



Romans 12:12

*Rejoice in hope,
be patient in tribulation,
be constant in prayer.*

44th Biennial Convention

Lutheran Women *in Mission*

Texas District

June 11–13, 2026

DoubleTree by Hilton Austin

CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

Lutheran Women in Mission
Texas District
44th Biennial Convention
DoubleTree by Hilton Austin
Austin, Texas
June 11–13, 2026



Wednesday, June 10

4:30 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, June 11

7:30 a.m. Registration and First Aid open

10 a.m. Zone YWR and Teen Programs begin
Prayer Room, Exhibits, Store, and
Mission Service Servant Events open

11:45 a.m. Lunch (Box)

1 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

2:30 p.m. Delegate Orientation

6 p.m. Registration, Store, Exhibits, and
Mission Service Servant Events close

7:15 p.m. Pre-service Music

7:30 p.m. **Official Convention Opening —
First Meeting**

Worship with Communion

Proclaimer — Rev. Dr. Jon

Braunersreuther

Convention Offering #1: Mission Mite Goal

9 p.m. Zone Caucuses

Friday, June 12

6:30 a.m. Breakfast Buffet

7 a.m. Wake Up with the Word

Registration, First Aid, Prayer Room,
Exhibits, Store, and Mission Service
Servant Events open

8:15 a.m. Singing
Exhibits, Store, and Mission Service
Servant Events close

8:30 a.m. **Second Meeting**

Convention Offering #2

Bible Study I — Rev. David Bailes

Bylaws Revision

Invitation to 2027 LWML Convention

Keynote Speaker — Noemi Guerra

Adoption of Mission Goal

11:30 a.m. Box Lunch (Bring to Enrichment Session
of Choice)

11:45 a.m. Enrichment Sessions (Choice of 2)
Exhibits, Store, and Mission Service
Servant Events open

Pastors' Lunch

Young Women and YWR Alumni Lunch
with LWML President Eden Keefe

Friday, June 12 (continued)

1 p.m. Enrichment Sessions (Choice of 2)

2:15 p.m. Store, Exhibits, and Mission Service
Servant Events close

2:15 p.m. Singing

2:30 p.m.

Third Meeting

Officers/Committees

Greetings — Rev. Dr. Jon

Braunersreuther, Texas District

LCMS President

Endowment and Scholarship Committees

Keynote Speaker — Noemi Guerra

Mission Grants Presentation

Balloting for Mission Grants

LWML Report — President Eden Keefe

Mites in Action Speaker #1 —
Steve Harris

Gifts from the Heart Dedication

6:30 p.m. Dinner Recess

6:30 p.m. Store opens

8 p.m. Fellowship — Come and Go Game Night
(Optional)

Saturday, June 13

6:30 a.m. Breakfast Buffet

7 a.m. Moving 4 Mites

Registration/Lost & Found, First Aid,
and Prayer Room open

8:15 a.m. Singing

8:30 a.m.

Fourth Meeting

Convention Offering #3

Bible Study II — Rev. Dustin Beck

Balloting for Officers

Mites in Action Speaker #2 —
Teresa Danner

Report of the President

Keynote Speaker — Noemi Guerra

Report of the Tellers —

Mission Grants and Officers

Host Committee Recognition

Invitation to 2028 District Convention

Installation of Officers

Sending Service

Adjournment

12 p.m.

1 p.m.

Post-Convention Executive Committee
Meeting

Welcome from the Convention Host Committee



*Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation,
be constant in prayer (Romans 12:12).*

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Welcome to the LWML Texas District Convention in Austin! The Capitol Zone is overjoyed that you are here. The Host Committee has devoted countless hours of planning and preparation so that this convention will be a joyful, uplifting experience for you. I want to thank everyone that has shared their time and talents to make this gathering a blessing.

Thursday offers many opportunities to share Christ's love through several on-site mission service activities, as well as through your **Gifts from the Heart** donations. You can visit the Redeemer gift shop. Be sure to stop by the exhibitors to learn more about their ministries. Please note that there will be limited time on Friday for these activities.

On Thursday evening, we will worship together during the **Divine Service** with the Reverend Dr. Jon Braunersreuther as our proclaimer. On Friday, we will spend time in God's word with LWML Texas District Vice President of Christian Life Brianne Stahlecker during **Wake Up with the Word** and in the convention sessions as our Pastoral Counselors lead us in Bible study. Additionally, there will be opportunities for you to select your choice of **Enrichment Sessions** during the lunch hour while enjoying your boxed lunch.

You are also invited to a new fellowship event on Friday evening — **Come and Go Game Night** in the Magnolia room on the first floor. Gather a few new friends and start a new game, or join one already in progress, as we enjoy relaxed fellowship and fun with our sisters in Christ. On Saturday morning at 7 a.m., you are welcome to begin the day with our **Moving 4 Mites** activity, also being held in the Magnolia room.

We hope you enjoy your time at the convention, reconnecting with old friends and forming new friendships. Take a moment to meet the teens and Young Woman Representatives and encourage them in their LWML journey to *Serve the LORD with Gladness*. May we all return home abounding in hope and patience, ready to celebrate God's goodness and share the love of Christ with others.

In His Service,

Laurie Bellard

Laurie Bellard
Host Committee Chairman
2026 LWML Texas District Convention

Convention Objectives – District Purpose/Primary Focus

THEME:

Celebrate the Goodness of God

BIBLE VERSE:

Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer (Romans 12:12).

GOAL STATEMENT:

Empower Lutheran women to embody unwavering faith, abound in hope and patience, and be fervently dedicated to prayer.

OBJECTIVES:

The convention will provide opportunities for:

- Sharing our hope in Christ joyfully with others.
- Uplifting each other as the Holy Spirit enables us to be patient in tribulation.
- Embracing the power of prayer through Bible studies, servant events, and speakers. (James 5:16).
- Drawing strength from God's Word and knowing that God can do all and more than we can ask. (Ephesians 3:20).



LOGO EXPLANATION:

The central focus of this convention's logo is the cross; the goodness of God is shown chiefly through the suffering and death of His Son, Jesus Christ. The rays emanating from the cross symbolize the spread of the Gospel to the ends of the earth. Therefore, we gather to celebrate the goodness of God.

LWML TEXAS DISTRICT PRIMARY FOCUS 2024–2028:



Trusting God, Lutheran Women *in Mission* of the Texas District:

Proclaim Christ

Support missions

Equip women

Serve others

LWML MISSION STATEMENT:

As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.



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Greetings Dear Ones!

Grace and peace to you as you meet at your district convention. I pray that the time spent together with your sisters and brothers in Christ will inspire you to continually *Serve the LORD with gladness!* (Psalm 100:2a).

There are so many wonderful things about gathering together at an LWML convention – hearing mission speakers, participating in Bible study, worship, service projects, and connecting with one another. Together we celebrate being part of a mission organization that shares the Good News of Jesus and His love. What a joy! What a mission! What a privilege!

We know that, as Lutheran Women (and men) in Mission, we

- proclaim Jesus as the Savior of the world.
- fund our mission grants and support our mission partners.
- provide resources, training, and networking opportunities.
- serve and encourage one another in Christ.

As you begin your new biennium, strive to be personal as well as purposeful.

- Encourage women to be in the Word. Share our faith resources!
- Personally invite women to participate in events and mission service.
- Support mission grants with your prayers and mite offerings.
- Be flexible and creative in engaging the women in your congregation.

Thank you for your partnership and participation!



Eden M. Keefe

Joyfully serving Christ with you,
LWML President Eden Keefe



Lutheran Women in Mission offers a beautiful way to honor your faith and provide for both your family and the organizations you cherish long after you are called home to heaven. LWML Gift Planning Services, in partnership with the LCMS Foundation, has been providing free, professional gift planning for LWML women and their families across the country since 2007. Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor in Texas is Carol von Soosten.

Convention Program

Thursday, June 11, 2026

7:30 a.m. Registration, First Aid, and
Gifts from the Heart open

10 a.m. Zone YWR Program, 4th Floor Capital
Teen Program, 5th Floor Meeting Rm

10 a.m. Prayer Room, Exhibits, Store,
and Mission Service Servant Events open

11:45 a.m. Lunch

1 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
Phoenix Ballroom

2:30 p.m. Delegate Orientation
Phoenix Ballroom

6 p.m. Registration, Store, Exhibits,
Gifts from the Heart, and
Mission Service Servant Events close

7:15 p.m. Pre-Service Music

7:30 p.m. First Meeting
Phoenix Ballroom

Call to Order Sally Krueger
President

Divine Service

Host Congregation: Trinity Lutheran, Taylor
Proclaimer: Rev. Dr. Jon Braunersreuther
President, Texas District LCMS

Convention Offering #1 Mission Goal

9 p.m. Zone Caucuses

Friday, June 12, 2026

7 a.m. Wake Up with the Word (page 18)
Be Still: God is Good, Magnolia

7 a.m. Registration, Store, Exhibits
Gifts from the Heart, and
Mission Service Servant Events open

8:15 a.m. Singing
Artha Weaver-Gallegos, Song Leader

8:30 a.m. Second Meeting
Phoenix Ballroom

Convention Offering #2 University Lutheran Church, Austin

Opening Prayer Eloise Kuhlmann
LWML Texas District President 2000–2004



**Lutheran
Women
in Mission**
TEXAS DISTRICT

Offering #1 —
2026–2028 LWML
Texas District
Mission Goal

The QR code for
Offering #1 is no
longer available.

Offering #2 —
University
Lutheran Church,
Austin

The QR code for
Offering #2 is no
longer available.

Convention Program

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.

Voting

Board of
Directors: _____
Past District
Presidents: _____

Delegates: _____
**Total eligible
voters:** _____

Non-voting

Board of
Directors: _____
Appt. Pers.
& Cmte Chair: _____
Other
Registrants: _____

TOTAL: _____

League Pledge	LWML Texas District Past Presidents Peggy Turnipseed, 1996–2000; Eloise Kuhlmann, 2000–2004; Kathy Lowman, 2008–2012; Lois Teinert, 2012–2016; Debbie Curry, 2016–2020; Frances Molitor, 2020–2024
Convention Theme Song	Goodness of God (page 70)
Welcome to the Convention	Laurie Bellard 2026 Convention Host Committee Chairman
Response	Donna Wallace 2028 Convention Host Committee Chairman
Recognition of Special Guests & Exhibitors	Sally Krueger President
Bible Study I (page 20)	Rev. David Bailes Junior District Pastoral Counselor
Credentials Report	Terri Wenzel Vice President of Organizational Resources
Proposed Convention Rules (page 11)	Debra Heckmann Parliamentarian
Presentation of Convention Agenda	Mandy Halbert Recording Secretary
Committee Appointments.....	Sally Krueger President
Minutes Review.....	Cindy Boster, Chairman Mid Coast Zone Nancy Beckcom, Post Oak Zone Dawn Tighe, Rio Grande Valley Zone
Resolutions.....	Helen Schneider, Chairman Coastal Bend Zone Tracie Hollis, Bayou City Zone Noreene Hurst, Texas Star Zone
Tellers	Heather Coulter, Chairman Bayou City Zone Amy Perez, Post Oak Zone Laura Fisher, Bluebonnet Zone Cheryl Mattil, Dal-North Zone
Proposed Bylaws Revision & Standing Rules (page 24)	Debra Heckmann Structure Committee Chairman
Prayer	Amy Perez DYWR
Balloting for Bylaws Revision & Standing Rules	
Short Break with Singing	Artha Weaver-Gallegos Song Leader
Invitation to the 2027 LWML Convention, Oklahoma City, OK	

Convention Program

Primary Focus—Proclaim Christ	Brianne Stahlecker Vice President of Christian Life
Introduction of Keynote Speaker	Brianne Stahlecker Vice President of Christian Life
Celebrate the Goodness of God: Rejoice in Hope.....	Deaconess Noemí Guerra Keynote Speaker
Credentials Report:.....	Terri Wenzel Vice President of Organizational Resources
Presentation and Adoption of 2026–2028 Proposed Budget.....	Sandi Paniello Treasurer
Prayer	Mikayla Heckmann DYWR
Balloting for 2026–2028 Biennium Proposed Budget.....	
Announcements	Laurie Bellard 2026 Convention Host Committee Chairman
Closing Prayer	Lois Teinert LWML Texas District President 2012–2016
11:30 a.m.	Lunch Recess
	Lunch with Friends, Dovers Pastors' Lunch, DeWitt Young Women Lunch & YWR Alumni, Fourth Floor Capital
Store open; Exhibits, Gifts from the Heart, and Mission Service Servant Events open for final time	
11:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m.	Enrichment Session I (page 18)
1 p.m.–2 p.m.	Enrichment Session II (page 18)
2:15 p.m.	Singing Artha Weaver-Gallegos, Song Leader
2:30 p.m.	Third Meeting Corpus Christi Ballroom
Opening Prayer	Debbie Curry LWML Texas District President 2016–2020
Introduction of Officers, Departments & Committees	Sally Krueger President
Greetings	Rev. Dr. Jon Braunersreuther, President Texas District Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
Reports of Endowment & Scholarship Committees	Tiffany Harmon Endowment Committee Chairman Michelle Heckmann, Scholarship Committee Chairman

Voting

Board of
Directors: _____
Past District
Presidents: _____

Delegates: _____
**Total eligible
voters:** _____

Non-voting

Board of
Directors: _____
Appt. Pers.
& Cmte Chair: _____
Other
Registrants: _____

TOTAL: _____

Enrichment Session I

*Rejoicing in Hope:
Living Out Romans*
12:12 with Dcs.
Noemí Guerra,
Phoenix

*Let's Dream Big: Our
Legacy and Our
Endowments!* with
Tiffany Harmon,
Magnolia

Enrichment Session II

*Be Encouraged —
God's Got This!* with
LWML President Eden
Keefe, Phoenix

It's Not a Dog Ministry
with Kelly Shivertaker,
Magnolia

Convention Program

Voting

Board of
Directors: _____
Past District
Presidents: _____

Delegates: _____
**Total eligible
voters:** _____

Non-voting

Board of
Directors: _____
Appt. Pers.
& Cmte Chair: _____
Other
Registrants: _____

TOTAL: _____

Mission Service Servant Events Recipients

Any Baby Can, Austin:
tote bags

Upbring New Life
Children's Center,
Canyon Lake: journals

Travis County
Correctional Facility:
marking Bibles

Global Health Ministries:
rolled bandages

SAFE Alliance of Austin:
In-kind kits

Offering #3 —
The God of Hope
Ministries

The QR code for
Offering #3 is no
longer available.

Celebrate the Goodness of God:

Patient in Tribulation Deaconess Noemí Guerra
Keynote Speaker

Primary Focus—Support Missions Patti Samsel
Vice President of Gospel Outreach

Mission Grants Presentation Patti Samsel
Vice President of Gospel Outreach

Credentials Report Terri Wenzel
Vice President of Organizational Resources

Prayer Kim Cobb
Mission Service Chairman

Proposed Seminarian Scholarships Amount..... Patti Samsel
Vice President of Gospel Outreach

Balloting for Mission Grants.....

Song Break Artha Weaver-Gallegos
Song Leader

Report of the YWRs Mikayla Heckmann & Amy Perez

Introduction of LWML Representative Terri Wenzel
Vice President of Organizational Resources

Report of the LWML Eden Keefe
LWML President

Primary Focus—Serving Others..... DYWRs
Mikayla Heckmann & Amy Perez

Introduction of Mites in Action Speaker Cheryl Wawrzyniak
Mission Grants Committee

Mites in Action Speaker Steve Harris
Orphan Grain Train

Gifts from the Heart Dedication Rev. David Bailes
Junior District Pastoral Counselor

Announcements Laurie Bellard
2026 Convention Host Committee Chairman

Closing Prayer Laura Fisher
Archivist—Historian

6:30 p.m. Dinner Recess (on your own)

6:30 p.m.—8 p.m..... Store Open for final time

8 p.m.—10 p.m..... Come and Go Game Night

Saturday, June 13, 2026

7 a.m. Moving 4 Mites, Magnolia

8:15 a.m..... Singing
Artha Weaver-Gallegos, Song Leader

**8:30 a.m. Fourth Meeting
Phoenix Ballroom**

Convention Offering #3 God of Hope Ministries, Austin

Opening Prayer Michelle Heckmann
Scholarship Committee Chairman

Convention Program

Bible Study II (page 22).....	Rev. Dustin Beck Senior District Pastoral Counselor
Primary Focus—Equip Women	Terri Wenzel Vice President of Organizational Resources
Credentials Report	Terri Wenzel Vice President of Organizational Resources
Report of the Nominating Committee.....	Robyn Tarnowski Chairman
Nominations from the floor.....	Sally Krueger President
Introduction of Candidates.....	Sally Krueger President
Prayer	Kathy Lowman LWML Texas District President 2008–2012
Balloting for Officers.....	
Song Break	Artha Weaver-Gallegos Song Leader
Introduction of Mites in Action Speaker	Patti Samsel Mission Grants Committee
Mites in Action Speaker	Teresa Danner Let It Shine Enrichment Academy
Credentials Report	Terri Wenzel Vice President of Organizational Resources
Report of the Resolutions Committee	Helen Schneider Resolutions Committee Chairman
Report of the President.....	Sally Krueger President
Celebrate the Goodness of God: Constant in Prayer	Deaconess Noemí Guerra Keynote Speaker
Recognition of the Convention Host Committee and Workers.....	Laurie Bellard 2026 Convention Host Committee Chairman
Invitation to the 2028 LWML Texas District Convention.....	Donna Wallace 2028 Convention Host Committee Chairman
Report of Tellers (pages 33 & 38).....	Heather Coulter Chairman
Song Break	Artha Weaver-Gallegos Song Leader
Announcements	Laurie Bellard 2026 Convention Host Committee Chairman

Voting

Board of
Directors: _____
Past District
Presidents: _____

Delegates: _____
**Total eligible
voters:** _____

Non-voting

Board of
Directors: _____
Appt. Pers.
& Cmte Chair: _____
Other
Registrants: _____

TOTAL: _____

Voting

Board of
Directors: _____
Past District
Presidents: _____

Delegates: _____
**Total eligible
voters:** _____

Non-voting

Board of
Directors: _____
Appt. Pers.
& Cmte Chair: _____
Other
Registrants: _____

TOTAL: _____

Convention Program

Installation of Officers & Nominating Committee.....	Rev. David Bailes Junior Pastoral Counselor
Sending Devotion (page 69)	Rev. David Bailes Junior Pastoral Counselor
Adjournment	Sally Krueger President
1 p.m.	Post-Convention Executive Committee Meeting, EC Suite

Convention Offerings

Offering #1, gathered at the Divine Worship Service Thursday evening, will go towards the 2026–2028 LWML Texas District Mission Goal.

Amount \$ _____

Offering #2, gathered Friday at the door of the Phoenix Ballroom entrances, is designated to support the University Lutheran Church (ULC), Austin, which is a campus ministry of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod at the University of Texas at Austin. ULC provides students with Christ’s forgiveness, comfort, and fellowship through Word and Sacraments. ULC also supports international students with English classes and Bible study, nurturing faith, and community. The ministry needs a new laptop, projector, upgraded printer, office and technological supplies, a new carpet for the chapel entrance, snacks and beverages, social activities and event items, and general supplies and stationery.

Amount \$ _____

Offering #3, gathered Saturday at the door of the Phoenix Ballroom entrances, is designated to support The God of Hope Ministries which equips prison inmates for a life of hope and freedom in Christ through Faith Based Dorms focused on biblical discipleship, Christian life skills, and spiritual disciplines. Volunteers teach, mentor, pray, and offer support. With programs for both men and women, the ministry fosters community, reduces recidivism, and inspires growth in inmates and volunteers alike. The ministry operates the Faith Based Dorm Program in two prisons located in East Austin and Lockhart. The ministry needs donations for supplies and curriculum for the students, and staff pay.

Amount \$ _____

Gifts from the Heart Recipients:

Visa Gift Cards: We will be accepting VISA gift cards for the Southwest Region Comfort Dogs and all Gift from the Heart Recipients. Please make sure to write the dollar (\$) amount on the outside of each card. Drop off the cards at the GFTH collection location (specify if we know where) at the convention no later than Friday afternoon at 2:15 p.m.

Direct Donations: Use these QR codes to give directly to the GFTH Recipients *through their websites* up to the close of the convention.

AGE of Central Texas	Cheyanna’s Champions 4 Children	Girlstart	Spark
Donations to this organization have ended.	Donations to this organization have ended.	Donations to this organization have ended.	Donations to this organization have ended.

Convention Rules

RULES FOR LWML TEXAS DISTRICT CONVENTION, AUSTIN, JUNE 11–13, 2026

LWML TEXAS DISTRICT BYLAWS, Article VI—CONVENTIONS AND REPRESENTATION

Section 4

The members of the convention who shall have voice and vote shall be

- a. one (1) certified delegate from each group having twenty (20) or less members and one (1) additional delegate for each additional twenty (20) members or major fraction thereof, as of December 31 preceding the convention;
- b. voting members of the Board of Directors; Zone Presidents unable to attend are allowed a representative, who shall be any elected officer of that zone, and who shall have vote and voice, but who shall not be considered a member of the Board (see Article XII, Section 1 b);
- c. all past LWML Texas District Presidents who are currently members of LWML and reside in the district.

Section 5

A member of the voting assembly shall vote in one (1) capacity only. Proxy votes are prohibited.

Section 7

A majority of the registered voting assembly shall constitute a quorum.

1. CREDENTIALS

- a. Prior to the transaction of any business, the credentials chairman shall report the number of delegates registered as present with proper credentials and shall make summary reports when required as a result of a change in the registration rolls.
- b. Upon proper clearance by the credentials chairman, a member registered as an alternate may be transferred from alternate to delegate at any time during the continuance of business meetings and shall retain the position through the remainder of the convention.
- c. Delegates, Zone Pastoral Counselors, and Zone Young Woman Representatives must wear their identification badges issued by the registration committee for seating in the delegate section.

2. SEATING

- a. Delegates, Zone Pastoral Counselors, and Zone Young Woman Representatives shall be seated together in designated Zone areas reserved for them.
- b. Delegates are requested to be in their seats five minutes before the time set for the opening of meetings.

3. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

- a. Only registered delegates and other voting members of the convention may introduce business, debate, and vote.
- b. A motion offered from the floor must be presented to the Recording Secretary in writing, signed by the maker.
- c. Speakers from the floor must use one of the microphones and give name and title or zone in order to be recognized.
- d. Discussion is limited to two (2) minutes for each speaker. No one may speak more than twice on a question unless consent is granted by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates.
- e. An unfinished item of business or program at the hour set for recess by the convention agenda is resumed when the assembly reconvenes or at a designated time set by the assembly at the time of interruption.
- f. A convention rule may be suspended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates.
- g. Voting by electronic ballot is authorized.

