



## Summer 2025

Oregon District President Deb Weaver and Bronco



### Baseball Mitt of Faith

Summer is here and for people like me that means it is baseball season. Actually, baseball season at my house starts with Major League Baseball Spring training in March.

I went to my first Major League baseball game when I was six years old. My mom taught me how to keep track of the stats for the players. We would get to the ballpark early so I could get autographs of the players while they were warming up. My mitt went with me to every game, even when I became an adult.

It has been several months since my Pastor talked about faith as being like a baseball mitt. I do not recall if this was in one of his sermons or if it was something he said during Adult Bible class, but I continue to think about what he said.

He said that baseball players need a mitt to catch the ball. They need to be prepared for whatever line drive might head their way. The catcher needs his mitt to catch all sort of pitches that come to him. Fast balls, change ups, and curve balls, all need to be caught.

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I played second base for a company team when I was in my twenties. My mitt was my equipment. I could not hit the ball no matter how hard I tried, but my infield skills were what kept me on the team. My coach would tell me that I played with my heart.

So, what does this have to do with us and the Oregon District? If faith is like a baseball mitt, what do we do with it? What purpose does it serve us?

## President's Message Continued

My Pastor reminded us that we need faith to catch whatever comes at us in life. It is what we should always carry with us. Our faith is what keeps us strong. Our faith is what shields us when life throws us curve balls. Our faith is what God has given each of us and we are to use it on and off the field of life.

St. Paul tells us to put on the armor of God. I wonder what he would think if we threw in a baseball mitt as well.

*Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil (Ephesians 6:10-11).*

Blessings on your summer

## Leaguer Schedule

Fall 2025

Submissions Due: September 1, 2025

Publication Date: October 1, 2025

Send items and photos to:

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**Thanks be to God! We are HIS!**

We are:

-  Held by God's Word
-  Inspired to share HIS Gospel
-  Surrounded by HIS Grace

We begin with Philippians 4:4, *Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.* June and July will soon be upon us. For those of us on the coast, we will hopefully see a bit more sun and not so much rain, mist and fog. For those of you in the Valley, you will likely have a bit of hot weather. I do find it most interesting that when the temperatures get more than 90 in the Willamette Valley then the central Oregon Coast gets a marine weather inversion (sometimes very dense fog) . This inversion normally burns off by noon time, but it can last much longer.

The summer months are typically a time of vacations, family reunions and weddings. It has been my pleasure to be the officiant at a few June weddings. This year, Carol and I will celebrate our 40th wedding Anniversary. This wedding anniversary will be a bit different. We will be celebrating the day by being on the road. Before our anniversary, we will be at the NOW District Convention and then we will be going to the LWML Convention in Omaha. It is fitting that the church is a very important part of our lives.

The beginning of June has us celebrate the Day of Pentecost with the manifestation of the Holy Spirit in tongues of fire. A week later we celebrate Trinity Sunday with the reading of the Athanasian Creed. This creed very clearly spells out that all three persons of the Trinity are God and that there is no hierarchy. The paragraphs about Jesus very specifically speak of Him as being both God and man. The creed also works through the concept that the very Son of God died on the cross of Calvary. It is always instructive for me to ponder that the Father sent the Son to die by means of crucifixion, moreover, the Son willingly went to the cross. The final mind-boggling thing is that God did die on the cross. Jesus died on the cross fully and completely so that we might have eternal life.

God does celebrate with us at weddings, anniversaries, baptisms, graduations, first jobs, calls, and even ordinations. God also mourns with us at times of depression, sickness, hospitalization, loss of job, natural disaster, financial loss, divorce, and death.

I will close with a couple verses from the same chapter of Philippians 4:6-8. *Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

I hope to see many of you this summer on the *Road to Omaha*.



# **"Seasoned with Salt"**

*Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. Let your speech always be gracious seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person (Colossians 4:5-6).*

## **Save the Date**

Oregon District LWML Retreat

at Aldersgate Retreat Center  
7790 Marion RD SE Tumor, OR

September 19-21, 2025

**Mary J Smith**

Chairman of Christian Resources Editors Committee for LWML

will present

**"Women-to-Women Mentoring"**

Registration will be out in July.

**Come enjoy a weekend of Bible  
Study, Friends, Good Food and Fun**

## Nominating Committee News

*Serve the LORD with gladness!* (Psalm 100:2). The LWML Motto says volumes. We serve. We serve our Lord. We serve joyfully. Similarly, the LWML Mission Statement, *as Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others*, states clearly who we are and what we do.

There are opportunities for YOU to serve. Take note of the information on the LWML Oregon District website. Both [Open Positions](#) and [Candidate Forms](#) are available at [lwmlor.org](http://lwmlor.org) on the home page. Learn about the positions on the district board that will be open in 2026. Download the candidate form and use it to encourage someone to serve or maybe YOU will consider serving.

