



LWML

LINK



Together
Serving
The Lord
With
Gladness
For
78 Years



Greetings,

In January 2023, I attended the President's Assembly in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. It was an amazing experience to be with all the other district presidents. We toured the Milwaukee Convention Center and saw the areas where meetings, exhibits, worship, etc., will take place at the upcoming LWML National Convention. The Convention Center is a spectacular structure that is approximately 188,000 square feet in size. I know you will enjoy everything that is being planned, including the Friday Fest in Milwaukee!

In approximately 2½ months we will be in Milwaukee for the LWML 40th Biennial Convention. I am very excited to attend, along with 10 delegates representing our 8 zones, 2 Young Women Representatives (Meg Klees, Anthracite Zone and Sarala Vunnam, Philadelphia Zone) Pastoral Counselor Rev. Carl Emberger, Heart 2 Heart trainee Roselyn Kamara, and many others attending as alternates and guests. Did you know Rebecca Bessell, Legacy of Love Co-Ordinator for our district, is running for a national office, VP of Organizational Resources? Congratulations to Rebecca for making the national election ballot; it is an honor.

We held our Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings via Zoom on March 3 and 4. According to Judy Morrison, our treasurer, we will shortly be able to pay grants three and four. We appreciate all your Mite gifts that go toward funding our grants.

The Philadelphia Zone is busy making plans for our 2023 Retreat at Pioneer on the Lake in Angola, NY. The theme is "Encourage One Another", Hebrews 10:25. The Speaker will be LCMS Eastern District President, Rev. John Pingel.

I encourage anyone who is going to the convention to contact me at d_e_grzyb@msn.com or 716-393-3670 (home), or 716-901-4167 (cell) so I will know who will be attending. Have a safe journey as you travel to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. I look forward to seeing you there.

"In this season of rebirth, may you feel your faith renewed and your heart made new with the hope Easter brings."

Dee Grzyb
LWML Eastern District President





According to those who track these things, "What is love?" was the most popular religious search term on the internet in 2022 (7.48 million searches). That more than doubled the 3.35 million searches for the same term in 2019, when it also was number one.

If you type "What is love?" into your browser, you get lots of dictionary definitions, song lyrics, Youtube and music videos, movie quotes, pop psychology, neurobiological answers, advertisements, and proffered links to nefarious websites that offer substitutes for love. Google gives 14,130,000,000 answers in 0.55 seconds – about 2 answers for every person on the planet!

Buried somewhere in that morass, if you refine your search, you might come across what God says about love in the Bible (or you might go to a Bible-believing church to find out!) The Triune God has much to say about love, and much to show about it.

In the Old Testament we find God constantly exhibiting His "steadfast love and faithfulness" and gracious mercy to those whom He loves, even when they (or we) are less than loving and faithful to Him.

In the Gospel of John we find Jesus describing how God shows His love towards us: "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him." Christians refer to the latter part of this passage as the "Gospel in a nutshell" because Jesus summarizes the good news of who He is and why He came to heal, teach, suffer crucifixion and death, and rise again to life, all to save us.

In his first letter to the believers in Corinth, probably about 55 A.D., the Apostle Paul describes the nature of love in Christ:

"If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging symbol. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

"Love is patient and kind. Love does not envy or boast. It is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way. It is not irritable or resentful. It does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

"Love never fails. As for prophecies, they will pass away. As for tongues, they will cease. As for knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away.

"When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.

"So now faith, hope and love abide, these three, but the greatest of these is love." 1 Corinthians 12:13

By so completely describing love's divine qualities, Paul reveals our immaturity. Yet he alludes to God the Father – who knows His children all too well – and *still* loves us, reaches out to us with His Word, and embraces us eternally because of Jesus, who offered Himself up for us all. You can believe it!

Rev. Jeff Nickel, LWML Eastern District Senior Counselor



UPDATE ON AMAZON SMILE

In doing some research about a recent inquiry regarding Amazon Smile, this is an excerpt from their original communication.

We are writing to let you know that we plan to wind down AmazonSmile by February 20, 2023. We will continue to pursue and invest in other areas where we've seen we can make meaningful change.

Please note that AmazonSmile is no longer available. Thank you.



**Adventures in
EQUIPPING
LEADERS**
Hebrews 13:20-21

LWML ASSEMBLY OF LEADERS TRAINING SESSIONS

The LWML has a tradition of organizing a training event every four years as part of its commitment to providing excellent leadership training and communication to carry out its mission statement. Under the theme of "Adventures in Equipping Leaders," a cooperative effort was made in October to present helpful leadership advice, motivation, and practical exercises that district leaders can use to connect with women and church workers in their zones and congregations and convey their enthusiasm for the LWML's important work. The following sessions have been selected for you to choose from by the LWML Eastern District AOL Team, which consists of Kathy Ippolito, Meg Klees, Rev. Carl Emberger, and Dee Grzyb.

