



from our President

Teresa Tester

How quickly my second year of presidency has gone by. It is hard to believe we are now preparing for Chesapeake District Convention 2022. COVID-19 has changed our lives, especially in the technology area. Who knew that we would be meeting via Zoom and/or MS Teams? Even our 2020 District convention was via Zoom, as well as the national LWML two-day President's Assembly. My trip to Lexington, KY to represent our District at 2021 Convention was the first time we were physically meeting, which are wonderful memories now.

By the time you read this, our **Christian Life Retreat "Spa For the Soul"** will also be one of those memories. Wonderful memories of times shared with other LWML'ers – it was AWESOME to physically see some old friends and some new. Time spent in worship, praising and thanking God for our many blessings. Time spent spreading the Gospel message by word of mouth, by our actions, by our prayers and by collecting our MITES. Five of our grants have been paid, spreading the love of Christ to the recipients. But we have a lot more to pay, so keep sending in those MITES!

The district and zone leaders will hopefully meet via Zoom on February 25-26, 2022 to work on leadership skills. When you plan your Zone events keep these dates in mind as well as our Board of Directors meeting to be held May 7, 2022. We need all of our leaders to be present at both meetings.

Plans are underway for the **2022 Convention** which is being held on September 23–24, 2022, at the Doubletree Hotel, Gaithersburg, MD. The theme is "...and You Are My Witnesses" using Isaiah 43:12b "And you are my witnesses, declares the Lord, and I am God." We are preparing a slate of nominees for the 2022-2024 District offices and need you to keep this in your prayers. If you, or someone you know, would be willing to serve, please let Martha McGlynn (marthamcglynn@verizon.net), Nominations Chairman, know.

...and You are
My Witnesses

In order to continue this great organization, we need women who are ready to stand up as leaders. Be a "Lutheran Woman in Mission." Remember, the Lord will guide and direct you as you work for Him. Please encourage your teens as well as the Young Women Representatives from your Zone to attend. Start now to save a few dollars each week so you will be ready to register when the time comes.

Your LWML sister,

Teresa Tester, District President, LWML Chesapeake District

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. (Philippians 4:13)

But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. (2 Timothy 4:17)

December 2021

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www.facebook.com/ChesLWML

Send your news and photos by March 1 to
Linda Roscoe,
Publications Editor

from our Senior Pastoral Counselor

Rev. D. Keith Beasley

Treasure Up All These Things

We look ahead to the Christmas season, and we all have some idea how it's going to go. We know that there is shopping, and get-togethers, and special programs and....

Sometimes we are so busy that we seem just to go through the motions of Christmas and that we really don't take time to enjoy what it is all about.

In Luke's account of the first Christmas, we hear all about how Joseph and Mary traveled to Bethlehem to enroll for taxation, how they can't find a place to stay, and how they end up in a stable. We then hear of Jesus' birth and of the visit of the shepherds. Sounds like Jesus' earthly parents and had quite a busy time surrounding that first celebration of the coming of the Savior.

Though it was busy, Luke makes mention of Mary slowing down and taking in all that was going on during that moment in time. Luke writes: "But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart" (2:19).

What might those things have been? Think of the announcement of the angel Gabriel to Mary: "And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." (Luke 1:31-33). Consider what Joseph must have shared with Mary about his visit from the angel in which he was told that Mary "would give birth to a son, and you are to give Him the name Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21). Bear in mind what the shepherds would have told Mary about their experience with the angels out in the fields: "Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11).

Just these few passages from God's Word about the Baby born in the stable in Bethlehem give us plenty of things to treasure up and to ponder in our hearts. Hopefully, during this season of joy, as we recall our blessed Savior's birth, you will take time as you go through the Advent and Christmas seasons to treasure up all these things and ponder them in your heart.

In Jesus, our Good Shepherd,
Pastor Keith



As part of Gospel Outreach, we would like to send out information on Visual Faith and Scriptural Coloring to enhance your prayer and your study of The Word. It seems appropriate to start of the new year, you may wish to begin a new practice of Visual Prayer. Visual Prayer is a hands-on prayer practice that calls for a short “intermission” from daily activity to pick up a pen or pencil, pause and slow down. Create a moment of time to “be still” and open your mind to the Spirit. Coloring helps you to focus and avoid distractions.

Then, with devotions or Bible study as a starting point, ask yourself;

- Please share and print out for those without email.