4. COMMUNICATIONS

- a. All communications for officers and members of the assembly seated in the delegate section shall be delivered by ushers.
- b. At the chair's discretion, only urgent announcements will be made from the podium. Others will be posted at the message center.
- c. Cell phones are to have all sounds silenced.
- d. Campaigning, demonstrations, or politicking about mission grants, elections, or programs are limited to outside of the convention floor.

5. PHOTOGRAPHS

- a. It is requested that no photos be taken during worship services and other devotional periods.
- b. Since the LWML will be taking pictures and videotaping gathering procedures and activities, your registration for this event gives the LWML permission to use your image and comments in educational, informational, and promotional materials in a variety of media, including electronic media.

Convention Personalities



DEACONESS NOEMÍ GUERRA KEYNOTE SPEAKER AND ENRICHMENT SESSION LEADER

Deaconess Noemí Guerra serves the Lord with a heart devoted to sharing Christ's love and equipping His people for ministry. Born in Panama City, Panama, to missionaries Rev. Luciano Vega-Ayala and Dr. Brenda de Vega-Ayala, she was nurtured in a deep faith and lifelong commitment to the Gospel. Since 2001, she has been joyfully married to Rev. Lincon Guerra, and together they have three children.

Her ministry journey began at Christ for All Nations Lutheran Church in North Carolina (2001–2004) as a Sunday School teacher and worship coordinator. She then served at Centro Familiar Cristiano in Houston, Texas (2004–2012) as a church planter deaconess intern, and later at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in Iowa (2013–2021), helping establish a mission-minded community centered on Word and Sacrament.

Since 2021, Noemí has served the Texas District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod as Evangelist Development Director, training and mentoring evangelists statewide. She also co-hosts the *Sentido Latino* podcast, writes daily Spanish devotions for Lutheran Hour Ministries, and in 2025 joined the Board of Directors of Lutheran Church Charities.

Noemí earned degrees from the University of Iowa and Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, where she now teaches in the Deaconess Program and Center for Hispanic Studies. Above all, she gives thanks to God for the privilege of pointing others to Christ.

La Diaconisa Noemí Guerra sirve al Señor con un corazón dedicado a compartir el amor de Cristo y a capacitar a Su pueblo para el ministerio. Nacida en Ciudad de Panamá, Panamá, hija de los misioneros Rev. Luciano Vega-Ayala y la Dra. Brenda de Vega-Ayala, fue formada en una fe profunda y un compromiso de por vida con el Evangelio. Desde 2001 está felizmente casada con el Rev. Lincon Guerra, y juntos han sido bendecidos con tres hijos.

Su camino ministerial comenzó en Christ for All Nations Lutheran Church en Carolina del Norte (2001–2004), donde sirvió como maestra de Escuela Dominical y coordinadora de alabanza. Luego continuó en Centro Familiar Cristiano en Houston, Texas (2004–2012) como pasante de diaconisa plantadora de iglesias, y más tarde en Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church en Iowa (2013–2021), ayudando a establecer una comunidad centrada en la Palabra y los Sacramentos.

Desde 2021, Noemí sirve en el Distrito de Texas de la Iglesia Luterana—Sínodo de Misuri como Directora de Desarrollo de Evangelistas, entrenando y acompañando evangelistas en todo el estado. También es coanfitriona del pódcast *Sentido Latino*, escribe devocionales diarios en español para Lutheran Hour Ministries y en 2025 fue nombrada miembro de la Junta Directiva de Lutheran Church Charities.

Evangelist Training Opportunity

Have you ever wished your friends, family, or coworkers could experience the love of Jesus— yet weren't sure how to make that connection?

The Texas District LCMS offers an 8-session Evangelist Training course. LWML women may participate in an LWML Zoom group or through their home congregation. During my term, I am encouraging 250 LWML members to take part in this training. It provides practical guidance for speaking about faith in everyday settings and helps participants see daily life as a mission field.

—President Sally Krueger

Convention Personalities

REV. DR. JON BRAUNERSREUTHER WORSHIP PROCLAIMER TEXAS DISTRICT LCMS PRESIDENT

Rev. Dr. Jon Braunersreuther serves as President of the Texas District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), elected to his first term at the district’s 63rd regular convention in June 2025. His ministry includes service as associate pastor at Zion, Brighton, Colorado (1989–1992); pastor at Prince of Peace, Amarillo, Texas (1992–1996); Mission and Ministry Facilitator for the Texas District (1996–2001); and Senior Assistant to the President of the LCMS (2001–2010). Prior to his election, he directed districtwide strategy as Mission Strategist for the Texas District.



Dr. Braunersreuther earned his Master of Divinity from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, in 1989, and his Doctor of Ministry from Regent University in 2019, where he was named “Outstanding Graduate.” He and his beautiful wife, Rachel, are blessed with two children, Andy (Ada) and Erin (Rev. Alex Lahue), and three grandchildren.

As president, he has emphasized a vision for a Gospel movement across Texas, encouraging the planting of new congregations and the development of new servant-leaders. Looking toward the district’s 125th anniversary in 2031, the prayer is that the Texas District will help send 500 new servant-leaders to reach 500 new communities with the Good News of Jesus.

EDEN KEEFE LUTHERAN WOMEN IN MISSION REPRESENTATIVE AND ENRICHMENT SESSION LEADER LWML PRESIDENT

Eden Keefe loves to laugh, and her joy is founded in Jesus Christ!

When asked about her vision for the LWML, Eden responds, “As Lutheran Women in Mission, we will be purposeful and purpose filled as we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and honor God by serving others. Purposeful — moving forward with thoughtful planning to impact the world with our mite giving and mission living. Purpose-filled — Christ-centered and dedicated in what we seek to accomplish, yet flexible and creative in how we engage women of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.”



Marlene Lorenz, Eden’s mom, included her and her sister in LWML events when they were young, and Eden considers her mother to be her first mentor. Past LWML Presidents are also special mentors in her life, encouraging her to expand her roles and trust God to equip her.

She has served as the voice of *LWML On The Go* podcast; LWML interim Vice President of Gospel Outreach; Vice President of Christian Life; Christian Living Editor and Mission Editor for the *Quarterly*; Leader Development Chairman; and a member on the Christian Resources Editors and HOPE Committees. She has held district positions and has also been active in her zone and group.

Eden grew up on a dairy farm in south central Kansas, attended St. John’s College, and graduated from Southwestern College. She and her husband, Brad, lived in the Kansas City metro area most of her married life but enjoyed a stay in South Carolina where she was involved in the LWML Carolinas District. In 2019, they came back to Kansas, retired, and enjoy being close to their children and grandchildren who live in the area.

A woman of many interests, Eden loves tea parties, “adventures” with her grandsons, naps — especially on rainy days — and being a Visual Faith® Coach and Digital Missioner. She is active on both Instagram and Facebook.

Convention Personalities



ARTHA WEAVER-GALLEGOS SONG LEADER

Artha Weaver-Gallegos is a worship leader, vocalist, and educator with a heart for leading others in the joy of making music and worshipping God. With a B.A. in Music Ministry and Vocal Performance from Concordia University Texas and a Master of Music in Conducting from the University of Texas at El Paso, Artha believes in the importance of music in church to bring glory to God and draw us into a deeper relationship with Him.

Artha serves as the Worship Director at Mission Liberty Hill Lutheran Church where she leads weekly worship, directs the MLH choir, and helps the kids prepare for the children's program at Christmastime. She has been leading worship at churches for over a decade and singing in church since high school where her passion for leading others began. She is also the Band Director, Choir Director, and Director of Campus Worship at Concordia High School, San Antonio, where she teaches and mentors students in their music education and helps them use their talents to lead their peers and the community in worship and minister to those around them, sharing the Gospel through music. Artha is also a private voice teacher and helps direct the musicals every year at Concordia. They just put on *The Little Mermaid* in March!

Artha and her husband, Jonathan, live in Leander with their cat, Marshmallow; their dogs, Taffy and Pumpkin; and their guinea pig, Wolfgang.



ABBY GOEHRING HUMOROUS INTERRUPTER

Abby Goehring became involved with LWML in 2008 as a Zone Young Woman Representative for the Coastal Bend Zone and has since joyfully served at the zone, district, and national levels. She made her humorous interrupter debut in 2018 at the LWML Texas District Convention in Waco, where she delighted audiences while portraying Katie Luther. In 2021, Abby was honored to be invited by her friend and mentor, Jan Struck, to join her on the national stage.

By day, Abby is an elementary school teacher—an occupation that allows her to refine her acting skills daily in front of a very honest audience. Her classroom is also her mission field, where she can share God's love through encouragement, laughter, and meaningful relationships with her students. Abby's favorite Bible verse, Romans 12:12, reflects her heart for joyful service and faithful perseverance.



CHRISTINE SPOFFORD HUMOROUS INTERRUPTER

Christine Spofford is a devoted wife, mother of two, and proud Nana whose LWML journey began at age 16 through the influence of her grandmother and mother. She has served at both the group and district levels, valuing the encouragement, service, and sisterhood that define the LWML.

Christine has recently enjoyed bringing humor to LWML events, performing as Anita Mites with Abby Goehring and later joining Jan Struck and Abby on stage as Paula. She currently serves as the District Young Woman Chairman and delights in supporting younger women in their service. Outside of LWML, she enjoys theater, movies, reading, and pickleball.

Convention Personalities

STEVE HARRIS

MITES IN ACTION SPEAKER

ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN, HOUSTON

Steve Harris is Assistant Branch Manager of Orphan Grain Train–Houston. A native Texan and University of Houston chemistry graduate, he spent over 30 years as a laboratory director and now works as a consultant.

Steve and his wife, Holly, have three sons and serve together on the Lutheran Early Response Team and the Orphan Grain Train–Houston board. He has deployed to disaster sites in Texas, Louisiana, and Florida, and has dedicated more than 25 years to Pasadena Habitat for Humanity.

In 2018, Steve helped establish the Houston Orphan Grain Train branch and oversee construction of its Pasadena warehouse. Steve and Holly look forward to continuing their service into retirement.



TERESA DANNER

MITES IN ACTION SPEAKER

LET IT SHINE ENRICHMENT ACADEMY

Since earning her Master of Science in Occupational Therapy from Saint Louis University in 2008, Teresa Danner has dedicated her career to supporting children's growth, development, and confidence. With 18 years of experience in pediatric occupational therapy, she has built a reputation for compassionate care and a deep understanding of early childhood needs.

In 2015, she relocated to Austin, Texas, where her passion for helping young learners flourished. In partnership with Lutheran Special Education Ministries (LSEM), she designed and now directs Let It Shine Enrichment Academy at Bethany Lutheran, established in 2017. The academy serves children with special needs ages 3–6, providing a nurturing environment where curiosity, creativity, and foundational skills can shine.

A native of Charlotte, North Carolina, she is married to Pastor Martin Danner. They are the parents of three children, ages 9, 11, and 13, who are active in sports and music. The family also enjoys the lively company of their three dogs.



BRIANNE STAHLECKER

WAKE UP WITH THE WORD BIBLE STUDY LEADER

Brianne Stahlecker has been involved in LWML since 2009, especially active since 2013 when she was a Young Woman Representative for the LWML Missouri District at the 2013 LWML Convention. She has served on various LWML committees and district committees in Nebraska and Missouri. She currently serves as the Vice President of Christian Life for the LWML Texas District. She lives in Giddings, where she is a Lutheran school teacher.



Convention Personalities



REV. DUSTIN BECK BIBLE STUDY LEADER

Rev. Dustin Beck was born and raised in Wichita Falls, Texas. He graduated from Concordia University in Austin in 2007, studying Biblical Languages and Psychology. After graduating from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis in 2011, he was called to serve the saints at Trinity Lutheran Church, Corpus Christi, Texas. While in Corpus Christi, Pastor Beck served as the Zone Pastoral Counselor for four years in the Coastal Bend Zone. In 2019, he accepted the Lord's call to serve the saints at Holy Cross in Warda, Texas. He has served as the Senior Pastoral Counselor since 2024. In his free time, Pastor Beck teaches Old and New Testament at Faith Lutheran High School of Central Texas; from 2021-2023, he helped plant Epiphany Lutheran Church in Bastrop, Texas; in 2024, he was invited to participate in the Doxology Collegium Fellows program, which exists to foster further research, reflection, and counsel related to the care of souls; he is a leader in his sons' Trail Life USA troop and runs a first-class chauffeur service for them as well; and occasionally golfs, runs, plays guitar, camps, hunts, and was once a Cowboy Action shooter. Pastor Beck and Chelsea met at a Texas District Youth Gathering in 2002; they will celebrate their 17th wedding anniversary next week and God has blessed them with three sons: Dylan, Weston, and Hank. They also have two dogs, lots of chickens, meat rabbits, and a bearded dragon.



REV. DAVID BAILES BIBLE STUDY LEADER

Pastor David Bailes was born and raised on the north side of Houston, Texas. After graduating from Aldine High School, he enrolled in Concordia Lutheran College in Austin, Texas. While there, he earned two B.A. degrees, one in Mexican American Studies and the other in Behavioral Sciences, along with a minor in Biblical Languages. After working for a year as an admissions counselor at Concordia-Austin, he enrolled at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and graduated in 1996. His call out of seminary was as an LCMS missionary in Chimaltenango, Guatemala. Pastor Bailes returned to the United States in 1999 and began a second call as the missionary/pastor for Hispanics in the LCMS Mid-South District. He returned to Texas in 2002 due to family needs and worked for several years in various positions, including as a certified Spanish teacher at Willis High School in Willis, Texas, and as a licensed social worker at Los Niños International Adoption Agency in The Woodlands, Texas. During that same time, he also served part-time at local LCMS churches as a vacancy and staff pastor. At the end of 2007, Pastor Bailes was called to plant a new LCMS church in Montgomery, Texas. Living Savior Lutheran Church of Montgomery, Texas, extended him a regular call as their first pastor in 2009. He continues to serve as their Senior Pastor. For 13 years, he served as the Pastoral Counselor for the New Horizon Zone.

Pastor Bailes and his wife, Cheryl, who is the Director/Principal of Faith Lutheran School in Huntsville, Texas, live among the trees of Anderson, Texas. They have four grown children and, currently, no pets. He is two-thirds of the way through the Doctor of Ministry program at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri, with a concentration in Missional Leadership for church planting. When he has the opportunity, he enjoys DIY projects at home, fishing, reading, and anything that involves being outside.

Convention Personalities

KELLY SHIVERTAKER ENRICHMENT SESSION LEADER MARTHA COMFORT DOG HANDLER

Kelly Shivertaker is the Top Dog, leading the Comfort Dog ministry for Martha Comfort Dog at Bethany Lutheran Church, Austin, Texas. She has been involved in the Comfort Dog ministry since 2015, also leading the team for Abner Comfort Dog. During this time, she has responded to many crises, including the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting in Parkland, Florida, and in Texas the Santa Fe High School shooting, the El Paso Walmart shooting, the Midland–Odessa shooting, and the Uvalde school shooting.

Prior to retiring, Kelly worked as an emergency manager for a major electric utility. She is married to Jim Shivertaker. She has three children: Matthew, an Austin police officer; Michelle; and Janine, who is mother to Hannah and Abby.



TIFFANY HARMON ENRICHMENT SESSION LEADER

Tiffany Harmon is from the Golden Harvest Zone and currently serves as the LWML Texas District Endowment Committee chairman. Tiffany graduated from Texas A&M University with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Design and a minor in Art and Architecture History. Her greatest education during that time, though, was from attending University Lutheran Chapel and growing in faith and mission-mindedness with a phenomenal group of peers and pastors. That is also where she formally became a member of LWML. She is grateful for the life-long friendships God has provided through Lutheran Women *in Mission* and all the blessings that come with our organization's legacy of equipping women to proclaim Christ, support missions, and serve the Lord with gladness. Tiffany is a wife to a fantastic "LWML husband" (little did he know when he said "I do" how many boxes he would carry or places LWML would take them) and homeschool mom of a third and seventh grader (they've also carried a lot of boxes!). In addition to LWML, she serves with altar guild and the youth ministry team.



LWML Texas District Endowment Fund

Scholarship Endowment (EN057)

The Scholarship Endowment was established in 1990 to support the training of women workers for the Lord's Church. Income produced by the invested principal provides scholarships for women from Texas District LCMS congregations whose studies lead to full-time professional church work in the LCMS. Since its inception more than 100 scholarships have been awarded. Recipients are selected by the Scholarship Endowment Fund Committee.

Mission Inreach Endowment (EN165)

The Mission Inreach Endowment was established in 1998 to assist LWML Texas District members through spiritual enrichment, member development, and leadership training. These opportunities equip members to recognize and use the individual gifts God has given them to help extend His Kingdom with the Gospel as they live in service to the Triune God. Income from this endowment replaces funding that previously came from mites.

Mission Goal Endowment (EN334)

The Mission Goal Endowment was established in 2020 to contribute additional funds to the LWML Texas District mission goal. The mission goal is the amount needed for mission grants and other work of the district to accomplish its mission. Income from this endowment is directed by the District Executive Committee with a primary emphasis on mission grant funding.

Wake Up with the Word & Enrichment Sessions

Be Still: God Is Good.

Brianne Stahlecker

Join Vice President of Christian Life Brianne Stahlecker on Friday morning to jump into God's Word. We will use one of the Bible studies in the archives of the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* that focuses on Psalm 46:10a, *Be still, and know that I am God*, and what that means in our lives.

Rejoicing in Hope: Living Out Romans 12:12

Deaconess Noemí Guerra

Join us as we Celebrate the Goodness of God through Romans 12:12: *Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer*. Together we'll discover how Christ empowers Lutheran women to live with unwavering faith, overflow with hope and patience, and grow in a vibrant, steadfast life of prayer.

Let's Dream Big: Our Legacy and Our Endowments!

Tiffany Harmon

Did you know we already have in place a way to offer even greater financial assistance without increasing our Mission Goal? In this session led by Endowment Committee Chairman Tiffany Harmon, we will explore how growing our endowments can significantly transform how our mites are utilized and our ability to give even greater support to scholarship recipients. We'll also discuss how members, groups, and zones can actively take steps now to exponentially bless generations to come of Lutheran Women *in Mission*, dedicated to sharing the Gospel and serving the Lord with gladness!

Be Encouraged — God's Got This!

LWML President Eden Keefe

Do you face obstacles or challenges in your LWML service? Be encouraged to move forward with both resolve and joy. God calls and equips us!

It's Not a Dog Ministry

Kelly Shivertaker, Martha Comfort Dog Handler

The Lutheran Church Charities K9 Comfort Dog Ministry uses dogs to connect with people. Come hear about work the dogs have done, both during crises and on a day-to-day basis. We will also talk about how to start your own Comfort Dog ministry and answer any questions you may have.

Keynote Speaker Sessions

Celebrate the Goodness of God: Rejoice in Hope

Christian hope is not based on circumstances but on the finished work of Christ. In this session, we will celebrate the goodness of God revealed in Jesus, who gives us a living hope that cannot be taken away. Together we will explore how Lutheran women can rejoice in that hope daily and share it joyfully with others as we proclaim Christ in our homes, congregations, and communities.

Celebrate the Goodness of God: Patient in Tribulation

Life brings trials, yet God's goodness does not disappear in the midst of hardship. This session will reflect on how Christ strengthens us to endure tribulation with patience and trust. As Lutheran Women in Mission, we will encourage one another through God's Word, remembering that the Lord is present in our struggles and continues to work through us to support and uplift others.

Celebrate the Goodness of God: Constant in Prayer

Prayer is where we bring our lives, our concerns, and our mission before the Lord who hears us. In this session we will celebrate the goodness of God through the gift of prayer and reflect on how a steadfast life of prayer strengthens our faith and our service. Together we will explore how prayer equips Lutheran women to support missions, serve others, and trust that God can do far more than we ask or imagine.

Bible Study I

Gifts of Grace for the Body

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness (Romans 12:3-8).

Pondering Paul

Major theme: We are saved by _____ through _____ in _____ alone. (Reference: _____)

Favorite topic: The _____ of Christ. (Reference: _____)

Favorite method: Likes to make _____. (References for Sins: _____ and Fruit: _____)

For by the grace given me

Grace is a _____ gift.

Grace is an _____ gift.

Sober judgment

Take a look in the _____ in the morning.

What do you see?

A self-driven reflection of _____.

or

A God-given reflection of _____.

Measure of faith

Is Paul telling us to measure our faith? Answer: _____

God is the one who _____ out _____ of grace.

Bible Study I

One body ... many members

250th Anniversary: *E pluribus unum* on the Great Seal of the United States.

Ex uno multi: Even so, we are all one _____ in Christ.

We are _____ to Jesus and to _____.

Having gifts that differ ... let us use them

Grace and faith are followed by _____.

We _____ and use the gifts God gives us.

Paul's List of Different Gifts

Prophecy (applying God's _____)

All gifts stem from the same _____.

(Reference: _____.)

Service (to _____)

In the diakonia on behalf of _____.

(Reference: _____.)

Teach

Teaching

Exhort (_____)

Mutual _____ and
_____ of believers.

(Reference: Smalcald Articles III.4)

Contribute (_____ with others)

Generously (with _____)

(Don't make a big deal out of it.)

Lead (_____ for others)

Doing so _____.

Acts of mercy (for those in _____)

No _____ needed.

How can you share the goodness of God in _____ ways as a member of the Body of Christ?

Bible Study II

A Litany of Love

⁹Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality. ¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. ¹⁷Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good (Romans 12:9-21).

Contemplating Context: Setting the Scene

- To this point, Romans 12 has shown us _____; being transformed by the _____ of our _____; being _____ of one _____; and receiving _____ of the _____!
- In the context of the whole Epistle, this is the “_____” section
- Generally speaking, Paul’s letters follow an outline: _____ of the author; _____ of the recipient; apostolic _____; _____/_____ thesis; _____; _____; and a _____.
- Our text has _____ commands; and then... _____ MORE commands!
- You could describe these back-to-back instructions as a list...or a _____.
- Litany is a _____ term. It’s usually a list of prayers. Remember the beginning of Romans 12, presenting our bodies as a living sacrifice is our _____.
- After the Litany, we have the “_____ evil with _____” section, including heaping _____ on their _____.

Bible Study II

The “Litany” in Detail: Such a LONG List

- What sets this list apart from the other lists of pious instructions in the New Testament?
- Love without _____
 - Love that isn’t *quid-pro-quo*
 - Love regardless of the outcome (_____, _____, or _____)
- Vehemently _____ evil; be “_____” to what is good.
- Embrace _____ affection
 - A friendly, “_____” streak – but in showing honor
 - An accountability against _____/toward a “_____” with the Spirit
 - All in _____ to the Lord!
- **Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.**
- Practice _____ and show _____.

Love That Overcomes Evil...

- Our love is shaped by _____ love
 - A love that is _____
 - A love that seeks _____ and is never _____
 - A love that turns the other _____ for the sake of _____
 - A love that lets _____ be _____
 - A love that never loses sight of the _____

We love because he first loved us (1 John 4:19).

