



Lutheran Women's Missionary League South Dakota District



**63rd Convention
June 7–8, 2024**

**Best Western Ramkota Hotel
and Convention Center
Aberdeen, South Dakota**

CONVENTION THEME

“Inexpressible Joy † Matchless Savior”

BIBLE VERSE

Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls. (1 Peter 1:8–9)

GOAL STATEMENT

To celebrate the extraordinary gift of salvation given to us by Jesus Christ our Lord.

OBJECTIVES

- Be blessed by the love of God through studying the Word and receiving forgiveness of sins through the Word and the Sacrament of the Altar.
- Be blessed by the Holy Spirit by sharing our treasures and learning how they are used by mission grant recipients.
- Be blessed by Jesus as His love is shared by Lutheran Women in Mission.



LOGO

Designed by Vania Asmus

“The theme for the 2024 SD District LWML Convention is Inexpressible Joy and Matchless Savior based on 1 Peter 1:8-9. The rays of light behind the cross were created to show the light that Jesus shed on our lives when he took our sins away. The connection between the lettering of the “Y” in Joy and the “S” in Savior represents Jesus’ guiding hand over our lives while also showing the ability to give us the gift of free will.”

MANUAL

The manual is sponsored by LCEF. The mission of Lutheran Church Extension Fund is to support The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod by ensuring that financial resources and related services are available now and in the future.

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CONVENTION SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS

Friday, June 7

- 8 a.m. Registration opens.
8:30-11 a.m. Servant Events
10 a.m. Choir Practice
10:45 a.m. Delegate orientation
11:30 a.m. Meal
1 p.m. Opening Communion Divine Service
2:30 p.m. Convention Session #1
Keynote Speaker Former LWML President Kay Kreklau
Bible Study with Donna Snow
LCMS SD District President Rev. Dr. Scott Sailer
Mites in Action Speaker Travis Lasseter, Executive Director Black Hills Pregnancy Center
Mission Goal Vote
Mission Grant Proposal Vote
5:30 p.m. Evening Meal
7 p.m. Mite Walk at Wylie Park

Saturday, June 8

- 7:00 a.m. YWR/Heart2Heart Sister Breakfast
8:30 a.m. Convention Session #2
Banner Procession
LWML Representative Arlene Naasz, Vice President of Organizational Resources
Bylaws Amendments Vote
Bible Study with Donna Snow
Officer, Nominating Committee, Pastoral Counselor Vote
Mites in Action Speaker Denise Gudlin from Trinity Hope
11:30 a.m. Meal
1 p.m. Convention Session #3
Gifts of Love Speaker Katy Gifford
Bible Study with Donna Snow
Mites in Action Speaker DCE Michael Leapley from Jesus Door 2 Door
3 p.m. Sending Service and Installation of new officers, pastoral counselor, nominating committee

LWML 2023–2025 Primary Focus

- **Proclaiming Christ**
Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all peoples! (Psalm 96:3).
- **Supporting Missions**
And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation (Mark 16:15).
- **Equipping Women**
Now may the God of peace ... equip you with everything good that you may do his will (Hebrews 13:20–21).
- **Serving Others**
As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another (1 Peter 4:10a).

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME



Welcome to the LWML SD 63rd Convention at the Aberdeen Best Western Ramkota Hotel and Convention Center.

We are celebrating with *Inexpressible Joy* the gifts of forgiveness and salvation freely given to us by our *Matchless Savior*, Jesus Christ. Our convention verse is 1 Peter 1:8-9 *Though you have not seen Him, you love Him. Though you do not now see Him, you believe in Him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.*

You fill these rooms with joy as you bring your Gifts from the Heart for Safe Harbor and Journey Home. You shine the love of Jesus when you make mission bracelets for MOST Ministries, color cards for Phil's Friends, make diapers for Orphan Grain Train, and put together mitten puppets for the Puppet Place at the SD State Fair.

We receive God's love and forgiveness through Word and Sacrament as we attend the opening and closing Divine Services. Donna Snow will bless us with teaching from God's Word related to our theme *Inexpressible Joy † Matchless Savior*. Mites in Action speakers will report on how our mites were put to work for Jesus around the world.

We welcome our guest speakers, former LWML President Kay Kreklau, LWML Vice President of Organizational Resources Arlene Naasz, and Gifts of Love Representative Katy Gifford. They will encourage us to Serve the Lord with Gladness as we plan for the 2024-2026 biennium with a new mission goal and mission grants selected by the voting delegates. New officers, a Junior Pastoral Counselor, and a new nominating committee will also be elected.

On Friday evening the Mite Walk will take place at Wylie Park which is very near the convention center. The ladies of the Aberdeen Zone have planned a fun-filled evening at the park with snacks, a scavenger hunt, and time to sit, relax, and visit with our friends. I hope to take a walk with you!

I am so happy and blessed that you are here to learn about Jesus' great love for each of us and to respond in love by giving of your time, talents, and treasures. The LWML SD District Board of Directors and the ladies from the Aberdeen Zone thank you for coming. May God grant us a wonderful and blessed time together as we sing with *Inexpressible Joy* in thanksgiving to our *Matchless Savior*!



The mission of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League South Dakota District is to provide women opportunities for spiritual growth and to equip and nurture them to use their God-given gifts to serve the Lord in home, church, community and the world.



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Greetings from the LWML Board of Directors — Lutheran Women *in Mission*! As our 40 districts meet in convention, may God be praised as you gather to worship, serve, learn, and give in response to His great love to us through Christ.

Your South Dakota District, under the leadership of President Dr. Patty Peters, has supported the plans and programs of the LWML. I thank your district for sending delegates to the LWML 40th Biennial Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, last summer, where 31 national mission grants were chosen. Please keep those grants and the grants that will be chosen at your district convention in your prayers. We hold fast to the commitment of our mite offerings to meet our mission goal, remembering that we have pledged to our Lord “our silver and our gold to extend His Kingdom.”

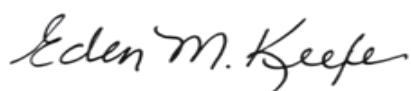
In the next few days, you will meet under the theme “Inexpressible Joy — Matchless Savior.” My prayer for you is that you will find joy in time spent with old and new friends and that the Holy Spirit will lead and guide you as you complete His business for your district. May love and laughter fill each of your hearts as you learn from His Word and grow in His grace.

The Lord has blessed the LWML for 82 years and counting! Since 1942, Lutheran women have reached out in love and funded thousands of mission grants, prayed for our missionaries, served our churches and communities, and encouraged one another. Thank you for continuing this legacy. Moving forward we continue to trust in the Lord’s promises and focus on sharing the Good News of Christ with others.

I look forward to welcoming you, and thousands of Lutheran Women (and men) in Mission, to Omaha, Nebraska, for the LWML 41st Biennial Convention, June 26–29, 2025. Our theme, “Growing in God’s Grace” will focus on 2 Peter 3:18, *But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.*

As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others. This is our privilege — this is our mission!

I thank God for each of you as you serve Him faithfully and joyfully. Christ’s grace and peace be with you always.



President,
Lutheran Women *in Mission*



May 1, 2024

Dear LWML Sisters in Christ,

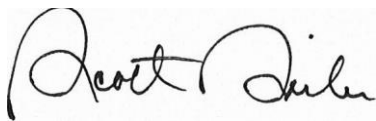
It's always an exciting and joy-filled time when you gather for your biennial District convention. And it's a highlight for me to have the opportunity to join you for this time of worship, study, fellowship, and mission.

One of the joys I have, as your LCMS South Dakota District President, is to see evidence of the faith-filled lives of our LCMS people throughout the state. And it's everywhere: from Hot Springs over and up to Wilmot, from Britton all the way down to Fairfax...and all points in between! You sisters in Christ in the LWML are certainly among the throng of faith-filled, Christ-serving saints whose faith lifts my faith.

Thank you for letting your salvation joy shine in words of witness and deeds of love in your family, community, church, and LWML activities.

God bless your time here, my dear sisters in Christ! Let the inexpressible joy of your salvation be expressed as best you can this side of heaven, here in Aberdeen at your convention and when you return home. And why wouldn't you? For you have a matchless living and reigning Savior, who is the Winner over your sins, your death, your grave.

Serving and celebrating with you,



Rev. Dr. Scott Sailer,
President, LCMS South Dakota District

Arlene Naasz, Vice President of Organizational Resources

Lutheran Women's Missionary League



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 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.*

SPEAKERS AND PRESENTERS



Keynote Speaker — Past LWML President Kay Kreklau

Kay Kreklau knew she wanted to be a part of the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League (LWML) after attending her first Assembly of Leaders in 1992. The fellowship, seeing the “big picture,” and the Bible study on Moses stirred a curiosity to learn more and become more involved.

Throughout her work with the LWML, Kay anchored her efforts in the words of St. Paul from Philippians 4:13, I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

These words bring Kay comfort knowing that all tasks the Lord requests of her will be supported by His strength.

Kay has held many LWML positions including all local offices, most zone offices, and many district offices including District President and Recording Secretary. On the national LWML level, she has served as Recording Secretary and on the Leader Development committee. In 2011 at the Peoria convention, she was elected LWML President. Currently she serves on the LWML Finance and Operations Committee and as LWML ND District Parliamentarian.

As a member of a small congregation in the North Dakota District, Kay has served in many roles including teaching Sunday school and helping with the Sunday school Christmas programs, to name a few.

Kay was blessed to travel to three international missions while she was president of the LWML. Those missions were the Dominican Republic, Philippines, and Eurasia. In addition, Kay took a trip to Germany with many LWML friends.

Kay has retired but continues to work part-time at KodaBank. Kay is a member of the Board of Trustees for the LCMS Foundation. Locally she serves as Treasurer for the LCMS North Dakota District.

Kay is a widow with three children—a son, Chris and his children Lexi; Trevor; and Paxton; a daughter, Leah and her husband, Tim; and a daughter, Nicole. In her spare time, Kay enjoys attending her grandchildren’s events, especially youth baseball, and traveling as time allows.

Bible Study Leader — Donna Snow



Donna is no stranger to LWML! An active member since 1997, Donna has held many Local, Zone, and Texas District LWML offices. She led us through two online Bible studies during the pandemic which enabled us to stay connected to each other across the nation and connected in the Word.

In June 2021, Donna accepted early retirement after serving 30 years in corporate America’s legal field. She now devotes full-time to her writing, teaching, and speaking ministry through Artesian Ministries, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization that is committed to biblical literacy and knowing Jesus through His Word. Donna’s seventh

Bible study from Concordia Publishing House, Meant For Good: A Study of Joseph, was released on April 11, 2023. Her fifth LWML video-based Bible study: “Unshakable: Standing on the Rock When Life Quakes Hard” was released at the 2023 LWML convention in Milwaukee. Donna works with the Lutheran Church in Eurasia to translate eight of her LWML Bible studies into various languages. Currently, Russian, German, and Ukrainian are completed. More translations are in the works. They are available as free downloads on her website to share with our missionary friends.

Donna regularly leads tours through the Holy Land so that people can walk where Jesus walked and see the Bible come to life right before their eyes. She also leads Reformation tours through Germany in the footsteps of Martin Luther, and tours through Greece, Turkey, and Italy in the footsteps of Paul.

Donna is a member of Salem Lutheran Church in Tomball, Texas, an active LWML supporter, and an elected member of the LCMS Texas District Nominating Committee. She is a lifelong Texan, adventurous traveler, and dabbling gardener, but home is always her favorite place to be.

Gifts of Love — Katy Gifford



Always be ready! That is Katy Gifford's goal for sharing the love of Jesus with those she meets each day. Katy shares, "There are plenty of trials along life's path, but there is also joy in the trials if we just look hard enough. There may not always be happiness, but there is joy when we remember that Jesus is with us each step of the way." Katy does her best to see God's joy as she serves Him in her family as wife to Pastor Dan, mom to five children, one son-in-law, and two grandchildren. That joy is also found in her classroom where she has taught various ages for the past 24 years. Of course, serving in the LWML brings joy as well as she joins her sisters in Christ to be God's hands and feet, lips and voice in telling others about Jesus. She has served the LWML as Nebraska North District Vice President of Human Care and YWR and in Nebraska South District, she has served as Vice President of Servant Resources and District President. She is now the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* Bible study editor and also serves as an LWML Gifts of Love Advocate.

Song Leaders — Laura Hall and Dr. Kristen Newell



Laura (Bogenhagen) Hall grew up on her family's farm in White Lake, SD. She graduated from Concordia University, NE with a degree in Elementary Education.

Laura met her husband, Brian, in Florida, where they lived for 11 years. They, along with their two children, now live in Sioux Falls, SD and attend Zion Lutheran Church. Laura is a member of the church choir, praise band, and LWML Eve Group.

Laura has worked as a real estate assistant since 2014, serving agents from Keller Williams and Coldwell Banker. She also works as a substitute teacher at Sioux Falls Lutheran School.



Dr. Kristen (Peters) Newell grew up in Sioux Falls, SD. She graduated from Concordia University, NE with a degree in Secondary Education.

Kristen and her husband Billy have four children: Josiah, Addison, Naomi, and Evelyn. Billy is a pastor at Lord of Life in Sioux Falls, where they are members.

Kristen is the Elementary Principal at Sioux Falls Lutheran School and spends most of her free time at the kids' music and sporting events.

President's Pages — Addison and Naomi Newell

- Addison Newell will be a 5th grader at Sioux Falls Lutheran School. She enjoys playing soccer, singing, dancing, and writing stories.
- Naomi Newell will be a 3rd grader at Sioux Falls Lutheran School. She enjoys swimming, gymnastics, and animals.

Their parents are Pastor Billy and Dr. Kristen Newell.

Mites in Action Speakers



Travis Lasseter from **Black Hills Pregnancy Center, Rapid City SD** - \$5,000 to help with their 'Earn While you Learn Program' to support new parents and help parents learn good parenting skills.

Denise Gudlin from **Trinity HOPE, Mt. Juliet, TN** - \$5,000 for their Haitian school children's feeding program which serves over 260 schools in Haiti.



Michael Leapley from **Jesus Door 2 Door, Aberdeen, SD** - \$1,000 for printing materials used while canvassing communities for the local LCMS church.

Mite box contributions amount to millions of dollars that fund district and national LWML grants.



