



Oregon Leaguer

“Serve the Lord with gladness.” Psalm 100:2

Fall 2010

Lutheran Women in Mission

Lean On Him!

Greetings to all Ladies and all who participate in Lutheran Women’s Missionary League! I am very honored as the new Junior Pastoral Counselor to introduce myself. I am Pastor Roger D. Blesi. I am currently serving Redeemer Lutheran Church in John Day Oregon and First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Burns Oregon. Prior to this I was serving as Missionary At Large for Western Washington State and Alaska. I was serving the deaf and deaf-blind. I grew up in New Hope, Minnesota and graduated from St. Cloud State University with a BFA in Ceramics. After that came Seminary at Concordia Theological Seminary at Ft. Wayne Indiana. Life has certainly been a challenge!

Challenges have come my way in regards to my health in recent months (all discovered/diagnosed at one time). These were the challenges: a leg infection, Type 2 Diabetes, Renal Failure, and Sleep Apnea). In the last few months I have had to come to grips with changes. But changes are a very good thing, especially if those changes help provide a positive focus and influence on people and things. In my case it has forced me to be much healthier in my approach to life. God challenges us often with various trials. What are your trials? Despite them I know that the Lord Jesus Christ continues to love me and all who love Him. Living in a fallen world and our own sin has much to do about our troubles, but the Lord overcomes all of them and gives us the way and the means to uphold under the strain, pain and inconvenience of them. The Lord has power to take these challenges away from me, and from all who are “challenged” in such a way as this, but often He does not remove them. Look at Paul’s thorn in the flesh...

the Lord chose to not remove his trouble. But what did he say? “9 But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. 10 That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.” (2 Cor. 12:9-10)

The true power to live comes from Christ Jesus himself, because he is our power and encourager in all trouble. His death on the cross was looked at as weakness to all who saw Him but that act was far from weak. By it every trouble, sin, and inconvenience is overcome. Christ paid the penalty of our sin so we can live at peace with God and know that no matter what comes our way we can rest in Him. We are asked by the Lord to lean on him, to trust in faith that he can handle all our problems, even if in our own hearts and minds we can’t seem to come to grips with what we are experiencing. The Lord is still there.

My prayer for you is that no matter what comes your way, be it persecutions, challenges, inconveniences, and yes even medical difficulties, that you would fully trust in His love and care for you! When we are weak He is indeed very strong for us. May God bless your walk in life as you experience the faith that rests in Christ Jesus our Lord. In Jesus Name and for His Glory Amen.

Pastor Roger Blesi



OUR LORD OF TRUE AND ETERNAL HOPE IS RENEWING OUR STRENGTH!

Over and over again God speaks words of promise to us in His WORD! Our convention reminded us again and again of many of God’s promises especially in Isaiah 40 and 41.

And now it is TIME TO GO as Counselor Faragalli reminded us in our Convention Sending Service. And because of God’s GRACE we need not “go it alone”. God in His WORD of IS 40:31 states that *those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength*. What an assuring promise that is. As I, and no doubt most of you, needed renewing of strength after convention. And there our Loving and Encouraging God is with His abundant Grace to GO with us. It is TIME TO GO. God is there with us promising to renew our strength as we move on following Him: PROCLAIMING OUR GOD, EXPRESSING OUR TRUST AND ENGAGING OUR SERVICE.

Renewed by our Lord, going forward with Him and led by our Almighty God.

Cynthia Behrens,
President
Oregon District LWML



FOR THE MOTHERS AND BABIES

When the Trinity LWML ladies opened the in-gathering boxes from you it was like “Christmas in July”! There were boxes and boxes of wonderfully useful gifts for the babies and mothers. The clothing, books, baby items, etc. that the ladies gathered and brought to the convention are amazing. There were even toothbrushes and toothpaste, which most said they had never thought of including but will do so in the future!

The women of Trinity present 24 layettes a year to the Pregnancy Resource Center. Layettes include homemade quilts, receiving blankets, knitted sweaters and caps, bibs, baby gowns, and many other baby items, plus an uplifting Christian book for the mothers and families. We meet once a month sharing fun and fellowship while making the quilts for the layettes. The layette gift bags are made by a wonderful lady who works at a local fabric store.