Proposed Standing Rules Amendments

LWML Texas District Standing Rules (adopted by convention delegates)

Proposed amendment:

In Standing Rule 2 and 4, strike “amended EC 2014” and insert “Convention, 2026.”

In Standing Rule 3, strike “amended EC 2013” and insert “Convention, 2026.”

Rationale: Standing rules can only be amended or rescinded by the body that initially adopted them. The existing wording would remain as this is our current practice; only the citation would be changed.

Standing Rule #2: Groups are strongly encouraged to give an annual contribution per member designated for the District News in The Lutheran Witness to pay the cost of the publication. (Convention 1972; amended EC 2014)

If adopted, the citation would read: (Convention, 1972; Convention, 2026)

Standing Rule #4: The meeting to remove any officer from office shall be a closed meeting (see District Bylaws; Article VII. Section 4; Article XIII. Section 4, b). (Convention, 2004; amended EC 2014)

If adopted, the citation would read: (Convention, 2004; Convention, 2026)

Standing Rule #3: Mites (Report of the Membership) are to be reported each biennium with the convention manual. (Convention, 1978; amended EC 2013)

If adopted, the citation would read: (Convention, 1978; Convention, 2026)

LWML Texas District Bylaws (for adoption by convention delegates)

The document revisions will be reviewed at delegate orientation as well as during convention.

To save cost and pages, the Bylaws draft has been posted online and is viewable by scanning the QR code with your phone’s camera app below and clicking on the hyperlink for **Proposed Bylaws Revisions** (Draft).

The Adopted Bylaws are now
available on the district website
under the Resources tab.

Candidates for Office



Vice President of Communication

Cindy Carter
Lord of Life, Plano
Dal-North

DISTRICT: District
News Editor; Convention
Treasurer

ZONE: President; Vice

President; Secretary; Young Woman
Representative

LOCAL GROUP: President; Vice President

CHURCH: Newsletter Editor; Council
Secretary; Choir; Sunday School
Superintendent; Sunday School Teacher

COMMUNITY: Good Samaritan's Women's
Auxiliary Treasurer; PTA Vice President of
Membership, Vice President of Volunteers,
and Vice President of Communications

EDUCATION: Bachelor of Science in
Engineering; Advanced Technical Certificate
in Professional Accountancy (in progress)

OCCUPATION: Church Office Manager and
Bookkeeper; Electrical Engineer

MISCELLANEOUS: Computer graphics;
drawing; painting; knitting; crocheting

VISION STATEMENT: To joyfully serve
wherever the Lord has placed me and to
encourage my Lutheran sisters.



Vice President of Communication

Wendy Hart
St. John Lutheran,
Mansfield
Trinity Zone

DISTRICT: Bylaws
Committee

ZONE: President

LOCAL GROUP: President

CHURCH: Altar Guild; church café and gift
shop; St. John Mission Board; Three-month
mission trip to Virginia Beach; Women's
Bible Study Leader; Director of Education
Department at Holy Cross; VBS and Sunday
School Programs Leader

COMMUNITY: Tarrant County Bar – Texas
Lawyers for Texas Veterans Steadfast Service
Award (2020), Attorney of the Year (2025),
Mentoring Committee

EDUCATION: Bachelor of Arts in
Psychology with Minor in Sociology; Doctor
of Jurisprudence, Texas Tech University;
Mediation, Parenting Coordination, and
Facilitation Certification

OCCUPATION: Solo Practitioner Attorney;
Assistant Attorney General for the State of
Texas; Movie Theater Manager

MISCELLANEOUS: Gardening; reading;
painting; spending time with husband as a
golf cart passenger

VISION STATEMENT: I envision that
LWML Texas District will continue to shine a
light in the darkness through our missions,
demonstrating our faith in God for all the
world to see by loving and serving others so
we bring Him glory! I want to help LWML
Texas District to empower women to be bold
in sharing God's word and acting as the
hands and feet of Jesus.

Candidates for Office



Vice President of Gospel Outreach

Elizabeth Burnett
Bethel, Bryan
Bluebonnet Zone

DISTRICT: Heart to Heart — Sisters of All Nations District Leader; Scholarship Committee

ZONE: President;

Christian Life Chairman

LOCAL GROUP: President; Vice President; Secretary; Mission Service Committee; Greeting Cards Committee

CHURCH: LWML Mission Team to Poland, 2015

COMMUNITY: Habitat for Humanity

OCCUPATION: Retired Business Coordinator with TEEX, Brayton Fire Field

MISCELLANEOUS: Competitive tennis; fishing; traveling; volunteering with LWML sisters

VISION STATEMENT: I can only hope to do this committee the just service it truly deserves as it prayerfully reviews each mission grant applicant that truly deserves LWML mites, prayers, and monetary support. I love to hear their stories, see the impact each ministry brings in changing lives and the opportunities it offers through LWML's partnership, loving support, and the means to know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.



Vice President of Gospel Outreach

Debra Heckmann
St. Paul, Gatesville
Sunshine

DISTRICT: Mission Grants Committee; Vice President of Organizational Resources; Structure

Committee Chairman; Parliamentarian

ZONE: President; District Convention Host Committee – Prayer Room

LOCAL GROUP: President; Vice President; Gospel Outreach; Secretary; Treasurer; Mission Kits Coordinator

CHURCH: Sunday School Teacher; Bible Study Leader; Altar Guild; Money Counter

COMMUNITY: County Election Judge

EDUCATION: Master of Education

OCCUPATION: Church Secretary; Lutheran School Teacher

MISCELLANEOUS: Reading; traveling; family time

VISION STATEMENT: The LWML faithfully equip women of every generation to use their gifts to share the saving message of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, in our communities and throughout the world, joyfully serving the LWML and others in every area to which God calls them.

Candidates for Office



Recording Secretary

Pam Jeske
Our Savior Lutheran,
Houston
White Oak

DISTRICT: Convention Secretary; Convention Usher Committee

ZONE: Treasurer; Secretary; Christian Life

Chairman

LOCAL GROUP: President; Vice President; Vice President of Membership; Secretary

CHURCH: Women's Retreat Committee; Chrismons for Sunday School Attendees; Altar Guild

COMMUNITY: Tax Executives Institute Scholarship Committee; Houston SPCA; Neighborhood Association Treasurer

EDUCATION: Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting, Texas A&M University; Certified Public Accountant

OCCUPATION: Retired; former Corporate Tax Director

MISCELLANEOUS: Time with family; visiting national parks; reading; cross stitching; crossword puzzles

VISION STATEMENT: My vision is for LWML to continue as an uplifting organization for all women, providing opportunities to hear and share God's Word and to be in His service "wherever and whenever He has need of us." LWML should encourage each woman to use her specific God-given talents to share the Gospel and God's love and redeeming grace with others while supporting missions. With God's guidance through scripture and prayer, Lutheran Women *in Mission* will continue to serve Him by loving and serving our neighbors through our mission work and by proclaiming Christ. Thanks be to God for His many gifts and blessings.



Recording Secretary

Lisa Snow
Zion, Abilene
Heart of Texas

DISTRICT: Board of Directors

ZONE: President; Vice President

LOCAL GROUP: President; Vice President; Secretary

CHURCH: Altar Guild; Board of Director Secretary; Board President; Church Day Care Board; Sunday School Teacher

COMMUNITY: Treasurer and Secretary of Emmaus Community; Secretary and Tour Assistant Coordinator of Classical Youth Chorus Board

EDUCATION: Master of Counseling and Human Development; Texas Teaching Certificate for 1st through 8th Grade; Texas Certified Elementary School Principal

OCCUPATION: Retired; Water Aerobics Instructor; Elementary Teacher; School Counselor

MISCELLANEOUS: Swimming; reading; scrapbooking; knitting; nature; being outdoors; traveling and new places

VISION STATEMENT: As Lutheran Women *in Mission*, it is my heartfelt prayer that our mission work becomes more widely recognized. By increasing awareness, we can expand our mission efforts and provide greater support to those in need. I also pray that each woman in our organization fully utilizes her unique talents to serve God. May we do so with joy and gladness, reflecting our faith and dedication in every action. Additionally, I pray that we continue to study God's word and encourage one another. As we support each other, let us remain united in our commitment to serve the Lord faithfully.

Candidates for Office



Treasurer

Terry Frazier
Bethel Lutheran, Bryan
Bluebonnet

DISTRICT: Texas
District Board of
Directors 2024–2026;
Florida-Georgia District
Nominating Committee
and Board of Directors

1998–1999; Young Woman Representative
1991

ZONE: President; Vice President; Treasurer;
Secretary

LOCAL GROUP: President; Vice President;
Secretary; Treasurer; Mission Service Chair;
Banner Committee; Retreat Planning
Committee

CHURCH: Lay Reader; Financial Secretary;
Council Secretary; Greeter; Nursery
Volunteer; Mission Outreach activities;
Evangelist training; Puppet Ministry
Coordinator; Women's Bible Study Leader;
Youth Worship Service Coordinator; VBS
Snack Chair; Banner Committee; Financial
Review Committee; Youth Trip Chaperone

COMMUNITY: Cub Scout Leader; Boy
Scout Leader; Mount Olive (Slidell) Feeding
Ministry Volunteer

EDUCATION: Bachelor of Science in
Industrial Engineering, Texas A&M
University; Post-Baccalaureate Certificate of
Public Accounting, University of Alabama-
Huntsville; Certified Public Accountant

OCCUPATION: Part-time Accountant at
Bethel Lutheran; Self-employed Certified
Public Accountant

MISCELLANEOUS: Embroidery; puzzle
books; history; fruit and vegetable gardening

VISION STATEMENT: The Lutheran
Women *in Mission* organization unites LCMS
women from different geographic areas,
backgrounds, and life stages. Together we can
support missions to spread the Gospel, grow
in our Christian walk, and joyfully serve those
whom God places in our lives.



Treasurer

Sharon Stoerkel
Trinity Lutheran,
Houston
Bayou City Zone

DISTRICT: Structure
Committee Member,
2022–2024; Board of
Directors, 2017–2024;
2008 District Convention

Volunteer

ZONE: President; Vice President

LOCAL GROUP: President; Secretary

CHURCH: Handbell Choir; Church Service
Presentation (ProPresenter) Volunteer;
Sacrament Committee; Commission on
Tithing and Development; Fulfillment Teams
(past capital campaigns); Archives
Committee

COMMUNITY: Mathcounts Contest Test
Grader Volunteer; Offshore Technology
Conference Annual Golf Tournament
Volunteer; American Society of Mechanical
Engineers Member; Texas German Society
Member

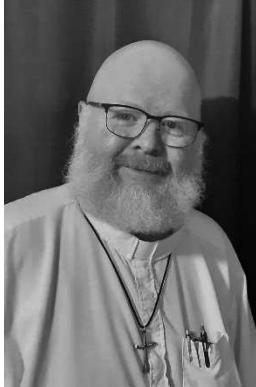
EDUCATION: Bachelor of Science in
Mechanical Engineering, Texas A&M
University

OCCUPATION: Safety, Quality, and
Mission Assurance Engineering, KBR,
present; Safety, Quality, and Mission
Assurance Engineering, SGT and United
Space Alliance; Ground Support Equipment
Engineering, United Space Alliance and
Boeing Aerospace

MISCELLANEOUS: Crossword puzzles;
puzzle books; reading; collecting Royal
Family memorabilia and magazines;
scrapbooking

VISION STATEMENT: I want the LWML
to continue to encourage Lutheran women to
serve the Lord and grow in faith using mites,
time, and talent to help reach the lost and
unbelievers.

Candidates for Office



Pastoral Counselor

Rev. Russel Etzel
Concordia Lutheran,
Houston
White Oak

DISTRICT: 2022 LWML
Texas District
Convention Host
Committee Pastoral
Counselor

ZONE: White Oak Zone Pastoral Counselor

LOCAL GROUP: Women's Club, Concordia,
Pastoral Counselor

CONGREGATIONAL/SYNODICAL

EXPERIENCE: Sole Pastor at Concordia Lutheran, Houston (2007–present); Our Savior Lutheran, Centerville, TX (1996–2007); Faith Mission, Vidalia, GA (1994–1996); Hope Lutheran, Milledgeville, GA (1992–1996); Circuit Visitor, Circuit 14 and 41, Texas District; Circuit Counselor, Florida/Georgia District

COMMUNITY: Centerville Ministerial Fellowship, Centerville, TX; Chaplains Committee, Baldwin County Hospital, Milledgeville, GA

EDUCATION: Bachelor of Arts, Concordia Lutheran College, Austin, 1988; Master of Divinity, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, 1992

MISCELLANEOUS: Home wine-making; crossword puzzles; old movies; Westerns

VISION STATEMENT: I hope and ardently pray the LWML Texas District remains true to its calling of spreading the Gospel near and far. The early institution of the Mite Box shows God can and does work mightily with the small, the meek, and the supposedly insignificant to save, heal, free, and grow His family.



Pastoral Counselor

Rev. Kelly Krieg
Bethlehem Lutheran,
William Penn
Bluebonnet Zone

ZONE: White Oak Zone
Pastoral Counselor, 3
years

LOCAL GROUP:
Cheerful Helpers Pastoral

Counselor

CONGREGATIONAL/SYNODICAL

EXPERIENCE: Sole Pastor, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, William Penn, 2023 – Present; Nominee 2025, VP Area D, Texas District; Assistant Pastor, Our Savior Houston, 2017–2023;

COMMUNITY: Taught Religion at Our Savior Lutheran School, Houston and Government at Grace Lutheran School, Brenham; Y4Life Pastoral Advisor, Mustangs4Life, Grace Brenham; 40 Days For Life, Houston and College Station; Host of Video Podcasts *Lagers with Luther*, *Sorry Not Sorry*, *Next Sunday Now*, and *In the Land of Uz*; Repeat guest on *Sharper Iron* and *Thy Strong Word* radio programs

EDUCATION: Bachelor of Arts in Government, Angelo State University; Master of Arts in Political Science, Texas State University; Master of Divinity, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne

MISCELLANEOUS: Time with family; hunting and fishing; watching football (college and NFL); reading; tending cattle; golf; woodworking

VISION STATEMENT: To faithfully support and encourage the women of the LWML Texas District in their vocation as baptized children of God, grounding all their service in Christ's Word and the Means of Grace. My desire is to nurture a Christ-centered focus where mercy work, mission support, and fellowship flow from the Gospel, strengthening faith, and bearing witness to Christ crucified for us.

Candidates for Office



Nominating Committee

Heather Barratt
Salem Lutheran, Tomball
Golden Harvest Zone

DISTRICT: Gospel Outreach Committee Member 2025–2026

ZONE: Treasurer

LOCAL GROUP: President

CHURCH: Heart for Honduras Board Member, Fundraiser, and Medical Supply Coordinator

COMMUNITY: Artesian Ministries Board Member

EDUCATION: Associates Degree of Applied Science

OCCUPATION: GE Oil and Gas, Vetco Gray, ABB, PES, Daily Petroleum

MISCELLANEOUS: Macrame; making bracelets; scrapbooking; school fundraiser galas, carnivals, and back to school bash

VISION STATEMENT: To listen to God's guidance and to have the names in front of us that will do the job of missions to His glory.



Nominating Committee

Nancy Beckcom
St. Paul Lutheran, Serbin
Post Oak Zone

DISTRICT: Nominating Committee Chairman 2020–2022; Vice President of Organizational Resources 2016–2020; Structure Chairman 2014–2016; Resolution Committee 2012; Board of Directors 2012–2026

ZONE: President

LOCAL GROUP: President; Secretary; Prayer Card Committee

CHURCH: Choir; Bible Study Leader; Youth Group Volleyball Coach; Youth Group Counselor; Board of Trustees; Worship Accompanist on Guitar; Stephen Ministry

COMMUNITY: Disaster Response Team Volunteer with Trinity Lutheran; Camp Lone Star Development Council and Board of Directors; Wendish Heritage Society Volunteer

EDUCATION: Bachelor of Science in Mathematical Science, Lamar University; Stephen Ministry Training; Chainsaw Training

OCCUPATION: Retired; former Lab Technician and Outdoor Operator in the Petrochemical Industry; Cashier

MISCELLANEOUS: Time with family, especially grandchildren; walking; volleyball; guitar; singing; star gazing; Bible study; jigsaw puzzles

VISION STATEMENT: We, as ladies of the LWML, are called to share the saving message of Jesus Christ with the lost and erring people of this world through words and actions. I pray that God will continue to lead our Lutheran sisters to be bold in sharing their faith and leadership in the years to come.

Candidates for Office



Nominating Committee

Mandy Halbert
Our Savior Lutheran, Houston
White Oak

DISTRICT: *Linked by Love* Editor 2020–2022; Convention Teen Chairman; Recording Secretary 2022–2026

ZONE: President (Bayou City, 2017 & White Oak, 2021-current); Young Woman Representative (Bayou City)

LOCAL GROUP: Vice President of Programs; Nominating Committee

CHURCH: Sunday School Teacher; Childcare Volunteer; Pilgrim Lutheran School Board; School's Softball Coach

COMMUNITY: American Heritage Girls Vice Coordinator; Girl Scout Troop Leader; Room Parent; PTL Vice President; Moms Group Treasurer; Oaks Dads Club Softball Coach

EDUCATION: Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, Texas A&M University; Bachelor of Arts in Applied Science, Texas Lutheran

OCCUPATION: Mechanical Engineer

MISCELLANEOUS: Audio book listening; rideshare driver for kids; belly laughing when applicable

VISION STATEMENT: To the glory of God, this diverse group of ladies will serve missions with their gifts and blessings.



Nominating Committee

Amy Heard
Trinity Lutheran, Amarillo
Panhandle

DISTRICT: *The Lone Star Connection* Editor 2024–Present; Board of Directors 2020–2024

ZONE: President; Vice President of Christian Life; Young Woman Representative

LOCAL GROUP: Young Woman Representative; Christian Growth

CHURCH: Childcare Board; Evangelism Board; Safety Team; Strategic Planning Committee; Texas District LCMS Evangelist Training

COMMUNITY: Amarillo Astronomy Club; Bear Paws Cookie Maker; Boy Scout Wood Badge Alumni; Cub Scout Leader; Boy Scout Leader; Venture Crew Leader; Boy Scout Unit Commissioner

EDUCATION: Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education, Wayland Baptist University-Amarillo; Associate of Applied Science in AS400 Microcomputer Applications

OCCUPATION: Home Health Care Assistant; AIG – VALIC Capital Transfers Team Lead; Texas State Guard

MISCELLANEOUS: Canning; cooking; baking; quilting; knitting; crocheting; painting; hunting; fishing; camping; gardening; riding horses

VISION STATEMENT: Through LWML and the TX District LCMS Evangelist training, I hope to continue spreading the Good News by connecting generations to the steadfast love of Jesus Christ.

Candidates for Office



Nominating Committee

Frances Molitor
Zion, Anderson
Bluebonnet

DISTRICT: President; Treasurer; Financial Secretary; Christian Life Committee; Host Committee Chairman; Leadership Development Committee

ZONE: President; Secretary; Treasurer; Nominating Committee; Christian Growth

LOCAL GROUP: President; Vice President; Treasurer; Nominating Committee; Fundraising; Martha

CHURCH: Financial Secretary; Sunday School Teacher; VBS Teacher and Coordinator

EDUCATION: Specialized training in Cost Accounting

OCCUPATION: Retired; Project Manager; Comptroller

MISCELLANEOUS: Reading; writing; Bible study; baking; spending time with family

VISION STATEMENT: We, as Lutheran Women *in Mission*, continue to humbly serve our Lord with our hearts, minds, and hands, allowing our words and actions to reflect the love of Christ, therefore encouraging all women to desire to experience the joy and hope we have in proclaiming Christ.



Nominating Committee

Rosie Schoenfeld
Bethel Lutheran, Bryan
Bluebonnet

DISTRICT: Nominating Committee 2022–2024; Recording Secretary 2014–2018; Host Convention Committee 2012

ZONE: President; Vice President; Treasurer; Secretary; Christian Growth Chair

LOCAL GROUP: President; Vice President; Treasurer; Secretary; Christian Growth Chair

CHURCH: Financial Secretary; Sunday School and VBS Teacher; Board of Parish Education; 85th Anniversary Planning Team; Lay Reader; Helping Hands; Hope Pregnancy Events Volunteer

COMMUNITY: Extension Service Club President, Secretary; Beta Sigma Phi Sorority Leadership Roles; Leadership Brazos Alumni Association; Girl Scout Leader; A&M Consolidated Band Booster President; College Station Soccer Club Registrar, Uniform Coordinator

EDUCATION: Certified Professional Secretary

OCCUPATION: Retired; former Assistant to the Director of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, Assistant to the Executive Associate Director of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, Assistant to the Associate Director of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

MISCELLANEOUS: Sewing; quilting; making tie blankets; gardening; spending time with family, especially three grandchildren

VISION STATEMENT: It is an honor to joyfully serve in the LWML at the local, district, and state level. I will serve by using my God-given talents to share God's word and love, inspire women of all ages, and support mission work at all levels.

Candidate Selection

Vice President of Communication

votes cast _____ votes necessary for election _____ invalid votes _____
Cindy Carter votes received _____
Wendy Hart votes received _____

Vice President of Gospel Outreach

votes cast _____ votes necessary for election _____ invalid votes _____
Elizabeth Burnett votes received _____
Debra Heckmann votes received _____

Recording Secretary

votes cast _____ votes necessary for election _____ invalid votes _____
Pam Jeske votes received _____
Lisa Snow votes received _____

Treasurer

votes cast _____ votes necessary for election _____ invalid votes _____
Terry Frazier votes received _____
Sharon Stoerkel votes received _____

Pastoral Counselor

votes cast _____ votes necessary for election _____ invalid votes _____
Rev. Russell Etzel votes received _____
Rev. Kelly Krieg votes received _____

Nominating Committee

votes cast _____ invalid votes _____
Heather Barratt votes received _____
Nancy Beckcom votes received _____
Mandy Halbert votes received _____
Amy Heard votes received _____
Frances Molitor votes received _____
Rosie Schoenfeld votes received _____

Proposed Mission Grants

1. **Youth Gospel Outreach — Glocal Mission, Houston, Texas \$6,000**

Glocal Mission is a Christ-centered nonprofit dedicated to making disciples who make disciples. In response to today's increasingly secular culture, this initiative equips and mobilizes multiethnic youth, especially from underserved communities in Houston and surrounding areas, to become Gospel-centered leaders and local missionaries. Through youth training retreats, seasonal outreach events, neighborhood evangelism, and discipleship cohorts, young believers will be equipped for personal evangelism, cross-cultural missions, and biblical disciple-making. Funding will help address spiritual emptiness, identity confusion, and apathy by raising a new generation of youth who boldly live out their faith and advance the Great Commission in their communities and beyond. This mission grant will support leadership training, outreach supplies, care packages, stipends, event rentals, and program materials.