MISSION GRANTS – A GLOBAL ADVENTURE

We are going to take you on a global adventure focusing on the role that supporting mission grants have had on the history of LWML and on its future. The program includes history about national grants as well as the Eastern District grants. There will also be a review of the district grant application process, and our leader development chair and grant writer Cathie Geske will share her knowledge in writing grants.

*DOCTRINAL REVIEW—KEEPING THE ADVENTURE ON COURSE

Having attended the recent LWML Presidents Assembly meeting, where we listened to a session on the topic of doctrinal review, we became very aware of why this is so necessary. As we prepare devotionals and write Bible studies, our pastoral counselors review each one to ensure they focus on God's Word and point us to our Savior and to all He has done for us. For those who are looking at resources like devotions, Bible Studies, litanies, prayers, etc., for use at your workshops, events, retreats, conventions, etc. this course would be good for you.

**TREASURE HUNT FOR LWML RESOURCES

We are going on an adventure! Become a treasure hunter as we search for a variety of resources available from LWML. Be acquainted with the vast variety of treasure resources LWML has to offer and how to find them on LWML.org. A valuable resource for finding devotions, Bible Studies, litanies, prayers, etc. that are doctrinally approved by LWML.

***Treasure Hunt for LWML Resources** - can be presented with **Doctrinal Review – Keeping the Adventure on Course**.

**THE QUEST TO BROADEN OUR CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING

This session will provide participants with an opportunity to learn more about the cultures of women in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. We will learn that the way different cultures or groups of people do things is not "right or wrong" but just another way. We will rejoice in our oneness in Christ and celebrate our many and various ways of doing things, recognizing that in all things we put Jesus first.

**WHAT'S YOUR WHY?

What can we do to get more women involved with LWML? Maybe the question is, how did I get involved? Also discusses the acronyms that we use – LWML, YWR, H2H, etc. which is a cultural thing for those involved in LWML that can be confusing for those who are not LWML members.

****What's Your Why** - Can be presented with **The Quest To Broaden Our Cultural Understanding**

Scheduled Dates for the AOL Team:

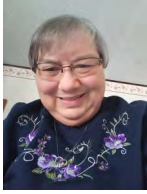
Saturday, April 22 at the Genesee Zone

Saturday, May 6 at the Philadelphia Zone

Please contact Dee Grzyb to schedule your training session(s) at de_grzyb@msn.com or 716-901-4167

Serve the Lord With Gladness

NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF CHRISTIAN LIFE/SPECIAL FOCUS—LINDA BAHR

**LENT****LENT, the Spring season, the lengthening of days:**

In the first centuries after Pentecost, the birthday of the Christian Church, 40 days of the Spring season (excluding Sundays) were set aside as a time of preparation for the Easter Festival. The 40 days were in commemoration of the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the desert, enduring the temptation of the devil. And so the emphasis for the early Christians, as they prepared for Easter, was upon penitence and fasting. As early as 325 AD, the early Church declared Lent as a 40 day fast prior to Easter Sunday.

Fasting is still a part of the Lenten season, but not mandated as it was for the early Christians. For us, fasting, giving up something for Lent can be of spiritual benefit, helping us to focus on true repentance for our sins, and our need for Christ as Lord and Savior.



“God, be merciful to me a sinner.” LUKE 18:13
“The blood of Jesus, God’s Son cleanses us from all sins.” 1 JOHN 1:1

Ash Wednesday, the Imposition of Ashes

In the Bible, ashes symbolize death and repentance. Ashes on our forehead, in the shape of a cross, marks us as a repentant sinner, trusting in Christ as Savior.

“You are dust and to dust you shall return.” GENESIS 3:19

For Lutherans and many other churches, the forty days of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, and ends on Holy Saturday.

*“Jesus, I will ponder now. On Your holy passion.
 With Your Spirit me endow, For such meditation.
 Grant that I in love and faith May the image cherish.
 Of Your suffering, pain, and death That I may not perish.”*

Written by: Rev. Edward Meyer, Pastor Emeritus

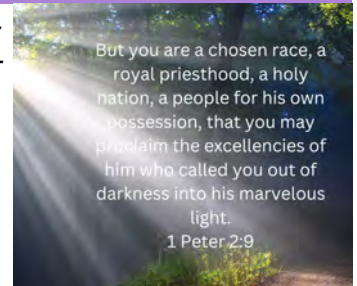
NEWS FROM THE CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMITTEE—CAROL OBOT, CHAIRMAN



“You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood...God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light” (1 Peter 2:9)

This Bible verse speaks about making a difference. During this time of Lent, welcoming Spring, reflecting on Jesus death on the cross for our sins and His Resurrection on Easter Sunday. Let’s share Jesus “The Light of the World” to others !

