

Showing our love to others

The 2024 LWML Texas District Convention Host Committee selected four wonderful organizations to receive our Gifts from the Heart at the convention in June.

Rainbow Rooms are 24/7 resource centers usually located within local Child Protective Services (CPS) offices. For their safety, many times children are quickly removed from their homes and often leave with only the clothes on their back. In the Rainbow Room, CPS caseworkers can get supplies for children who are victims of abuse or neglect — clothing, hygiene items, school supplies, diapers, and much more. Every item in a Rainbow Room is donated or purchased with monetary donations. Rainbow Rooms provide a ray of hope in a child's life. The Rainbow Rooms that are located throughout our four hosting zones will receive your donations of full-size body wash, shampoo, and toothpaste.

Upbring has residential treatment

programs for girls and home-like shelters for unaccompanied children to meet their physical and emotional needs in their toughest times. Your donations of standard twin sheet sets (fitted, flat, and pillowcase) and matching towel sets (bath, hand, and face cloth) will be given to Bokenkamp Children's Center in Corpus Christi and New Life Children's Center in Canyon Lake. Please, no twin XL size sheets and no white color items.

New Life Refuge Ministries in Corpus Christi provides a REFUGE of hope and healing for child survivors of sex trafficking. Children come hastily with no provisions, and the Refuge helps to provide personal items. The Refuge offers specialized, long-term, therapeutic care where girls can heal and process through their trauma. They provide a home-like setting with normal daily activities including taking the girls to church. Gift cards to Walmart and Amazon are being

collected for them, as their storage space is limited, which allows this organization to purchase items as they are needed.

The Pregnancy Center of the Coastal Bend offers free and confidential services to women and men facing an unplanned pregnancy. This pro-life non-profit offers free pregnancy testing, ultrasounds, counseling, and a parenting program. They have seen a 35% increase in their parenting program since the overturning of Roe v. Wade. Their parenting classes follow a Learn to Earn model. Your donation of gift cards from Walmart, Target, and HEB will help them purchase diapers, wipes, and other needs for parents in this program who have chosen life for their babies.

Sincerely,

Judy Kunkel
2024 Convention Host Committee
Chairman

Anchors Away!

This summer the LWML Texas District Convention in Corpus Christi is the place to be for teen girls (ages 12–17). The Teen Committee headed up by Kristine Wendorf has a fun-filled and servant-minded experience planned just for them! Bring your teen to Corpus Christi with you June 13–15, 2024. Teens will get to know one another with fun, crafts, and games along with being in God's Word with Bible studies and devotions. The teens will participate in on-site service projects where they will work side by side with women of all ages as we serve together. The girls will get to meet the Young Woman Representatives and will discover more about LWML with activities geared toward their age group and interests.

The Teen Committee has lots of fun planned! Remember to bring your swimsuit because you will have two opportunities to cool off! Thursday you will get your feet wet at a splash park and Friday you will spend 2 hours of fun at the hotel pool (indoor/outdoor pool and ping pong table)! The teen program will begin at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 13. Teens pay a special convention registration rate of \$100 (or \$120 if submitted after May 7, 2024) which includes a T-shirt, snacks, Friday and Saturday breakfast, Thursday lunch, and Friday dinner. Teens should purchase Friday's boxed lunch option when registering and bring money for any purchase they plan to make at the LWML store. An adult mentor/leader must attend the convention for every 1–4 girls registered. Join us for an awesome time of learning, serving, and fellowship!

Happy Birthday, Mission Inreach Endowment!

This biennium marks the 25th anniversary of the creation of the Mission Inreach Endowment. It was established at the 1998 LWML Texas District Convention in Corpus Christi in partnership with Lutheran Foundation of Texas (now Legacy Deo). Annual distributions are used for spiritual enrichment, member development and leadership training opportunities for members of the LWML Texas District as decided by the Executive Committee.

Since its inception, funds received from the Mission Inreach Endowment have provided leadership materials and training opportunities for our district and zone leaders. This has helped them lead and serve our members better.

There is a fabulous Bible study written by former President, Eloise Kuhlmann, on this very topic. It is located at lwmltxdist.org/endowments-resources, our website's Endowment Resource page. You are encouraged to use it personally and with your groups. While you are there, be sure and take a look at the other resources available to you.

Hear what one donor had to say:

"I thought making a planned gift to LWML Texas District would be really difficult but I was wrong. I talked with Legacy Deo's Ambassador, Debbie Curry, who provided me with lots of ways to think about giving a planned gift. After prayerful consideration, I chose to make the Mission Inreach Endowment the beneficiary of an account I opened with Texas District Church Extension Fund using the automatic giving option to fund this account. I have personally benefitted from the training opportunities this endowment helped fund. I wanted to be sure there would continue to be opportunities for other servant leaders to be empowered to lead as God calls. My only regret is that I did not do it sooner!"

What a fantastic way to celebrate this momentous occasion by creating a planned gift to this endowment! If you would like to join in making a planned gift to this or our other endowments, details may be found at lwmltxdist.org/endowments.

TABLE TALK

The Host Committee for the 2024 LWML Texas District Convention is busy preparing for the purple invasion planned for June 13–15 in Corpus Christi Texas! If you have attended before, I am sure the feeling of the LWML camaraderie and love just surrounded you. If you've never experienced that feeling of warmth, or it's been a while, I encourage you to make plans to attend. All the information you need is on the website, lwmltxdist.org/lwml-texas-district-conventions. There you will find information on our speakers, events, and hotel lodging. You can even register right there on the website. Easy peasy!

I am looking so forward to being able to share this experience with our members and guests as we hear and learn about what it means to Hold Fast – Christ is Our Anchor.

See you there!



Frances Molitor
LWML Texas
District President

"I am the HEART of the LWML"

Oranell Dunk became interested in LWML when she would drive her mother-in-law to the meetings and was drawn to the Bible studies and learning more about God's Word. For over 25 years, she has been an active member of the Holy Cross Ladies Aid in Warda.

A regular attendee at conventions, rallies, and workshops, Oranell has served her society and zone in many different capacities and offices. Specifically, she is instrumental in keeping the bank accounts and signature cards updated. She is currently Vice President of Christian Care for the Post Oak Zone. You can trust her to take charge of projects and get them accomplished. She enjoys spending her free time in various Bible studies.

Oranell loves the fellowship of women in LWML, she loves Bible studies, and she loves to serve the Lord while being part of a cheerful group. According to Post Oak Zone President Amanda Hankemeier, "Oranell is a dedicated, friendly, Christian woman. She loves helping others and believes that without God, we can do nothing."