2. **Christian Family Discipleship — Concordia Center for the Family, Ann Arbor, Michigan \$10,000**

A 2019 LCMS study found that only one in five baptized children remained active in the church into young adulthood, revealing a significant gap in faith formation within homes. Changing family structures and generational shifts highlight the need for Christian resources that serve diverse households. Technology is also reshaping how youth explore questions of faith, with many turning to artificial intelligence for answers they hesitate to ask adults. Concordia Center for the Family (CCF) aims to strengthen partnerships between homes and congregations in Texas by equipping families for lifelong discipleship. Trained CCF Family Discipleship Facilitators will bring theology, skills, and attitudes that support dynamic family discipleship, engaging children for life. This mission grant will fund facilitator training, including registration, facilities, supplies, and travel for CCF trainers.

3. **Spanish Resources — Lutheran Heritage Foundation, Macomb, Michigan \$12,500**

The Lutheran Heritage Foundation (LHF) exists to share God's Word in people's own languages. Hispanic congregations in Texas and across the U.S. long to teach about Jesus

but often lack Spanish-language materials. LHF provides free Spanish books, including Bibles, Luther's Small Catechism, and other Lutheran resources, to support Texas Hispanic ministries. More than 3.5 million Spanish-speaking people live in Texas, and many are either unchurched or not fluent in English, so these materials address a significant need. Providing these books places God's Word directly into people's hands, allowing the Holy Spirit to work through it to share the Good News. This mission grant will fund printing and distribution of over 3,500 Spanish-language books for Hispanic ministries in Texas and around the world.

4. **Community Gospel Outreach — Redeemer Lutheran, Lubbock, Texas \$20,000**

Redeemer Lutheran Church in Lubbock, Texas, is committed to sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with its surrounding community, which includes many unchurched individuals, new residents, and families needing support. The congregation has developed a variety of outreach efforts, including partnering to provide meals for those rebuilding their lives, welcome packages for new neighbors, school partnerships, seasonal gatherings, concerts, VBS with school supplies and Bibles, Trunk or Treat, and similar events, all designed to build relationships and demonstrate Christ's love. However, Redeemer's small and aging membership limits its ability to sustain these ministries without outside help. This mission grant will provide meals, supplies, hospitality, and event support for community outreach activities, enabling Gospel-centered engagement with neighbors through service, fellowship, and evangelism.

5. **Sharing Our Savior, One Meal at a Time — Forged by Fire Services, Mandeville, Louisiana \$7,500**

Forged by Fire Services, along with their Sharing Our Savior meal ministry, aim to respond swiftly and compassionately after times of natural disaster, ensuring individuals and families are physically and spiritually nourished. A mobile kitchen trailer hits recovery zones fast, delivering hot meals to those in need. On average, 500–2,000 meals are served per day during deployments. In addition to meals, a spiritual care tent shares Christ's love through prayer, LCMS-approved devotions, new Bibles, and

Proposed Mission Grants

individual cross necklaces, offering hope, healing, and encouragement. Future plans include launching a free-laundry-service ministry in 2026. This mission grant will support the purchase of food supplies, fuel, spiritual care materials, essential items necessary for the mobile kitchen, and laundry supplies.

6. ASL Jesus Signs Workshops — Texas \$15,000

The Deaf community is one of the largest unreached people groups in the world, with 98% having no knowledge of Jesus Christ. In Texas alone, an estimated 345,000 Deaf individuals remain unreached. Because Deaf people often blend into the general population, they are frequently overlooked, even within churches, where language barriers prevent meaningful access to the Gospel. Interpreters, when present, may lack training on how to communicate Lutheran theology clearly. Deaf Outreach Texas will address this need through three-day American Sign Language (ASL) Jesus Signs workshops designed for Deaf participants who communicate in ASL and hearing persons who wish to communicate the Gospel to them. These workshops provide biblical instruction, worship, fellowship, and culturally appropriate teaching. This mission grant will cover faculty expenses, Bibles, printed materials, food, and technical support.

7. Deploying Lutherans Doing Life Together — Baylor University, Waco, Texas \$20,000

Lutherans Doing Life Together (LDLT) is a student-led LCMS campus ministry at Baylor University that partners with and receives support from St. Paul Lutheran Church in Waco. For the past ten years, LDLT has provided students with opportunities for worship at St. Paul, along with meaningful faith development, and Christian fellowship on campus. First-year and other students lack access to off-campus transportation, making it challenging and often costly to attend LDLT events and church services. Despite these barriers, the ministry has played a vital role in helping students remain connected to their Lutheran faith and receive spiritual support throughout their college experience. This mission grant will support the purchase of a van or bus to offer safe, reliable transportation and expand student participation in LDLT activities.

8. Generating Power of Christ — Camp Blessing Texas, Brenham, Texas \$8,000

Camp Blessing in Brenham, Texas, is a residential Christ-centered summer camp for children and young adults with special needs. The week-long residential camp offers barrier-free activities and surrounds campers with love, acceptance, and fun. The camp's mission is rooted in the Gospel, expressed through service and compassion. Volunteers, ranging from middle and high school students to college students and adults, serve as one-on-one buddies, summer staff, cabin parents, and medical clinicians. During a camp power outage, medical connections and communication systems could fail, placing campers at risk. Backup battery-powered generators would provide essential power for medical equipment and uninterrupted power for critical health and safety needs. This mission grant will cover the purchase of three generators for the clinic and both a male and female cabin.

9. Interactive Classroom Displays — St. Paul Lutheran, Vernon, Texas \$25,000

St. Paul Lutheran School is requesting funding to purchase interactive digital display boards to create a more engaging learning environment for children ages two to five. These tools will strengthen the school's mission of providing a strong Christian education while enriching early childhood development. As a mission outreach of the church, the school serves 69 children during the academic year and about 40 in the summer, welcoming families from Vernon's culturally diverse community. The teachers serve as front-line missionaries, offering each child a solid faith foundation and opportunities to grow. Through lessons and activities, teachers share the unconditional love of Jesus and encourage children to develop as Christ-like followers. This mission grant will secure seven interactive display boards and related equipment and provide teacher training.

10. Spiritual Care — Upbring, Canyon Lake, Texas \$10,000

New Life Children's Center provides a safe, nurturing home for girls ages 11–17 who have endured trauma, abuse, or major crises, recognizing that such harm stands in direct opposition to God's purpose for creation. Many of the girls arrive with no prior

Proposed Mission Grants

relationship with God. The ministry is dedicated to offering spiritual hope and guidance, introducing each girl to the loving God who desires their healing through a relationship with Jesus Christ. Through its Spiritual Care Program, New Life creates meaningful opportunities for the girls to connect with God, including chapel services regularly led by local Lutheran pastors, creative art projects, music activities, counseling, and Bible studies. This mission grant will supply essential materials and Bible study resources.

11. Together We Go, Together We Grow — Expansion Mission Network, Rockwall, Texas \$24,000

Expansion Mission Network is committed to sharing the Gospel with Hispanic communities across Northeast Texas. In partnership with LCMS congregations, the ministry focuses on planting Hispanic churches throughout the metroplex. Grant funding will support the operational needs of the organization so that leaders can focus on outreach events for children and youth and support Bible studies that bring parents and families together around God's Word. These efforts help individuals hear the Gospel, grow in faith, and become active members of local Lutheran congregations. The mission also aims to establish a Spanish-speaking congregation where believers can worship, receive the Sacraments, and mature in Christ. This mission grant will support the Church Planting Discipling Program, education, church planting operations, and outreach mission events.

12. Learning Center Flooring — Trinity Lutheran, Riesel, Texas \$20,000

Trinity Lutheran Early Childhood Learning Center in Riesel, Texas, has served families since 1996 as the only daycare in this rural community and an important ministry of Trinity Lutheran Church, established in 1883. The Center currently provides Christ-centered care for 53 children from three months to five years old, along with after-school programs, sharing the love of Jesus through daily teaching, weekly chapel, vacation Bible school, and community service. The current flooring, now 30 years old, poses safety concerns for children and staff and needs replacement. This project will enhance safety, create a welcoming environment, and support continued outreach to families, many of whom have no

church home. This mission grant will allow the removal and replacement of the flooring.

13. Bridge to Belonging — Camp Lone Star, La Grange, Texas \$20,000

Camp Lone Star (CLS) provides transformative overnight camp experiences that nurture spiritual growth, leadership, and community in children and youth. Committed to ensuring every child can encounter the joy and life-changing impact of camp, CLS seeks a partnership with the LWML Texas District to remove financial barriers for families earning under \$47,000 a year. Currently, 65 percent of these families are unable to attend even with existing aid. By doubling scholarship support, CLS can welcome more campers into a Christ-centered environment where they experience belonging, adventure, and the Gospel in a uniquely unplugged setting. This mission grant will match CLS's support, increasing the award level and enabling additional campers to receive the extra funding they need to attend.

14. Mobile Ministry Van — University Lutheran Chapel, Bryan-College Station, Texas \$20,000

College is a formative season when young adults explore identity, truth, and purpose, often while feeling disconnected from familiar support systems. University Lutheran Chapel meets this need through relational ministry built around a dedicated 15-passenger van. Serving American and international students at Texas A&M University, the RELIS Campus, and Blinn College-Bryan, the van becomes a practical expression of Christ's love. Many students who may never attend a church service are willing to join outings, where travel time naturally creates space for games, stories, and genuine connection. These shared moments open doors to meaningful Gospel conversations. The van functions as a mobile ministry setting where pastors and student leaders can listen, pray, encourage, and share Christ authentically. This mission grant will support the purchase of a van.

15. Feet on the Ground — MOST Ministries, Ann Arbor, Michigan \$12,000

Mission Opportunities Short Term (MOST) Ministries offers Christians the chance to participate in short-term mission trips that share the Gospel through Word and deed.

Proposed Mission Grants

LWML sisters feel called to be “feet on the ground” for Jesus, yet members need financial support and encouragement to join a mission team. Because MOST team members must fund their own trips, cost can be a barrier for first-time participants. MOST Ministries strives to open the door for more LWML Texas District members to experience the joy of living out the Great Commission and serving people around the world. This mission grant will provide at least eight partial scholarships of up to \$1,500 for LWML Texas District members taking their first MOST Ministries mission trip.

16. Tailgate Outreach — Lutheran Student Center, Lubbock, Texas \$15,000

The Lutheran Student Center’s (LSC) mission is to connect Texas Tech University students and the community with Christ and His Church through fellowship, service, and faithful teaching. After selling its former building, LSC has entered a new stage of ministry without a fixed location, creating an unexpected but meaningful opportunity to go directly to the students wherever they naturally gather. The Pop-Up Tailgate Outreach will bring ministry directly to campus and neighborhood events. This mobile approach equips volunteers and students to share Christ’s love, offer resources, and foster meaningful relationships that encourage young adults to grow in faith and live it out in service to others. This mission grant will provide portable branded equipment, supplies, and Gospel materials to support this effort.

17. Reaching Forward — Bethesda Lutheran Disability Ministries, Whitehall, Wisconsin \$5,000

Bethesda Lutheran Disability Ministries (BLDM) Reaching Forward Initiative seeks to strengthen the church’s commitment to sharing Christ’s love with individuals who have intellectual and developmental disabilities, whose spiritual needs tend to go unrecognized. Congregations often struggle to fully include these children of God in worship and community life, leaving them without the fellowship and care they deserve. BLDM provides a clear and compassionate vision to equip pastors, volunteers, and families with the training, tools, and confidence needed to offer meaningful spiritual support. BLDM will expand its outreach to 20–30 additional congregations,

offering inclusive ministry resource kits, mentor training, and family outreach materials at no cost. This mission grant will cover the costs of printing materials, postage, and travel.

18. #ShineSanBenito Mission — The Table Lutheran Church, San Benito, Texas \$15,500

The Table Church is actively involved in mission outreach programs designed to serve the San Benito community. Through a variety of initiatives, the church seeks to make a meaningful impact on residents. The church organizes community service projects, provides meals, and offers classes. The Table Church hosts a vacation Bible school program, creating opportunities for community members, especially children, to learn and grow in a positive environment. With the gifting of a permanent facility, The Table Church needs to purchase supplies and equipment to fund its growing programs and support advertising efforts. The goal of The Table Church’s outreach is to connect community members with Jesus, as well as to the Word and Sacraments. This mission grant will provide furnishings, equipment, marketing, signage, outdoor tools, and cleaning supplies.

Seminarian Scholarships for Texas Students \$50,000

As stated in Standing Rule 34, the Seminarian Scholarships for Texas Students is automatically funded. The Mission Grants Committee recommends the amount of \$50,000 for the 2026–2028 biennium. The delegates will be asked to approve the amount.

Proposed Mission Grants	\$265,500
<u>Seminarian Scholarships</u>	<u>\$ 50,000</u>
Total Request	\$315,500

85% inside of Texas	\$268,500
15% outside of Texas	\$ 47,000

The Mission Grants Video for 2026–2028 will be available on the LWML Texas District YouTube channel after the convention. Mission grant prayers and information including a link to the video can be found at lwmltxdist.org/mission-grants.

Mission Grant Selection

Votes Received	Plurality Ranking		
_____	_____	1. Youth Gospel Outreach — Glocal Mission, Houston, Texas	\$ 6,000
_____	_____	2. Christian Family Discipleship — Concordia Center for the Family, Ann Arbor, Michigan	\$10,000
_____	_____	3. Spanish Resources — Lutheran Heritage Foundation, Macomb, Michigan	\$12,500
_____	_____	4. Community Gospel Outreach — Redeemer Lutheran, Lubbock, Texas	\$20,000
_____	_____	5. Sharing Our Savior, One Meal at a Time — Forged by Fire Services, Mandeville, Louisiana	\$ 7,500
_____	_____	6. ASL Jesus Signs Workshops — Texas	\$15,000
_____	_____	7. Deploying Lutherans Doing Life Together — Baylor University, Waco, Texas	\$20,000
_____	_____	8. Generating Power of Christ — Camp Blessing Texas, Brenham, Texas	\$ 8,000
_____	_____	9. Interactive Classroom Displays — St. Paul Lutheran, Vernon, Texas	\$25,000
_____	_____	10. Spiritual Care — Upbring, Canyon Lake, Texas	\$10,000
_____	_____	11. Together We Go, Together We Grow — Expansion Mission Network, Rockwall, Texas	\$24,000
_____	_____	12. Learning Center Flooring — Trinity Lutheran, Riesel, Texas	\$20,000
_____	_____	13. Bridge to Belonging — Camp Lone Star, La Grange, Texas	\$20,000
_____	_____	14. Mobile Ministry Van — University Lutheran Chapel, Bryan-College Station, Texas	\$20,000
_____	_____	15. Feet on the Ground — MOST Ministries, Ann Arbor, Michigan	\$12,000
_____	_____	16. Tailgate Outreach — Lutheran Student Center, Lubbock, Texas	\$15,000
_____	_____	17. Reaching Forward — Bethesda Lutheran Disability Ministries, Whitehall, Wisconsin	\$ 5,000
_____	_____	18. #ShineSanBenito Mission — The Table Lutheran Church, San Benito, Texas	\$15,500
		Seminarian Scholarships for Texas Students	\$50,000
			Proposed Mission Grants \$265,500
			<u>Seminarian Scholarships \$ 50,000</u>
			Total Request \$315,500
			85% inside of Texas \$268,500
			15% outside of Texas \$ 47,000

BOD Report to Convention and Zone Presidents

Report of the Board of Directors

Actions Taken in the 2024–2026 Biennium

This report summarizes the actions taken by the LWML Texas District Board of Directors at its meetings on June 12, 2024; February 14–16, 2025; and February 20–22, 2026. Only actions affecting the work of the district or requiring awareness of the convention body are included.

- The board approved the 2024–2026 Work Program in the amount of \$403,000, including reducing the monthly District News article to one page.
- The board approved the abundance amount of \$27,314 from the 2022–2024 biennium to be added to the 2024–2026 mission grant goal.
- The board approved using \$20,000 of available unrestricted cash as a one-time abundance for the 2024–2026 mission grant goal.
- The board approved applying that same \$20,000 to increase the proposed Seminarian Scholarships for Texas Students amount from \$40,000 to \$60,000 for 2024–2026.
- The board adopted the recommendation from the Financial Review and Procedures Task Force that the Nominating Committee consider candidates who have bookkeeping, accounting, and especially QuickBooks experience for the positions of Financial Secretary and Treasurer.
- The board completed the Pastoral Counselor Nomination Process.
- The Board approved a motion to correct the citations in the LWML Texas District Standing Rules as currently published and used in practice.
- The board approved allocating \$5,000 from the designated travel fund to serve as seed money for the 2027 LWML Convention, with all returned funds to be restored to the travel fund.
- The board approved presenting the Bylaws Revision, including updates discussed during the meeting, to the convention body for approval.
- The board approved the offering recipients for the 2026 LWML Texas District Convention.

2024–2026 Zone Presidents



BAYOU CITY – Tracie Hollis	GULF COAST – Debbie Schkade	RIO GRANDE VALLEY – Dawn Tighe
BLUEBONNET – Terry Frazier	HEART OF TEXAS – Lisa Snow	SOUTH PLAINS – Becky Boggs*
CAPITOL – Betsy Martino	MID COAST – Cindy Boster*	SUNSHINE – Debra Heckmann
CENTRAL TEXAS – Debbie Rollins	NEW HORIZON – Dawn Dunagan Sandy Smith (2026)*	TEXAS STAR – Noreene Hurst
COASTAL BEND – Helen Schneider	NORTH ALAMO – Kim Cobb	TRINITY – Wendy Hart
DAL-NORTH – Mary Afsharirad	NORTHEAST TEXAS – Carolyn Schaefer	WEST TEXAS – Dolline Budke
EAST TEXAS – Cindy LaPardi	PANHANDLE – Elaine Schlegel	WHITE OAK – Mandy Halbert
GOLDEN HARVEST – Carrie Egg	POST OAK – Nancy Beckcom	with President Sally Krueger
GOLDEN TRIANGLE – Chris Heiner	RED RIVER – Terri Hegwer*	*not pictured

Reports of Officers and Committees

PRESIDENT

SALLY KRUEGER

As I complete my first biennium as your district president, my heart is grateful for the many ways God has taught me to trust Him in this calling. This season has stretched me, blessed me, and reminded me again and again that the Lord equips us for the work He places before us. I am humbled by the privilege of serving alongside you and look forward to continuing this work together in the biennium ahead.



- Fulfilled administrative responsibilities, including approving vouchers, signing contracts, reviewing minutes, publications, bylaws revisions, standing rules, job descriptions, timelines, and district procedures.
- Prepared agendas and presided over EC, BOD, Zone Presidents, and caucus meetings; began bimonthly Zoom meetings with Zone Presidents.
- Collaborated closely with the Secretary to the President on meeting arrangements, packets, and communication with EC and BOD.
- Appointed standing committee chairmen, appointed personnel, Minutes Review, Tellers, and Resolutions Committee members; secured EC approval for a President's Advocate to guide Heart to Heart Sisters revitalization.
- Appointed and collaborated with the Financial Review and Procedures Task Force on financial policy and QuickBooks structure.
- Worked with VP of Organizational Resources on Leader's Manual, membership, group reporting, Zone Presidents Orientation, and convention materials.
- Submitted articles for *District News*, *The Lone Star Connection*, and the website; shifted *District News* toward promoting "who we are and what we do," increased *The Lone Star Connection* frequency, and collaborated on communications, social media, logo updates, and convention details.
- Signed charters for new groups and notified LWML President of accepted or disbanded groups.
- Prepared required items for the 2026 convention, Austin; worked with Convention Coordinators on surveys, guidelines, budget, contracts, and planning; participated in site visits for the 2028 convention.
- Supported mission grant work by advising VP of Gospel Outreach, reviewing proposals, participating in mission grant selection, and encouraging promotion through Texas District LCMS channels.
- Stayed in communication with Legacy Deo and collaborated with the Endowment Committee on promotions and Facebook posts.
- Discussed with the Archivist-Historian the 10-Year History Project and exhibit ideas.
- Facilitated writing of the Primary Focus Statement and alignment of our mission statement with LWML; provided ideas for the Focus Corner.
- Encouraged officers to create timelines as they updated job descriptions and procedures.
- Supported the VP of Christian Life by collaborating about the Spiritual Rest and Renewal retreat, including venue and hotel arrangements.
- Authored a *2-Minute Tuesday* article for LWML; represented the district at the LWML convention, carrying the banner, chairing the caucus, and serving in the Structure Committee exhibit.
- Participated in a radio interview with *Engaging Truth*.
- Attended LWML Presidents Assembly in person and virtually provided all items requested.

Reports of Officers and Committees

- Spoke at zones upon request and represented the district at zone events, congregational celebrations, district events, circuit gatherings, retreats, installations, and ordinations as time permitted. Attended Texas District LCMS Board of Directors meetings and presented an annual report; attended virtual host committee meetings for the 2027 multidistrict convention.
- Attended a one-day parliamentary school with the Parliamentarian.

A note of special thanks: I am especially grateful for my husband, Larry, whose unwavering support and encouragement have strengthened me throughout this journey.

Thank you for the ways you serve, for the grace you show, and for the dedication you bring to Lutheran Women in Mission. As we move into the next biennium, may we continue to trust the God who has been so good to us.

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen (Ephesians 3:20-21).



2024–2026 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Front Row: Brianne Stahlecker, Vice President of Christian Life; Patti Samsel, Vice President of Gospel Outreach; Sally Krueger, President; Kelly Bernhardt, Vice President of Communication; Janet Hurta, Secretary to the President;

Back Row: Rev. Dustin Beck, Senior Pastoral Counselor; Mandy Halbert, Recording Secretary; Terri Wenzel, Vice President of Organizational Resources; Alissa Elley, Financial Secretary; Debra Heckmann, Parliamentarian & Structure Committee Chairman; Sandi Paniello, Treasurer; Rev. David Bailes, Junior Pastoral Counselor

Reports of Officers and Committees

VICE PRESIDENT OF CHRISTIAN LIFE

BRIANNE STAHLECKER

It has been my honor to serve as the Vice President of Christian Life for this biennium. I had to trust God and rely on Him through each new step I took in this role. I am thankful to everyone who showed me grace and understanding as I learned new things. I was blessed to work with three wonderful women that supported and helped me on the Christian Life Committee — Cathy Ashcraft, Ruth Meyer, and Jacqueline Uptmore. Thank you for your help!



- Attended Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings and submitted appropriate reports.
- Attended LWML Convention in Omaha.
- Updated 2024–2026 Speakers List.
- Presented at the Post Oak/Bluebonnet combined zone rally
- Coordinated and led “Faith Over Fear” retreat at St. Paul Lutheran, Waco, in a new format that went over well.
- Led Bethel Lutheran retreat.
- Contacted enrichment speakers and made arrangements for their presentations at the convention.
- Wrote articles for *District News* and *The Lone Star Connection*.
- Submitted items for convention manual.

Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand (Isaiah 41:10).



Christian Life Committee

left to right:

Ruth Meyers; Brianne Stahlecker, Chairman; Jacqueline Uptmore; Cathy Ashcraft



Reports of Officers and Committees

VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATION

KELLY BERNHARDT

What a blessing to serve the past four years as your VP of Communication. The last two years saw this department grow by adding Amy Velasquez as the new Webmaster, Barbara Mauldin as the *District News* Coordinator, Amy Heard as the District Newsletter Coordinator, and Carrie Egg as the Social Media Coordinator. It has been a joy to work with each of these ladies. I am thankful that you elected and provided me with the opportunity to serve the district. It has been my honor to serve.



- Created timeline for VP of Communication duties and reviewed/updated job descriptions for VP, Webmaster, *District News* Coordinator, District Newsletter Coordinator, and Social Media Coordinator.
- Updated timeline for district convention deadlines for VP of Communication.
- Scheduled Zoom meetings as requested.
- Answered emails and correspondence pertaining to communication.
- Met with President Sally on all suggested changes to the district website, social media, *District News*, and newsletter articles, creating publication schedules for the biennium.
- Attended all Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings as called and the Zone Presidents Orientation.
- Worked with President Sally on social media items for this biennium and created a posting schedule.
- Reviewed emails from groups and zones for updates to their website page.
- Asked Debbie Curry to continue as the communication department editor/proofreader.
- Assisted President Sally and Pastor Beck with creating the 2024–2028 Primary Focus logo.
- Attended all district Financial Review and Procedures Task Force meetings, in person or by Zoom.
- Secured Graphic Artist Erika Dorsey to create the 2026 Austin convention logo and manual cover.
- Met with the convention logo committee for discussion on the logo ideas. Presented these to EC for recommendations and approval.
- Changed *The Lone Star Connection* district newsletter to a monthly issue beginning January 2026 and updated the Writer's Schedule to reflect the change.
- Updated the communication pages and the district 2024–2026 brochure for the district Leader's Manual and website.
- Created fillable PDF forms when requested by EC or committee chairs.
- Attended the LWML Convention in Omaha, Nebraska, June 2025. Posted pictures and information to our district Facebook page and website.
- Attended the district retreat *Faith Over Fear* in Waco, October 10–11.
- Assisted President Sally, vice presidents, and committee chairmen as needed.

I can do all things through him who strengthens me (Philippians 4:13).



Communication Department [left to right]

Debbie Curry, Department Editor; Carrie Egg, Social Media Coordinator;
Amy Heard, District Newsletter Coordinator; Barbara Mauldin, *District News* Coordinator; Amy Velasquez, Webmaster

Reports of Officers and Committees

VICE PRESIDENT OF GOSPEL OUTREACH

PATTI SAMSEL

It has been a joy to serve in this position during the biennium. Partnering with our mission grant recipients and seeing our mites at work sharing the good news of Jesus Christ around the world has been truly inspiring.



- Created bookmark to download to promote mission grants.
- Guest speaker at the Central Texas Zone event.
- Hosted the LWML Texas District exhibit during the Texas District Professional Church Worker's Conference at Redeemer, Austin.
- Oversaw distribution of mission grant funds and mission grant presentations.
- Submitted mission grant information to communication department for the district website, *District News*, *The Lone Star Connection*, Facebook, and email list.
- Attended the mission grants pre-convention seminar and the LWML Convention in Omaha, Nebraska.
- Responded to questions regarding mission grant proposal submissions.
- Maintained notebook of thank you notes from and followed up with mission grant recipients.
- Received, acknowledged, processed, and investigated 32 mission grant proposals for the 2026–2028 biennium.
- Sent proposals to LWML Texas District Pastoral Counselors, Texas District LCMS President Jon Braunersreuther, and Rev. Lincon Guerra (Mission & Ministry Facilitator) for review.
- Sent proposals that were outside of Texas or international in nature to the Office of LCMS International Missions and the Office of LCMS National Missions for evaluation.
- Prepared and mailed proposal packets to the Mission Grants Committee.
- Coordinated and chaired the Mission Grants Committee selection meeting.
- Notified proposed mission grants of the decision of the Mission Grants Committee.
- Edited committee's assignments regarding descriptions, and prepared script for mission grant video.
- Worked with Tim Ristow of TR Productions regarding the mission grant video.
- Contacted Mites in Action speakers regarding speaking at the convention.
- Chaired the Convention Offering Committee.
- Attended and prepared reports for all called meetings of the Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and Zone Presidents Orientation.
- Initiated and responded to mail, email, and phone calls related to this office.

Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart
(Jeremiah 1:5a NIV).



Special thanks to the Mission Grants Committee for their dedication, time, and thoughtful service in reviewing and selecting the mission grant proposals for this convention's ballot. I deeply appreciated our shared time in prayer, meeting, and discussions.

Mission Grants Committee

Back Row: President Sally Krueger; Heather Barrat; Pastor David Bailes

Front Row: Corlis Norman; Patti Samsel, Chairman; Cheryl Wawrzyniak

Reports of Officers and Committees

VICE PRESIDENT OF ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES

TERRI WENZEL

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Vice President of Organizational Resources these past two years. I have immense respect for my predecessors and appreciate the patience and grace granted me from LWML mentors and my many sisters in Christ as I continue to learn and grow in navigating my responsibilities. Thank you to Debbie Schkade and Dianne Jones, members of the Leader Development Committee, for their faithful support and willingness to serve the Lord with gladness alongside me. God's blessings to each of you, as together, we rejoice in hope, are patient in tribulation, and constant in prayer!



- Reviewed Guidelines for Hosting a District Convention.
- Prepared Annual Membership Report forms and gathered membership information.
- Compiled annual statistical membership reports.
- Prepared LWML Texas District Membership Directories.
- Prepared the annual membership reports for President to submit to LWML.
- Processed President's expense vouchers.
- Reviewed monthly financial reports by district Financial Secretary and Treasurer.
- Served as Chairman of the Leader Development Committee.
- Maintained current contact information for LWML Texas District database.
- Prepared articles for the *District News* and *The Lone Star Connection*.
- Organized and led Zone Presidents Orientation.
- Received, updated, and distributed revisions to the LWML Texas District Leader's Manuals.
- Corresponded with prospective and new groups, distributed membership packets, and prepared certificates of membership (charters) for new groups.
- Corresponded with Executive Committee members, zone presidents, group presidents, and individual members, answering questions and providing needed information.
- Attended the LWML Convention in Omaha, Nebraska.
- Prepared and disseminated district convention registration packet and accompanying information sheets to elected and appointed personnel of the district, district committee members, and zone presidents for further distribution to groups, individual members, zone pastoral counselors, zone young women representatives, friends, guests, and exhibitors.
- Submitted convention registration information to *District News* editor for publication in *The Lutheran Witness*.
- Worked closely with the district convention registrars to certify and register delegates.
- Attended all district Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings and presented reports as requested.

Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer (Romans 12:12).

Organizational Resources Committee

left to right:

Debbie Schkade;
Terri Wenzel, Chairman;
Dianne Jones



Reports of Officers and Committees

RECORDING SECRETARY

MANDY HALBERT

As with all the others serving our district, I have been blessed by serving in this office. God has managed to get me through these final two years and with His guidance my service will glorify Him.

The tasks to be noted from these past two years are:

- Attended meetings for Executive Committee and Board of Directors as well as prepared and distributed meeting minutes and collected files for electronic votes.
- Prepared remaining 2024 LWML Texas District convention manuals for distribution and inserts for pages 31–33 to send to Zone Presidents.
- Presented one Assembly of Leaders (AOL) session for the Northeast and East Zones on September 28, 2024.
- Attended the 2025 LWML Convention in Omaha, where I attended the “More than Meeting Minutes, Part 2” seminar on Thursday, June 26, 2025.
- Reviewed job description files and contacted LWML Recording Secretary Brenda Piester for guidance; edited all current job description and timeline files for similar formatting, splitting some files to also include a guideline file.
- Received bids to print, compiled, edited, and oversaw the convention manual for the 2026 Texas District Convention in Austin.



For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all (2 Corinthians 4:17 NIV).

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

ALISSA ELLEY

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as Financial Secretary for the last two years. I have enjoyed working with individuals and LWML groups as you serve the Lord through faithful mite offerings and other gifts. I thank you for the encouraging words and prayers during this term.

With the Lord's guidance, I have:

- Attended Executive Committee and Board of Director meetings.
- Participated in Zone Presidents Orientation.
- Received through mail and electronic transfer and recorded all monies according to remittance forms, and made inquiries where necessary.
- Deposited and transferred funds to the District Treasurer in a timely manner.
- Prepared and presented financial reports as needed.
- Recorded all receipts and transfers on QuickBooks.
- Served as *Quarterly* Coordinator, recording subscription orders and approving *Quarterly* invoice payments and large print *Quarterly* orders.
- Calculated and collected monies for District Travel Fund.
- Assisted with development of convention budget.
- Recorded memorials and honorariums with disclosure in convention manual.
- Sent thank you notes, acknowledgement notes, and tax required correspondence where necessary.
- Received convention funds and transferred said funds to the District Treasurer.
- Served on the Financial Review and Procedures Task Force.
- Attended the 2025 LWML Convention in Omaha, Nebraska.
- Spoke at the Mid Coast Spring Rally.



Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life (Revelation 2:10b KJV).

Reports of Officers and Committees

TREASURER

SANDI PANIELLO

I was pleasantly surprised to be elected in 2022 and for the past four years it has been a privilege and honor for me to serve as the Treasurer. During this time, the role has provided opportunities to be mentored by fellow Lutheran Women in Mission, while allowing me to become more outgoing and confident.



The primary focus for this biennium is to proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women while serving others. As costs increased during the last two years of my term, the financial program reviewed ways to reduce and track expenses. One item involved working with the Financial Secretary to log processing fees from donations. The other item is the expenses that are donated to the district. These items are now part of the reporting provided to the Executive Committee and Board of Directors. As the cost of postage increased, it became cost effective to begin using other methods to send documents instead of mailing them. By reducing costs, the support of missions was the focus.

Additional duties were to assist groups and zones in establishing bank accounts, which sometimes required research for the forms and information requested by various banks. This involved contacting Texas government agencies, such as the Secretary of State's office, to request documents and verify and update LWML Texas District information. This was a challenging and interesting part of my duties.

During the past four years, I attended the Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings; the LWML conventions in Milwaukee and Omaha; and local group and zone meetings and activities. I also served on the Financial Review and Procedures Task Force. I have met many people and developed friendships that will continue in the future. Whatever God's plans are for me in service to Him, I am grateful to be able to work as a Lutheran woman in mission.

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding (Proverbs 3:5).

PARLIAMENTARIAN

DEBRA HECKMANN

During the past biennium, I have been blessed to serve the LWML Texas District as Parliamentarian. This role has significantly expanded my understanding of parliamentary law, and I am sincerely grateful for the opportunity to develop and strengthen my skills in this area in order to offer help to others. I extend my heartfelt thanks to the officers and members of this group for their love, patience, and support.



Highlights of my activities include:

- Corresponded with LWML Parliamentarian Barbara Volk.
- Answered questions regarding parliamentary procedure.
- Attended Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings.
- Attended the LWML Convention in Omaha.
- Prepared for delegate voting at convention.

My soul finds rest in God alone; my salvation comes from him. He alone is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will never be shaken (Psalm 62:1-2 NIV 1984).

Try the LWML App to enhance your LWML experience on the go! You'll always be only a tap away from Mustard Seed devotions, mission grant updates, podcasts, and more! Get more information at lwml.org by searching for LWML App or LWML on the Go.

Reports of Officers and Committees

SENIOR PASTORAL COUNSELOR

REV. DUSTIN BECK

I am so thankful for the time that I have been given to serve as a District Pastoral Counselor! It has been a wonderful experience and has given me so many opportunities to see how God is at work through Lutheran Women in Mission! The last four years have provided countless occasions for me to lift up the ladies of the LWML in positions of leadership throughout the district. The sisterhood you share in Christ is a tremendous gift that cannot be overlooked.

The day to day “work” of a District Pastoral Counselor consists of readiness to provide “DR.” Doctrinal Review is a blessing (I’m not joking!). It is exceedingly rare that anything even remotely problematic, from a doctrinal standpoint, comes through DR. What a testament to faithful catechesis and Bible study in your congregations! The real joy of DR comes in the conversations that frequently accompany it; there have been so many times when an article, devotion, or Bible study is good, right, and salutary—but a minor tweak or two can help to point even more clearly toward Christ and His great love for the world! Ladies, please don’t hesitate to talk with your pastor about such things. It will very likely make his day!

I serve in an advisory capacity on a number of committees at the district level and have been available for President Krueger to discuss district matters as they arise. I have attended EC and BOD meetings where I provide Bible studies, devotions, prayers, and make every attempt to provide useful counsel when appropriate. Additionally, I have continued leading singing on guitar. Pastor Bailes has been a blessing; he brings faithful experience, a wealth of knowledge, and a heart for Christ’s mission into everything he does. We’ve been working on our Bible studies and preparing worship services for this summer’s convention. I continue to pray fervently that each of you will be blessed by your time here in Austin and that this celebration of the goodness of God will continue to inspire us to serve the Lord with gladness! To God alone be the Glory!



JUNIOR PASTORAL COUNSELOR

REV. DAVID BAILES

What a joy it has been for me to serve as the Junior Pastoral Counselor for the LWML Texas District these past two years! Although I had already served as a Zone Pastoral Counselor for 13 years, I really had no idea of the true breadth and depth of the LWML before entering this position. My experience these past two years at the district level has confirmed what I already knew locally—you all are the backbone of many of our congregations. What a blessing the LWML is!

I have given the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors a detailed, bullet-point report of activities over these last two years. Here, however, I would like to share some of the highlights. I was totally impressed with how organized and productive my first real LWML Executive Committee meetings were. We had long days, which I have dubbed LWML boot camp, but I left there with a good sense of what went on behind the scenes, what each leader’s responsibilities were, and how I fit into it all. As a bonus, I had the chance to get to know a great group of leaders who work hard, laugh together, and care for one another. Zoom meetings, lots of e-mails, and phone calls reinforced the commitment to working together for the mission of LWML Texas District.

Although I attended the 1998 LWML Texas District Convention in Corpus Christi and the 2002 LWML Mid-South District Convention in Paducah, Kentucky, those were distant memories when I arrived in Corpus Christi as a candidate for this office in June of 2024. I was both surprised and humbled to be elected by those gathered. Still with fresh memories of our district convention, I prepared to attend the LWML Convention in Omaha, Nebraska, last summer. What an uplifting time together, *Growing in God’s Grace* (2 Peter 3:18)! One of my favorite experiences there was sitting down at a random table and getting to know LWML ladies from dozens of different states. And now, here I am again, among the most committed people I know, who are ready to serve, to give, to grow, to learn, and to *Celebrate the Goodness of God* (Romans 12:12). I thank you all for



Reports of Officers and Committees

JUNIOR PASTORAL COUNSELOR (CONT.)

the opportunity to be a part of this wonderful organization, to work with an inspiring President, productive Executive Committee, and dedicated Senior Pastoral Counselor. I look forward to the next two years with you...

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go (Joshua 1:9).

Be still and know that I am God (Psalm 46:10a).

ARCHIVIST-HISTORIAN

It has been a blessing to serve as Archivist-Historian, helping to preserve LWML Texas District's legacy for the future.

Throughout my first years in this role, I have gained knowledge about the archival process; shared it with groups and zones wishing to keep their files current; kept the district archives up to date; responded to groups' and zones' requests for archival information; and worked on researching and developing an exhibit on the Young Woman Representatives and Girls Embracing Mission Service programs for the district convention.

I am excited to continue helping to preserve LWML Texas District's past for the future, and I pray that God will bless the good work this organization does to make such a difference for so many.

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen (Ephesians 3:20-21 NIV).

LAURA FISHER



CONVENTION COORDINATOR 2022–2026

Thank you for allowing me to serve the district as Convention Coordinator. My mentors who came before me continually gave me encouragement and words of wisdom. I pray I do the same for Kelli Alsup as she takes on this appointed position for the district. She has been on all the emails and Host Committee Zoom meetings with me the past year hearing all the questions and learning how to solve problems that come up. I so appreciate that Kelli accepted this worthwhile duty for the district.

My duties during the past two years of service included attending Host Committee meetings (in person and via Zoom); fielding inquiries of the committee members; working closely with Host Committee Chairman Laurie Bellard; securing audiovisual bids, which led into obtaining a contract; and dealing with hotel personnel in preparation for this district convention. Also, upon invitation, I attended district Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings and participated with President Sally Krueger and Kelli Alsup in site visits for the 2028 district convention in the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex.

I hope you enjoy the convention as we celebrate the goodness of God in our daily lives!

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do (Ephesians 2:10 NIV).

MICHELE TATE



The LWML Texas District Leader's Manual contains resources for leaders at the zone and district level. It can be found on the website lwmltxdist.org under the resource tab. Other leadership tools can be found on the website lwml.org under the service tab.

Reports of Officers and Committees

CONVENTION COORDINATOR 2026–2030

KELLI ALSUP

I am honored to serve the district as Convention Coordinator. Over the past several months, I have trained under the guidance of Michele Tate.

My responsibilities have included participating in Host Committee meetings, both in person and via Zoom, as well as attending an Executive Committee meeting. I have collaborated with exhibitors to invite, plan, and facilitate their participation in this year's convention. Additionally, I have conducted evaluations and site visits of hotels throughout the DFW area and have begun exploring potential new technologies for the 2028 convention.

One of our most significant challenges in convention planning continues to be managing registration and meal costs. Since COVID-19, hotel pricing has increased substantially, making it increasingly difficult to maintain affordability. We recognize the financial commitment required to attend a convention and remain committed to minimizing expenses and negotiating the best possible rates on behalf of our members.

I look forward to supporting the successful coordination of the 2028 and 2030 conventions and to collaborating with future Host Committees to deliver outstanding events for our district.

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose (Romans 8:28).



SECRETARY TO THE PRESIDENT

JANET HURTA

It has been a blessing and privilege to serve this district once again, establishing new friendships and renewing cherished relationships.

My duties to the President included proofing texts; assembling and sending documents for the President to the Executive Committee and Board of Directors; and monitoring receipt of meeting notifications and report packets for meetings.

I also helped the President in other ways as requested with tasks besides information sharing, such as making meeting arrangements, and assisting her with documentation details, reminders, correspondence, and other hospitality details.

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ (1 Corinthians 12:12).



MISSION SERVICE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

KIM COBB

Gospel Outreach Department

I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve as Mission Service Committee Chairman and to help guide our mission work in ways that bring people together and make a meaningful impact.

We want to thank Mary Afsharirad for her years of dedicated leadership in Lutheran World Relief coordination and our mission service efforts.

I look forward to working with our committee and district members, supporting local and global projects, and finding ways to reach people with compassion and purpose. Our first committee project was organizing a mission service activity for the Board of Directors meeting. We're excited to build on this momentum.

Be still and know that I am God (Psalm 46:10a).

Mission Service Committee members
left to right: Cyndi Knoblock & Patricia Willoughby



Reports of Officers and Committees

PRESIDENT'S ADVOCATE TO HEART TO HEART SISTERS

Organizational Resources Department

MARTHA VAN BURSKIRK



The Heart to Heart Sisters outreach began with an update of the directory and personal contact with every woman on the list through email, phone, or Zoom. Because the previous directory had not been updated in some time, information was outdated, resulting in a mix of good conversations, changed email addresses, and non-responses. Many of the women shared thoughtful insights about what has worked well in their ministries and expressed interest in participating or supporting the effort, even if they are unable to take on leadership roles at this time.

The outreach reaffirmed the cultural diversity of the Texas District and the importance of Heart to Heart Sisters in strengthening LWML's future. Challenges include honoring those who have served before while inviting new voices; navigating the district's size and geographic spread; and recognizing that multiethnic leaders may already be deeply engaged in mission work in their own congregations.

Moving forward, the most promising ideas include organizing the district into regional areas to make outreach efforts more manageable; using district events as opportunities to connect and celebrate diverse and ongoing ministries; and continuing to encourage cross-cultural friendships and multiethnic relationship-building within individual LWML groups and zones. Throughout the process, prayerful discernment remains central as we seek God's guidance for the growth and strengthening of this ministry.

STRUCTURE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

DEBRA HECKMANN

Organizational Resources Department

It has been an honor to serve as Structure Committee Chairman for the LWML Texas District this past biennium. Working through our district bylaws has deepened my understanding of our organization, and it has been a privilege to assist groups and zones with their own bylaws.

I am deeply grateful for those who have supported me in this office, including Vice President of Organizational Resources Terri Wenzel and my committee members, Wendy Hart and Mikayla Heckmann, who have devoted countless hours to reviewing the many bylaws submitted throughout this biennium.

Working alongside the Executive Committee, the Board of Directors, and the LWML Structure Committee has been a truly rewarding experience, and I am grateful for the opportunity to serve with such dedicated leaders.

My soul finds rest in God alone; my salvation comes from him. He alone is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will never be shaken (Psalm 62:1-2 NIV 1984).



Structure Committee

left to right:
Mikayla Heckmann;
Debra Heckmann, Chairman;
Wendy Hart



Reports of Officers and Committees

COMMITTEE ON YOUNG WOMEN CHAIRMAN

CHRISTINE SPOFFORD

Organizational Resources Department

I was contacted by President Sally Krueger about the opportunity to serve as Chairman of the Committee on YW in 2024. After prayerful consideration and conversations with Amanda Hankemeier, I accepted the position with a sincere desire to support and encourage young women in mission.



Since that time, I have worked closely with President Sally Krueger and committee members Amanda Nelson, Laura Fisher, and Chrissie Gilbert, focusing on building a supportive team and strengthening opportunities for young women to grow in faith and service. My work has included communicating with potential Young Woman Representative nominees; organizing committee information; reviewing and updating forms and job descriptions; contributing to the LWML Texas District Leader's Manual; and sharing updates through articles and social media. I have also prepared devotion materials, participated in leadership retreats, attended the LWML Convention, and collaborated with district leaders on reports, planning, and resources.

Throughout these responsibilities, my goal has been to prayerfully guide the work of the committee so that young women are welcomed, encouraged, and equipped to participate in mission, leadership, and service within LWML and the church.



Committee on Young Women members
left to right: Amanda Nelson; Laura Fisher; Chrissy Gilbert

Committee on Young Women Mission Statement

The Committee on Young Women's mission is to educate and inspire young women to strengthen their relationship with their Savior Jesus Christ. It is our hope to establish a positive, joyful, and insightful convention experience for the Zone Young Woman Representatives (ZYWR), so they feel equipped to encourage and recruit other young women from their zone to join LWML.



