



Special Convention Edition 2026



**You are *INVITED* to join us in *CONVENTION*
June 26-28, 2026
St. Paul Lutheran Church and School
Roseburg, OR**

Please join us as we “Fan the Flame of the Holy Spirit”

*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.
(2 Timothy 1:6-7)*

More information follows in this Special Convention *Leaguer*.

Volume #26 Issue #3, Convention Special 2026. Oregon Leaguer is published quarterly by Lutheran Women in Mission (Oregon District), an auxiliary organization of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

With this Special Convention Issue of the Oregon Leaguer, I would like to direct our attention to the theme verses for our convention from 2nd Timothy chapter 1. *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* (2 Timothy 1:6-7).

God's words, but words out of context, which is where I would like to start. When and where did Paul write to Timothy, *my beloved son* (2 Timothy 1:2)? Most likely from Rome a few months perhaps even weeks before he stretched out his neck for the executioner's blade. In this letter to Timothy we have in our hand's what amounts to Paul's last will and testament.

The situation is bleak. Paul has no hope of ultimate acquittal. At his first hearing no one supported him (2 Timothy 4:16). Now he sits in prison virtually alone, except for Luke (2 Timothy 4:11). He longs to see; to speak with Timothy one last time and so he urges him to come before winter sets in, and sea travel becomes impossible (2 Timothy 4:21). Paul is at the end of his course. He has run the good race. And so, he writes.

Even though it may not seem that way; we have more in common with Paul than meets the eye. We may not sit in prison, alone. But we are all aware that God has set a date and a time when we will greet our Savior in paradise. What does Paul give to Timothy, and also to us, to help, to encourage, to instill confidence? From our theme verses, *the gift of God which is in you...* (2 Timothy 1:6). In a word — Jesus.

Listen to what follows our theme verses. *Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel* (2 Timothy 1:8-10).

In the coming weeks we will have much more to say about our theme verses as we unpack its treasures. What is the gift *through the laying on of my hands*? And how does that apply to us, two millennia later? What about the spirit (small S) not of cowardice but of power, love and self-discipline? Three themes for the daily devotions that you will receive in your convention packet.

In the meantime, recognizing the context in which Paul writes, read the letter. (It is only four chapters, perhaps a fifteen-minute read.) Consider the direction and encouragement that Paul gives to Timothy, to the Church, to you and to me. His charge to *follow the pattern of sound words that you heard from me* (2 Timothy 1:13). His rejection of anything and everything that would distract us from the task at hand — to win souls for Christ. As the writer to the Hebrews puts it - Let us fix our eyes on Jesus *the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God* (Hebrews 12:2).

We pray. Lord of power and might, as You gave courage unto Paul, grant unto us also the certainty of faith and purpose to fight the good fight that we may receive the crown of life. In Jesus' name. Amen.



Convention Information

Registration

The 35th Biennial Convention of the LWML Oregon District will be held at St. Paul Lutheran Church and School, 750 W Keady Ct., Roseburg, Oregon on June 26-28, 2026. Registration Forms are available at www.lwmlor.org— click on the 2026 Convention link. Please print the registration form, and the Participant Information Form, complete and mail to the registrar with payment (check made payable to LWML Oregon District). Registration is now open. An additional \$20 late payment will be assessed after June 10, 2026.

Housing Information

Everyone is responsible for their own housing. See page 8 for housing suggestions.

Proposed Mission Grants

There are 14 Mission Grant Proposals, information for these can be found on pages 21 - 23.

Nominations

Nominations for District Officers, Junior Pastoral Counselor and Nominations Committee can be found on pages 25 - 28

Convention Offerings

Information about the Convention Offerings can be found on page 13

Convention Choir

There will be a choir. Information is on the registration form and also on page 31.

Prayer Room

There will be a dedicated room available for prayer. Prayer request forms will be available in various areas. The Christian Life Committee Members will forward any prayer request forms to the Pastoral Counselors as received throughout the Convention.

Wake Up and Move for Mites

“Wake Up and Move for Mites” will meet Saturday at 7:00 a.m. Directions will be provided. A pledge form to request donations to support mites offerings is on page 9 and will also be on the district website. Turn in your pledge sheets and donations at the start of the walk.

Purple Elephant Table

We will have a Purple Elephant Table again! Proceeds will be given to the 2026 – 2028 Mite Goal. See page 32 for details.

2026 LWML Oregon District Convention



Join us as we “Fan the Flame of the Holy Spirit”

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(2 Timothy 1:6-7)*

June 26-28, 2026
St. Paul Lutheran Church & School, Roseburg, Oregon
750 W Keady Ct, Roseburg, OR 97471-2749

Registration Form
(Late Fee after June 10, 2026)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Church & City _____ LWML Zone _____

Check all the boxes that describe you

VOTING ATTENDEE:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Voting Delegate	<input type="checkbox"/> Zone President
<input type="checkbox"/> District Elected Officer	<input type="checkbox"/> Past District President
<input type="checkbox"/> Appointed Officer	<input type="checkbox"/> Chairman of a Standing Committee
Committee Name _____	

NON-VOTING ATTENDEE:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Convention Attendee	<input type="checkbox"/> Oregon District Pastoral Counselor
<input type="checkbox"/> Alternate delegate	<input type="checkbox"/> Wife of OR District Pastoral Counselor
<input type="checkbox"/> District Special Appointed Personnel	<input type="checkbox"/> Other LCMS Clergy (registration fee exempt)
<input type="checkbox"/> District Committee Member	

