difficult is that? Did you know that on the average most people speak 16,000 words per day? Do we choose them carefully and use them properly?

Be still . . . did you hear what I said? We are so certain to get our words in each day, but did we hear what anyone else had to tell us?

Be still . . . do you remember the old adage – sit still – do you have ants in your pants? Seems like we spend a lot of time on the go, making sure we get everything accomplished in the day.

Be still . . . stop and look around. See what a beautiful world we live in.

Be still, and know that I am God. Psalm 46:10

God has a wonderful way have reminding us that we need to “Be Still” in order to hear and listen to him.

We all need those reminders of “being still” and knowing who is in control. It’s a tough lesson to learn and we will continually learn it throughout our lives.

It’s knowing that God’s richest blessing of our Lord and Savior, who was given for our sins, suffered, died was buried but most importantly rose again, is ours! Easter joy and blessings!!

With spring, which kind of looks like winter here today, comes our Spring Workshops or Joyshops, or whatever you choose to call them. What a wonderful time to gather together with your fellow sisters and brothers in Christ, use your time together to strengthen your faith and encourage others to join you.

The LWML met the mission goal of \$2,075,000 – what a great blessing! Thank you to each one of you for your contribution. Some of the ladies from around the district will be attending the national LWML Convention in Mobile this summer – June 21-23. While it might not be possible for you to attend, please find your delegate from your zone, or someone who is attending and help them by donating to the mission walk, sending a gift from the heart or giving them a monetary gift to include in one or all of the offerings that will take place at the convention.

Please encourage your delegate to come and make a presentation this fall about their experiences and excitement from attending a national LWML convention.

Save the Date!!! Next summer 2020 – the Wyoming District Convention will be held in Rock Springs, Wyoming – June 18-20 at Western Wyoming Community College. The gals there are busily making preparations for us all to come.

I would like to *encourage* you to remain in the Word, *engage* with your Lord often, pray continually to *equip* yourself for the tasks ahead and *enjoy* the rich blessings He so generously gives to us all. To assist you toward that end please consider reading Psalm 46 in its entirety as a part of your devotional life each day.



Powder River Zone – Charlotte Hamilton, President

We had our Fall Rally at Trinity Lutheran in Casper on September 22, 2018, with seventeen in attendance. Pastor Jon Olson opened our time together with Matins, and the bible study was done with Pastor Jakob Berger (Glenrock/Douglas), our newly elected LWML WY District Junior Counselor. The Trinity ladies served breakfast snacks and treated us to a delicious lunch. We presented the final draft of our by-laws to be voted on, and Debbie Lee has sent them on to Kathy Larson, VP of Servant Resources and Chairman of

Bylaws Review Committee. We were blessed by oral society reports, and each society came away with some new...and unique...ideas for their own society. We had elections, Pastor Berger installed the new officers, and then closed us in prayer.

Our Spring Joy Workshop is scheduled for May 4 in Moorcroft, and we are praying for good weather so that both Pres. Barb Schaer and Pastor Jacob Berger can attend. The ingathering will be monetary for Moorcroft’s new Senior Center.

Our zone delegate to the LWML National Convention in June in Mobile, Alabama, is our zone treasurer, Cheri Jones. We can hardly wait to hear of her adventures at our Fall Rally this year, which will be held in Sheridan sometime in the middle of September.



Leader Development Chair – Linda Fischer

I attended the Zoom meeting on April 7th. I continue to keep my society updated on what is going on in the Zone and District. I won’t be at the National Convention in June, as it is our 50th Wedding Anniversary and we are leaving the summer open for visitors and taking trips.

I hope to attend the October district meeting.

I read the Mustard Seed devotions every day and also some other devotions through the LCMS that come online. I haven’t been attending Bible Studies as frequently as I should but try to attend one once a week.

For those attending the National convention, have a Blessed and fun time meeting friends from around the nation. It was such an inspiration when we were hosts a couple of years ago. I miss not getting a keepsake bag, as I am the “Bag Lady” in more ways than one.

Have a Blessed Summer in the Lord,



Vice President Christian Life– Brenda Ellis

All of my committee members are always very diligently working on projects or activities for the LWML. We all take our positions very seriously and are always eager to Serve the Lord with Gladness. Won’t be long and we will be looking for ideas again for the LWML WY District Convention to be held June 2020 in Rock Springs. I will once again be checking with CPH to see if they are interested in setting up their store. If not, the craft fair is a possibility again. If you have any other suggestions, please share them with me.

SENIOR PASTORAL COUNSELOR - Pastor Temme

Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!!

