

LWML ★ *Texas* District

History **1942-2016**



The Lutheran Women's Missionary League Pledge

In fervent gratitude for the Savior's dying love and His blood-bought gift of redemption we dedicate ourselves to Him with all that we are and have; and in obedience to His call for workers in the harvest fields, we pledge Him our willing service wherever and whenever He has need of us. We consecrate to our Savior our hands to work for Him, our feet to go on His errands, our voice to sing His praises, our lips to proclaim His redeeming love, our silver and our gold to extend His Kingdom, our will to do His will, and every power of our life to the great task of bringing the lost and the erring into eternal fellowship with Him.

Amen.

Motto: *Serve the Lord with gladness* (Psalm 100:2)

In 2017 the Lutheran Women's Missionary League celebrated its 75th anniversary of serving the Lord with gladness. LWML is the official women's auxiliary of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod whose mission is to affirm each woman's relationship with the Triune God and equip and encourage women to use their gifts in active, global mission ministry. A major emphasis of the LWML is the support of mission and ministry throughout the world by means of Mite Box® offerings which have collectively funded more than one-hundred million dollars in mission grants since the organization's inception in 1942.

ORGANIZATION AND PURPOSE

For many years women in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod hoped, prayed, and talked about a Synod-wide League of Lutheran women. They wanted an opportunity for service in addition to that offered in the local congregation. Disappointment and discouragement came to those who in early days tried to effect such an organization. Determined though to carry on some kind of unified program, leagues were organized within their own cities and within their own Synod Districts. Actually, the Lutheran Women's Missionary League had its beginning as far back as 1929. It received the Synod's approval at the 1941 Synod Convention held at St. Stephens Church, Chicago, Illinois, July 7-8, 1942, and began to function officially January 1, 1943. At this convention Dr. J.W. Behnken, President of Synod, stated: "This is an historic event and one that Church history should record." The Lutheran Women's Missionary League is a Synod-wide organization of women's societies within the congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Any woman who is a communicant member of a congregation may become a member of the LWML.

LWML TEXAS DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

Following the lead of the organizing districts, a group of interested Texas women and pastors held a meeting in Waco, June 26, 1941, for the purpose of discussing a possible state organization for Texas. Approximately 125 women attended. Mrs. Walter Kramer served as chairman at this meeting, and Mrs. Delven Ressel as secretary. Steps toward organization were delayed until local societies and pastors were fully informed concerning the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. However, some time after this meeting the District President, Rev. E.A. Heckmann, acting upon Synod's suggestions, appointed a pastoral committee of three to assist in organizing a district Lutheran Women's Missionary League. The committee included Rev. J. H. Kollmeyer, Charmain, Rev. V.L. Behnken, and Rev. A. Arndt.

The committee arranged for a constitutional convention to be held at Concordia College, Austin, on June 10, 1942. This, the first meeting of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League of the Texas District was attended by 48 delegates and 166 visitors. The group conditionally adopted a constitution that required the joining of twenty congregational societies before a district organization could become operative. A delegate and an alternate were chosen to represent the Texas District at the National Convention, those being Mrs. W.H. Kieschnick of Harlingen and Mrs. Delvin Ressel of Tyler, respectively. Mrs. Ressel, alternate, attended the convention. The first district officers elected were: President, Mrs. A.E. (Hildegard) Bruns, Houston; Vice-President, Mrs. W.D. (Anna Marie) Parker, Dallas; Secretary, Mrs. Martin (Cornelia) Ramming, Denison; Financial Secretary, Mrs. D.E. (Louise) Ressel, Tyler; and Additional Board Member, Mrs. W.G. (Alma) Buchschacher, Waco. Mrs. W.D. (Anna Marie) Parker was the first Texas District officer to attend the National Executive Committee meeting in St. Louis in October, 1942. Since the general body by direction of the Chicago Convention was to begin functioning January 1, 1943, the Texas District fell in line.

OBJECTIVES

1. To develop and maintain a greater mission consciousness among the women of Synod through –
MISSIONARY EDUCATION – *Study to show thyself approved unto God* (II Tim. 2:15)
MISSIONARY INSPIRATION – *They said, Let us rise up and build. So they strengthened their hands for this good work* (Neh. 2:18)
MISSIONARY SERVICE – *If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them* (John 13:17)
2. To adopt and support missions through prayer, cooperation, and financial support, especially those projects for which adequate provision has NOT been made in the Synod's program.

These objectives have been zealously carried out through projects assumed by the LWML Texas District and through activities sponsored by the Christian Growth Committee.

MEMBERSHIP

Application blanks for membership in the league and copies of the constitution were sent to all the congregations. By March 1943, 28 societies with 743 members had joined. The following list reveals Texas District growth by biennium, societies and individual membership.

Full credit goes to Mrs. A.E. (Hildegard) Bruns, the first elected president of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, Texas District, for having organized the district into zones. Mrs. Bruns patterned the zoning after that of the circuits in Texas, dividing the state into eleven zones. Each zone was designated by number. This was reported and recorded at the convention of 1943.

In 1956 the LWML Texas District took official action to divide the state into eighteen zones. These zones were to adopt names to replace the original number designation.

The Gulf Coast Zone was further divided in May 1958 to also form the "Golden Triangle Zone." This brought the district to nineteen zones as reported to the tenth biennial convention. Reported to the eleventh convention June 1960 was an additional two zones, bringing the total to twenty-one zones. In 1962 the number of zones increased to twenty-five.

The zone count remained at twenty-five from 1962 through the convention in 1964. From 1966 through 1968 the number of zones reported to the convention was twenty-six. Between 1968 and 1970 four new zones were created bringing the zone count to thirty as reported to the convention of 1970. From 1970 until June 1976 the zone count remained consistently at thirty zones. However, by 1980 the number of zones was reported at twenty-nine, where it remained until 1985 when two zones divided making thirty-one zones. The zone count remained at thirty-one through 1998. By 2016 the LWML Texas District reported twenty-six zones.

Biennium ending	Number of Societies	Number of Individual Members	Number of Members
1952	153		4118
1954	173		4711
1956	202		5568
1958	226		6387
1960	246		6898
1962	260		6421
1964	276		6842
1966	282		6875
1968	285		6672
1972	288		6875
1974	294		6310
1976	305		6402
1978	298		6282
1980	288		6226
1982	292		6233
1984	290		6364
1986	305		6517
1988	313		6648
1990	315		6416
1992	330		6223
1994	316		5948
1996	312		5772
1998	312		5616
2000	299	9	5102
2002	290	7	4975
2004	287	6	4883
2006	275	11	4624
2008	262	12	4358
2010	260	30	4002
2012	246	25	3738
2014	239	16	3570
2016	224	19	3235
2018			

OFFICERS

During the first three years of the existence (1942 – 1944) of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, Texas District, officers were elected at each annual convention to serve one year. However, at the 1944 convention held in San Antonio, all officers were retained to serve until the first biennial convention, making their term of office three years. In 1946 a constitutional change provided that the term of office should be two years, with the proviso that no officer might succeed herself, but might be elected to the same office at some later date. In 1954 another constitutional change provided that all officers shall be elected for two years and shall be eligible to not more than one re-election. A constitutional change in 1958 set the term of office for four years, and officers should not be eligible for re-election. The new office of Recording Secretary was created at this convention.

The pioneer officers elected at the convention held in Austin, 1942 were: President, Mrs. A.E. (Hildegard) Bruns, Houston, who served as president for one year and as the additional Board Member for four years; Vice-President, Mrs. W.D. (Anna Marie) Parker, Dallas, one year; Secretary, Mrs. Martin (Cornelia) Ramming, Denison, one year; Financial Secretary, Mrs. D.E. (Louise) Ressel served part of her term, then resigned. Mrs. Martin (Cornelia) Ramming was appointed to complete Mrs. Ressel's term until the next convention. Additional Board Member, Mrs. W.G. (Alma) Buchschacher, Waco, served one year.

Officers elected at the second convention in Fort Worth, 1943 were: President, Mrs. W.E. (Erna) Dorre, Wichita Falls, who served until July 1944, and also served as delegate to the International Convention and resigned. Vice President, Mrs. W.C. Geisler, Fort Worth, served two years and resigned. Secretary, Mrs. W.W. (Bertha) Wortman, Waco, served until August 1944 and then resigned. Treasurer, Mrs. Lewis Human, Wichita Falls served three years. Additional Board Member was Mrs. A.E. (Hildegard) Bruns, Houston, retiring president.

All officers continued in their terms at the third convention in San Antonio, 1944. Miss Toni Kraatz, Dallas, was appointed to complete Mrs. Dorre's unexpired term ending June 1946. During Miss Kraatz's term of office the Texas District took its first steps toward European Relief Work. Mrs. J. W. Cole, Dallas, was appointed to serve out Mrs. Wortman's unexpired term ending June 1946.

The fourth convention met in Houston, 1946. Newly elected officers were: President, Mrs. E.C. (Lillian) Kobs, Houston; Vice-President, Mrs. A.C. Dollace, Galveston; Secretary, Miss Bernice Elgin, Galveston; and Treasurer, Mrs. A.M. Peek, Houston. The Additional Board Member was Miss Toni Kraatz, Dallas, retiring president. Miss Bernice Elgin resigned April 1947. Mrs. Elton (Amelda) Sump, Houston, was appointed to succeed her as Secretary.

The fifth convention met in Vernon, 1948. Newly elected officers were: President, Mrs. A.O. (Edith) Rast, Austin; Vice-President, Mrs. W.R. (Lillian) Kramer, San Antonio; Secretary, Mrs. F. Entzenberger, San Antonio; and Treasurer, Mrs. J.W. Schindler, San Antonio. The Additional Board Member was Mrs. E.C. (Lillian) Kobs, Houston, retiring president.

The sixth convention met in Houston, 1950. Newly elected officers were: President, Mrs. Carl (Anne) Blasig, Mercedes; Vice-President, Mrs. A.H. Albers, McAllen; Secretary, Mrs. H.F. (Meta) Krusemark, McAllen; and Treasurer, Mrs. E.A. Biewener, McAllen. The Additional Board Member was Mrs. A.O. (Edith) Rast, Austin, retiring president.

The seventh convention met in Corpus Christi, 1952. Newly elected officers were: President, Mrs. W.B. (Hildegard) Oswald, Clifton; Vice-President, Mrs. W.G. (Alma) Buchschacher, Waco; Secretary, Mrs. J.M. (Ann) Garrett, Waco; and Treasurer, Mrs. Marvin (Dorothy) Mickan, Copperas Cove. The Additional Board Member was Mrs. Carl (Anne) Blasig, Mercedes, retiring president.

The eighth convention met in Waco, 1954. Officers elected were: President, Mrs. W.B. (Hildegarde) Oswald, Clifton, re-elected; Vice-President, Mrs. W.G. (Alma) Buchschacher, Waco, re-elected; Recording Secretary, Mrs. A.E. (Lorina) Koepsell, Austin; Treasurer, Mrs. E.A. (Lillian) Kramer, San Antonio; and Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. B.A. Matthews, Hillsboro.