CONVENTION RULES

1. The official voting assembly of the convention shall be:
 - a. Two delegates (or alternate) from each unit.
 - b. Voting members of the LWML South Dakota District Board of Directors.
 - c. Past District Presidents of the LWML South Dakota District.
2. The registration chairman shall report the number of credentialed delegates and shall report any change that occurs during the convention. All delegates must be seated in the delegate section.
3. A majority of the registered voting assembly shall constitute a quorum.
4. By unanimous agreement of the voting delegates a proposed amendment may be presented to the convention without previous notice. A three-fourths (3/4) vote shall be required for adoption of said amendment.
5. Nominations may be made from the convention floor provided the nominee meets qualification for office and has given written consent to serve if elected.
6. The order of business shall be determined by the agenda, with any necessary deviation at the discretion of the chair.
7. All convention business shall be determined by the agenda, with any necessary deviation at the discretion of the chair.
8. When requesting the floor, a delegate shall address the chair and state her name, group, and zone.
9. Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the proceedings of the convention in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the bylaws.
10. The parliamentarian interprets the rules and advises on parliamentary procedures when asked to do so.
11. All ballots shall be destroyed following the close of the convention.

CONVENTION COMMITTEES

Tellers Committee for Election of Officers, Pastoral Counselor, and Nominating Committee

Chairman - Sandy Brandt

Members - Ann Cruse

-Jeanette Gravdahl

Alternate - Vonda Sturzenbecker

Pastoral Counselor - Rev. Aaron Asmus

Tellers Committee for Mission Grants

Chairman - Susan Swanson

Members - Dianne Hemminger

- Kathy McKinney

Alternate - Lynette Tisdall

Pastoral Counselor - Rev. Brian Mosemann

Minutes Review Committee

- Lisa Asmus

- Nancy Bogenhagen

- Elaine Hankel

CONVENTION PROGRAM

Thursday, June 6, 2024

- 1:00 p.m. Executive Committee St. Paul's Lutheran Church
- 3:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting St. Paul's Lutheran Church
- 6:00 p.m. Board of Directors Dinner St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Friday, June 7, 2024

- 8:00-5:00 a.m. Registration
- 9:30-11:30 a.m. LWML Store Convention Center Rooms Prairie and Oz
- 8:30-11:30 a.m. Servant Events Dakota Room D
- 10:00 a.m. Choir practice Convention Center Room Arikara
- 10:45 a.m. Delegate orientation Convention Center Room Arikara
- 11:30 a.m. Noon meal Convention Room Northern

- 1 p.m. Divine Service Convention Center Room Arikara
Convention Offering #1 2024-2026 Mission Goal

- 2:30 p.m. First Convention Session
 - Call to Order Patty Peters, President
 - Vice President of the Day Susan Buxcel, Vice President of Christian Life
 - Welcome Betty Ochsner, Aberdeen Zone President
 - Pledge to the United States..... Zone Presidents
 - Introductions
 - Welcome Travis Schaunaman, Mayor of Aberdeen
 - Convention Rules Mary Jo Stier, Parliamentarian
 - Presentation of Agenda Patty Peters, President
 - Presentation of Convention Committees..... Patty Peters, President
 - Keynote Address Kay Kreklau, LWML President 2011-2015
 - Bible Study #1 Donna Snow
 - Delegate Instructions Patty Peters, President
 - Financial Review Report Luann Zuercher, Secretary
 - Credentials Report #1 Denise Melius, Registrar
 - Proposed 2024-2026 Budget/Mission Goal Melissa Vance, Treasurer
 - Prayer Melissa Vance, Treasurer
 - Voting on Budget/Mission Goal
 - Greetings LCMS SD District President Reverend Dr. Scott Sailer
 - Mission Grant Presentation Jan Larson, Vice President of Gospel Outreach
 - Credentials Report #2 Denise Melius, Registrar
 - Prayer Jan Larson, VP of Gospel Outreach
 - Voting on Mission Grants
 - Mites in Action Speaker Denise Gudlin from Trinity HOPE
 - Instructions for the meal and the Mite Walk..... Betty Ochsner
 - Prayer before the Evening Meal Susan Buxcel, VP of Christian Life

- 5:30-6:45 p.m. Dinner Recess
- 7:00 p.m. Mite Walk Wylie Park



Saturday, June 8, 2024

- 7-8 a.m. Young Woman Representatives and Heart2Heart Sisters Breakfast
..... with Arlene Naasz, Kay Kreklau, and Donna Snow in Dakota Room C
- 7-8 a.m. Registration and LWML Store open
- 8:15 a.m. Singing
- 8:30 a.m. Second Convention Session
- 8:30 a.m. Procession of banners Members of the Board of Directors and Special Guests
Call to Order Patty Peters, President
Vice President of the Day Jan Larson, VP of Gospel Outreach
The League Pledge and Devotion led by the Young Woman Representatives
Gifts of Love Speaker Katy Gifford
Bible Study #2 Donna Snow
Report of the Nominating Committee Susan Swanson, Chairman
Introduction of Candidates Patty Peters, President
Credentials Report #3 Denise Melius, Registrar
Prayer before Voting Susan Swanson
Voting for Officers, Pastoral Counselor, Nominating Committee
Mites in Action Speaker .. Travis Lassiter, Exec. Dir. Black Hills Pregnancy Center
Convention Offering #2 Mission Central
Report of LWML RepresentativeArlene Naasz
Vice President of Organizational Resources
Tellers Report for Mission Grants..... Susan Swanson, Chairman
Tellers Report for Officers, Pastoral Counselor, Nominating Committee
..... Sandy Brandt, Chairman
Prayer before the meal Vonda Sturzenbecher, Special Gifts Fund Chairman
- 12:00-1:00 p.m. Lunch Recess and LWML Store Open
- 1:00 p.m. Third Convention Session
Call to order Patty Peters, President
Vice President of the Day Dianne Hemminger, VP of Special Focus Ministries
Bible Study #3 Donna Snow
Blessing on the newly elected Nominating Committee
Bylaws Amendments..... Mary Jo Stier, Structure Chairman
Credentials Report #4 Denise Melius, Registrar
Prayer before Voting Mary Jo Stier, Structure Chairman
Bylaws Amendments Vote
Mites in Action Speaker DCE Michael Leapley, Jesus Door 2 Door
President's Report and Pinning of the newly elected District President
..... Patty Peters, President
Greetings from the newly elected LWML SD District President
Report of Convention Offerings Bobbie Bierman, Convention Treasurer
Final Registration Report Denise Melius, Registrar
Invitation to the 2026 Convention..... Elaine Hankel, Black Hills Zone President
Servant Events and Ingathering ReportDianne Hemminger
VP of Special Focus Ministries
Introduction of the 2024 Host Committee..... Betty Ochsner, Chairman
Sending Service
Gifts from the Heart Dedication
Installation of Officers and Junior Pastoral Counselor

CREDENTIALS REPORTS / REPORT TALLIES

Credentials Report #1

Voting Body

Board of Directors
voting: _____

Past District Presidents
voting: _____

Delegates
voting: _____

Total Eligible

Voters: _____

Nonvoting Body

Board of Directors
non-voting: _____

Other Registrants:

TOTAL: _____

Credentials Report #2

Voting Body

Board of Directors
voting: _____

Past District Presidents
voting: _____

Delegates
voting: _____

Total Eligible

Voters: _____

Nonvoting Body

Board of Directors
non-voting: _____

Other Registrants:

TOTAL: _____

Credentials Report #3

Voting Body

Board of Directors
voting: _____

Past District Presidents
voting: _____

Delegates
voting: _____

Total Eligible

Voters: _____

Nonvoting Body

Board of Directors
non-voting: _____

Other Registrants:

TOTAL: _____

Final Registration Report

Voting Body

Board of Directors
voting: _____

Past District Presidents
voting: _____

Delegates
voting: _____

Total Eligible

Voters: _____

Nonvoting Body

Board of Directors
non-voting: _____

Other Registrants:

TOTAL: _____

Other Registrants Breakdown:

LWML members _____

Speakers _____

Non-LWML members _____

Exhibitors _____

Pastors _____

DCEs _____

Deaconesses _____

Lutheran School Teachers _____

Additional Attendee Information:

1st-Timers _____

YWRs _____

H2H Sisters _____

Convention Offerings

#1 2024–2026 Mission Grant Goal

\$ _____

#2 Mission Central

\$ _____

BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study (Part 1) – Friday

Donna Snow

“According to His great mercy, He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead”

(1 Peter 1:3, ESV).

1. Born Again to a Living Hope

2. An Imperishable Inheritance

3. Guarded Through Faith

Bible Study (Part 2) – Saturday AM

Donna Snow

“In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials” (1 Peter 1:6).

1. The Trials We Endure

2. Testing of Our Faith

3. Result: Praise and Glory of Christ

Bible Study (Part 3) – Saturday PM

Donna Snow

“Though you have not seen Him, you love Him. Though you do not now see Him, you Believe in Him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls” (1 Peter 1:8).

1. Love and Belief by Faith

2. Inexpressible Joy

3. Matchless Savior

2024–2026 PROPOSED MISSION GRANTS

1. **Lighthouse Preschool – Aberdeen, SD - \$5,000**

The Lighthouse Preschool is requesting a grant of \$5,000 to help with tuition assistance for families unable to pay full tuition and for advertising of their program. Approximately half of the grant funds would be used to assist in tuition, and the remaining would be split between advertising in printed form and the rest in updating the church sign to include the preschool. Any remaining funds would be put toward upgrading sensory equipment for special needs children.

2. **Servants of the Gospel Through Dots of Love – LBW – RSO - \$3,000**

Lutheran Braille Workers is requesting a grant from the LWML South Dakota District in the amount of \$3,000. This grant would allow Lutheran Braille Workers to add twenty-five (25) new Lutheran titles of life-changing and Scripture-based materials for people who are Blind over the next two years. Once a title is transcribed it can be produced and distributed for many years, thus helping thousands of people who are Blind gain better access to God's saving Word in a manner that serves their needs. These funds would be used to cover the Braille transcription fees charged by the Volunteers of Vacaville Prison Transcription Program (The Blind Project) in Vacaville, CA. In addition, this funding would provide additional service opportunities for dozens of LBW volunteers and the participants in the Prison Braille Transcription Program.

3. **Critical Tools for Body and Soul – MOST Ministries – RSO - \$5,000**

MOST ministries, a Recognized Service Organization of the LCMS, sends medical teams to Guatemala to proclaim the Gospel and address the health needs of rural Mayan people. A lack of basic medical testing apparatus, supplements for malnourished children, and visual teaching aids hinders the effective diagnosis and treatment of life-threatening diseases. Witness activities and prayer are central to each clinic and visual aids are used effectively to share the Gospel so that people see as well as hear (Luke 11:23) the message of God's saving grace and compassion. Most Ministries are asking for \$5,000 to outfit six medical teams to Guatemala with basic medical testing equipment, supplements for malnourished children, and visuals for heal education and evangelistic outreach.

4. **New Shepherds for South Sudan – Lutheran Heritage Foundation \$5,000**

Seminarians in South Sudan are focusing on how to bring to their people the message of God's gifts of love, peace, and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. This is sorely needed in this young country, which has been torn apart by years of brutal civil war and influences from the Muslim religion of Islam. Besides extreme poverty, the people also face famine, disease and have an average life expectancy of only 56 years. Because of these issues, it would be unthinkable for most South Sudanese men to attend seminary. Funding is needed for travel expenses, tuition, books, supplies, food, beds, and medical care. Lutheran Heritage Foundation (LHF) remains committed to providing the Lutheran education and materials these men need not only to become good pastors, but also to become the skilled translators of tomorrow for LHF's Sudanese translation projects. It's important to realize that these Sudanese books and materials are used not only in Sudan, but also among Sudanese immigrants in the United States, including those in South Dakota. A grant of \$5,000 would support the "New Shepherds for South Sudan" program.

5. **Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch: Bismarck Chapel Furnishings – RSO - \$3,000**

A gift from the South Dakota District LWML would be used to refinish chairs for the chapel on the Bismarck campus of Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch and purchase special oversized seating, thus creating an inviting, child-friendly environment, that engages at-risk children, facilitating growth in the Gospel and Christ-centered healing. The Ranch was blessed to recently receive a grant at the National LWML Convention in Milwaukee for the construction of a Chapel on our Bismarck campus, and this \$3,000 grant would give the South Dakota District LWML an opportunity to furnish the Chapel.

6. Haitian Seminarians: Ministry in Mission – RSO - \$4,000

Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere and Ministry in Mission is the only Recognized Service Organization in Haiti working with the National Evangelical Lutheran Church in Haiti. The purpose of this grant is to subsidize the seminary education offered by Ted Krey, the Director of the Latin America District, for Haitian men desiring to serve existing churches and build new churches in Haiti. This request is a subsidy, not the total cost of seminary. The \$4,000 grant will be used for travel expenses to transport the 4 seminarians to the Dominican Republic and back to Haiti, Visas, school supplies, laptop computers and general personal needs.

7. Faith Lutheran Motor Coach Improvements – Pierre, SD - \$5,000

“In Christ Alone, My Hope is Found.” “I am the way, the truth, and the life.” “Fix your Eyes on Jesus!” “Moving Faith into Action!” These are all quotes written on the Faith Lutheran Church, Pierre, motor coach. The motor coach was purchased by the Mexico Mission group in 2021 for a less costly way to travel to Mexico. Since that time, the potential for the benefits of the motor coach has been expanded to include serving not only Faith Lutheran, but churches throughout the state and region. The \$5,000 grant would be applied to the motor coach upkeep needs of tires, a tie-rod, and an engine control module. On receiving this grant, the fees charged to travel on the motor coach will be kept to a minimum.

8. “Main Street Living” Ministry Outreach TV Program - \$4,998

The Main Street Living program is specifically designed for the homebound, assisted-living and nursing homes, as well as the “mission field” of all other individuals who are at their homes on Sunday mornings and/or who have access to the Internet. The video recording equipment that was purchased seven years ago for the South Dakota market needs updating to meet broadcast video quality standards. This \$4,998 grant would cover the cost of camera and equipment upgrades to assist in presenting a quality evangelistic television ministry that invites the unchurched and shut-ins to better know the saving grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

9. Faith Lutheran Preschool – Pierre, SD \$2,500

Faith Lutheran Preschool in Pierre, SD, strives to teach and spread the word of God to the children they serve and their families. Expanding their Christian curriculum allows students to take the information home and share the word of God’s love with others. With more academic skills required prior to kindergarten, new learning items are needed to help children with fine motor skills, cognitive skills, as well as social and listening skills. The \$2500 grant money would allow them to purchase a new Christian curriculum and additional academic materials without having to increase our tuition prices for families.

