

Equip  
Encourage  
Share Jesus

# The Messenger

The mission of LWML North Dakota is to equip and encourage all women to share the compassion and hope of Jesus Christ.

October/November/December 2013

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

## Filled...and Overflowing

*"If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him." John 7:37—38*

Mark your calendars and save the date!! The 36th Biennial Convention of the LWML ND District will be held June 20-22, 2014 at North Dakota State School of Science (NDSCS) in Wahpeton under the theme "Filled...and Overflowing". Servant events, a delegate meeting, choir rehearsal and opening worship will be held on Friday, June 22, with the remainder of the convention taking place all day Saturday and on Sunday morning. Plan now to attend and watch for more details in the next Messenger and in the Call to Convention packet.



### SOUTHWEST ZONE RALLY ROUNDUP...Karen Berg, Zone President

Thirty-eight women of the LWML ND District, SW Zone met on Saturday, October 19 for the rescheduled fall rally. We were hosted so kindly by the women of Messiah, Mandan, and were treated to a wonderful presentation by Wendy Schmidt of First Choice Clinic West in Bismarck. It was so good to hear how women and girls are being helped and supported through a difficult time in their lives and how many of them are choosing life. An offering of \$485 and Gifts from the Heart of diapers, formula, gift cards, etc. were given to First Choice Clinic, and a mite offering of over \$400 was collected. Praise God for his blessings! We were encouraged by a touching devotion by Pastor Drews, and Pastor Jenks led us in an excellent Bible study on the wonderful blessings we can expect from our Lord. We were blessed with beautiful weather for our second attempt, so we were thankful to be able to attend.



# PRESIDENT PAULETTE PONDER...SHOES!



As many of you know, I am often teased about my love of shoes including the quantity, styles, colors, etc. I want you to know that I try to be very frugal with the price I pay...some have been given to me...others from a thrift store...others from coupons plus clearance prices, and just about always on sale. OK...in spite of my excuses to justify my habit, I must admit that I probably have too many shoes! In fact, recently, my mother made me count my shoes...all forty pair including my winter boots and my trout stream fishing boots. She exclaimed, "that is a sin!!" Then I found out that my daughter-in-law, who

shares my love of shoes, had about seventy-five pairs of shoes, and I felt less guilty!

Shoes remind me about our walk with Christ each day. In Isaiah, God says, "He will teach us His ways, so that we may walk in His paths" .... "Let us walk in the light of the Lord." ... They will walk and not be faint." In Ephesians, shoes are part of the armor of God! "Stand therefore,...as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace."

As we live in His grace, we walk the LWML journey in faith and serve Christ through our mites, mission grants, and Bible studies as we share in meaningful ways

with those we encounter personally or through someone else globally or by some other means of sharing the love and Gospel of Jesus. In our League Pledge, "we consecrate to our Savior (among other parts of our body) our feet to go on His errands".

In our daily walk, as we approach the Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas seasons, we thank God for gifting us first with salvation through His son our Savior. We thank God that He abundantly blesses us with spiritual and material gifts beyond what we need or ask for in every area of our life...including my feet and all my shoes!!

**President Paulette**

## GIFTS OF LOVE

How many times have you said "I'll get around to it..." when looking at a project that you would like to get finished? And then, how many of those projects have you never gotten around to?

One of the areas that we often put off and never seem to "get around to" is our estate planning.

The LWML in partnership with the LCMS Foundation has a program just for you. The program is "Gifts of Love...Returning God's

Blessings". The purpose of the "Gifts of Love" program is to help LWML women understand the benefits of including the Lord's work in a well-planned, prayerfully considered, lifetime charitable gift plan.

For further information, please feel free to contact:  
**Gifts of Love Advocate**  
**Dottie Sincebaugh**  
**3753 Dorothea Ct.**  
**Fargo, ND 58104**  
**Phone: 701-282-3199**  
**Email: dotties3753@q.com**

Dear North Dakota Lutheran Women's Missionary League, Thank you so much for your generous and kind donation

to our emergency shelter!