The ninth convention met in Brownsville, 1956. Officers elected were: President, Mrs. Walter (Marguerite) Wilkinson, Midland. Mrs. Wilkinson served until December 1956 and resigned. Mrs. Leroy (Virginia) Tschatschula succeeded to the office of President. Mrs. Lanier Bell, San Angelo, was appointed to the office of Vice-President by the Administrative Board in a special meeting in April 1957. Recording Secretary, Mrs. George (Jo) Fehl resigned in June 1957. Mrs. Walter (Helene) Hoelter, College Station, was appointed to complete Mrs. Fehl's term. Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. E. (Phyllis) Bickerstaff, San Antonio and Treasurer, Mrs. E.A. (Lillian) Kramer, San Antonio, were re-elected.

The tenth convention met in Lubbock, 1958. Officers elected were: President, Mrs. E.A. (Lillian) Kramer, San Antonio; First Vice-President, Mrs. J.M. (Dr. Ann) Garrett, Waco; Second Vice-President, Mrs. F.W. Schneider, Edna; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Walter (Helene) Hoelter, College Station, Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. E. (Phyllis) Bickerstaff, San Antonio; and Treasurer, Mrs. Ed (Evelyn) Birnbaum, Vernon. The office of Second Vice-President was inaugurated with the acceptance of the new constitution and by-laws in 1958.

The eleventh convention met in Dallas, 1960. Officers elected were: President, Mrs. J. M. (Dr. Ann) Garrett, Waco; First Vice-President, Mrs. Kenneth (Mary) Johnson, New Braunfels; and Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. W.P. (Lillian) Denman, Baytown. **Continuing in office were:** Second Vice-President, Mrs. F.W. Schneider, Edna; and Treasurer, Mrs. Ed (Evelyn) Birnbaum.

The twelfth convention met in San Antonio, 1962. Officers elected were: Second Vice-President, Mrs. Robert (Kathryn) Dutton, San Antonio (who served as Co-Christian Growth Chairman, 1959-1962); Recording Secretary, Mrs. Robert (Edna) Gloyna, Pasadena; and Treasurer, Miss Toni Kraatz, Dallas. **Continuing in office were:** President, Mrs. J.M. (Ann) Garrett, Waco; First Vice-President, Mrs. Kenneth (Mary) Johnson, New Braunfels; and Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. W.P. (Lillian) Denman, Baytown.

The thirteenth convention met in Odessa, 1964. Officers elected were: President, Mrs. Walter (Gladys) Kaltwasser, Farwell; First Vice-President, Mrs. Wayne (Amalie) Long, Monahans; Second Vice-President, Mrs. Daniel (Lila Mae) Smith, Waco; and Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. W.R. (Joan) Joiner, San Angelo. **Continuing in office were:** Recording Secretary, Mrs. Robert (Edna) Gloyna, Pasadena, and Treasurer, Miss Toni Kraatz, Dallas.

The fourteenth convention met in Corpus Christi, 1966. Officers elected were: Second Vice-President, Mrs. Robert (Edna) Gloyna, Pasadena; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Elton (Amelda) Sump, Conroe; and Treasurer, Mrs. Wilburn (Barbara) Ussery, Plainview. **Continuing in office were:** President, Mrs. Walter (Gladys) Kaltwasser, Farwell; First Vice-President, Mrs. Wayne (Amalie) Long, Monahans; and Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. W.P. (Joan) Joiner, San Angelo.

The fifteenth convention met in Austin, 1968. Officers elected were: President, Mrs. Wayne (Amalie) Long, Monahans; First Vice-President, Mrs. F.L. (Jeanne) Cargile, Lubbock; and Third Vice-President, Mrs. W.R. (Joan) Joiner, San Angelo. **Continuing in office were:** Second Vice-President, Mrs. Robert (Edna) Gloyna, Pasadena; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Elton (Amelda) Sump, Conroe; and Treasurer, Mrs. Wilburn (Barbara) Ussery, Plainview.

The sixteenth convention met in Fort Worth, 1970. Officers elected were: Second Vice-President, Mrs. Leroy (Virginia) Tschatschula, Austin; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Brad (Dorothy) Kohr, Dallas; and Treasurer, Mrs. Conrad (Wanda) Angst, Houston. **Continuing in office were:** President, Mrs. Wayne (Amalie) Long, Monahans; First Vice-President, Mrs. F.L. (Jeanne) Cargile, Lubbock; and Third Vice-President, Mrs. W.R. (Joan) Joiner, San

Angelo. The office of corresponding secretary was discontinued by vote in the 1970 convention. The President could appoint her personal secretary to assist with correspondence.

The seventeenth convention met in Amarillo, 1972. Officers elected were: President, Mrs. F.L. (Jeanne) Cargile, Lubbock; First Vice-President, Mrs. G.J. (Marie) Cadra, Andrews; and Third Vice-President, Mrs. John (Hilda) Albers, Canyon. **Continuing in office were:** Second Vice-President, Mrs. Leroy (Virginia) Tschatschula, Austin; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Brad (Dorothy) Kohr, Dallas; and Treasurer, Mrs. Conrad (Wanda) Angst, Houston.

The eighteenth convention met in Beaumont, 1974. Officers elected were: Second Vice-President, Mrs. William (Ruth) Bredemeyer, Channelview; Treasurer, Miss Frances Schumacher, Amarillo; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Earl (Mildred) Teufel, Port Arthur; and Financial Secretary, Mrs. Conrad (Wanda) Angst, Houston. **Officers retained were:** President, Mrs. F.L. (Jeanne) Cargile, Lubbock; First Vice-President, Mrs. G.J. (Marie) Cadra, Andrews; and Third Vice-President, Mrs. John (Hilda) Albers, Canyon.

The nineteenth convention met in McAllen, 1976, the Bicentennial year of our beloved country. The Bicentennial Theme was "In God We Trust" with the commemoration of the bicentennial used in decorations and literature. **Officers elected were:** President, Mrs. Johnnie (Pat) Barlow, Port Arthur; First Vice-President, Mrs. Mark (Pearl) Biar, Fort Worth; Third Vice-President, Mrs. Robert (Edna) Gloyna, Seabrook; and Financial Secretary, Mrs. Wesley (Puddin') Krueger, Houston. **Continuing in office were:** Second Vice-President, Mrs. William (Ruth) Bredemeyer, Channelview; Treasurer, Miss Frances Schumacher, Amarillo; and Financial Secretary, Mrs. Conrad (Wanda) Angst, Houston. Mrs. Earl (Mildred) Teufel resigned as Recording Secretary following the convention. Mrs. Elton (Amelda) Sump was appointed to fill Mrs. Teufel's term until 1978.

The twentieth convention met in Dallas, 1978. Officers elected were: Second Vice-President, Mrs. Ray (Edna) Petersen, Houston; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Troy (Alma) Birdwell, Stafford; and Treasurer, Mrs. Herman (Joy) Teinert, Lubbock. **Continuing in office were:** President, Mrs. Johnnie (Pat) Barlow, Port Arthur; First Vice-President, Mrs. Mark (Pearl) Biar, Fort Worth; Third Vice-President, Mrs. Robert (Edna) Gloyna, Seabrook; and Financial Secretary, Mrs. Wesley (Puddin') Krueger, Houston.

The twenty-first convention met in Tyler, 1980. Officers elected were: President, Mrs. Mark (Pearl) Biar, Fort Worth; First Vice-President, Mrs. Wilburn (Barbara) Ussery, Moody; Third Vice-President, Mrs. David (Dee) Peters, Plano; and Financial Secretary, Mrs. Martin (Elaine) Schur, Plainview. **Continuing in office were:** Second Vice-President, Mrs. Ray (Edna) Petersen, Houston; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Troy (Alma) Birdwell, Stafford; and Treasurer, Mrs. Herman (Joy) Teinert, Lubbock.

The twenty-second biennial convention met in Corpus Christi, 1982. Officers elected were: Second Vice-President, Miss Gretchen Sump, Austin; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Robert (Catherine) Burkhard, Dallas; Treasurer, Mrs. Wesley (Puddin') Krueger, Houston. **Continuing in office were:** President, Mrs. Mark (Pearl) Biar, Fort Worth; First Vice-President, Mrs. Wilburn (Barbara) Ussery, Moody; Third Vice-President, Mrs. David (Dee) Peters, Plano; and Financial Secretary, Mrs. Martin (Elaine) Schur, Plainview.

The twenty-third convention met in San Antonio, 1984. Officers elected were: President, Mrs. Donald (Marcella) Gaus, Hamshire; First Vice-President, Mrs. Louis (Pat) Biar, Jr., Nederland; Third Vice-President, Mrs. Milton (Peggy) Turnipseed, Austin; and Financial Secretary, Mrs. Ralph (Mina) Fitting, Midland. **Continuing in office were:** Second Vice-President, Miss Gretchen Sump, Austin; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Robert (Catherine) Burkhard, Dallas; and Treasurer, Mrs. Wesley (Puddin') Krueger (Houston).

The twenty-fourth convention met in Lubbock, 1986. Decorations, logo and theme in colors of red and blue were used to further commemorate the Texas Sesquicentennial (1836-1986). **Officers elected were:** Second Vice-President, Mrs. Ronald (Sherry) Torbert, Houston; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Frank (Rosemarie) Herring,

Nederland; and Treasurer, Mrs. Leroy (Shirley) Lorenz, Giddings. **Continuing in office were:** President, Mrs. Donald (Marcella) Gaus, Hamshire; First Vice-President, Mrs. Louis (Pat) Biar, Jr., Nederland; Third Vice-President, Mrs. Milton (Peggy) Turnipseed, Austin; and Financial Secretary, Mrs. Ralph (Mina) Fitting, Midland.

The twenty-fifth convention met in Galveston, 1988. Officers elected were: President, Mrs. Carl (Doris) McKay, Rockport; First Vice-President, Mrs. Ellsworth (Janet) Scales, Galveston; Third Vice-President, Mrs. Ray (Carol) Young, Austin; and Financial Secretary, Mrs. Milton (Eudoris) Weiser, Copperas Cove. **Continuing in office were:** Second Vice-President, Mrs. Ronald (Sherry) Torbert, Houston; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Frank (Rosemarie) Herring, Nederland; and Treasurer, Mrs. Leroy (Shirley) Lorenz, Giddings.

The twenty-sixth convention met in Austin, 1990. Officers elected were: Second Vice-President, Mrs. James (Iris) Franke, Smithville; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Bill (Evelyn) Berry, Lufkin; and Treasurer, Mrs. Glenn (Janet) Hurta, Waco. **Continuing in office were:** President, Mrs. Carl (Doris) McKay, Rockport; First Vice-President, Mrs. Ellsworth (Janet) Scales, Galveston; Third Vice-President, Mrs. Ray (Carol) Young, Austin; and Financial Secretary, Mrs. Milton (Eudoris) Weiser, Copperas Cove.

