



November 2016 NEWSLETTER

message from our PRESIDENT

Edi Collis



After several exciting days of inspired speakers, good music, inspiring worship, Chesapeake District business, and lots of fellowship, our District convention, "Sow What?" is now history. What a joy it was to celebrate our 75th anniversary as an organization with all of you, and to have LWML President Patti Ross as our LWML representative! Elsewhere in this issue you'll find information about our new District officers, and our new mites goal including the 12 mission grants that we will fund over this biennium. We are truly blessed to be able to share in our Lord's work!

Now we look to the future and the LWML convention in Albuquerque, NM on June 22-25, 2017, with the theme "Jesus Christ above all." A "Diamond Dazzle Jubilee" is planned to celebrate the 75th anniversary of LWML – make sure you bring your bling! Plan to come to Albuquerque and share the celebration with several thousand of your LWML sisters. The *Winter Quarterly*, available December 1, will have a special convention section with everything you need to know or you can check the LWML website (www.lwml.org) for updates. Want to combine some travel in the southwest with the convention? Before - and after-convention tours are available for your consideration.

Also, our Christian Life Retreat will take place in Ocean City, MD on October 20-22 at the Carousel Hotel. Deb Burma, noted ministry writer and speaker, will be the retreat leader. More information appears in this issue. It's sure to be an inspiring and fun event!

It's amazing how fast this year has gone by! Soon it will be time to celebrate our Lord's birth and then begin a new year. As we deal with the pressures of the holiday season, take time to ponder "The Reason for the Season" – the great love of God the Father that he sent His son Jesus as our Savior. Wishing all of you Christmas peace and a God-centered 2017!

Your LWML sister,
Edi

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel (Philippians 1:3-5).

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QR code to direct you to the district website or
www.lwmlchesapeake.org

 www.facebook.com/ChesLWML



Giving Tuesday is a global day of giving fueled by the power of social media and collaboration. While many people are focused on their holiday and end of the year giving, it helps kick off the charitable season. This event is celebrated on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving (November 29) and the shopping events of Black Friday and Cyber Monday.

Last year, the Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML) launched its first Giving Tuesday campaign and raised \$7,140 in one day for our mission grants! We would like to build on that success and involve more congregations in spreading the word. **This year, we have received a matching grant of up to \$10,000, so your impact is doubled.**

How can you help?

Continue to pray for our mission grants. Pray that the mission of LWML is shared with more people through events like Giving Tuesday. Make an online donation on Giving Tuesday, November 29, 2016. Each donation will be matched up to \$10,000.00.

Visit our website at www.lwml.org/givingtuesday to learn more about Giving Tuesday and the LWML Mission Grants.

Chesapeake Breeze is the quarterly newsletter of the Chesapeake District LWML. Send your news and photos by February 1, 2017 to Linda Roscoe, Publications Editor

from our Emeritus PASTORAL COUNSELOR

Rev. Charles Long

Four Years with the LWML: What I learned

I cannot believe four years passed so quickly. It seems just yesterday that I was Junior Counselor. And then Senior Counselor. And then saying goodbye. Here are four lessons I learned in my four years serving the LWML — obviously, I am a slow learner.

Laughter is a Christian virtue. I always loved the humor at every LWML gathering. Our faces were smiling. Our hearts were laughing. We were enjoying fellowship. G. K. Chesterton said, “Angels can fly because they take themselves lightly” (from the book, *Orthodoxy*).

Walking together does not require agreement on every point. No group is unanimous on every decision. Walking together requires that we accept our differences. The LWML does this so gracefully. And, by the way, thank goodness we don't agree on everything. That would be dull!

Mission is the mission of the LWML. Stephen Covey famously wrote, “The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing.” The “M” in LWML stands for missionary and the LWML keeps its focus on mission. This is what makes it such an amazing group: its unswerving dedication to what really matters.

Love is the most important Christian virtue. St. Paul wrote, “... the greatest of these is love” (2 Cor. 13:13). St. John wrote “God is love” (1 John 4:8). If mission is the mission of the LWML, then love is motivation. We love God. We love our neighbors. We love ourselves.

So, these are my four lessons from four years as your counselor. L. W. M. L. — Laughter, Walking together, Mission, and Love.

Thank you for letting me serve you!

Rev. Charles Long
(Counselor, Emeritus)



Lutheran Women in Mission

The mission of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League is to assist each woman of the Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod in affirming her relationship with the Triune God so that she is enabled to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the world.

