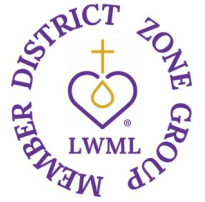


# The Lone Star Connection

"Let your light shine before others" (Matthew 5:16a).



October 2026

Monthly Newsletter

Vol. 4, Issue 10

## Seeing God's Everyday Blessings



Sally Krueger

TX District President

Fall is my favorite time of year. Maybe it's because I grew up in the Midwest, where the colors were so beautiful. A few years ago, I traveled to New England and was privileged to witness the peak of the fall season. It was spectacular. It reminded me of how awesome our God is as I pondered all the details that had to come together for that moment. God knew I would be standing in that spot on that day, and He prepared all of it for my enjoyment. He had other purposes in mind and other people to bless, but this spectacular gift did not escape me.

As we attend our zone events, celebrate Lutheran Women in Mission Sunday, and begin to gear up for the holiday season, let's not forget to appreciate the day-to-day blessings God brings into our lives. Maybe it won't be a spectacular array of fall colors, but it might be a kind word someone speaks to you, the smile of a child, time with family, or lunch with a girlfriend. Look for the ways God is blessing you and embrace them, thanking Him for His immeasurable grace and love toward us.

Be sure to make opportunities this season to share the love of Christ with someone who may not know Him. Look at those opportunities as a gift as well.

Happy Fall, y'all!

## Young Women: Your Voice Matters!

Do you know a young woman, ages 22–35, who would be encouraged by connecting with Lutheran women from across the country? The 2027 LWML Convention in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, July 8–11, will bring women together under the theme "Transformed in Christ" (Romans 12:2). It is a wonderful opportunity to grow in faith, build lasting friendships, and be inspired for a life of joyful service.

The Texas District is seeking young women ages 22–35 to serve as Young Woman Representatives (YWRs). If your congregation has a woman who is passionate about her faith and eager to learn, serve, and share her experiences with others, now is the time to encourage her to apply.

Pastors, congregation leaders, and LWML groups play an important role in identifying and supporting these future leaders. Please submit your district representative forms by November 1. Forms and additional information can be found on the district website, or you may reach out to Committee of Young Women Chairman Christine Spofford for assistance at [youngwomanrep@lwmltxdist.org](mailto:youngwomanrep@lwmltxdist.org).

Together, let us invite, encourage, and equip the next generation of Lutheran Women in Mission. Your invitation today could make an eternal impact.



Did You Know that our district archives also contain objects—including a gavel from a mysterious Sam Houston Zone? Records exist from this Houston area zone from the 1960s through part of the 1970s, but all traces of this zone disappear during the latter decade. Do you know more about this mystery zone? Let us know what you know!

trusting  
God

Proclaim • Support • Equip • Serve

## Mission Grant Highlight

### Investing in Tomorrow's Church Leaders

As voted at the LWML Texas District 2022 Convention, Seminarian Scholarships for Texas Students are designated as an automatic recipient of Mission Grant funds each biennium. Delegates at the district convention this past June approved a \$50,000 mission grant for the 2026–2028 biennium.

Matthew McCarthy shared in a thank-you letter last spring that he was nearing the midpoint of his second semester at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, balancing his studies with multiple campus jobs. As he devoted his heart, mind, and spirit to being shaped by the Holy Spirit into a faithful servant of the Word, meeting financial obligations grew increasingly difficult. The generous support he receives from the LWML Texas District mission grant allows him to stay focused on scripture, doctrine, and spiritual formation, channeling his energy into becoming a pastor equipped to care for souls and shepherd the flock.

Wesley Clark shared, "I am deeply grateful for your generous support and the encouragement it brings to our family. Through your kindness, the Lord shows once again how He provides for those preparing to serve in His church. Your gift helps make it possible for me to continue my studies with focus and joy, trusting that His Word will accomplish all that He promises." He added that each day is a reminder of God's faithfulness and the privilege of preparing to proclaim His Gospel. Wesley thanked the ladies of the LWML Texas District for being part of this work, for your prayers, and for your fellowship in Christ.

The LWML Texas District has long supported seminarian scholarships for students from the Texas District LCMS. These scholarships help future pastors enter ministry with reduced financial strain, and recipients remain deeply grateful for this ongoing support in the current and future biennia.



Wesley Clark

### Gifting Today to Bless Tomorrow



*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).*

One of the ways LWML Texas District supports telling the coming generations of the glorious deeds of the Lord is through financial support for young women from our district who attend an LCMS university and who are pursuing degrees that will lead to professional church work. The Scholarship Endowment Fund is our only source of funding for this endeavor. This June, we welcomed four recent scholarship recipients in person at our convention. It was wonderful to celebrate these young women and their commitment to the Lord!

Our Scholarship Endowment is not the only way we provide additional funding for our district's mission. Our Mission Inreach Endowment provides additional funding for leadership training, spiritual enrichment, and member development, equipping our members and leaders to *Serve the LORD with Gladness!* (Psalm 100:2). Our Mission Goal Endowment provides additional funding for our Mission Goal, enabling us to support even more mission grants.

The work of our district and the support of missions stand on the legacy of generations of Lutheran women who have recognized needs in their churches and communities and worked together to meet them. More importantly, God has used our offerings of mites and willing hands and feet to do what only He can do: draw the lost to Himself.

Our endowments stand as a testimony to our resolve to continue this work until Jesus comes again. Many of our members have chosen to create a lasting legacy by including LWML Texas District Endowments in their estate plans. When gifts are given as mites, they are used right away; however, when they are designated for an endowment, they are never spent—they become forever gifts! Each gift given to an endowment increases the principal, resulting in larger annual investment distributions that provide greater funding for scholarships, mission grants, and our mission work together—for generations to come.



