

LWML Motto:
Serve
the Lord with
Gladness!
Psalm 100:2



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A Message From Our District President

What an awesome event! Representing you, the members of the FL-GA District LWML, at the 33rd biennial LWML convention in Portland, Oregon, June 25-28, 2009. I am honored and privileged to serve you and our Lord as a Lutheran Woman in Mission. Thank you for the opportunities. Upon my arrival to my hotel in Portland, the convention theme, "Look to the Hills – God Reigns" was very evident especially as I looked out from my top floor room balcony to view Mt. Hood in the distance. What an inspiration to see this site at the beginning and end of each day.



Prior to the start of the convention the Board of Directors were in meeting. In addition to taking care of business we also enjoyed an evening of

fellowship with a dinner cruise. I enjoyed spending time with Betty Duda, past district and national president and friend.



It was an emotional personal time as I proudly carried our district banner during the District Presidents banner procession at the opening of the Friday morning session.



The FL-GA District LWML was well represented by delegates, guests and two Young Women Representatives (YWR). Juanita Chirikas, (left) and Stacy Lessman (right). They expressed their joy in serving as YWRs. I look forward to their future involvement of Serving the Lord with Gladness.

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THE DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of the Florida-Georgia District LWML is to share the love of Christ with women of all ages and diversities and to foster a recognition that the mission field exists both at home and abroad.

DEADLINES FOR FUTURE EVANGEL ISSUES:

December 1, 2009
Spring 2010 Issue

March 1, 2010
Summer 2010 Issue

June 1, 2010
Fall 2010 Issue

MISSION SERVICE



The times when people need each other the most is at a time of change. LWML can provide support and assistance to people in changing circumstances. Here are some possibilities and I am sure you can think of others. What is it that God is asking you to do?

- ? New graduates: helpful hints for setting up a household, recommendations for doctors and dentists
- ? New retirees: suggestions for using their new free time
- ? Empty nesters: ways to use their nurturing talents
- ? Newly married couples: something to do for themselves
- ? Newly widowed or divorced: someone to be there for them
- ? New mothers, new employees, new students, newly laid off people, new co-workers, new residents in the community...

I hope my little list has given you some ideas for your own personal mission service or for your LWML society's mission service. Remember: a joyful attitude is contagious. *Juanita Bagnall, VP Mission Service*

Quote for the Day

A hug is the ideal gift... one size fits all.

A Message From Our District President

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Congratulations to Grace Lutheran Church, St. Petersburg, FL The Carpenter's Hands-Youth Refurbish Homes in Florida was selected by the convention delegates to receive grant funds of \$26,000. Blessings to the youth and their advisors as they share the love of God in their hearts and using their hands to help others.

Attending a national convention is an awesome experience. It is a personal experience and may be difficult to share your deepest joys and thoughts with others. May the sparkle in your eyes be an indication of your JOY of being with your Sisters in Christ.

I invite you to experience inspiration, fellowship and joys of being together in Christ at our 2010 Florida-Georgia District LWML convention. The convention will be held in Gainesville FL, October 1-3, 2010. The women (men and youth too) of th North Central Florida Zone are serving as hosts for this event. It is my hope that you will begin planning now to be an important part of this convention, as you begin to "Fix Your Eyes on Jesus".



God's Blessings to each of you.

Marilyn H. Treanor, District President



We received a beautiful thank you letter and prayer for the FL-GA LWML from Haiti. This letter touched my heart, as I hope it does yours. Louis Roland, Director, eloquently expresses their gratefulness to the Lord for the help God is providing through the ministry of LWML. We are blessed to be a blessing.

The beans, rice and sauce lunch provided is so much more nourishing than the dirt, honey and salt cakes. The shared Word of God and the Love of Christ, which is taught by the dedicated pastors and teachers, will bring literacy and hope to the most impoverished nation in our hemisphere.

If you have not already started to work on your Mission Grant Proposals for the fall of 2010, now is the time! The Deadline is March 15, 2010. *Christ Love, Jo Crittenden*, VP Mission Grants

(Note from the editor: Jo provided me with a jpg copy of the letter and I tried every way to make sure to get this letter in the Evangelist just would not legibly print out in the Evangelist. You can see a copy of the letter on the website by visiting www.flgalwml.com)



Children at Balague and First Lutheran School at Les Cayes (above) are just as thankful for the LWML districts whose grants support their feeding programs.

FL-GA District Retreat - The FL-GA District Retreat was held September 25 through 27th at the Sirata Beach Resort on beautiful St Pete Beach. The St Petersburg Zone enjoyed hosting this event and would like to thank everyone who attended. It was a very inspiring weekend and a good time was had by all.

