



# Jersey Mission Light

The Voice of New Jersey Lutheran Women in Mission

Fall 2004



## District Convention A Huge Success

The NJ District LWML held their 17th biennial convention May 14-15 in Parsippany with “Jesus is the Light of the World” as their theme. This convention was hosted by the women of the Lakeland Zone with Ginger Starrett, zone president, and Arlene Price, newly elected district secretary, as convention co-chairs. Attendance was higher than any NJ LWML convention with 121 at the daily sessions and 156 at the Friday night banquet.

This was arguably the best convention our district has ever held with a roster of national speakers including Dr. Jotham Jhang, President and Executive Director of C.A.M.E., the Lutheran Center for Asian American Ministry and Evangelism; Dr. Richard Bimler, President of Wheat Ridge Ministries; Rev. Larry Miller of Helena, Montana, one of our national LWML counselors; our own Rev. William Klettke, NJ District President, LCMS; and as our song leader, Rev. Dien Taylor of Redeemer Lutheran in Bronx, NY and song leader for the recent national LWML convention held in Oklahoma City.



Some of our Ladies enjoying the convention, including Sue Epper, Judy Barnes and Joan Ziegler in the blue dress.

If you missed this convention, you missed a lot. From the music to the speakers to the vendor displays to the accommodations, everything was “De – Light – Full”. Dr. Jhang started the convention his message about CAME (Center for Asian Missions & Evangelism) which he has been with since its initiation in 1998. His group has started 68 new missions in Asian communities all over America since 1998 and he also helps with Asian ministry overseas.

Dr. Bimler, President of Wheat Ridge Ministries, was our keynote speaker and had the entire group laughing out loud at Lutheran idiosyncrasies and ourselves. His message was to Lighten Up, be “Easter People and to Easterize others”. He said to spread the joy of the resurrection story – be a “resurrection resource”.

Both NJ District Pastoral counselors, Rev. Dennis Krueger and Rev. Eric Ziegler lead our Moses as found in Exodus chapters 4 & 5 and encouraging us to let our light shine. Pastor Ziegler chose “Walking in the Light” as found in Ephesians 5:8-21 and telling us to all be “Children of the Light”. Rev. Taylor had us up and out of our chairs with so many great songs including the convention theme song “Jesus is the Light”. His smiling face brightened our convention and his enthusiasm was definitely contagious.

The banquet included the choir from Redeemer in Newton and Rio Clemente, a classically trained, jazz pianist and friend of the choir director from Newton. The entire convention was dedicated to the memory of Fran Cook of Village Lutheran Church in Lanoka Harbor. Fran was a passionate supporter of mission work and the LWML in particular. The next convention will be hosted by the Mid-Eastern zone in 2006. They’ll have to work hard to top this one but we’re sure they will!



## FROM YOUR DISTRICT PRESIDENT

The 2004 New Jersey District Convention is but a memory. But what a memory! "Jesus is the Light of the World." Who can forget our rousing singing of "Jesus is the Light"? Our speakers were very inspiring and Rev. Dien Taylor did an excellent job of leading the singing. Wouldn't it be nice if we all sang with such gusto in church? Our entire district should be congratulated on meeting our Mite goal and adopting a larger one for next biennium.

But let us not rest on our laurels --we need to continue working to meet our next goal and maintain the enthusiasm exhibited at the convention! I thank God for the many people who attended and those who worked to make it memorable.

Have you had any special blessings from God this summer? Many times I don't think about them, but this has been an unusual year. We of Burlington County were deluged with rain in July. Many people lost their homes and all their possessions. Several churches were also inundated. My home was not damaged but I did loose my car--I found they do not float. We were all amazed at the outpouring of love and help from so many, many others. God IS indeed in control of our lives, our possessions and the weather!

Summer is over all too quickly and time to get back to our routines. As we begin a new year in LWML let us work to maintain our enthusiasm. Encourage others to attend our meetings and rallies. Let us try to have a large attendance at our retreat November 6th at Cranes Mill. And it is never too early to plan to attend the National Convention in Tampa, Florida next June.

God has richly blessed us in the past. Are we continuing to spread His Word to others? How is your society doing? Are you trying to expand? Let us all put out a concerted effort to attract more women to our meetings and other functions.