OTHER INFORMATION:	
<input type="checkbox"/> First Time at Convention	<input type="checkbox"/> Young Woman (age 18-35)
<input type="checkbox"/> Exhibitor	<input type="checkbox"/> Heart 2 Heart Sister
<input type="checkbox"/> One-Day Only	

Registration Fee \$150.00

Late fee after June 10 — additional \$20

Saturday Only Registration Fee: \$90.00 which includes 2 meals (lunch and dinner)

Exhibitor Table Fee: \$75.00

Meal Package: \$65.00

Includes 5 meals: Friday lunch & dinner, Saturday lunch and dinner, Sunday boxed lunch.

If you have **dietary restrictions**, please list here _____

Extras:

Moving for Mites: **\$10.00** (Saturday morning)

Convention Pin: **\$ 5.00**

Choir Participant: yes ___ no ___ Circle one: Soprano1 Soprano2 Alto

Choir members will receive the music in the mail before Convention.

Housing — Everyone is responsible for their own housing

See the website (www.lwmlor.org) or the *Oregon Leaguer* for housing suggestions.

Special Accommodations: Wheelchair or other accessibility, ASL or other interpreters

Add up your costs

1. Registration:	\$150.00
Add \$20 late fee after June 10	\$ _____
2. Meal Package: \$65.00	\$ _____
3. Saturday Only Registration & 2 Meals: \$90.00	\$ _____
4. Exhibitor Fee: \$75.00	\$ _____
5.Extras:	
Moving for Mites: \$10.00	\$ _____
Convention Pin: \$5.00	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____

Print and mail all **3** pages including “Participant Information Form, Acknowledgement and Release”

Make check payable to: “LWML Oregon District”

Mail to: Connie Adams
Attn: LWML Oregon District
16241 S Bradley Rd
Oregon City, Oregon 97045 (this is a secure, locked mailbox)

Got Questions? Here’s help! Connie Adams email: cadamspx@yahoo.com phone: 503-833-2307 or
See the website (www.lwmlor.org) or the *Oregon Leaguer* for more information



Participant Information Form, Acknowledgement and Release

The purpose of the Participant Information Form, Acknowledgement and Release is to identify each person (a **“Participant”**) who wishes to volunteer with the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League (**“LWML”**) or participate in LWML-sponsored activities. As a condition to becoming a Participant, LWML requires each person to provide the following information and release LWML from any responsibility for his or her safety and well-being when volunteering for LWML and while participating in LWML-sponsored activities.

Name/Address: _____

Allergies and other known Health Risks/Problems: _____

Person to Contact in the Event of an Emergency (Name, Address, Telephone Number(s), and Relationship):

Health Insurance Carrier/Policy Number: _____

Medications: _____

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND RELEASE

I UNDERSTAND THAT TO BECOME A Participant, the LWML Oregon District (hereinafter referred to as District) requires me to acknowledge and agree that District assumes no, and disclaims all, responsibility for my safety and well-being while acting as a participant. In consideration of District permitting me to be a Participant:

- (a) I acknowledge that the information set forth above is complete and accurate;
- (b) I acknowledge and agree that District is an auxiliary agency of The Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod) and cannot and does not accept any (and expressly disclaims all) responsibility for my safety and well-being while being a Participant;
- (c) I release LWML and District, its directors, officers, employees and agents from all claims, demands, actions or causes of action that I may have, now or in the future, relating to or resulting from any illness or injuries (including death) suffered by me or my possessions while being a Participant; and
- (d) I consent to any medical treatment that LWML (or any of its authorized representatives) deems to be necessary or appropriate in the event of my illness, accident or other medical emergency, and I accept full financial responsibility for any fees or expenses relating to this treatment.
- (e) I further grant permission to the District and/or agents authorized by them to use any photographs, in web cast, video or audio recordings or any other record of this event for any purpose.
- (f) I hereby acknowledge that I have read this document and understand it. I further acknowledge that by signing below I voluntarily surrender certain legal rights.

DATE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

PRINT NAME: _____

(If under 18) Parent’s Signature

Parent’s Printed Name

Housing Information

Everyone is responsible for securing their housing. Below are some of the hotel and RV Park options available in Roseburg.

The Lodge at Roseburg is holding a block of rooms at a discounted rate of \$119 per night for a single King or double Queens, beginning June 25 and checking out June 28. Reservations must be made by **May 25** to receive this rate.

The reservation link is available on the website.

Reservations can also be made by calling the hotel at (541) 673-7517 and telling them you are with LWML. The Lodge at Roseburg has four ADA rooms, two on the ground level and two on the second floor with an elevator.

There are many other hotels in Roseburg. A few options are:

Best Western Garden Villa Inn

Reservations: 1 (800) 780-7234 Hotel Direct: (541) 672-1601

https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US.html

Holiday Inn Express & Suites Roseburg North

Reservations: 1 (888) 465-4329 Hotel Direct: (541) 375-7575

<https://www.ihg.com/holidayinnexpress/hotels/us/en/roseburg/rbqxp/hoteldetail>

Hampton Inn & Suites Roseburg (541) 492-1212

<https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/othrohx-hampton-suites-roseburg/>

Comfort Inn Roseburg (541) 957-1100

<https://www.choicehotels.com/oregon/roseburg/comfort-inn-hotels/or410?adults=2&ratePlanCode=GROUP&rooms=10>

RV Parks:

There are a few parking spots at St. Paul, but the RV must be self-contained. Contact Meeting Manager Liz Bier at ebier@comcast.net or (360) 607-3966 if you would like to park at St. Paul.