Linda Peters, Retreat Chairman



2010 Convention - Do you know what is special about the first weekend in October - other than LWML Sunday? Next year, it will be the Florida-Georgia LWML convention in Gainesville, FL. The theme is **Fix Your Eyes on Jesus** based on Hebrews 12:1-2. The North Central Florida Zone is happy to host this convention and work is underway to make it a memorable and uplifting time for everyone. Mark your calendars now.

Convention Chairman, Carol Alberts



God calls each of us to minister to His people. Yes, even women! He equips us with gifts to build up His body, the church. As 2009 ends and 2010 begins, I encourage you to spend some time with the Lord asking what it is He would have you do for Him in the new year. In Ephesians, Paul tells us that He “gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists and some to be pastors and teachers to prepare God’s people for works of service so that the body of Christ may be built up” (4:11,12). Each of these gifts we need in Christ’s Church and in LWML for it to be the best and most effective TOOL that it can be for our Lord to bring others to His Saving Grace and yet we can only have it by saying “Here I am Lord, send me”. You are His people, the Church, the body of Christ. You are gifted by the power of the Holy Spirit, these gifts will become manifest, individually and in this body for the work of The Kingdom. All you or I need to do is simply step out in faith You have been given as a gift to this body, Christ’s Church, and to LWML You are called (and equipped) to share the Good News and make known the love and salvation of Jesus Christ. No one is exempt! So when someone ask you to serve on the District Board, in your society, or zone don’t just say NO, not me, I don’t have that GIFT! Seek your heart and see what God may have in store for you.... then share Christ Love through your Gift.

Have you been doing something special in your own Society to share Christ love then share it with us through the Tool of the Evangel or the www.flgalwml.com website. You never know whose life you will change by one small word. *Blessings, Pat Kubicek*

Quarterly/Evangel Magazine

I encourage every society to subscribe to the Quarterly/Evangel. The articles are informative and inspirational, along with Bible Studies. Share your copy with family and friends. Why not send them their own subscription? The individual price is only \$7.00 for delivery to your home.

This past year by mid-March it was disappointing that I had to cancel subscriptions for those societies not responding by the deadline. Don’t let that happen to you — follow up to make sure that someone in your society or church doesn’t let your renewal for the Quarterly/Evangel slip through the cracks. You don’t want to miss out on any of the issues. In fact, your society could have a newsworthy article in the Evangel noting projects or missions you have undertaken. It’s important to publicize these because it may give other societies in our district great ideas they could also pursue.

Please contact me (954-532-5602 or gottkaren@bellsouth.net) if you are interested in receiving an individual subscription or if a society needs to increase their order. New subscriptions and a society that needs to increase its order may at do so at any time during the subscription cycle. The Quarterly/Evangel subscription begins with the summer issue and includes the spring, fall and winter issues. Blessings to all.

Karen Gott, Membership Resources Chairman

FL-GA LWML District Website:

Evangel Editor, Pat Kubicek and I have discussed many times how much she and I value your input, articles and photos for both the Evangel and the Website. Remember: www.flgalwml.com is the address. If you happen to be browsing national’s website (www.lwml.org), you will also find a link there for ours. *Blessings, Carol Alberts*

(a note from your Evangel editor: have you noticed the new look to the Website?

Way to go Carol!)

The "quilting ladies" of Grace Lutheran Church, Winter Haven, FL made special quilts for the individuals of Bethesda Lutheran Homes. Quilters used the men and women's favorite color so each quilt is unique. A matching pillow was also included. Unfortunately, the Bethesda homes in Winter Haven were closed, but contact is still being made when possible.

In addition, 125 quilts were made by the Grace quilters for Lutheran World Relief. If you have any questions please contact,



Jan Behrens
Grace Women's Guild
327 Avenue C, SE
Winter Haven, FL 33880

PASTORAL COUNSELOR CORNER

Now that hurricane season is over. We have returned from our Retreat it is time to roll up our sleeves and, as the author of Hebrews tells us, run with perseverance the race marked out for us.

The question is do we have are zone races marked out for us. Again Hebrews reminds us of the 'great cloud of witnesses' that surround us. We have all those great leaders and members of the LWML that have set such examples of the faith for us. Time and time again they have collected mites, prayed for mission projects, and gathered to do the Lord's work as a zone or individual societies. Thanks be to God that we have been so richly blessed in the LWML. Thanks to all who have been and are working to meet our mission goals.

Hebrews tells us how to meet our goals in all areas of life. Vs. 2 states "Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." In all things as in our faith it is Jesus who sets the pace and leads us to JOY.