The twenty-seventh convention met in Houston, 1992. The Fiftieth Anniversary of the LWML was observed with the decoration, logo, and theme “Celebrate! Tell the Next Generation!” **Officers elected were:** President, Mrs. Louis (Pat) Biar, Jr., Nederland; First Vice-President, Mrs. Milton (Peggy) Turnipseed, Austin; Third Vice-President, Mrs. Milton (Eudoris) Weiser, Copperas Cove; Fourth Vice-President, Mrs. Ralph (Mina) Fitting, Midland; and Financial Secretary, Mrs. Leroy (Shirley) Lorenz, Giddings. **Continuing in office were:** Second Vice-President, Mrs. James (Iris) Franke, Smithville; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Bill (Evelyn) Berry, Lufkin; and Treasurer, Mrs. Glenn (Janet) Hurta, Waco.

The twenty-eighth convention met in Wichita Falls, 1994. Officers elected were: Second Vice-President, Mrs. Robert (Eloise) Kuhlmann, Amarillo; Fourth Vice-President, Mrs. George (Florence) Winkler, Angleton; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Glenn (Janet) Hurta, Waco; and Treasurer, Mrs. Mary Lee Schreiber, Cedar Park. **Continuing in office were:** President, Mrs. Louis (Pat) Biar, Jr., Nederland; First Vice-President, Mrs. Milton (Peggy) Turnipseed, Austin; Third Vice-President, Mrs. Milton (Eudoris) Weiser, Copperas Cove; and Financial Secretary, Mrs. Leroy (Shirley) Lorenz, Giddings.

The twenty-ninth convention met in College Station, 1996. Officers elected were: President, Mrs. Milton (Peggy) Turnipseed, Austin; First Vice-President, Mrs. Wayne (Ann) Schueler, Winchester; Third Vice-President, Mrs. Ray (Peggy) Spitzenberger, East Bernard; and Financial Secretary, Mrs. Corlis Schafer, Lubbock. **Continuing in office were:** Second Vice-President, Mrs. Robert (Eloise) Kuhlmann, Amarillo; Fourth Vice-President, Mrs. George (Florence) Winkler, Hutto; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Glenn (Janet) Hurta, Waco; and Treasurer, Mrs. Mary Lee Schreiber, Cedar Park.

The thirtieth convention met in Corpus Christi, 1998. Officers elected were: Second Vice-President, Mrs. Cecil (Carolyn) Dorsey, Giddings; Fourth Vice-President, Mrs. Luan Jentsch, Bryan; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Roy (Rosanne) Capdeville, Georgetown; and Treasurer, Mrs. Milton (Gladys) Byer, College Station. **Continuing in office were:** President, Mrs. Milton (Peggy) Turnipseed, Austin; First Vice-President, Mrs. Wayne (Ann) Schueler, Winchester; Third Vice-President, Mrs. Ray (Peggy) Spitzenberger, East Bernard; and Financial Secretary, Mrs. Corlis Schafer, Lubbock.

The thirty-first convention was held in Waco, June 23-25, 2000. The theme of the convention was “Bridges of Life: Faith, Forgiveness, Freedom.” The worship service with Holy Communion was held on June 23rd with presiding minister Rev. Walter Albers and Proclaimer Rev. Eugene Heckmann. **Members of the Executive Committee for the 2000-2002 Biennium were:** President, Eloise Kuhlmann; First Vice-President, Helen Mitschke; Second Vice-President, Carolyn Dorsey; Third Vice-President, Karen Avenson; Fourth Vice-President, Luan

Jentsch; Recording Secretary, Rosanne Capdeville; Financial Secretary, Ann Bamsch; Treasurer, Gladys Byer; Parliamentarian, Dorothy Hunger; and Public Relations Director, Ann Schueler.

The thirty-second convention was held in Midland, June 28-20, 2002, with the theme “Enlightened to Encourage” based on Hebrews 3:13, *But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today...* The proclaimer for the worship service with Holy Communion on Friday evening was Rev. Jay Beyer. The convention keynote speaker was Rev. Dale Meyer, professor at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri. During this convention the voting body revised the LWML Texas District Bylaws to be in accordance with the LWML. **Members of the Executive Committee for the 2002 -2004 Biennium were:** President, Eloise Kuhlmann; Vice President of Christian Life, Cheryl Mattil; Vice President of Communication, Ann Schueler; Vice President of Gospel Outreach, Carolyn Rivers; Vice President of Human Care, Karen Avenson; Vice President of Servant Resources, Helen Mitschke; Treasurer, Frances Molitor; Financial Secretary, Ann Bamsch; Recording Secretary, Donna Pyle; Structure Committee Chairman, Kathy Lowman; and Parliamentarian, Dorothy Hunger.

The thirty-third convention was held in Arlington, June 25-27, 2004. *I know the plans I have for you...Plans to give you hope and a future* based on Jeremiah 29:11 was the theme of the convention. The convention keynote speaker was freelance writer and published author Jan Brunette, a Mission-Ministry Consultant and the HOPE Committee Chairman for the LWML. Rev. Mark Joeckel of the Lutheran Intercity Network Coalition, Dallas/Fort Worth was proclaimer for the Friday evening worship service with Holy Communion. **Members of the Executive Committee for the 2004-2006 Biennium were:** President, Dorothy Hunger; Vice President of Christian Life, Cheryl Mattil; Vice President of Communication, Ann Schueler; Vice President of Gospel Outreach, Carolyn Rivers; Vice President of Human Care, Jan Spitzenberger; Vice President of Servant Resources, Kathy Lowman; Treasurer, Frances Molitor; Financial Secretary, Lynn Petry; Recording Secretary, Donna Pyle; Structure Committee Chairman, Betty Kiesling; and Parliamentarian, Rosanne Capdeville.

The thirty-fourth convention was in held in Beaumont, June 8-11, 2006. *Taste and See that the Lord is Good...Blessed is the man that trusts in HIM* from Psalm 34:8 was the convention theme. The keynote speaker was Elaine Bickel. The proclaimer for the worship celebration was Rev. Francis Schroeder, pastor of Holy Cross, Nederland. LWML special guest speaker was Marguerite Christman, LWML Vice President of Servant Resources. Rev. Carlos and Joan Puig were special mission speakers. **Members of the Executive Committee for the 2006-2008 Biennium were:** President, Dorothy Hunger; Vice President of Christian Life, Donna Pyle; Vice President of Communication, Teresa Mesman; Vice President of Gospel Outreach, Kathy Schkade; Vice President of Human Care, Jan Spitzenberger; Vice President of Servant Resources, Kathy Lowman; Treasurer, Frances Molitor; Financial Secretary, Lynn Petry; Recording Secretary, Debbie Curry; Structure Committee Chairman, Betty Kiesling; and Parliamentarian, Rosanne Capdeville.

The thirty-fifth convention was held in Houston, June 26-29, 2008. The theme of the convention was taken from John 4:35b *...open your eyes and look at the fields. They are ripe for harvest.* The keynote speaker was Jan Struck. LWML guest speaker was Vice President of Christian Life Vivian Ernst. The mission speaker was Rev. Mark Junkans, Executive Director of LINC Houston. Texas District President of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod Rev. Ken Hennings was the proclaimer for the Friday evening worship service. The Houston Lutheran Chorale provided entertainment on Saturday evening. **Members of the Executive Committee for the 2008-2010 Biennium were:** President, Kathy Lowman; Vice President of Christian Life, Donna Pyle; Vice President of Communication, Teresa Mesman; Vice President of Gospel Outreach, Kathy Schkade; Vice President of Human Care, Sara Frank; Vice President of Servant Resources, Lois Teinert; Treasurer, Corlis Schafer; Financial Secretary, Michele Tate; Recording Secretary, Debbie Curry; Structure Committee Chairman, Joyce Martinets; and Parliamentarian, Rosanne Capdeville.

The thirty-sixth convention was held in Austin, June 18-20, 2010. The theme was “Melody of God’s Love” based on Psalm 96:2-3. Keynote speaker was LWML Past President (2003-2007) Linda Reiser. LWML guest

speaker was LWML President Janice Wendorf. Vicar Stephen Heimer was the convention mission speaker. Proclaimer for the Friday evening worship service was Rev. Dr. Robert Preece. Mariachi San Pablo, a Christian Mariachi group from Ysleta Lutheran Mission in El Paso, provided convention banquet entertainment on Saturday. **Members of the Executive Committee for the 2008-2010 Biennium were:** President, Kathy Lowman; Vice President of Christian Life, Diann L. Higgins; Vice President of Communication, Rosanne Capdeville; Vice President of Gospel Outreach, Debbie Curry; Vice President of Human Care, Sara Frank; Vice President of Servant Resources, Lois Teinert; Treasurer, Ann Bamsch; Financial Secretary, Michele Tate; Recording Secretary, Beth Lauterbach; Structure Committee Chairman, Joyce Martinets; and Parliamentarian, Rosanne Capdeville.

The thirty-seventh convention was held in College Station, June 28-July 1, 2012. The theme was “Adorn Yourself with God’s Word: His Wisdom Our Witness” based on Colossians 3:16 *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly*. The keynote speaker was Heidi Floyd. LWML guest speaker was Vice President of Christian Life Patti Ross. Deaconess Pat Nuffer was the mission speaker, and the Rev. Larry Krueger was the proclaimer for the Friday evening worship service. Banquet entertainment was provided by Bobby Schroeder, musician and Director of Worship and the Arts at St. John Lutheran Church in Ellisville, MO. **Members of the Executive Committee for the 2012-2014 Biennium were:** President, Lois Teinert; Vice President of Christian Life, Diann L. Higgins; Vice President of Communication, Rosanne Capdeville; Vice President of Gospel Outreach, Debbie Curry; Vice President of Human Care, Lori Haseloff; Vice President of Organizational Resources, Belinda Burmeister; Treasurer, Ann Bamsch; Financial Secretary, Marcia Kubitz; Recording Secretary, Beth Lauterbach; Structure Committee Chairman, Jerry Anderson; and Parliamentarian, Karen Avenson.

The thirty-eighth convention was held in Frisco, June 20-22, 2014. The theme was “Designed to Shine” based on 2 Corinthians 4:6. The keynote address was given by Rev. Stephen Wagner, member of the pastoral staff at Concordia, San Antonio. LWML representative was Shari Miller, Strategic Plan Facilitator. The Rev. Bill Brimer was the mission speaker, and the Friday evening proclaimer was Rev. Mike Mattil. Lutheran actress/comedian Greta Grosch provided entertainment for the Saturday evening banquet. **Members of the Executive Committee for the 2014-2016 Biennium were:** President, Lois Teinert; Vice President of Christian Life, Jan Brunette; Vice President of Communication, Whitney Lee; Vice President of Gospel Outreach, Sally Krueger; Vice President of Human Care, Lori Haseloff; Vice President of Organizational Resources, Belinda Burmeister; Treasurer, Kathy Walther; Financial Secretary, Marcia Kubitz; Recording Secretary, Rosie Schoenfeld; Structure Committee Chairman, Nancy Beckcom; and Parliamentarian, Karen Avenson.