Bar Run RV and Resort (541) 492-0000

<https://www.barrungolf.com>

Less than 6 miles from the church.

Whistler's Bend Park (541) 957-7001

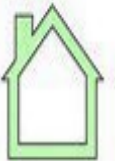
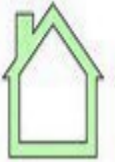
<https://www.douglascountyor.gov/Facilities/Facility/Details/Whistlers-Bend-County-Park-Campground-51>

About 15 miles east of Roseburg.

Twin Rivers Vacation Park (541) 673-3811

<https://www.twinriversrvpark.com>

About 7 miles west of Roseburg.





**“Wake Up and Move for Mites”
2026 LWML Oregon District Convention
Mite Walk Pledge Form**

Walk Pledge Form 2026

NAME	CHURCH	AMOUNT

Bring Mite money pledges and form to the “Wake Up and Move for Mites” walk Saturday morning



**Lutheran Women in Mission
Oregon District 35th Biennial Convention**

June 26-28, 2026

St. Paul Lutheran Church and School
750 W Keady Ct., Roseburg, Oregon

Display Request Form

Name of Committee or Office: _____

Contact Person: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Alternate phone: Email:



DISPLAYS: Type/Size: _____



Number of 6' tables needed; must provide own tablecoverings: _____

Number of electrical plugins needed; must provide own electrical extension cords: _____

Displays may be set up early on Friday June 26th. They must be closed during the Convention sessions but may be opened during the breaks and lunch times. All displays can stay set up through the close of convention.

Registration forms with more information will be available after April 15 on LWMLOR.org. Please return this completed form to:

Judy Chase
29510 SW Kings Ct.
Wilsonville, OR 97070

Judy.Chase@frontier.com

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2 Timothy 1:6-7*

**Lutheran Women's Missionary
League Oregon District**

35th Biennial Convention Schedule

St. Paul Lutheran Church
and School, Roseburg, OR

June 26 – 28, 2026

Thursday, June 25

- 9 a.m. Set up for convention
Exhibits & Display Set Ups
- 4 p.m. Ex. Committee Mtg
- 5 p.m. Board of Directors' Mtg
- 6 p.m. Board of Directors' Dinner

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Friday, June 26

- 9 a.m.
 - Registration opens (open until 1 p.m.)
 - Exhibits open (closed during meetings)
 - Ingathering (closed during meetings)
 - Servant events (closed during meetings.)
- 10:30 a.m. Delegate Orientation
- 11 a.m. Tellers Meeting
- 11:30 a.m. Choir Practice #1
- NOON Lunch – Meet the Nominees
- 1 p.m. Singing - Lighting Convention
Candle
Dedication & Blessing of
Convention
- 1:30 p.m. **FIRST MEETING**
 - Zone Presidents Processional
 - Review of Convention Rules
- 1:45 p.m. Convention Business
 - Adoption of Mission Goal
 - Mission Grant Presentation
 - Mission Grant Balloting
 - Offering #1 (Mission Goal)
 - Proposed Revised Bylaws
 - Bylaws Balloting
 - Singing

- Balloting for Officers,
Pastoral Counselor &
Nomination Committee
- 4 p.m. Choir Practice #2
Registration Reopens (until 5 p.m.)
- 5p.m. Dinner
- 6:45 p.m. Pre-Service music
- 7 p.m. Divine Service with Holy
Communion Ex. Comm.
Processional

+ + + + +

Saturday, June 27

- 7 a.m. Wake up and MOVE for Mites
- 7 a.m. Registration Reopens
(until 9 a.m.)
- 8:45 a.m. Singing
- 9 a.m. **SECOND MEETING**
 - Past District Presidents
Processional
 - Greetings from the LCMS
Northwest District – President
- Rev. Dr. Michael Von Behren
 - Bible Study #1 Wendysue
Fluegge
 - Greetings from LWML
Representative — Arlene Naasz,
VP Org. Resources
 - Offering #2
 - Keynote Speaker —Dustin Kunkel,
Director of Ministry Leadership,
Northwest District Office
 - Singing
 - Wilderness Trails Youth Camp
Mission Story – Jessie Hamblin
 - District Scholarship Recipient
Stories – Naomi Brown
 - Invitation to 2027 LWML
Convention

NOON LUNCH



1:15 pm. **THIRD MEETING**

- Singing
- Anniversary Certificate Recognitions
- Bible Study #2 – Wendysue Fluegge
- Offering #3
- Orphan Grain Train – Tom Watson
- Bethesda Lutheran Disability Ministries – Carmen Nagel
- Report of Balloting:
Grants/Bylaws/Officers/Jr
Counselor
- Invitation to 2028 LWML Oregon District Convention – Juniper, Pacific, Willamette
- Installation and Rededication of Officers

4 p.m. FREE TIME

- Exhibits/Displays/Servant
Events Open/Explore Roseburg

6 p.m. Dinner

7:30 p.m. Entertainment – Lauren James

8:15 p.m. Closing Vespers

Extinguishing the Convention Candle

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Sunday, June 28

10:30 a.m. Worship @ St. Paul Lutheran Church and School

NOON: Boxed lunch

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 (2 Timothy 1:6-7).

