



from our DISTRICT PRESIDENT

March 2019 NEWSLETTER

I am praying that God will richly bless you in 2019 and that we will recognize the blessings when they come our way. Thank you for electing me as your District President for the next four years. With God's help, I will do my very best to serve you in this position.

In November, Pastor Beasley, Michelle Baughman, Christine Dennis-Johnson and I attended the LWML Assembly of Leaders (AOL) meeting in St. Louis, MO. We learned a lot of things. There were eight different sessions: on technology, leadership, resources and mission grant selection, to name a few. Between the four of us we covered them all. In February, we had our District Leadership for Tomorrow training for the elected and appointed officers along with the Zone Chairs, Co-chairs, Young Women Rep. (YWR) and Heart to Heart Sister (H2H) Rep. Our focus was on communications, sharing active leadership techniques, engaging and retaining volunteers and reaching out to different cultures and generations. These leaders, in turn, will train their Zone societies/groups. The goal is to share the other four sessions during each of the Zone's Spring events.

On January 23, I attended a LWML Board of Directors meeting in St. Louis. We toured the new LWML Offices on the campus of the St. Louis Seminary, followed by attending chapel. The South-eastern District has four students at the seminary and one former vicar. Cheryl Wulfert, Carolinas District President and myself met with Christopher Conkling, a fourth-year student, and gave him a small gift as a reminder of LWML. We also visited the LCMS International Center where I had the privilege to meet President Harrison.



Time is moving so quickly toward the LWML National Convention in Mobile, Alabama June 20-23, with the theme "In Praise to the Lord." You can register online at www.lwml.org or use the registration form that was in the Winter edition of the *Quarterly*. Early registration by March 14, saves you \$20. Please let me know if you are attending so we can all get together at our joint District caucus with the Carolinas District, as well as be included in our District photo.

In the meantime, "feed your Mite box" and send those mites to our District Financial Secretary, so that LWML can reach the mission goal of \$2 million for the biennium ending March 31. Remember, 25 cents of every dollar sent as Mites is for national LWML.

I encourage you to pray that Mites are received to fund the national grants, as well as the Chesapeake District ones. Pray for the mission grant recipients and the work that they do. Pray for our Chesapeake District delegates, our two YWRs: Desiree Davis and Ashly Groves, our two Heart 2 Heart sisters, Rosa Ammons and Tenagne Woldeyhannes and Pastoral Counselor Keith Beasley as we prepare for the Convention. Your zone leaders will have lots of information to share at your spring events regarding the 31 mission grants that will be on the Convention ballot and the officers that will be elected. Please pray for God's guidance in the selection process. Most of all, pray for continued blessings on the LWML as we celebrate joyful service!

Your LWML sister,
Teresa Tester

*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)*

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Send your news and
photos by May 15, 2019
to Linda Roscoe,
Publications Editor

from our Senior PASTORAL COUNSELOR

Rev. Dr. John Johnson

WHO ARE YOU?

Every year I name a theme for all the special services for that year at Mount Olivet. The theme this year is, “Who are you”? I chose it because a dear friend from Africa gave me a gift; a wood carving of a man in deep thought. She pointed out that in Africa a man who thinks deep thoughts is associated with wise and holy men. Then I thought about the theme behind much of the new Gospel and contemporary Christian music I listen to on the radio. Easily the most common theme is, “Who am I” or “Can I be who God says I am”?

This is a far more important question than we actually understand. Throughout our lives we are labeled by many designations. Some of these designations are complimentary, some are used to induce shame, some are cute and a few are avoided at all costs. Sometimes our self esteem is crushed by names that are synonymous with loser, ignorant or undesirable. We often hear stories on the news of young people scarred by bullying or humiliating nicknames. Some men become anti-social because family members designated them as terrible, “Just like your no good father”! Over my thirty years in ministry I have counseled many women for hurtful things said and done to them 20, 30 or even 40 years in their past.

In Luke 9:18-22 Jesus asks his disciples who the people say he is. After some general answers Peter declares that Jesus is, “The Christ.” In this discussion of, “Who are you” we see that there is power in who we are and what we are called. Therefore the priority is who God declares us to be. This is why we must never cease to encourage one another with how beautiful, holy, beloved, kind and blessed we are as children of the living God. Far too many people hate who they believe themselves to be. So much so that they often believe that even Jesus can’t change how unlovable they are.

