

# Oregon Leaguer

"Serve the Lord with gladness." Psalm 100:2

Spring 2009

Lutheran Women in Mission

Are you ready? Look to the Hills...God Reigns!

LWML 33<sup>rd</sup> Biennial Convention ~ June 25 ~ 28, 2009  
Portland, Oregon

## Just imagine...

- ◆ Over 3,000 voices praising God in song in one location!
- ◆ Gifts from the Heart, in forms of health kits, art kits, teddy bears, children's socks, or children's t-shirts, all piled up in one location, brought to one place by thousands of sisters and brothers in Christ!
- ◆ Hundreds of people in one location, participating in servant events, that will demonstrate the love of Christ through action, in Portland and in mission fields!
- ◆ Making new friends and reuniting with old ones!
- ◆ That, after this convention, thousands of pairs of feet will be ready to bring the Good News in Portland and at home,..who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!"

## There is still work to be done...

...to prepare for the women, men, children, and teens from all over the United States, to come to Portland, to attend the 2009 LWML Convention.



## Have you:

- ◆ **sent in your "Call for Workers" form?**  
Although the deadline has passed, more workers are needed. If you work at least eight hours during the convention, you will receive a \$70 discount off the registration fee. It is important that you send in a convention registration form AFTER you receive the worker discount voucher along with your work assignment.
- ◆ **and your society had a fund raiser and sent funds to help defray expenses for the 2009 Convention Host Committee?**  
Apply for Thrivent matching funds, send half for the Host Committee expenses and use half to help defray the expenses of people going to the convention. Individual donations of \$5, \$10, \$25 or more are welcome. Just make your donation check payable to: Portland LWML 2009 and mail it to:  
**Portland LWML 2009 Treasurer**, 18080 SW Salix Ridge, Beaverton, OR 97006.
- ◆ **encouraged your friends near and far to attend the convention?**  
Send a post card to your out-of-state friends, send an email, telling them about the great Northwest...pick up the phone for a chat!

Your help is needed! Your help is wanted – as we "Roll Out the Purple Carpet" for our sisters and brothers in Christ!  
Your presence is most welcome!

Come! Experience the *Chance of a Lifetime!*

## Lectio Divina

Greetings in our Lord!

For this issue, I want to recommend a method for devotions that is truly wonderful: Lectio Divina. It's a quiet discipline for hearing and praying the Word. When done in small groups, there is also time for sharing.

Although study is involved, it's not strictly a Bible study. Nor is it a class, or even conversation, about the Scriptures. Lectio Divina is more about being in God's presence and listening to God's living voice. Teaching happens, but mainly by the Holy Spirit. The main benefit is learning how to hear, pray, and share the Word in God's company. I recommend Lectio for Christ-centered living.

Limited space precludes a lengthy elaboration, but here's the how-to in brief.

Find a quiet time and place for meditation. Have a Scripture passage ready. Do the following steps in sequence for each of the four stages of Lectio Divina (explained below).

### Steps

**Silence:** Prepare to hear the Word

**Scripture:** Listen to the Word

**Study:** Search the meaning of the Word

**Share:** Express thoughts on the Word (Groups)

### Stages

Use the above steps for each stage of Lectio Divina. For starters, I recommend 5 to 15 minutes for each period.

### Stage 1) Lectio (Reading)

Ask "What is the message of this Word?" Let God's Word speak what it says. Be objective.

### Stage 2) Meditatio (Meditation)

Ask "How does this Word speak to my life?" Let God speak to you personally. Be subjective.

### Stage 3) Oratio (Prayer)

Pray with God about his Word to you. Dialogue with the Lord, listening and speaking! Be honest.

### Stage 4) Contemplatio (Presence)

Be with God in silence. Experience his presence. Be still and at rest in the Lord!

We have a Lectio Divina Group in our congregation. And people are really enjoying this way of being with God and each other. It takes some getting used to, but the discipline quickly yields benefits for helping us hear, pray, and share the Word in God's company – privately or in small groups.

There are many books available. Our District also holds annual prayer retreats for teaching the method. It's a wonderful way to experience God in Jesus our Lord. It's a great aid for Christ-centered living. Enjoy!