10. Faith Health and Wellbeing and Community Outreach – Sioux Falls, SD - \$4,600

Faith Health and Wellbeing Ministry is a compassion ministry caring for the mind, body, and spirit through Faith Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, SD. Located within the Whittier community, this ministry provides support, prayers and tools needed to maintain or improve physical, spiritual, mental/emotional, and social wellbeing. Participants can choose between three specific programs:

- Meal Ministry – Comfort and Long-Term Meals
- Weekly Physical Activity - Move Better, Feel Better, Think Better Classes and Pickleball
- Lunch and Learn with Wellbeing Challenges.

A grant of \$4600 would help ensure Faith Lutheran Church continue these gatherings which foster relationships where God’s love and Word work through participation to grow the body of Christ.

11. Proclaiming Christ to the Nations: Concordia Seminary International Student Support - \$5,000

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO, currently enrolls 60 international students from 20 different countries around the world. When these students graduate, they will return home to serve as seminary professors, theological instructors, and church leaders in their respective countries. They will help raise

up the next generation of Pastors who will share the Gospel far and wide. Many of the international students are from developing countries that do not have seminaries for advanced degrees and/or do not have the funds to send students to high-quality seminaries. Funds from this \$5,000 grant would be used to help the international students attain their degrees. These 3 pastors will be teaching at seminaries when they complete their degrees.

12. Shepherd’s Canyon Retreat – RSO - \$5,000

Shepherd’s Canyon Retreat (SCR), an LCMS Recognized Service Organization, provides week-long counseling retreats for men and women in full-time ministry who are in various stages of burnout, stress, depression, compassion fatigue, and conflicts of all kinds. By God’s grace, SCR has successfully helped hundreds of ministry workers over the years, many of whom were ready to quit the ministry or give up on life before they came to the retreat. Funds for this \$5,000 grant would support scholarships to help pastors, ministry workers, and spouses who need extra financial assistance to attend a Shepherd’s Canyon Retreat.

13. Walking Together in the Mission Field – Alliance Missionaries – LCMS - \$5,000

An Alliance Missionary is an ordained pastor from a partner church who receives a call to serve as a missionary or theological educator in coordination with LCMS missionaries. Alliance Missionaries do not replace LCMS Missionaries, but rather work together, complementing and strengthening each other on the work they do, to do our Lord’s mission. The Office of International Mission has identified filling 140 partner requests for positions over the next five years. Funding for this \$5,000 grant is needed to help support the Alliance Missionaries who work alongside and together with the LCMS missionaries.

14. Theological Libraries and Resources – Africa – LCMS Africa Region - \$5,000

Students training to become pastors or deaconesses need printed and digital resources in the theological libraries of the seminaries and training centers in Africa. This project seeks to establish and fortify printed and digital collections, cataloging, transport, and training for theological libraries of partner institutes and seminaries on the African continent. The needed resources will allow students to seek otherwise inaccessible theological knowledge, better equip them to provide pastoral care within their ministerial contexts and enable pastors and deaconesses toward faithful stewardship of their national churches. A mission grant of \$5,000 would help establish essential libraries and resources.

15. Proclaim the Gospel – Serve in Mercy – RSO – LCMS - \$5,000

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) supports the extension of mission outreach, education, and mercy through independent Recognized Service Organizations (RSO), whose programs are in harmony with the doctrine and practice of the LCMS. RSO provides social ministry, educational services, camps, campus ministry, mission outreach, international services, communication programs and more in hundreds of communities. It is our desire to build up the Lutheran identity of the RSO by having the ability to offer them devotional and worship material. This \$5,000 grant would assist the RSO in strongly living out their Lutheran identity in Word and Sacrament ministry and in acts of mercy.

16. Mt. Calvary Learning Center Security Upgrade – Huron, SD - \$5,000

Mt. Calvary Learning Center in Huron, SD provides opportunities for a Christian education about Jesus Christ as the only Savior from sin and Lord of Life through formal classes and an informal living-learning environment with Christian teachers. They are a mission, reaching families through their children. The Learning Center still has needs, with one of the biggest being an upgrade of security for both daycare and preschool. Currently they have cameras in several areas, but still have quite a few blind spots. Having additional security camera upgrades would allow them to always have their eyes on each child and provide a better monitoring system for parents. Funds of \$5,000 would be used to upgrade the security system at the Learning Center.

Mission Grants Selection Tally

Votes Received **Plurality Rank**

- _____ _____ 1. **Lighthouse Preschool, Aberdeen, SD - \$5,000**
- _____ _____ 2. **Servants of the Gospel Through Dots of Love- LBW- RSO- \$3,000**
- _____ _____ 3. **Critical Tools for Body and Soul- MOST Ministries- \$5,000**
- _____ _____ 4. **New Shepherds for South Sudan- LHF- \$5,000**
- _____ _____ 5. **Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch- Bismark Chapel Furnishings- RSO- \$3,000**
- _____ _____ 6. **Haitian Seminaries-Ministry in Mission- RSO- \$4,000**
- _____ _____ 7. **Faith Lutheran Motor Coach Improvements- Pierre, SD- \$5,000**
- _____ _____ 8. **“Main Street Living” Ministry Outreach TV Program- \$4,998**
- _____ _____ 9. **Faith Lutheran Preschool- Pierre, SD- \$2,500**
- _____ _____ 10. **Faith Health and Wellbeing and Community Outreach, Sioux Falls, SD- \$4,600**
- _____ _____ 11. **Proclaiming Christ to the Nations: Concordia Seminary International Student Support- \$5,000**
- _____ _____ 12. **Shepherd’s Canyon Retreat- RSO- \$5,000**
- _____ _____ 13. **Walking Together in the Mission Field- Alliance Missionaries- LCMS-\$5,000**
- _____ _____ 14. **Theological Libraries and Resources- Africa- LCMS Africa Region- \$5,000**
- _____ _____ 15. **Proclaim the Gospel- Serve in Mercy- RSO-LCMS- \$5,000**
- _____ _____ 16. **Mt. Calvary Learning Center- Security Upgrade- Huron, SD- \$5,000**



PRESIDENT



Mary Jo Stier

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Onida, SD

LWML

Group: President, Secretary, Treasurer

Zone: President (twice), Secretary- Treasurer

District: VP of Human Care, VP of Gospel Outreach, VP of Communication, District Young Woman Representative, Structure Chair, Parliamentarian

National: Friends into Serving Him Task Force Member

OTHER

Congregation: Congregational Secretary, Congregational Treasurer, Evangelism Choir, Sunday School Teacher, Church Secretary, Bible School Coordinator/Teacher

Education: BA in General Studies- South Dakota State University

Occupation: Administrative Assistant- Agar-Blunt-Onida School District (26 years), Holy Cross Church Secretary, Convenient Store Clerk

Family: Married to Steven for 34 years, son Michael, daughter-in-law Courtney, daughter Katie and her significant other Conner and his 3 daughters Aspen, Kennedy, and Rylee

Community: Served on various community organizations including OHS/SBHS Alumni Association; American Legion Auxiliary (local, state and national); Onida Chamber of Commerce; Local Blood Drive Coordinator for Life Serve, Special Olympics volunteer

Mission Statement: To remember to speak of God’s love and to show that love in my actions and to ask the Lord to send his Holy Spirit to me so others can see His love pouring out through me.

TREASURER



Vonda Sturzenbecher

Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church, Black Hawk, SD

LWML

Group: Secretary and Treasurer

Zone: Yankton and Black Hills Secretary, Black Hills Zone President

District: Vice President of Communication, Special Gifts Chairman

National: I was on the committee that planned the 2007 National LWML Convention in Sioux Falls, SD.

OTHER

Congregation: I have been part of church choirs, chime/bell choirs, Sunday School Teacher, Thrivent Secretary for the Centerville Area Chapter, VBS Director, and chairman of the planning committee for launching the Divine Shepherd Lutheran Classical Academy.

Education: I attended Augustana College (now University) majoring in accounting, but I didn’t graduate.

Occupation: I currently work for H & R Block in Rapid City as their receptionist and bookkeeper.

Family: I am a child of God, wife of Randy Sturzenbecher, mother to Ryan Sturzenbecher and Megan Zwiers, and grandmother to Jett.

Community: I am mostly involved in my church community.

Mission Statement: To use the gifts that God gives me to help other know Him better.

VICE PRESIDENT OF CHRISTIAN LIFE



Kristy Ring

St. John's, Gregory, SD

LWML

Group: Attend meetings, help with technologies as needed, organized crafts for Rosebud, puppet making, assist as needed

Zone: Attend rallies and workshops

District: Past delegate, past Y/A, past deaconess, intern presenter

OTHER

Congregation: Youth leader, VBS helper, Sunday School helper, assist with music as needed, Bible study family event planning

Education: BA from Concordia University Wisconsin, MA from Deaconess Program Concordia Theological Seminary

Occupation: MS/HS computer teacher/CTE

Family: Pastor Marcus Ring (husband), Charissa Ring (daughter age 14), Robby Ring (son age 12), Christian Ring (son age 9)

Community: Movie Theater volunteer, 4-H volunteer

Mission Statement: *I can do all things through him who strengthens me.* (Philippians 4:13). I pray God's will be done through me in service to others with a grateful heart.

VICE PRESIDENT OF GOSPEL OUTREACH



Cathy VandeBraak

Zion Lutheran, Sioux Falls, SD

LWML

Group: Co-president, president, secretary, District Convention Delegate

Zone: Vice President, Interim President, National Convention Delegate

OTHER

Congregation: Hostess Committee, Wednesday evening meal team

Education: Augustana University BA in psychology, Sioux Falls Seminary MA in marriage and family therapy

Occupation: Pregnancy counselor and Adoption caseworker at Lutheran Family Service

Family: Husband, Mark. Daughter, Rebecca and her husband Jake and their daughter Gwendolyn. Son, Seth in Huntsville Alabama.

Community: Serve at various non-profits via Lutheran Women in Mission

Mission Statement: To use my talents and gifts to uplift others, sharing the message of God's grace and mercy through my actions and words.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE



Lurene Mogler Denke

Faith Lutheran, Pierre, SD

LWML

Group: Historian, past President for 1 year, delegate for conventions

Zone: Historian, delegate to National Convention

District: 2018 State Historian

OTHER

Congregation: Past Choir member, past Board of Education, 7 years leading singing N-4th, Sunday School Teachers, VBS Superintendent, Youth Councilors

Education: Deubrook High School- 1978, 1 year college- 1979, graduate of Lake Area Technical-1980

Occupation: Head Start Teacher and daycare provider, Bank Teller, Service industry at Riddles, Aurs Rent-a-car

Family: Paul Denke- married 43 years, Sister to family of 8, mother of Isaac and Luke

Community: Volunteer at Community Center After School Program, 14 years Committee Chairman Boy Scouts, Thrivent Fundraisers, benefits of friends, County Fair worker for FLC

Mission Statement: *This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad (Psalms 118:24). Use each day as a gift.*



Lori Hoffman

Zion Lutheran, Canistota, SD

LWML

Group: Priscilla Circle

Zone: Sioux Falls Zone Past Vice President

District: Meeting Manager

OTHER

Congregation: past Secretary, treasurer, and youth group advisor

Education: Southeast Vo-Tech

Occupation: Farm with my husband, Mary Kay Independent Beauty Consultant

Family: Husband Jim, son Riley and his wife Abby, granddaughters Hadley and Sutton, daughter Sydney and her husband Nathan, grandson Rhett, son Jacob, son Caleb, daughter Hannah

Community: 4-H leader, Archery Coach for 9 years



Pat Huisman

Faith Lutheran, Pierre, SD

LWML

Group: Group President, Rebekah Circle Treasurer, Chaired several County Fair Booths for LWML, Chaired the fundraising organizations for County Fair Proceeds.

OTHER

Congregation: Altar Guild Member

Education: Taught Sunday School for about 8 years and taught midweek for 5 years

Occupation: Retired with working the lunch server at Jefferson Elementary School

Family: Son Kurt and family in Frederick, CO. South Dakota Family Cindy and Jamie, Alyssa and Jace and granddaughter Millie

Community: Vice President of Pierre Senior Center

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (continued)



Jan Larson

Faith Lutheran, Pierre

LWML

Group: President, Vice President, Secretary, Country Fair Chairman, Christian Growth

Zone: President, Vice President

District: Vice President of Gospel Outreach, Puppet Place chairman

OTHER

Congregation: Children's music director, Christmas program director, building committee, chairman of kitchen committee, teacher/director of preschool

Education: Deubrook High School, Bachelor of Science in Home Economics from SDSU.

Occupation: Retired director/teacher at Faith Lutheran Preschool for 31 years.

Family: Married to Tim, two grown married daughters, Kelli (Mark) and Heidi (Ben); five grandchildren, Jasmine, Stephen, Charlie, Jack, Sam

Community: 4-H Leader, school organizations, Christian Women's Club, Master Gardener

Mission Statement: To be a reflection of Jesus Christ in all areas of my life, to serve him in big and small ways each day.

PASTORAL COUNSELOR



Rev. Christopher McCarthy

First and Emmanuel Lutheran Churches in Wall and Creighton, SD.

Sisters in Christ,

Greetings in the Name of our risen and reigning Lord! My name is Christopher McCarthy. I was born and baptized in Buffalo, New York, but raised in central Ohio, outside of Columbus. After graduating from high school, I attended Concordia University Wisconsin, majoring in Pre-Seminary studies and minoring in theological languages. I received my B.A. in 2012 and went to Concordia Seminary, St. Louis in

the fall of that year. I served my vicarage year at Vestavia Hill Lutheran Church in Vestavia Hills, Alabama (a town just south of Birmingham) and graduated from Concordia Seminary in the spring of 2017. I received a call to First and Emmanuel Lutheran Churches in Wall and Creighton, SD. It is my first call out of the seminary, and I am still called here, for nearly seven years now.

Our gracious Lord was kind to me, when, in the fall of 2020, I was introduced to Carrie Rye, a Lutheran school teacher from Baltimore, Maryland. It did not take long before I proposed, and she said yes, and we were married in August of 2021. Yet, our Lord is even kinder, gifting us with a son, Micah, the following August of 2022. He is a very active and bright boy who never fails to entertain and occupy our time and attention, as well as that of these congregations!