Chesapeake District LWML Mission Grants 2016-2018

Biennium Mission Goal : \$115,000

Faith House, Frederick MD – Women’s Shelter Startup Costs	\$5,000
Assist with start-up costs to renovate building to house homeless women & children	
Animal Husbandry Classes for Women’s Protection Center in Nepal	\$4,950
Provide classes & animals to give young women a self-supportive lifestyle	
Establish the Bassa Community Health Center, District #3, Liberia	\$5,000
Fund community health center in poorest district of Liberia devastated by ebola	
Student Aid Grants for SED Students in Christian careers	\$5,000
Provide scholarships to SED students pursuing careers in full-time church work	
Hot Meals capability, Redeemer’s Child Development Center in Richmond	\$5,000
Assist with set-up costs to provide CDC children a hot meal daily	
Food For Haiti, Orphan Grain Train, Mid-Atlantic Region	\$5,000
Add non-perishable food to shipping container of donations for people in Haiti	
Train Bible Translators in Southern Africa to Assist LBT Translators	\$5,000
Equip nationals strong in local languages to work with LBT translators	
Prison & Recovery Ministry, Grace Lutheran Church, LaPlata MD	\$4,000
Produce video “When Did I Visit Jesus In Prison Or Invite Him In?”	
Bethesda Auxiliary – A prayer book for people with disabilities	\$3,000
Publish & distribute ‘The Christ Connection’ to reach people of all levels of disability	
Sharing the Love of Christ with Immigrants in Detention (LIRS)	\$5,000
Spanish Bibles for those incarcerated by Immigration & Customs Enforcement	
Community Tuition Aid, Galilee Lutheran Preschool, Pasadena MD	\$2,500
Aid local community to pay monthly tuition to send child to Christian preschool	
Lutheran Heritage Foundation Bible Storybooks for Asian Families	\$3,300
Print Christian books for children in heart languages of Asian families	

Greetings to all of my Sisters in Christ.

Thanks to all of you who attended the Convention in September because, let’s face it, we make our Conventions GREAT! We have a terrific goal to look forward to making — our Mission Goal for the next biennium. So start saving those Mites and turn them into our Treasurers! Every penny counts!

Martha McGlynn, VP of Mission Grants



Chesapeake District Special Gifts Fund

What better way to honor or remember a loved one or fellow LWML member than with a donation to Special Gifts? These funds are used for grants to help with educational opportunities, new projects where start-up or one time funds are needed or to help with an ongoing or established project.

Make checks payable to:
Lutheran Church Extension Fund *with*
"LWML Special Gifts" on memo line.
Mail to: Sandy O'Hedy
116 S. School Lane
Smyrna, DE 19977

Given by: _____

Amount _____

In Memory of or in Honor of:

Occasion _____

Send acknowledgement of gift to:
(*please print plainly*)

Name _____

Address

Update on the Special Gifts Fund

(Through October 17, 2016)

Stewardship account ending balance
\$3,507.71, which includes \$2.73 interest
on account plus \$90.81 interest from CD.
CD balance as of June 30, 2016 is \$17,000.

Special Gifts Given

August, 2016 through October, 2016

In Memory of:

Carol Zehnder
Ruth Hughes

Donated by:

Nicholas & Penelope Helmore
King of Glory LWML

In Honor of:

Pam Weimer
Verna Liescheidt
Deb & Bruce Poesse
Karen Matthiesen
Rev. Charles & Betty Long
Rev. Dr. John Johnson
Claudia Jacobson

Donated by:

Edi Collis to all the honorees for
a wonderful convention!!



Gifts of Love

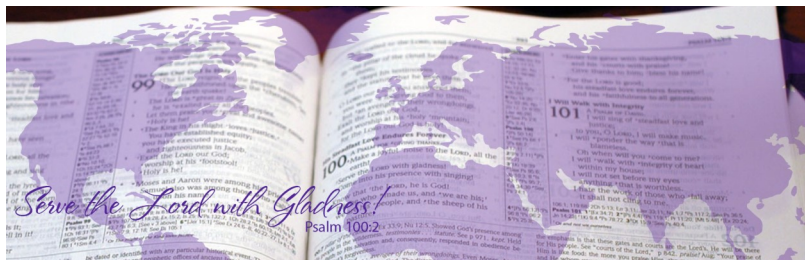
There are many services that our LWML Gift Counselor, Linda Gage can share with you. One is how to plan charitable gifts from real estate transactions to make it effective for lowering taxes, retaining income and blessing others, whether the whole or a portion is give.