*Pastor Daniel*

SR. PASTORAL COUNSELOR



## What's Coming...

Pacific Zone Gathering Zion, Hillsboro	MARCH 7
Willamette Zone Rally Trinity, Mt. Angel	MARCH 7
Host Committee Meeting	MARCH 20-21
West Hills Zone Rally Pilgrim, Beaverton	MARCH 28
Emerald Zone Rally Trinity, Cottage Grove	APRIL 4
Interstate Zone Rally St. John's, Portland	APRIL 4
Myrtlewood Zone Rally St. John's, Sutherland	APRIL 4
Juniper Zone Rally Faith, LaPine	APRIL 18
Mt. Hood Zone Rally Holy Cross, Portland	APRIL 18
Southern Zone Rally Zion, Klamath Falls	APRIL 25
Host Committee Meeting	MAY 29-30
33rd Biennial LWML Convention Portland, Oregon Oregon Convention Ctr	JUNE 25-28
Oregon LWML BOD Meeting Eagle Crest—Redmond, OR	SEPT 25-26
OR District Convention Eagle Crest, Redmond, OR	JUNE 11—13 2010

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: Susan Lorenz, 2482 SE Heather Ct., Hillsboro, OR 97123. Phone: 503-648-4571; **e-mail:** [orleaguer@lorenzelec.com](mailto:orleaguer@lorenzelec.com)

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## Christ Centered Living

**Nourished by the Word, Guided by the Spirit, Actively demonstrating Christ's Love!!!**

Over the past several months we have been encouraged to be in God's Word, especially the nuggets God has for us in:

Colossians 1:9 NIV: *asking God to fill YOU with the knowledge of His will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding.*

Colossians 3:17 NIV: *Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.*

1 John 4:19 NIV *We love because He first loved us.*

Over the next several months, continuing to be nourished by God's Word and guided by the Spirit, we will be even more involved in actively demonstrating Christ's love. We are in the home stretch of hosting the LWML 2009 Convention in Portland under the banner of God's Word: **LOOK TO THE HILLS...GOD REIGNS!**

Our inspiring theme verses are more of God's nuggets from His Word in Psalm 121 and Isaiah 52. Each time I read these Scripture passages, God has more insights waiting for me.

During my morning devotions recently, I looked out of the back windows of our house. Usually I can LOOK TO THE HILLS and see the majestic Three Sisters mountains clad in pristine white snow, a massive and towering display of our Almighty Creator. Definitely a visual reminder of my Almighty God who is my Maker and from whom my help comes. On this morning however, they were gone, obliterated by a huge bank of ground fog. Of course we know that they were not "gone". I just could not see them.

So it is with our God. The mountains were not gone just because I could not see them. They were still there how God made them: snow-clad, majestic, towering and massive. The ground fog had just come between them and me. Our God is not "gone" either.

GOD REIGNS as He tells us in Isaiah 52. Sometimes in the myriad of responsibilities, demands, expectations, small tasks, major jobs or maybe loss of job, illness, death of a loved one, and depressing world situations we may feel alone, as if our God is gone. He is not. He promises never to leave us. He is our Almighty Creator of Heaven and Earth. Many things fog our sight of God but He never loses sight of us. He is always there loving us, enabling us to love others, to fulfill our responsibilities and to actively demonstrate Christ's love.

**Look to the Hills...God REIGNS!**

**We LOVE because HE first LOVED us in CHRIST.**

*Cynthia Behrens*

PRESIDENT,  
OR DISTRICT LWML



## Communications

### E-NEWS:

Want to know what's going on in LWML? LWML sends an electronic newsletter to subscribers keeping them informed of what's going on in the organization.

To subscribe go to [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org). Scroll down on the homepage and click on "Subscribe to LWML e-News" You do need an e-mail address to subscribe.

### LWML STORE WEB SPECIALS:

LWML is offering clearance sales and special prices on the first of each month. Look for the purple glitter words "Web Special" on the home page [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org). To order and receive these special prices call 1-800-252-5965 and mention Web Special. You can order on Web site also at <http://shop.lwml.org>.

### CONVENTION SHIRTS:

Order your national LWML Convention shirt ASAP from Donna Boyd. Order forms are available on the district website: [www.orlwml.org](http://www.orlwml.org). Mail order form with payment to:  
Portland LWML 2009 Conv. Shirt  
PO Box 696  
Washougal, WA 98671



*Sue Cummins*  
V.P. OF COMMUNICATION

### Servant Resources

Are you tired of running from here to there trying to “handle” everything you have to do in your daily life? Do you feel like you have the weight of the world on your shoulders? We could all probably give a resounding “YES!” to both questions. The world offers lots of advice for solutions to our busyness with phrases such as “just say no”, or “put yourself first for a change”. When I read those phrases or hear those words, I often think to myself what can I cut out of my life? Perhaps I should stop doing activities at my church or with LWML? Then I think to myself (or is it God speaking to me?), “I don’t want to stop those activities that I really enjoy...fellowship with other Christians and mission outreach to others.”



**He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.**

Psalm 91:1 NIV

God’s word gives us the real answer to our questions. From Psalm 91:1-15, we are reminded that God is our REST and that we can count on him for our refuge and protection because *He Loves US!* Philippians 4:6-7 NIV also reminds us that we can take every single concern to *Him*. And in verse 7, *God promises*, “And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus”.