When I am not engaged in sermon preparations, Bible studies, confirmation classes or other church work, you will find me in my garage-turned-woodshop, making something, or as we approach summer, in the garden with my wife and son. I treasure the precious time we have together gathering the precious fruits of the earth together, each of those great gifts from our Heavenly Father's hand!

PASTORAL COUNSELOR



Rev. Thomas P. Mueller

Emanuel Lutheran Church in Sisseton, SD

Zion Lutheran Church in Waubay, SD

I was born in Milbank, SD in 1959 and was raised by conservative Lutheran parents along with seven siblings on our small, family dairy farm. As a farm kid, doing chores and learning responsibility came early in life. Hard work, planning, attention to detail, and accuracy were encouraged and expected. (If you did not lock the gate, the cows would get out!) Our family didn't take vacations, but we had great times together playing ball, fishing, hunting, gardening, playing cards and board games, and celebrating birthdays and holidays with family.

My classroom education began in a one-room, country schoolhouse. (I only walked uphill one way!) I attended country school for 1st and 2nd grades and then completed the balance of my schooling through 12th grade in Milbank graduating in 1977. After graduation, I remained on the family farm and entered a partnership with my brothers as we farmed alongside our father. When we ran into some financial distress, I as the youngest went to town for employment and continued to assist on the farm daily.

It was at my first of many off-the-farm jobs that I met my wife, Roberta-please call her Bobbie. We were married in February of 1985 in Milbank, South Dakota, and yes, it was cold and snowed six inches that day. In our years of marriage, the Lord God has blessed us in many ways and has also carried us through some extremely difficult times. Among our countless blessings are our three children Jacob, Emily, and Samantha, and our six grandchildren Mya, Lucy, Hallie, Nora, Grant, and Bowen.

After receiving a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Mount Marty in Watertown, SD, in 2006 and with many years of serving the Lord's church as a volunteer and as an employee, God gave me the needed push toward my long-time yet hesitant desire to become a pastor.

I applied at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, MO, as a "second career" student and began my studies in the Residential Alternate Route program for pastoral formation in 2019. After two years of in-class learning, I served my one-year vicarage at Emanuel Lutheran Church in Sisseton, SD and Zion Lutheran Church in Waubay, SD. God gave me my first call to serve as pastor to the saints of this dual parish in 2022.

As far as hobbies and such, I enjoy fishing and watching sports. Bobbie enjoys shopping and the Hallmark channel. We both love spending time with our treasured family members whenever possible.

Mission Statement

With the help and the power of the Holy Spirit and by God's amazing and abundant grace, I, as a saved, called, and ordained servant of my Lord and Savior Christ Jesus, resolve to joyfully know and rightly confess the truth of the Word of God and to eagerly teach and proclaim the forgiveness of sins, salvation, and eternal life through the Gospel of Jesus Christ, our crucified and resurrected living Lord. In the Lord God's Mission of Salvation for all nations in His Kingdom, I commit to serving the Lord willingly and faithfully in humility, thankfulness, and joy as His redeemed disciple and His dearly loved and forgiven child. To God alone be all the glory!

PROPOSED BYLAWS REVISIONS

LWML South Dakota District (hereinafter referred to as **District**)

Proposed Amendment 1. To strike “Site of convention shall be determined by the Meeting Manager and the District Board of Directors.” To strike “an alphabetical rotation” and insert “a rotational basis as deemed necessary by the District Board of Directors.”

Rationale: The first sentence will be moved to the Standing Rules. Zone membership is decreasing. On occasion, two or three zones may have to co-host a convention.

Current Wording	Proposed Changes
<p>Article V – Conventions and Representations Section 1 District a. #1</p> <p>1. Site of convention shall be determined by the Meeting Manager and the District Board of Directors. Biennial conventions shall be hosted by zones on an alphabetical rotation.</p>	<p>Article V – Conventions and Representations Section 1 District a #1</p> <p>1. Site of convention shall be determined by the Meeting Manager and the District Board of Directors. Biennial convention shall be hosted by zones on an alphabetical rotation <i>a rotational basis as deemed necessary by the District Board of Directors</i></p>

Proposed Amendment 2. To strike “be filled by ballot vote of the Board of Directors” and to insert “be appointed by the District President and approved by the District Board of Directors.”

Rationale: The previous wording does not clarify how names will be selected for the ballot. The vacancy will now be appointed.

Current Wording	Proposed Changes
<p>Article VI – Officers and Elections Section 3 b</p> <p>In the event a vacancy occurs in any other elected position, other than Pastoral Counselor, such a vacancy shall be filled by ballot vote of the Board of Directors.</p>	<p>Article VI – Officers and Elections Section 3 b</p> <p>In the event a vacancy occurs in any other elected position, other than Pastoral Counselor, such a vacancy shall be filled by ballot vote of the Board of Directors. <i>be appointed by the District President and approved by the District Board of Directors.</i></p>

Proposed Amendment 3. To insert “Finance Chairman”, strike “Special Gifts Fund Chairman, and insert “[Webmaster]-Information Technology (IT) and others necessary to facilitate the work of this organization.

Rationale: We are adding a Finance Chairman. Also, adding the words Information Technology (IT) to better define the responsibilities of this position. Also allowing for other Special Appointed Personnel as needed.

Current Wording	Proposed Change
<p>Article IX – Special Appointed Personnel, The special appointed personnel shall be Archivist-Historian, Meeting Manager, News Editor, Parliamentarian, Special Gifts Fund Chairman, and Webmaster and shall:</p>	<p>Article IX – Special Appointed Personnel The special appointed personnel shall be Archivist-Historian, <i>Finance Chairman</i>, Meeting Manager, News Editor, Parliamentarian, Special Gifts Fund Chairman, <i>Webmaster-Information Technology (IT) and others necessary to facilitate the work of this organization.</i></p>

Proposed Amendment 4. To move “plan and supervise the program of the biennial convention” and “plan a retreat or seminar program in the non-convention year” to proposed amended Article XIII.

Rationale: To better define planning of events.

Current Wording	Proposed Change
Article XI – Executive Committee Section 1 c. plan and supervise the program of the biennial convention g. plan a retreat or seminar program in the non-convention year	Article XI – Executive Committee Section 1 c. will be moved to Article XIII Section 6 g. will be moved to Article XIII Section 8 This can pass only if Article XIII Section 1 a. passes.

Proposed Amendment 5. To add “Convention Programming, Finance, Retreat Programming” and to strike “Special Gifts”.

Rationale: We will be adding a Convention Programming Committee, a Finance Committee, and a Retreat Programming Committee. We will be removing the Special Gifts Committee.

Current Wording	Proposed Change
Article XIII – Departments and Standing Committees Section 1 a. The standing committees may include Christian Life, Christian Resources, Committee on Young Women, Communication, Gospel Outreach, Heart to Heart Sisters, Mission Grants, Special Focus Ministries, Special Gifts, and Structure. Chairmen will be appointed by the President and approved by the Executive Committee.	Article XIII – Departments and Standing Committees Section 1 a. The standing committees may include Christian Life, Christian Resources, Committee on Young Women, Communication, <i>Convention Programming, Finance</i> , Gospel Outreach, Heart to Heart Sisters, Mission Grants, <i>Retreat Programming</i> , Special Focus Ministries, Special Gifts and Structure. Chairmen will be appointed by the President and approved by the Executive Committee.

Proposed Amendment 6. To remove the current Section 6 of Article XIII.

Rationale: The Special Gifts Fund will be administered by the Finance Committee eliminating the need for the Special Gifts Fund Committee.

Current Wording	Proposed Change
Article XIII Section 6 The Special Gifts Fund Committee shall consist of the chairman, appointed by the President, the Vice President of Gospel Outreach, the Treasurer, and may include additional members, as needed.	Article XIII Section 6 The Special Gifts Fund Committee shall consist of the chairman, appointed by the President, the Vice President of Gospel Outreach, the Treasurer, and may include additional members, as needed.

Proposed Amendment 7. To add a new Section 6 for the proposed addition of a Convention Programming Committee.

Rationale: This establishes the Convention Programming Committee and who will serve on the committee.

Current Wording	Proposed Change
	Article XIII Section 6 <i>The Convention Programming Committee, consisting of members of the District Board of Directors and appointed by the District President, shall plan, and supervise the programming of the biennial convention.</i>

Proposed Amendment 8. To add a new section for the proposed addition of a Finance Committee.

Rationale: This establishes the Finance Committee and who will serve on the committee. A Finance Committee will better facilitate fiscal responsibility.

Current Wording	Proposed Change
Article XIII Section 7	Article XIII Section 7 <i>The Finance Committee will consist of a chairman, appointed by the District President, the District Financial Secretary, and the District Treasurer. Additional members to this committee will be appointed by the District President and shall include one Past District President, a District Pastoral Counselor in an advisory capacity, and any other members as needed.</i>

Proposed Amendment 9. To add a new section for the proposed addition of a Retreat Programming Committee.

Rationale: This establishes the Retreat Programming Committee and who will serve on the committee.

Current Wording	Proposed Change
Article XIII Section 8	Article XIII Section 8 <i>The Retreat Programming Committee, consisting of members of the District Board of Directors and appointed by the District President, shall plan a retreat or seminar program in a non-convention year.</i>

Proposed Amendment 10. To insert “mission”, to insert “either prior to or”, and to reflect current wording for District President and District Treasurer.

Rationale: To remove the limitation of mission grants being selected at convention only.

Current Wording	Proposed Change
Article XIV Section 2 c The grants shall be selected by ballot at the District convention, from the approved list. Mission Grants will be paid in order of request date, availability of funding, and approval of the LWML SD President and Treasurer.	Article XIV – Mission Grants Section 2 c <i>The mission grants shall be selected by ballot either prior to or at the District convention, from the approved list. Mission Grants will be paid in order of request date, availability of funding, and approval of the LWML SD District President and District Treasurer.</i>

LWML SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT RECEIPTS

4/1/2022 to 03/31/2024

D. Funds = Designated Funds

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

CONGREGATION/SOCIETY	MITES	LWQ	HiLites	D. Funds	CONGREGATION/SOCIETY	MITES	LWQ	HiLites	D. Funds
Aberdeen Zone					Milbank Zone				
Aberdeen Our Savior's LWML	617.32	60.00	15.00		Milbank, Emanuel Ladies of Emanuel	1265.39	300.00	75.00	
Aberdeen St. John's LWML	2297.37	144.00	36.00		Revillo, St. John's LWML	335.00	37.50	7.50	
Aberdeen St. Paul's LWML	782.42	300.00	75.00		Sisseton, Emanuel LWML	583.47	120.00	30.00	
Andover, Zion LWML					Watertown, Mount Olive LWML	1609.53	192.00		125.00
Britton, St. John's LWML	1193.80	330.00	82.50		Waubay, Zion LWML				
Columbia, St. John's LWML	200.00	37.50	7.00		Wilmot, Our Savior's LWML	1666.25	120.00	15.00	
Cresbard, Concordia LWML	960.35	30.00	15.00		Mitchell Zone				
Ferney, St. Paul's LWML	79.21	120.00	30.00		Alexandria, St. Martin's Ladies Aid				
Groton, St. John's LWML	654.43	120.00	30.00		Armour, Redeemer LWML	849.21	105.00	24.00	
Leola, St. Paul's LWML					Delmont, Zion LWML	620.00	144.00	36.00	
Mansfield, Trinity LWML	4014.03	180.00	45.00		Dimock, Immanuel LWML	795.70	240.00	60.00	
Wecota, Immanuel LWML	1608.00	150.00	46.50		Emery, St. Peter's LWML				
Black Hills Zone					Mitchell, Zion LWML	1119.59	900.00	225.00	
Black Hawk, Divine Shepherd	2027.75	216.00	54.00		Parkston, Faith LWML	469.33	198.00	49.50	
Custer, Our Redeemer	855.85	420.00	105.00		Plankinton, St. Paul's LWML	442.49	120.00	30.00	
Deadwood, Grace LWML	117.50	48.00			Spencer, Trinity				
Hill City, Our Savior's Guild					Tripp, Emmaus LWML	98.36	45.00	9.00	
Hot Springs, Bethesda LWML	749.85	216.00	54.00		White Lake, Trinity LWML	892.06	144.00	60.00	
Philip, Our Redeemer LWML	266.85	112.50	15.00		Pierre Zone				
Rapid City, Bethlehem LWML	1503.97	300.00	75.00		Blunt, Trinity Circle				
Rapid City, Our Redeemer LWML	309.94	37.50			Gettysburg, Emmanuel LWML	135.14	60.00	15.00	
Rapid City, Peace LWML	5440.84	360.00	90.00		Onida, Holy Cross LWML	639.05	270.00	67.50	
Rapid City, Zion LWML	1210.29	240.00			Pierre, Faith LWML	2598.78	360.00	90.00	
Spearfish, St. Paul's LWML	2006.48	384.00	96.00		Sioux Falls Zone				
Sturgis, Blessed Emmanuel					Alcester, Peace Lutheran Ladies Aid LWML	279.60			
Wall, First Lutheran/Emmanuel Phoebe	530.00				Brandon, Blessed Redeemer Ladies Aid	312.45	120.00		
Brookings Zone					Canistota, Zion LWML	178.94	60.00	15.00	
Aurora, First English LWML					Hartford, Trinity LWML	895.73	180.00	45.00	
Brookings, Mt. Calvary Ladies Aid	2367.36	72.00	18.00		Montrose, St. John's LWML				
Brookings, Peace LWML	355.31	60.00	45.00		Parker, First English LWML				
Flandreau, Redeemer LWML	416.54	120.00	24.00		Sioux Falls, Christ LWML				
Howard, St. John's Evening Guild					Sioux Falls, Faith Auxiliary	8553.23	420.00	105.00	
Howard, St. John's Ladies Aid	374.23	60.00	15.00		Sioux Falls, Faith Goodwill Society	93.00			
Madison, Our Savior's M/M Guild					Sioux Falls, Lord of Life LWML				
Wentworth, St. Peter's LWML					Sioux Falls, Memorial LWML	3089.38	390.00	97.50	
White, Zion LWML	256.89	127.50	28.50		Sioux Falls, Our Redeemer Ebenezer Cr	698.00	190.50	34.50	
Chamberlain Zone					Sioux Falls, Our Redeemer Evening LWML	825.00	210.00	52.50	
Chamberlain, Zion LWML	770.36	96.00	135.00		Sioux Falls, Resurrection LWML	236.77	97.50	22.50	
Draper, St. Paul's Priscilla Circle		60.00	15.00		Sioux Falls, Zion Eve	2,784.22	60.00	115.00	
Gregory, St. John's LWML	1457.58		54.00		Sioux Falls, Zion Guild	3542.16	390.00	147.50	
Hamill, Zion LWML					Tea, Risen Savior Sisters In Faith				
Midland, St. Peter's LWML	145.25				Yankton Zone				
Murdo, Messiah Mary-Martha Society	239.09	22.50			Avon, Zion LWML	1621.33	180.00	45.00	
Norris, St. John's LWML					Centerville, First English LWML	423.55			
Presho, Zion LWML	92.38	37.50	7.50		Dakota Dunes, Holy Cross	1021.93	15.00		
Reliance, Trinity LWML					Fairfax, Trinity LWML	2050.88	150.00	18.00	
Winner, Christ LWML					Freeman, St. Paul's LWML	600.63	117.00	27.00	
Huron Zone					Hurley, Zion LWML	10.00			
Huron, Mt. Calvary LWML	4094.40	540.00	135.00		Scotland/Menno St. Paul's/Immanuel	713.41	15.00	10.50	
Redfield, Messiah LWML	425.66	144.00	36.00		Springfield, Our Savior LWML				
Wessington Springs, Zion LWML	200.00	60.00	15.00		Tyndall, St. John's LWML				
Wolsey, St. John's LWML	1920.09	156.00	39.00		Vermillion, Concordia LWML	1969.84	120.00	24.00	
Woonsocket, Mt. Olive Ladies Aid					Wagner, St. John's LWML	504.98	160.00	42.00	
					Yankton, St. John's LWML	7068.66	564.00	141.00	