Your Nominating Committee is looking for servants — willing Lutheran Women in Mission who will say, “Here am I,” and consider serving on the district board. Is that servant YOU? Your friend? Someone in your LWML group or zone? Pray about the possibilities God is giving to *serve Him with gladness!*



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## Harvest?

What kind of harvest will we have? People have been planning, organizing, and



planting their gardens for weeks. A garden, whether it's vegetables, or flowers, takes time and attention.

It needs nurturing with water, proper fertilizers, and weeding to get the best

harvest. Even though we work hard, it is God who makes everything grow. We hope that our harvest will be bountiful, but we really do not know what the harvest will be.

Paul talks to the people of Corinth about spreading the seeds of the gospel. Apollos, a minister of the Gospel message also worked with Paul. Soon the Corinthians were confused, wanting to follow Paul or Apollos, straying from God. Paul sets them straight in this following conversation: What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor. For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field (1 Corinthians 3:5-9).

God is the one who gives the growth. We too can spread the seeds of the Gospel. We can be diligent in our message, watering and weeding out misconceptions, but the Holy Spirit works the faith.

We may wait a long time before we see the

growth. But we work with the Holy Spirit to encourage those we meet as we share the Gospel.

As Christ himself exclaimed to his disciples: *And he said to them "The harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few. Therefore, pray earnestly to the Lord of harvest to send out laborers into his harvest (Luke 10:2).*



- Pray that more men and women are drawn to our Concordia Colleges and Concordia Seminaries.
- Pray that many will hear the Gospel and turn to the Lord.
- We Pray: Heavenly Father, You watch over our gardens. You watch over each of us. We ask that you embolden us to share the Gospel message and encourage those who might be a worker for you as a pastor or teacher to follow you. Bless the people who hear Your life-saving Word and keep it. Through Your Son, Jesus, Amen.

Lynne Beck

LWML Oregon District Vice President of Christian Life

**Lutheran Women's Missionary League  
Oregon District 35<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention  
St. Paul Lutheran Church and School, Roseburg, OR  
June 26-28, 2026**

**Theme: Ignite**

**Convention Verse: 2 Timothy 1:6-7**

*For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.*

**Convention Goal:**

As God's baptized children we will fan the flame of the gift of God.

**Convention Objectives:**

- Recognize the spirit of power and love and self-control given to us in the Holy Spirit.
- To speak without shame the truth and hope of our risen Savior, available to all humankind.
- To work by God's calling, not by our own efforts, but by His power through the Holy Spirit to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



REMINDER: Please send all checks and Remittance Forms to Karen Reed, Financial Secretary of the LWML Oregon District. Remittance forms with Karen's information can be found on the district's website.

**B L D M     -     Who ???     -     What ???**

**Another acronym! Yes!**

**A re-branding of Bethesda Auxiliary**

**Bethesda Lutheran Disability Ministries**

You are probably a member! Thank you for your prayers and support over the years, of this ministry with people living with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD).

Donations can be made online at <https://bethesdaldm.org>



**BETHESDA LUTHERAN  
DISABILITY MINISTRIES**



Recognized Service Organization of  
**THE  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
MISSOURI SYNOD**

**September Board Meetings will be  
held at Aldersgate Retreat Center**



**Executive Committee Meeting**

**Friday, September 19, 2025**

**12 p.m.–1 p.m.**

**Please bring a sack lunch.**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**Friday, September 19, 2025**

**1:30 p.m.–2:30 p.m.**

**Watch for more details.**



## Spring 2025 Happenings

Myrtlewood Zone Gathering, St. John Lutheran Church, Sutherlin, OR



Emerald Zone Gathering, Grace Lutheran Church, Eugene, OR



### **Juniper Zone Gathering, Trinity Lutheran Church, Bend, OR**

Pat Reck led us in the "Silver Tea" presentation Saturday, May 17, 2025, at Trinity, Bend. We "circled up" with our tea and goodies, as each woman shared the silver keepsake piece she had brought, and the story behind it. Pat reminded us of the special bond women have with other women as mothers, grandmothers, sisters, aunts, nieces and friends. That silver is more precious than gold. She called it: "The Sisterhood; God's Gift".

Pat Reck, Gigi DeBerre and Barbara Mowers continued their devotion, emphasizing the "Silver Sisterhood" theme. Pat shared her story of God's constant care, bathed in the Holy Spirit as we all are, by our shared faith. Gigi noted the word 'silver' appears in the Old Testament, – notably in Proverbs 16:16. Barbara noted the example of sisterhood between Naomi and her daughter-in-law, Ruth.