Joy that Jesus has endured the cross and its shame. Joy that Jesus is the powerful right hand of God doing the really hard work. Joy that as we work in our present 'cloud of witnesses' we can see the glory of God in what we humbly do here at our 2010 convention. May we therefore work joyfully together in these months ahead to make the toil seems less of a hardship and that the benefits or our God given labors far outweigh the cost that we incur. May we RUN focusing our eyes on Jesus. RUN LWML RUN!!! Pastor Alan Sielk



Recently I was reading in Psalm 94 after a very tiring day, I came upon verse 19. "When anxiety was great within me, your consolation brought joy to my soul." I can't tell you how much that verse encouraged me. I began thinking about those comforts that the Lord gives us and it filled me with peace.

Comforts are such wonderful things. The dictionary meaning in Webster defines comfort as "to give strength and hope to" or "to ease the grief or trouble of". When I think about comforts, I think about the comforts of home, like my children being around me, the smell of dinner in the oven, or even just sitting down with my family and enjoying time together. Those are some of the things that comfort me. The comforts the Lord gives me are wonderful things. Here are some that I know He gives me.

The Comfort of His Love. Jeremiah 31:3

The Comfort of His Protection. Psalm 55:17

The Comfort of His Strength. Psalm 91:1-4

Are you resting in God's comfort? Submitted by, Pat Kubicek

One of my favorite Bible verses comes from 2 Corinthians 5, "We live by faith, not by sight" (verse 7 NIV). With an economy struggling and many of our members feeling its effects, we still give thanks for God's continuing blessings—most importantly faith that sees us through not just the good times but also sustains us in rough times. And it is with joy that I report our mite offerings have passed the halfway point as of mid-August! Yes, we still have another \$81,000 to go before June 30, 2010, to reach our goal of \$163,000; but praise God for making this possible in these challenging times and blessing our gifts of love to multiply and do great and mighty work for His kingdom! Stay up to date on where the mite giving stands by checking the District's website at www.flgalwml.com.

Thank you also to those who have given the following gifts from May 30 to August 30, 2009, in loving memory of or honoring faithful LWML sisters and brothers in Christ :

Memorial Gifts

Irma Broders

Endowment Fund

Elaine Maki

Judy Hofman

Kuiper Endowment Fund

Don & Margie Smith

Marvin Moore

Love Scholarships

Raymond & Shelby Putansu

Honor Gift

Jim & Donna Macha\50th wedding anniversary

Endowment Fund

Susan Parbhoo



Memorial and honor gifts for LWML FL-GA District funds should be sent to: Karen McCarthy, Financial Secretary, P. O. Box 2098, Stuart, FL 34995. Please also provide the family's contact information so an acknowledgment of the gift can be sent to the family members. Thank you. Karen McCarthy, Financial Secretary

The Women on Wednesdays (WOW) at Redeemer in Stuart, Florida, collected backpacks and school supplies for children in need at three area schools and received enough supplies to fill two cars. The ladies meet twice monthly for Bible study and mission service; business is mostly done by e-mail. Past projects have included school supply drives, Lutheran World Relief health kits, a food and linen drive for the area women's shelter, Christmas gifts for families in need, a wedding shower for a newly-wed seminarian, and more. Besides getting together for mission service projects, they also enjoy an annual ladies Oktoberfest (eating and testing themselves on Lutheran "history") and chocolate nights with Bible studies (tasting and learning that the Word is good!)



Good Shepherd Titusville, Quilting Guild, LWML Sister Sue Dillingham

not only cuts fabrics, sews quilts, brings refreshments for other members, Sue packs those quilts annually then drives them to St. Louis, MO to the Orphan Grain Train Project and delivers them. Where the quilts



will then be earmarked for special use through the Orphan Grain Train as needs arise. Once there Sue helps with dozens of other LCMS World Mission Dept. volunteers at the Orphan Grain Train MO-ILL Div workcenter, where more than 50 teams tackle tasks of sorting donated clothing and household items, do yard work, work on quilts, work in the food pantry, and paint.



(Information submitted by Good Shepherd Historian Betty Nething)

FL-GA DISTRICT EXECUTIVE BOARD - COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN *Page - 7*

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2010 DISTRICT CONVENTION
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Florida - Georgia District LWML Remittance Slip

Make all checks payable to LWML FL/GA District

Mites	\$ _____	LWML Sunday	\$ _____
Prayer Service	\$ _____	Delegate Fund	\$ _____
Scholarship Fund	\$ _____	Endowment Fund	\$ _____

Check # _____

Name of Church Unit _____ City _____ State Zip _____

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Mail to:

Karen McCarthy, Financial Secretary

LWML FL-GA District

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Stuart, FL 34995

Elected Office 2008-2012



2008-2010 Biennium