This is most certainly one of the reasons Jesus proclaimed the power of love. Love is the one thing able to counter being unacceptable, unlovable, inferior or beyond hope. Take some time in the coming week to intentionally let a friend, neighbor or loved one know just how precious he or she is to our heavenly Father and to you. Remember who God says we are surpasses all the names and descriptions we’ve all heard in this life. We are far more than we think because our heavenly Father embraces us in his eternal love and peace.

Want More Retirement Income from Your Savings?

Consider a gift annuity: Income for you now and a future gift to the work of the Lord. For Christians who want to benefit the Lord’s work, a Charitable Gift Annuity is an opportunity to:

- * Enjoy regular fixed-income payments during your lifetime;
- * Save on taxes; and
- * Make a future gift to the work of the Lord.

To learn how to do this and much more, contact Linda Gage, LWML Gift Planning Counselor at 1-800-741-4138 or linda.gage@lfnd.org.

Marge Bruning
Gifts of Love Advocate Chesapeake District



Chesapeake District LWML Mission Grants 2018-2020

Mission Goal \$120,000

MISSION GRANTS

1. Orphan Grain Train (<i>Millersville, MD</i>)	\$5,000
The shipment of humanitarian aid to Duk, South Sudan.	
2. Resurrection Lutheran Church and School (<i>Newport News, VA</i>)	\$4,000
Purchase and new gas stove to feed the homeless.	
3. Faith and Work Enterprises (<i>Baltimore, MD</i>)	\$5,000
Provide Christ-centered training materials and Bibles.	
4. The Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod, Office of International Mission	\$5,000
Fund Deaconess training in Latin America and the Caribbean	
5. Southeastern District, LCMS	\$5,000
Assist with student aid grants.	
6. St. John's Lutheran School (<i>Dover, Delaware</i>)	\$5,000
Funds to welcome more community children to meet Jesus.	
7. Lutheran Heritage Foundation	\$4,000
Provide Lutheran books translated in languages of the people they serve.	
8. Trinity Lutheran Church Preschool (<i>Richmond, VA</i>)	\$4,000
Tuition assistance. Bibles for each student.	
9. The Wyneken Project (<i>Baltimore, MD</i>)	\$5,000
Funds for the Liberian and Hispanic Outreach and the Lutheran Blind Outreach.	
10. Lutheran Mission Society/Compassion Place (<i>Baltimore, MD</i>)	\$2,910*
To fund the purchase of state of the art technical materials.	
11. Redeemer Lutheran Church and Preschool (<i>Fredericksburg, VA</i>)	\$4,545*
Repair/replace existing playground equipment to enjoy Christian fellowship.	
12. Bethania Kids for India Library Resources	\$4,545*
Fund library resources including books, training CDs, and audio visual.	

**Grants 10, 11, and 12 each received the same number of votes from the convention delegates, so will be funded proportionally to their initial requested amounts. If the mission goal is exceeded, each of these grants will be fully funded to the degree possible.*

From the Financial Secretary

Thank you to all who submitted funds for Mites, the Quarterly, District and national events, which will assist in funding all grants. Thank you to all who offered words of encouragement with your submission. The February 2019 mite notices have been mailed to each church and zone chair in the Chesapeake District. If your church did not receive a notice, please contact me. If you are submitting a check/money order that is just for a donation, please designate "District Grant, national Grant and or General Mites".

This will assist us to correctly credit the funds. Mite notices will be mailed to each church in the district four times a year (*quarterly*): August, November, February and May. The exception is the second year of the biennium (*even years*) when a letter is sent to each church Mite contact person stating the amounts contributed to Mites, projects and publications during that biennium. The letters are sent around May 1, reflecting totals given as of April 15. This information will be printed in the Chesapeake District Convention Manual. For questions or concerns about your donations, please contact me: Yvonne Brown, 9111 Alcona St., Lanham, Md. 20706 or cdlwmlfs@gmail.com.