Did you realize that year-end gifts of appreciated assets are an effective way to give charitably. These assets create optimal savings and increased economic value.

If you are interested in learning more, please contact Linda at 800-741-4138 or lindagage.lwml@gmail.com. Her services are free and she is more than willing to help you.

Blessings as we show our appreciation for the blessings we have received.

Marge Bruning
Gifts of Love Advocate



from our Vice President of Human Care

Amber Alexander

I would like to thank all the women of LWML on their most abundant giving (Sharing) at our recent Chesapeake District Convention. A special thanks to Pam Weimer and her team for the collection and organization of these gifts. Here is a quick break down of what was received:

Gift Cards - \$1,480

Concordia Theological Seminary, Saint Louis received \$745 for the seminarians.
Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne received \$735 for the seminarians.



Care Packages went to Tina Jason at LINC -Baltimore

Personal hygiene kits for men or women were placed in quart-size ziploc plastic bags packed. I did not get an actual count of the bags, however Tina informed me that they would last until well after Christmas.

Eyeglasses for MOST Ministries

I saw 3 medium-size boxes of glasses, but have no idea of how many pairs of glasses were collected.

FCCAU (Faith Communities and Civic Agencies United)

This collection consisted of liquid hand soap, paper plates, paper towels, plastic ware, toilet Paper, and zip-lock sandwich bags.

S.H.A.R.E from my Heart

Share Heart And Resources with Everyone (S.H.A.R.E)

The many ways we share God's love: knowledge, information, gospel, time, ideas, finances, your grief so you may be comforted, your success to encourage.

I found this hymn while on the internet searching the word "sharing," and found it to be inspiring.

There Are Many Ways of Sharing

A hymn by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette to the tune of ("Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing")

There are many ways of sharing, But God's Spirit gives each one.
There are different ways of caring; It's one Lord whose work is done.
God, whose gifts are overflowing, May we hear you when you call;
Keep us serving, keep us growing for the common good of all.

We've been baptized in the waters! We've been given work to do.
When you call your sons and daughters, you give gifts for serving you.
God, we join in celebration of the talents you impart.
Bless each baptized one's vocation; Give each one a servant's heart.

All are blest by gifts you give us; Some are set apart to lead.
Give us Jesus' love within us as we care for those in need.
Give us faith to make decisions; Give us joy to share your Word.
Give us unity and vision as we serve your church and world.

Zone

Old Dominion Zone

Old Dominion held their Fall Event at Holy Cross, Ashland where they learned more about Hanover Safe Place and what is involved with battered women and men. Patti Hall, our main speaker shared some interesting stories and enlightened all in attendance. The Gifts from the Heart was a tremendous outpouring of love for this special ministry at Hanover Safe Place. Old Dominion's YWR, Heather Schember shared about her thoroughly enjoyed experience at the convention. The women also made bracelets and crosses to travel to Nicaragua with some LWMLer's from our Chesapeake District.

Marge Bruning, Zone Chair

WINGS Over DelMarVa

Five churches from the DelMarVa Zone were represented by 20 LWML members at the recent district convention. Eight were attending for the first time. Like most of us, the "newbies" were awed by that first impression you get as you experience the important process of selecting our new Mission Goal and which grants will be fulfilled. One begins to understand the importance of the prayers and commitment of many people. You sense that, you too, are a part of something big and that it is God-inspired. When we meet others committed to sharing in God's mission for His church through LWML, we are enriched and encouraged. Learning first-hand through the guest speakers in the breakout sessions only emphasizes the awareness that so many lives throughout the world, near and far, are touched through our local Mite offerings. "Missions" then takes on a new meaning. What a blessing to experience the coming together of so many hearts desiring to serve our One and Only Lord. If you missed it this time, be sure not to miss it next time. If you do not know about LWML and Mites, contact your pastor. He can contact your local Zone Chair for information.

Sandy Nickerson, DelMarVa Zone Chair

Christian Life Retreat at the Ocean Next Year

Did you take some time this fall to go for a walk in the woods to admire the beautiful foliage, or maybe to an orchard or pumpkin farm to pick some seasonal fruits? I hope you did. Unfortunately, many of us will schedule everything on our calendars except time to step back and enjoy these moments of small blessings. God provides them for us, but do we make them important in our lives? We need to. It's often when God speaks to us and reminds us to "be still" He's in Control!

