

The Lone Star Connection



February 27, 2024

2024 Corpus Christi Convention

Special Edition



Convention Registration opens March 1, 2024 — come join us!

LWML Texas District 43rd Biennial Convention
June 13–15, 2024
Omni Corpus Christi Hotel
Corpus Christi, Texas

Host zones:
Coastal Bend
Mid Coast
Rio Grande Valley
North Alamo

All convention information is available on the district website, lwmltxdist.org/lwml-texas-district-conventions.
*** see the Quick Links section on the convention webpage for easy access to all forms and information***

Registration

Registration opens on March 1, 2024. Online registration is available March 1, 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. Please contact Registrar Alissa Elley at registrar@lwmltxdist.org with questions.

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.** The direct link to the Omni Hotel online reservations will be available on the district website lwmltxdist.org/lwml-texas-district-conventions March 1. 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, a roommate, or request an ADA accessible room,** please contact Housing Coordinator Helen Schneider at conventionhousing@lwmltxdist.org.

2024 Convention Key Information — June 13

7:30 a.m.	General Registration, YWR's, and Delegates Registration Opens, Gifts from the Heart
10:00 a.m.	YWR and Teen LWML Programs begin, Exhibits, Stores, On-Site Servant Events, Prayer Room, and Off-site Servant Events Open
2:00–3:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal — Corpus Christi Ballroom
3:00–3:15 p.m.	Rite of Dedication and Blessing — Nueces Ballroom—A
3:30–4:30 p.m.	Meet the Candidates and Officers — Nueces Ballroom—A
4:30 p.m.	Ushers' Training/Clergy Practice — Corpus Christi Ballroom
6:00 p.m.	Registration, Gifts from the Heart, Exhibits, On-Site Servant Events, and Stores Close
6:30 p.m.	Pastors Robe — Nueces Ballroom—B
6:45 p.m.	BOD assembles for Procession — Outside Nueces Ballroom
7:30 p.m.	Official Convention Opening, Divine Service with Communion, Convention Offering #1 — Corpus Christi Ballroom
9:00 p.m.	Zone Caucuses
June 14–15	Complete schedule of information for Friday and Saturday will be in the registration tote bag

Speakers



Keynote and Enrichment Speaker
Debbie Larson,
LWML President 2019–2023



Proclaimer
Rev. Dr. Gerald B. Kieschnick,
LCMS President Emeritus



LWML Representative
Anita Werner



Enrichment and
Wake Up with the Word Speaker
Ruth Meyer



Enrichment Speaker
Kayla Winkler



Mites in Action Speaker
Pastor Chad Bresson
Table of Los Fresnos



Mites in Action Speaker
Pastor Dave Murillo
Laundry Love,
St. Paul, San Antonio

Full bios for the speakers are on the website and can be accessed by clicking on their picture.

Enrichment Sessions

Within Reach, led by Debbie Larson:

We have access to incredible Christ-based resources to help us in our personal lives and as we step out as Lutheran Women in Mission. We also have, within reach in every community, those who do not know our Savior and do not have the hope we have as children of God. Come and identify the needs within yourself and your community, learn about the resources available, and find the confidence to step out in faith to serve and share our Savior!

Discovering the Joys of Writing, led by Ruth Meyer

Come hear the story and adventures of a college music major who discovers a hidden gift and becomes a published author. Through audience participation and questions, find encouragement to be open to any undiscovered talents God has given you that could open a whole new pathway for you to share the Gospel. Could the joy of writing be one of them?

Creative Experiential Prayers, led by Kayla Winkler

What does your prayer life look like? Come participate in a hands-on session that will include both small and large group discussions meant to enrich your prayer life. Come away with confidence in sharing and teaching others the importance of conversation with God beyond the morning and evening prayers.

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 of the beloved psalm.

Teen Program

We are excited to invite teen girls (ages 12–17) to the convention for a fun-filled and servant-minded experience planned for just 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 groups 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.