Portia Tomlinson

<https://www.visualfaithmin.org>

<https://www.lwml.org/coloring-resources>



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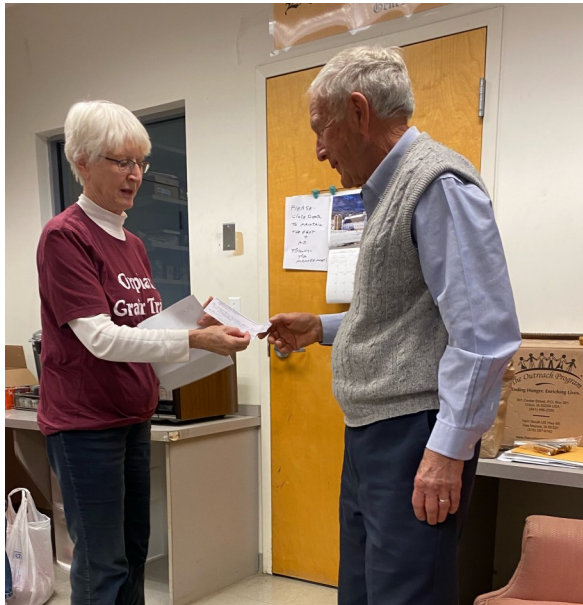
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Sandra O'Hedy of Peace Lutheran Church, Smyrna, DE presenting the Chesapeake District LWML Grant #3 check to Cliff Kraft, branch manager of Orphan Grain Train Mid-Atlantic Branch. The funds will be used to purchase food to ship along with clothes and medical supplies to a country selected by OGT headquarters.

Trinity in Lexington Park, MD continues to celebrate the Christmas Season with Ladies Advent Evening which Jeri Pharis began to lead in 1993.



St. Paul's Glen Burnie, MD sponsored a Serving Sunday event where members of the congregation came together for fellowship followed by coloring LWML Christmas cards. These cards were given to Lutheran Mission Society Compassion Place to accompany items in "Miracle of Christmas" boxes.

Thank you to all my Chesapeake LWML sisters for the cards, well wishes and especially the prayers during my illness and treatment. I recently received a care package from an organization **Phil's Friends**. Anyone battling cancer can receive a care package at no cost. If you know of anyone battling cancer, a care package can be requested by contacting philsfriends.org. Care packages may include a Bible, inspirational material, journal, soft blanket, hat/cap, soft socks, deck of cards, lip balm, lotions, and/or a puzzle book. All items are new as recipients may have comprised immune systems. Phil's Friends is an official Recognized Service Organization of LCMS. *Claire Carlson, VP of Organizational Resources*



from our Special Gifts Endowment Fund Chair

Linda Nau

Over the last few months, Special Gifts has received the following...

Gifts in Memory of:

Martha Cooper by Advent Lutheran Church LWML, Bel Air, MD

Jan Crawford by King of Glory Lutheran Church LWML, Williamsburg, VA; and Chip and Kathy Froelich

Ron Collis by Sandy O'Hedy; and Linda Nau

Dennis Schrank by Linda Nau

Rev. Al Bruning by Sandy O'Hedy; and Linda Nau

Betty Gottschall by Emmanuel Hampton LWML



Gifts in Honor of:

Sandy O'Hedy, for her years of dedication and service to LWML Chesapeake District as Special Gifts Chairman, by Linda Nau

Deb Poesse, for her time and expertise in updating the Special Gifts sections on the District website, by Linda Nau

Karen Matthiesen, Claudia Jacobson, Christine Maconachy, and Susan Sohn, for an inspiring Christian Life Retreat, by Sandy O'Hedy

We hope you think of **Special Gifts** as a wonderful way to remember or honor someone and also support the mission and ministry of the Chesapeake District LWML. Monies from this Fund may be given in increments of \$100 up to a maximum \$300 for small mission projects, special expenses or other programs. All requests should reflect the mission statement of the LWML.

As of December 4, 2021, the Fund has a balance \$6,575.33 plus \$15,000 in a certificate of deposit.

For more information on and forms for donating a gift or requesting a grant, please go to our website, lwmlchesapeakedistrict.org. Choose the **Giving to LWML or Mission Grant** tab to reach the Special Gifts

Hope Lutheran Women in Mission in Virginia Beach, Va held their annual bake and craft sale on Sunday November 21. They sell donated baked goods and craft items to raise money for the three sponsored seminary students and a variety of local charities. The generosity of Hope's congregation helped raise over \$1300! God is great! Some strategies employed to host a successful bake sale are crafting as a group for the sale, creating a uniform look, covering everything in boxes or baggies, and thanking the congregation for their support. This year Hope LWML met and assembled soup in a jar as a group project to sell at the bake sale. **Crafting or baking together provides a time for active participation and builds excitement about the upcoming sale.** When creating a bake or craft sale display cover the tables with clean, matching tablecloths that do not allow the table to show through. Using display racks, plates, or covered boxes can create levels and add space to the display table that attracts buyers. It is best practice to wrap, cover, or box everything for individual sale, even before the pandemic. As bakery boxes can get expensive, consider ordering in bulk to lower costs. Decide upon a price guide for the group, so similar types of items have a similar price. After the bake sale, make sure to thank the donors and supporters for their support. Think about creating a visual display of the seminary students or charities that the donations are funding. This increases donations at future sales as the congregation has a visual idea of who they are supporting. These ideas have helped Hope LWML grow upon their already successful annual bake sale and maybe can help your group too.