The thirty-ninth convention was held in Lubbock, June 24-26, 2016. Based on John 15:5, the theme for the convention was “I am the vine, you are the branches.” Keynote speaker was author Cindy Steinbeck. LWML representative was Carol von Soosten, Public Relations Director Lutheran Women’s Missionary League. The Rev. Dr. Kenneth R. Klaus was the convention proclaimer. Jennifer Rasch and Haleh Kersten were the convention mission speakers. The Country Club Band with Minerva and the Pearls performed at the banquet Saturday evening. **Members of the Executive Committee for the 2016-2018 Biennium were:** President, Debbie Curry; Vice President of Christian Life, Jan Brunette; Vice President of Communication, Whitney Lee; Vice President of Gospel Outreach, Sally Krueger; Vice President of Human Care, Gaye Lynn Krueger; Vice President of Organizational Resources, Nancy Beckcom; Treasurer, Kathy Walther; Financial Secretary, Frances Molitor; Recording Secretary, Rosie Schoenfeld; Structure Committee Chairman, Patti Samsel; and Parliamentarian, Judy Dold.

ARCHIVIST-HISTORIAN

In order to preserve the accumulation of valuable historical documents of the Texas District Lutheran Women's Missionary League, the League created the office of Archivist at its second biennial convention held in Vernon in 1948. Mrs. E.C. (Lillian) Kobs, retiring President, Houston, was elected to serve in this capacity for two years. Since the office of archivist was not an administrative office, the third biennial convention, held in Houston, 1950, voted to make Mrs. Lillian Kobs its permanent archivist. A clause was added making Mrs. Lillian Kobs Historian and custodian of the District Lutheran Women's Missionary League Scrapbook.

At the tenth biennial convention which met in Lubbock the constitution was amended and added to greatly. One change made under Article VII – Executive Committee paragraph 3 “g” now reads: “to appoint the Historian and Archivist.” Mrs. E.C. (Lillian) Kobs was reappointed after the constitution changes were adopted in 1958. When Mrs. Kobs had served the Texas District LWML as Historian-Archivist for twenty-five years, the Administrative Board voted to surprise “Lil” with an all-expense paid trip to the International Convention in Mobile, Alabama in 1973. Mrs. Kobs continued to serve as Historian-Archivist until 1984.

Following the 1984 convention in San Antonio, newly elected President, Mrs. Donald (Marcella) Gaus appointed Mrs. Martin (Elaine) Schur to the office of Archivist-Historian. She attended the Concordia Historical Conference in St. Louis in November 1985 and continued in service until 2000. Barbara Vance, Denton, was appointed to the office of Archivist-Historian and served until 2008. Dr. MaryAnn Waldon was appointed in 2008 and faithfully served as the Archivist-Historian until 2014, when Terri Wenzel was appointed to the position.

COUNSELORS

A tremendous amount of credit for the time, interest and work expended on behalf of the officers of the newly organized LWML Texas District goes to Rev. E. A. Heckmann, Waco, past President of the Texas Synodical District. He appointed the counselors, Rev. V.L. Behnken, Rev. A. Arndt and Rev. J.H. Kollmeyer, who were to guide the League in its infancy. Rev. Kollmeyer served as Counselor from 1942-1950. At the biennial convention held in Vernon in 1948, it was decided that the district needed two counselors. One was to continue in the position, and a new one elected at each convention.

Year	Retained	Elected
1948	Rev. J.H. Kollmeyer, Walburg,	Rev. G.W. Obenhaus, Marlin
1950	Rev. G.W. Obenhaus	Rev. Elmo Miertschin, Houston
1952	Rev. Elmo Miertschin	Rev. Wm. Schreiner, Houston
1954	Rev. Wm. Schreiner	Rev. Edwin Keiper, Houston
1956	Rev. Edwin Keiper	Rev. Carl Juergensen, Bowie (resigned 1957) Rev. Melvin Cordes, Arlington (appointed)
1958	Rev. Melvin Cordes	Rev. Hobart Meyer, Houston
1960	Rev. Hobart Meyer	Rev. Theodore Griesse, Mart
1962	Rev. Theodore Griesse	Rev. L. Westermann, Navasota
1964	Rev. L. Westermann	Rev. J.L. Konz, Eden
1966	Rev. J.L. Konz	Rev. Kenneth Behnken, Lubbock (resigned in October) Rev. Fred Schuster, Borger (appointed)
1968	Rev. Fred Schuster	Rev. Harold Heckmann, Olney
1970	Rev. Harold Heckmann	Rev. Victor T. Hellman, Wichita Falls (resigned)

		Rev. A Dean Kelm, Odessa (appointed)
1972	Rev. A Dean Kelm	Rev. Carl Waidelich, Killeen
1974	Rev. Carl Waidelich	Rev. Harold Meissner, Dallas
	Rev. Carl Waidelich (resigned 1975)	
	Rev. Harold Meissner (named Sr. Counselor)	Rev. Norbert Roschke, Nederland (appointed Jr. Counselor)
1976	Rev. Harold Meissner	Rev. Norbert Roschke, Nederland
1978	Rev. Norbert Roschke	Rev. Craig Dohse, Borger (resigned Jan. 1980)
		Rev. Harold Meissner (appointed to fill Rev. Borger's position)
1980	Rev. Harold Meissner (served until Oct. 1980)	
		Rev. Paul Bohot, Port Arthur
	Rev. Donald Peymann (appointed March 1981)	
1982	Rev. Paul Bohot	Rev. Donald Peymann, Houston
1984	Rev. Donald Peymann	Rev. John Selle, Tomball
1986	Rev. John Selle	Rev. Kim DeVries, San Antonio
1988	Rev. Kim DeVries	Rev. Ralph Hobratschk, Friendswood
1990	Rev. Ralph Hobratschk	Rev. David Rohde, Wilson
1992	Rev. David Rohde	Rev. Walter Dube, Texas City (resigned 1994)
1994	Rev. Kim DeVries (appointed to complete Rev. Dube's term)	
		Rev. Francis Schroeder, Nederland
1996	Rev. Francis Schroeder	Rev. Larry Krueger, Midland
1998	Rev. Larry Krueger, College Station	Rev. Keith Gravesmill, Hurst

Year	Senior Pastoral Counselor	Junior Pastoral Counselor
2000	Rev. Keith Gravesmill	Rev. Mike Mattil
2002	Rev. Mike Mattil	Rev. Dr. C. Michael Snow
2004	Rev. Dr. C. Michael Snow	Rev. John Heckmann
2006	Rev. John Heckmann	Rev. John Davis, Jr
2008	Rev. John Davis, Jr	Rev. David Symm
2010	Rev. David Symm	Rev. Michael Hafer
2012	Rev. Michael Hafer	Rev. Curtis Schneider
2014	Rev. Curtis Schneider	Rev. Timothy Appel
2016	Rev. Timothy Appel	Rev. John Heckmann

TEXAS DISTRICT CONVENTIONS AND THEMES

Conventions met annually form 1942-1944. Since 1946, Texas District Conventions have continued to meet biennially in even numbered years.

	City	Dates	Convention Theme	Scripture reference...
1	Austin	June 10, 1942		
2	Fort Worth	June 10, 1943		
3	San Antonio	June 8, 1944		
4	Houston	June 12, 1946		
5	Vernon	June 16, 1948		
6	Houston	June 14, 1950	Service of Lutheran Women	
7	Corpus Christi	June 13, 1952	All For Christ	
8	Waco	June 15, 1954	Grow and Go	
9	Brownsville	June 13-14, 1956	Grow in Christ	II Peter 3:18
10	Lubbock	June 13-14, 1958	Magnify the Lord with Me	Ps 34:3
11	Dallas	June 7-8, 1960	A Pattern of Good Works	Titus 2:7
12	San Antonio	June 13-14, 1962	Rejoice in the Lord Always	Phil. 4:4
13	Odessa	June 17-18, 1964	Well of Life	Prov. 10:11
14	Corpus Christi	June 7-9, 1966	Be Ye Fishers of Men	Matt. 4:19
15	Austin	June 19-20, 1968	And unto God	Matt. 22:21
16	Fort Worth	June 10-11, 1970	I Am The Light of The World	John 8:12 I Chron 16:24
17	Amarillo	July 12-13, 1972	Declare His Glory On All Frontiers	
18	Beaumont	June 11-12, 1974	Jesus, Priceless Treasure	Matt. 13:36
19	McAllen	June 10-11, 1976	In God We Trust	Isaiah 57:13
20	Dallas	June 15-16, 1978	Again I Say, Rejoice	Phil. 4:4
21	Tyler	June 12-13, 1980	He Rose To Life	Rom. 14:9
22	Corpus Christi	June 24-25, 1982	Gather and Share in the Body of Christ	Eph. 2:18
23	San Antonio	June 20-22, 1984	There is a River of Joy	Ps 46:4
24	Lubbock	June 18-20, 1986	Praise Him! All Heaven and Earth	Ps 69:34
25	Galveston	June 23-24, 1988	Anchored in Christ, Cast Your Nets	Heb. 6:19-20 Matt. 13:47
26	Austin	June 20-22, 1990	Blossom With Love	
27	Houston	June 19-21, 1992	Celebrate! Tell the Next Generation	Ps 78:4
28	Wichita Falls	June 15-17, 1994	Shine Like Stars	Phil 2:13-16
29	College Station	June 28-30, 1996	Rooted In Christ, Watered By The Word	Jer. 17:8
30	Corpus Christi	June 26-28, 1998	Set Sail...Filled with The Spirit	Acts 2:2,4a
31	Waco	June 23-25, 2000	Bridges of Life: Faith, Forgiveness, Freedom	John 5:24
32	Midland	June 28-30, 2002	Enlightened to Encourage	Heb. 3:13
33	Arlington	June 25-27, 2004	I know the plans I have for you...	Jer. 29:11
34	Beaumont	June 8-11, 2006	Taste and See that the Lord is Good	Ps 34:8
35	Houston	June 26-29, 2008	Lord, Open My Eyes	John 4:35b
36	Austin	June 18-20, 2010	Melody of God's Love	Ps 96:2-3

37	College Station	June 28-July 1, 2012	Adorn Yourself with God's Word: His Wisdom, Our Witness	Col. 3:16a
38	Frisco	June 20-22, 2014	Designed to Shine	2 Cor. 4:6
39	Lubbock	June 24-26, 2016	I am the vine, you are the branches	John 15:5
40	Waco	July 5-8, 2018	Filled to Overflow...serving, sharing, telling	John 7:38

COMPLETED TEXAS DISTRICT MISSION PROJECTS

Women of the LWML Texas District have been generous in their Mite giving. Mites are used to spread the Good News of Jesus' love here and throughout the world.