Zone Rallies

Baltimore Zone

April 6 at Galilee at 9:00 am

Blue Ridge Zone

April 27 at Good Shepherd,
Roanoke, VA at 10:00 am

DCMarVa Zone

April 6 at Ascension, Lanham
9:00 am

DELMARVA Zone

May 4 at Bethany, Salisbury 9:30
am

PENMAR Zone

April 27 at Good Shepherd,
York, PA at 9:00 am

Potomac Zone

April 6 at Peace in Christ
Walkersville, MD at 9:00 am

Tidewater Zone

March 23 at King of Glory,
Williamsburg, VA at 9:00 am

Christian Life Retreat 2019 in Ocean City

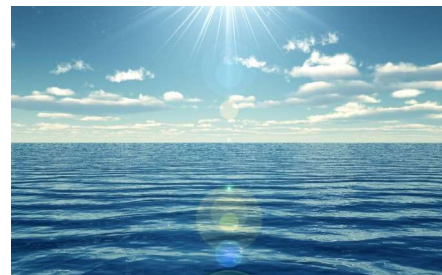
Plans have already started for the 2019 LWML Chesapeake District Christian Life Retreat. Expect it to be a fun packed weekend with Donna Pyle, Bible Study Leader and Dina Vendetti, Music Leader.

Date: November 1-3, 2019

Where: Carousel Hotel in Ocean City, MD

Theme: Perseverance: a Nehemiah Battle Plan

Scripture: Nehemiah 1-7



"We all have that one thing hanging over our lives that's been there a while. It keeps showing up. It sits smack dab in the middle of the room like the proverbial pink elephant. Everyone tiptoes around it but never discusses it. It could be an addiction to conquer, a habit to break, goal to accomplish, long-standing project to complete, relationship to restore (or toxic one to end), or even a debt to retire. What is your one thing? When it comes to persevering, observing the steps of Nehemiah provides lessons that you and I can learn and even deploy in our own lives to accomplish the extraordinary for the glory of God. The enemy will oppose us at every turn, but Nehemiah demonstrates how you and I can surround ourselves with people who are committed to God and our success. Nehemiah began with prayer and ended with praise as God provided the confidence, resources, and people that carried Nehemiah to successful completion." Mark your calendar to attend the retreat in November 2019. Want to learn more? More information will come in a future "Chesapeake Breeze."



Ladies of Peace, Walkersville, MD

First Row, left to right: Hope, Carol, Laura, Linda, Deb, and Marilyn; Back Row, left to right: Jean, Cindy, Nancy, Michelle, Gwen, and Susan. Not pictured: Marie, photographer

Purses and Verses Brunch

On Saturday, November 17, 2018 the LWML ladies at Peace in Christ, Walkersville, Maryland, hosted a Purses and Verses Brunch. Each woman was asked to bring a "gently" used purse. Notions and goodies like Chapstick, tissues, deodorant, gum and other personal items, were donated by members in the congregation. An appropriate Bible verse and New Testament Bible were placed in each purse. The purses were then stuffed by those in attendance and given to Faith House for distribution to women who find themselves in unfortunate circumstances. Faith House, located in Frederick, Maryland, provides a loving Christ centered place for homeless women and children. Faith House will be a recipient of a \$5,000 Mission Grant provided by the Chesapeake District.

from our VP of Christian Life

Christine Maconachy

As Christian women and Sisters of Christ, we know that a relationship with God, and living in His Word is our state of happiness in life. God's blessings to us are plentiful. But there is no blessing as meaningful as our salvation in Christ.

The words bless or blessings are found most frequently in Psalms and Proverbs. The Hebrew word **barak** means to praise, congratulate or salute. In the New Testament, blessings is translated from the Greek word, **makarios**, which indicates a state of happiness. The Beatitudes describe the happy state of Christians who find their purpose and fulfillment in God.

Proverbs 31 outlines the blessing of a woman who walks and serves in the Lord.

The woman in Proverbs blesses not only her family, but the poor around her with her work and dedication. In return, the people in her family, her neighborhood and all future Christians, rise up and call her blessed. She has her purpose and fulfillment in God.

How many emails, letters, notes and thank you's have you received or written with the ending, "Blessings," and either your name or the name of someone who cares. What are we actually sharing?

In our daily lives and life changing situations we all have exemplified: Strength, Wisdom, Kindness, Dignity, Honor and Love for the Lord. How can we rise each morning in a state of happiness and model blessings each day?

