

Serving, sharing, telling

By Rev. John Heckmann
Junior Pastoral Counselor

The ladies of the LWML Texas District, along with a few men, gathered for its convention July 5-8 in Waco under the theme “Filled to Overflow ... serving, sharing, telling,” based on the words of our Savior in John 7:38:

“Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’”

Serving, sharing and even telling (when the telling is about Jesus) are not usually activities or opportunities that we seek out. Our sinful nature tells us that these activities are not very glamorous, while Satan would have us ask ourselves, “Who in their right mind would want to live a life of service to others?” He hopes the answer will be “no one!”

I do believe that even Satan knows that as we serve others, we are

blessed — as are those whom we serve in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I often say that I receive more from those I have served than I imagine they have received from me, and as we serve one another, we know the words of our King to be right on the mark (as they always are):

“Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.”

— **MATT. 28:40**

So how can we be about this serving, sharing and telling? Our LWML Texas District in convention modeled this by serving 12 ministries, either by giving needed materials or going to the ministry centers to work side-by-side with others. Attendees served by taking care not only of the physical needs of the ministries’ clients, but also their spiritual needs as these LWMLers shared the Good News of

Jesus Christ — crucified and risen for the whole world. What a joy to be able to overflow into their lives by our serving, sharing and telling.

This is something our LWML Sunshine Zone has done for the past 15 years as well. We invite everyone from the congregations in our zone to gather together on a Saturday morning for a devotion, followed by four or five hours serving in many areas of the community before sharing a noon meal and returning to the duties God has called us to at home.

Drop me a note at *pastor@stpaulthegrove.org* telling me what you are doing in your community to reach and serve others beyond the four walls of your church building. What a challenge lies before us in this “me-first” culture to put others first as we share with them the One who “came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many” (Matt. 20:28).

Including you and me.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

As I write this, I am preparing to attend the Texas District Convention next week in Irving, where the delegates will elect a new district president.

The Rev. Ken Hennings will be honored for 12 years of service as president. He has been a faithful supporter of LWML for many years and a familiar face at all LWML conventions (district and national).

Rev. Hennings has also

authored the 2018 LWML Sunday materials — “Our Rest in a Changing World.” Need a break from this busy life and always wondering what might happen next? The theme from Psalm 62 will take you through worship to the sermon titled “The Rest We Share,” giving pause and insight in seeking that rest in God.

I encourage all congregations to use this material and observe LWML Sunday. Traditionally it is the



Joyfully serve the Lord
Openly confess the Gospel
Yearn to grow in God’s Word

first Sunday in October but it may be celebrated at any time.

Visit lwml.org/lwml-sunday for free downloads or call the LWML office at 800-252-LWML.

I wish President Hennings a restful and enjoyable retirement. And I know that

God will continue to use him to share The Rest — our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Serving with JOY ...
Debbie Curry

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Send LWML news and photos to Janna Atkins at districtnews@lwmltxdist.org

Scholarships awarded



The LWML Texas District Scholarship Committee has recently chosen five young ladies to receive scholarships. The recipients will each receive \$1,060 for the 2018-19 school year. Shown are the young ladies the committee has chosen, and who are all studying for full-time church work.

We thank the Lord we are able to award these funds to the girls for their studies. As the fund grows, we will be able to award more scholarships. We pray the LWML will continue to add to this fund in the future.

What a great way to ensure the future growth of our church and the mission of LWML. Let us keep these young ladies in our prayers as they learn and serve their Lord.



Megan Harcrow
Waco
Concordia University,
Austin



Ember Marshall
San Antonio
Concordia
University, Austin



Rachel Schelen
North Richland
Hills
Concordia
University, Austin



Krista M. Pena
Brownsville
Concordia University,
Austin



Rebecca Schelen
North Richland
Hills
Concordia
University, Austin

PLAINVIEW



PLAINVIEW - The women of the South Plains Zone met for their Spring Rally at St. Paul on April 7. The theme was John 7:38 and the rally included a mission project. Each society in the zone was invited to collect and bring bottled water — 446 bottles of water will be distributed to the FISH Food Bank and other food pantries.

BROWNWOOD



Heart of Texas Zone hosted a tea party at Grace. The theme was “The Parable of the Teacup,” delivered by Elaine Herklotz. The attendees dressed in spring attire, with most wearing lovely hats and outfits. The fare was typical of a spring tea party, including tomato bisque soup, cucumber and cream cheese finger sandwiches, assorted relishes



and breads. And yes, three different types of delicious tea were served by husbands and members of Grace LWML.