

LWML Oregon District President Deb Weaver, Bronco and Rookie



MAKING MEATBALLS

The Process:

- Buy the ingredients.
- Start the oven at the correct temperature.
- Follow the recipe.
- Line up all the ingredients and prepare your pans with parchment paper.

- Shape the balls – carefully trying to make the shapes and sizes all the same.
- Bake
- Cool
- Taste, see, and share. Enjoy.

How does this apply to LWML?

A few weeks ago, I took a break from “Convention to Do lists.” I decided to make some of my mother-in-law’s scrumptious meatballs. Nothing better than having spaghetti and meatballs for dinner, in my opinion. I carefully read the recipe and made a list of what ingredients I needed. Next up, turn on the oven to the correct baking temperature.

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I carefully read the recipe and lined up all my ingredients on my kitchen island. Even my two dogs were observing my meticulous method. They were beginning to drool. I mixed up everything and I was ready to roll out my meatballs.

I carefully rolled each ball. I tried to make each shape the same shape and same size. I carefully placed them on the parchment paper and kept them in uniformed lines. They went into the oven pan by pan.

And as I waited for them to bake, I thought about my role as President of the LWML Oregon District. I thought about how I study Bylaws, read the standing rules, and practice what is in the Procedure Manual. I want all of these ingredients to be ready

for use when the time comes.

Then I prepare for whatever my task is. I want everything to be perfect. I practice repeatedly as I prepare for meetings, events, and gatherings.

I expect nothing short of perfection for myself and the team that I work with. We gather. We pray. We sing and say goodbye. We move forward with the next task on the list.

And as my meatballs came out of the oven, well they were all different shapes and varied sizes. Some looked perfect, others looked lopsided. Some were fat and some were skinny. Some did not even look like meatballs!

Isn't that how we are in the LWML? We all bring different ingredients to the table. We all work differently and have various gifts that we bring. And we are all made of different shapes and sizes.

But when we all come together we indeed "fan the flame of the Holy Spirit." We all work together and value one another for what each of us is as an individual. We are all Daughters and Sons of the Most High King.

Put us all together and we are unstoppable. The District becomes ignited as we walk together as Lutheran Women in Mission.

Spaghetti and meatballs always taste heavenly to me. I think the Oregon District tastes heavenly to God. He molds us and shapes us. We are all different and that is what makes us who we are. When we come together, well it is the best tasting dish that we can offer up to God.

*But now, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand (Isaiah 64:8).*

Blessings,

President Deb



Senior Counselor's Corner

Pastor John Westhafer

We will celebrate our 250th anniversary as a nation this year. I will be on the East Coast during the sesquicentennial. I will hopefully visit a few historical sites during this time. July is also the time of the FIFA soccer games. So far the USA is doing very well. For those people who enjoy baseball, the All-Star Game will be in Philadelphia.



We as a nation have much to be proud of. We have a democratic republic. We have freedom of religion. We can worship in our churches and pray in our homes. We also have the right to teach our children the morals and the values that we choose.



Now I am no fool to realize that all is not right in our country. We also have many things to be concerned about. Interest rates are expected to be going higher. Homes are taking longer to sell.

I just came back from the LWML Oregon District Convention. It was informative to study God's word together. We got to hear mission speakers. Many connections were made by sisters in LWML. There were many information booths.



The highlight for me is always the festival worship service which was held on Friday evening. Pastor Beck did a wonderful job of sharing the gospel message as he spoke about and portraying himself as St. Timothy as an older man. It was also a delight to share the Holy Sacrament. As we received the very body and the blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Offerings were received to benefit fabulous nonprofits. The LWML OR District set a mite goal of **\$66,000**. This money will be used to help support another twelve missions. It is always amazing to me to see how simple gifts when used together can do so many incredible projects.

Each one of these highlights in mission causes me to hit pause and think. What does God have in store for us for the next biennium as a district? The second question is how does God want to use me in His mission and the mission of the LWML? Please ponder these two questions and pray that God will continue to use us for His glory.

AMEN



Growing in Faith

Summer is a growing season. It is warmer and we love to get out in our yards, or park when the Lord's splendor is showing. We love the longer daylight hours and tend to have busier schedules which might even include a vacation. God wants us to enjoy and grow in every season.

Apostle Paul writes: *Therefore as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving* (Colossians 2:6-7).



God wants us to keep rooted in our faith by using our senses: hearing God's Word, speaking God's word, and sharing God's word through our actions. In other words being "rooted, growing, and blossoming in Christ every day!