Convention Year/City	Goal	Amount	Mission Projects
			SP denotes Special Project
1943 Fort Worth	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	Concordia College Chapel, Austin
1944 San Antonio	\$1,500.00	\$1,000.00 \$500.00	Texas District Auto Fund Concordia College Organ Fund
1946 Houston	\$4,000.00	\$2,000.00 \$2,000.00 \$500.00 \$500.00	Walther League Camp, LaGrange Mexican Missions in Texas SP Concordia Chapel, Austin SP European Relief
1948 Vernon	\$4,000.00	\$2,000.00 \$2,000.00 \$500.00 \$250.00 \$250.00	Dallas Negro Mission Walther League Camp, LaGrange SP Work Among the Deaf in Texas SP Institutional Missionary, Houston SP Lutheran Deaconess Scholarship
1950 Houston	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00 \$100.00	Student Activity Bldg, Denton SP Walther League Camp, LaGrange
1952 Corpus Christi	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00 \$500.00 \$500.00	Spanish Mission, Harlingen SP Walther League Camp, LaGrange SP Student Activity Bldg, Denton

1954 Waco	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	Girls dormitory, Concordia, Austin
1956 Brownsville	\$10,000.00	\$5,000.00	Home for the Aged
		\$3,000.00	The Laredo Mission
		\$2,000.00	Work Among the Deaf in Texas
1958 Lubbock	\$12,000.00	\$6,000.00	Texas Tech Student Center, Lubbock
		\$6,000.00	Proposed Student Center, Texas A&M
1960 Dallas	\$14,000.00	\$7,000.00	University of Texas Chapel, Austin
		\$7,000.00	Stephen F. Austin Mission and Chapel, Nacogdoches
1962 San Antonio	\$18,000.00	\$9,000.00	Tarleton Chapel and Student Center, Stephenville
		\$9,000.00	Matamoros Mission, Mexico
1964 Odessa	\$20,000.00	\$10,000.00	Land Purchase for University of West Texas, Canyon
		\$10,000.00	Chapel and Student Center, Texas A&M, College Station
		\$1,000.00	SP Church Extension Fund, Texas District
		\$1,000.00	SP Church Furnishing for Mission, Post
		\$2,250.00	SP Woman Counselor for two State Colleges, Denton
		\$1,600.00	SP Vicar for Hospital Work, Galveston
1966 Corpus Christi	\$30,000.00	\$10,000.00	Ozona Mission
		\$5,000.00	SP Inner City Mission Work, Houston
		\$1,000.00	SP Church Extension Fund, Texas District
		\$20,000.00	St. Mark Mission, Port Arthur
1968 Austin	\$40,000.00	\$10,000.00	Deaf Work in Texas
		\$2,000.00	Mission to Inner City Children
		\$10,000.00	Livingston Mission
		\$8,000.00	Student Center, Arlington (<i>only \$2000 was paid on project</i>)
		\$10,000.00	Lutheran Service Center, Killeen (<i>no payment made on project</i>)
1970 Fort Worth	\$40,000.00	\$13,000.00	Carried over from previous biennium
		\$10,000.00	Good Samaritan Home, Houston
		\$5,000.00	Seamen's Ministry, Houston
		\$3,000.00	Retreat, Prospective Pastors, Austin
		\$5,000.00	Faith Lutheran, Stephenville
		\$3,500.00	Kitchen Equipment, Camp Lone Star
		\$500.00	Laboratory Equipment, Concordia College, Austin

1972 Amarillo	\$45,000.00	\$1,000.00	America Indian Scholarship	
		\$10,000.00	Good Samaritan Home Dormitories	
		\$1,500.00	Bibles to Seamen	
		\$5,000.00	Lutheran Braille Workers	
		\$5,000.00	Student Aid, Concordia College	
		\$10,000.00	Science Equipment, Concordia, Austin	
		\$560.00	SP Typewriter, Deaf Work (<i>reallocated 1976</i>)	
		\$5,000.00	Camp Lone Star Dorm (<i>Incomplete 1972-74, see 1974-76</i>)	
		\$6,940.00	Houston Inner City Mission (<i>not funded 1972-74, see 1974-76</i>)	
		1974 Beaumont	\$45,000.00	\$2,560.00
\$6,940.00	SP Houston Inner City Mission (<i>from 1972-74, reallocated 1976</i>)			
\$5,000.00	LBT Hotel, Liberia			
\$10,000.00	Spanish Mission, Brownsville			
\$10,000.00	LBT Scholarship Fund			
\$7,000.00	SP Mobile Home Hispanic Ministry (<i>reallocated 1976</i>)			
\$3,500.00	Camp Alto, McAllen			
1976 McAllen	\$14,500.00			
		\$7,000.00	Hispanic In-Service Training Program	
		\$5,000.00	Calvary Lutheran School, Houston	
		\$2,500.00	Lutheran Television Ministry	
		\$50,000.00	\$10,000.00	M.D. Anderson Chaplaincy Program
			\$3,500.00	Seamen's Ministries, Houston, Galveston, Corpus Christi
			\$7,500.00	Bus, Good Shepherd School, McAllen
			\$5,000.00	Beach Ministry, Galveston
			\$2,000.00	Deaf Ministry Conference
			\$7,000.00	Deaconess, Neighborhood House, Lubbock
\$8,000.00	Hispanic In-Service Training Program (<i>funds incomplete 4-1-78</i>)			
\$5,000.00	Piano Laboratory, Concordia, Austin			
\$800.00	Navajo Mission, New Mexico			
\$500.00	Makah-Quileute Indian Ministry, Washington			
\$700.00	Urban Ministry, Fort Worth			
1978 Dallas	\$55,000.00	\$10,000.00	Renovate Water/Sewer System, Camp Lone Star	
		\$10,000.00	Bus, Good Samaritan Home	
		\$5,000.00	Texas Braille Center, materials	
		\$5,000.00	Seamen's Center, bibles and tracts	
		\$5,200.00	Hispanic Lay-Worker Program, scholarships	
		\$995.00	O AFC, cassette tape duplicator	
		\$5,000.00	St. Paul Church, Jasper, Sunday School rooms	
		\$8,500.00	Calvary School, Houston, classroom building	

		\$5,305.00		Jesus Lutheran Church (Deaf), Austin, multi-purpose building
1980 Tyler	\$61,200.00	\$10,000.00		Trinity Lutheran Village, Shiner
		\$7,000.00		M.D. Anderson Hospital Chaplaincy Fund
		\$5,000.00		Bibles and Tracts for Seamen
		\$10,000.00		Perpetual Adoption Fund (LSST)
		\$10,000.00		Concordia Lutheran College, Austin
		\$10,000.00		Holy Three-in-One Church of the Deaf, Houston
		\$9,200.00		Texoma Lutheran Camp
	\$8,995.00	\$4,695.00	SP	Jesus Lutheran Camp for the Deaf, Austin
		\$1,800.00	SP	Texas Department of Corrections
		\$2,500.00	SP	M.D. Anderson Chaplaincy Endowment Fund
1982 Corpus Christi	\$13,000.00	\$5,000.00	SP	LCMS World Hunger, World Relief
		\$3,500.00	SP	Iglesia Luterana de Nuestro Salvador, Corpus Christi
		\$2,000.00	SP	Corpus Christi International Seamen's Center
		\$1,700.00	SP	Pastoral Retreat LSST
		\$800.00	SP	Texoma Lutheran Camp
	\$70,500.00	\$10,000.00		Lutheran Braille Workers
		\$5,000.00		Lutheran Bible Translators, Emergency Fund
		\$10,000.00		Good Samaritan Group Home Houston
		\$7,500.00		Paper Evangelism, Brownsville and Matamoros, Mexico
		\$10,000.00		Trinity Lutheran Home, Shiner, van with wheelchair lift
		\$8,150.00		Communications Center Equipment, Concordia College, Austin
		\$9,850.00		Trinity Lutheran, Childress
		\$10,000.00		Texoma Lutheran Camp, Chapel
1984 San Antonio	\$86,600.00	\$10,000.00		Carried over from 82-84 Biennium
		\$10,000.00		Lutheran Braille Workers, Texas
		\$20,000.00		Lutheran Homes of West Texas
		\$8,000.00		Deaf Ministries (<i>originally \$15,000, unable to use \$7000</i>)
		\$4,500.00		Texas Clergy Care (LSST)
		\$16,000.00		Camp Lone Star Bunkhouse
		\$15,000.00		Mission Cristo El Salvador, Del Rio
		\$6,100.00		Texoma Lutheran Camp
1986 Lubbock	\$96,700.00			<i>includes \$8000 overage in mites from 1984-86 Biennium and reallocation of \$6700 not used in 1984 Deaf Ministries</i>
		\$10,000.00		Laborers of Christ for Texas
		\$10,000.00		Lutheran Braille Workers
		\$15,000.00		Valley Parenting Support, LSST
		\$5,700.00		Deaf Ministries of Texas

		\$10,000.00	Commission on Ministerial Health, Clergy Care
		\$12,000.00	M.D. Anderson Hospital Chaplaincy Program
		\$12,000.00	Camp Lone Star
		\$12,000.00	La Iglesia Luterana San Pablo Mission Church, Houston
		\$10,000.00	Concordia College, Austin-Hispanic Layworkers Program <i>(original allocation of \$3300; \$6700 reallocated to Concordia Project to meet \$10,000 request)</i>
1988	\$113,300.00		<i>includes \$17,000 overage in mites from 1986-88 Biennium and reallocation of \$300 from unused funds for 1984 Deaf Ministries</i>
Galveston		\$12,000.00	Scholarships for Seminary Students
		\$10,000.00	La Santisima Trinidad Church, Matamoros
		\$3,000.00	Prison Ministries of Texas
		\$5,000.00	Lutheran Bible Translators
		\$10,000.00	Lutheran Services of Southeast Texas, LSST
		\$3,000.00	Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots, LAMP
		\$10,000.00	Concordia College, Austin, Post Office Facilities
		\$18,000.00	St. John's Lutheran Church, Corpus Christi
		\$12,000.00	Seamen's Center, Corpus Christi
		\$15,000.00	University of Texas, Arlington, Student Center
		\$15,000.00	Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas, LOMT
		\$300.00	Hope Lutheran, Lubbock
1990	\$115,000.00		<i>also includes \$6700 overage from 1988-1990 Biennium)</i>
Austin		\$24,000.00	Texas Seminary Student Scholarships
		\$4,800.00	Deaf Outreach - Computer Camp
		\$10,000.00	Panhandle Children's Services, Amarillo, LSST
		\$5,440.00	San Pedro Church, Houston, repairs
		\$5,000.00	Lutheran Bible Translators, Sierra Leone
		\$15,000.00	Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Arlington
		\$10,000.00	Bethesda/Good Samaritan Respite Center
		\$12,000.00	Heartwarmers
		\$13,760.00	Mt. Calvary Transportation Outreach
1992	\$142,500.00		Valley Hispanic Ministries
Houston		\$15,000.00	<i>(1990 project changed to fund productions of Spanish worship materials, omitting the van purchase in the original grant)</i>
		\$24,000.00	Texas Seminary Student Scholarships
		\$10,000.00	Family Caring Center, McAllen LSSS
		\$15,000.00	Asian Bus Ministry, St. Phillip, Houston
		\$10,000.00	Fishers of Men Lutheran Church, Port Isabel
		\$10,000.00	Good Samaritan, Houston, remodeling
		\$15,000.00	Lutheran Braille Workers
		\$12,000.00	Peace Lutheran Church, Galena Park, repairs