Pregnancy Resource Center has a rich heritage of caring Christian people who saw a need. If you wish to learn how you can help call your local Pregnancy Resource Center.

Thank you to each one of you for volunteering your gifts, talents, and prayers. I send you a blessed quiet spirit through the Holy Spirit.

Evelyn Kakuska,
Pregnancy Resource Center Coordinator
Trinity Lutheran LWML
Trinity, Bend



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A New Beginning? Not Really!



In June, the Oregon District LWML adopted Mission Grants for the biennium 2010-2012. These grants will be funded by the same mites that have funded grants for over 65 years. The same coins and dollars have been placed in same mite boxes, and prayers have been offered for our Lord to bless the mite offerings in furthering His kingdom. Have mission grants changed? No, the needs in the mission fields are ever present in the world today.

Let's roll up the LWML sleeves of service and missions and lift hands in prayer for the current Mission Grants. Look for new, creative methods of promoting and collecting the SAME mites.

We give Thee but Thine own,

Carmen Nagel
Vice President – Gospel Outreach.

1. LCMS Board for Pastoral Education, LCMS Joint Seminary fund – Student Assistance Matching Fund	5,000
2. Religious Life Curriculum Project for God's People with Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities	6,500
3. Out of the Orphanage and Into the Family of Christ	6,500
4. St. John Lutheran School Curriculum Project	6,500
5. Repair, Repaint, Revitalize and Renew – First Lutheran, Burns, Oregon	6,500
6. The Gospel for Latino People	6,500
7. Financial Assistance for LWML Women Pursuing a Degree in Professional Church Work in the LCMS	6,000
8. Ethnic Mission: Translating and Teaching the Word of God in the Pacific Northwest	6,000
9. Opening a New Outreach Center for the Blind in Portland, OR and Providing Training for the New Director	5,000
10. LCMS Campus Ministry Training Grant	3,600
11. Library Resources, Lutheran Seminary, Atsimoniniavaka, Madagascar (Partially Funded)	3,900
Total 2010-2012 Mission Grant Goal Adopted for Oregon District	<u>\$62,000</u>
District "Cushion"	1,000
Total 2010-2012 Mission Grant Percentage for LWML Grants (National)	<u>\$21,000</u>
TOTAL NEEDED FOR `MISSION GRANTS (For Oregon District and national LWML)	<u>\$84,000</u>





Oregon District Elected Officers — June 2010



(left to right) Barbara Northrop, VP Servant Resources; Kathryn Timbs, Treasurer; Barbara Campbell, Recording Secretary; Karen Prince, Financial Secretary; Sue Cummins, Acting VP Communication; Cynthia Behrens, President; Carmen Nagel, VP Gospel Outreach; Deborah Lannen, VP Christian Life

missing from photo: Carolyn Nelson, VP Human Care



*Serving
the
Lord
With
Gladness*

LWML WEBSITE HAS A NEW LOOK

The LWML Information Technology Committee has been working diligently to develop a new look for the LWML website and online store. The LWML home page was converted on June 1, 2010. The new look will be integrated into all pages of the LWML website.

New features have been added to make the site more user-friendly, vibrant, and aesthetically appealing. Some of these features include:

- ★ Ability to view all of the home page with minimum of scrolling down
- ★ Sub-menu selections under the top menu bar are alphabetized for quick access
- ★ “Favorites” links are accessible and easily visible from the dynamic slider window
- ★ General LWML information available from tabs on the home page
- ★ A “What’s New” tab that reveals changes made to the website, including additions of Bible studies, newsletters, news releases, convention information and more
- ★ Refreshing the home page will display a new “Face of LWML”

The “Shop LWML” transitioned to a new format on July 1, 2010, to make the shopping experience more enjoyable for visitors. Some of the new shopping format features top-menu tabs include New Products, Featured Products and Specials. Also available are the advanced search function, and an area to update or edit account information. There is still access to hundreds of LWML products and the ability to make purchases in a secure and convenient environment.