Special Categories	Mites	D. Funds	Other	Special Categories, con't.	Mites	D. Funds	Other
Aberdeen Zone	345.76			Individual Offerings	3822.00		
Black Hills Zone	253.00			AOL Travel Reimbursement from LWML			800.00
Brookings Zone	509.00			Puppet Place T Shirt Sales		61.00	
Chamberlain Zone	554.00			Retreat Expense Reimbursement			41.88
Huron Zone				Convention - Jewelry Sales	135.00		
Milbank Zone	113.50			Capitol Credits Refund			39.34
Mitchell Zone	1327.00			Convention Mite-Bites	643.39		
Pierre Zone				2022 proceeds from District Conv		9961.65	
Sioux Falls Zone	568.13			Convention Offering #2 Puppet Place		2925.65	
Yankton Zone	309.00			Mite Walk	2948.15		
Individual Donors	200.00			Convention Offering #1	3211.49		
LWML SD BOD	1949.00			Christian Life Workshops	2232.55		
Recycling			41.65	Designated Funds/Special Gifts			17692.46
Pheasant Feather Identifier Pins			126.00	Undesignated Funds/Special Gifts			5072.18
Resource Sales	4167.65			Miscellaneous Income			2025.91
Convention LCEF for booklet			1500.00	District Spring Retreat proceeds			978.03



TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer LWML SD Profit & Loss May 2022 through March 2024

	<u>May '22 - Mar 24</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
41000 · Mite Offerings	
41100 · Groups Mites	92,097.16
41200 · Zone Mites	3,979.39
41300 · LWML SD BOD Offerings	1,949.00
41400 · Individual Offerings	4,058.27
41500 · Convention Offering #1	3,211.49
41600 · Christian Life Workshop Offerin	1,328.00
41700 · LWML SD Retreat Offerings	1,197.15
47230 · Pledge Walk Convention Mites	1,751.00
41000 · Mite Offerings - Other	0.00
	<hr/>
Total 41000 · Mite Offerings	109,571.46
42000 · Contributions and Bequests	
42100 · Unrestricted Contributions	5,072.18
42400 · Restricted Contributions	17,692.46
	<hr/>
Total 42000 · Contributions and Bequests	22,764.64
43100 · Subscriptions	
43110 · Quarterly Subscription Income	12,155.50
43120 · HiLite Subscription Income	3,174.50
	<hr/>
Total 43100 · Subscriptions	15,330.00
43200 · Resource Sales	
43210 · LWML Resource Sales	1,361.25
43220 · Pheasant Feather Crosses	126.00
43200 · Resource Sales - Other	2,806.40
	<hr/>
Total 43200 · Resource Sales	4,293.65
43300 · Recycling Income	41.65
44000 · Conventions	
44500 · Convention Offering #2	2,925.65
44600 · Other Convention Income	1,500.00
44000 · Conventions - Other	10,740.04
	<hr/>
Total 44000 · Conventions	15,165.69
45000 · Retreats	
45500 · Other Retreat Income	978.03
45600 · Expense Reimbursement	41.88
	<hr/>
Total 45000 · Retreats	1,019.91
46000 · Christian Life Workshop	
46100 · Workshop Offering	904.55
	<hr/>
Total 46000 · Christian Life Workshop	904.55
47000 · Investment Income	
47200 · Capital Credit Refund	15.28
	<hr/>
Total 47000 · Investment Income	15.28
47090 · T Shirts	61.00
48000 · Special Gifts Fund	125.00
48060 · General Acct Exp Reimbursement	824.06
49000 · Other Income	
49100 · Miscellaneous Income	2,025.91
	<hr/>
Total 49000 · Other Income	2,025.91
49500 · In-Kind Contributions	317.27
	<hr/>
Total Income	172,460.07

Treasurer LWML SD
Profit & Loss
May 2022 through March 2024

	May '22 - Mar 24
Expense	
60100 · Convention Mission Grants	55,000.00
60200 · Ongoing Mission Grants	
60210 · Today's Light	1,288.75
60300 · State Fair Ministry	10,393.51
60400 · Student Endowment Fund	5,000.00
	16,682.26
Total 60200 · Ongoing Mission Grants	16,682.26
60600 · Administration Expense	137.44
61000 · Mite Offerings to LWML	7,196.05
62000 · Subscriptions Expense	
62100 · Quarterly Publication Expense	15,408.80
62200 · HiLites Publication Expense	2,888.00
	18,296.80
Total 62000 · Subscriptions Expense	18,296.80
62300 · Resource Purchases	
62310 · LWML Store Purchases	6,328.88
62320 · Pheasant Feather Cross Purchase	173.28
62340 · Miscellaneous Purchases	1,658.20
	8,160.36
Total 62300 · Resource Purchases	8,160.36
63000 · Convention-District	
63110 · Special Guests	1,968.40
63120 · Board of Directors	1,401.26
63320 · Supplies	548.10
63400 · Facilities	610.44
63520 · Young Woman Representatives	220.43
63700 · Convention Offering-Designated	2,109.35
63000 · Convention-District - Other	1,513.39
	8,371.37
Total 63000 · Convention-District	8,371.37
64000 · Retreat Expense	
64310 · Printing	184.80
64600 · Honorarium	100.00
64700 · Miscellaneous Retreat Expense	1,205.00
	1,489.80
Total 64000 · Retreat Expense	1,489.80
65000 · Board of Directors	
65100 · Lodging	212.54
65200 · Meals	356.38
65300 · Mileage	430.60
65400 · Miscellaneous BOD Expense	10.00
65000 · Board of Directors - Other	1,193.33
	2,202.85
Total 65000 · Board of Directors	2,202.85
66000 · Convention - LWML	
66100 · President Expense	555.31
66300 · YWR Expense	487.36
66400 · Designated Officers Expense	2,173.00
66500 · Special Designated Expense	975.62
66000 · Convention - LWML - Other	80.00
	4,271.29
Total 66000 · Convention - LWML	4,271.29
66900 · Reconciliation Discrepancies	-0.80
67000 · Christian Life Workshops	
67100 · Speaker	1,127.57
67300 · Miscellaneous Workshop Expense	513.00
67000 · Christian Life Workshops - Other	580.70
	2,221.27
Total 67000 · Christian Life Workshops	2,221.27

Treasurer LWML SD
Profit & Loss
May 2022 through March 2024

	May '22 - Mar 24
68000 · Administrative Expenses	
68400 · Officer Bond Fees	600.00
68700 · LWML Insurance	379.00
68800 · Communication Department Exp.	1,901.85
Total 68000 · Administrative Expenses	2,880.85
69000 · Office Supplies	
69100 · General Office Supplies	46.36
69200 · Postage	68.00
69000 · Office Supplies - Other	112.16
Total 69000 · Office Supplies	226.52
69020 · Designated Funds Dispersed	6,048.00
70000 · Professional Fees	
70100 · Audit Review	266.25
Total 70000 · Professional Fees	266.25
71100 · Miscellaneous Expense	1,000.00
Total Expense	134,450.31
Net Ordinary Income	38,009.76
Other Income/Expense	
Other Expense	
91000 · Special Gifts Transferred Out	75.00
Total Other Expense	75.00
Net Other Income	-75.00
Net Income	37,934.76

LWML SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT 2022–2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(**Voting *Non-voting)

ELECTED OFFICERS

- ** President – Patty Peters (2020)
- ** Vice President of Christian Life – Susan Buxcel (2020)
- ** Vice President of Communication – Heather Miller (2022)
- ** Vice President of Gospel Outreach – Jan Larson (2020)
- ** Vice President of Special Focus Ministries – Dianne Hemminger (2022)
- ** Secretary – Luann Zuercher (2022)
- ** Treasurer – Melissa Vance (2020)
- ** Financial Secretary – Paula Warren (2022)
 - * Sr. Counselor – Rev. Clint Thorson (2020-2023) (Rev. Aaron Asmus- Interim)
 - * Jr. Counselor – Rev. Brian Mosemann (2022)

ZONE PRESIDENTS

- ** Aberdeen Zone President – Betty Ochsner (2022)
- ** Black Hill Zone President – Casey Harvard (2019)
- ** Brookings Zone President – Kathy McKinney (2022)
- ** Chamberlain Zone President – Susan Swanson (2018)
- ** Huron Zone President – Ann Cruse (2020)
- ** Milbank Zone President – Jeanette Gravidahl (2021)
- ** Mitchell Zone President – Julie Kaufman (2018)
- ** Pierre Zone President – Mary Jo Stier (2022)
- ** Sioux Falls Zone President – Lisa Asmus (2022)
- ** Yankton Zone President – Sandy Brandt (2022)

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

- * Committee on Young Women Chairman – Laurel Schamber (2022-2024)
- * Gospel Outreach Chairman – Bev Johnson
- * Puppet Place Committee- Pat Huisman
- * Heart to Heart Chairman- Brooke Aker
- ** Special Gifts Fund Chairman – Vonda Sturzenbecher (2016)

SPECIAL APPOINTED PERSONNEL

- ** Archivist-Historian – Lurene Mogler Denke (2018)
- ** Meeting Manager – Lori Hoffman (2016)
- ** News Editor – Lynette Tisdall (2016)
 - * Parliamentarian/Structure Committee Chairman – Mary Jo Stier (2016)
- ** Webmaster – Nancy Bogenhagen (2010)

OFFICER AND APPOINTED PERSONNEL REPORTS

Patty Peters
President



But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved (Ephesians 2:4).

For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do (Ephesians 4:10).

Being the LWML SD District President was never on my “bucket list”, but God had surprise plans for me! “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord (Jeremiah 29:11). I never thought that I would follow in my mother’s

footsteps and have this position where I would meet so many sisters and brothers who love the Lord and serve Him with gladness. My four years started by having virtual meetings because of the pandemic and ended by celebrating with Inexpressible Joy because of what our Matchless Savior did for us on Calgary and by rising from the grave.

All along my journey God led our LWML SD District. We Walked in Love at the 2022 convention at St. John’s Lutheran in Yankton. We studied the Word and sang With One Voice at the 2023 district retreat at Peace Lutheran in Brookings. We Wrapped Up in the Psalms at the 2021 retreat at Faith Lutheran in Pierre. What a great celebration of being together after many months of not having in person gatherings! What a joy to work with so many dedicated and loving Lutheran Women in Mission!

Do you remember how we celebrated the 50-year anniversary of the Puppet Place, where the Gospel is shared at the SD State Fair? The Rev. Bob Utecht family performed a magic show and the famous puppet show while we enjoyed the spring weather during the Yankton convention. I am thankful for the people who donated at our last district convention so that the Puppet Place could be painted, get a new sign, and have other updates done.

Over the last 4 years our LWML SD Mission Grants provided \$104,500 to 24 mission grant recipients from South Dakota to around the world. In addition to that, our mites were shared so that national grants were paid. Our mites were sent to the LCMS SD District for the church worker endowment fund. Mites were also used to purchase Today’s Light for women in prison. Then, there is more!! Think of all the donations and servant work that is done on the group level in our district. God greatly blesses us!

I am very thankful that I attended district workshops and many zone meetings to be part of Bible studies, business discussions, and servant events. I pray that God will bless each zone and group with more women who will serve in whatever opportunity that God provides for them.

At this convention we will vote on bylaw amendments that could affect how the district manages the monetary gifts that are given to our treasury and how we determine where we host the retreats and conventions. The number of groups and active members is changing so we need to plan for that.

I thank God for the opportunity to serve Him through the LWML SD District, and I thank the LWML SD District Board of Directors who so faithfully serve to further God’s kingdom. May He bless the Lutheran Women in Mission of South Dakota. Let us praise the Lord!

Susan Buxcel
Vice President of
Christian Life



After 4 years, my journey in our South Dakota LWML as the Vice President of Christian Life is coming to a close. When I began my term, I inherited a file box full of LWML store materials, an LWML Procedures Manual, and 4 large totes containing all the sale items for the LWML store. I was amazed that I was in charge of all of that! Then I learned that I had to plan our Christian Life Workshops, find groups to host them, speakers to present topics, and pastors to lead our worship! I began my term with a short prayer, “HELP”! Our loving Lord heard my desperate cry and answered in many loving ways.

Over the years, each local LWML group graciously accepted my offer to host those workshops and served with the kindness of Martha and Mary. Pastors and a DCE were quick to accept the invitation to share God’s Word with our LWML women teaching us through His Word on many timely topics. Mite offerings were generously given in love.

As I look back, I thank our gracious Father for answering my humble prayer with many blessings: making new friends, having our Christian Life workshops be a place to lift us up spiritually, to enjoy our LWML sisters all over the state of SD and for me, joyfully, to be a special part of the SD LWML Board of Directors as the VP of Christian Life.