2026 LWML Oregon District Convention Offerings

1. LWML Oregon District Mission Grant Goal, 2026 - 2028



2. Angels of Africa is a U.S. 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to empowering rural African communities through resources and education. Key areas include environmental protection, economic growth, healthcare, and publishing. Current projects include building Trinity Lodge to house volunteers supporting their medical ministry. Founded by CEO Gordon Okumu, the organization receives ongoing support from Trinity Lutheran Church in Cottage Grove. Their website is www.angelsafrica.org.



3. Bethesda Lutheran Disability Ministries gratefully builds on its legacy, sharing Jesus Christ's love—especially with people living with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I-DD)—so all may hear, know, and believe in Christ through **FAITH, WORD, and ACTION**. BLDM is a new LCMS Recognized Service Organization (RSO).



Festival Service Proclaimer -

Rev. J. Wesley Beck



Pastor Beck was born and raised in suburban Chicago where he attended St. John Lutheran School. He began his undergraduate work at Colorado College but left after two years to apprentice to a wooden boatbuilder. The next year he married his high school sweetheart.

Together they built a house in rural Wisconsin and started a family.

Eighteen years of boatbuilding gave way to a decade in the hydroelectric business. However, at numerous turns the prompting of the Spirit and friends kept the thought of entering the ministry alive. Finally, when their youngest child graduated from high school, they sold their house and he enrolled at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis.

Upon graduation, Pastor Beck received the Divine Call to serve at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Tillamook, Oregon. He served there for fourteen years before retiring in 2021. During that time, he worked with the LWML as Zone Pastoral Counselor and on the district level as Junior and then Senior Pastoral Counselor.

In his retirement, Pastor Beck continues to serve as guest pastor for St John in Seaview, Washington on the odd numbered Sundays and filling in for the occasional service around the area. In addition, he was elected to a second round of Junior – Senior Counselor with the LWML Oregon District.

Outside of church work Pastor Beck continues to pursue his love of woodworking, camping, and fishing.

Keynote Speaker

Bio Dust Kunkel, Director of Ministry Leadership at the LCMS Northwest District Office



Dust Kunkel grew up until age seventeen in Ghana, West Africa, the child of LCMS missionaries who were supported, in part, by the LWML. He has taught literature, guided the Salmon River in Idaho, foster-parented teenagers with his wife Janette, managed outdoor schools, and directed student leadership programs at Concordia University, Portland. For the last 16 years he has served as the Director of Ministry Leadership for the Northwest District of the LCMS. Dust has an MSc. from the University of Edinburgh, a PCC Executive Coaching Certification (ICF), and serves in the LCMS as a Commissioned Minister, DCE. In his free time Dust writes songs, poems, and speculative fiction novels. He's most excited these days to go on travel adventures with Janette, his wife of 30 years, and their young-adult daughters, Lily and Zoe (at least, when they're available!).



Greetings From: LCMS Northwest District - Rev. Dr. Michael Von Behren, President.



Rev. Dr. Michael Von Behren began his service as NOW District President on May 1, 2024. Prior to that, he served as pastor at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Spokane, Washington, for 19 years (2005–2024); he also served as a vicar at Holy Cross while a student at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri. Mike studied servant-leadership at the graduate level, earning a Ph.D. from Gonzaga University in the School of Leadership Studies. Mike’s Ph.D. research also focused on nonprofit founding in intercultural settings. Mike has a passion for proclaiming God’s Word, for new ministry starts, and for connecting interculturally. He is eager to help people deepen their faith through the study of Scripture and to grow in their service and leadership on behalf of Christ. Mike and his wife Jennifer have two beautiful adult daughters. Together, Mike and Jennifer enjoy cool nights camping, steep trails, baseball in any form, Minnesota football, movie nights — and most especially, time with family.



NORTHWEST DISTRICT
LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD

Bible study/Song Leader

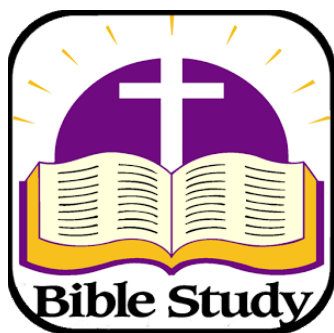
Wendysue Fluegge



Musician, speaker, dramatist, and worship leader rolled into one, Wendysue is a Wisconsin based artist with a unique travel ministry bringing song and word to different locations each week, often giving reprieve to hard working church musicians. With 30 years of experience in 39 states, this full-time songstress is a happy wife to Craig and a bold witness. Wendysue has sung our National anthem for the Milwaukee Brewers, serenaded Southwest passengers while flying over Kansas, sung and prayed with strangers in airports, hot tubs, parking lots, and on the side of the road with the man who rear-ended her van during an Atlanta rush hour. She will inspire and challenge us to speak our faith out loud, discussing Jesus anytime, anywhere, with anyone.