What does it mean to be rooted? *Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers* (Psalm 1:1-3).



*Offer words of praise as you wake every morning.

*Begin each day with Bible reading and prayer.

*Ask the Lord to lay out your day and to guide you.

Many of us already have a routine and have studied God's word for many hours and know the Bible well. And we may think "I know enough, I've done this before." But God opens new insights as we continue to rework our study and reread sections of the Bible. We begin to commit to memory parts of scripture. We grow and our roots deepen in our knowledge of God each and every time we engage with scripture.

Henry Ford once said, " anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty. Anyone who keeps learning stays young. The greatest thing in life is to keep your mind young." I don't think that Henry Ford got that exactly correct. Stay young by learning. Yes. But the greatest thing is to keep learning about God's will for our lives.

Let's think about God's examples that guides our growth:

The fear of the Lord is instruction in wisdom (Proverbs 15:33).

Whoever gives thought to the word will discover good, and blessed is he who trusts in the Lord. The wise of heart is called discerning, and sweetness of speech increases persuasiveness (Proverbs 16:20-21)

...but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you (1Peter 3:15)

The Lord gives us various vocations during our seasons of life. Our deep roots in scripture and our willingness to do God's work are our assets. We are never too old to learn more about God's story. And never too old to share the gospel message with those we meet.

Lynne Beck
Vice President of Christian Life

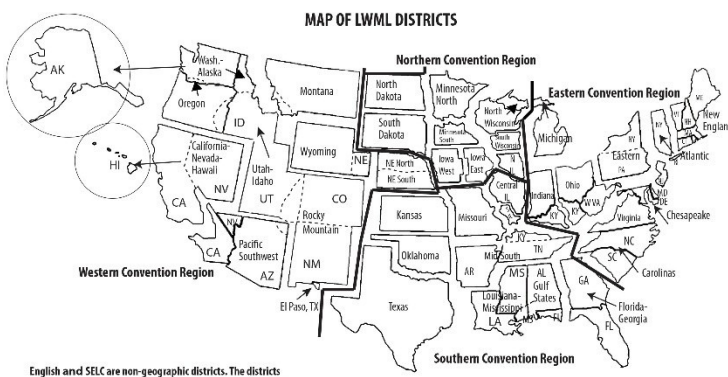


LWML

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League is an official auxiliary of
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS).

The object of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League is to develop and maintain a greater mission consciousness among the women of LCMS through mission education, mission inspiration, and mission service; and to gather funds for mission grants either directly sponsored or approved by LCMS boards or LCMS district presidents, especially those for which no adequate funding provision has been made in LCMS national or district budgets.

LWML Districts



The districts — usually conforming to LCMS district boundaries — link individual members, local groups, and zones to the LWML. Districts initiate programs and projects as well as implement those of the LWML. The LWML Oregon District is one of 40 in the LWML

The LWML Oregon District is divided into 9 Zones:

Emerald	Interstate	Juniper
Mt. Hood	Myrtlewood	Pacific
Southern	West Hills	Willamette

LWML Zone Basics



A zone is a group of local LWML groups and individual members in the same geographic area united to promote the object of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League — mission education, mission inspiration, mission service, and mission grants.

PURPOSE As women are affirmed in their relationship to God and develop a heart for mission, zones open an additional avenue for service and involvement by:



- forging a link in the relationship of the local group to the district and LWML;
- serving as a forum for disseminating information regarding LWML grants, resources, and programs;
- providing opportunity for spiritual development and leader training;
- offering Christian fellowship and mutual encouragement;
- providing opportunity for sharing ideas among the groups;
- offering programs through which women may participate in servant events and Gospel outreach activities; and
- supplying voting representation to LWML conventions.

The following pictures are from some of the 2026 Spring Zone Gatherings.

Leaguer Schedule

2026 Leaguer Dates		
Leaguer Issue:	Submission Date:	Publication Date:
Fall 2026	September 1, 2026	October 1, 2026
Winter 2026-27	December 1, 2026	January 1, 2027
Spring 2027	March 1, 2027	April 1, 2027

Send items and photos to:

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2026 Spring Zone Gatherings

Pacific Zone, Zion Lutheran Church Hillsboro, Oregon March 7, 2026





Myrtlewood Zone, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Roseburg Oregon
April 11, 2026



Emerald Zone Grace Lutheran Church, Eugene. Oregon

April 18, 2026







Leadership Tips from the LWML Leadership Development Committee

The Influence of a Leader

Leaders are people that others depend on to get things done. As a leader, we influence those around us by how we handle ourselves for the purpose of building meaningful and positive relationships. Leaders:

- ♥ Purposefully seek out someone and acknowledge their accomplishment.
- ♥ Take responsibility, seeing that the task at hand is completed.
- ♥ Acknowledge when a mistake is made and do their best to correct it.
- ♥ Are receptive to learning from those they lead.
- ♥ Remain steadfast in the midst of unpredictable circumstances.
- ♥ Consider the unique talents in the people around them and how they can best be utilized.
- ♥ Are resilient and continue to move forward as a righteous leader.