If the message of Good Friday is that death is the wages of sin - God's judgment on all people, then the message of Easter is life - new life springing out of and flowing beyond death, forgiven life, the boundlessness of eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. I trust that your observance of the Easter victory has lifted you in springtime renewal in both faith and life.



Mary Magdalene was given the privilege of being the first person to whom the risen Christ would appear (John 20). We are given no answer to the question of why she would be the first. Perhaps it was simply that she needed Him most at the time. As she grieved in the aftermath of Jesus' suffering and death, she struggled with issues of management and control. She knew well she could do nothing about His death. However, she could at least gather necessary spices and items needed for giving a proper preparation to His body for burial. She would gather the items, hasten to the tomb, carry out those final duties, and then return home to try to manage life - whatever that was now going to be.

But not to be! Not only can she not carry out the final burial procedures, the body is not even there! Stolen, taken completely out of her hands (and the hands of others as well). What to do now? Find the body. Take the body back. Complete those final arrangements. Bury the body securely!

Throughout those emotions and thoughts, she is crying (literally a loud expression of grief, a wailing). She notices someone - the gardener? "Woman, why are you weeping?" "Sir, if you have taken him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him." "Mary!" "Rabboni!!" Notice that the risen Christ identifies Himself with just one word - her name, "Mary!" and there is instant recognition - "Rabboni!"

And so it is for you. One word - your name! "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine." (Is. 43:1b). Today, One word - your name - spoken together with water and the word in Holy Baptism! With that washing of regeneration the Risen Christ places His name upon you and claims you as His - a member of His family. And with that washing all of the benefits of His suffering, death, and resurrection are yours! "... all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death. We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life . . . we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin . . . if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him." (Rom 6:3-8). And then St. Paul continues in verse 11 - "In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus."

Mary wanted to be in control. In recognition she reached out to embrace Jesus, but to be. "Do not hold on to me, (do not cling to me), for I have not yet returned to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am returning to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" This is not a rejection of her by Jesus but more like "Mary, do not try to limit My place in your life only to what you want or what you can see. Do not limit your expectations. My death and resurrection have opened to you the fullness of who I am and of who you are because of Me. Let go of your control, walk with Me, trust in Me alone. I have power over sin and death. My victory is your victory - Go and tell!!

Yes, go and tell - in your families - in your societies - in your committees - in your mites - in your mission grants - in your conversations with your neighbors - in Mobile and in Rock Springs - Go and tell! Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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Headwaters Zone – Kathy Barr, President



My first official duty as president was attending the Wyoming District LWML Board meeting in Casper February 8-9. It was a delight to be with my sisters in Christ in Bible study and in discussion about our district and zones. The group who attended the Assembly of Leaders last November presented some information they learned there and encouraged the zones to incorporate these ideas within their societies. Headwaters Zone has invited Pastor Berger and Shurie Scheel to be guests at the Fall Rally in Saratoga September 20-21 to help with sharing this leadership information.

Our Christian Life workshop was held on April 27 in Rock Springs. The topic was Focus Lost, Focus Restored presented by Christian Life Chairman, Patty Pederson. There were 28 in attendance. After lunch we went on a Mission Walk, either ¼ mile, ½ mile or 1 mile around the neighborhood. Following this we took a mission grant offering.

Headwaters Zone delegate to LWML National Convention is Kathy Larsen, Rock Springs society, and Patty Pederson, Rawlins society, is the alternate. They are excited and so willing to be there to represent the Headwaters Zone.



Communications Chair – Jennifer Scheel

Here are my "Tips for LWML WY District Communications." This time we're going to focus on privacy.

Online privacy is a BIG deal! How many times has your Facebook account been "hacked?" How often do you receive Junk/Phishing emails that could include a virus? EVERY time an email is sent, there is the possibility that it could end up in the wrong hands. Usually it's not a big deal, but there is always a chance, no matter how slight, that it could lead to identity theft.

Here are a few things you can do on a daily basis to protect the privacy of everyone:

1. NEVER send personal identifying information via email unless you can password protect/encrypt it and send the password out in a separate email, text, etc.
2. When sending out group emails put your email address in the TO: box and everyone else's in the BCC box.
3. Don't "reply all" to emails unless instructed to do so.

If we all do our part, we can make LWML WY District Communications more safe and secure for all of our brothers and sisters in Christ!