Material for Bible studies & devotions can be found on the LWML website under “The Word” tab <https://www.lwml.org/all-spiritual-growth>



NEWS FROM THE SPECIAL FOCUS COMMITTEE—BETH QUINN, CHAIRMAN



Roselyn Kamara, Christ Assembly, Philadelphia Zone has willingly agreed to be trained as a Heart to Heart – Sisters of All Nations (H2H) District Leader at the upcoming national convention this June. She is a native of Liberia. She serves as the President of the Usher Department and teacher assistant for Sunday School at her local congregation. Roselyn is married with two daughters. She has a BA in Liberal Arts and is employed as an administrative assistant, Human Resources and Communications Department at Multicultural Community Family Services, Roselyn loves listening to music. Beth Quinn, current H2H District Leader, is looking forward to partnering with Roselyn as they serve the district together.



NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF GOSPEL OUTREACH/ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES – SUSAN BELL



The work of the Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources Department is to engage, encourage and equip women to share their faith in Jesus Christ, their loving Savior, with people of their community and the world.



The 2022-2024 Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources Department

Vice President of Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources – Susan Bell

Mission Grants Chair – Susan Morris **Co-Chair** – Margaret Klees

Leader Development Chair – Cathie Geske **Co-Chair** – Vacant

Structure Chair – Terry Hoffman **Co-Chair** – Darleen Garcia

Stamp Coordinator – Karen Blackmon

(Contact information on page 13 of this LINK)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE NEWS

At the March LWML Eastern District Board of Directors meeting the following women were announced to serve on the *Nominating Committee* for the 2024 Pittsburgh Convention. They are:

Bev Wicher, Buffalo Zone

Anita Getty, Central NY South Zone

Margaret Klees, Anthracite Zone

Chris Gassein, Philadelphia Zone



The LWML Eastern District is thankful to God for these women and the important work they will be doing for the district. The *Nominating Committee* will be seeking nominees for the following LWML Eastern District offices.

Vice President of Communication
Financial Secretary

Recording Secretary
District Pastoral Counselor

All offices serve a four-year term. Any LWML member may nominate a candidate for office. For *Nominating Forms* please e-mail Susan Bell at sbell_7238@comcast.net

**APPLY NOW FOR
MISSION GRANTS**

MISSION GRANT NEWS

Mission Grant guidelines and application forms are now available from your Zone President.

Deadline to submit application is October 23, 2023.

Mission Grants 1 & 2 have been paid. We are close to being able to pay grants 3 & 4, which need to be paid together due to a tie vote. Please give generously to Mites so we can pay our grants in a timely manner.

NEWS FROM THE STRUCTURE COMMITTEE



Zones, please review your bylaws periodically. If you need to make changes, please send a copy to Terry Hoffman so Darlene Garcia and I can review them for you. The contact information is listed below:

Terry Hoffman – Chair

4181 Church Road

Lockport, NY 14094

716-255-2612

terryhoffman1979@gmail.com

Darlene Garcia – Co-Chair

105 Entwood Lane

Butler, PA 16002

garciadarlene48@gmail.com

Updated District Bylaws are on our website. They can be found at the following link: www.east-dist-lwml.org and clicking on **2022 LWML Eastern District Bylaws**.



LWML Eastern District Fall Retreat
September 22-24, 2023
Pioneer on the Lake, Angola NY



The ladies of the Philadelphia Zone are hosting the 2023 Fall Retreat under the theme "Encourage One Another" based on Hebrews 10:25 *'not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.'* (Hebrews 10:25 ESV)

We are excited to be returning to Pioneer On The Lake this fall for our LWML Retreat. It will be great to see the sunsets on Lake Erie, walk the trails, breathe in the fresh fall air, and worship in the outdoor chapel. As you probably know, Pioneer is under new management and **here comes change**.

WHAT IS NEW:

New name: - Pioneer on the Lake **Full-time only registrations (NO PART-TIME)**
One price for all accommodations no surcharge for refurbished cabins
 Need to bring towels and linens (pillows and blankets provided) No Zipline

What has NOT changed

Awesome Speaker Interest Session Variety Cooks parade Quiet place to unplug
 Sunday worship in the outdoor chapel (weather permitting) Fantastic fellowship Opportunity to learn and grow

As registration is different this year with only full-time and one price for all accommodations a 1st, 2nd, 3rd choice method is being used to accommodate all registrants' housing preferences. Detail instructions are on the registration form. Also note that Pioneer on the Lake charges a surcharge (\$40) for single occupancy. Minimum occupancy requirements are noted on the registration form. Cabin configurations are included in this LINK issue.

Registrations accepted starting May 1st – must have a postmark of May 1st or later.
Registration deadline is August 25th (postmarked by August 25th).

RETREAT HIGHLIGHTS



SPEAKER:

We are pleased to have an opportunity to meet our newly elected Eastern District President **The Reverend John L. Pingel**. He will speak three times throughout the weekend and has agreed to have a meet and greet as one of our interest sessions. President Pingel previously served as pastor of Salem Lutheran Church in South Buffalo and Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania. A native of Long Island, New York, he attended Concordia College, Bronxville, N.Y., and then Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri (Master of Divinity, 1983). He then attended Geneva College in Pennsylvania, obtaining his Masters in Professional Psychology/Counseling degree in 1996. While serving as pastor he also served part time as a mobile therapist.