I look forward to seeing you at Rallies, meetings and the retreat. Remember our goal of spreading the Word, working for missions and studying God's Word.

Gladys Nesko  
NJ District President

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### Mark Your Calendar!

September 19 - South Jersey at St. John's in Bridgeton  
October 17th - Mid Eastern Zone at Calvary in Verona  
October 17th - North Eastern Zone at Our Savior in Fair Lawn  
October 24th - Raritan Zone at Redeemer in Fords  
October 31st - Lakeland Zone at Our Savior in Stanhope  
November 6th - District Retreat at Cranes Mill in West Caldwell

June 16-19th - National Convention at Tampa, Florida



Pastor Dien Taylor at the convention.



## COUNSELOR'S CORNER

People sometimes say, "The more things change, the more they stay the same." That is true. We live in a world that is changing too fast. The threat of terrorism, natural disasters, diseases, all these things and more bear witness to the ever present power and effects of sin in our world. Satan and his legions are working hard to snatch people up. Sometimes he doesn't even have to work; people are ready and eager to give their lives over to him. But there are many things that do not change. The love of God manifest in Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

Even within our beloved Synod we see change (yes – EVEN IN THE MISSOURI SYNOD – some things change!) And in our New Jersey District LWML we are seeing some changes: new officers, new mission projects, new opportunities to share the love of Jesus with people around the corner and around the globe.

As I write this, the summer will soon be over. By the time you read it, summer 2004 will be another memory. Even though our calendars tell us the year begins on January 1, in many areas of our lives the year really begins in September. The hot, dreary days of summer give way to a new school year, a new year in our church Sunday Schools, choirs, and ladies' groups. The Liturgical (Church) Year begins on the First Sunday of Advent, but that, too, seems to slip by us.

As we start a new season, it is a good time to look ahead to the opportunities that lie before us. After our summer rest, most of us are recharged and ready to face the challenges that will come our way. And we of the LWML have a lot to do! New mission grants to finance, new projects to plan, are all ways WE can "Serve the Lord with gladness" through our time, talents, and treasures. And in doing so, we spread the light and love of Jesus Christ to a world darkened by sin and its effects. "Fields are white and harvests waiting. Who will bear the sheaves away? Loud and long the Master calls you. Rich rewards He offers free. Answer quickly when He calls you, 'Here am I, send me, send me!'"

My dear sisters, I pray that the new season will bring the joy of serving the Lord with Gladness into our hearts.

Pastor Eric Ziegler

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## DISTRICT GRANTS APPROVED FOR NEW BIENNIUM

One of the duties of the delegates to the recent convention is to select the district Mite Grant Goal. This year's goal was set at \$28,000 with \$21,000 going to the NJ District and \$7,000 going to National. Grants approved for funding in order include:

- #1 – C.A.M.E. Center for Asian Ministry and Evangelism - \$5,000;
- #2 – "Seed Money for New Churches" in the NJ LCMS District - \$5,000;
- #3 – Lutheran Blind Mission Society to establish new outreach centers - \$3,500;
- #4 – LCMS Deaconess Program – to encourage new deaconess's - \$3,500;
- #5 – Vocational Training Center for women in Pakistan - \$3,500;
- #6 – Duffel Bags for Mission Teams - \$500.

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MISSION



## District News

New officers include Judy Barnes as Vice President for Gospel Outreach, Sue Harnos as treasurer, Arlene Price as secretary, Ruth Ann Krueger filling an unexpired term as Vice President of Human Care and also convention coordinator, Rev. Krueger as new counselor, Joan Ziegler as historian and Lillian Burrows as parliamentarian.

**HELP!** As you all know, the district has no means of generating operating funds beside those in excess of convention and retreat expenses. The convention, while a huge popular success, was a costly one also. The district has to send the president and pastoral counselor to the next national convention in Tampa and we're painfully low on funds. If your society could donate to the district treasury to help out we would appreciate it greatly. Thank you for any amount. Please send a donation to Sue Harnos, our new treasurer.

If you, your zone or society, made a banner during the last decade or so and would like to display it in your church, please contact Joan Ziegler, our new historian. We have no place to store these banners and it would be nice to display them.