We are always thankful for the amazing support we have from community members like you, and we appreciate you thinking of us!

Sincerely, YWCA Staff

*(for the 18 birthday kits collected at Fall Retreat)*



## 2013 FALL RETREAT RECAP ~ Dottie Sincebaugh, VP Christian Life

North Dakota LWML Annual Women's Retreat! What a great time of uplifting Bible Study, inspiring guest speaker, and the love and fellowship of sisters in Christ! The weekend of September 20-22, 2013, was a wonderful celebration of sharing the love and faith of Jesus with about 60 of our North Dakota sisters in Christ.

Our time together began on Friday evening with fellowship and the opportunity to get to know each other. Saturday morning brought more sisters to share time in Bible Study led by LWML Counselor Rev. David Suelzle. The theme of the retreat, "That the participants will grow in the Word and eagerly receive God's guidance, to be Jesus with skin on" was reinforced as we studied together. Dr. Hilgendorf led two sessions on "More Mutual Ministry—Still Serving the Lord Together". She challenged the women with ten "Lutheran Love Dares".

Saturday afternoon also offered an opportunity to tie quilts, make fleece blankets, and mark Bibles for Prison Ministry. Over 60 Birthday Kits for Homeless Shelters were donated by the women to be distributed throughout the state.

The annual variety/talent show on Saturday evening was a good time of fun and fellowship as the women shared their talents. A highlight of the evening was the "coronation" of Dr. Hilgendorf as the "Queen of the North Dakota LWML Mission Chicken Hen House". Worship concluded our time together on Sunday and the Word of God blessed us as we returned to our homes.

Be sure to mark your calendar now for the 2014 retreat which will be held Sept. 19-21, 2014, at the Chieftain in Carrington. Watch for more information in coming newsletters.



Dr. Mary Hilgendorf (left) is crowned "ND LWML Mission Chicken Hen House Queen"

### ATTENTION TREASURERS:

#### MITES

should be sent to:  
LWML ND  
Financial Secretary  
Sharon Kroeplin  
13861—3rd St SE  
Hope, ND 58046

Each unit is asked to submit \$5.00 per member to the District Delegate Fund every year. This fund is used to help send our delegates to national convention. If your unit has not yet sent in your delegate fund money, please send to Financial Secretary Sharon Kroeplin ASAP.

## Reminder

Each unit should have received a request to submit the names of their officers for 2014. If you have not yet submitted that information, please send it to Debbie Larson, 3807 Overlook Dr, Bismarck, ND 58503. If you have any questions, please direct them to Debbie as well.





## SOUTHEAST ZONE RALLY ROUNDUP

*Mary Lueck, Zone President*



ND District Rep spoke about PING!



President Mary Lueck introducing featured speaker Geneva Paulson.

We had our fall rally on October 5, 2013, at Peace Lutheran Church in Barney, ND. We had an excellent speaker, Geneva Paulson. She talked about how her son got involved in a vicious religious cult and how her family rescued him. It got very emotional at times, but it was very interesting. After the rally, Geneva and her husband sold a book, "Rescuing Randy", that Geneva wrote. She is a fellow Lutheran Church Missouri Synod member in Parkers Prairie, MN.

LWML women of Zion Gwinner did a skit of "The Many Faces of Flowers"



## LWML ND DISTRICT PRAYER CHAIN

President Paulette sends out prayer requests she receives via email. The following prayer requests were sent out Aug—Oct:

- † Prayers for Chris & Meggie, Sue Corwin's son in the face of fire danger to their home.
- † Prayers for Larry, Sue's brother-in-law, who suffers from congestive heart failure.
- † Prayers for Hazen Preschool and staff
- † Prayers for family and friends of Judy Rahlf as they mourn her sudden death due to a car/train accident.
- † Prayers for Fall Retreat & Fall Rallies.
- † Prayers of thanksgiving for our beloved LWML, and for servants at all levels, and for all mites collected to further the mission.
- † Prayers for Mary Ann Young, Debbie Larson's mother, for a speedy recovery from knee replacement surgery.
- † Prayers for the Hartleys...Sue (wrist procedure) and Pastor Dean (heart procedure to break up blockage in artery due to calcium build-up).
- † Prayers for the family and friends of Pastor Dean Hartley as they mourn his sudden death.