Brenda Ellis, VP of ChristianLife, presents a check for \$1000 Christ the King Preschool in Cody, WY to Pastor Shawn Kumm



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VP OF GOSPEL OUTREACH – Ellen Burbank

Please continue to pray for the mission grant recipients as they use this money to share the good news about Jesus. Additionally, please encourage your societies to send mites in on a regular basis. The national mite goal for 2017-2019 was met and exceeded. Thanks be to God! See the attached mite goal summary.

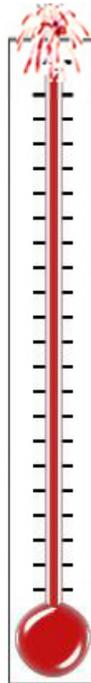
Grant	Amount	Paid
Support for Wyoming District Classical Grammar Schools	\$10,000	\$5,000
Advanced Lutheran Pastoral Education - Liberia	\$5,000	\$5,000
Financial Assistance for Concordia Theological Seminary Ft Wayne Food & Clothing Co-op	\$2,500	\$2,500
Wyoming District LCMS Pastors' Wives Retreat	\$1,000	\$500
Sanitary Pads for Kenyan School Girls	\$3,000	\$3,000
Soldiers of the Cross	\$3,000	
North Dakota Orphan Grain Train	\$3,000	
Sharing the Love of Christ in Lima	\$2,750	
"Wonderfully Made" Resources to Share Jesus' Love with People of All Abilities	\$1,500	
Lutherans for Life Post-Abortion Crisis Hotline Expansion (Partial Pay)	\$1,625	
Heart to Heart Future Growth Renovation (Partial Pay)	\$1,625	
TOTAL	\$35,000	\$16,000
01/31/2019		

Mission Goal Progress

2017—2019 Mission Goal
\$2,075,000.00

Total Mites Received
\$2,172,373.76

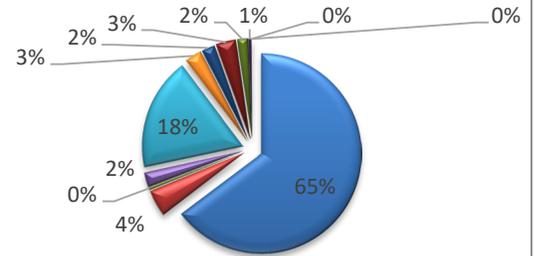
Amount above and beyond the Mission Goal
\$97,373.76



\$2,172,373.76
\$2,075,000.00

\$0

Overall Mite Sources



- Districts \$1,405,998.89
- Pledge Walk \$91,534.49
- Golf Outing Tee Up 4 Mites \$9,704.78
- Convention Offering #1 \$49,903.52
- Other Donations \$391,499.11
- Christmas Appeal \$59,132.64
- Giving Tuesday 2017 \$47,314.05
- Giving Tuesday 2018 \$68,925.02
- Thrivent Choice/Simply Giving \$35,219.00
- Joyful Response \$10,730.00
- Good Shop/Good Search \$560.01
- AmazonSmile \$1,852.25

Monthly Gifts Received to Support Our Mission Grants

Reporting Period	Mite Offerings Received	Over / Under Monthly Budget of \$86,458.33	Reporting Period	Mite Offerings Received	Over / Under Monthly Budget of \$86,458.33
Apr 2017	\$22,933.28	\$63,525.05	Apr 2018	\$107,666.32	\$21,207.99
May 2017	\$51,156.21	\$35,302.12	May 2018	\$76,941.28	\$9,517.05
June 2017	\$160,940.74	\$74,482.41	June 2018	\$67,747.34	\$18,710.99
July 2017	\$56,489.86	\$29,968.47	July 2018	\$72,603.17	\$13,855.16
Aug 2017	\$72,857.34	\$13,600.99	Aug 2018	\$60,191.50	\$26,266.83
Sept 2017	\$39,055.38	\$47,402.95	Sept 2018	\$50,955.10	\$35,503.23
Oct 2017	\$58,499.63	\$27,958.70	Oct 2018	\$49,268.12	\$37,190.21
Nov 2017	\$128,521.43	\$42,063.10	Nov 2018	\$150,501.77	\$64,043.44
Dec 2017	\$102,038.88	\$15,580.55	Dec 2018	\$78,033.14	\$8,425.19
Jan 2018	\$77,312.80	\$9,145.53	Jan 2019	\$143,722.20	\$57,263.87
Feb 2018	\$61,528.93	\$24,929.40	Feb 2019	\$148,615.64	\$62,157.31
Mar 2018	\$80,598.77	\$5,859.56	Mar 2019	\$254,194.93	\$167,736.60
			TOTAL	\$2,172,373.76	\$97,373.76

And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins [mites], which make a penny (Mark 12:42).