The Information Technology Committee welcomes feedback on the new look. Browse the pages at www.lwml.org, shop on the LWML online store, and send any comments to webmaster@lwml.org.



LWML CHILDREN'S MISSION ADVENTURE MATERIALS AVAILABLE

An exciting new program is now available from the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML)! Children are invited to support LWML mission grants through the *LWML Children's Mission Adventure*. The goal of this new program and the materials that are available is to help build awareness of the growing mission needs at home and around the world, while helping children to value the importance of giving and supporting those needs.

All Lutheran schools in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS) have been sent a packet of materials that would facilitate the opportunity for students to choose LWML mission grant as the recipient of chapel offerings during all or part of the 2010-2011 school year through the *LWML Children's Mission Adventure*. The packet includes a reproducible letter to send to school families, as well as a “My Thankfulness” calendar that encourages families to thank God for their many blessings.

Resources are also available for everyone on-line and include:



- ★ Downloadable Mite container label wraps
- ★ Current list of LWML mission grants and posters for each grant
- ★ Downloadable monthly devotion, prayer guide and story about a mission grant recipient
- ★ Child friendly media presentation for use in classrooms or chapel services (available in August.)
- ★ Downloadable “My Thankfulness” calendar and colorful poster

To access these resources, simply go to www.lwml.org, locate “Favorites,” and find the link titled “LWML Children’s Mission Adventure.” You will be directed to a page that includes all you need to begin this adventure in your school or Sunday school or through other educational avenues in your church. Join this adventure with children throughout the LCMS today!

Servant Resources

“but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.”
Isaiah 40:31

Since convention, I have read and reread this verse as I move my convention bookmark in my Bible. I focus on these words: *the Lord will renew their strength..., they will run and not grow weary,.. they will walk and not be faint.* When I meditate on those words, I feel like they are a “battle cry” for the work of all the women involved in LWML.

First and foremost, we depend on our Lord to give us the energy to do His work, wherever we may be and for His

purpose. The Lord will give you the strength to do His work within LWML when you are called to serve.

Through our faith in our Risen Lord, we can depend on Him to give us what we need to serve Him. Perhaps it is the time, the talent or the treasure. He will provide for us because He says He will in Scripture.

And finally, we will not grow faint, because our Lord is there to give us what our body and mind need to do His will. As you focus on the words from our convention theme verse, prayerfully consider the call to serve in the Oregon District, in your zone or in your societies. Please say, “Yes, I will serve!”

Blessings
Barbara Northrop
VP Servant Resources

“Trust God from the bottom of your heart; don’t try to figure out everything on your own. Listen for God’s voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; he’s the one who will keep you on track.” Proverbs 3:5, 6 (The Message)

CHRIST CENTERED LIVING

Nourished by the
WORD, guided by the
SPIRIT, each woman is
actively demonstrating
Christ’s love.



Hope and Help
for
Homeless! Homebound! Haitians!
(and many others)
God's Blessings through the
LWML Convention Mission Fair

What a wonderful sight and joyful sound it was to see busy hands and hear friendly chatter at the LWML convention mission fair, as many convention attendees worked on one or more projects to give help and encouraging hope to the recipients of many projects.

- † Bag Mats – 20 were completed and 10 started, with many ladies anxious to continue project after convention. The homeless in OR will be receiving these mats.
- † Hope Sparks kits - 100 kits will bring joy as they are personally delivered to those in assisted living homes.
- † Postcards - Encouraging greetings will brighten the day for military personnel and missionaries as they read the friendly message along with a favorite Bible verse.
- † Gratitude boxes – Talk about encouraging. The Gratitude boxes were given to Eagle Crest staff to thank them for their service to us. Let's pray that the Bible verses share will touch hearts.
- † Biblical Costumes- 6 costumes were completed, 15 more are ready to sew, and one society took home fabric and patterns to continue the project which will delight the children in the Dominican Sunday schools.



We are BLESSED to be a BLESSING!
MITES at work in God's kingdom!

- † Flannel graph - Cutting out the Biblical flannel figures, which will benefit the Dominican Sunday schools, was a favorite activity as all could visit and cut at the same time.
- † Quilts - 120 quilts were tied and shipped to Mission Haiti.