She was song leader for the National LWML convention in Albuquerque, cover girl for the spring 2017 *Women's Quarterly*, and has partnered with many LWML districts since then as entertainer, music leader and dramatist. She teaches her own themed retreats, has written two children's musicals, and published a hardcover book for girls combining her lullaby and her daughter's art. Her six CD collection includes album artwork by her husband Craig. Listen at www.wendysue.com, on Spotify, Apple, iTunes and YouTube.

Always prepared to answer (based on I Peter 3:15).



Saturday Entertainment

Lauren James



Lauren James Nibblett, daughter of our own Nancy Nibblett, had her first paid job as an organist right here at St. Paul Lutheran Church. As an organist pianist and singer, she has entertained audiences in many venues for decades, including Carnegie Hall. Lauren is also a music teacher, director and a producer of four musicals. Lauren has had the privilege of accompanying world-renowned choral Director Dr. Kirby Shaw. Currently she is living in Ohio next to her grandchildren and is playing and singing in the church choir. Learning to sing in Latin is her latest project and studying the Scriptures are her passion. Scriptures put to music are her next project.



Mission Recipient 2024 – 2026

Wilderness Trails



Wilderness Trails is a Christian, faith-based nonprofit serving underserved youth and children in the foster care system throughout Southern Oregon. Since 1967, the ministry has provided summer camps, backpacking trips, and year-round outdoor adventures where young people can experience the beauty of creation, build meaningful relationships with caring mentors, and hear the hope of the Gospel. Wilderness Trails has always been offered completely free of charge to the youth and families we serve, ensuring that every child has the opportunity to participate regardless of their financial circumstances. Through these wilderness experiences, youth grow in confidence, character, and faith while receiving encouragement and support during some of the most challenging seasons of their lives.





Arlene Naasz

LWML Vice President of Organizational Resources

Arlene Naasz remembers playing LWML as a girl growing up in Wolsey, South Dakota. While her mother and grandmother attended meetings, Arlene and her friends would go to another room and take turns leading a pretend LWML meeting! Now she has the blessing of serving in the LWML for real. What a joy!

Service to God through the LWML has always been a part of her life-long residency in South Dakota. Arlene has been active in five of the district's 10 LWML zones as she and her husband, Terry, now a retired LCMS pastor, lived in several parts of the state. Arlene has always joined the LWML as quickly as possible after each move. Going to district LWML events is like attending a family reunion, with lots of hugs from sisters-in-Christ.

Many women have had an influence on Arlene's LWML path, but her favorite mentor was her mother, Edna Haeder. She followed in her mother's footsteps, as both served as LWML South Dakota District Presidents. Arlene has also held many other positions at the district, local, and zone levels. In addition to being District President, she used her leadership gifts in her role as the district's Vice President of Gospel Outreach, Vice President of Mission Service, Parliamentarian, Special Gifts Fund Chairman, Nominating Committee, and Structure Committee. She was chairman of the Ushers and Pages Committee for the 1989 Rapid City LWML Convention and Creative Enhancements Coordinator for the 2007 Sioux Falls LWML Convention. On the national level, she has served on the Mission Service Committee, Christian Life Committee, Structure Committee, and as Meeting Manager.

While attending South Dakota State University, her mother told her, "Go to Gamma Delta (Lutheran Student Fellowship) and meet a good Lutheran boy." She did and met her husband, Terry. They have been blessed with two sons, two daughters-in-law, and six adorable grandchildren.

When not doing LWML activities or spoiling her six grandchildren, Arlene enjoys reading, quilting, and baking cookies. As a former family and consumer science teacher, she likes teaching her grandchildren how to sew and to be great cookie dough taste-testers. She delights in singing her praises to God and appreciates the beauty of His creation at their home in the Black Hills.

Among her favorite Bible passages is her confirmation verse, John 14:27: *Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.*

LWML Oregon District Proposed Mission Grants 2026–2028 Biennium

1. To Produce Supplies for Large Print Bibles & Christian Materials, \$6500

This grant will help fund the production costs for specialized large-print Bibles, Bible studies, and other Christian material at Lutheran Braille Workers Ministry Production Center #123 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Roseburg, Oregon. These supplies will help LBW share the message of salvation and the love of Jesus.

2. Project "Go" Share Jesus, \$5000

This grant aims to provide financial support for women of the LWML Oregon District to take mission trips with LCMS churches, international partner churches, and LCMS RSOs to share Jesus' love in word and action. This grant will assist ten LWML women who may not have the resources to cover travel, food, & housing expenses.

3. Assisting LCMS Women to Attend LWML Oregon District Conventions & Retreats, \$3500

The purpose of this grant is to provide financial assistance to women by letting them experience the joys of learning God's word and the blessings of LWML programs. Those who otherwise would not be able to afford the cost of attending conventions and retreats will have the opportunity to apply for a small stipend to help cover these costs.

4. Prayer and Service: Support for Deaconesses, \$6500

This grant will support a deaconess and a deaconess intern as they provide spiritual care for women, youth, and children, bring new believers into the church, and teach and discipline church members, working to keep post-confirmation youth engaged in the life of the congregation.

5. Giving Greater Honor for the Least of These: Caring for People with Developmental Disabilities in the Dominican Republic, \$6500

This grant will help to provide spiritual, emotional, and physical care to orphaned residents with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the Good Shepherd Lutheran Group home in the Dominican Republic. The cost of operating the home and providing this life-changing care is approximately \$85,819 per year/\$171,638 per biennium.