Joy in Jesus,
Susan Buxcel
SD Dist. LWML VP Christian Life

Heather Miller
Vice President of
Communication



When I agreed to run for the position of Vice President of Communication, I never realized all that would be involved with this job. I attend Executive Committee (EC) and Board of Director (BOD) meetings, receive and compile reports, prepare call letters, and send out information to the EC, BOD, and groups. I also send out various communications at the request of the President. This has been a learning experience for me, and I am grateful to the other member of the Communication department for all her help. It is a joy to work alongside the other members of the BOD and all the members of the LWML SD District as we serve the Lord with gladness.

God’s blessings,
Heather Miller
VP of Communication

Jan Larson
Vice President of
Gospel Outreach



Welcome to the LWML SD District convention! We are so blessed by the Lord to be able to be His servants to reach out to untold numbers of people in this world, helping them in their faith walk here in this world and securing their eternal life in the next. As the Vice President of Gospel Outreach, I have the privilege of organizing the mission grants for the ballot selection, working with the Utecht family in their puppet ministry at the State Fair each year, and being a part of an amazing group of dedicated women who serve our Lord on the LWML District Board. During the past biennium, all of our 12 mission grants were paid in full! We have shared the Gospel through *Today's Light* with the people at the Women's Prison in Pierre. Our annual \$1,000 for the SD District Student Aid Endowment Fund is assisting students preparing for full time church work.

Besides these high points in my position, I also communicated with mission grant proposal people in submitting new mission grants, corresponded with current mission grants with updates on how the funds are being used, developed the mission grant power point, attended both Zoom and in-person meetings of the Board of Directors, wrote articles for the *HiLites*, helped plan this convention in Aberdeen, helped with the Puppet Place ministry in Huron and attended the LWML convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. I am very blessed!

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen
(Ephesians 3:20 RSV)

It has been my great privilege to serve as the Vice President of Gospel Outreach for the LWML South Dakota for the past 4 years. What a joy and privilege to be on the ground level of what the LWML is all about! Being the person who has direct contact with our mission grant people has been so humbling. Meeting some of the people at the convention has been a highlight of my work with them. Working with Pastor Utecht at the Puppet Place has been a delight for me personally. It has been fun working with the Utecht family as they continue this great work at the SD State Fair. Although I am no longer serving in this position, I will still be helping out in little ways at each level of our SD LWML. Thank you for the opportunity to serve Jesus in such a unique way over the past 4 years. God's blessings to each of you no matter how you serve the Lord with gladness!

Jan Larson
Vice President of Gospel Outreach

**Dianne
Hemminger
Vice President
of Special Focus
Ministries**



I was elected to the position in 2022 until 2026. I was responsible to help recruit people to travel to a mission field through MOST ministries. Emails were sent and calls were made and 9 people from South Dakota plus two who were not from South Dakota were willing to make the trip to Guatemala. The trip was planned but postponed twice because of political unrest in the country. Recently they were able to make that trip. However, not all of the original passengers were able to go.

One of my responsibilities was to help Laurel Schamber recruit Young Woman Representatives, ages 22-35, to become interested in LWML. Two attended the Milwaukee Convention. I was able to give them gifts of appreciation at the convention during their SD meeting.

I helped Laurel Schamber give a SMILE presentation at the Brookings, SD Retreat. I am helping to gather items for Heart to Heart Sisters and Servant Events for SD Districts Retreats and conventions including our June Convention in Aberdeen, SD.

I attend all Executive and regular Board Meetings including Zoom Meetings whenever called.

**Luann Zuercher
Secretary**



My name is Luann Zuercher and at the 2022 LWML SD District Convention I was elected to the position of secretary. My responsibilities with my group LWML at Faith Lutheran in Pierre had always been in supportive roles and I had never been involved at the district level. Honestly, learning “the ropes” of the LWML SD District was a bit of a challenge for me! That said, knowledgeable and caring LWML sisters have reached out with guidance and have made this job rewarding and interesting. I have enjoyed being on the BOD and have grown from the experience.

During the past two years, the majority of my tasks were in the following three duty areas:

- Attend EC and BOD meetings, record minutes, formalize the minutes, and email copies to the EC/BOD. This has led me to visit churches that I had not been to before and share meals, devotions, and activities with ladies who use their gifts to serve the Lord.
- Update the LWML SD District Directory each spring. The directory lists the zone officers, the active groups in each zone, and the group officers.
- Collect and certify the delegate registrations for the district convention.

I am looking forward to the next two years.

Melissa Vance
Treasurer



It is bittersweet writing my final article as treasurer. The last four years have been a wonderful learning experience, consisting of attending all the Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings, fulfilling all reimbursement vouchers and bills received from the President, and being able to work closely with the Financial Secretary to balance the books. I also had the opportunity to serve on the Finance Task Force and the Special Gifts Committee.

I want to thank you all for entrusting me with this position and I feel very blessed to be allowed to serve in this capacity. As I sign off, know that this is not a good-bye, but instead a “see you at the next event”, cause you can’t get rid of me that easily!!!!

Paula Warren
Financial Secretary



As your LWML SD Financial Secretary all monies that are sent in go through me. I deposit them and put them in the accounts that you have designated them. I have attended all Executive Committee and Board meetings and all the Financial Task Force meetings. I helped with the budget planning for the 2024-2026 Biennium.

I attended the LWML Convention in Milwaukee which was such a blessing!!

I have had the pleasure of meeting or talking on the phone with many of you. This has also been such a blessing and privilege for me!!! I look forward to the next 2 years.

“To God be the Glory!”

Rev. Aaron Asmus
Sr. Pastoral
Counselor



Inexpressible Joy - Matchless Savior!

What a beautiful theme based on 1 Peter 1:8-9! Matchless Savior - I guess that goes without saying. Scripture has helped us see the beauty of God's salvation which comes to us through Jesus alone. There is no other rescuer from hopelessness! He is the exact expression of God's gracious love in human flesh! Inexpressible joy - Joy is not just an outward feeling, but a confidence in our status as God's children that resides deep in our hearts! What gets expressed on the outside isn't always in synch with what we're given inside. Without a doubt we experience struggles and inconsistencies in our lives. Yet our hope inside is certain. It stands on God's promises! I pray that these days together around God's Word helps give us some wonderful expression of the deep joy that God has given us!

God's Blessings!
Pastor Aaron

**Rev. Dr. Brian
Mosemann
Jr. Pastoral
Counselor**



I was elected at the 2022 SD LWML District Convention as the junior pastoral counselor.

Serving in that capacity, I have written eleven articles for the SD LWML HiLites and doctrinally reviewed articles written for eleven issues of the SD LWML HiLites.

I have attended five Executive Committee meetings and five Board of Directors meetings and provided prayers and devotions for the meetings.

I have also attended meetings by zoom: a Spring Retreat Planning Committee meeting, three Finance Task Force meetings, and a Mission Grants committee meeting and provided prayers.

I attended the LWML Assembly of Leaders meeting in St. Louis, 2022, and I was a presenter at the SD District LWML Spring Retreat in 2023. In addition, I attended the LWML National Convention in Milwaukee, 2023.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Susan Swanson, Chairman

Nyla Jurrens

Patti Greenseth

Zone Presidents



Betty Ochsner
Aberdeen Zone



Elaine Hankel
Black Hills Zone



Kathy McKinney
Brookings Zone



Susan Swanson
Chamberlain Zone



Ann Cruse
Huron Zone



Jeanette Gravdahl
Milbank Zone



Julie Kaufman
Mitchell Zone



Mary Jo Stier
Pierre Zone



Lisa Asmus
Sioux Falls Zone



Sandy Brandt
Yankton Zone

SPECIAL APPOINTED PERSONNEL

Lurene Mogler Denke
Archivist-Historian



As the State Historian for South Dakota, I enjoy my job collecting and organizing items I get from the groups and Zones and State levels.

I collect from the Board meetings to the *HiLites* to the Facebook page and e-mails of information pertaining to the growth of the Lutheran Woman in Mission along with the Quarterlies.

I would like to get the highlights digitized for better organization of the 80 years of being a society in South Dakota. This takes time and a heart for history. It is a joy to share and see what people are doing to help other woman grow in the Lord through daily devotions and bible studies.

Thank you for sharing Jesus throughout history and beyond.

In the Lord's service,
Lurene Mogler Denke
SD LWML Archivist/ Historian

Lori Hoffman
Meeting Manager



Hello everyone, good to see you again.

During the last two years I have attended the state convention and retreats, BOD meetings. Attended Sioux Falls Zone Rallies and Prayer Services.

Being the LWML Meeting Manager has me touring and reserving rooms at hotels for our Board of Directors when we are at our meetings and also for the retreats and conventions. Finding event venues takes me across the state of South Dakota and meeting with great people that will make our conventions and retreats enjoyable. Calling and securing caterers to provide us wonderful meals is another part of my responsibilities.

For our BOD meetings I will call the church office in the community where our meeting is being held to reserve the church or have the LWML church President check on availability. There have been many servant hearted LWML ladies that have made and served the BOD during our meetings.

During the retreats and conventions, I assist the President, speakers, caterers, BOD members, and anyone else that may need supplies for their table, presentation, or a physical hand to move, lift, pack, and carry items.

As I leave this position, I would like to thank the past and present LWML President, Pastoral Counselors, BOD members for being a wonderful group of people to work with for the common goal of spreading God's Love through His Word.

Lynette Tisdall
News Editor



I have for the past 2 years sent emails to the appropriate people requesting their articles for the *HiLites*. After the articles have been doctrinally approved, I send them onto Kate.

I attended as many board meetings as I could. I attended the June 3-4, 2022, District Convention in Yankton.

President Patty and I worked on the new *HiLites* article 2-year schedule.

Mary Jo Stier
Parliamentarian



For the past several years, I have had the privilege and honor of serving as your parliamentarian and structure chairman. In the years of serving in this capacity I have learned so much about the workings of the LWML as well as more about myself. When I first became active in LWML, I often heard people say “By-laws are Beautiful” and then heard people grumble. After all these years, I learned that I am one of those people. I enjoy and appreciate the necessity of having proper governing documents and following parliamentary procedures. I would like to say thank you for giving me the opportunity to go outside my comfort zone and serve in this capacity.

Vonda Sturzenbecher
Special Gifts Fund Chairman



Hello! My name is Vonda Sturzenbecher. I have been your Special Gifts Fund Chairman. The Special Gifts Fund has granted funds for a variety of needs in the past. It has helped to fund vans for the group doing reservation ministry at Pine Ridge. It has helped many of our South Dakota District preschools and early childhood centers. The fund placed a bench in memory of Rev. Robert Utecht at the SD State Fair. It also helped with the Puppet Place ministry at the SD State Fair, not only with the building, but with the handouts, and helping to fund the productions. These are just a few of the projects helped by the Special Gift Fund.

If there is a need in your congregation or ministry, please go to sdlwml.org, click on the Resources tab and choose the Special Gifts/Subscriptions tab and click on the Special Gifts Fund Request Form. Fill it out and mail it to the address listed.

It has been an honor to serve as the Special Gifts Fund Chairman.
Vonda Sturzenbecher
Special Gifts Fun Chairman

Nancy Bogenhagen
Webmaster/IT



As a member of the Communication Department, I assisted with various technology needs, including managing the website sdlwml.org, hosting Zoom meetings, updating forms, and managing our YouTube channel *LWML South Dakota District*. I also assisted in administering our Facebook page, facebook.com/SDLWML.

Meetings attended included those of the LWML SD Board of Directors and the Finance Task Force. Events attended included the LWML SD District 2022 Convention, the 2022 and 2023 Fall Christian Life Workshops, and the 2023 Retreat. I also attended the LWML 2023 Milwaukee Convention.

LWML 2023 MILWAUKEE CONVENTION DELEGATES



Young Woman Representatives (YWR)

Vania Asmus and Rebecca Scott



LWML SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT PAST PRESIDENTS

In Memory of:

In grateful appreciation to:

1942–1943	Leona Meitler (Mrs. A.H.)	1974–1975	Betty Reimnitz (Mrs. Gerhard)
1943–1944	Eva Ellwein (Mrs. A.L.)	1975–1980	Norma Harer (Mrs. Darrell)
1944–1948	Ruth Jungeman (Mrs. J.H.)	1980–1984	Betty Haar (Mrs. Winfred)
1948–1952	Eva Ellwein (Mrs. A.L.)	1984–1988	Ruth Neuberger (Mrs. Tom)
1952–1954	Gladys Hammer (Mrs. Victor), later Mrs. Keith Watters	1988–1992	Sharon Falk (Mrs. Charles)
1954–1956	Leah Proehl (Mrs. Ed)	1992–1996	Annette Jarratt (Mrs. Charles)
1956–1960	Marie Mueller (Mrs. L.B.)	1996–2000	Pat Reichert (Mrs. Don)
1960–1962	Elna Dite (Mrs. Ed) later Mrs. George Hanson	2000–2004	Janell McKinstry (Mrs. Earl)
1962–1966	Emilie “Millie” Schmidt (Mrs. C.F.)	2004–2008	Dianne Diekmann (Mrs. Gerald)
1966–1970	Josephine Carman	2008–2012	Elaine Hankel
1970–1974	Edna Haeder (Mrs. Hugo)	2012–2016	Arlene Naasz (Mrs. Terry)
		2016–2020	Lisa Asmus (Mrs. Aaron)
		2020-2024	Patty Peters (Mrs. Scott)



PAST DISTRICT PRESIDENTS AT 2023 LWML MILWAUKEE CONVENTION

Left to Right: Pat Reichert, Janell McKinstry, Dianne Diekmann, Elaine Hankel, Arlene Naasz, Lisa Asmus, and Patty Peters

