

Registration

The 43rd Biennial Convention of the LWML Texas District will be held at the Omni Corpus Christi Hotel, 900 North Shoreline Boulevard, Corpus Christi, June 13–15, 2024. Registration opens on March 1, 2024. To take advantage of the discounted registration fee, registrations must be submitted or postmarked no later than May 7. Online registration is available at lwmltxdist.org/lwml-texas-district-conventions with payment by credit card through May 31. The registration form is available on the website to be completed, printed, and mailed to the registrar with payment (check to LWML Texas District or credit card information). No American Express credit cards will be accepted by LWML Texas District for registration or at the convention including the LWML store. Registration check-in at the Omni Corpus Christi will open Thursday, June 13, from 7:30 a.m.–6:00 p.m. and Friday, June 14, from 7:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m. Please contact Registrar Alissa Elley at registrar@lwmltxdist.org with questions.

Convention Highlights

The convention opens on Thursday, June 13, with a Divine Service with Communion at 7:30 p.m. in the Corpus Christi Ballroom of the Omni Corpus Christi Hotel. All business sessions will be held in the Corpus Christi Ballroom. Friday's session will begin at 8:15 a.m. The final session will be held Saturday morning with the convention concluding at 12:00 p.m. The sessions will include our keynote speaker, LWML Past President Debbie Larson along with two Mites in Action speakers. Pastor Chad Bresson is serving The Table of Los Fresnos, a grant recipient from this biennium. Pastor Dave Murillo serves St. Paul Lutheran Church in San Antonio, a recipient from our prior biennium. There will be Bible Studies led by our pastoral counselors along with Wake Up with the Word on Friday morning at 7:00 a.m. Attendees will have the opportunity to attend two of the three enrichment sessions being offered. Enrichment Session leaders will be Debbie Larson, LWML Past President and keynote speaker, Kayla Winkler, member of the Christian Life Committee, and Ruth Meyer, an author and speaker who is quickly becoming one of our district's most called upon presenters.

Hotel Information

The Omni Corpus Christi Hotel will accept reservations beginning March 1, 2024. The group rate for all blocked rooms is \$149 plus tax and is good for one to four persons per room. **The convention rate is available until 5:00 p.m., May 22, 2024.** For online reservations go to <https://www.omnihotels.com/hotels/corpus-christi/meetings/lutheran-womens-missionary-league-texas-district-2024-06102024> or use the direct link on our website at lwmltxdist.org/convention. If preferred, reservations may be made by calling the Omni Hotels 1-800-843-6664 reservation line and ask for the Lutheran Women's Missionary League Texas District 2024 room block or give code **061024LUTHERANWOMENS**. If you would like to come early or stay late to visit the Corpus Christi area, the convention rate is good for 3 nights before or after the convention based on availability. **If you need assistance or a roommate**, please contact Housing Coordinator Helen Schneider at conventionhousing@lwmltxdist.org.

Travel

Guests flying into Corpus Christi International Airport and staying at the Omni need to call 361-887-1600 with personal flight information after hotel reservations have been made to schedule for free shuttle service to the Omni Hotel. Pick up is outside the baggage claim. If you plan to drive, you can self-park in the Omni garage for our special rate of \$5 per day with in and out privileges. Valet parking is available at the prevailing rate. The entrance to the garage is located on North Water Street. There

is an entrance to the lobby from the garage. The Omni Water Street Lot will have complimentary self-parking.

Meals

All meals are secured with registration only. On Friday and Saturday mornings a full breakfast buffet is available at a cost of \$20. The buffet consists of sliced fresh fruit, hot breakfast entrée, assorted muffins and Danish, juice, coffee (regular and decaf), and hot tea. A boxed lunch will be available Thursday and Friday for \$15 and includes choice of a ham, turkey, or roast beef sandwich, chips, cookie, and a soda. Vegetarian meals (grilled veggie sandwich) and gluten-free meals (turkey on gluten-free bread) are available but **must** be noted on the registration form and preordered. No meal orders will be accepted after May 31, 2024.

The Pastors Lunch on Friday will be served off site at Trinity Our Savior Lutheran Church, 808 Louisiana Avenue, for a cost of \$20 per person (Hoegemeyer's BBQ brisket, potato salad, green beans, iced tea, and peach cobbler). All clergy attending the convention are invited and encouraged to attend, and transportation will be provided if needed.

Gratuities are included in the price of all meals.

Convention T-shirts

The 2024 convention T-shirt will be a short sleeve 35/65 cotton/polyester blend and heather blue in color. The convention logo will appear on the back of the T-shirt with the name, date, and location featured on the front top left. Please purchase T-shirts when registering for the convention. Purchase price is \$15. Registration forms submitted after May 7, 2024, will not be eligible to order a T-shirt.

Special Opportunities

Special opportunities are available on Thursday, so make plans to arrive early. Off-site servant events will start at 10:00 a.m. but will return in time for lunch and choir practice. (Buses to off-site events plan to leave at 9:45 a.m.) Exhibits, stores, on-site servant events, and the prayer room will open at 10:00 a.m. Exhibits and on-site servant events will end on Friday at 1:30 p.m. The stores will be open Friday until 6:30 p.m.

Prayer Room

The prayer room will be available throughout the convention in the Copano room. There will also be a memorial prayer book available in the prayer room for convention attendees to add the names of our LWML sisters in Christ who have passed away.