Reports of Officers and Committees

DISTRICT YOUNG WOMAN REPRESENTATIVE

MIKAYLA HECKMANN

What a joy it has been serving as one of the Texas District Young Woman Representatives this biennium. I had the privilege of attending the LWML Convention in Omaha, Nebraska, last summer as a YWR where I was able to engage in God's Word through Bible studies and devotions; witness the incredible impact of our mite offerings both here and around the world solely through the work of the Holy Spirit; reconnect with longtime friends; and form new relationships with women young and old. Since the convention, I have stayed busy in the work of LWML through YWR Zoom Bible studies, speaking at the Central Texas Zone fall rally, and attending the LWML Texas District Retreat at St. Paul, Waco. As part of the district Committee on Young Women, I have had the opportunity to regularly meet online to pray and plan for the next group of young women at this convention.



As a busy, young professional not serving as a full-time church worker, I pray that through my role as District YWR, I can encourage more young women, like me, to become involved in this organization and serve the Lord with gladness even when they feel their schedules are too busy, they are not qualified, or whatever doubt the devil tries to instill in them. The LWML is an organization for all women and it equips each of us to recognize the gifts God has blessed us with and allows us to serve others through the love of Christ.

DISTRICT YOUNG WOMAN REPRESENTATIVE

AMY PEREZ

To the Ladies of the LWML Texas District:

It has been a true honor to serve as one of your Texas District Young Woman Representatives for the 2024–2026 biennium.

During this biennium, I had the privilege of speaking at both the Bluebonnet and Post Oak Zone rallies. In my presentations, I shared my experience attending the LWML Convention last summer and offered ideas for encouraging greater involvement among young women in LWML.

The highlight of my time as a district YWR was attending the LWML Convention in Omaha. Being surrounded by thousands of mission-minded women was an unforgettable experience. One of the most powerful moments for me was standing together to sing the Doxology. Hearing more than 3,000 voices raised in praise gave me chills and served as a beautiful reminder of our unity in Christ.

I also greatly enjoyed participating in the Mission Walk. We had the unique opportunity to walk in two states (Nebraska and Iowa), which served as a meaningful reminder that God's mission extends everywhere. The fellowship we shared during that time was both joyful and inspiring.

Throughout this journey, I have been blessed to connect with other LCMS young women who share a heart for service. I truly believe we are part of the future of this wonderful organization, and I am both honored and humbled to have been called to serve.

Thank you for the opportunity to represent you. This has been an amazing, faith-strengthening experience that I will always treasure.



Young Women
IN MISSION

Reports of Officers and Committees

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

TIFFANY HARMON

This biennium, the Endowment Committee has continued working to further expand awareness of and promote gifting to our three endowments. Each of our endowments speaks to the overall mission and purpose of our district: the Scholarship Endowment is our only source of funding for scholarships awarded to young women preparing for church work; our Mission Inreach Endowment in most recent years has been used to train LWML Texas District leaders through partial funding of the Zone Presidents Orientation; and our Mission Goal Endowment provides additional funding for our Mission Goal, which has been used to increase support for mission grants.

Trusting God and relying on His plan for our endowments, our committee has prayerfully considered and created additional resources for you this biennium. On our resource page on the LWML Texas District website, you will find zone rally flyers and advertisement graphics for newsletters. On our district's social media pages, you will find information pertaining to planned giving and our endowments. In *The Lone Star Connection* e-newsletter, we feature gifting stories from LWML Texas District members who have chosen to support the work of our district through forever gifts to the endowment(s) of their choice.

Lastly, it has been an honor to join groups and zones at their meetings and rallies to share a Bible study and presentation not only about our endowments but also on how our legacy and God's epic redemption story are intertwined. A special thank you to New Horizon Zone; Bayou City Zone; White Oak Zone; Potter's Vessel group at Our Savior Lutheran, Houston; and the Day Lilies group at Epiphany Lutheran, Houston, for your invitations to speak. It was a blessing to be with you. Additionally, thank you to our Christian Life Committee, who allowed us to share treat bags to promote the endowments at the district retreat in October.

Please stop by our committee exhibit table for a chat! We would love to hear your LWML legacy stories and answer questions about the impact Forever Gifts and Endowments provide for our mission work together!

We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done (Psalm 78:4).



Endowment Committee

left to right: Tiffany Harmon, Chairman; Mary Ann Samuelson; Diann Higgins; Rev. Dustin Beck
not pictured: President Sally Krueger, Committee Advisor



Endowments
Gifting Today To Bless Tomorrow

Reports of Officers and Committees

SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND

MICHELLE HECKMANN

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Standing Committee

What an honor it has been to serve on the Scholarship Committee for the past five years, most recently in the role of chairman. As a former LWML Texas District scholarship recipient who now has the privilege of **proclaiming Christ** in my classroom each and every day, it has been a joy to **equip women** and **support missions** by awarding financial blessings to young ladies in the same way I was once blessed. **Serving others** alongside the amazing LWML ladies and pastors who give their time and engaging with the scholarship applicants has been an uplifting experience.



Throughout the 2024–2026 biennium, devoting my time and resources, I have:

- Received scholarship packets via email and mail from applicants and reviewed for completeness.
- Scanned and emailed complete scholarship applicant packets to committee members.
- Contacted Legacy Deo regarding the amount available for scholarships.
- Conducted Scholarship Committee Zoom meetings to choose recipients and review/update the committee timeline and job description.
- Emailed letters to scholarship recipients, their pastors, and their LWML groups, and to those that didn't receive a scholarship.
- Emailed Legacy Deo and the Financial Aid Offices of Concordia Universities a list of the scholarship recipients.
- Notified Texas District LCMS Presidents Newman and Braunersreuther of the scholarship recipients.
- Updated scholarship application packets, committee timeline, and committee job description and emailed them to the district Recording Secretary and Vice President of Communication.
- Updated the LWML Scholarship Recipient spreadsheet.
- Emailed registrar's offices of Concordia Universities to verify enrollment and degree plans of scholarship recipients for the fall and spring semesters.
- Emailed Legacy Deo to confirm enrollment and degree plans.
- Received and reviewed statements from Legacy Deo.
- Corresponded with committee members and scholarship applicants.
- Submitted articles for *District News* and *The Lone Star Connection*.
- Compiled a list of how the 85 individuals who have been awarded an LWML scholarship since 1992 are currently serving as called church workers or in other areas of ministry.

As members of the LWML Texas District, please continue to lift up our scholarship recipients in prayer as they prepare for the full-time church work to which God has called them.

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope (Jeremiah 29:11).

Scholarship Committee members

left to right: Judy Kunkel & Kristine Wendorf



Reports of Officers and Committees

NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

ROBYN TARNOWSKI

The Nominating Committee prayerfully reviewed 38 nominations submitted from local groups and zones. A summary of activities of the committee include:



- Prepared and updated all forms and letters for the 2026 election.
- Sent information to Vice President of Communication to publicize the need for nominations.
- Received pastoral counselor nominations at the Board of Directors meeting in February 2025.
- Obtained approval from Texas District LCMS President Rev. Dr. Jon Braunersreuther for pastoral counselor nominees.
- Sent consent to serve forms to six nominees for pastoral counselor.
- Sent pastoral counselor information forms to the nominees who consented to serve.
- Sent consent to serve, personnel resource, and character reference forms to all nominees.
- Sent all nominees who consented to serve a thank you email and followed up on any incomplete information.
- Thanked all nominees who declined the nomination by email and encouraged them to consider serving in the future.
- Met with the Nominating Committee on March 14, 2026, on Zoom to determine the slate of candidates.
- Notified all candidates and requested a vision statement and picture.
- Prepared the slate of candidates for the Board of Directors.
- Prepared bios of candidates for the website and convention manual.
- Submitted information for *District News* and the district's newsletter.
- Prepared reports for EC and BOD meetings as requested.
- Prepared for the 2026 convention.
- Prayed for wisdom to discern God's will, and for willing and competent candidates.

Please keep those elected in your prayers and pray that other doors will be opened to those not selected at this time. Encourage every member of your LWML to consider serving in leadership at any level; there is an opportunity for every God-given talent to serve.

Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart (Psalm 37:4).

Thank you to Laura Wilson, Amy Velasquez, and Pastor Beck for their commitment, time, and prayers in serving on this Nominating Committee.



Nominating Committee members

left to right: Amy Velasquez & Laura Wilson
Not pictured: Rev. Dustin Beck

The nominating committee needs you to submit suggestions of nominees for the election each biennium. The submission deadline is November 1 of odd years, before the biennium convention.

Completed Mission Grants

2024 Corpus Christi Convention — Goal \$272,314

(Included a mission abundance of \$47,314 from 2020–2024 bienniums)

Scholarships for Seminarians — Texas District LCMS	\$60,000
New Life Children's Center Spiritual Care Program, Canyon Lake	\$20,000
Disaster Response Team, Trinity Lutheran Church, Tyler	\$15,000
Orphan Grain Train Shipping Supplies, Houston	\$15,000
Proclaiming Christ to People Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired (LBW)	\$20,000
Let It Shine Academy, Bethany, Austin, Lutheran Special Education Ministries	\$10,000
Adventure Woods Day Camp Outreach, Camp Lone Star, Tomball	\$20,000
Shepherd's Canyon Retreat Ministry Scholarships	\$15,000
Hereford Hispanic Outreach, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Hereford	\$25,000
Offering Women Hope: Blue Blossom Pregnancy Centers and Maternal Assistance Program, Houston	\$ 8,000
Disciple and Mobilize Youth for Gospel Outreach, Glocal Mission, Houston	\$12,000
Little Lambs Parents' Day Out Ministry Playground Equipment, Sulphur Springs	\$10,000
Christian Education Scholarships K-12, Central Texas	\$25,000
Ysleta Lutheran Mission Human Care Warehouse Repairs, El Paso	\$17,314

2022 Houston — Goal \$215,129

(Included a mission abundance of \$14,527 and Mission Goal Endowment distribution of \$602 from 2020–2022 biennium)

Scholarships for Seminarians — Texas District LCMS	\$50,000
Offering Women Hope: Blue Blossom Pregnancy Centers — Houston	\$10,000
ACTS of Love Early Childhood Education Center — Leander	\$25,000
Orphan Grain Train — Houston	\$25,000
Let Your Light Shine, Bethany, Austin — Lutheran Special Education Ministries	\$10,000
Homeless to Housed, LINC Austin Outreach — Austin	\$10,000
The Garden Young Adult Ministry — North Texas	\$10,000
Gospel Driven Education — Faith Lutheran High School, Warda	\$20,000
Bible Brigade — Lutheran Disaster Care	\$16,000
The Table of Los Fresnos Mission Outreach — Los Fresnos	\$25,000
Each Child Complete in Christ — Faith Lutheran School, Plano	\$14,129

2020 Virtual Convention — Goal \$210,327

(Included a mission abundance of \$10,327 from 2018–2020 biennium)

Scholarships for Seminarians — Texas District LCMS	\$40,000
Mercy Meals — Orphan Grain Train	\$ 5,000
Director of Christian Education (DCE) Scholarships — Concordia University Texas	\$24,000
Blessings and Bibles — Lutheran Disaster Care	\$15,000
Lutheran Student Center — Lubbock	\$20,000
Urban Base Camp Outreach — Camp Lone Star	\$15,000
Creating a Network of Hope — Driving Hope of Texas	\$20,000
Let the Little Children Come — St. Paul, Dallas	\$20,000
E-Kids After School Program — Expansion Ministries, Inc.	\$20,000
Laundry Love — St. Paul, San Antonio	\$12,000
Reaching Immigrants and Refugees — Multi-Ethnic Ministry of North Texas	\$10,084
Translating LWML Bible Studies — WORDrus	\$ 9,243

Report of the Financial Secretary

Lutheran Women's Missionary League Texas District STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND TRANSFERS TO TREASURER For the 24-month period of April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2026

Balance on Hand — April 1, 2024

First National Bank of Giddings

\$500.00

Receipts:

Mite Offerings

Groups & Individual Members	347,480.59
Supporting Groups	11,321.45
Zones	6,335.58
Other Sources	32,580.09
Credit Card Processing Fees	(132.02)

Total — Mite Offerings \$ 397,585.69

Directed Giving - LWML (National)

\$ 134.85

Directed Giving - LWML Texas District

Mites	5,349.86
Memorials & Honorariums	9,409.58
Zones	103.25
Thrivent Choice	8,166.00
Credit Card Processing Fees	(19.99)

Total — Directed Giving \$ 23,008.70

Reimbursed Expenses & Repayments

District News & Other	3,582.00
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Total — Reimbursements \$ 3,582.00

Total — Mite Offerings **\$ 424,311.24**

Designated Funds

2024 Convention Funds	83,461.38
LWML Quarterly Subscriptions	25,589.07
Travel Fund	34,177.94
LWML District Retreat	5,414.89
Endowment Fund Distribution — Mission Goal	1,843.67
Endowment Fund Distribution — Mission Inreach	5,649.85
Endowment Fund Distribution — Ted & Mina Fitting	2,751.05
Credit Card Processing Fees	(107.06)

Total — Designated Funds \$ 158,780.79

Pass-Thru Funds

LWML Quarterly - Large Print	110.50
Scholarship Endowment Fund	6,742.83
Mission Inreach Endowment Fund	2,847.67
Mission Goal Endowment Fund	4,925.67
Other Pass-Thru	250.01
Processing Fees	(3.52)

Total — Pass-Thru Funds \$ 14,873.16

Total — Other Receipts **\$ 173,653.95**

Total Receipts

\$ 597,965.19

Disbursements:

Transfers to Treasurer

\$ 597,965.19

Balance on Hand — March 31, 2026

First National Bank of Giddings
Broadway Bank
Austin TelCo FCU — Convention
LCEF Joyful Response

\$ —
\$795.00
\$505.00
\$535.00

/s/Alissa Elley
Alissa Elley
Financial Secretary

Report of the Treasurer

Lutheran Women's Missionary League Texas District STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS For the 24-month period of April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2026

Cash Balance — April 1, 2024	\$ 131,149.98
Transfers from Financial Secretary	\$ 597,965.19
Income Received — Interest Earned on Accounts	\$ 936.28
Total	\$ 730,051.45

Disbursements:

LWML (national)

Mites (25% of donations received)	\$ 99,477.26
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District Expenses

District Mission Grant	272,314.00
Leadership Development — BOD	45,388.19
District Operations	6,502.51
Leadership Team	1,620.91
Christian Life Department	1,120.83
Communication Department	14,571.17
Gospel Outreach Department	2,597.36
Mission Service Committee	—
Organizational Resources Department	202.36
Endowment Committee	877.75
Archivist-Historian	347.22
Heart to Heart Leader	668.30
Nominating Committee	—
Scholarship Endowment Committee	262.17
Structure Committee	—
Committee on Young Women	1,675.45
Processing Fees — Mites	(152.01)

Total District Expenses \$347,996.21

<i>Designated Funds Activity*</i>	69,554.09
<i>2024 Corpus Christi Convention</i>	97,416.27
<i>2026 Austin Convention — Prepaid Expenses</i>	660.75
<i>2027 LWML Convention — Seed Money**</i>	5,000.00
<i>Pass-Thru Accounts</i>	14,876.67

Total Disbursements	\$ (634,981.25)
Cash Balance — March 31, 2026	\$ 95,070.20

Balance in Designated Funds

LWML Quarterly	12,807.75
Christian Life Retreat	2,376.66
Texas District Convention Overage	10,865.11
Mission Inreach Endowment Annual Distribution	3,032.94
Ted & Mina Fitting Endowment Annual Distribution	2,047.55
Mission Goal Endowment Annual Distribution	1,843.67

Total in Designated Funds \$ 32,973.68

CEF Savings 1YR Note — Travel Fund and Interest	3,690.81
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Net Asset \$ 3,690.81

Total Available Cash — March 31, 2026	\$ 58,405.71
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/s/Sandi Paniello

Sandi Paniello
Treasurer

This report includes District checking and savings account balances.

*Includes LWML Quarterly, Christian Life Retreat, Convention Fund, Endowment Annual Distributions, and Travel Fund.

**2027 LWML Convention seed money was distributed from the travel fund balance. Approved by the BOD on February 21, 2026.

In-Kind Donations for the 2024-2026 biennium totaled \$11,129.66.

Mites — Report of the Membership

MITE OFFERINGS — LWML TEXAS DISTRICT FROM APRIL 1, 2024 TO MARCH 31, 2026

		# of members	MITES	CTS/MBR PER DAY
BAYOU CITY ZONE				
Houston	Holy Cross Ladies Aid	5	150.50	0.04
	Memorial Lutheran Women in Mission	15	2,000.00	0.18
	Pilgrim Women of Worth	10	1,672.81	0.23
	St. Matthew Mary and Martha Circle	15		
	Trinity Ladies Circle	30	4,319.75	0.20
Sugar Land	Fishers of Men – Lady Fishers	32	6,845.50	0.29
	ZONE TOTAL	107	\$14,988.56	0.19
BLUEBONNET ZONE				
Anderson	Zion LWML	7	731.09	0.14
	Bethlehem LWML	15	1,020.77	0.09
	Grace Afternoon LWML	26	1,359.41	0.07
	Grace Evening LWML	25	3,637.12	0.20
Brenham/Wm Penn	Bethel LWML	26	6,015.24	0.32
	Salem Ladies Circle	8	664.65	0.11
	Trinity Ladies Aid	22	1,791.70	0.11
	ZONE TOTAL	129	\$15,219.98	0.16
CAPITOL ZONE				
Austin	Bethany Women in Mission	35	1,862.70	0.07
	Hope LWML	6	494.93	0.11
	Our Savior Women's Guild	15	1,810.81	0.17
	Redeemer Dorcas LWML	23	5,038.79	0.30
	Redeemer LWML Women in Mission	50	5,606.87	0.15
	St. Paul Dorcas LWML	18	4,898.04	0.37
	St. Paul LWML	11	3,045.98	0.38
	Genesis LWML*		807.00	
Buchanan Dam	Good Shepherd Hands Of Faith	9	5,905.85	0.90
	Good Shepherd – LWML	11	1,740.06	0.22
	Faith Helping Hands	31	1,508.29	0.07
Georgetown	Faith Joy Misson Circle	19	2,816.73	0.20
	Christ Our Savior LWML	15	1,487.81	0.14
	Mission Liberty Hill Joy LWML	11	443.42	0.06
Lago Vista	Hope LWML*		243.07	
	King of Kings Women in Mission	5		
	Grace LWML	15	697.97	0.06
Liberty Hill	Trinity LWML Women in Mission	6	1,017.30	0.23
	St. Paul LWML	19	1,498.17	0.11
	Zion Faith Circle	10	1,868.83	0.26
Marble Falls	Zion LWML Evening Circle	19	3,050.23	0.22
	ZONE TOTAL	328	\$42,792.62	0.18
CENTRAL TEXAS ZONE				
Clifton	Immanuel Women's Guild	17	2,468.73	0.20
	Peace LWML	8	2,106.33	0.36
Hewitt/ Waco	Christ Esther Guild	10	1,829.59	0.25
	Grace LWML	5	1,416.00	0.39
Hillsboro	Trinity LWML	8	1,364.19	0.23
	St. Mark LWML	13	1,516.68	0.16
Marlin	St. Paul LWML	15	5,667.62	0.52
	Our Savior LWML	10	2,446.74	0.34
Riesel	Trinity LWML (Badger Ranch)	20	6,126.53	0.42
	ZONE TOTAL	106	\$24,942.41	0.32

Mites — Report of the Membership

		# of members	MITES	CTS/MBR PER DAY
COASTAL BEND ZONE				
Bishop	St. Paul Willing Hearts	12	1,551.87	0.18
Corpus Christi	Women of Messiah	8	2,567.99	0.44
	Mt. Olive LWML	11	167.57	0.02
Kingsville	St. Paul Joy Guild	8	1,214.99	0.21
	St. Paul Women's Guild	12	3,186.03	0.36
Odem	Trinity LWML	6	550.00	0.13
Rockport	Peace LWML	1	3,050.00	4.18
	ZONE TOTAL	58	\$12,288.45	0.29
DAL –NORTH ZONE				
Carrollton	Prince of Peace LWML	21	4,117.64	0.27
Denison	Grace LWML (Grace Gals)	10	80.26	0.01
Denton	St. Paul – Women in St. Paul	15	1,182.89	0.11
Flower Mound	Lamb of God LWML	20	1,879.02	0.13
McKinney	Our Savior LWML (Servants of Our Savior)	20	2,885.47	0.20
Plano	Faith – Women of Faith	40	1,472.42	0.05
	Lord of Life – LWM	6	700.62	0.16
	Messiah LWML	20	566.88	0.04
Wylie	Faith Women of Wylie	8	1,017.70	0.17
	ZONE TOTAL	160	\$13,902.90	0.12
EAST TEXAS ZONE				
Athens	St. John Mary Martha	18	1,369.90	0.10
Centerville	Our Savior LWML	11	1,930.80	0.24
Gun Barrel	St. Peter LWML*		1,325.00	
Kilgore	Pilgrim Mary Martha*		223.29	
Longview	Our Redeemer LWML	6	563.93	0.13
Nacogdoches	Redeemer Pineywoods LWML	10	249.00	0.03
Palestine	Bethlehem Willing Workers	8	1,764.90	0.30
	ZONE TOTAL	53	\$ 7,426.82	0.19
GOLDEN HARVEST ZONE				
Cypress	St. John Dorcas Guild	14	2,214.00	0.22
	St. John Sisters in Service	19	1,452.61	0.10
	St. John Women in Mission	5	592.00	0.16
Houston	Epiphany LWML Daylilies	18	1,171.03	0.09
	Family of Faith LWML	8	1,650.00	0.28
Katy	Memorial Women in Mission	10	1,515.20	0.21
Spring/ Klien	Trinity Ladies Aid	11	2,337.02	0.29
	Trinity Lydia Guild	10	1,632.01	0.22
Spring	Resurrection LWML	10	1,599.51	0.22
The Woodlands	Living Word Women of the Word	20	3,200.63	0.22
Tomball	Salem Women in Mission	17	2,691.31	0.22
Waller	Cross of Christ LWML	16	6,048.20	0.52
	ZONE TOTAL	158	\$26,103.52	0.23
GOLDEN TRIANGLE ZONE				
Beaumont	St. John Ladies Aid	10	2,293.18	0.31
Groves	Servants of Peace	10	431.69	0.06
Nederland	Holy Cross LWML	6	1,314.00	0.30
Winnie	Hope Circle	6	1,027.26	0.23
	ZONE TOTAL	32	\$5,066.13	0.22