President Pingel is married to Diane (Giddens) for 31 years. Diane, whose father was a police officer, grew up in Pittsburgh, PA. She was baptized into the faith by her pastor, Dr. Arnold Kromphardt. John and Diane were married by Rev. Dr. David Belasic. Their marriage was blessed with two sons: Bryan, who is an engineer for Chrysler, currently living in Ann Arbor, MI; and Timothy, who works for a firm in Depew, NY. To learn more about Pastor Pingel and his interests come to the retreat at Pioneer on the Lake, Angola, NY, September 22-24, 2023.

THE INGATHERING is monetary donations for furnishings at Pioneer on The Lake.

INTEREST SESSIONS - can attend more than one

ED President Rev. John Pingel – meet and greet **Servant Event at Pioneer** – still finalizing activity
Grants Tune up – review of mission grant proposals before October 15, 2023 deadline
Tai Chi on the beach – tentative – see want ad in the LINK **Free Time**—Naps, walk the trails



LWML Totes – how many do you have in your collection? The tote bags may be from national or district conventions, special trainings like Assembly of Leaders, or LWML district retreats or Zone events. Plan to bring a tote with you to retreat this fall. The host committee will be providing totes for first timers and others who do not have an LWML tote.

SATURDAY NIGHT ENTERTAINMENT



Ladies First Quartet is a female acapella singing quartet. They sing 4-part harmony in the barbershop style and do a wide range of songs from classic love songs from the 1940s to jazzy, contemporary upbeat songs. They are members of the Buffalo Gateway Chorus which is currently ranked 10th world-wide of over 550 choruses within Sweet Adeline's International. Their quartet competes annually on a regional basis and has been singing all over Western New York for 10 years.

You know two of their members from LWML – Sharon Wolff from Batavia, NY sings bass and Bonnie Sgrue from Williamsville, NY sings lead. Their tenor is Kim Hooker from Akron, NY and Bonnie King from Warsaw, NY sings baritone.

LWML RETREAT CAMPSHIP—APPLICATION

A few full-time camperships are being offered for the Fall 2023 retreat to first-time attendees or for those individuals having financial need. If you have received a campership in the past you are no longer eligible. The value of the campership is the full cost of the retreat at the full-time registration fee. If you desire a campership and need only consideration for part-time status, please indicate that in your application. An impartial committee will select from those eligible campers who submit a timely application. Notification will take place after the deadline date. Don't delay, act now!

Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____ Dee Grzyb _____
 E-mail _____
 Zone _____

LWML Member? _____ Yes _____ No

Please write a brief narrative (50-100 words) on why you would like to attend the LWML Retreat.
 Attach your written statement to this application and mail by **August 1, 2023** to:

Mrs. Dee Grzyb
 56 Hanover St.
 Lancaster, NY 14086

All recipients names will be kept strictly confidential

CABIN CONFIGURATION FOR RETREAT

Schroeter's Circle Dorm Housing		Woodland Cottages All have pull out sofa		Family Court Some have a/c		Founders Court		Karkau Lodge	
Cabin #	Can sleep	Cabin #	Can sleep	Cabin #	Can sleep	Cabin #	Can sleep	Cabin #	Can sleep
1	20	9 Q + 2 bunksets	8	14 1 Q + 2 bunkbeds	6	25 1 single	1	0 1 Q + 2 bunkset	6
2	20	10 Q + 2 bunksets	8	15 1 F + 2 bunksets	5	26 2 twins	2		
3	20	11 Q + 2 bunksets	8	16 1 Q + 2 bunksets	6	27 2 twins	2		
4	20	12 Q + 2 bunksets	8	17 1 Q	2	28 2 twins	2		
5	18	13 Q + 2 bunksets	6	18 4 twns (2 bunkset)	4	29 2 twins	2		
6	20			19 1 Q	2	30 2 twins	2		
7	20	9-12 HAVE SOFA BEDS		20 4 twns (2 bunkset)	4	31 2 twins	2		
8	20			21 1 Full	1	32 2 twins	2		
				22 4 twns (2 bunkset)	4	33 2 twins	2		
ALL ABOVE ARE SINGLE				23 1 Q + bunk t/d	5	34 2 twins	2		
BUNKS – 2 BATHROOMS				24 1 Q + bunk t/d	5	35 2 bunksets	4		
IN EACH DORM AREA		WINTERIZED		23 and 24 UPGRADED &		36 2 bunksets	4		
ALL NEW MATTRESSES		ALL NEW MATTRESSES		WINTERIZED		37 – NOT A CABIN			
				ALL NEW MATTRESSES		38 1 Q + 1 bunkset	4	ALL NEW MATTRESSES	
						39 1 Q + 1 bunkset	4		
		FULL SERVICE KITCHENS		SMALL FRIDGES IN ALL		40 1 Q + 1 bunkset	4	FULL KITCHEN & A/c	
		APPLIANCES, COOKWARE				41 1 Q + 1 bunkset	4	APPLIANCES, COOKWARE	
		DISHES, GLASSWARE, ETC				42 1 Q + sofabed	4	DISHES, GLASSES, ETC.	
		#13 has no SOFABED		1 Bunk set = 2 twin beds		43 1 Q + sofabed	4		
				2 Bunk set = 4 twin beds		44 1 Q + sofabed	4		
						45 1 Q	2		
				17-22 connecting rooms		25-36 NO FRIDGES			
						38-45 HAVE FRIDGES			
TOTAL	158	TOTAL	38	TOTAL	44	TOTAL	56	TOTAL	6