For the righteous fails seven times and rises again (Proverbs 24:16a)

Juniper Zone – Trinity, Bend update

Our LWML Group is joyfully recovering from Trinity Lutheran Church's **100th Birthday Celebration** — a full day of worship, music, food, and fellowship, blessed by the preaching of **Dr. Jeffrey Gibbs** of Concordia Seminary.

Though our monthly gatherings average **13–18 women**, our mission outreach is thriving.

Recent projects include:

- ✚ Dialysis blankets for four local centers
- ✚ New Member Welcome Baskets
- ✚ Cards for military members and college students
- ✚ Lap robes for widows and widowers
- ✚ Pie-by-the-Slice Sunday raising **over \$2,000** to support a family returning to the mission field in the Philippines

We're also supporting VBS and enjoying summer fellowship, including a riverbank picnic with our LaPine LWML sisters and youth.

Save the Date: Fall Retreat – September 26 at *Kabin Kolzow*, Crescent Creek, Crescent. Hosted in honor of **Char Kolzow's 90th birthday**.

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, lwmlor.org



The Widow's Mite

Jesu looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the offering box, and he saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins And he said, "Truly, I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them, For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on" Luke 21:1-4

Mite Explanation and History

Based on the Biblical account of the widow's mite (Luke 21:1–4), the Mite Box is intended for regular contributions of "mites" — offerings above and beyond the support given to congregations and the LCMS. Mite Box contributions amount to millions of dollars that fund district and national mission grants and implement the LWML program.

View the
Monthly HUG-IN-A-MUG

lwmlor.org/district-news





LWML Oregon District Website:
lwmlor.org

LWML Website: *lwml.org/home*



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



CONVENTION RECAP

OFFERINGS

Mite offerings for the 2026 – 2028 biennium.
\$3,155.08



Purple Elephant Table these monies are applied to the 2026 – 2028 biennium.
\$654.55

Mite Walk these monies are applied to the 2026 – 2028 biennium.
\$885.00

TOTAL MITES collected at Convention

\$4,694.63

Angels of Africa offering
\$1,533.00



Bethesda offering
\$1,655.00



LWML Oregon District Officers Elected at the 2026 Convention

Vice President of Christian Life
Darla Schulte



Recording Secretary
Carol Westhafer



Vice President of Communication
Janet Schultz



Vice President of Gospel Outreach
Delores Feddersen



Junior Pastoral Counselor
Pastor Nick Koschmann



Nominations Committee

Pam Bridgehouse
Chairman



Colleen Ek Yah



Carolyn Nelson



LWML Oregon District Mission Grants
2026-2028 Biennium

1. Physical Wellness for At-Risk Children, \$6,000

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.

2. To Produce Supplies for Large Print Bibles & Christian Materials, \$6,500

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, so that they may know the message of salvation and the love of Jesus.

3. Assisting LCMS Women to Attend LWML Oregon District Conventions & Retreats, \$3,500

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. Giving Greater Honor for the Least of These: Caring for People with Developmental Disabilities in the Dominican Republic, \$6,500

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.

5. CTSFW Food Co-op to Purchase Coolers to Store Food for Seminary Students, \$6,500

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.

6. Sowing the Seed in the Online World, \$5,500

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.

7. Prayer and Service: Support for Deaconesses, \$6,500

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.

8. 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.

9. Ministry Scholarships for Shepherd's Canyon Retreats, \$6,500

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.

10. Project "Go" Share Jesus, \$5,000

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.

11. Nourishing the Bodies and Souls of Children in Haiti-Trinity HOPE, \$6,000

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

12. Training Servant Leaders in Mission-Most Ministries, \$3,500

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).

*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).*

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Email: pastorjaw@tlccg.com

Junior Pastoral Counselor—Rev. Nick

Koschmann

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LWML 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—Pat Reck

Mt. Hood Zone—Connie Adams

Myrtlewood Zone—Joan Mahaffy

Pacific Zone—Char Kroemer

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. Janet

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