It's not hard to allow Him through His Holy Spirit to help us reorder our days. Prayer is the beginning, bible study bring us to this goal. We often times make this more difficult than it need be. Speaking of scheduling time to "be still" put this **very important date** on your calendar.

Christian Life Retreat - October 20-22, 2017

Ocean City, Maryland

"Stepping Out: To a Life on the Edge"

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Philippians 4:13

We treasure this time together as LWML sisters to take a step back, gather in His Name, study His Word and rejoice in His Spirit with us! This year we are especially looking forward to having Deb Burma as our presenter. Her gift of the Spirit will bring us much joy and laughter and I'm certain we'll be blessed as she shares her spiritual gifts in our "be still" moments of the weekend.

I am honored to be serving in our Chesapeake District LWML and look forward to helping us keep our hearts and minds focused on serving God and encouraging us into a closer relationship with him.

Teresa Tester

Christian Life Chairperson

LWML 37th Biennial Convention

June 22-25, 2017

Albuquerque, New Mexico



Chesapeake District LWML Convention 2016



LWML President Patti Ross and the Heart to Heart Sisters



Mission Speaker Phil Jaseph



Opening Worship



Del Marva Zone



Old Dominion Zone



Young Woman's Representatives

Evaluations of the Chesapeake District Convention

The LWML Convention in Timonium is history! Evaluations are a wonderful tool to complement and address issues of our meetings. Our wish is for everyone to leave our conventions and retreats happy and filled with the Holy Spirit. Evaluations give everyone the opportunity to express what was wonderful and what needs improvement. We thank each of you that took the time to complete an evaluation. We take these seriously and want everyone that attends a LWML Convention to have a wonderful experience with their LWML sisters. You can be sure items that we have control over we will improve. We also plan to inform the hotel of your concerns. Please read our suggestions at the end of this review. Thank you! *Karen and Claudia, Meeting Managers*

The number in attendance was 156 with 80 evaluations received.

Ratings: <u>19</u>	Exceeded expectations	<u>2</u>	Did not meet expectations
<u>57</u>	Met expectations	<u>0</u>	Far below expectations

Favorite Experiences:

Guest Speakers, Fellowship, Bible Studies, Receiving copy of presentations, Worship, Saturday Entertainment, Mite Grant Selections

Least Favorite Experiences:

Location, Hotel, Food, Northern Lights Restaurant, Music, Repetitive Interest Sessions, Exhibits



Comments and Replies:

- Add more space between tables. *We will make every attempt of being present when the hotel sets up to improve spacing.*
- Add a break or two. *This is very difficult as time is precious and we must keep on schedule. Plus, turning 150 women lose to use a couple of bathrooms is not a pretty sight. We will definitely add some stand up, stretch and wiggle time. If anyone needs to take a break, please do so. No offense taken.*
- Sing songs we know.
- Send schedule ahead of time and or post daily. *The schedule is included in the manual that is received at registration.*
- Promote Mite walk and any yoga better.
- Include more member participation.
- Read aloud the presentation of grants. *The list of proposed Mite Projects and their description are listed in the manual. Delegates receive this list before the Convention.*
- Tell presenters not to repeat their information during interest sessions.
- Add ice breaker to meet new sisters. *Good suggestion.*
- Have special "BOX" for the gift cards. *Good suggestion.*
- Inform 1st timers a little bit about LWML. *Good suggestion.*
- Try to keep time as scheduled. *The President does her best to keep the Convention on schedule.*
- Announce check out times for Sunday morning.
- Add on website and in the "Chesapeake Breeze" the schedule of events and expected ending time on Sunday.
- Include healthy goodies at the Zone parties. *Each Zone organizes their own party.*
- Have extra evaluation forms available for those who have already packed or lost them. *Good suggestion.*

Hotel Issues: Many of the concerns and issues had to do with the hotel directly. Hotel service, lack of towels, some rudeness of receptionists, poor service at restaurant on Friday evening and Saturday morning as well as credit card problems with their computer and cold food all fall under the hotel management and their employees. *For 22 years we have used this hotel (under different names). Unfortunately, many things have changed and we will be looking for a different venue for our Convention in the north. We will continue to keep cost and location as a high priority in our choice.*

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