If you would like to be on the district prayer chain email list, email President Paulette at [huber529@msn.com](mailto:huber529@msn.com) and ask her to add your email to the list.



The Communication Committee craves your local information, especially pictures. Share what projects you are working on or events you have hosted. An old idea to you might be just the new idea for which another unit is searching! Send it in to Darci Wolff, [editor@ndlwml.org](mailto:editor@ndlwml.org)

## JOY IN SERVICE TO THE LORD



The LWML theme verse, Psalm 100:2 declares, "Serve the LORD with gladness!" Which do you think comes first...serving the Lord with gladness or knowing there is joy in serving Him?

Over the decades, we have been blessed in the LWML North Dakota District with faithful women who know and have demonstrated the joy of serving. More recently, we have had extremely talented and dynamic women who have served in elected positions over the past four years. To gain greater insight into these positions and the women who serve in them, each were asked two questions: What are the main duties of your position? What have you found to be most rewarding about your service in this position?

Debbie Larson, who serves as **Recording Secretary**, stated her main duties include recording and typing up the minutes from all meetings, general correspondence as directed by the President, and maintaining the official contact database. What she has found most rewarding is the fellowship and encouragement of sisters in Christ and getting to see the big picture of the LWML—our Mites in mission action!

**Vice President of Christian Life**, Dottie Sincebaugh, serves as a resource for Christian Life representatives in the local units to keep them informed of Christian Life materials available for their use. It is the responsibility of the VP of Christian Life and the Christian Life Committee to plan and host the annual LWML Women's Retreat. Dottie states, "Although there is a lot of work involved, I really have enjoyed planning and hosting the annual retreat. It is a joy to have the opportunity to learn and grow in my faith as I have the fellowship of the other women at the retreat. The retreat is such a great experience to get to know my LWML sisters at this event. It has been a blessing to me to get to know our special guest speakers and enjoy their friendship."

Sharon Kroeplin as our **Financial Secretary** indicates her main duties are collecting Mite money, delegate funds, Joy Card contributions (memorials and honorariums) and subscription payments for the Quarterlies. She records all this information and keeps records on the computer. Sharon states, "I truly enjoy my job as Financial Secretary. To see all the Mite money come in is so wonderful! Some of our Units are not very big, but we are so glad they are there, and that they send in their Mites to help so many people in North Dakota. Praise God from whom all blessings flow! I am *Serving the Lord With Gladness*".

**Vice President of Servant Resources**, Eileen Larson, lists her main duties as overseeing the Young Women's Committee, maintaining the personnel files, and keeping the job descriptions up to date. In the future, working with the Heart-to Heart Sisters will likely be included with this position. Eileen states, "The most rewarding part of this position for me has been working with the young women. I love helping to nurture young women and getting them fired up about LWML!"



Clearly joy and service are intertwined for all of these women. Out of love for their Lord and His people, their faithfulness plays out in practical action.

And now, what about you? Has your heart been nudged by the enthusiasm of these women? Are you wondering what you could be doing? If so, ask yourself these four practical questions: 1) What are my gifts—the abilities God gave me? 2) What are my skills? 3) What do I enjoy and what am I passionate about? 4) What needs do I see that need to be done that fit my gifts, skills, and passion?

As your Nominating Committee, we have been praying for brave, faithful women to step forward to fill positions in our LWML ND District as they become available at the next District convention in June 2014. In addition to the four positions listed above, we also need one nominee from each Zone to serve on the Nominating Committee for the 2014-2016 biennium. As we continue to pray for faithful servants, will you pray with us?