6. Transforming Lives in India through God's Word-Malayalam Translation of the *Lutheran Study Bible*, \$5000

The India Study Bible-Malayalam will provide a proven resource with Lutheran-based commentary and notes to guide inquirers to the good news of the Gospel and to help believers establish and grow their faith based on the Word of God.

7. Training Servant Leaders in Mission-Most Ministries, \$6000

The purpose of this grant is to train team leaders to participate in essential MOST ministry mission trips, and the goal of this project is to fund the training of new team leaders. MOST ministries send short-term mission teams abroad in response to requests for missionaries and national churches around the world. Most ministries is an LCMS Recognized Service Organization (RSO).

8. Nourishing the Bodies and Souls of Children in Haiti-Trinity HOPE, \$6000

Trinity Hope provides over 1,000,000 meals each month to children in Haiti. This grant will provide two years of food for 44 children attending a Haitian Lutheran school. The meals help them to grow and retain learning, specifically learning related to the good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

9. CTSFW Food Co-op to Purchase Coolers to Store Food for Seminary Students, \$6500

The Co-op is vital to the livelihood of many seminary students, providing 80-85% of all the families' food and household needs. This grant will allow the Food Co-Op to store perishable items. This food will help offset the financial burden of seminary education for students and families.

10. Physical Wellness for At-Risk Children, \$6000

The purpose of this grant is to support the physical, mental, social, and spiritual well-being of children at Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch through robust wellness programming and improve treatment outcomes. As an RSO of the LCMS, Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch's mission is to help at-risk children and their families succeed in the name of Christ.

11. Sowing the Seed in the Online World, \$5500

This mission project will provide funds to convert our good Lutheran books, translated into languages like Chinese & Arabic, into e-books and audio books for free online sharing & downloading in countries where it is difficult to share the Gospel. Sponsored by the Lutheran Heritage Foundation

12. Gospel Access for Aging Adults, \$4,000

Worship Anew seeks to share the Gospel with aging adults throughout Oregon by walking alongside churches and providing resources such as daily devotions, care packages, the Broadcaster magazine, and Worship Anew weekly broadcasts, so that aging adults may live a full and abundant life in Christ.

13. Ministry Scholarships for Shepherd's Canyon Retreats, \$6500

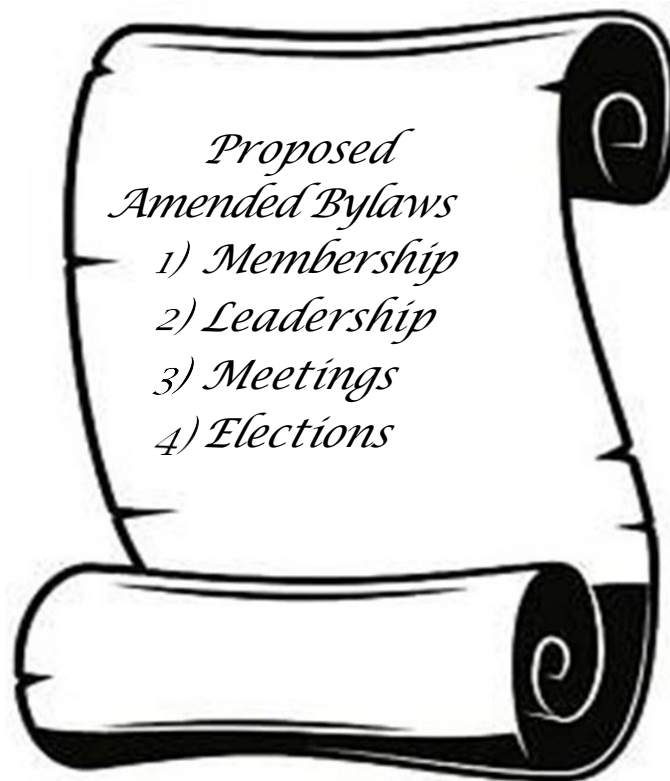
The purpose of this grant is to provide scholarships for church workers and their spouses who need restoration, hope, and healing through our week-long counseling retreats in Arizona and Missouri. Shepherd's Canyon Retreats is an LCMS Recognized Service Organization (RSO) that has helped hundreds of ministry workers over the years.

14. Abundant Grace Fund-Increasing Access to Christ-centered Counseling, \$6500

The purpose of this grant is to expand access to Christ-centered counseling services for uninsured, low-income individuals and families who are not currently connected to a church. The Abundant Grace Fund provides individuals with Christ-centered counseling regardless of their ability to pay. Concordia Counseling is a recognized RSO of the LCMS committed to Gospel outreach through professional Christ-centered mental health care.



Proposed Amendments
to LWML Oregon District Bylaws
will be mailed to delegates no later than May 16, 2026.



LWML Oregon District Candidates for District Positions 2026 – 2030

VICE PRESIDENT OF CHRISTIAN LIFE

Darla Schulte, Hope Woodburn, Willamette Zone



Darla Schulte is a member of Hope Lutheran Church in Woodburn, Oregon, and the Willamette Zone. She began her service in Florida as a Young Woman Developer and later continued her leadership in Oregon as Young Woman Chairman. She currently serves as Recording Secretary at the local, zone and district levels and is Vice President/Treasurer of her local group.