The following items completed at the mission fair were packed and shipped to LCMS World Relief and Human Care, through Orphan Grain Train:

- † Quilts - 16 fleece quilts, 3 receiving blankets, and 4 sheets
- † School kits - 300 school kits for the Haitian Lutheran schools
- † Health kits - 59 health kits for the Haitian Lutheran Churches to give out.
- † Shoes - 160 pairs of shoes will help protect the wearers from injury
- † Clothing - 30 pounds of clothing and 3 bottles of vitamins for children
- † Vitamins
- † Bible pictures - 16 pounds of laminated Bible pictures were sent to the Haitian Lutheran churches.

Thank you to everyone who donated all these items. May we continue to pray that the Lord will help them

MITES INFO

Send MITES to

Karen Prince,
P. O. Box 543,
Gaston, OR 97119

Request MITE BOXES

(free of charge)

Carmen Nagel: 503.634.2485 or e-mail: arcticcats@aol.com





benefit many. A big thanks to Glenda Dougherty, who had the tied quilts shipped immediately so that they were received with 2 weeks of the convention.

Dixie and Shirl Thamert were instrumental in getting all of the items packed into the same size boxes, labeled, shrink wrapped onto a pallet at their warehouse, and loaded onto a truck which headed for Orphan Grain Train, which will get them on a ship to Haiti. Thank you so much, Dixie and Shirl, for all your time and assistance with shipping arrangements. (and what fun we had packing and stacking the boxes).

Also, thank you to all who donated the items for the ingathering. Those items overflowed the tables, and had to be packed up before we could get a count. May the Lord bless those receiving the items and use this outreach to bring these people to a saving faith.



Grant County Food Bank

Joanne Cordis-Phippen, Prairie City, Oregon, delivered boxes to the Grant County Food Bank. 163 pounds of food and personal items were gathered during the 2010 Oregon District Convention at Eagle Crest Resort. Praise God!!



QUILTS FOR HAITIAN BABIES & CHILDREN

The women of the Pacific Zone sent 104 quilts for Haitian babies and children to the Mission Fair at the LWML Oregon District Convention in Redmond. During the Friday afternoon Mission Fair, 60 of the quilts were tied, boxed and shipped to MISSION: HAITI in Davie, Florida. The remaining 44 quilts were tied at Zion/Hillsboro on June 15 by women from Zion, Mt Olive/ Forest Grove and Trinity / Hillsboro. The quilts were shipped that day to MISSION: HAITI and will be distributed in Haiti as a part of the organization's work there. Included in both shipments were children's vitamins and books. Shipping costs were covered by monetary gifts from the Zion congregation.

Lou James

OREGON DISTRICT CONVENTION MISSION FAIR

OUT OF OUR COMFORT ZONE!!!

First allow me to introduce myself. My name is Glenda Dougherty. I hold the position of Christian Life Committee Chairman of the Oregon District LWML. I have held that position for almost two years. During that time I was on the Host Committee for "Portland 2009" and Pacific Zone President. The Portland Convention is now a wonderful memory and Pacific Zone has a new president, Pat Wetzel.

I am looking forward to being able to put my full attention and energy into being your Christian Life Committee Chair and working with Deborah Lannen, V.P. of Christian Life. I must admit I felt a little apprehensive and *scared* after reviewing the *Responsibility of Chairman* in the Leader's Manual. **I was being pushed out of my comfort zone!** As I thought about it, I remembered a phrase I heard.... "God does not call the equipped – HE equips those HE calls. This is not instantaneous, it is a process. For me, part of the process was preparing for our Oregon District Convention and having to write the Friday night room devotion for the manual and meditating on the verse Isaiah 40:31(NIV)*but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.* Thinking back to the convention I was so inspired by the Bible studies and speakers. I personally felt the convention goal was accomplished. (To be assured that our Lord is the everlasting God Creator who renews our strength and lifts us on wings like eagles to do His will to His glory.) I share this because I **know** ... "*I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.*" Philippians 4:13. **I will be just fine out of my comfort zone!**

The Christian Life Committee will be planning a retreat for next fall and will be exploring ways to assist the Zones and Societies of the Oregon District with their Christian Life programs. We encourage you to make sure those ladies who don't have a computer receive a printed copy of the Oregon Leaguer.