1 Bunk set = 2 twin beds 2 Bunk set = 4 twin beds 1 Bunk t/d = a twin bed is over a double bed

LWML Eastern District Retreat 2023
Pioneer On the Lake
September 22-24, 2023



"Encourage One Another" Hebrews 10:25
Speaker: ED President John Pingel
Hosted by Philadelphia Zone

Name:		LWML Zone:	
Address:		Home Church:	
City:		Church City & Zip:	
State:	Zip:	Phone: ()	Email:

If this is your FIRST TIME attending Eastern District Retreat, please check here: _____ Yes! I'm very excited!

FULL - TIME ONLY	FULL TIME (NO PART-TIME)		
	> Registration Per Person includes: <i>Registration Fee, 2 Nights Lodging, 5 Meals, Blanket, Pillow</i> Need to bring linens, pillow case and towels, pillow optional	\$190.00	\$
	> Late Fee if postmarked after Aug 25, 2023	\$ 25.00	\$
	> Single Occupancy - One person in minimum 2 person cabin	\$ 40.00	\$
	NOTE: A \$50.00 minimum deposit is required with Full-Time Registration	Payment Enclosed	\$
	Balance Due	\$	

ADDITIONAL NOTI

- > If single occupancy is requested, an additional fee of \$40 is required (set by Pioneer) +++ notation
- > Canine Policy - the person/family must contact Pioneer on the Lake to request policy and pay the fee (\$100) for the canine that is accompanying the person/family to retreat.
- > If this applies to you - note it under Special Needs later on this form.
- > Mini Fridges are noted below with **MF** notation
- > Woodland Cottages and Karkau Lodge have full kitchen

1 Bunk Set = 2 twin beds, 2 Bunk Set = 4 twin beds, 1 Bunk Set T/D = twin on the top, double on bottom
Please select 1st, 2nd, 3rd choice on lodging below. If preference isn't given decision made by registrar.

Standard Cabins:

_____ Founders Court Cabins 26 - 36 (2 Twins, 2 Occupants +++)

_____ Schroeter Circle 1-8 (Each Cabin has 10 Bunk Set with exception of #5 - 9 Bunk Set, 18-20 occupants +++)

Deluxe Cabins:

_____ Founders Court 38-41 (Queen Bed & One Bunk Set, 4 Occupants +++) + **MF**

_____ Founders Court 42-44 (Queen Bed & One Sofa Bed, 4 Occupants +++) + **MF**

_____ Founders Court 45 (Queen Bed, 2 Occupants +++) + **MF**

_____ Family Court 14 (Handicap Accessible - Queen Bed, 2 Occupants +++ , Medical) + **MF**

_____ Family Court 15 (Double Bed, & 2 Bunk Set, 5 Occupants +++) + **MF**

_____ Family Court 16 (Queen Bed & 2 Bunk Set, 6 Occupants +++) + **MF**

_____ Family Court 17, 19 (Queen Bed, 2 Occupants +++) + **MF**

_____ Family Court 21 (Full Bed, 1 Occupant) + **MF**

_____ Family Court 18, 20, 22 (2 Bunk Set, 4 Occupants +++) + **MF**

_____ Family Court 23, 24 (Double Bed & Bunk Set T/D, 5 Occupants +++) + **MF**

_____ Woodland Cottages 9-13 (Queen Bed, 2 Bunk Set, living room, dining room, kitchen, pull out sofa in 9-12 +++)

_____ Karkau Lodge (Queen + 2 Bunk Sets kitchen, AC, Living Room, microwave, fridge, 6 occupants +++)

ROOMMATE(S): _____

CHURCH/GROUP: _____

SPECIAL NEEDS	Special Needs:		Lower Bunk:
	Hearing Impaired:	Other:	Dietary:

NOTES:

- > Registration deadline August 25, 2023 (Postmarked no later than Aug. 25)
- > Balance due must be paid (postmarked) by Aug. 25, 2023 or incur \$25 late fee
- > All requests are on a first come, first served basis.
- > **No registrations accepted before May 1, 2023. Must be postmarked no earlier than May 1st.**

CANCELLATIONS: THE \$50 Full-time Deposit is Non-refundable. Cancellation for **MEDICAL REASONS** will be reviewed based upon a written letter of notification to the Eastern District President.