Mites — Report of the Membership

		# of members	MITES	CTS/MBR PER DAY
GULF COAST ZONE				
Crosby (Huffman)	Our Shepherd LWML	12	730.18	0.08
Friendswood	Hope Ladies Guild	25	3,989.57	0.22
Nassau Bay	Gloria Dei Lutheran Church*		1,132.50	
Pasadena	Zion Eunice Ladies Guild	12	1,353.62	0.15
	Zion Ladies Guild	11	466.30	0.06
Pearland	Women of Epiphany	10	1,194.05	0.16
Texas City	Ladies of Peace	12	1,269.46	0.14
	ZONE TOTAL	82	\$10,135.68	0.17
HEART OF TEXAS ZONE				
Abilene	Our Savior Joyful Angels	13	1,157.73	0.12
	Zion Hope Circle	15	189.26	0.02
Brownwood	Grace LWML Evening Guild	10	898.15	0.12
San Angelo	Trinity LWML	7	542.03	0.11
	ZONE TOTAL	45	\$ 2,787.17	0.08
MID COAST ZONE				
Edna	St. Paul LWML	6	258.06	0.06
Pattison	Christ Lutheran LWML	10	1,188.50	0.16
Sealy	Trinity Women in Mission	7	1,293.11	0.25
Victoria	Grace Ladies Guild	6	698.64	0.16
Victoria/ Mission Valley	Zion Women in Mission	36	2,638.29	0.10
Wallis	St. Paul LWML	8	516.91	0.09
Wharton	St. John Ergonian Society	10	397.00	0.05
	St. John Ladies Aid	5	150.00	0.04
	ZONE TOTAL	88	\$ 7,140.51	0.11
NEW HORIZON ZONE				
Cleveland	Good Shepherd LWML	10	881.29	0.12
Conroe	St. Mark Lydia Guild	16	1,670.34	0.14
Houston	Joy Summerwood – Women in Mission	11	221.49	0.03
Humble	Lam of God Christian Women*		450.00	
Montgomery	Living Savior Mary/Martha Guild	16	4,102.73	0.35
	ZONE TOTAL	53	\$ 7,325.85	0.19
NORTH ALAMO ZONE				
Fredericksburg	Resurrection Mary Martha Guild	10	1,114.00	0.15
New Braunfels	Cross Dorcas Guild	34	3,180.18	0.13
San Antonio	Concordia Lutheran Women in Mission	40	3,845.17	0.13
	King of Kings LWML	35	6,599.31	0.26
	Mt. Calvary Mary Martha Guild	15	2,109.44	0.19
	Redeemer LWML (Evening Group)	9	2,106.00	0.32
Seguin	Grace Dorcas Guild	7	818.89	0.16
	ZONE TOTAL	150	\$19,772.99	0.18
NORTHEAST TEXAS ZONE				
Mt. Pleasant	Good Shepherd Ruth Circle	10	714.16	0.10
Sulphur Spring	Women Serving Our Savior	10	865.58	0.12
Texarkana	First Ladies Guild	10	465.60	0.06
	ZONE TOTAL	30	\$ 2,045.34	0.09

Mites — Report of the Membership

		# of members	MITES	CTS/MBR PER DAY
PANHANDLE ZONE				
Amarillo	Prince of Peace LWML	8	2,517.58	0.43
	Trinity Mary Martha	38	8,305.62	0.30
Canyon	St. Paul/Women in Mission	6	82.80	0.02
Dalhart	Grace LWML	10	1,020.00	0.14
ZONE TOTAL		62	\$11,926.00	0.26
POST OAK ZONE				
Dime Box	Trinity Ladies Aid	18	1,357.58	0.10
Giddings	Immanuel Dorcas Circle	36	9,848.64	0.37
	Immanuel Friendship Circle	8	1,110.55	0.19
Giddings/ Lincoln	St. John Ladies Aid	25		
La Grange	Mt. Calvary Mary Martha Guild	21	2,030.63	0.13
Lexington	St. James LWML	11	1,612.18	0.20
Lexington/ Fedor	Holy Trinity Fedor Ladies Aid	7	733.00	0.14
Loebau	Christ LWML	7	572.44	0.11
Paige/ Manheim	Ebenezer Ladies Aid (LWML)	11	1,711.30	0.21
Schulenburg	Zion Dorcas Guild	10	610.43	0.08
Serbin	St. Paul LWML	14	1,775.90	0.17
Smithville	Grace LWML	17	1,443.99	0.12
Warda	Holy Cross Ladies Aid	18	4,401.50	0.33
Winchester	St. Michael LWML	18	3,598.34	0.27
ZONE TOTAL		221	\$30,806.48	0.19
RED RIVER ZONE				
Bowie	St. Peter LWML	17	2,671.45	0.22
Graham	Faith Lutheran Ladies	4	177.31	0.06
Vernon	St. Paul LWML Evening Guild	14	900.95	0.09
	Zion LWML (Ladies Aid)	10	953.74	0.13
Wichita Falls	Our Redeemer LWML	27	3,709.54	0.19
	St. Paul Tabitha/JOY LWML	6	1,674.72	0.38
ZONE TOTAL		78	\$10,087.71	0.18
RIO GRANDE VALLEY ZONE				
Harlingen	St. Paul LWML	13	1,201.02	0.13
McAllen	El Buen Pastor Sociedad Femenil	7	255.00	0.05
	St. Paul LWML	9	4,757.59	0.72
Port Isabel	Fishers of Men Anna Society	10	1,990.34	0.27
ZONE TOTAL		39	\$ 8,203.95	0.29
SOUTH TEXAS ZONE				
Lubbock	Women of Hope	6	1,559.81	0.36
	Redeemer LWML	12	173.78	0.02
Lariat	St. John LWML *	7	374.62	0.07
ZONE TOTAL		25	\$ 2,108.21	0.12
SUNSHINE ZONE				
Copperas Cove	Immanuel Ladies Aid	9	777.43	0.12
	Trinity LWML	7	370.96	0.07
Gatesville/ The Grove	St. Paul LWML – Christ's WIM	21	2,110.00	0.14
Hamilton	St. John Ruth Guild	12	8,485.00	0.97
Killeen	Grace Guild	11	1,379.15	0.17
Lampasas	Faith Women's Guild	10	1,263.58	0.17
Temple	Immanuel Faith Circle	30	2,207.60	0.10
ZONE TOTAL		100	\$16,593.72	0.23

Mites — Report of the Membership

		# of members	MITES	CTS/MBR PER DAY
TEXAS STAR ZONE				
Dallas	Bethel LWML Outreach Society	3	434.82	0.20
	Bethel Women's Guild	14	20.58	0.01
	St. Paul LWML	10	108.00	0.01
	Zion LWML Daylighters	10	500.60	0.07
	Zion LWML Moonlighters	8	441.37	0.08
DeSoto	Cross of Christ LWML	6	58.18	0.01
Garland	Tree of Life LWML Outreachers Society	11	1,150.00	0.14
Grand Prairie	Faith LWML	18	1,848.81	0.14
Rockwall	Comunidad Christiana Aroma Mujer	6	1,306.53	0.30
	Our Savior Comforters*		445.85	
	Our Savior LWML	5	3,864.74	1.06
	ZONE TOTAL	91	\$10,179.48	0.15
TRINITY ZONE				
Arlington	Beautiful Savior LWML	3	707.00	0.32
	Holy Cross Women in Christ	10	731.73	0.10
Azle	The Edge Rebecca Society	5	170.89	0.05
Cleburne	Ascension LWML	3	654.98	0.30
Colleyville	Crown of Life LWML	5	267.95	0.07
Fort Worth	St. Paul LWML	10	1,661.97	0.23
Granbury	Our Savior LWML	10	6,391.20	0.88
Hurst	Peace LWML	12	4,731.50	0.54
Mansfield	St. John LWML Twisted Sisters in Christ	9	848.67	0.13
Stephenville	Faith LWML	10	3,480.01	0.48
Weatherford	Trinity LWML	18	1,749.62	0.13
	ZONE TOTAL	95	\$21,395.52	0.31
WEST TEXAS ZONE				
Big Spring	Alive in Christ Rachel Circle LWML	9	1,050.00	0.12
Midland	Grace Parish Workers	10	195.50	0.03
	Holy Cross Women's Guild	5	71.90	0.02
	ZONE TOTAL	24	\$ 1,317.40	0.08
WHITE OAK ZONE				
Houston	Beautiful Savior LWML	10	1,248.40	0.17
	Concordia Women's Club	8	2,838.07	0.49
	Gethsemane Women of the Church	12	1,688.00	0.19
	Our Savior Cheerful Helpers	21	1,588.31	0.10
	St. Andrew LWML Daytimers	9	775.75	0.12
	ZONE TOTAL	60	\$ 8,138.53	0.19

*Groups moved to Supporting

SUMMARY:	# of members	MITES
Zone Totals	2374	332,695.93
Individual Members**	17	3,302.52
District Totals	2391	\$335,998.45

(Note: Membership count is as of 12/31/25)

**Individual Members:

Nioma Aden; Jane Bergquist; Tammy Boehme; Martha Van Buskirk; Norma Carlton; Donis Fitzpatrick; Abby Goehring; Susan Heffner; Roberta Heiner; Janet Hurta; Mary Jane McKay; Joyce Mooney; Cyndy Otto; Doris Pickering; Irma Quade; Joan Rappleyea; Michele Tate

Mites — Remaining Contributions

MITE OFFERINGS — LWML TEXAS DISTRICT FROM APRIL 1, 2024 TO MARCH 31, 2026

SPECIAL OFFERINGS FOR MITES — SUPPORTING GROUPS

Huntsville	Faith Lutheran Women	2,100.00
Nassau Bay	Gloria Dei LC	384.50
Denison	Grace LWML	765.61
College Station	Holy Cross LWML	958.37
Kerrville	Hosanna – Morning Star LWML	3,141.73
Baytown	Redeemer Helping Hands	1,185.50
Nacogdoches	Redeemer LWML & SC	412.39
San Antonio	Shepherd of the Hills LWML	1,644.35
Monahans	St. Paul LWML	200.50
Pasadena	Zion Young at Heart	528.50
TOTAL		\$ 11,321.45

SPECIAL OFFERINGS FOR MITES — ZONES

Bayou City Zone	1,112.06
Capitol Zone	553.07
Dal-North Zone	91.69
East Texas Zone	643.19
Golden Harvest Zone	700.00
Gulf Coast Zone	148.00
Heart of Texas Zone	225.00
New Horizon Zone	100.00
North Alamo Zone	127.00
Northeast Texas Zone	103.14
Panhandle Zone	989.93
Post Oak Zone	23.75
Sunshine Zone	500.00
Trinity Zone	387.75
White Oak Zone	631.00
TOTAL	\$ 6,335.58

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS TO MITES

2024 Convention Offering	6,115.30
2024 Convention Activity	2,477.00
Charity Funds*	654.41
Churches**	7,443.10
Individual donor/Other*	14,451.93
EC/BOD Meetings, Retreats	1,438.35
TOTAL	\$ 32,580.09

*Charity Funds:

The Terri Williams Charitable Fund; PayPal Giving Fund

*Churches:

Faith Lutheran Church, Fort Stockton; Gloria Dei, Nassau Bay; Our Savior, Abilene; Redeemer Lutheran Church, Alpine; Trinity Lutheran Church, Houston; Zion Lutheran Church, Pasadena

*Individual Donor/ Other:

Anonymous Donor; Nioma Aden; Tammy Boehme; Melanie Clark; Tiffany Cowger; Debra Curry; Michael Dobrasko; Dolline Budke; Alissa Elley; Donna Emmons; Katherine Fluegel; Amanda Halbert; Tiffany Harmon; Linda Haseman; Roberta Heiner; Terri Hegwer; Janet Hurta; Edith L. Huffman; Kathy Kabell; Jordan Klein; Cynthia Knobloch; Ruth Knupke; Sally Krueger; Orlia Langen; Faith Leyva; Imelda Loreda; Lisa Martischnig; Reagan Mayville; Mary Jane McKay; Sharon Mills; Pat Olson; Marceil Prestridge; Irma Quade; Joan Rappleyea; Joan Rausch; Jacqueline Rausch; Barbara Robinson; Nancy Saint; Debra Schkade; Diane Schumann; Helen Schnieder; Karol Selle; Lisa Snow; Brianne Stahlecker; Elizabeth Stoerkel; Michele Tate



THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLAR CONTRIBUTORS = \$8,166.00

Karen Avenson	Larissa Cella	Sara Frank	Eunice Hendrickson	John Krpec
William Bennett	Daniel Cowan	Beth Franke	Dorothy Hunger	Marcia Kubitz
Candace Biggs	Jimmie Curry	Vickie Gibson	Janet Hurta	Eloise Kuhlmann
Janet Brunette	Gladys Dean	Peggy Goodnight	William Koch	Bernice Launius
Dolline Budke	Thelma Deterling	Amanda Halbert	Guustaaf Kroos	Anita Long
Rosanne Capdeville	Alissa Elley	Debra Heckmann	Carolyn Krpec	Charles Long

Special Gifts — Mites

MEMORIAL AND HONORARIUM GIFTS FROM APRIL 1, 2024 TO MARCH 31, 2026

HONORARIUMS

DONOR	GIVEN IN HONOR OF	REASON
Terri Wenzel	Hope Ladies Guild Friendswood	
LWML Texas District	2024 Convention Speakers	
Grace Afternoon LWML Society, Brenham	Ruth Duvall	Birthday
Grace Afternoon LWML Society, Brenham	Geraldine Gloyna	Birthday
Judy Kunkel	2024 Convention Headquarters Committee	
Grace Afternoon LWML Society, Brenham	Lorene Ruemke	Birthday
Sally Krueger	Executive Committee — 2024–2026	
Hope Ladies Guild, Friendswood	Margie Adams	
Grace Afternoon LWML Society, Brenham	Ruth Duvall Lorene Ruemke Bernice Gaskamp Geraldine Gloyna Dorine Stolke	
Anonymous	In Honor of Central Texas Zones	
Diann Higgins	Eloise Kuhlmann	
Sally Krueger	Frances Molitor	
Diann Higgins	Grace Palmer	

MEMORIALS

DONOR	GIVEN IN MEMORY OF:	DONOR	GIVEN IN MEMORY OF:
Eunice Hendrickson	David McCombs	Michele Albrecht	Marjorie Swope
Bethel LWML, Bryan	Kathy Bard Millie Parrade Elaine Nelson	St. Paul Women of Joy Guild, Kingsville	Edna Garcia Ann Kirch Bolman Charlotte Toro Nanette Kuhn
Trinity LWML, San Angelo	Margaret Emerson	Family of Gladys Moerbe	Gladys Moerbe
Garry & Nancy Goerdel	Larry Flippin	Trinity LWML, Woodway	Rieta Doty
Dorothy Hall	Vic Michalk	Dot Moerbe	Nancy Behn
Margaret Mills	Rebecca Hobratschk	Prince of Peace LWML, Carrollton	R. Clair J. Lux
Cross Lutheran Dorcas, New Braunfels	Darlene Kelso Patricia Gwyn	Hosanna Morning Star LWML, Kerrville	Rebecca Hobratschk
Trinity LWML, Weatherford	Cyndy Otto	Women of Messiah LWML, Corpus Christi	Charles Strong
Rev. & Mrs. Todd Dittloff	Rebecca Hobratschk	Marie & Kevin Holmann	Carrie Drager Gary Moore
Zion LWML, Anderson	Mildred Schroeder Dennis Harrin	Terri Wenzel	Dr. Mary Ann Waldon
Trinity Mary Martha, Amarillo	Delores Mickey	Grace Afternoon LWML Society, Brenham	Evelyn Nitsch Mary Cone

Special Gifts — Mites & Endowments

DONOR	GIVEN IN MEMORY OF:	DONOR	GIVEN IN MEMORY OF:
South Plains Zone	Gladys Moerbe Martha Schueler	St. Paul Dorcas Circle, Bishop	Arnell Harlan
Joyce Steele	Patricia Gwyn	Trinity LWML, Odem	Ida Hansen
Redeemer LWML, Lubbock	Betty Holder	Gus & Diane Schumann	Cyndy Otto
St. Paul LWML Evening Guild, Vernon	Hazel Burleson Donald Marsh, Sr. Donald Marsh, Jr. Charles Graf Gail Rozzell Agnew Jeanne Gfeller Kenneth Lowe Jeanette Graf	Immanuel Faith Circle, Temple	Ike Kellen Bob Edwards Jerry Driessner Hinze Tannreuther Jerry Scott Randy Schraeder
Holy Cross LWML, Nederland	Susan Simmons Jeannie Ford Mary Helen Terrell	Marcia Kubitz	Jeanette Graf Kathy Schkade Agnes Kubitz Charles Graf Keith Kubitz
Our Savior LWML, Granbury	Judy Miller	St. James LWML, Lexington	Paulette Schuze

DONATED DIRECTLY TO LEGACY DEO FROM APRIL 1, 2024 TO MARCH 31, 2026

HONORARIUMS

DONOR	GIVEN IN HONOR OF	ENDOWMENT
Patricia Biar		Mission Inreach Endowment
Dorcas LWML Society	Lana Boling	Scholarship Endowment
Joyce Best	Birthday gift in honor of Peggy Turnipseed	Scholarship Endowment
Robert and Eloise Kuhlmann	Gaye Lynn Krueger	Scholarship Endowment
Dorcas LWML Society		Scholarship Endowment
Tiffany Harmon		Mission Goal Endowment
Deborah Buck		Mission Inreach Endowment
Eloise Kuhlmann	Audrey Black	Mission Inreach Endowment
Patricia Biar		Mission Inreach Endowment
Dorcas LWML Society	Nettie Marcus	Scholarship Endowment
Viola E. Fehl Estate		Scholarship Endowment
Dorcas LWML Society	Liz Posey	Scholarship Endowment
St. Paul Lutheran Church LWML		Scholarship Endowment
Dorcas LWML Society	Jean Schack	Scholarship Endowment
Dorcas LWML Society	Ella Moore	Scholarship Endowment
Dorcas LWML Society	Elsie Dornel	Scholarship Endowment
Dorcas LWML Society	Anita Pirovitz	Scholarship Endowment

Special Gifts — Endowments

LWML TEXAS DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIP (EN057), MISSION INREACH (EN165), AND MISSION GOAL (EN334) ENDOWMENTS GIFTS FROM APRIL 1, 2024 TO MARCH 31, 2026

HONORARIUMS

DONOR	GIVEN IN HONOR OF
Bernice Mitchell	Karen Paulus
Faith Helping Hands, Georgetown	Scholarship Donation
Golden Harvest Zone	Scholarship Donation
Tiffany Harmon	Ladies of the New Horizon Zone
Golden Harvest Zone	Scholarship Donation
Sally Krueger	2024–2026 Board of Directors
Bayou City Zone	Scholarship Donation
Marcia Kubitz	District Officers
Bernice Mitchell	Tracie Hollis
Marcia Kubitz	Gerry McCutchan
Marcia Kubitz	Rev. Michael & Cindy Newman
Michele Tate	LWML Texas District 2026 Convention Host Committee
Anonymous	Mission Inreach Endowment Donation

MEMORIALS

DONOR	GIVEN IN MEMORY OF:	DONOR	GIVEN IN MEMORY OF:
Marcia Kubitz	Keith Kubitz	Bill & Trish Rogge	Orval Dehning
Debra & Jimmy Curry	Louise Haynes	Janell Winkler	Lydia Winkler
Epiphany LWML Daylilies, Houston	Earl Goodson	Immanuel Dorcas Circle, Giddings	Carl David Kovar Alice Unger
Michele Tate	Mina Fitting	Kathy Lowman	Dr. Mary Ann Walden
Grace Lutheran LWML, San Marcos	Dorothy Wegner	Debra Curry	Dr. Mary Ann Walden Mina Fitting
Annette & Bill Lacy	Glenda Dreyer Dorothy Wegner	Our Savior LWML, Centerville	Louise Cox
Sharon Stoerkel	Pat Barlow Orval Dehning Audrey Black	St. John Lutheran LWML Mary Martha, Athens	Jill Morrison Pat Woverton Deanne Kay Cope
Peace LWML, Hewitt/Waco	Lynette Ray Jeanie Woodward Carol Kolb	Trinity Lutheran Ladies Circle Ministries, Houston	Audrey Black
St. Paul LWML, Gatesville	Church members who have passed in 2025.		

Sending Devotion

Based on Psalm 100:5

*“For the LORD is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.”*

P: As we close today, we return to our theme: “The Goodness of God.” Psalm 100 is a psalm of joy. It calls us to worship, to proclaim all He has done, to serve Him through serving others, and to come into the Lord’s presence with singing. Many of us know well the cherished words of Psalm 100:2, the motto of LWML: *Serve the Lord with gladness*. That glad service flows from something deeper—an unshakable truth found in verse 5. Let’s look at those final words in this psalm before returning home today. We will take it line by line.

P: *For the LORD is good;*

C: Why is He good?

P: God is good not because our circumstances are always easy or life is predictable, but because His character never changes. His goodness is rooted in who He is. He creates. He provides. He forgives. He restores. Most of all, He gave us His Son. In Jesus, we see the fullest picture of God’s goodness—love poured out, mercy extended, grace freely given.

C: When is He good?

P: *his steadfast love endures forever.*

Forever means in every season—when prayers are answered and when they seem delayed, in times of life’s celebrations and in times of enduring sorrow. His love does not have an expiration date. It does not weaken over time. It does not depend on our rising to a certain level of performance. It endures through every trial, every doubt, every generation. When we feel uncertain, His love remains certain.

C: To whom is He good?

P: *and his faithfulness to all generations.*

That means everyone. Not just to the faithful of the past. Not just to the heroes we have all learned about in the Scriptures. Not just to those in our day who seem to have it all together as they fill their social media posts. To all generations means everyone.

C: To our grandparents.

P: To each one of us here today.

C: To our children and grandchildren.

P: To those in our world who have yet to hear of His goodness.

C: To those who will come after us.

P: His promises are not limited by time. The same faithful God proclaimed by the psalmist centuries ago walks with us today—and will walk with those who follow. As we go from this place, we go renewed—not because everything in life is perfect, but because our God is good. His love endures. His faithfulness continues to all generations. So go out with joy.

C: Let us serve the Lord with gladness.

P: Let us trust in His goodness.

C: Let us share His goodness with the world. Amen.

Closing Hymn: “From All That Dwell Below the Skies”

P: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Songs

1. Goodness Of God

I love You, Lord
Oh Your mercy never fails me.
All my days I've been held in Your hands.
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
I will sing of the goodness of God.

Chorus:

All my life You have been faithful.
All my life You have been so so good.
With every breath that I am able,
I will sing of the goodness of God.

I love Your voice
You have led me through the fire,
In darkest night You are close like no other.
I've known You as a Father,
I've known You as a Friend,
I have lived in the goodness of God.

Chorus

Bridge x2:

Your goodness is running after,
It's running after me.
Your goodness is running after,
It's running after me.
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now,
I give You everything.
Your goodness is running after,
It's running after me.