Our presentation continued with the women giving Pat examples of support that women friends have given them, whether it be very secure support, from close friends, or our sometimes and spontaneous friends. We came up with two "loud" charts worth of wonderful adjectives that describe those bonds. Gigi closed, reading 1Corinthians 12:12-14. Pat reminded us to continue to be 'sisters' with members of Christ's body, the church. We enjoyed a second round of goodies, some business items, and we signed our cards of thanks to our plethora of military personnel. We also signed cards of welcome, for our young communicants welcomed into the church during May. A good time was had by all including special guest of honor – Past Oregon District President, Irma Fuerstenau.

Trinity will hold its annual Father's Day "Pie-by-the-Slice" fund-raiser. Proceeds this year go to the four (4) offerings in Omaha. Pat is our Juniper Delegate.



## Spring Happenings (cont.)

West Hills Zone Gathering, Grace Lutheran Church, Scappoose, OR



## Prayer Chain Email!

Let us pray with you.

*lwml.or.prayerchain@gmail.com*

*Blessings on your day, Lynne Beck, Prayer Chain Coordinator*



Did you know? The LWML Oregon District has a Facebook page. If you're on social media, particularly Facebook, we welcome you to "like" our page so that you can see what is going on in our district! Here is the link for our Facebook page:

*facebook.com/LWMLOregonDistrict/*

Thank you,

Janet Schultz, VP of Communication & Carmen Nagel, Leader Development Committee Chairman



**LWML Oregon District website:**

*lwmlor.org*

**LWML website:**

*lwml.org/home*

**View the Leader Development's  
Monthly HUG-IN-A-MUG**

*lwmlor.org/district-news*



### **LWML Oregon District Mission Statement**

Lutheran Women in Mission will by God's grace, ignite, involve, equip and encourage women of this Oregon District to express their faith as servants of the Triune God through joyful Christian Ministry.



## 41ST BIENNIAL LWML CONVENTION

June 26–29, 2025

Omaha, Nebraska



### Oregon voting delegation and other official representatives

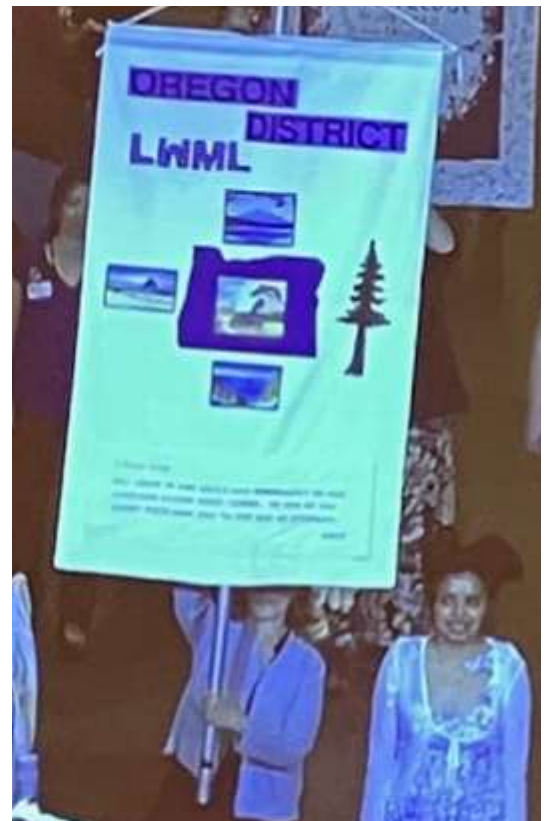
President Debbie, Pastor Westhafer, nine (9) Zone Delegates, Young Woman Rep. Heart 2 Heart Sisters of all Nations Rep.



## Omaha (cont.)



The Oregon Delegation



## OFFICER CONTACT INFORMATION

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## Mission Statement

As Lutheran Women in Mission, we Joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.

## Oregon District Mission Statement

Lutheran Women in Mission will, by God's grace, ignite, involve, equip and encourage women of the Oregon District to express their faith as servants of the Triune God through joyful Christian Ministry.

## ZONE PRESIDENTS

**Emerald Zone**—Delores Feddersen

**Interstate Zone**—Kathy Haas

**Juniper Zone Contact**—Donna Luinstra

**Mt. Hood Zone**—Connie Adams

**Myrtlewood Zone**—Joan Mahaffy

**Pacific Zone**—Coleen Gurske

**Southern Zone**—Barb Northrop

**West Hills Zone**—Judy Chase

**Willamette Zone**—Carol Reis

The Communication Team appreciates all the wonderful submissions you send for the LWML Oregon District website, the LWML Oregon District *Leaguer* and other LWML Oregon District publications.

Photos are best sent in jpeg format. Articles for the *Leaguer* are best sent in docx format, in case they need to be edited per the official LWML Style Guide.

For the website, documents and forms that you would like our visitors to be able to download, need to be sent to us as a PDF.

If you have questions or need help, you are always welcome to send an email.

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