PAYMENT ***Make checks payable to: **LWML Eastern District*****

NON-SUFFICIENT FUNDS FEE: A charge of \$25.00 will be assessed on all checks returned by the bank.

*MAIL completed REGISTRATON FORM, PAYMENTS & SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE (for return confirmation)
Sue Morris 3301 Hartford Court, Newtown Square, PA 19073 morrissusan68@gmail.com 215-514-8678 (m)
 Registrations sent without stamped envelope will receive an email confirmation

News From Around The Zones

BUFFALO ZONE



The LWML Buffalo Zone gathered on February 4 for a great time of devotion, fellowship and service. We made

walker bags to be distributed to a local nursing home; there was some way for everyone to participate, whether sewing, cutting, ironing or coloring. In each bag we included a colored prayer card, book mark and a Mustard Seed devotion.

Holy Cross Women in Mission, Clarence NY—The Holy Cross Women in Mission gathered to put together boxes of cookies to be distributed on Valentine's Day to first responders who helped during the December Buffalo



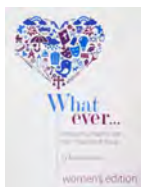
blizzard. As part of the "What's Your 80" challenge we encouraged the congregation to make 80 dozen cookies to be distributed. These were distributed to 6 fire companies, the Highway Department, County Sheriff's office and New York State troopers.

Sharon Wolff, Buffalo Zone President

NIAGARA ZONE

Much has been happening in the Niagara Zone:

- ◇ In May of 2022 St. Paul hosted a diner with Susan Bell to hear information concerning LWML Eastern District.
- ◇ In August of 2022 St. Mark hosted a Summer Garden Party. The guest speaker was Timothy Fink from Friends of Pioneer. There was a bible study, fellowship and the sharing of plants.
- ◇ In April of 2023 St. Mark will be hosting a Spring Gathering with a guest speaker Kathy Ganley who will share her recent mission trip to Uganda with us. More details will be posted on the Niagara Zone Facebook Page.
- ◇ Julie Tapp will be representing the Niagara Zone at the National Convention in June 2023
- ◇ The Niagara Zone is continuing the Monday Night Bible Studies; our current bible study is "Whatever. . . Keeping Your Heart in Tune With Whatever Life Brings" by Anneke Hudson. This is a free download bible study located at "<https://www.lwml.org/posts/long-bible-study/whatever-keeping-your-heart-in-tune>"



Currently there are only three active officers for the Niagara Zone

President Shellie Knupp

Recording and Corresponding Sec. Alice Pfonner

Treasurer Kathy Burkett

On the Niagara Zone Facebook page we have 55 members. Weekly emails are sent to 32 persons concerning Bible Studies and upcoming events. Since October of 2022 to January of 2023 the Niagara Zone raised \$1,300 in mites.

Something positive from our Zone. St. Mark's Women's Ministry help fill the rooms at the YWCA in North Tonawanda with cleaning supplies from dust mop's to buckets, and soap to help assist women to get back on their feet. The YWCA has several apartment available for women in need.

Shellie Knupp, Niagara Zone President

PHILADELPHIA ZONE

The Philadelphia Zone continues to plan for an awesome fall retreat on Pioneer on the Lake. We have some exciting interest sessions for you to enjoy. See details on page 6 in this LINK.



The Zone is happy to welcome Dee Gryzb, LWML District President, and other AOL attendees for our Spring Rally, Saturday May 6th at Holy Cross, Philadelphia. Dee will be sharing The Quest to Broadening Our Cultural Understanding presentation. This is timely as we convene in convention in June with sisters and brothers across the US under the theme Celebrate the Nations.

Rally Theme - God Loves our Differences, Bible Verse - **Galatians 3:28** *There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.* Our ingathering is for Stenton Family Manor – Homeless Shelter for Women and Children, Philadelphia. We will be assembling our meal prayer cards for our afternoon activity.

HELP WANTED!



Interest Session Help

Needed – One of the suggestions for interest sessions from last year's retreat was to have Tai Chi or Yoga. The host committee

like the idea of Tai Chi on the beach. Are you certified to lead Tai Chi? Know of someone in the local area that is certified willing to lead some sessions Saturday afternoon September 23rd? Please contact Beth Quinn with name and contact information of certified individual – 610-761-0263 or bethquinn@gmail.com.