## 2027 LWML Convention is in Oklahoma!

### Fill up for Oklahoma 2027 Convention!

By OKC Host Committee: Sharon Greene, Logo Shirt Sales Director and  
Kelly Bernhardt, Communications/Personnel Coordinator

We challenge you to fill up your closets with LWML 2027 Convention themed shirts! Many of you have already purchased a shirt to advertise and promote the convention. Thank you! We hope you wear them everywhere in the coming year to encourage women from around the country to attend the convention in Oklahoma City where they will hear His word, see Christian sisters from far and near, and experience many opportunities to learn about and contribute to LWML missions! We were recently notified that inventory for the teal tunic, which is currently for sale, will not be replenished.

The tunic will be offered “while supplies last” but in the future, sizes may be limited or no longer available. We are happy to report that an alternative tunic has been selected to fill any gaps. This attractive navy tunic blouse is smart and versatile. Dress it up or dress it down! The longer length is great with leggings, too. This tunic has 3/4-length sleeves with button tabs, a split V-neck, and is 100% polyester crepe. It's machine washable on cold and tumble dry low. We know you are going to love this blouse! Look for the new order form, which has a picture of the shirt options, on the LWML TX District website, [lwmltxdist.org/lwml-convention](http://lwmltxdist.org/lwml-convention) and click on the shirt order form.

### Call for Texas District Banner Designs

The LWML Texas District invites members to submit design ideas for the Texas District banner that will be carried in the banner procession at the LWML 2027 Convention in Oklahoma City, July 8–11, 2027. The banner should reflect the convention theme “Transformed in Christ,” based on Romans 12:2. All submissions are due **January 15, 2027**.

There are detailed specifications for the design that must be met. To obtain those, please email Wendy Hart, Vice President of Communication, [communication@lwmltxdist.org](mailto:communication@lwmltxdist.org) or go to the LWML Texas District website, [lwmltxdist.org](http://lwmltxdist.org), and click on the logo at the top of the page for the 2027 Convention and then click on the banner link.

## From Around the District

The Executive Committee met at Camp Lone Star in September. Here are some pictures of us doing the work of our district. Don't tell, but we threw in some fun team building exercises too! We bonded well into a cohesive group and we were able to accomplish a lot in those three days! We are looking forward to an exciting year ahead and to co-hosting the national convention in Oklahoma this summer.



Liz Burnett, Pam Jeske, Terri Wenzel (Zoom), Lisa Snow, Debra Heckmann, and Brianne Stahlecker



Our Financial Team: Terry Frazier, Treasurer, and Alissa Elley, Financial Secretary.

Brianne Stahlecker, Wendy Hart, and Kelli Alsop

## Mite Report through August 2026

|                                        |              |
|----------------------------------------|--------------|
| Mission Goal 2026-2028                 | \$419,406.00 |
| Mites Received April– August 2026      | \$54,851.57  |
| Total Still Needed                     | \$364,554.43 |
| Disbursed to Lutheran Women in Mission | \$9443.79    |
| Allocated for Mission Grants 2026-2028 | \$225,000.00 |

Above numbers do not include \$1,570.00 received for and disbursed to Lutheran Women in Mission (national).

### Lutheran Women In Mission Sunday!!

Traditionally celebrated any Sunday in October, you can download printable material at: [lwml.org/lwml-sunday](http://lwml.org/lwml-sunday).

Tell us about your celebrations by emailing our VP of Communication, Wendy Hart, at: [communication@lwmltxdist.org](mailto:communication@lwmltxdist.org)



### Doves by Texas

In order to be fully prepared for the National Convention this summer, Texas District has the opportunity to help prepare by making doves that will go in the convention totes for each attendee to receive.

The doves will be made of felt and have specifications to ensure consistency so that all attendees receive the same item. We have more information that will be distributed to zone presidents for their groups.

We hope to have many hands working on these to help make the load light. Please watch for this information in your email shortly. We need to have the doves completed by May 1, in order to ensure that we can get them to Missouri to be placed in the bags before convention.

Thank you in advance for your helpful hands!

### The Happening Hub!

#### 2026:

Any Sunday LWML Sunday in October:

November 1: Annual Reports due to Vice President Of Organizational Resources and YWR Deadline

#### 2027:

Jan. 15: Banner Designs Due

Feb.10-12: Executive Committee Meeting and Board of Directors and Zone President Orientation, Camp Lone Star

May 1: Doves Due

July 8-11: LWML Convention, Oklahoma City, OK

#### 2028:

June 8-10: District Convention, Dallas

### A Big Thank You!!!

We thank our God every time we remember you, pastors and church workers. Our common faith in Christ unites us and has brought us into this ministry of serving others together. We are so grateful for all the time and talents that you share with us. We thank you for all you give to us and we pray God blesses you all in your service to Him. Amen

### FOLLOW US!



On the web:  
[www.lwmltxdist.org](http://www.lwmltxdist.org)



On Facebook:  
@Lutheran Women's Missionary League



On Instagram:  
@lwmltexasdistrict



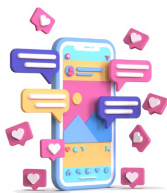
On YouTube:  
@lwmltexasdistrict8339



Questions? Send an email to:  
[communication@lwmltxdist.org](mailto:communication@lwmltxdist.org)



Lutheran Women  
in Mission  
TEXAS DISTRICT



### Support Mission Grants—Send in Your Mites!

Send to: LWML Texas District  
Attn: Alissa Elley, Financial Secretary  
PO Box 183  
Seguin, TX 78156