Darla lives in Canby, Oregon, with her husband and three children. She is actively involved in her children's school activities, including band, wrestling, and rugby.

Professionally, Darla works as a dispatcher for the West Linn/Wilsonville School District, where she schedules transportation services and serves as a school bus driver as needed.



VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATION

Janet Schultz, Zion Hillsboro, Pacific Zone



Janet spent 30 years teaching elementary education, including special education and first through third grades, and served as a Title I instructor. A member of Zion Lutheran Church since 1976, she has supported Sunday school and VBS, served twice on the Board of Education, and currently heads the Altar Guild.

Active in LWML since 2005, Janet has held numerous leadership roles at the zone and district levels, including Vice President of Gospel Outreach, Vice President of Servant Resources, and Vice President of Communications. She currently serves as District Webmaster and is a member of the Special Gifts Fund and Christian Life Committees.

Janet and her husband, LeRoy, have been married for 55 years. They have three adult children and three grandsons.

VICE PRESIDENT OF GOSPEL OUTREACH

Lynne Beck, Redeemer, Tillamook, Pacific Zone



She currently serves as Vice President of Christian Life for the LWML Oregon District and as President of Redeemer Women in Mission LWML. She has also been actively involved in Christian education through teaching Sunday school.

Professionally, she taught elementary school for 26 years before retiring. She and her husband, a retired LCMS pastor who now serves as the LWML Oregon District Pastoral Counselor, have three grown children who are married, employed, and living throughout the United States.

Delores Feddersen, Grace, Eugene, Emerald Zone



Delores serves as treasurer of the Grace LWML group and president of the Emerald Zone. She is active on the Fellowship Board, in women's Bible study, and on the LWML Oregon District Structure Committee. She has also served on convention worship and planning committees and attended multiple district and national conventions as a delegate.

Raised in Eugene, Oregon, Delores graduated from Willamette High School and has been a member of Grace Lutheran Church for 46 years. She and her husband have been married for 46 years and have two adult children. She previously provided in-home childcare, worked 12 years in school food service, and supported her developmentally disabled daughter through a brokerage service.

RECORDING SECRETARY

Carol Westhafer, Trinity, Cottage Grove, Myrtlewood Zone



Carol has served as a reading teacher in California and a media assistant in The Dalles. An active member of LWML in both California and Oregon, she has held multiple leadership roles, including Zone Rally Chairman in California and Oregon's Willamette Zone, and received the Young Women's Representative scholarship in California. Her community involvement includes chairing Kids Fair and Family Games for Waldport Beachcomber Days. She has also served as Corresponding Secretary for DKG (teaching honor society), assistant advisor for Key Club for 10 years, area trainer for California Reading Results, secretary for The Dalles Band Parents, and treasurer for SMART Reading in The Dalles. She was a synodical lay delegate in 2023 and has served multiple times as a lay delegate to both the LCMS California–Nevada–Hawaii and Northwest District conventions, with appointments to floor committees.



TREASURUER



JUNIOR PASTORAL COUNSELOR

Pastor Nick Koschmann, Mt. Olive, Forest Grove, Pacific Zone



Pastor Koschmann has served at Mt. Olive since 2014. He is a graduate of Concordia University River Forest and Concordia Seminary in St. Louis and previously served congregations in Wisconsin and Michigan. He and his wife, Rachael, have four children. The Koschmann family enjoys exploring the Oregon Coast, hiking, and spending time together. Pastor Koschmann is a longtime Green Bay Packers fan.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE (Term 2026 – 2028)

Pam Bridgehouse, Grace, Molalla, Willamette Zone



A lifelong educator with 30 years as a music teacher, she has dedicated decades to church and community service. Her leadership includes serving as President of the Scotts Mills Fire Auxiliary (1981–1992), Secretary/Treasurer for Lutheran Latino Ministries (1998–2004), and multiple roles within the Northwest District, including staff at the Center for Prayer and Renewal (2009–present) and lay member of the Board of Directors (2015–present). She has served as Parish Assistant at Hope Lutheran Church in Woodburn since 2007 and previously at Trinity Lutheran in Mt. Angel. Active in LWML, she has served as Oregon District Convention Song Leader and will serve as Oregon District Choir Director in 2026. She has been married to Fred Bridgehouse for 53 years and has three grown children.

Colleen Ek Yah, Trinity, Portland, Interstate Zone



Colleen is a faithful member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Portland, where she has served for over ten years through the Dorcas Group, including leadership roles as President and Vice President, and currently as Vice President of the Interstate Zone LWML. For more than twelve years, she has also served as the church and school office assistant and secretary, faithfully supporting ministry through her daily work. A devoted wife to Pastor Ruberto Ek Yah and a loving mother of three, she models servant leadership through her steady faith, humility, and joyful willingness to serve, making her well suited for consideration to be on the LWML Oregon District Nominations Committee for 2026 – 2028.

Carolyn Nelson, Gloria Dei, Central Point, Southern Zone



Carolyn has served on multiple leadership and educational roles, including Fellowship Chairman, LWML Group President, Sunday school teacher, Youth Leader, and a member of the LWML Oregon District Christian Life Committee. She and her husband Perry have lived in Central Point for many years, where they raised six children and now enjoy four grandchildren. Carolyn has been an active member of Gloria Dei for 33 years.

Fan the Flame With Us!