PITTSBURGH ZONE

Last October at our Fall Rally



Our speaker for this event was just AMAZING! God has given him a heart to share the Good News and help others to do the same. His name is Curtis Wilson and serves at Child Beyond. You may recognize the organization since they received a LWML National Grant a few years ago. Yes, that grant was paid in full and now they have a school bus they are transforming into a medical bus as just another part of the mission in Guatemala. His power point presentation and small videos were able to show us all that this mission does for families in PROVERTY stricken area(s) of Guatemala. In addition to giving children a Christ filled house, they work with other homes in the area with the families so they can be reunited if possible or get adopted by local families. They build safe ovens for the families to have and even have built

with family help housing that is better protection for their families. In addition to the medical bus that will be running, this mission in Child Beyond is sharing God grace, which is for certain. He shared they are hoping to complete a new area of homes that have the best well around to continue to serve even more families. In addition, Curtis Wilson was amazed at the 160 or 80 x 2 suitcases of dresses that the sewing ladies of St. Luke, Cabot gave as gifts to the girls.



I thought it would be a good idea to reach out to the ladies of my zone to ask what service in HIM, they were doing personally this past winter. I received a few servant stories.

- First, I did not do this service project myself, but others for my family. My LWML sisters here have not known me for long but have been a great witness of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. One gave me a hug when she saw me and asked how my family was doing...yes just the simple asking helped me see Jesus.
- Another one watched my son so I could go the dentist.
- Another sister who winters in Florida has started a Bible study, to share God's Word with other ladies in Florida. This is a great way to serve and be more in His Word.

We can serve the Lord with gladness in so many ways, look around you for the simple ways you can show Jesus to others around you.

Looking ahead to Spring and Summer

I am sure we will be serving at the Sunshine Ministries. I know our zone has done in-service gatherings of lotions at previous zone rallies. I hope in the future I will be able to help or serve in any way I can to help with Sunshine Ministries!

In June, St. Luke will be sending their 3rd Mission Team to Madisonville, Kentucky to continue to help in the rebuilding of Dawson Springs, which lost 75% or their homes and the lives of 27 of their residents in the December 2021 tornadoes."

BethAnn Salinas, 2nd VP Pittsburgh Zone

NEWS FROM THE VP COMMUNICATION—SHARON WOLFF

Do you have your Easter decorations out? Do you put up lights, color eggs (who can afford them this year?) set out colorful baskets, preplan Easter breakfast at church or a dinner at your home? Is it a quiet time, or joy filled



family time? As you look at the cross what do you see??? Can you see good as well as bad; can you see ugly as well as beauty? The ugliness of the crucifixion created the beauty of grace, mercy, forgiveness and the promise of a glorious eternity in heaven. The bad decisions made by others replaces the good that Christ came to earth for...to help all of his Father's creation be forgiven, and saved and made new in the likeness of himself. I love the ushering in of spring that Easter is part of that brings to us new life in the green grass, the budding trees, maple syrup, return of certain species of birds and bugs, and critters! May each day be a reminder of the newness of life that Christ brings to our lives when we worship, praise, and give our hearts to Him.

On the horizon....retreat September 22-24, 2023 spread the word!!! It is at Pioneer on the Lake. Reservations begin May 1, 2023! Also on you calendar should be District Convention in Pittsburgh June 14-16, 2024! You will not want to miss it! Changes in quarterlies should have been emailed to me. The Church group and member reporting should be sent to me no later than May 15, 2023.

Changes to the ED Directory can be emailed to me at any time. Please feel free to share 'going-ons" in your zones, churches, and groups, as well as prayers of thanksgiving, and needs.

Sharon Wolff, VP of Communication

**Report of the Financial Secretary
Barb Williams**

**Report of the Financial Secretary
December 1, 2022 – February 28, 2023**

**Mites: \$7,582.14
Memorials and Honorariums**

In Memory of Judy Grimm

Given By: Rebecca Bessell
Dawn Corbin
Dorothy Koschmann
Friends and Family of St. Peter's
LWML, Wilkes-Barre, PA

In Memory of Joy Belasic

Given By: Dorothy Koschmann
LWML – St. Luke Lutheran
Church, Cheektowaga, NY

In Memory of Ceil Eckstein

Given By: LWML – Immanuel Lutheran
Church, Tonawanda, NY

Legacy of Love – In Memory of Claire Carlson

Given By: Bev Wicher
LWML – Buffalo Zone
LWML – St. Luke Lutheran
Church, Cheektowaga, NY
Dee Grzyb

Legacy of Love – In Memory of Judy Grimm

Given By: Susan Bell
Barbara Williams

Legacy of Love –

In Memory of Katherine Norris

Given By: Carolyn Loch

Legacy of Love – In Memory of James Loch

Given By: Carolyn Loch

Legacy of Love –

in Honor of Gretchen Putzman

Given By: Dee Grzyb

Legacy of Love - Donation

Given By: LWML – Buffalo Zone

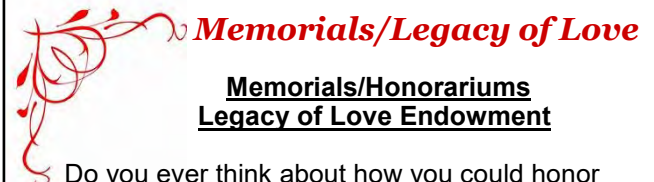
Treasurers are asked to forward money from their zone on a monthly basis so that mission grants can be paid in a timely manner.