		\$7,000.00	Concordia College, Birkman Chapel, windows
		\$4,500.00	Grace Lutheran School, Dallas, security
		\$10,000.00	Lutheran Leadership Education Materials, LCMS
		\$10,000.00	Cornerstone House Daycare (<i>project no longer viable, funds were not received, and no overage was declared</i>)
1994	\$110,865.00	\$24,000.00	Texas Seminary Student Scholarships
Wichita Falls		\$19,000.00	Youth Great Commission - Project Can-Do
		\$5,000.00	Abstinence Education for Lutheran School Students
		\$10,000.00	Missionary Emergency Medical Evacuation, LCMS
		\$2,500.00	Pastors' Wives Retreat, Camp Lone Star, LaGrange
		\$10,000.00	Van for Trinity Vietnamese Lutheran
		\$16,000.00	Van for Jesus Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Austin
		\$8,000.00	Portals of Prayer for Armed Forces Personnel (LCMS)
		\$12,000.00	Seminary Vicarages Among American Indians (LCMS)
		\$2,000.00	Hispanic Ministry, Hereford, bus repairs
		\$2,365.00	Christian Education Workers, Saskatchewan (LAMP)
1996	\$134,400.00	\$24,000.00	Texas Seminary Student Scholarships
College Station		\$8,370.00	Camp Scholarships - Unchurched Kids
		\$15,000.00	Lutheran Braille Workers
		\$0.00	Nutritional Project in La Pacayas, Guatemala (<i>rec'd other funding</i>)
		\$10,000.00	Youth Great Commission - Project Can-Do
		\$15,000.00	Lutheran Books and Materials Translated into Russian
		\$10,000.00	Van for Bethesda Group Home, Cypress
		\$20,000.00	Chaplaincy Program Residential Treatment Centers
		\$25,000.00	Bilingual Catechism - Valley Hispanic Ministry (<i>received an additional \$2970 from unfunded project and \$7030 added to mission goal for 1998-2000 Biennium</i>)
1998			<i>increased due to \$24, 147 carried over from 1996-98 Biennium</i>
Corpus Christi	\$159,150.00	\$24,000.00	Texas Seminary Student Scholarships
		\$13,800.00	Bible Ministry to Texas Prisons, Copperas Cove
		\$8,000.00	Can-Do Mission in Alaska
		\$4,100.00	Bible Videos for Bethesda-Good Samaritan, Cypress
		\$24,000.00	Passenger Van for Camps Lone Star and Texoma
		\$10,000.00	Pregnancy Help Center of Williamson County in Georgetown
		\$5,000.00	International Student Outreach
		\$27,000.00	Parish Nurse Ministry, Texas District - Human Care
		\$20,000.00	Hispanic Ministry Training Center/Dorm, El Calvario Lutheran Church
		\$8,975.00	Publishing Eqpt, Lutheran Bible Translators for Rodewald/Kalanga
		\$14,275.00	Lutheran Heritage Foundation for the Russian Program

2000 Waco	\$157,660.00	\$24,000.00	Seminary Student Scholarships/Texas District
		\$20,000.00	D.edicated to C.hristian E.ducation/DCE Student Scholarships
		\$20,000.00	Bible Outreach in Texas County Jails and Juvenile Facilities
		\$10,000.00	Bibles for Troubled Children
		\$10,000.00	POBLO Dallas Project
		\$20,000.00	Lutheran Braille Workers of Texas
		\$5,000.00	Redeemer Childhood Learning Center
		\$24,000.00	Passenger Van for International Outreach Mission, Texas A&M
		\$6,000.00	Eastward Expansion into Central Russia
		\$15,000.00	Translate, Publish, Distribute Catechism in Chinese
		\$3,660.00	LINC Portable Mission Outpost
2002 Midland	\$171,943.00	\$30,000.00	Seminary Student Scholarships/Texas District
		\$24,000.00	D.edicated to C.hristian E.ducation/Student Scholarship Initiative
		\$16,570.00	"Home Away from Home"/Texas Tech, Lubbock
		\$3,500.00	Emergency Medical Evacuation of Missionaries
		\$15,000.00	Radio Studio in Almaty Kazakstan/The Lutheran Hour
		\$10,000.00	"To Boldly Go" CAN-DO Ministries
		\$7,000.00	Open Arms Early Childhood Development Center
		\$15,000.00	For the Sake of the Church/LCMS
		\$20,000.00	Bible Outreach for Texas Correctional Facilities
		\$10,000.00	People of the Book Lutheran Outreach/Dallas Ethnic Ministry
		\$15,000.00	Publication of Russian Authored Lutheran Children's Material
\$4,243.00	Lutheran Bible Translators Missionary Training Lutheran Heritage Foundation		
\$1,630.00	LINC/Lutheran Intercity Network Coalition/Houston		
2004 Arlington	\$173,869.68	\$30,000.00	Seminary Student Scholarships - Texas District
		\$5,000.00	Armed Forces Ministry by Mail
		\$20,000.00	Suffer the Little Children - Lutheran Social Services
		\$20,000.00	Lutheran Braille Workers of Texas
		\$24,000.00	D.edicated to C.hristian E.ducation
		\$20,000.00	Christ Clinic, Katy, Texas
		\$7,500.00	Concordia Seminary: "What is my Want? I Want to Serve"
		\$20,000.00	Vietnamese Outreach in Texas and Beyond: CAME
		\$10,000.00	Taylor Pregnancy Resources Center
		\$6,250.00	A Lutheran School for Gualan
		\$8,340.00	CAN-DO Missions/Christ for Cuba and West Texas
\$2,779.68	Travel Assistance for Lutheran Women in Ghana, West Africa		

2006 Beaumont	\$160,000.00	\$25,000.00	Seminary Student Scholarships - Texas District
		\$20,000.00	Guarding Children's Hearts - Lutheran Social Services
		\$24,000.00	D.edicated to C.hristian E.ducation
		\$10,000.00	Lutheran Braille Workers of Texas
		\$10,000.00	P.O.B.L.O. Arabic Mission Stations for DFW Metroplex
		\$24,000.00	Ethnic Immigrant Student Scholarships LINC - Houston
		\$8,000.00	Women in Outdoor Ministry - LOMT
		\$5,000.00	Bibles for Congregational Use in Outreach Programs
		\$8,000.00	Alaska Mission for Christ, Kenai Peninsula Mission Outreach
		\$24,500.00	Spanish Bible/Catechism for Americas - Lutheran Heritage Foundation
		\$1,500.00	Gym Community Outreach Center Renovation, Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church Houston (partial)
2008 Houston	\$172,031.65	\$50,000.00	Scholarships for Seminarians - Texas District
		\$27,200.00	Lutheran Braille Workers, Inc. - Texas
		\$10,000.00	Media Equipment - Jesus Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Austin
		\$13,107.00	Bibles/Student Helps for students at Martin Luther Seminary Papua, New Guinea
		\$10,000.00	Coleman Christian Fellowship Center Coleman, Texas
		\$8,000.00	Women in Outdoor Ministry LOMT - Camp Lone Star
		\$17,500.00	Telling the Next Generation: Children's Bibles for Indonesia, Cambodia and Thailand
		\$4,000.00	Portals of Prayer Braille Production, Messiah Lutheran Church, Plano, Texas
		\$4,000.00	Outreach/Mission by Austin City Church
		\$7,000.00	Bible Study Curriculum - Bethesda Lutheran Homes and Services
		\$6,500.00	Hands of Mercy Training Center for People with Disabilities Literacy Classroom, Sudan
		\$14,000.00	Pro-Life Brochures in Spanish - Lutherans for Life
			<i>\$724.65 was carried over to the next biennium</i>
2010 Austin	\$185,187.50		<i>includes \$15,187.50 overage</i>
		\$50,000.00	Scholarships for Seminarians in Texas District
		\$20,000.00	Guiding God's Little Lambs - A Spiritual Care Program for Abused Children
		\$24,000.00	Concordia University Texas - DCE Scholarships
		\$26,800.00	Lutheran Braille Workers, Inc. - Texas
		\$19,000.00	Let the Little Children Come - Bible Stories for India and Sri Lanka
		\$10,000.00	Family Shield Cult Educational Project
		\$8,000.00	Women in Outdoor Ministry LOMT - Camp Lone Star
		\$9,000.00	Short-Term Mission Team Financial Assistance LWML Texas District/LCMS World Mission
		\$4,000.00	Portals of Prayer Braille Production, Messiah Lutheran Church, Plano, Texas
\$14,387.50	LINC, Houston - Center for Hispanic Studies		

2012 College Station	\$175,000.00	\$40,000.00	Scholarships for Seminarians - Texas District
		\$20,000.00	Covenant Kids - Spiritual Care for Abused Children (LSSS)
		\$20,000.00	Women of the Book Lutheran Outreach Ministry to Muslim Women
		\$20,600.00	Lutheran Braille Workers of Texas Work Centers
		\$9,000.00	Short-Term Mission Team Financial Assistance - LWML Texas District
		\$8,000.00	Hands of Mercy Women and Girls Health Education Program
		\$20,000.00	Concordia University Texas DCE Scholarships
		\$3,600.00	Refuge of Hope Pregnancy Resource Center - "Earn While You Learn" Parenting Classes
		\$5,000.00	Food Bank - Concordia Seminary, St. Louis
		\$15,300.00	Ethnic Immigrant Institute of Theology (EITT) for Middle Eastern and Asian Students (POBLO-TX)
		\$13,500.00	Campus Ministry at University Lutheran Chapel, College Station
	2014 Frisco	\$197,700.00	
		\$50,000.00	Scholarships for Seminarians - Texas District - LCMS
		\$20,000.00	Covenant Kids - Spiritual Care Program for Abused Children Upbring, the new LSSS
		\$15,000.00	Publish and Distribute the Arabic <i>Small Catechism</i> - Lutheran Heritage Foundation
		\$1,500.00	Ministry of Muslim Women - Disciples of the Way
		\$20,000.00	Biblically-based Character and Leadership Development for At-Risk Students and Families - LINC North Texas
		\$24,000.00	Director of Christian Education Scholarships - Concordia University Texas
		\$4,078.00	Short-term Mission Team Financial Assistance - LWML Texas District
		\$20,000.00	Reaching the Heart of the City's Children, Families, and Homeless - LINC - Austin
		\$11,000.00	Vision for Kenya - Opening Eyes to See Jesus - Texas District LCMS Circuit #7
	\$12,500.00	Hispanic Ministry – Southeast Texas - Texas District LCMS Circuit #34	
	<i>balance due</i>	\$6,000.00	Vision for All - Opening Eyes to See Jesus <i>(name change and delayed)</i>
2016 Lubbock	\$206,800.00		<i>includes \$26,800 overage</i>
		\$40,000.00	Scholarships for Seminarians - Texas District LCMS
		\$24,000.00	DCE Scholarships - Concordia University Texas
		\$15,000.00	Apartment Ministry to Muslim Women - Disciples of the Way
		\$15,000.00	We>I (We is Greater Than I) - LINC Austin
		\$16,000.00	Disaster Relief - Holy Cow Smokers
		\$10,000.00	Equipping Youth to Witness for Life - Lutherans For Life
		\$24,000.00	Building Hope in Bufuula, Uganda - Hope, Lubbock, TX
	\$12,000.00	Meeting Room Media - Camp Lone Star	