How great our God is with his Word! I pray that each of you will find your strength in the Lord as you do God’s work in your home, at your employment, in your church and with LWML!

*Blessings,*

*Barbara Northrop*  
V.P. OF SERVANT RESOURCES



### 2010 District Convention

JUNIPER ZONE is delighted to host your 2010 Convention!

#### “ON EAGLES' WINGS”

Isaiah 40:31

June 11, 12 & 13, 2010

Eagle Crest Convention Centre  
Redmond, Oregon

*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*



WEBSITES:

[www.orlwml.org](http://www.orlwml.org)  
[www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org)



CHRIST  
CENTERED  
LIVING

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

### WANTED:

#### The Structure Committee Needs YOU!

If you like bylaws, the structure committee needs an additional member. Please contact Barbara Northrop, V.P. of Servant Resources or Carole Colvin, Structure Committee Chair. *(Contact information is on page 6.)*

### YWR’s Chosen for 2009 Convention!

Congratulations to our Young Women Representatives elected to attend the convention!

Karla Shannon  
St. John, Eagle Point, Oregon

Laura Anders  
Bethlehem, Aloha, Oregon

Alternate: Rachel Alden  
Calvary, Stayton, Oregon

Please be sure to greet and welcome these young women when you see them at the LWML Convention in June!



## Mission Grants for 2010—2012 Biennium

It is time to start thinking about Mission Grant Proposals for the next biennium. Grant Guidelines with an application are now posted on the LWML District website for those who wish to submit or to sponsor a mission grant. The deadline for proposals to be postmarked is September 30, 2009.

When speaking of mission grants, it leads quite naturally into thoughts of “Mites for Missions” for the current biennium. Thus far, our district has fully funded the following:

Scholarships for Seminarians.....	\$3,000
FEED the Children in Lutheran Schools in Haiti...	\$6,000
Little Lambs Learning Center.....	\$6,500
TOTAL.....	\$15,500

I would like to make a special request that all societies be pro-active in promoting mite-box-giving in your churches. Church bulletin reminders one week prior to “Mite-box-Sunday”, and making an announcement the day of giving are really quite necessary. Children might receive the

“Children's Mite-box” at Sunday School or during the Children's Message as part of the Sunday church service. These can be “teaching” moments as we explain to the children how their mites help children around the world to learn about Jesus.

Especially, I ask that all of us in LWML pray for the continued success of our Mission Grants that “We May Go Rejoicing, Bringing in The Sheaves/Mites”.



*In the name of Jesus,  
Blythe Tovrea*

V.P. OF GOSPEL OUTREACH

**MISSION PROJECT APPLICATIONS**  
for the 2010—2012 BIENNIUM  
are available at [www.orlwml.org](http://www.orlwml.org)  
**The DEADLINE FOR mailing APPLICATIONS IS**  
**SEPTEMBER 30, 2009**



## A thank you note from Rev. Claude & Rhoda Houge...

Greetings from Kenya! We just received word of the large gift sent to LCMS World Mission from the Oregon LWML District for work in Kenya. My husband Claude and I are LCMS missionaries living in Nairobi, but also working in the surrounding countries in East Africa with the Lutheran churches within these countries.

Your support will help us with projects that encourage the training of pastors and laymen as the church continues to grow. One of the ways we are doing this is through Mission Training Centers —monthly gatherings of laymen who are taught by a Kenyan pastor for several days in order to equip them as they begin new churches in unreached areas. We are

always impressed with the willingness of people here to share the Good News of their faith in Christ in order that more might learn of God's love.

May God bless you and the LWML ladies of Oregon as you partner with us in this ministry!

*In Christ,  
Rhoda*

## ...recipients of one of the 2008 Convention offerings in Medford

**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](mailto:arcticcats@aol.com)

**LOVE LINKS PRAYER REQUESTS**

If you have prayer requests that you would like to share with the women of the Oregon District who have signed up for the Christian Life Prayer chain, email Esther Peterson at [Esther.Peterson@gmail.com](mailto:Esther.Peterson@gmail.com).

**Articles for the Summer 2009 issue of the Oregon Leaguer are due Friday, May 15, 2009.**  
E-mail your articles/info or digital pictures with description to [orleaguer@lorenzelec.com](mailto:orleaguer@lorenzelec.com)

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**INTERSTATE:** Kay Vockrodt,

**JUNIPER:** Deborah Lannen,

**MT. HOOD:** Kathy Mager,

**MYRTLEWOOD:** Vi Cornutt,

**PACIFIC:** Glenda Dougherty,

**SOUTHERN:** Gayle Wolfe,

**WEST HILLS:** Lois Stutheit,

**WILLAMETTE:** Karen Clark,

## Learning to be Good Stewards in the 21st Century

As Lutheran Women in Mission we strive to be good and faithful servants of our Lord, and watch for ways to “refine” our stewardship. We all need to be aware that the subscription cost of the *Oregon Leaguer* cannot meet the rising costs of printing and postage, and we must ask ourselves how we can keep the *Leaguer* affordable and minimize our expenses in order to maximize the use of our mites for our mission goals.