Chesapeake District LWML Mission Grants 2020-2022

Mission Goal: \$100,000

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| 1. Immanuel Lutheran Church, Charlottesville, VA - Provide Bibles, Concordances, devotionals, and Bible study materials for their jail and prison ministries. | \$5,000 | PAID IN FULL |
| 2. Southeastern District, LCMS, Alexandria, VA - Provide student aid for pastors and/or church workers as they prepare to journey with the Lord. | \$5,000 | PAID IN FULL |
| 3. Orphan Grain Train, Mid-Atlantic, Smyrna, DE - Purchase supplemental food items and pay for shipping to a country in need of food, clothing and medical supplies. | \$5,000 | PAID IN FULL |
| 4. Grace Place, Calvary Lutheran Church, Baltimore, MD - Create a computer lab as part of the newly forming Career Planning & Mentoring Center. | \$5,000 | PAID IN FULL |
| 5. Our Savior Lutheran Church & Open Arms Christian Child Development Center, Laurel, MD - Purchase cases of children's Bibles, English/Spanish outreach Bibles and Small Catechisms, providing devotional supplies for outreach in the Laurel community. | \$3,500 | PAID IN FULL |
| 6. Faith and Works Enterprises, Baltimore, MD - Continue community stabilization efforts toward establishing a mission to serve the Sandtown-Winchester community. | \$5,000 | |
| 7. Our Savior's Way Lutheran Church, Ashburn, VA - Send five ethnic leaders for training to and reach out to Muslim neighbors in the DC Metro area. | \$5,000 | |
| 8. Center for Hispanic Studies (CHS); Ethnic Immigrant Institution of Theology (EIIT), Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO - Provide support for ethnic student/church worker to meet educational costs. | \$3,500 | |
| 9. The ESL Program at Lutheran Church of our Savior, Rehoboth Beach, DE | \$5,000 | |
| 10. Lutheran Bible Translators, Concordia, MO - Funds to support ongoing work in Nigeria for the Mbe translation of the Bible. | \$4,000 | |

Total of \$45,000

Discontinuing to Mail Out Mite Notices

The Chesapeake District LWML Board has made the decision to discontinue sending out the *Lutheran Women's Quarterly* magazine and Mite reminder notice. Currently there's two ways to submit donations. Your Mite and Quarterly donations can be sent by the way that works best for your congregation.

By mail:

make check payable to LWML Chesapeake District, place your congregation's name and Mite ID number (if you know it) on check.

Mail to:

Yvonne Brown, Financial Secretary
9111 Alcona St
Lanham Md 20706.



On the web: go to the Chesapeake District Website (<https://www.lwmlchesapeake.org/how-to-give.html>).

If you need your Church Mite ID, or any concerns and questions email Yvonne at cdlwmlfs@gmail.com



Need to make a change to the number of Lutheran Women's Quarterly magazines that your group is receiving, contact

Recording Secretary, Deb Poese
deb.poese@verizon.net
with that number change by January 20, 2022.

Quarterly subscriptions costs are :
1-9 copies, \$7.50 per subscription
10 or more copies, \$6 per subscription.

You can order an individual print or eQuarterly (or both for the same price!), one-year subscription for \$7.50 by calling the Business Office during business hours at 1-800-252-LWML (5965) or by [Ordering Online!](#)

Some pics from the Christian Life Retreat in October



Sisters Susan and Mary Ann



Linda Gage, Special Gifts



Saturday Night Fun



Mother and daughter Desiree Davis and Kathryn Wacker
Christine Maconachy was our Music Leader for the weekend.

Thanks from Alyssa!

Dear Karen (Matthiesen) & LWML,
Words cannot express how blessed I feel to have been a part of your fabulous retreat in October. Everything about it was just wonderful! The hotel was beautiful and the hospitality Joan and I received was exceptional. I thoroughly enjoyed getting to know your ladies (and Rev. Pomrencke! LOL). From Minute-To-Win-It, to the worship and the big finale with The Golden Girls theme song, I really felt they were really enjoying every moment. They are a wonderful group.

Please tell your ladies that I would love to stay in touch with them! I can be found here:

Website: <http://www.alsiaoficial.com>

Facebook: <http://facebook.com/alsiaoficial>

Instagram: <http://www.Instagram.com/alsiaoficial>

YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/alsiaoficial>

And my songs are available on all digital platforms: Amazon Music, Apple Music, Deezer, Pandora, Spotify, YouTube Music and more!

In Christ,
Alysa Metallo