\$25,000.00	International Student Ministry - UT Arlington
\$25,000.00	Hispanic Ministry - Southeast Texas
\$800.00	Outreach and Media Ministry - Antiochian Apostolic Church, Hurst, TX

DISTRICT NEWS

The *District News*, official publication of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, Texas District, had its inception at the Fort Worth Convention in 1943. Mrs. O.J. Ronecker of San Antonio was the first editor and served until December 1943, when she resigned. Mrs. W.E. (Erna) Dorre of Fort Worth filled in until Mrs. Fred Neuman of Houston took over in May 1944. Mrs. Neuman served until November 1944. Mrs. Dorre again supplied the January 1945 issue. Mrs. H.A. Burandt of Dallas was editor from March 1945 to September 1945. She was instrumental in changing the *District News* from a mimeographed bulletin to booklet form. Mrs. R. Martin of Temple served as editor from November 1945 until July 1946. Mrs. W.E. (Erna) Dorre served again until September 1946. Then Mrs. R. Martin resumed duties as editor until September 1950. Mrs. P.H. Pralle, Alamo, became editor in 1950, served until the convention in 1952, was reappointed for another two years, and resigned in April 1953. Mrs. Edna Dautenhahn, Robertson, was appointed to succeed Mrs. Pralle as editor in June 1953, and served until June 1956. Mrs. Orville A. Buntrock, Lubbock, accepted the appointment as editor in September 1956. Mrs. Buntrock served until her resignation in June 1958. Mrs. E.R. Rathgeber, Vernon, served from June 1959 to June 1962. Mrs. A.O. (Edith) Rast, Austin, served from 1962 to June 1966. Mrs. Harry (Virginia) Sletner, Harlingen, served from June 1966 to June 1970. Mrs. J. (Helen) Konz, Marlin, served from 1970 until the end of 1974. It was during her term in office that the Official Publication of the Texas District was discontinued, and by vote of the convention of 1970 became incorporated with the *Texas Messenger* and now reaches the LWML membership through the *Lutheran Witness*. At the 1974 Convention, Mrs. Brad (Dot) Kohr, Dallas, was appointed editor and served until resigning in May 1977, moving out of the district. Mrs. H. Earl (Margaret) Goodson, Houston was appointed editor May 1977 and served until June 1984. Mrs. William (Dolores) Bruncke, Plano, was appointed editor in June 1984 and served until June 1989. Mrs. James (Shirley) Baumgartner, San Antonio, was appointed editor in June 1989 and served until June 1992. Mrs. Charlotte Hughes, Flower Mound, was appointed editor in June 1992 and served until June 1996. Mrs. Rudy (Dorothy) Hunger, Rockwall, was appointed editor in June 1996 and served until 2000. The following editors were: Ann Schueler, Winchester, 2000-2002; Teresa Mesman, Farwell, 2002-2006; Kelly Hamilton, Port Arthur, 2006-2010; Laura Wilson, Groves, 2010-2014; and Debbie Curry, Oakwood, 2014-2016. Janna Atkins, Abilene, was appointed in 2016.

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS A FIRST FOR THE TEXAS DISTRICT

The 1965 International Convention voting body selected Houston, Texas as the location for the 1969 International Convention.

The Texas District Lutheran Women's Missionary League asked Mrs. Edward R. Rathgeber to be chairman for this convention. Mrs. Rathgeber met the same year with International President, Mrs. Warren Hartman to formulate plans and to choose committee chairmen. A motto "Thrust with Trust" was selected because it seemed to fit in the age of space exploration. Convention headquarters was the Rice Hotel, Houston.

Three thousand persons attended the opening service which was held in the Albert Thomas Space Hall. There were 1481 guests, eighty-one pastors, fifty-four directors, and 538 voting delegates. Liturgists for this service were Rev. Andres Sabo and Rev. Harold Heckmann. The preacher was Dr. Carl Heckmann, President of Texas District, Missouri Synod who spoke on "Free to be Free" based on the text Romans 6:19-23.

The delegates received an added bonus when they were able to witness live television coverage of man's first exploration of the moon's surface.

Delegates also witnessed another "first" when Mrs. Oscar Feucht, International LWML secretary for twenty-three years, was presented with a life membership pin, a check for \$3,500 and bouquet of yellow roses.

Three International Past Presidents were recognized: Mrs. Arthur Preisinger, Mrs. Walter Hoppe, and Mrs. Gilbert Hankel. Mrs. Warren Hartman, President of International, presented two visiting dignitaries, Mrs. C.O. Leonard (ALC) and Mrs. William Matz (LCA) to the convention body.

The Convention was addressed by the retiring president of Synod, Dr. Oliver R. Harms, and by the newly elected President, Dr. J.A.O. Preuss. Condensed forms of the addresses of all convention speakers can be found in the September-October 1969 issue of the *District News*.

Tours were offered to Astro World, Domed Stadium and other places of interest. Fifteen hundred persons attended a rodeo and barbecue on Circle B Ranch. A post-convention tour was arranged to Mexico City.

SECOND CONVENTION FOR THE TEXAS DISTRICT

The Texas District hosted the International LWML Convention in Fort Worth at the Tarrant County Convention Center in June 1987 with the theme "Radiant With God's Love." Dr. Glenn O'Shoney preached on the topic "Cleaving the Darkness" at the convention opening communion service. Rev. Dennis Glick led the convention Bible study. Convention guest speakers included Dr. Ralph Bohlmann, Marie Meyer, Dr. Edward Westcott, Jr., Dr. Shirley Bergman, and Rev. Carl Robinson.

More than 4,800 people attended the convention, including 654 delegates. Convention offerings benefited the LWML mission goal (\$15,883), Hope Lutheran Church, Salt Lake City, UT (\$12,998), Togo Medical clinics (\$12,994), and a van for Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Vancouver, BC (\$10,664). A mission goal of \$1,000,000 was adopted at convention.

Four LWML Discipling Women representatives were commissioned for a trip to England. Convention attendees viewed the premiere showing of a LCMS mission field film funded by LWML, "Salifu's Harvest," with a surprise visit by Nicholas Salifu of Ghana at its conclusion.

At the Texas Caucus, Mrs. Mark (Pearl) Biar was presented a stained-glass wall hanging by Dr. Ray Martens of Concordia College recognizing her as "Lutheran Woman of the Year" for 1987. Pearl had served her

district as First Vice-President, President, and as the 1987 International Convention Chairman. Two Texas LWML members were elected to International Offices. Mrs. Mark (Pearl) Biar was elected First Vice-President of Mission Service, and Mrs. Wesley (Puddin') Krueger was elected Financial Secretary. Following the convention, Mrs. H. Earl (Margaret) Goodson was appointed chairman of Mission Service. Other Texans appointed to committees were: Mrs. Robert (Catherine) Burkhard to Bylaws, Mrs. Rufus (Ruby) Young and Mrs. Steve (Roselyn) Henze to Member Development, and Mrs. William (Dolores) Bruncke as Assistant Editor of the LWML Quarterly.

CHRISTIAN GROWTH IN THE LWML TEXAS DISTRICT

At the 1953 International LWML Convention, Portland, Oregon, a resolution was passed to give full support to Synod's intensive effort in the field of "Lay Training." Permission was granted the California-Nevada District in 1954 to hold the first guidance or "test" institute which was to serve as a pattern for nine other sections of the U.S.

The International Christian Growth Committee held a regional Institute in Austin, May 1955. The topics were "Deepening the Inter Spiritual Life," "Personal Evangelism," and "Training Kingdom Workers." These topics were also the objectives of the Christian Growth Program. Mrs. A.O. (Edith) Rast was Chairman 1955 to 1957, before resigning. Mrs. Edmund (Luella) Pliefke succeeded her in the office and served from July 1957 to June 1962. As a result of this institute, Bible Study Groups had their inception at St. Paul's, San Antonio, with Dr. Roland Wiederaenders as organizer. This supported Synod's "Lay Training Effort."

Mrs. Louella Pliefke attended the first International Christian Growth Workshop in Minneapolis in July 1957. Each district was urged to write a topic relative to the objectives of the LWML since very few topics existed at the time. Five districts, including Texas, were chosen to present their topics at the workshop. Louella wrote her own topic, "Growing in Christ," and presented it with flip chart illustrations.

In 1959, Mrs. Robert Dutton, San Antonio, became a co-chairman with Mrs. Pliefke, and Rev. Charles Keturakat, San Antonio, became Pastoral Counselor for the committee serving until 1959 when Rev. Eric Wagner became the Pastoral Counselor.

Mrs. Pliefke attended the International Workshop in Toronto, Canada in 1959. In 1960 the first Texas District Christian Growth Workshop was held in Dallas with a representation from all 30 zones, in addition to pastors and guests. In 1962 the second District Workshop was held in San Antonio prior to the convention. After this convention, Mrs. Robert (Kathryn) Dutton became the chairman.

The Christian Growth effort, as far as "Lay Training" was concerned, was planned and executed solely by the Christian Growth Chairmen and their committees from 1955 to 1964, when Article V, Section 3 of our Bylaws, under duties of the Second Vice-President, a new part "c" - Serve as Chairman of the Christian Growth Committee was inserted.

International established a Leadership Training Committee in 1970 with Mrs. Walter (Helen) Gienapp of Michigan as Chairman. Texas sent two representatives, Mrs. Robert (Catherine) Burkhard of Dallas, and Mrs. Earl (Mildred) Teufel of Port Arthur, to the Leadership Training Program in Salt Lake City, Utah. During 1971-1972 these ladies helped to implement this program in the Texas District.