Choir

If you are interested in singing in the choir during Thursday evening's worship service, please check the appropriate box on the registration form. Practice time will be Thursday at 2:00 p.m. in the Corpus Christi Ballroom. Music and additional details will be sent after the registration form is received.

Rite of Dedication and Blessing

Our district pastoral counselors will lead us in prayer as we ask for God's blessings on the activities of the convention Thursday at 3:00 p.m. in Nueces Ballroom A.

Meet the Candidates and Officers

We welcome everyone to come together to meet the officer candidates and your current district officers. This time of fellowship will be Thursday from 3:30–4:30 p.m. in Nueces Ballroom A.

Mission Service Opportunities

On-site Servant Events will be available Thursday and Friday.

Tacking Lap Quilts for Fisher Houses in San Antonio (home away from home for military personnel and veterans receiving medical care).

Tying Fleece Blankets for New Life Refuge Ministries, Corpus Christi.

Completing Breast Pillows for cancer patients at Christus Spohn Cancer Center in Corpus Christi.

Marking Bibles for Coastal Bend Detention Center in Robstown.

Writing Notes of Thanks and Encouragement to military personnel, local law enforcement/first responders, and missionaries.

Off-site Servant Events will be held Thursday.

There is no cost to participate and bus transportation is provided. The Mission Service Events Committee will contact you for your site preference if you indicate YES on your registration form.

Brookdale Trinity Towers Assisted Living Facility — participants will have the opportunity to play the piano and sing spiritual songs, play Bingo, and read to residents, and paint ladies' fingernails.

Alameda Oaks Nursing Center — participants will have the opportunity to play the piano and sing spiritual songs, play Bingo, and read to residents, and paint ladies' fingernails.

Ronald McDonald House — participants will prepare lunch for the residents.

Hi Again Resale Shop (part of the Pregnancy Center of the Coastal Bend) — participants will sort donations and place them in the store and tidy up the store.

Gifts from the Heart

Ingathering items for this convention and the recipients are:

Standard Twin Sheet Sets (fitted, flat, and pillowcase). **No Twin XL or white color.**

Set of Matching Towels (bath, hand, and face cloth). **No white color.** Sheet sets and towel sets for Upbring Children Centers — Bokenkamp in Corpus Christi and New Life in Canyon Lake.

Full-Size Body Wash, Shampoo, and Toothpaste for Rainbow Rooms — emergency resource centers available to Child Protective Services (CPS) case workers to help them meet the critical needs of abused and neglected children.

Gift Cards from Walmart and Amazon for New Life Refuge Ministries — home for child survivors of human trafficking while receiving therapeutic care.

Gift Cards from Walmart, Target, and HEB for Pregnancy Center of the Coastal Bend — a ministry that empowers others to embrace life for their unborn child.

Please write the monetary value on all gift cards.

Wake Up with the Word

Rise and shine on Friday morning with Ruth Meyer and a Bible study on “Refuge” at 7:00 a.m. in Bayview. Participants will explore the well-known Psalm 46 verse by verse and come away with a deeper appreciation for the beloved psalm.

Moving for Mites

Our event for mites will be a 30-minute low impact stretching class which will be held in the comfort of the hotel. For those who want to make it more strenuous, the exercises can be modified. Moving for

Mites will be Saturday starting at 7:00 a.m. All pledges and donations will be in support of our mite goal. Pledges can be requested on a per minute basis or for completing the class. The pledge forms will be sent to those stating YES on the registration form. There is no charge to participate. It will be a fun way to start your day while helping the LWML Texas District meet the new biennium mite goal.

Young Woman Representatives

Each zone is encouraged to send one or more Young Woman Representative(s) (YWR) to the convention. A YWR is any mature young woman who is preferably between the ages of 22 and 35 and a member of an LCMS congregation. Information on the Committee on Young Women and the Zone YWR forms are available at lwmltxdist.org/young-woman-representatives. The Zone YWR program will begin at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 13, and conclude at the end of the convention on Saturday at noon. There will be opportunities for service, Bible study, fellowship, and training. The Zone YWR will sit with her zone delegation during the convention business sessions. If you have any additional questions, please contact Amanda Hankemeier at Amandahankemeier@gmail.com.

A Zone YWR will need to register for the convention and order the Friday boxed lunch (cost should be covered by the zone).

Young Women Lunch (ages 18-40)

On Friday at noon, all potential, current and former Young Woman Representatives are encouraged to order the Friday boxed lunch and bring it to the Bayview room and enjoy sharing ideas, experiences and fellowship.

Teen Program

We are excited to invite teen girls (ages 12–17) to the convention for a fun-filled and servant-minded experience planned just for them! Teens will get to know one another with fun, crafts, and games along with being in God's Word with Bible studies, participate in on-site service projects, enjoy time in the pool, and will discover what the LWML is with activities geared toward their age group and interests. The teen program will begin at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, June 13. Teens will pay a special registration rate of \$100 (or \$120 if submitted after May 7, 2024) which includes a T-shirt, snacks, Friday and Saturday breakfast, Thursday lunch, and Friday dinner. Teens should purchase Friday's boxed lunch option when registering and bring money for any purchase they plan to make at the LWML store. An adult mentor/leader must attend the convention for every 1-4 girls registered.

Childcare will not be offered due to insurance and liability constraints.

Questions? Please contact Host Committee Chairman Judy Kunkel at CorpusChristi2024@lwmltxdist.org.