Let's **step out of our comfort zone and PROCLAIM OUR GOD! EXPRESS OUR TRUST! ENGAGE OUR SERVICE!**

Glenda Dougherty

Christian Life Committee Chairman

SOUTHERN OREGON FALL ZONE RALLY

The Southern Oregon Zone Fall Rally will be held at Grace Lutheran Church, Ashland, on Saturday, October 10. Guest speakers will be Mrs. Marta Luna and her daughter, Kayla, from LLM. Pastor Miguel Luna will be the guest speaker for LWML Sunday, September 10. The theme is "Gather Us In," based on John 10:16:

I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They, too, will listen to my voice and there will be one flock and one shepherd.

By Gayle Wolfe



Please remember LWML in your estate plan. Our legal name is: Lutheran Women's Missionary League."

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) is the official women's auxiliary of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. For over 65 years, the LWML has focused on affirming each woman's relationship with Christ, encouraging and equipping women to live out their Christian lives in active mission ministries and to support global missions.

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Articles for the Winter 2010

issue of the *Oregon
Leaguer*
are due

Monday, November 1, 2010.

E-mail your articles/info or
pictures with description to

ORLeaguer@gmail.com.

PLEASE NOTE NEW EMAIL ADDRESS!

LOVE LINKS PRAYER REQUESTS

Jacquie Ingalls

Anyone wishing to become a part of this
prayer ministry should contact Jacquie at:
warjacq77@hughes.net



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The Lutheran Women’s Missionary League (LWML) is the official women’s auxiliary of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. For over 65 years, the LWML has focused on affirming each woman’s relationship with Christ, encouraging and equipping women to live out their Christian lives in active mission ministries and to support global missions.

What’s Coming...

Oregon District Executive Committee Meeting & Board of Directors’ Meeting	SEPT 10-11
<i>FALL ZONE RALLIES</i>	
Interstate Zone Rally @ Immanuel L.C. Portland OR	OCT 2
Juniper Zone Rally @ Redeemer L.C. John Day OR	OCT 9
Mt. Hood Zone Rally @ Faith L.C. The Dalles OR	OCT 9
Southern Zone Rally @ Grace L.C. Ashland OR	OCT 9
Pacific Zone Gathering @ Trinity L.C. Sheridan OR	OCT 16
Willamette Zone Rally @ Peace L.C. Salem OR	OCT 16
Emerald Zone Rally @ Messiah L.C. Eugene OR	OCT 16
Myrtlewood Zone Rally @ Christ L.C. Coos Bay OR	OCT 23
West Hills Zone Rally	TBA

Coming Next Issue!

More Convention Photos Including a Parade of Banners!

Published quarterly, *Oregon Leaguer* provides inspirational articles, news of activities and program resources for Lutheran Women in Mission societies throughout the Oregon District.

Quarterly Deadlines: February 15, May 15, August 15, November 15.

All correspondence relating to the *editing* and *mailing* of the Oregon Leaguer should be sent to the editor: Becky Barth, 62855 Waugh Rd., Bend, OR 97701; *e-mail:* orleaguer@gmail.com



WEBSITES:
www.orlwml.org
www.lwml.org

The LWML catalog and websites have resources for personal and group devotions and Bible studies, along with other materials to enhance your spiritual “ready-ness.” Go to www.LWML.org and www.ORLWML.org.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League is to assist each woman of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in affirming her relationship with the Triune God so that she is enabled to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the world.

Convention Photos



Dear Readers,

As you can imagine, there are **MANY** wonderful photos from the Convention. Space in the Leaguer will not allow me to publish all of them; however, I will be printing more in the Winter issue. I would be happy to send multiple photos to you individually via email. Please contact me with your request, and I will send as many as possible.

Abundant blessings,
Becky Barth
Leaguer Editor

EMAIL:
ORLeaguer@gmail.com
541-312-4292



A Treasure of Talent!!!