Zone YWR Program

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. Each ZYWR will sit with her zone president and delegation during the convention on Friday and Saturday. ZYWR's need to register for the convention and order the Friday boxed lunch.

Young Women Lunch (ages 18–40) and former Zone YWR's

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 to enjoy sharing ideas, experiences, and fellowship.

Pastors Lunch

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.

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.

Gratuity is included in the price of all meals.

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.) On-site servant events will be available Thursday and Friday. Full information is available on the website convention page.

Gifts from the Heart

A complete list of ingathering items for this convention and the recipients are available on the district website convention page.

Mission Grant Proposals

A complete list of the 2024–2026 Mission Grant proposals with descriptions are available on the district website convention page.



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.

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 area. 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 Omni Water Street Lot will have complimentary self-parking.

Convention Offerings

Offering #1 will be taken at the Divine Service, Thursday evening, and will go towards the LWML Texas District 2024–2026 Mite Goal.

Offering #2, will be gathered Friday outside of the Corpus Christi Ballroom entrances and is designated to support the **Kleberg County Pregnancy Center**.

Offering #3, will be gathered Saturday outside of the Corpus Christi Ballroom entrances and is designated to support **St. Paul Lutheran Early Learning Center, McAllen, and Lord of Life Lutheran Child Development Center, Flour Bluff**. The offering will be divided equally between the two organizations.

A complete list with descriptions of the convention offerings are available on the district website convention page.

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.

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.

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. Moving for Mites will be Saturday starting at 7:00 a.m. All pledges and donations will be in support of our mite goal. It will be a fun way to start your day while helping the LWML Texas District meet the new biennium mite goal.

Meet the Candidates and Officers

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

Questions? Please contact Host Committee Chairman Judy Kunkel at corpuschristi2024@lwmltxdist.org.

Convention T-shirts

The 2024 convention T-shirt will be a short sleeve 35/65 cotton/polyester blend and heather blue in color. 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.



Front View



Back View

Slate of Candidates

President

Nancy Beckcom — Post Oak Zone
Sally Kreuger — Sunshine Zone

Vice President of Christian Life

Brianne Stahlecker — Post Oak Zone
Cheryl Wawrzyniak — Capital Zone

Vice President of Organizational Resources

Janet Taylor — Bayou City Zone
Terri Wenzel — Gulf Coast Zone

Financial Secretary

Alissa Elley — North Alamo Zone
Sharon Stoerkel — Bayou City Zone

Pastoral Counselor

Rev. David Bailes — New Horizon Zone
Rev. Russell Etzel — White Oak Zone

Nominating Committee

Cathy Ashcraft — Gulf Coast Zone
Dianne Jones — New Horizon Zone
Sharon Mills — East Texas Zone
Robyn Tarnowski — Golden Harvest Zone
Dawn Tighe — Rio Grande Valley Zone
Amy Velasquez — Sunshine Zone
Laura Wilson — Golden Triangle Zone

Full bios for the candidates are on the website and can be accessed by clicking on their picture.

A Message from President Frances:

I cannot wait to meet up with a group of people that certainly is one of my favorites! Lutheran Women's Missionary League has been important in my life now for over 40 years. To have been blessed to serve as your president is one of my greatest honors. As my term comes to an end, I am indeed getting somewhat melancholy. So, in lieu of bemoaning, I want to celebrate with as many of you as possible. Make plans to join me at the district convention in Corpus Christi this summer! Come in droves. Plan those carpools. Fly into Corpus Christi if the drive is too long. Look for and book those flights now! Come and shop with Con-cordia Publishing House (they are returning this year), the LWML store, and the Redeemer Lutheran Gift Shop from Austin. Visit with the displayers. Be revitalized and refilled with the joy of serving the Lord as Lutheran Women in Mission, ready to go back home and continue in proclaiming Christ, supporting mis-sions, and serving others. To God be the glory!