The BOD has cut back on mileage expenses by holding fewer meetings, and by holding some phone conferences instead of traveling many miles to physically meet in one location. Another way that has been identified to cut expenses is to refine the process for distributing the *Oregon Leaguer*

throughout our district. The Oregon District Board of Directors decided at the February 21, 2009 meeting to begin the refining process and change distribution of the *Leaguer* from regular USPS mail to email. This action would save approximately \$3000 per year, or \$6000 for a biennium. This is an additional \$6000 of mite money towards our District’s mission grants! Wow!

We know this is a huge change for many of the women in the Oregon District, which is why we are introducing the idea in the spring issue of the *Leaguer*. In LEADERSHIP, Promises for Every Day, a devotional by John C. Maxwell, he says: “Without change, growth is impossible, most people fight against change, especially

when it affects them personally.” It is very important to the BOD and the Communications department that as we grow in stewardship the *Leaguer* still makes it into the hands of every LWML woman and pastor of every congregation, and determine the best way to make this transition over the next several months. Please pray that we will move forward with wisdom and good stewardship as we seek to do God’s will in this area of our mission ministry in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

*Serving faithfully,*

*Cynthia Behrens,*

PRESIDENT

*Sue Cummins,*

V.P. OF COMMUNICATIONS

*Susan Lorenz,* EDITOR

## Human Care Projects: Would YOU Like to Help?

1. A **MOTORIZED SCOOTER** is needed by LWML Emerald Zone President Marlys Leder to enable her to continue with many daily activities.

Marlys suffers from fibromyalgia and Tardive Dyskinesia, so is easily fatigued, cannot walk any distance, and experiences muscle weakness, jerking, and twitching. A motorized scooter to meet her need costs \$1,145. Please consider having a Thrivent *Care in Communities* fundraiser\*\* to help purchase this needed scooter. If enough small fundraisers are held, we will quickly have the funds needed, and we will see Marlys scooting around at the LWML convention in

Portland. Please contact Terry Putnam if you would like to make a donation or sponsor a fundraiser.

2. **CUTTERS AND SEAMSTRESSES:** LCMS Missionary Danelle Putnam reports that many **BIBS** are needed in the Dominican Republic for children with developmental and other disabilities. 150 of these children live in government institutions, and over 300 other children, that receive weekly spiritual, educational, physical and occupational care, live at home with family. If you or your society would like to share Jesus' love in this way, please contact Terry Putnam for instructions and patterns.

3. Send **WHEELCHAIRS** to the Dominican Republic! Needed: 1000 people to give \$10; 100 people or societies to give \$100; or 10 congregations to give \$1,000

...to send an **Orphan Grain Train** shipping container filled with specialized wheelchairs for children with special needs. God is working through our LCMS missionaries to improve the lives of these children.

Cyndi Majors of St. Lorenz Luth. Church in Frankenmuth, MI has a warehouse available where collection of these chairs and other needed items is taking place. Checks can be made out to: Orphan Grain Train INC. (with "DR wheelchair project" written on the memo line) and sent to:

Cyndi Major  
8782 Canada  
Birch Run, MI 48415



**\*\* THRIVENT fundraisers take special coordination. Please contact Terry Putnam IMMEDIATELY if you wish to host a THRIVENT fundraiser.\*\***

If you have questions about any of these projects, please contact: Terry Putnam, Human Care Chair. [putnamgt@yahoo.com](mailto:putnamgt@yahoo.com) or 503-842-7740.

## Royal Roses



Elvira Brandt, dedicated Archivist/Historian for the Oregon District LWML, loves roses. In 2008 she was encouraged to share her beautiful blooms with the community and entered roses in several rose shows in the area. Elvira was honored to receive special recognition, ribbons and awards.

The top photo shows Elvira at the Royal Rosarian Rose Garden Contest 2008 with Contest Chairperson Bob Simmons, Prime Minister Peter Glazer, and 2008 Rose Festival Queen Marshawna Williams.



The center photo is of the crystal candleholders and gravy boat received as trophies at the Ft. Vancouver Rose show for Exhibition Bloom – Novice Div., and Mini Flora Bloom – Novice Div. The lower right photo is of Elvira's front yard...her beautiful and well-cared for rose garden.



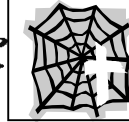
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## MISSION STATEMENT

*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.*



WEBSITES:  
[www.orlwml.org](http://www.orlwml.org)  
[www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org)



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**PERIODICALS**

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