



Jersey Mission Light

The Voice of New Jersey Lutheran Women in Mission

Spring 2006

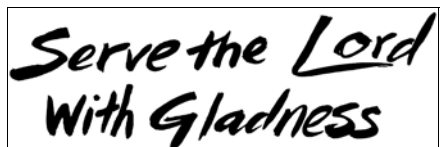


NJ DISTRICT SETS THEME FOR 2006 CONVENTION

Come one, come all to the 18th biennial LWML NJ District Convention on May 5th – 6th at the Wellesley Inn, Fairfield, NJ directly across from the Willowbrook Mall. Everyone in the Mid-Eastern Zone is very much Bursting With Joy.

We hope to have Pastor Dien Taylor leading us in music and the choir from LOCASHA congregation in Newark will lift us up at the banquet with their very joyful songs. It is something you do not want to miss. Also joining us from National will be Marguerite Christman, Vice President of Servant Resources and chairperson for the 2003 Oklahoma City Convention, from the great state of OKLAHOMA. We are also very honored to have with us Claude and Rhoda Hogue who are LCMS Missionaries to East Africa. Edith Sadowsky from Bethesda Lutheran Homes who I hope will bring some of the residents with her. Michael Mercer from Lutheran Social Ministries and of course our own NJ District President Klettke.

Won't you take some time out of your busy schedule to join us for part of the convention or all of it? I know you will not be disappointed.



Marguerite Christman to Speak at Convention

Currently serving as the Vice President of Servant Resources of the LWML, Marguerite Christman has also held other national positions including Board of Directors, Executive Committee, 2003 Convention Hospitality Chairman, Mission-Ministry Vision (MMV) Consultant, Media and Marketing Committee, Christian Growth Committee and Chairman, Convention Site Committee and Transportation Task Force. This biennium she is also serving as the Chairman of the 2007 Convention Programming Committee. In addition, Marguerite has served the LWML as District President for Oklahoma and held positions on the society, zone and districts levels, as well.

In her local congregation of Good Shepherd Lutheran in Midwest City, Marguerite has been and is active in many facets of ministry including beginning a Gamma Chi Delta (teen) LWML group.

In her community, Marguerite is an OKC National Memorial Volunteer and a member of the OK 4-H Foundation and Mid-Del Schools Foundation. She has also served as the Children's Theater Coordinator of the local chapter of the American Association of University Women.

Marguerite enjoys spending time with her two grown children John with his wife Michele and Rachel and her husband Clell. She has earned a AA degree from St. John's College, a BS degree in Education from Concordia in Seward, NE and a M.Ed. from the University of Central Oklahoma. Her personal mission statement is: "To share God's love with as many people as possible in service and joy to Him."



FROM YOUR DISTRICT PRESIDENT

It hardly seems possible that four years have gone by since I became NJ District President. I took the position with some trepidation, but with the help of God and all you wonderful LWMLer's, the position became relatively easy. However, I could not have done it without the help of the Board and Pastor Ziegler. They are a wonderful group of dedicated people who are willing to spend their time working for the Lord, spreading the Gospel, helping the needy and raising mites to support missions. There have been some changes made during my term—hopefully for the betterment of our organization.

Getting to know so many of you has been a real blessing. Though no longer president, I will continue to be active in the LWML. It is a great part of my life, one that I would not want to do without.

The Board has been trying very hard to interest younger women to become LWMLer's. We need everyone's help to keep our organization vital. The next time you are asked to take a position, please say yes. You will find your rewards are greater than you thought. God has helped me through these years and I am sure He will help you too.

At this time the Mid-East zone is very busy preparing for our District convention, which will be held May 5-6 at the Wellesley Fairfield Inn in Fairfield. The theme is "Burst Out With Joy!" Missionaries from East Africa will be our keynote speakers and Pastor Dien Taylor will again lead us in singing and praising God. Many other interesting speakers will be present. Plan on attending to meet friends and renew acquaintances. We hope you will "Burst Out With Joy" from attending.

Keep sending in your mites, as we have not met our goal for this biennium. Also the ingathering for this convention will be linens for Lutheran Social Ministries. They are in need of sheets, towels and blankets for the immigrant program.

Hoping to see you in May
Your sister in Christ,
Gladys Nesko, NJ District President

HELP!

The district needs your help. Since we have no way of raising money for our district expenses, we ask for you help. Please prayerfully consider sending in a yearly contribution to help offset expenses such as national & district conventions.



BRING MONEY!

You're going to want to have a little extra cash to purchase some very special handmade LWML items at the convention. Plus, Concordia Publishers will be there with a huge display of materials to buy.



Mark Your Calendar!

- April 2 - Lakeland Zone at Hamburg
- March 26 - Raritan Zone at Manchester
- April 30 - South Jersey Zone at Medford
- April 23 - Mid-Eastern Zone at East Rutherford
- April 23 - Northeastern Zone at New Milford? Check with Zone Officers on date - Possible conflict
- May 5-6 - District Convention at Fairfield



**DEADLINE LOOMS
DISTRICT GRANTS ONLY PARTIALLY FUNDED**

Every biennium we set mite goals and select different project to help fund with our mites. This biennium'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.



As of 3/24/06 we still have three grants left to fully fund. We need your help. We need your prayers, your faith and your generosity. Please help in any way you can.

LWML NATIONAL MITE GRANTS RECEIVING FUNDS

As of March 3, 2006 \$393,500 has been sent out towards our 2005-2007 Mission Grant goal. The total goal is \$1,625,000 and we're nine months into the biennium. Keep your mites coming! We know we can make with the help of God and all Sisters in Christ!