Perhaps all this talk of joy in service has moved you to consider submitting your name for a position! We invite you to contact any of the Nominating Committee members for more information. May the Lord bless you with joy in service where you serve Him and His people!

Your 2012-2014 Nominating Committee,  
 Geneal Roth, Minot, Chairman, NW Zone ([groth@srt.com](mailto:groth@srt.com))  
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 Karen Berg, Dickinson, SW Zone ([mkberg@ndsupernet.com](mailto:mkberg@ndsupernet.com))



## Bev Schmidt....Hobby with a Mission

Something the people of St. Peter's Lutheran Church know about long-time member, Bev Schmidt, is that she has a hobby with a mission.

Schmidt, who turns 80 in December, goes to garage sales every year from April through October on the hunt for new or nearly-new items that can be cleaned and scrubbed up until they shine like new.

She's done this for many, many years, according to fellow parishioner Edie Johnson.

"She's meticulous, scrubbing and cleaning nearly new shoes and items to make them look just like new," Johnson said.

And she doesn't do all this work for herself—she does it to help those in need served by the Orphan Grain Train.

The Orphan Grain Train (OGT) began its journey 20 years ago in 1992 with a shipment of grain and flour. It has reached out to the needy in so many ways since then and continues to full steam ahead!

The state of North Dakota came on board when a native African, Sam Freeman, was led to North Dakota. Desperate for help for his people of Liberia, he ended up on the doorstep of Harold Gessner from Bottineau. This began a long friendship and much help for his people through the Grain Train.

Gessner and his wife, Avonne are true zealots in serving the Lord. Harold serves as chairman of the ND District of the OGT, is on the National Board, helped establish the Lutheran Church of Nigeria, initiated a school in Nigeria which now bears his name and has visited Liberia—to mention a few of his involvements with the OGT.

The Gessners see that distribution is made by trucking donations to areas in our region, in the USA and to the large OGT warehouse in Nebraska.

From there many shipments are sent overseas.

To date, OGT has disbursed 1,929 large semi-loads of food, clothing, medical equipment and disaster relief supplies. Thousands of volunteers made this all possible.

An example of the wide diversity of the OGT, "Project Fee 500" was launched in 2011 and has since transported or delivered 1,657,109 meals to the needy in the U.S. and 50 other countries.



The photo on the left is Bev Schmidt posing with a few of the personal care items she has collected. On the right is Schmidt with a few of the pairs of shoes sent to OGT.

After the earthquake in Haiti the OGT was a first respondent for feeding the hungry. They already had the only vehicles on the ground that were able to reach the people in remote, hard-to-travel places so the starving could be fed. This is still an on-going mission in Haiti. The OGT is now in partnership with LCMS (Lutheran Church Missouri Synod) World Relief and Human Care.

Closer to home, the OGT was swift to respond to the disastrous flooding in Minot. At the onset of the flood, they provided large storage units; an office unit; tool trailer, with generators, pressure washer, etc.; mobile chapel; sleeping, shower and restroom units; industrial kitchen and promises of continuing support. Reverend Paul Krueger of Minot said, "Without the OGT there would not have been a recovery."

St. Peter's in Devils Lake became an early support of the OGT when Schmidt began purchasing new or nearly new items to go to the Grain Train. The ladies of St. Peter's provided over 70 quilts and blankets for OGT as well as providing quilts to the high school graduates and disaster victims.

Items purchased during the summer at garage sales include cloth-

ing for all ages, shoes and socks, medical supplies (even crutches), personal care items, Bibles and other Christian books and literature, sporting and other recreational items—like most-loved soccer balls—outerwear—like jackets, gloves and mittens and scarves—quilts and blankets, school supplies and backpacks, bath and bedding items and children's toys.

A typical summer may result in 70 or more pairs of pants for all ages (mostly jeans), 150 pairs of shoes, 30 or more infant layettes, and so on.