PAST MISSION GRANTS LWML SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT

1944–1945	\$250 Organ for Memorial Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls
1945–1946	\$450 Gas Furnace for St. Paul Lutheran Church, Spearfish
1946–1950	\$10,000 Chapel for the Deaf, Sioux Falls
1949–1950	\$150 Grant for Deaconess Scholarship
1951–1952	\$3,000 Organ for Concordia Lutheran Church, Vermillion
1952–1954	\$3,000 Student Center Furnishings at Brookings
1952–1953	\$125 Family Worship Hour; \$175 Deaconess Scholarship
1953–1954	\$3,000 General Building Fund, St. Luke Mission, Rapid City; \$125 Family Worship Hour; \$175 Deaconess Scholarship
1954–1955	\$3,000 South Dakota Children Benevolent Association
1955–1956	\$3,000 Indian Missions, South Dakota; \$125 Deaconess Scholarship
1956–1957	\$3,000 New Mission (Trinity) at Edgemont; \$125 Deaconess Scholarship
1957–1958	\$3,000 Indian Missions, South Dakota; \$125 Deaf Chapel Renovation, Sioux Falls; \$175 Deaconess Scholarship
1958–1959	\$3,000 Furnishings for Mission (Christ Lutheran) at Winner; \$175 Deaconess Scholarship
1959–1960	\$3,500 Furnishings for a Student Center at Brookings, \$225 Deaconess Scholarship
1960–1961	\$3,500 Scholarship for Training Institutional Chaplains; \$225 Deaconess Scholarship
1961–1962	\$3,500 Furnishings for Ascension Lutheran, Rapid City; \$225 Deaconess Scholarship
1962–1963	\$3,500 Nigerian Mission; \$225 Deaconess Scholarship
1963–1964	\$4,000 Ambassadors for Christ–Evangelism Program for Youth; \$225 Deaconess Scholarship
1964–1965	\$4,000 Furnish & Remodel Student Center, Vermillion; \$500 Memorial, Missionary Olive Gruen (Educational Materials, Taiwan); \$225 Deaconess Scholarship
1965–1966	\$4,500 Trailer Chapel for Arpan, SD Northwest Mission; \$225 Deaconess Scholarship
1966–1967	\$4,500 Student Center Furnishing, Springfield, \$225 Deaconess Scholarship
1967–1968	\$5,000 Lutheran Social Services, Sioux Falls; \$225 Deaconess Scholarship
1968–1969	\$3,500 Indian Mission, South Dakota; \$1,500 Jeep, Parish, North Miniones, Argentina; \$225 Deaconess Scholarship
1969–1970	\$5,500 Scholarships, Alabama Lutheran Academy, Selma. AL; \$225 Deaconess Scholarship
1970–1971	\$5,500 Youth Work and Town and Country Ministry; \$225 Deaconess Scholarship
1971–1972	\$6,000 Visual Aids for the Deaf & SD LCMS Audiovisual Library; \$300 Deaconess Scholarship.
1972–1973	\$6,000 Puppet Show for Native Americans & Yala Book Fund, Nigeria; \$300 Deaconess Scholarship
1973–1974	\$6,500 Lutheran Bible Translators; \$300 Deaconess Scholarship

- 1974–1975 \$6,500 Lutheran Campus Ministry & Youth Task Force, Youth Staff Program; \$300 Jo Carman Deaconess Scholarship
- 1975–1976 \$3,250 India Evangelical Lutheran Church, Nagercoil Synod; \$3,250 Bethesda Satellite Project, Watertown, Wisconsin; \$300 Jo Carman Deaconess Scholarship
- 1976–1977 \$3,250 Leisure Time Ministry, Our Savior, Hill City; \$3,250 Help for students a Concordia, St. Louis & Springfield; \$300 Jo Carmon Deaconess Scholarship
- 1977–1978 \$3,250 Lutheran Bible Translators, Janice Siemers, Alcester; \$3,250 Dakota Boys Ranch, Minot, ND; \$300 Jo Carman Deaconess Scholarship
- 1978–1979 \$3,300 Neal Ahart Colloquy Program; \$3,300 LWML State Fair Booth; \$300 Jo Carmon Deaconess Scholarship
- 1979–1980 \$3,300 Vicar Don Cooper for Educational Assistance, Brookings; \$3,300 Alice Brauer, Medical Missions in Ambur, India; \$300 Jo Carman Deaconess Scholarship
- 1980–1981 \$3,300 Bethesda Lutheran Home, Watertown, Wisconsin; \$3,300 Seminary Scholarships for Overseas Workers; \$300 Jo Carman Deaconess Scholarship
- 1981–1982 \$3,500 South Dakota District Scholarship Fund; \$3,500 Bible Reading Radio Broadcasts, China; \$300 Jo Carman Deaconess Scholarship
- 1982–1983 \$3,500 Seminary Scholarships for South Dakota Students; \$3,500 Parochial School Grants; equal to six SD Schools; \$400 Jo Carman Deaconess Scholarship
- 1983–1984 \$4,000 Audiovisual Materials, SD District LCMS Office Library; \$4,000 Lutheran Hour; \$400 Jo Carman Deaconess Scholarship
- 1984–1985 \$4,000 District Scholar Fund; \$4,000 Lutheran Bible Translators, Krio Printing Project; \$4,000 Lutheran Education Center of Aging; \$400 Jo Carman Deaconess Scholarship
- 1985–1986 \$4,000 South Dakota Student Endowment Fund; \$4,000 LCMS World Relief–World Hunger; \$400 Jo Carman Deaconess Scholarship
- 1986–1988 \$4,000 Christian Braille for China – Lutheran Braille Workers; \$4,000 Lutheran School for the Deaf, Detroit; \$4,000 Hispanic Intern Program, O. Hoffman School of Christian Outreach; \$4,000 Ongoing Ambassadors for Christ; \$800 Jo Carman Deaconess Scholarship; \$3,950 State Fair Ministry/Bible Studies
- 1988–1990 \$4,000 SD District Student Aide Fund; \$4,000 Rural Ministries Program; \$4,000 Botswana Project; \$4,000 Heartwarmers; \$800 Jo Carman Deaconess Scholarship; \$3,900 State Fair Ministry/Bible Studies
- 1990–1992 \$5,000 Helping Pastors Bring the Gospel to Deaf People; \$5,000 SD District LCMS Audiovisual Resource Library/Hospital Chaplaincy Program; \$5,000 LCMS Library for the Blind; \$5,000 Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls; \$2,500 Cross–cultural Student Fund, Ft. Wayne Seminary; \$2,500 Pastor/Pilot Ministry, LAMP; \$800 Jo Carman Deaconess Endowment Fund; \$3,900 State Fair Ministry/Bible Studies
- 1994–1996 \$10,000 Up–grading SDSU and USD Lutheran Student Centers; \$5,000 Native American Ministry, South Dakota; \$5,000 Equipping Deaf Ministry in South Dakota; \$5,000 Tuition for Native American Children attending Lutheran Schools; \$5,222 Puppet Place – State Fair Ministry; \$800 Jo Carman – District Student Endowment Fund
- 1996–1998 \$5,000 Support for Vicar Andrew Utecht; \$2,500 Heartland Lutheran for Life, Speaking of Life; \$2,350 Child Care and Life Skills English Classes; \$4,000 Nurse Professor India Project; \$4,000 North Light Video Mission Outreach; \$4,000 LBT Computers and Software;

- \$1,750 Weekly Broadcasts of the Lutheran Hour in Arabic; \$5,931 State Fair Ministry – Puppet Place; \$800 Jo Carman/District Student Endowment Fund
- 1998–2000 \$5,000 Preschool, Zion, Canistota; \$5,000 VBS on the Pine Ridge and Rosebud Reservations; \$5,000 SD LCMS Deaf Ministry; \$4,000 LCMS World Mission – Teachers in China; \$3,300 ‘Woman to Woman’ LHM program on KLMP, Rapid City; \$2,655 Tuition for Native American Children, Bethesda, Hot Springs; \$2,000 LCMS World Mission – Portals of Prayer for Armed Forces; \$6,273 State Fair Ministry – Puppet Place; \$800 Jo Carman/District Student Endowment Fund
- 2000–2002 \$4,610 Tape Duplicator – Materials for the Blind, Wolsey; \$3,000 Emergency Medical Evacuation of Missionaries, LCMS; \$5,000 Sudanese Evangelist Missionary, Sioux Falls; \$5,000 Peace Lutheran Early Childhood Center, Brookings; \$10,000 LBT, Scott Westerman Vehicle, Cameroon; \$2,390 Sioux Falls Lutheran School – Laminating Machine/Computer; \$5,458 State Fair Ministry – Puppet Place; \$800 District Student Endowment Fund
- 2002–2004 \$2,500 Volunteer Youth Ministry, Japan and Taiwan; \$5,000 Mission and Ministry in Kazakhstan; \$5,000 “For the Sake of the Church” Endowment, Concordia University System; \$5,000 Sudanese Outreach Program, Zion; \$10,000 Main Street Living – TV Ministry, SD LCMS; \$3,500 Support for Bible Schools, Rosebud Indian Reservation; \$1,000 Bethel Lutheran Church Building Project, Sofokrom, Ghana; Puppet Place; \$800 District Student Endowment Fund
- 2004–2006 \$5,000 SD Lutherans for Life – Alpha Center; \$3,000 International Student Ministry; \$3,000 Church Planting Kazakhstan; \$5,000 Ongoing Ambassadors for Christ of SD; \$1,003 Holy Cross Lutheran Church Onida TV Ministry; \$2,500 Church Support – Russia; \$800 Mission Opportunities Short Term – MOST Ministries; \$4,897 Circle of Twelve Project – Japan; \$800 District Student Endowment Fund; \$6,677 State Fair – Puppet Place
- 2006–2008 \$5,000 Lutheran Blind Mission – Wolsey; \$5,000 Kazakh Christian Resource Materials; \$5,000 Concordia Theological Seminary Food & Clothing Co-op; \$5,000 Arabic Ministry Woman Worker – Detroit; \$5,000 St. John’s Preschool, Groton; \$5,000 Alaska Mission for Christ; \$3,825 Sewing Center & Orphan Assistance – Uganda; \$3,675 Vietnam Poverty Alleviation; \$1,000 District Student Endowment Fund; \$7,155 State Fair Ministry/Puppet Place
- 2008–2010 \$5,000 Trinity Lutheran Education Center – Hartford; \$5,000 Sioux Falls Lutheran Immigrant Tuition; \$5,000 Main Street Living Kid’s Crossing; \$5,000 Trinity Hope, Haiti; \$3,000 Zion Lutheran School – Rapid City; \$5,000 Risen Savior Lutheran Church, Tea; \$5,000 Concordia Seminary Food Bank – St. Louis; \$5,000 Christian Resource Materials – Kazakhstan; \$2,000 Scholarships for Themba Trust; District Student Endowment Fund; State Fair Puppet Place Ministry.
- 2010–2012 \$5,000 SD Division of Orphan Grain Train–Orphan Grain Train; \$5,000 Amy Kashenov Missionary Support – LCMS World Mission; \$5,000 Life: A Better Choice – Lutherans for Life of SD; \$3,500 LCMS Joint Seminary Fund – LCMS Foundation; \$5,000 Lutheran Blind Mission for Work Center, Wolsey, SD; \$5,000 Open Arms Childcare and Learning Center–Resurrection Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls; \$5,000 Digital Duplicator for Liberia Bible Translation & Literacy Organization – LBT; \$5,000 Lutheran High School of Sioux Falls, SD; \$3,500 Land purchases for African Churches – LCMS World Mission; District Student Endowment Fund; State Fair Puppet Place Ministry
- 2012–2014 \$5,000 Concordia Seminary, St. Louis–Food Bank; \$8,600 Black Hills Lutheran Middle School, Rapid City, SD; \$2,000 Lutheran Bible Translators–Helping Women in Liberia, West Africa; \$5,000 Lutheran Heritage Foundation–Children’s Bibles in Southeast Asia;

- \$5,000 Trinity/Hope Lutheran Schools Haiti—Feed the Children; \$5,000 Divine Shepherd Preschool, Black Hawk, SD; \$1,500 The Lighthouse Preschool, Aberdeen, SD; \$5,000 Blessed Redeemer Lutheran Preschool, Brandon, SD; \$5,000 LCMS—Handicapped Institutional Reform in Kazakhstan; \$4,000 POBLO—Bible and Scripture Resource Distribution in the U.S.; \$3,900 LCMS—Training Future Pastors in Uganda; District Student Endowment Fund; State Fair Puppet Place Ministry; *Today's Light* subscription for SD Women's Prison
- 2014–2016 \$5,000 Black Hills Lutheran Schools Association, Inc.; \$5,000 Classrooms for the Children of Liberia; \$5,000 Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne—Food and Clothing Co-op; \$4,780 Divine Shepherd Preschool, Black Hawk, SD; \$1,130 Graduate Studies for International Lutheran Leaders; \$5,000 Life: A Better Choice; \$4,000 Lutheran Braille Workers; \$5,000 Rural and Small Town Mission Worker Priest Retreat; \$5,000 Standing Firm in the Face of Islam: Lutheran Books for Turkey; \$5,000 Trinity HOPE, Inc. – Project to Feed Hungry Children in Lutheran Schools in Haiti; *Today's Light* for SD Women's Prison; District Student Endowment Fund; State Fair Puppet Place Ministry
- 2016–2018 \$5,000 Concordia Seminary, St. Louis Food Bank; \$5,000 Peace Lutheran Church & Educational Ministries; \$4,000 LCMS Mission Central Current & Urgent Grant; \$3,000 Mercy Medical Team – Chaplain Scholarships; \$4,500 Gospel Hands – VBS for Deaf Children; \$5,000 Little Lambs Lutheran Preschool, Sturgis; \$5,000 The Confessional Lutheran Educational Foundation E-Reader Project; \$5,000 POBLO International; \$2,500 Witness & Outreach Ministry/Revitalization Office of National Mission (re:Vitality); \$3,500 Shepherd's Canyon Retreat; \$4,000 Stronger Pastor of Southeast Asia with the Book of Concord; \$1,000 *Today's Light* subscription for SD Women's Prison; \$2,000 District Student Endowment Fund; \$10,000 State Fair Puppet Place Ministry.
- 2018–2020 \$5,000 Harvest Winds Sewing Factory, Parmalee, SD; \$5,000 Life: A Better Choice – Lutherans for Life of SD; \$5,000 Pre-school and Pre-Kindergarten Karen/Hispanic Interpreters, Mt. Calvary, Huron, SD; \$5,000 Food and Clothing Co-op, Ft. Wayne; \$5,000 Orphan Grain Train, Disaster Relief for Flooding in the USA; \$5,000 Children's Bible Stories for India and Sri Lanka Families – Lutheran Heritage Foundation; \$5,000 Curriculum Enhancements – Black Hills Lutheran Schools, Rapid City, SD; \$5,000 Early Childhood Center – Divine Shepherd, Black Hawk, SD; \$2,500 Operation Barnabas for Comfort Dog Congregations – LCMS; \$2,500 In Their Own Language: Distributing for Jesus Film to New Americans in South Dakota; POBLO (People of the Book Ministries) International; \$1,666.67 Two Kingdom Education Initiative, Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty–LCMS RSO; \$1,666.67 Lutherans for Life Post-Abortion Crisis Hotline Expansion – Word of Hope, LCMS RSO; \$1,666.67 Health Wellness/Learn, Move, Grow – Sioux Falls Lutheran School, Sioux Falls, SD; \$1,030 *Today's Light* subscription for SD Women's Prison; \$2,000 District Student Endowment Fund; \$10,000 State Fair Puppet Place.
- 2020–2022 Concordia Theological Seminary Food and Clothing Co-Op, Fort Wayne, IN — \$5,000; LCMS Missionary Support at just the RIGHT Time, LCMS Mission Central — \$5,000; Was a Stranger: Lutheran Books for Immigrants in SD, Lutheran Heritage Foundation — \$5,000; Equipping and Strengthening the Early Learning Center Ministry to Children and Families, Hot Springs, SD — \$4,000; Community Outreach Mission at Trinity Lutheran, Belle Fourche, SD — \$5,000; Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, Chapel Audio Equipment, LCMS RSO — \$3,000; Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty, LCMS RSO — \$4,000; Graduate School Support for International Students Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO — \$5,000; Christ's Mercy in Russia, LCMS RSO — \$5,000; Sioux Falls Lutheran Schools, Playground Equipment and Musical Instruments, Sioux Falls, SD — \$5,000; Nursing

Student Mercy Medical Team Scholarships, LCMS RSO — \$3,000; Lutheran Books for Schools in Papua New Guinea, LCMS RSO — \$3,500.