**Jump in, get involved, and help ignite faith—no experience needed.
Just bring a willing heart!**

The LWML Oregon District Convention Planning Committee invites you to be part of something meaningful at the LWML Oregon District Convention this June. Come **fan the flame and ignite your faith** through God's Word—hands-on, together, and in action.

We'll be hosting a **fun, interactive workshop** led by our Large Print Scripture work crew. You'll get to jump in and help print, assemble, and pack *Mustard Seeds in Large Print* and full large-print Bibles for our Prison Ministry. We'll also share selected books of the Bible and *Good News About Jesus*, written by our sainted pastor, Len Galster.

This is more than a workshop—it's a chance to **make a real impact**, serve others, and share the Gospel in a powerful way. If you're looking for a hands-on mission that truly matters, this is it.

Come connect, serve, and **fan the flame of faith with us.**



2026 Convention Servant Events

The LWML Oregon District Convention Planning Committee invites you to be part of something meaningful at the LWML Oregon District Convention this June. Come fan the flame and ignite your faith through God's Word—hands-on, together, and in action.

Emerald Zone is doing Cards with Encouraging Words for military men and women and their families, shut-ins, and for our college students.



Myrtlewood Zone see page 28 for information regarding the Large Print Scripture servant event.



The Southern Zone is making Courageous Cross necklaces and cards with messages of hope for Forged by Fire Ministries to bring comfort and faith to those recovering from disasters and facing food insecurity. The ministry would like to place a packaged cross into the hands of those they serve. This project is also LWML 2025-2027 National Mission Grant #3.

Their website is: [Crosses for Benny - Forged By Fire Ministries \(https://fbf501c3.com/crosses-forbenny-2/\)](https://fbf501c3.com/crosses-forbenny-2/).





The Convention Choir is ***BACK!!!***

If God has gifted you to sing His praises, sign up for the Convention Choir.

Sign up on the registration form:

Soprano 1
Soprano 2
Alto

Choir members will receive the music and a practice CD in the mail enabling them to learn their parts before convention.

The Purple Elephant table will be at Convention!

Bring new or gently used items, clothing, accessories, books, decor, or LWML items—to share.

As you take something home, place an offering in the Mite Box.



**Come share God's blessings,
discover a treasure, and joyfully
help fill the Mite Box for His
missions!**



Coming: June 26-28, 2026

Lutheran Women's Missionary League Oregon District 35th Biennial Convention!

St. Paul Lutheran Church and School, Roseburg, Oregon

The LWML has been active for more than 80 years, women actively being in mission. This year is the perfect year for you to get involved!

Maybe you have always wondered how you could get involved, maybe you have a gift that you know God is asking you to share. This year's theme for convention is "Fan the Flame of the Holy Spirit." It comes from 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.* What gift might you share with the church? What gift might you use? This past summer the LCMS had its National Youth Gathering. On their Facebook page they shared a story of a young women named Meghan Hopfer, a computer programmer.

She says, "My pastor found out that the 2022 stadium seating was actually done by hand, and he was like, 'That sounds like a computer program.' So, my program treats each seat like a 0 or 1 under the hood. It uses linear algebra, math methods, to find the best seat for everyone. Last night was the biggest sigh of relief and so rewarding to see that my program works and to see it in action. It actually works!" This young woman used her training to serve the Lord. She saw a need and jumped in to help. Imagine the relief of the people who were scheduling 20,000 people's seating arrangements by hand. What gift might you have to share with LWML? Or maybe, you just come to the convention and see what the Lord is doing through the women already involved in LWML. You might be saying, "But I'm not..." You are in good company.



Remember Moses? He would lead the people of Israel out of Egypt, and his first words to God when he was being called was, "I'm not enough." We are often not enough, and the apostle Paul even reminds us: *But he [God] said to me, 'my grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore, I will boast all the more in my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities, for when I am weak, then I am strong* (2 Corinthians 12:9-10).



Vice President of Special Focus Ministries Elizabeth Lopez, Marisol Valle-Jimenez Heart to Heart Ministries, and Deb Weaver, Oregon District President at the National Convention 2025 held in Nebraska.

Paul reminds us that in all situations, we need to allow the “power of Christ” to fill us and to do the leading.

Please Pray

Lastly, maybe you are at an age that attending this convention might be impossible. Yet you are important, because we need people who are praying for the mission grants to be filled, people who are praying for the women who will agree to volunteer their time for the next biennium, and people who are praying for our LWML Oregon leadership.

Here are some references for you to look at for inspiration as you pray for this convention. Romans 15:30-32, Ephesians 6:18-20, Philippians 1:19-20, 1 Thessalonians 5:25, and 2 Thessalonians 3:1-3. May the Lord guide you as you pray for and with the leadership for this convention.

I close with this prayer for you from the Apostle Paul, *Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison—that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak (Colossians 4:2-4).*

Elizabeth Lopez -
Special Focus Ministries LWML Oregon District

Unless otherwise noted Scripture references www.BibleGateway.com, (ESV)

The story from the National Youth Gathering was taken from the Facebook page of the National Youth Gathering, dated July 20, 2025, at 1:52 pm, and written by Meghan Hopper, a gathering planner according to the Facebook post.

More LWML Oregon District FALL GATHERING Pictures 2025



Fall Retreat “Seasoned With Salt” held September 2025 at Aldersgate Retreat Center, Turner, Oregon