In October of this year 50-plus boxes were packed and made ready for the Gessners to transport to the Bottineau warehouse. In these boxes were 275 pairs of shoes and boots, 39 backpacks with school supplies, 124 caps and mittens, 323 different pieces of athletic or recreational equipment—like bats and balls, 34 layettes for babies—consisting of diapers, sleepers, blankets, soap and wash cloth; medical equipment, religious books and bibles, personal items like towels and bedding and children's toys. For 2013 there were 45 boxes and six large black garbage bags full of items for the Gessners to pick up.

For more information about OGT go to <http://www.ogt.org/>  
(taken from Devils Lake Journal)



## JOY CARDS

### Memorials & Honorariums July—September 2013

**THANK YOU** to everyone who has sent in money for memorials or honorariums. The following is a list of those received from July through September 2013.



*Women of the SE Zone*  
*Leno & Vera Schulz—60th Anniversary*  
*Ruth Rust*



*Lucille Gaugler*  
*Irene Buckman*  
*Mavis Gettel (2)*  
*LaVerne Koppelman*  
*Joline Anderson*  
*Judy Rahlf (10)*  
*Bill Oster*  
*Robert Brown*  
*Olive Brendemuhl*  
*Iva Stoltenow*

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## GETTING TO KNOW THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

by Dee Pavicic, VP Communications

Karen Lougheed smiles and greets you as you enter the district LWML store at retreats, district conventions, and often at zone rallies and other events requested by LWML members.

Karen is the district LWML Store Manager. Karen Puffe (one of Karen's dear friends), along with many countless other ladies, have willingly volunteered their time to help Karen out with the store. The latest products from the national LWML inventory are carefully and beautifully displayed. Fashionable T-shirts, jackets, and other apparel are arrayed on hangers. The latest little LWML bears, jewelry, wallets, publications, Bibles, notepads, planners, program helps, billfolds, umbrellas, and whatever products are new and different, are set out on tables for you to pick up and purchase on the spot. It takes about two hours to unpack the merchandise and to position it attractively on the tables.

L to R: Karen Puffe, Karen Lougheed



Karen arranges to have a cash box and is prepared to let you purchase by cash or check. She records every transaction and keeps track of what is sold. She tracks what sells and does not sell,

in order to enable the best shopping experience for LWML members. She has created a computer generated system to record the merchandise prices and numbers. She records what are the biggest sellers and what doesn't sell. Her purpose is to "keep your shopping experience fresh".

How does Karen Lougheed manage to give you this shopping opportunity? She checks the LWML catalog to see what's new, what she needs to resupply, and orders the merchandise from LWML Headquarters. She keeps her eye on the "monthly specials" offered by LWML Headquarters to be able to give you "good buys". Upon receiving and unpacking the multiple variety of products, she stores them in 16 large plastic tubs in her all-season porch.

Before setting up her display, Karen has packed her vehicle with the tubs and multiple boxes, then transports all to the event site. Then quickly, after the event is over, the boxes need to be reloaded into the vehicle and transferred again to her home. Karen's store expertise was honed at a former position as manager of the Airport gift Shop at Hector International Airport in Fargo.

Thank you, Karen Lougheed and Karen Puffe, for your service to your Lord and Savior!

**The Communications Committee consists of the following:** Dee Pavicic, VP of Communications; Darci Wolff, Newsletter Editor and PR; Marie Johnson, Webmaster; Karen Lougheed, LWML Store Manager; Nikki Rahlf, Historian.

### Parliamentary Pointers

Each edition of *The Messenger* will include a few True or False questions to test your parliamentary procedure knowledge. Here are this month's pointers.

1. When calling a meeting to order, the Chairman should keep pounding the gavel until everyone is quiet.

2. The number of members constituting a quorum for boards or general meetings should be stated in the by-laws.

3. The quorum refers to the number of members present, not to the number actually voting on the issue.

4. After the minutes are read the Chairman says, "Are there any corrections or additions to the minutes?"

1. False. Tap the gavel lightly just once.  
2. True.  
3. True.  
4. False. Say, "Are there corrections to the minutes?" The word "corrections" covers "additions" also.