Chorus

I will sing of the goodness of God.

Ben Fielding, Brian Johnson, Ed Cash, Jason Ingram, Jenn Johnson
CCLI Song #7117726
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2. 10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

Chorus:

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul.
Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before O my soul.
I'll worship Your holy name.

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning.
It's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass and whatever lies
before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes.

Chorus

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger.
Your name is great and Your heart is kind.
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing,
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.
Chorus

And on that day when my strength is failing,
The end draws near and my time has come;
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending.
Ten thousand years and then forevermore.
Chorus x2

Worship Your holy name
Lord I'll worship Your holy name

Jonas Myrin, Matt Redman
CCLI Song #6016351
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3. Alabaré

Refrain:

Alabaré alabaré alabaré a mi Señor.
Alabaré alabaré alabaré a mi Señor.

John saw the number of all those redeemed,
And all were singing praises to the Lord.
Thousands were praying,
Ten thousands rejoicing,
And all were singing praises to the Lord.
Refrain

Worthy is Christ the Lamb who was slain,
Whose blood has set us free from ev-ry sin.
Power and riches, and wisdom and strength
And honor and all blessing shall be His.
Refrain

Text (st. 1): tr. Libro de Liturgia y Cántico, 1998; (sts. 2-3): tr. John Ylvisaker, 1937-2017;
(sts. ref-1): Manuel José Alonso; (sts. ref-1): José Pagán, 1916-2009
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4. All You Works of God, Bless the Lord

All you works of God, bless the Lord!
All you angels, now bless the Lord;
Come, you heavens and pow'rs that be,
Praise the Lord and His majesty.

Refrain:

Raise your voices high, praise and magnify,
All you works of God, bless the Lord!
Raise your voices high, praise and magnify,
All you works of God, bless the Lord!
Sing, you sun and you moon above,

Songs

Stars of heaven, now sing His love;
Dew and showers, you winds that blow,
Heat and fire, you ice and snow.

Refrain

Frost of winter with song so cold,
Dews of summer, your song unfold;
Light and darkness, you day and night,
Clouds of thunder, you lightnings bright.

Refrain

Hills and mountains, now sing His worth,
All you green things that grow on earth;
Seas and rivers, you springs and wells,
Beasts and cattle, you birds and whales.

Refrain

Come, humanity, sing along,
Sing, you people of God, a song;
Priests and servants, your Lord now bless,
Join, you spirits and souls at rest.

Refrain

Bless the Lord, all you pure of heart;
All you humble, His praise impart;
God the Father and Son adore,
Bless the Spirit forevermore!

Refrain

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955
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5. Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory
Fills my heart with joy and love,
Teach me ever to adore Thee;
May I still Thy goodness prove.

Here I raise my Ebenezer,
Hither by Thy help I've come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wand'ring from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed His precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace now like a fetter
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;
Prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above.

Oh, that day when freed from sinning,
I shall see Thy lovely face;
Clothed then in the blood-washed linen,
How I'll sing Thy wondrous grace!
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry;
Take my ransom'd soul away;
Send Thine angels soon to carry
Me to realms of endless day.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–90, alt.
Text: Public domain

6. From All That Dwell Below the Skies

From all that dwell below the skies
Let the Creator's praise arise;
Alleluia, alleluia!
Let the Redeemer's name be sung
Through ev'ry land by ev'ry tongue.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord;
Eternal truth attends Thy Word.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore
Till suns shall rise and set no more.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

All praise to God the Father be,
All praise, eternal Son, to Thee.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Whom with the Spirit we adore
Forever and forevermore:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text (sts. 1–2): Isaac Watts, 1674–1748; (st. 3): William W. How, 1823–97
Text: Public domain

Songs

7. In Christ Alone

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

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

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

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

Till He returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

Keith Getty, Stuart Townend
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8. Jesus Messiah

He became sin who knew no sin
That we might become His righteousness.
He humbled Himself and carried the cross
Love so amazing love so amazing.

Chorus:

Jesus Messiah Name above all names
Blessed Redeemer Emmanuel
The Rescue for sinners,
The Ransom from heaven,
Jesus Messiah Lord of all.

His body the bread His blood the wine
Broken and poured out all for love.
The whole earth trembled and the veil
was torn

Love so amazing love so amazing.

Chorus

All our hope is in You
All our hope is in You
All the glory to You God
The Light of the world

Chorus

Jesus Messiah, Lord of all.

Chris Tomlin, Daniel Carson, Ed Cash, Jesse Reeves
CCLI Song #5183443
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9. Jesus Paid It All

I hear the Savior say
Thy strength indeed is small.
Child of weakness watch and pray,
Find in Me thine all in all.

Chorus:

Jesus paid it all, All to Him I owe
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.

Lord now indeed I find
Thy pow'r and Thine alone
Can change the leper's spots
And melt the heart of stone.

Chorus

And when before the throne,
I stand in Him complete,
Jesus died my soul to save,
My lips shall still repeat.

Chorus

Songs

Bridge x3:

Oh praise the One Who paid my debt
And raised this life up from the dead.

Chorus

Sin had left a crimson stain.
He washed it white as snow.

Alex Nifong, Elvina M. Hall, John Thomas Grape
CCLI Song #4689508
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10. Lift High the Cross/Alzad La Cruz

Refrain:

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

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

Refrain:

¡Alzad la cruz! ¡A Cristo pregonad!
¡Del buen Jesús el nombre proclamad!

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

Refrain

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956, alt.; (ref-s): tr.
Leopoldo Gros, 1925–2013
Text (sts. ref–1, 5): © 1974 Hope Publishing Co.; (ref-s): © 1991 Hope Publishing Co.
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11. Lord I Need You

Lord, I come, I confess
Bowing here I find my rest,
And without You I fall apart.
You're the one that guides my heart.

Chorus:

Lord, I need You, oh I need You,
Ev'ry hour I need You.
My one defense my righteousness,
Oh God how I need You.

Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more,
Where grace is found is where You are.
And where You are Lord, I am free.

Holiness is Christ in me
Where You are Lord, I am free
Holiness is Christ in me.

Chorus

So teach my song to rise to You
When temptation comes my way.
And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on You.
Jesus You're my hope and stay.
And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on You.
Jesus, You're my hope and stay.

Chorus

My one defense my righteousness
Oh God how I need You

Christy Nockels, Daniel Carson, Jesse Reeves, Kristian Stanfill, Matt Maher
CCLI Song #5925687
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Music; worshiptogether.com songs
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12. 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.

Text: Elmer A. Kettner. Used by permission of LWML.
Tune: LSB 892 (Public Domain)

Songs

13. O Sing to the Lord/Cantad al Señor

O sing to the Lord, O sing God a new song.
O sing to the Lord, O sing God a new song.
O sing to the Lord, O sing God a new song.
O sing to our God, O sing to our God.

Cantad al Señor un cántico nuevo,
cantad al Señor un cántico nuevo,
cantad al Señor un cántico nuevo.
¡Cantad al Señor, cantad al Señor!

Text: tr. Gerhard Cartford, 1923–2016; Brazilian
Text: © Gerhard Cartford. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110375510

14. Oh, How Good It Is (Psalm 133)

Oh how good it is when the family of God
Dwells together in spirit In faith and unity.
Where the bonds of peace Of acceptance and
love
Are the fruit of His presence here among us.

Chorus:

So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord,
And with one heart we'll live out His word,
Till the whole earth sees the Redeemer has
come,
For He dwells in the presence of His people.

Oh how good it is on this journey we share
To rejoice with the happy
And weep with those who mourn.
For the weak find strength,
The afflicted find grace,
When we offer the blessing of belonging.

Chorus

Oh how good it is to embrace His command
To prefer one another, forgive as He forgives.
When we live as one, we all share in the love
Of the Son with the Father and the Spirit.

Chorus

Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Ross Holmes, Stuart Townend
CCLI Song #6399212
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15. Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of His grace!

My gracious Master and my God,
Assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad,
The honors of Thy name.

Jesus! The name that charms our fears,
That bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music in the sinner's ears,
'Tis life and health and peace.

He breaks the pow'r of canceled sin;
He sets the pris'ner free.
His blood can make the foulest clean;
His blood avails for me.

Look unto Him, ye nations; own
Your God, ye fallen race.
Look and be saved through faith alone,
Be justified by grace.

See all your sins on Jesus laid;
The Lamb of God was slain.
His soul was once an offering made
For ev'ry soul of man.

To God all glory, praise, and love
Be now and ever giv'n
By saints below and saints above,
The Church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt.
Text: Public domain

16. Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Praise the One who breaks the darkness
With a liberating light;
Praise the One who frees the pris'ners,
Turning blindness into sight.
Praise the One who preached the Gospel,
Healing ev'ry dread disease,
Calming storms, and feeding thousands
With the very Bread of peace.

Praise the One who blessed the children
With a strong, yet gentle, word;
Praise the One who drove out demons
With the piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the One who brings cool water
To the desert's burning sand;
From this Well comes living water,
Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.

Songs

Let us praise the Word Incarnate,
Christ, who suffered in our place.
Jesus died and rose victorious
That we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness,
Seeing what our God has done;
Let us praise the true Redeemer,
Praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, 1955
Text: © 1987 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110375510

17. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

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

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is
wondrously reigning
And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting,
sustaining.
Have you not seen all that is needful has been
Sent by His gracious ordaining?

Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully,
wondrously, made you,
Health has bestowed and, when heedlessly
falling, has stayed you.
What need or grief, Ever has failed of relief?
Wings of His mercy did shade you.

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

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

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–80; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

18. Serve the Lord with Gladness

“Serve the Lord with gladness!”
It is He alone
Who redeemed us sinners, Guides us as His
own
To enjoy the blessings Of His love and grace,
Will at last in glory Meet us face to face.

Refrain:
Onward, then, for Jesus!
Let this be our aim:
“Serve the Lord with gladness!”
Glorify His name.

“Serve the Lord with gladness!”
He gave us command
To proclaim His Gospel Now in every land
So that fellow sinners, May, like us, be blest.
Leading them to Jesus, We can serve Him
best.

Refrain
“Serve the Lord with gladness!”
There's no greater joy
Than to serve the Master, Work in His
employ.
As we build His kingdom, Angels, too, rejoice
Over every sinner, Brought to hear His voice.
Refrain

Text: Prof. Ernest Lewerenz. Used by permission of LWML.
Tune: LSB 662 (Public Domain)

19. The Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Text: Bishop Thomas Ken
Text: Public domain

Songs

20. With the Lord Begin Your Task

With the Lord begin your task;
Jesus will direct it.
For His aid and counsel ask;
Jesus will perfect it.
Ev'ry morn with Jesus rise,
And when day is ended,
In His name then close your eyes;
Be to Him commended.

Let each day begin with prayer,
Praise, and adoration.
On the Lord cast ev'ry care;
He is your salvation.
Morning, evening, and at night
Jesus will be near you,
Save you from the tempter's might,
With His presence cheer you.

With your Savior at your side,
Foes need not alarm you;
In His promises confide,
And no ill can harm you.
All your trust and hope repose
In the mighty Master,
Who in wisdom truly knows
How to stem disaster.

If your task be thus begun
With the Savior's blessing,
Safely then your course will run,
Toward the promise pressing.
Good will follow ev'rywhere
While you here must wander;
You at last the joy will share
In the mansions yonder.

Thus, Lord Jesus, ev'ry task
Be to You commended;
May Your will be done, I ask,
Until life is ended.
Jesus, in Your name begun
Be the day's endeavor;
Grant that it may well be done
To Your praise forever.

Text: Morgen- und Abend-segen, 1734, Waldenburg; tr. W. Gustave Polack, 1890–1950, alt.
Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110375510

21. You Are My All In All

You are my strength when I am weak.
You are the treasure that I seek.
You are my all in all.
Seeking You as a precious jew'l.
Lord to give up I'd be a fool.
You are my all in all.

Chorus:

Jesus Lamb of God, worthy is Your name.
Jesus Lamb of God, worthy is Your name.

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

Chorus

Dennis Jernigan
CCLI Song #825356
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**Lutheran
Women**
in Mission



Transformed
in CHRIST

Romans 12:2

42ND BIENNIAL CONVENTION Oklahoma City, Oklahoma **July 8–11, 2027**

Convention Theme:

Transformed in Christ

2027 Convention Objectives:

Each convention attendee will be:

- ▶ Inspired to proclaim Christ and study God's Word.
- ▶ Transformed and equipped by Christ to serve Him.
- ▶ Encouraged to support missions throughout the world.

Scripture Verse:

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect (Romans 12:2).

Convention Goal Statement:

God's renewing Spirit transforms us to proclaim Christ, support missions, and serve Him and Him alone.

For more information, visit lwml.org/convention

Past District Presidents & Conventions

Hildegard Bruns* 1942–1943

June 10, 1942, Austin

Erna Dorre* 1943–1945

June 10, 1943, Ft. Worth

June 8, 1944, San Antonio

Toni Kraatz* 1945–1946

June 12, 1946, Houston

Lil Kobs* 1946–1947

June 16, 1948, Vernon

Edith Rast* 1947–1950

June 14, 1950, Houston | *Service of Lutheran Women*

Anne Blasig* 1950–1952

June 13, 1952, Corpus Christi | *All for Christ*

Gladys Oswald* 1952–1956

June 15, 1954, Waco | *Grow and Go*

June 13–14, 1956, Brownsville | *Grow in Christ*

Vera Wilkinson* 1956**Virginia Tschatschula* 1956–1958**

June 13–14, 1958, Waco | *Magnify the Lord with Me*

Lilian Kramer* 1958–1960

June 7–8, 1960, Dallas | *A Pattern of Good Works*

Ann Garrett* 1960–1964

June 13–14, 1962, San Antonio | *Rejoice in the Lord Always*

June 17–18, 1964, Odessa | *Well of Life*

Gladys Kaltwasser* 1964–1968

June 7–9, 1966, Corpus Christi | *Be Ye Fishers of Men*

June 19–20, 1968, Austin | *And unto God*

Amalie Long* 1968–1972

June 10–11, 1970, Ft. Worth | *I Am the Light of the World*

July 12–13, 1972, Amarillo | *Declare His Glory on All Frontiers*

Jeanne Cargile Meredith* 1972–1976

June 11–12, 1974, Beaumont | *Jesus, Priceless Treasure*

June 10–11, 1976, McAllen | *In God We Trust*

Pat Barlow* 1976–1980

June 15–16, 1978, Dallas | *Again I Say, Rejoice*

June 12–13, 1980, Tyler | *He Rose to Life*

Pearl Biar* 1980–1984

June 24–25, 1982, Corpus Christi | *Gather and Share in the Body of Christ*

June 20–22, 1984, San Antonio | *There Is a River of Joy*

Marcella Gaus Olivier* 1984–1988

June 18–20, 1986, Lubbock | *Praise Him! All Heaven and Earth*

June 23–24, 1988, Galveston | *Anchored in Christ, Cast Your Nets!*

Doris McKay* 1988–1992

June 20–22, 1990, Austin | *Blossom With Love*

June 19–21, 1992, Houston | *Celebrate! Tell the Next Generation!*

Pat Biar* 1992–1996

June 15–17, 1994, Wichita Falls | *Shine Like Stars*

June 28–30, 1996, College Station | *Rooted in Christ, Watered by the Word*

Peggy Turnipseed 1996–2000

June 26–28, 1998, Corpus Christi | *Set Sail . . .*

Filled with the Spirit

June 23–25, 2000, Waco | *Bridges of Life: Faith, Forgiveness, Freedom*

Eloise Kuhlmann 2000–2004

June 28–30, 2002, Midland | *Enlightened to Encourage*

June 23–27, 2004, Arlington | *I know the plans I have for you... Plans to give you hope and a future*

Dorothy Hunger 2004–2008

June 8–11, 2006, Beaumont | *Taste and See that the Lord Is Good*

June 26–29, 2008, Houston | *Lord, Open My Eyes*

Kathy Lowman 2008–2012

June 18–20, 2010, Austin | *Melody of God's Love*

June 29–July 1, 2012, College Station | *Adorn Yourself with God's Word: His Wisdom, Our Witness*

Lois Teinert 2012–2016

June 20–22, 2014, Frisco | *Designed to Shine*

June 24–26, 2016, Lubbock | *I Am the Vine, You Are the Branches*

Debbie Curry 2016–2020

July 5–8, 2018, Waco | *Filled to Overflow . . . serving, sharing, telling*

June 20, 2020, Virtual | *Christ Is Our Anchor*

Frances Molitor 2020–2024

June 16–18, 2022, Houston | *Great Is His Faithfulness*

June 13–15, 2024, Corpus Christi | *Hold Fast—Christ Is Our Anchor*

**In the arms of Jesus*

2028 LWML Texas District Convention

LUTHERAN WOMEN *IN MISSION*

of the

Dal-North, East Texas, Northeast Texas, Texas Star and Trinity Zones

INVITE YOU

to the

Lutheran Women *in Mission*

Texas District 45th Biennial Convention

DATE (TBD)

in the Dallas-Fort Worth area

HOTEL (TBD)

Please keep these Zones in your prayers as we prepare to host our sisters in Christ
for an event full of spiritual enrichment, mission service, and fun.

Convention Host Committee and Acknowledgements

2026 Convention Host Committee



Front Row: Deborah Livingston; Laurie Bellard; Lois Teinert; Rosanne Capdeville; Linda Knapp; **Second Row:** Denise Rowland; Courtney Baxter; Giovanna Turincio; Peggy Turnipseed; Donna Halliburton; Darlene Waiser; **Third Row:** Audrey Beills; Suzanne Mueller; Mary Dobrasko; **Fourth Row:** Joy Cowan; Dorothy Maass; Sylvia Kokel; Beverley Michalk; Ann Turner; Patricia Willoughby; Carolyn Rivers; Kathy Achterburg; **Back Row:** Sharon Teague; Susan Schmidt; **Not Pictured:** Karen Avenson; Rev. Richard Mittwede; Cheryl Wawrzyniak

Acknowledgements

The Convention Host Committee of the 44th Biennial Convention of the LWML Texas District gratefully acknowledges the following entities for their donations:

- Legacy Deo – Convention tote bags and co-purchaser of Endowment Committee promotional fans.
- Lois & Dennis Teinert – Organ rental for communion worship service.
- LWML Texas District Endowment Committee – Favor bags for convention delegates.
- Austin Visitor Center – Visitor guides for tote bags.
- H-E-B Store #673, 250 University Blvd., Round Rock, Texas – Medical supplies for First Aid Room.
- Thrivent Financial – Action Team grants.
- St. Paul Lutheran Church, Austin – Facility for in-person Host Committee meetings and storage facility for convention materials pre-convention; printed second convention newsletter.
- Trinity Lutheran Church, Taylor – Host congregation for communion worship service; communion supplies and processional cross for communion worship service.
- Zion Lutheran Church, Walburg – Communion ware; printed first convention newsletter.
- Our Savior Lutheran Church, Austin – Communion ware.
- Mission Lutheran Church, Liberty Hill – Photo booth backdrop.
- 2026 Convention Host Committee groups – Items for Workers' Room and Mission Service activity supplies.

CONVENTION INFORMATION

Identification: Wear your badge at all times. It is your admission to all convention activities as well as your box lunch and breakfast buffet ticket.

Health Information: Please complete the health information on the back of your name badge. This will give quick access to medical information in case of emergency.

Emergencies and First Aid: Contact an usher or hostess in case of an accident or illness while at the convention. The First Aid station is open in **Robertson North (1st Floor)**, beginning at 7:30 a.m. Thursday and during the hours of all convention sessions. If immediate attention is needed, contact 911, and then notify the nearest hostess.

Prayer Room: For anyone wishing to have some quiet moments in prayer, please visit the Prayer Room located in **Robertson South (1st Floor)**. The Prayer Room is open Thursday, 10 a.m.–6 p.m.; Friday, 7 a.m.–10 p.m.; and Saturday, 7 a.m.–12 p.m.

Exhibits: Located in the **Lobby Colonnade** and are open Thursday, 10 a.m.–6 p.m., and Friday, 7–8:15 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.–2:15 p.m.

Shopping: Redeemer Gift Store is in **DeZavala** and is open Thursday, 10 a.m.–6 p.m., and Friday, 7–8:15 a.m., 11:30 a.m.–2:15 p.m., and 6:30–8 p.m. Store will not be open on Saturday.

Mission Service: Location is in **Austin**. Drop off your Gifts from the Heart gift card donations and stay to check out the on-site servant events. You can work on projects such as Bible marking, decorating composition journals, rolling bandages, painting tote bags, and assembling S.A.F.E. kits. The Mission Service room is open Thursday, 10 a.m.–6 p.m., and Friday, 7–8:15 a.m., and 11:30 a.m.–2:15 p.m.

Meals: Box lunches can be picked up 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. **outside the Phoenix Ballroom. Magnolia** (Thursday lunch only) and **Dovers** are open for seating. Friday and Saturday's breakfast buffet is served 6:30–8:30 a.m. in **Dovers**.

Moving 4 Mites: If you have signed up to participate or would like to join us, please visit the table in the Pre-function/Registration area, Thursday, 7:30 a.m.–6 p.m., or Friday, 7 a.m.–8:15 a.m., and 11:30 a.m.–2:15 p.m., to drop off your pledge form or pick one up. The session is on Saturday at 7 a.m. in **Magnolia**, located on the 1st floor.

Come & Go Game Night: Located in **Magnolia**. This will be a casual setting where you can join fellow sisters for fellowship and fun. It is an optional event from 8–10 p.m.

Lost and Found: Please visit the **Registration/Information Desk**.

The Crisis Management Team: Cheryl Wawrzyniak Ret. RN, CNE; President Sally Krueger; Pastoral Counselors Rev. Dustin Beck and Rev. David Bailes; Michele Tate, Laurie Bellard; and any medical staff on the premises. If an emergency arises, please notify one of these people or send word to the Secretary to the President, Janet Hurta.

Free Wi-Fi for all the public meeting spaces on the first floor:

Wi-Fi name: Hilton Honors Meeting

Password: LWML2026



Lutheran Women *in Mission*

TEXAS DISTRICT

Theme:

Celebrate the Goodness of God.

Scripture Verse:

Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer (Romans 12:12).

Goal Statement:

Empower Lutheran women to embody unwavering faith,
abound in hope and patience,
and be fervently dedicated to prayer.

Objectives:

The convention will provide opportunities for:

- Sharing our hope in Christ joyfully with others.
- Uplifting each other as the Holy Spirit enables us to be patient in tribulation.
- Embracing the power of prayer through Bible studies, servant events, and speakers. (James 5:16).
- Drawing strength from God's Word and knowing that God can do all and more than we can ask. (Ephesians 3:20).



Trusting God, Lutheran Women in Mission of the Texas District:
Proclaim Christ – **Support** missions – **Equip** women – **Serve** others