	Disbursed	Balance Remaining
Shipping Orphan Grain Train Containers to Africa and Russia	0	\$ 30,000
Ablaze! Implementation in North America	0	\$100,000
Responding to HIV/AIDS Among Congregations in Kenya	0	\$ 51,000
Urban, Ethnic School Expansion - East St. Louis, IL	\$ 75,000	PAID!
CAME - Reaching Asian Immigrants	\$ 12,500	\$37,500
Expanding Ministries to Youth and Adults in Southwest Alaska	\$ 75,000	PAID!
Lutheran Blind Mission Outreach Program	\$ 32,000	PAID!
Lutheran Teachers in Sierra Leone	0	\$ 84,000
LBT National Co-Workers Training Scholarships	\$ 44,000	PAID!
Gospel Outreach and Church Planting with Childcare Ministry	\$ 30,000	\$40,000
Inner City Mission and Ministry in Buffalo, NY	0	\$100,000
Lutheran Leaders' Training Institute - Pakistan	\$ 75,000	PAID!
Kiswahili New Testament - Braille	0	\$ 54,411
Expansion of Mission Outreach Training - USA	\$40,000	\$ 40,000
Concordia Welfare and Education Society - China	0	\$100,000
Ethnic Immigrant Institute of Theology Deaconess Training	0	\$100,000
Hispanic Outreach - West Houston, TX (partial payment)	\$10,000	\$ 7,089
TOTAL	\$393,500	\$1,231,500



Pastor's Corner

Lent is once again upon us. Like birthdays, Lent seems to come around faster and faster as the years go by. The word "Lent" comes from an Old English word, "lencten," which means, literally, "lengthen." During the Lenten season the days are actually getting longer, or "lengthening," hence the name "Lent." That's interesting, to me at least, but really has nothing to do with the meaning of Lent.

Originally, Lent was a time of instruction in the Christian faith. In earlier church times the catechumens would receive baptism on Easter Eve or Easter Day. This is seldom practiced any more. Nowadays Lent is supposed to be a season of "self-denial." Some people give up certain things, such as meat, liquor, sweets. (Usually things they should give up anyway) These outward signs of piety, while not displeasing to God, are not necessarily what He would have us do. If you care to sit in "sackcloth and ashes," go ahead. But Lent is more than that.

Lent is, or should be, a time for self-reflection. Rather than "giving up" those nasty habits, or even pleasant ones, we should examine our hearts and see what areas in our lives need improvement. We all have them. Then get to work on improving, eliminating, or doing whatever needs to be done to be a better person, inside and out.

And finally, Lent brings us to Easter, the empty tomb. But before Easter must come Good Friday, "Where the dearest and best, for a world of lost sinners was slain." Instead of gazing inward, Lent is a time to keep our eyes fixed on the cross and beyond it to the Resurrection. And, when our eyelids close for the final time, we shall experience our own resurrection and go to be with the Lord forever.

A Good Lent and Happy Easter to all my dear ladies of the New Jersey District LWML!

Pastor Eric Ziegler

Ingathering

Gifts from the Heart

At our upcoming convention May 5-6, we will be bringing our Gift from the Heart to donate to Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey, LSMNJ. The items they could especially use this year include blankets, sheet sets and towels both bath & kitchen.

Thank You!

A very special word of thanks to all of our district and zone officers who have served so faithfully over the last four years and who's terms are through.

We appreciate all you've done and hope you will find other ways to help our Lord and the LWML.

Thank you again.

NEW JERSEY DISTRICT OFFICERS

Gladys Nesko, President
8 Andover Court, Southampton, NJ 08088-1323
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June Cooper, Raritan Zone President
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732-494-6214

Lutheran Women in Mission

Young Women's Representative Application

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

EMAIL _____

Phone (____) _____ FAX (____) _____

Church Name _____

Church Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

1. The LWML motto is Serve the Lord with Gladness (Psalm 100:2) How do you do this in your life?
2. What groups and activities are you involved in or have you been involved in at your church?
3. What do you know about the LWML? Have you been involved at any level?
4. Why do you desire to be a Young Woman Representative for the District?
5. What do you fee your special interests, talents and gifts are?
6. Will you seek to be involved in some capacity in your district after the convention?

If you have any questions or comments, Please contact Jennifer Russell (Young Women's Committee) at: PO Box 35, Allentown, New Jersey, 08501 or phone 609-223-0150 or cell #609-851-0797.

REGISTRATION FORM
LWML NEW JERSEY DISTRICT CONVENTION
May 5-6, 2006
Wellesley Inn, Fairfield, New Jersey

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

_____ PHONE: _____

SOCIETY: _____ ZONE: _____

ATTENDING AS: Delegate _____ Society Member: _____ Pastor: _____

Banquet Choices: Chicken _____
 Top Round of Beef _____
 Vegetable Lasagna _____

PAYMENT DUE WITH REGISTRATION:

Registration:	\$35.00	_____
Friday Night Banquet	\$30.00	_____
Saturday Lunch	\$15.00	_____

Hotel Room (all taxes included)		
1 person in room	\$100.00	_____
Per Person with 2 people in room	\$ 50.00	_____

ALL HOTEL ROOMS WILL BE ON THE FIRST FLOOR

PLEASE LIST YOUR ROOMMATE(S): _____

SPECIAL NEEDS: Non-Smoking _____ Accessibility _____

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION: APRIL 12, 2006

Please include check to: LWML Mid-Eastern Zone/ Convention Fund

Mail Registration Form & Check to: Cindy Hergenhan
 612 East Passaic Avenue
 Bloomfield, NJ 07003
 Phone: 973-338-8853

PLEASE MAKE COPIES OF THIS FORM AND PASS ALONG TO YOUR FELLOW MEMBERS