ANSWERS



## Orphan Grain Train Container.....Continued



In the July/Aug/Sept edition of *The Messenger*, we wrote about a container that was to be shipped to Kenya, Africa. These pictures show the container at its destination and the anticipation of the people in Africa as they wait for their shipment.



### CENTRAL ZONE RALLY ROUNDUP *Sue Corwin, Zone President*



The "Three Amigos" shared their report on attending the 2013 national Convention in Pittsburgh. (l to r: Valerie Biberdorf, Mary Harvala, Audrey O'Brien)



### NW ZONE RALLY ROUNDUP *Shirley Hall, Zone President*

Ken and Cheryl Niewoehner, Bethlehem/St. John, Upham, traveled with a MOST Ministry team last June to Guatemala to distribute eye glasses. The team set up clinics in several cities, testing and fitting the needy with appropriate glasses. A vital part of each clinic is sharing the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. In this way they are caring for the physical and spiritual needs of the people, as Jesus did in His ministry.

Ken and Cheryl expressed that working with this team was a life-changing experience for them. This was *mission and ministry* from a servant perspective. They witnessed the Kingdom of God at work on a world-wide basis with God's grace extended to all races.

MOST Ministry is a Recognized Service Organization of the LCMS.

Karen Puffe, LWML ND District Board Member, also gave a PING presentation with helpful ideas for our societies.

The Gifts from the Heart were for Second Story in Minot. This is a facility and program that enhances the quality of life for adults with intellectual disabilities through social, educational, and recreational activities. The gifts were greatly appreciated.



*The Messenger* is the official publication of the LWML ND District. Editor: Darci Wolff, 37129—101st St, Forbes, ND 58439. 605-358-8671 (h); 701-535-0420 (c). [editor@ndlwml.org](mailto:editor@ndlwml.org)



**We're on the Web!**  
[ndlwml.org](http://ndlwml.org)



# DISTRICT DATES

- ♦ LWML Board of Directors @ Bismarck ~ November 16, 2013
- ♦ LWML Board of Directors @ Wahpeton ~ March 8, 2014
- ♦ LWML ND District Convention at Wahpeton ~ June 20-22, 2014

**facebook**

The LWML North Dakota District is now on Facebook! Click the "Like" button at the top of the page to become a fan, stay current on news and upcoming events, and share Christian fellowship right from your desk. ([www.facebook.com/ND.LWML](http://www.facebook.com/ND.LWML))

## LWML ND District Mission Grants 2012-2014 Biennium

MISSION GRANT	AMOUNT BUDGETED	AMOUNT PAID	BALANCE
ND Full-time Church Workers Scholarships (NEW STANDING RULE – this grant appears first)	\$35,000	\$21,000	<b>\$14,000</b>
Orphan Grain Train – North Dakota	\$7,500	\$7,500	<b>-0-</b>
Project 24 – Orphanages in Kenya	\$5,000	\$5,000	<b>-0-</b>
Restoring Security for His Children – Minot Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch	\$5,000	\$5,000	<b>-0-</b>
Women's & Children Shelter at Standing Rock	\$5,000	\$5,000	<b>-0-</b>
Carolyn Walsh, Lutheran Bible Translator Missionary to Botswana, Africa	\$2,000		<b>\$2,000</b>
Christ the Way Radio Ministry	\$5,000		<b>\$5,000</b>
Martin Luther School Tuition Assistance	\$2,850		<b>\$2,850</b>
Veterans of the Cross (partial funding)	\$650		<b>\$650</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$68,000</b>	\$43,500	<b>\$24,500</b>

*The mission of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League North Dakota District is to equip and encourage all women to share the compassion and hope of Jesus Christ.*