Reminder to Zone treasurers to please remit your money to the Financial Secretary:

**Barbara Williams
6132 Prospect Street
Newfane, NY 14108**

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 22–25, 2023	National Convention Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Sept. 22, 2023	EC Meeting Pioneer on the Lake
Sept. 22-24, 2023	Fall Retreat Pioneer on the Lake
Feb/March 2024	EC/BOD Pittsburgh PA
June 14-16, 2024	LWML ED Convention Pittsburgh, PA



**Memorials/Honorariums
Legacy of Love Endowment**

Do you ever think about how you could honor someone while they are still with us besides when they are called home? There are two options.

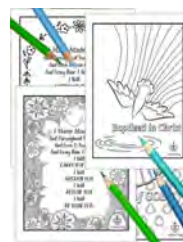
**Eastern District Memorial Fund
Eastern District Legacy of Love Endowment**

The **Memorial Fund** is currently dedicated for use in funding the District's Young Women Representative Program (YWR).

The **Legacy of Love Endowment** makes a lasting impact on the ministry of the LWML Eastern District. Your gifts of love are building a fund for the future which will provide for scholarships, leadership training, and District ministries.

Questions, please contact
Rebecca Bessell,

RLB54@roadrunner.rr.com or 585-415-6368



NEW COLORING ITEMS

Please check out the new Baptism cards on the www.lwml.org web site.

Search coloring cards

Select Assorted Baptism Cards

Open link. You will find designs to print. Many of the design creations originated by our own Bev Wicher. Check them out and watch for more to come.

Rebecca Bessell, National Christian Life Committee



Do you have computer, website and Social Media skills? We are in need of a new Webmaster to maintain our Website, Kathy Pavelock has served us for many years and we thank her for her time and service. The job description is listed below, please contact Dee if you are gifted in this area and willing to help in this position.

LWML Webmaster – Volunteer Position

The Webmaster serves as the primary contact for all aspects of the LWML Eastern District website and social media platforms, handling a range of responsibilities that may include website and social media post design and development, routine site and content maintenance, and various updates to ensure the sites align with the mission, goals, and objectives of the LWML Eastern District. The webmaster serves on the Website & Social Media Committee with the Public Relations Director acting as chairman.

General Duties

- Serves as the primary contact for all aspects of the LWML Eastern District website and social media platforms.
 - Develops and maintains the LWML Eastern District website and social media platforms in accordance with the organization's policies; collaborates with the Public Relations Director, VP of Communication, and other district officers for website and social media content.
 - Monitors social media platforms for appropriate commentary and interactions.
 - Encourages and facilitates consistent, creative, and unified design across the district website and social media platforms.
 - Maintains and coordinates internet domains.
 - Periodically evaluates website and social media effectiveness. Recommends changes to the Public Relations Director.
 - Assists Eastern District Lutheran Women in Mission with use of the website and social media platforms through one-on-one support, user guides, and training sessions.
 - Ensures compliance with LWML Eastern District policies, procedures, doctrinal reviews, and ethical standards; software licenses; and applicable state and federal laws and regulations including data security and privacy.
 - Maintains current knowledge of best practices and emerging developments in web design, web development, and social media technology.
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

Required Skills/Abilities:

- Working knowledge of web design, website management, and social media platforms.
- Knowledge of website and social media current best practices and standards.
- Proficient with HTML/CSS and graphic design of images used on websites and social media.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- Proficient with Microsoft Office Suite and image manipulation applications or related software.

Strong analytical, troubleshooting, and problem-solving skills.

If you are interested please contact Dee Grzyb – [d e_grzyb@msn.com](mailto:de_grzyb@msn.com) or 716-901-4167.

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**Next Deadline**

Please send all news articles and information for publication to:

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716-913-4140

E-mail: lwmllink@gmail.com

The next deadline is June 1, 2023

The Link is published four times each year.

April 1, July 1, October 1, January 1

Deadlines to submit articles:

March 1, June 1, September 1, December 1



Lutheran Women's Missionary League
40th Biennial Convention

June 22–25, 2023

Wisconsin Center, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Celebrate the Lord of the Nations

Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage! The Lord looks down from heaven; he sees all the children of man (Psalm 33:12–13).

Convention attendees, understanding that we are all His children, will

- Celebrate our Lord through Word and Sacrament.
- Honor God by serving our neighbors.
- Proclaim His message to the nations.

REGULAR REGISTRATION CLOSES MAY 10TH, BUT IF YOU HAVE NOT REGISTERED YET, REGISTER NOW! ALL DOWNTOWN HOTELS ARE FULL, BUT THEY HAVE ADDED ADDITIONAL HOTELS AND A SHUTTLE. YOU CAN FIND ALL REGISTRATION AND CONVENTION INFORMATION IN THE WINTER QUARTERLY OR ON THE WEBSITE HERE lwml.org/2023-convention.

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