## Zone In

The zones need to select a delegate for the upcoming national convention and let Gladys Nesko know who this is. Put this on your agenda for your fall rally. Also please report any officer changes to district.



Ginger Starrett and Arlene Price, Co-Chairs of the convention, joining in the singing.

### NEW JERSEY DISTRICT OFFICERS

Gladys Nesko, President  
8 Andover Court, Southampton, NJ 08088-1323  
609-859-0580; gladnes@snip.net

Ruth Ann Krueger, VP Human Care  
129 Glasgow Terrace, Mahwah, NJ 07430  
201-512-0030; rak320@aol.com

Gay VanEtten, VP Christian Life/Servant Resource  
146-1 Fredon Marksboro Rd., Newton, NJ 07860  
973-300-9627 or gvanette@sussex.edu

Judy Barnes, VP Gospel Outreach  
R-5 Farmhouse Lane, Morristown, NJ 07960  
Phone # & Email to Follow

Sue Harnos, Treasurer  
709 Amherst Road, Lanoka Harbor, NJ 07834  
609-971-9786; H52152@verizon.net

Arlene Price, Secretary  
13 Mariner Drive, Randolph, NJ 07869  
973-442-7608; arlene.price@abbott.com

Susan Donnelly, Editor  
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Rev. Dennis Krueger  
129 Glasgow Terrace, Mahwah, NJ 07430  
201-529-2117 W; hcrevdk@aol.com

Rev. Eric Ziegler  
52 Mayflower St., Clifton, NJ 07013  
973-471-3208; EZieg44001@aol.com

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cindy Hergenhan, Bylaws & Nominating Comm.  
612 Passaic Avenue, Bloomfield, NJ 07003  
973-338-8853

Jennifer Russell, Committee on Young Women  
153 Sharon Station Rd, Robbinsville, NJ 08691  
609-208-1570; JRussell03@msn.com

Carolyn Engelken, Quarterlies & Mite Boxes  
109 Bloomfield Avenue, Barnegat, NJ 08005  
609-698-3390; art-lyn@webtv.com

Lillian Burrows, Parliamentarian  
594 Hickory Ave., Saddle Brook, NJ 0663  
201-797-3559; rlborrow@aol.com

Joan Ziegler, Historian & Mid-Eastern Zone Pres.  
52 Mayflower St., Clifton, NJ 07013  
973-471-3208; jziggette@aol.com

Ginger Starrett, Lakeland Zone President  
510 County Rt. 519, Belvidere, NJ 07832  
908-475-5591; starrettfam@worldnet.att.net

Hilde Rader, Northeastern Zone President  
395 Chestnut St., Ridgefield, NJ 07657  
201-945-0420

Margaret Russell, South Jersey Zone President  
153 Sharon Station Rd., Robbinsville, NJ 08691  
732-424-6395

June Cooper, Raritan Zone President  
185 Amboy Ave., Metuchen, NJ 08840

**New Jersey District LWML  
ANNUAL FALL RETREAT**

**NOVEMBER 6, 2004  
8:45-4:00**

**AT**

**CRANES MILL  
459 PASSAIC AVENUE  
WEST CALDWELL, NJ**

**“Walking the Mary/Martha Tightrope”**

**Please mark your calendar and plan to attend!**

**FELLOWSHIP    BIBLE STUDY    SING-ALONG    DELICIOUS LUNCH  
TIME TO REFLECT    TIME TO MEET WITH YOUR SISTERS IN CHRIST**

Anyone needing directions to Cranes Mill, please call Gay VanEtten, 973-300-9627.

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RETREAT COST PER PERSON: \$22.00

DEADLINE: October 27, 2004

Make check payable to: **NJ District LWML**

Mail to:            Susan Harnos  
                         709 Amherst Road  
                         Lanoka Harbor, NJ 08734

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone: \_\_\_\_\_ Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions to Cranes Mill in West Caldwell

From the Parkway take 280 West to Passaic Avenue northbound. You'll take a jughandle turn at this Exit 4, heading south on Eisenhower Parkway. Then take a left on Eagle Rock and another left on Passaic Avenue northbound. Continue north to 459 Passaic Avenue or Crane's Mill.

From Routes 80 or 46, take Rt. 46 eastbound on County Road 506 to south/right on Passaic Avenue to Crane's Mill.