Texas District was divided into seven Christian Growth Regional Districts. The theme chosen for the 1976-1978 biennium was "Walking with My Lord." Rev. Edwin Pieplow, Fort Worth, graciously consented to render his outstanding ability as speaker at these programs. Christian Growth Chairman, Mrs. William (Ruth) Bredemeyer, Channelview, reported over 800 persons attended the Regional Workshops during the biennium.

Christian Growth Chairman, Mrs. Ray (Edna) Peterson, Houston, attended the Pilot Workshop for “Seminar ‘80” in St. Louis in September 1979. Mrs. Peterson and her committee successfully sponsored the “You are God’s Gift” Seminar. It preceded the convention in Tyler with 342 in attendance. The same committee presented the “JOY” Workshop preceding the convention in Corpus Christi in 1982 with over 600 in attendance.

Christian Growth Chairman, Ms. Gretchen Sump, Austin, attended the pilot seminar on “Strengthening the Christian Woman” in St. Louis in 1982. Ms. Sump and her committee presented the “Strengthening the Christian Woman” Workshop preceding the convention in San Antonio in 1984 with 607 attending. This same committee presented the “Linked by Love” Workshop preceding the convention in Lubbock in June 1986 with 454 in attendance. Alma Kern, author of the book, “You Are Special,” was the keynote speaker.

Christian Growth Chairman, Mrs. Ronald (Sherry) Torbert and her committee presented the workshop “Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus” preceding the convention in Galveston on June 22, 1988 with 615 in attendance. This same committee planned the workshop “The Discipling Woman” for June 19-20, 1990 in Austin. Outstanding key speakers were Rev. Erwin L. Kolb of St. Louis and Mrs. Jean Prochnow. There were 720 in attendance.

The Christian Growth Workshop “Celebrate God’s Love – He’s My Savior” was planned by Mrs. James (Iris) Franke and her committee. Special speakers were Rev. Leroy and Mrs. Marie Biesenthal of St. Louis. There were 748 in attendance on June 19, 1992 in Houston. Sessions leaders were from the Houston area. This same committee planned the workshop “Empowered by His Love” with approximately 600 in attendance on June 15, 1994 in Wichita Falls. Sessions leaders were district officers, former officers, and other ladies in the district.

Christian Growth Chairman, Mrs. Robert (Eloise) Kuhlmann and her committee planned the workshop “Refreshed by His Word through the Seasons of Life.” Rev. Francis Schroeder presented the Bible study. There were 781 in attendance on June 28, 1996 in College Station. This would be the last Christian Growth Workshop held the day preceding a convention.

Mrs. Robert (Eloise) Kuhlmann, Second Vice-President for Mission Inspiration, and her committee coordinated the Bible studies and responses with the convention business in Corpus Christi in June 1998. Leaders were Rev. Francis Schroeder, Rev. Kim DeVries, Rev. Dr. Gerald Kieschnick, Rev. Larry Krueger, and ILWML committee members Naomi Schilling and Karol Selle. The committee also planned the Spiritual Enrichment sessions held on Saturday afternoon that featured hands-on mission service and mission involvement.

The last Christian Growth workshop held on a Friday at convention was in College Station in 1996. With the 1998 convention in Corpus Christi, LWML Texas District began offering Saturday afternoon Spiritual Enrichment Breakout Sessions. At the convention held in Midland in 2002, with adoption of revised Texas District LWML Bylaws, Christian Growth was changed to Christian Life to conform to the revised national LWML Bylaws.

SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND

The Scholarship Endowment Fund was established at the 1990 Convention to commemorate fifty years of blessings bestowed upon LWML Texas District. The goal was to have \$50,000 by the 1992 convention. Scholarships are granted to women from Texas training for fulltime church work at Synodical-approved colleges. Recipients received the awarded amount, half each semester.

Year	Recipient	Amount
1992	Marissa Hernandez, Del Rio	\$1,000.00
1993-1994	Christen Norum, Waxahachie	\$1,000.00
	Michelle Otsubo, Dallas	\$875.00
1994-1995	Michelle Otsubo, Dallas	\$1,000.00
	Jody Leslie, Austin	\$1,000.00
1995-1996	Heidi Handrick, Wichita Falls	\$900.00
	Kimberly Richter, Thorndale	\$900.00
1996-1997	Heidi Handrick, Wichita Falls	\$1,000.00
	Kimberly Richter, Thorndale	\$1,000.00
	Christina Oldham, Kerrville	\$1,000.00
1997-1998	Heidi Handrick, Wichita Falls	\$900.00
	Christina Oldham, Kerrville	\$900.00
	Carol Kareen Chatel, Nassau Bay	\$900.00
	Stephanie Poyner, Tyler	\$900.00
1998-1999	Heidi Handrick, Wichita Falls	\$900.00
1999-2000	Sherry Bamsch, Katy Grimes, Emily Naumann	\$1,200.00
2000-2001	Katy Grimes, Kristine Horrocks, Candice McGlothlin, Jennifer Poyner	\$900.00
2001-2002	Cheryl Forames, Emily Naumann, Stephanie Teer, Amanda Woelfel	\$1,000.00
2002-2003	Bonnie Catt, Cheryl Forames, Skye Kaspar, Rebecca Sawhill	\$900.00
2003-2004	Erin Devine, Rachel Fraker, Melissa Hahn, Rachel Mattil	\$1,100.00
2004-2005	Rachel Fraker, Melissa Graesser, Melissa Hahn, Michelle Heckmann	\$900.00
2005-2006	Sarah Davis, Michelle Heckmann, Julia Jankauskas, Victoria Standifer	\$900.00
2006-2007	Ashley Cousan, Michelle Heckmann, Rebekah House, Benita Malinak	\$900.00
2007-2008	Michelle Heckman, Elizabeth Ledford, Abby Klein, Julia Jankauskas	\$900.00
2008-2009	Julia Gremmer, Elizabeth Ledford, Rachel Morton, Katie Tomas	\$900.00
2009-2010	Laura Fusiler, Julia Gremmer, Kacie Krause, Katie Prince	\$1,000.00
2010-2011	Emilie Finke, Elizabeth Pullium, Kayla Brock, Julie Gremmer	\$900.00
2011-2012	Lauren Van Syckle, Lydia Humphries	\$1,000.00
2012-2013	Natalie Bahr, Emily Pohland, Bethany Woelmer	\$1,000.00
2013-2014	Natalie Bahr, Kayla Brock, Madilynn Russo	\$1,000.00
2014-2015	Natalie Bahr, Caitlin Copeland, Madilyn Russo	\$1,000.00
2015-2016	Jessica Mitchell <i>(Spring Semester funds returned, changed majors)</i>	\$500.00
2016-2017	Claire Penn, Alexis Rousseau	\$1,650.00
2017-2018	Megan Harcrow, Heather Rasch, Krista Pena, Julia Trempala, Ava Schweninger	\$1,000.00

YOUNG WOMAN REPRESENTATIVES

Young Woman Representatives were first established at the March 1985 Executive and Board of Directors meetings by forming a committee to develop guidelines for choosing Young Woman Representatives. Young Woman Representatives attend the LWML convention as representatives of the district. In September 1994 it was decided to select two young women, one from the North and one from the South, to represent the Texas District. The LWML Texas District Committee on Young Women was formalized in 1998.

Biennium	Young Woman Representative
1985-1987	Martha Hichke
1987-1989	Christine Gilbert
1989-1991	Gina Franke
1991-1993	Katherine McNeal
1993-1995	Dawn Weiser
1995-1997	Stephanie Lanier, Giovanna Turincio
1997-1999	Terry Wells, Debbie Muchr
1999-2001	Lori Haseloff, Adrienne Yanez
2001-2003	Rae Ann Spitzenberger, Michele Tate
2003-2005	Jennifer Ledbetter, Penny Smkovsky
2005-2007	Michelle Gooding, Kelli Alsup
2007-2009	Joanna Hoss, Laura Wilson
2009-2011	Melanie Pacey, Amy Dean
2011-2013	Jennifer Frosch, Whitney Lee
2013-2015	Colleen Hildebrandt, Abby Faske
2015-2017	Staci Geiger, Michelle Heckmann
2017-2019	Tiffany Bolding and Amanda Hankemeier

75th ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

Endowing Tomorrow's Lutheran Women in Mission

Goal: \$1,000,000

The Texas District LWML launched the 75th Anniversary Campaign in the spring of 2003 to raise \$1,000,000 in estate and planned giving commitments by 2017 to benefit the two LWML Endowments – the Scholarship Endowment and the Mission Inreach Endowment. The Scholarship Endowment provides scholarships to Texas District women entering colleges of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod to prepare for full-time church vocations. The Mission Inreach Endowment provides spiritual enrichment, member development and leadership training opportunities for members of the LMWL in Texas. Both are necessary to help ensure the future of LWML in Texas. As of June 2016, the 75th Anniversary Endowment had received 151 planned giving commitments totaling \$606, 268. In addition, \$8,622.48 had been given in cash gifts.

LWML Texas District Mission Inreach Endowment – History of Interest Use

The Mission Inreach Endowment was established at the 1998 LWML Texas District Convention in Corpus Christi in partnership with Lutheran Foundation of Texas. The interest was to be used for spiritual enrichment, member development and leadership training opportunities for members of the LWML Texas District as decided by the Executive Committee.

Year Interest Accrued	Amount of Interest Designated	Date of Minutes	Purpose	Date Designated For
1999	\$196.31	3-3-00	To set up computer at convention to show Texas District LWML web site with remainder to go to purchase of materials for Zone Presidents' Orientation	June and November 2000
2000	\$269.55			
2001	\$343.93			
2002	\$334.40	2-27-03	To Communication Department budget for expenses	2003
2003	\$418.50	2-20-04	To general mites to offset Quarterly expense	2004
2004 and 2005	\$551.06* \$633.80	2-17-06 assumed (not in minutes)	For "God's Own Amazing Leaders" (GOAL) training throughout the district	2006
2006 and 2007	\$1353.10	2-16-08	To send three district leaders to the 2008 Assembly of Leaders training	2008
2008 and 2009	\$1315.17**	2-19-10 6-15-10 (clarified)	For convention expenses and training for newly appointed Heart to Heart Sister District Leader	2011
2010 and 2011	\$1133.33***	02-17-12	To send three district representatives to PING training	October 2012
2012 and 2013	\$1590	03-07-14	For Zone Presidents' Orientation	Fall 2014
		6-17-14	Standing Rule passed by EC: At the end of each biennium, Mission Inreach Endowment interest from the previous two years will be designated for leadership training at the upcoming Zone Presidents' Orientation. The Treasurer will maintain a balance on her reports. The Archivist-Historian will record by biennium, the designated amounts in the history of the district.	

*LFOT reports \$551.76 **LFOT reports \$1336.03 ***LFOT reports \$1112.44

"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: 892 LSB, 495 LW, 574 TL

Elmer A. Kettner