There are many devotional books and people, which can help us to prioritize our days in our Lord. A recent book, "*Distracted: Finding Faith-Focus Habits for a Frenzied World*" by Sharla Fritz is one. Connie Denninger, wife of John Denninger, SED President, began by reaching out in her neighborhood with blessings; now her ministry has expanded worldwide through her daily walk in blessings. (Check out her **Visual Faith Ministry** on Facebook.) LWML's Two-Minute-Tuesday Devotions are another way to begin your day steeped in blessings to share with others in our worlds.

We pray to God for us to be blessings with statements of Christ's love, good will and happiness. We pray to God to enable us to share the blessing of new life and forgiveness through our faith in God's Son, Jesus Christ.

"I can do all things through Christ Jesus, who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13

Blessings, Christine Maconachy, VP Christian Life



"...call her blessed" Proverbs 31:28

Post Convention Cruise Out of Mobile, AL

After the 2019 LWML Convention in Mobile, AL, the LWML is pleased to offer a cruise on the Carnival Fantasy for FUN from June 24-29, 2019. This will be a time for a well-deserved rest and relaxation as well as fun and fellowship with your friends. The great fact is that you will cruise out of Mobile, the site of the LWML Convention. Would you like to take part in this fun get-away? McGehee Cruise and Vacation, Inc. will assist with all reservations for the cruise. Registration is now open. Please follow this secure link for further information and questions.

<https://form.jotform.com/81724876028969>

You can also find the link on the LWML website at www.lwml.org/2019-convention. As with any cruise, it is best to book as early as possible so that you can get the cabin you prefer.



Pictures, Pictures!



Trinity Lutheran Church LWML in Lexington Park, MD held a Spaghetti Dinner and raised \$514 to help fund National Mission Grants.



LWML on International Seas

Led by Connie Denninger, Pat Maier, Wendysue Fluegge, women sailed the Caribbean on an Extravagant Love Women's Retreat Cruise. In devotion time these LWML women met in prayer and love. Pictured from *left to right*: Louise Cox, VP Christian Life FL-GA District; Trish Aamoth, President FL-Ga District; Karen Soeken, former President Chesapeake District, Eden Keefe of Carolinas District, Chair of National LWML Gift Planning Council; Christine Maconachy VP Christian Life, Chesapeake District.



Congratulations to Orphan Grain Train as they receive their check for \$5,000.00 to help finance the shipping of a container to South Sudan. *Pictured*: Effie Eberle, Martha McGlynn, and Ron Phipps.

Chesapeake District Special Gifts Fund

The Chesapeake District LWML maintains a Special Gifts Endowment Fund for the purpose of managing funds received as the result of gifts, memorials, honorariums and bequests and using them for the mission and ministry of the Chesapeake District LWML.



The purpose of this Fund is to receive unrestricted gifts and bequests from individuals, groups or other sources and permit monies from this Fund to be used for mission grants, special expenses or programs recommended by the Special Gifts Endowment Fund Committee and approved by the Executive Committee.

Checks donated should be **made to LCEF (Lutheran Church Extension Fund) with Chesapeake District Special Gifts on the memo line** and forwarded to the Chairman of the Special Gifts Fund who at this time is: Sandra O'Hedy, 116 S. School Lane, Smyrna, DE 19977.

Monies from this Fund may be directed to support programs and activities at a Chesapeake District sponsored event, such as the biennial District Convention or the biennial Christian Life retreat. These Funds, not to exceed \$300, could be used to compensate speakers or other invited guests, and/or to provide partial or full scholarships for the registration costs for selected attendees. In the past, funds have been used to support a student studying how to reach the Muslim community with the Word of Jesus, allow several Heart to Heart sisters to attend a Christian Life retreat and to start an outreach program to the Spanish speaking community near Ashland, VA.

For more information and guidelines for requesting a grant from Special Gifts Fund, go to the Chesapeake District LWML website.

The Fund has a balance of \$5,681.49 as of the end of January, 2019. Gifts received from November 2018 through February 2019 are:

In Memory of:

Fred Kruelle
Ruby Behrens
Susan Bookless
Susan Bookless
Fran Guthnecht
Ruby Behrens
LaVerne Logan
Dennis Schroeder
Helen "Granny" Martin
Helen Martin

Given by:

Jan & Fred Rueter
Jan & Fred Rueter
Jan & Fred Rueter
LWML of King of Glory Lutheran Church
Karen Matthiesen
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