2022-2024

Black Hills Pregnancy Center Earn While you Learn Program, Rapid City, SD — \$5,000; Financial Assistance for Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, IN Food and Clothing Coop — \$5,000; Feeding Haitian Children Physically and Spiritually — \$5,000; International Students Making Jesus Known to the World, Concordia Seminary — \$5,000; Faith Lutheran Daycare and Preschool Playground Area Upgrade — \$5,000; Luther's Small Catechism for African Missions, LHF — \$5,000; Mozambique Sewing Project, LCMS International Mission Africa Region — \$5,000; Faith and Hope Center, Siberia LCMS Office of International Mission Eurasia Region — \$5,000; Spanish Braille Bibles for Central and South America, LBW — \$5,000; Soldiers of the Cross, LCMS — \$5,000; Jesus Door 2 Door — \$1,000; Teachers to the World, MOST Ministries — \$4,000

ABERDEEN ZONE HOST COMMITTEE



Back row L to R: Bev Sombke (servant events), Mary Flanigan (banners), Gwen Braddock (secretary), Betty Ochsner (coordinator)

Front row L to R: Left Bobbie Bierman (treasurer), Sheri Albert's (exhibitors), Dawn Schlueter (co-chair exhibitors). Missing is Denise Melius (registration)

Zone President/Coordinator — Betty Ochsner

Chairman — Betty Ochsner

Secretary — Gwen Braddock

Treasurer — Bobbie Bierman

Banners — Mary Flanigan

Exhibits & Displays — Sheri Alberts and Dawn Schlueter

Registration — Denise Melius

Servant Events/Gifts from the Heart/Mission Walk — Bev Sombke

Convention Choir Director — Rev. Ryan Drevlow

1. Lutheran Women, One and All

Lutheran women, one and all,
We have heard the Gospel call.
We by faith have seen our Lord,
Crucified and then restored.
We have seen Him pay the price,
For our sins a sacrifice.
Him we Lord and Christ acclaim,
and unite to praise His name.

Lutheran women, young and old,
well we know His challenge bold;
Help to take the Gospel light
to a world in darkest night.
By example in the home,
by inviting those who roam,
By our prayers for sinners lost,
by our gifts for missions' cost.

Lutheran women, coast to coast,
in the Lord a mighty host,
Let us all united be,
in the Holy Trinity.
One in faith, in hope and love,
working for the Lord above,
Till our earthly labors done,
we in heaven shall all be one.

Tune: LSB #892; Elmer A. Kettner

2. Amazing Grace—My Chains are Gone

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

Chorus:

My chains are gone I've been set free
My God my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love amazing grace.

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God who called me here below
Will be forever mine.
Will be forever mine.
You are forever mine.

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Newton, Louie Giglio
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worshiptogether.com
songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

3. Amazing Mites (Tune: Amazing Grace)

Amazing mites are sent with prayer,
Here and abroad to share
With those in need, that is our aim,
And always praise His name.

Each coin is giv'n with loving heart.
For this we have a part.
What joy it is to do God's work,
From this we'll never shirk.

Amazing mites, those coins so small,
When in the box they fall,
Become a force for our dear Lord
And spread His Word abroad.

Our mites help many in despair.
They show how much we care.
They tell the news of God's great love,
And point to heav'n above.

Tune: LSB # 744; Text: "Overflowing Love", LWML

4. I Love To Tell The Story

I love to tell the story Of unseen things above
Of Jesus and His glory Of Jesus and His love
I love to tell the story Because I know 'tis true
It satisfies my longings As nothing else can do.

Chorus:

I love to tell the story, 'Twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old old story Of Jesus and His love.

I love to tell the story 'Tis pleasant to repeat
What seems each time I tell it more wonderfully sweet
I love to tell the story For some have never heard
The message of salvation, From God's own holy Word.

Chorus

I love to tell the story For those who know it best
Seem hungering and thirsting To hear it like the rest
And when in scenes of glory I sing the new new song
'Twill be the old old story That I have loved so long.

Chorus

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William Gustavus Fischer; © Words: Public Domain, Music:
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5. In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

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Townend;

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6. It's a Great Day/Walk, Walk, Walk (modified)

It's a great day to praise the Lord
It's a great day to praise the Lord
It's a great day to praise the Lord
Walking in the love of God.

Chorus: *Walk, walk, walk, in the love*
Walk, walk, walk, in the love
Walk, walk, walk, in the love
Walking in the love of God.

It's a great day to love the Lord—
Chorus

It's a great day to serve the Lord—
Chorus
Public Domain

7. Jesus, Name above All Names

Jesus, name above all names,
Beautiful Savior, glorious Lord.
Emmanuel, God is with us,
Blessèd Redeemer, living Word

Jesus, loving shepherd
Vine of the branches, Son of God.
Prince of Peace, Wonderful Counselor
Lord of the universe, Light of the world.

Jesus, Way of salvation,
King of Kings, Lord of Lords,
The Way, the truth and the Life,
Mighty creator, My Savior and friend.

Text adapted by Naida Hearn from Matt. 1:23; Phil. 2:5-11; LSB
#970,

© 1974 Scripture in Song; admin. Integrity's Hosanna! Music.

8. Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

Joyful, joyful we adore Thee
God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee,
Praising Thee, their sun above.

Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
Drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day.

All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird, and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Wellspring of the joy of living,
Ocean-depth of happy rest!
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Fountainhead of love divine:
Joyful, we Thy heav'n inherit!
Joyful, we by grace are Thine!
Public domain. LSB #803

9. Lift High the Cross

Refrain: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod,
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. Refrain

Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine. Refrain

All newborn soldiers of the Crucified
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died. Refrain

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee. Refrain

Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell.
Refrain

So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! Refrain

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10. My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
No merit of my own I claim
But wholly lean on Jesus' name. Refrain

Refrain: On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In ev'ry high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil. Refrain

His oath, His covenant and blood
Support me in the raging flood;
When ev'ry earthly prop gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay. Refrain

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be found,
Clothed in His righteousness alone,
Redeemed to stand before His throne! Refrain
Public domain. *LSB* #575

11. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King
of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health
and salvation!
Let all who hear Now to His temple draw
near,
Joining in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your
work and defend you;
Surely His goodness and mercy shall daily
attend you
Ponder anew What the Almighty can do
As with His love He befriends you.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me
adore Him!
All that has life and breath, come now with
praises
Before Him!
Let the Amen Sound from His people again;
Gladly forever adore Him!

Public domain. *LSB* #790

12. Seek Ye First

Seek ye first the kingdom of God,
And His righteousness.
And all these things shall be added unto
you!
Allelu, alleluia!

Ask and it shall be given unto you,
Seek and ye shall find,
Knock and the door shall be opened unto
you,
Allelu, alleluia!

Man does not live by bread alone,
But by ev'ry word
That proceeds from the mouth of the Lord,
Allelu, alleluia!

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13. There is a Name/O How I Love Jesus

There is a name I love to hear, I love to sing its worth
It sounds like music in my ear, The sweetest name on earth

Chorus

O how I love Jesus, O how I love Jesus
O how I love Jesus, Because He first loved me

It tells me of a Saviour's love, Who died to set me free
It tells me of His precious blood
The sinner's perfect plea. Chorus

It tells me what my Father hath, In store for every day
And tho' I tread a darksome path
Yields sunshine all the way. Chorus

It tells of One whose loving heart, Can feel my deepest woe
Who in each sorrow bears a part,
That none can bear below. Chorus

CCLI Song # 28696 Frederick Whitfield | Unknown. © Words:
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14. They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love

We are one in the Spirit, We are one in the Lord
We are one in the Spirit, We are one in the Lord
And we pray that all unity May one day be restored.
Chorus:

And they'll know we are Christians
By our love by our love
Yes they'll know we are Christians By our love.

We will *walk* with each other,
We will *walk* hand in hand
We will *walk* with each other,
We will *walk* hand in hand
And together we'll spread the news
That God is in our land. Chorus

All praise to the Father From whom all things come
And all praise to Christ Jesus His only Son
And all praise to the Spirit Who makes us one. Chorus

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Publications.

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15. We are Marching in the Light of God (South African Traditional, Lyrics Modified)

We are marching in the light of God
We are marching in the light of God
We are marching in the light of God
We are marching in the light of God
We are marching O-oh
We are marching in the light of God
We are marching O-oh
We are marching in the light of God
We are living in the love of God (repeat)
We are living O-oh
We are living in the love of God
We are living O-oh
We are living in the love of God
We are "walking in the love" of God (repeat)
We are *walking* O-oh
We are *walking in the love of God*
We are *walking* O-oh
We are *walking in the love of God*.

CCLI Song # 320947 Anders Nyberg | Andrew Maries
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16. You Are My All In All

You are my strength, When I am weak
You are the treasure That I seek
You are my all in all.
Seeking You as a precious jewel
Lord to give up I'd be a fool
You are my all in all

Chorus:

Jesus Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name
Jesus Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name

Taking my sin My cross my shame
Rising again I bless Your name
You are my all in all.
When I fall down You pick me up
When I am dry You fill my cup
You are my all in all. Chorus.

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APPRECIATION AND THANKS

Thank you for your service to the Lord and to the LWML South Dakota District

There are so many people to thank as we enjoy our time together at the 63rd LWML SD Convention. I thank God for giving us the opportunity to be in the Word and worship Him. God gives us many kinds of treasures to share with others so that His Gospel and love can be heard and felt around the world. I thank God for each of you as you continue to serve and love the Triune God and your neighbor. May the Holy Spirit guide you as you Serve the Lord with Gladness. *President Patty Peters*

- Aberdeen Zone ladies and the convention committees under the leadership of Zone President Betty Ochsner.
- Sioux Falls Zone ladies for making the purple yarn crosses.
- LWML SD Board of Directors. Each person has specific jobs that are necessary to carry on the work of the convention.
 - Vice President of Gospel Outreach Jan Larson — Mission Grants and The Puppet Place.
 - Vice President of Christian Life Susan Buxcel — The LWML Store.
 - Vice President of Special Focus Ministries Dianne Hemminger — Servant Events, Ingathering, YWRs, Heart2Heart Sisters.
 - Vice President of Communication Heather Miller — Convention Manual, Calls to Meetings.
 - Secretary Luann Zuercher — Minutes, Delegate list, Evaluations.
 - Treasurer Melissa Vance — Finances and Budget.
 - Financial Secretary Paula Warren — Finances, Budget, supplies for sewing diapers servant event.
 - Pastoral Counselors Rev. Aaron Asmus and Rev. Dr. Brian Mosemann — Divine Service preparation, music assistance, and pastoral guidance.
 - Webmaster/IT Nancy Bogenhagen — Sending out information concerning the convention.
 - Meeting Manager Lori Hoffman — Securing the facility and arranging meals.
 - Parliamentarian Mary Jo Stier — Organizing bylaws amendments and helping with parliamentary procedure.
 - Nominating Committee — Susan Swanson, Nyla Jurrens, and Patti Greenseth.
- All candidates for positions that are on the ballot.
- Speakers.
 - Former LWML President Kay Kreklau.
 - LWML Vice President of Organizational Resources Arlene Naasz.
 - Bible Study Leader Donna Snow.
 - Gifts of Love speaker Katy Gifford.
 - Mites in Action Speakers — DCE Michael Leapley, Travis Lasseter, Denise Gudlin.
- Rev. Drevlow, Rev. Smith, and St. Paul's Lutheran Church.
- Vania Asmus — Logo and banner design.
- Susan Swanson — Preparation of the district banner.
- Laurel Schamber — Committee on Young Women Chairman.
- Elaine Hankel and Pat Huisman — Supplies for servant events of mission bracelets and hand puppets.
- Singers Kristen Newell and Laura Hall.
- President's Pages Addison and Naomi Newell.
- Lutheran Church Extension Fund and Representative Kai Larson — Convention bags and manuals.
- Best Western Ramkota Hotel and Convention Center Staff.
- Scott Peters, husband of President Patty, for all the love and support.



Lutheran Women *in Mission*

invites you to the

41st Biennial Convention

Thursday, June 26–Sunday, June 29, 2025

in Omaha, Nebraska

Convention Theme:

Growing in God's Grace

Scripture Verse:

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen (2 Peter 3:18)

Convention Goal Statement:

Through Word and Sacrament, I will grow in grace to serve our Lord and proclaim His glory.

2025 Convention Objectives:

Each convention attendee will be:

- ▶ Inspired to dig deeper in God's Word.
- ▶ Nurtured to share the love of Christ with enthusiasm.
- ▶ Encouraged to support missions and our mission goal with joy.

Convention Logo Explanation:

The 2025 Lutheran Women in Mission Convention logo features green leaves sprouting up and revealing the Lutheran Women in Mission icon to signify Growing in God's Grace. It is based on the convention verse, 2 Peter 3:18 — *But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.*

A fresh, bright green color is used for the leaves and the word "grace" to indicate new growth and to connect it with God's grace. Including the Lutheran Women in Mission icon links the logo with our organization and the convention goal "Through Word and Sacrament, I will grow in grace to serve our Lord and proclaim His glory."

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Growing
IN GOD'S
grace
2 PETER 3:18

Lutheran Women *in Mission*

41ST BIENNIAL CONVENTION
Omaha, Nebraska



June 26–29, 2025