

The Lone Star Connection



July 2023

Quarterly Newsletter

Vol. 1, Issue 3

2023 Key Dates

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| Sept. 8–9 | District Retreat, Glen Lake Camp, Glen Rose |
| Sept. 12 | EC travel to Corpus |
| Sept. 13–15 | EC meeting, Corpus |
| Sept. 16 | EC & Host Committee meeting, Corpus |
| Sept. 22–23 | District Retreat, Ceta Canyon, Happy |
| October | LWML Sunday |
| Oct. 20–21 | District Retreat, Spiritual Renewal Center, Victoria |
| Tentative Texas LWR Ingathering | |
| Nov. 1 | Marion: St. John Lutheran |
| Nov. 4 | Houston: Epiphany Lutheran |
| Nov. 11 | Plano: Messiah Lutheran |



At the Board of Directors meeting this past February, I challenged each zone president to pursue either starting one new group or reactivating a supporting (or inactive) group in their respective zone. This challenge is not just for the zone presidents, but for all who are actively involved in LWML. To be consistent with what we know and believe as Lutherans, the intent of this goal is NOT about increasing numbers, but introducing all women in our congregations and communities to the many avenues and resources the LWML provides for spiritual renewal, opportunities to serve God by serving others, and sharing our blessings.

This challenge is not intended to be measured by human standards of success or failure. It is my encouragement for us all to be open to any possibility of what a group may look like or how it may choose to operate. It is not necessary the group operate in the traditional sense. We can stand on the sidelines and cheer them on. Take a back seat, smile and bite the tongue when the words “no, you can’t do that” want to come out. Be wise in our choice of words. Seek the assistance of your district leaders in any questions that arise. That is part of their official duties also. It is the commitment to the mission of LWML which allows us to be blessed as Lutheran Women in Mission.

What we can measure is our own enthusiasm, our own sincere efforts, our own reliance on the Lord for guidance, and our own level of being in prayer.

There is no need to fear the LWML will lose its identity by allowing some governance modifications. LWML will always have traditions we can treasure. It is not about deviations from what we perceive to be the norm, but about planning for the future — the future of our congregations, the future of the organization we all love and serve. So, let’s get out there — be bold — be courageous — be confident through the gift of sure hope, earned for us by Christ Jesus, given freely in grace and faith.

And may our Father keep us enthused, energized, and ready to serve whenever and wherever He has need of us.

Frances Molitor
LWML Texas District President



Wonderful World takes you on a journey packed with friendship, God, and spiritual growth. It’s a retreat you won’t want to miss! Join us for a whirlwind tour of the seven continents, where we’ll experience meaningful Bible studies, explore the wonders of a woman’s heart, and have time for both quiet reflection and laugh-out-loud fun!

There are three locations available to attend. Arrival time is 5–6:45 pm on Friday evening, with the first session beginning at 7 pm.

September 8–9, 2023 Glen Lake Camp & Retreat Center, Glen Rose
Registration Deadline: August 1

September 22–23, 2023 Ceta Canyon Camp & Retreat Center, Happy
Registration Deadline: August 10

October 20–21, 2023 Spiritual Renewal Center, Victoria
Registration Deadline: September 1

Complete information is available on the district website, lwmltxdist.org/district-retreat, or email VP of Christian Life, at christianlife@lwmltxdist.org.

Deadlines are fast approaching, so register today.

Cost is only \$95 and includes Friday night lodging, Saturday breakfast, lunch, and all materials.

Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to the following young women who will be entering the field of church work. These young women received funds from the LWML Texas District Scholarship Committee for the 2023–2024 academic year. Please lift these young women up in prayer as they pursue the plans God has in store for them.

Olivia Hitz
Faith, Plano
Junior at Concordia University Chicago

Magdalena Obersat
Ebenezer, Manheim
Junior at Concordia University Wisconsin

Olivia Thoelke
Our Savior, Houston
Sophomore at Concordia University Irvine

Kenlyn Nitz
Holy Cross, Dallas
Senior at Concordia University Chicago

Emma Schnegelberger
Zion, Dallas
Senior at Concordia University Chicago

Elizabeth Trempala
Prince of Peace, Carrollton
Senior at Concordia University Wisconsin

Wanted: Mission Grant proposals

Deadline: November 1, 2023

From the first grant in 1943 — \$1,000 to Concordia College Chapel, Austin — millions of dollars have been received to fund LWML Texas District mission grants. Many of these mission grants became realities because one LWML member or one LWML group learned of a need and made the effort to do something special — to submit a mission grant proposal to fund the project.

Any member, group, or zone of the LWML Texas District may submit a proposal for consideration. The member, group, or zone will serve as the official submitter of the mission grant proposal.

Proposals for the 2024 LWML Texas District Convention in Corpus Christi may be submitted electronically, but hard copies need to be received by LWML Texas District Vice President of Gospel Outreach Patti Samsel by November 1, 2023.

It is highly recommended for ministries to communicate with Patti by October 1 at gospeloutreach@lwmltxdist.org to let her know of your intentions. Please note that the order in which the Mission Grant proposals are received will be the order that they will appear on the ballot.

More information and mission grant proposal documents are available on the district website at lwmltxdist.org/mission-grant-proposals. Please share this information with others in your area.

Our responsibility as LWML members is to provide names to the Nominating Committee and assist with Mission Grant proposal submissions.

The deadlines are HARD dates, no exceptions.

Nominees Needed!

Deadline: November 1, 2023

The Nominating Committee is seeking candidates who show an active interest in the LWML, possess leadership skills, and are willing to devote their time and energy to serve the Lord in a leadership position. Offices open for election in 2024 are President, VP of Christian Life, VP of Organizational Resources, Financial Secretary, and Nominating Committee.

Only LWML groups and zones may submit nominations. Information on the positions and nomination process, including the nomination form, can be found at lwmltxdist.org/nominating-committee. Nominations are due by November 1, to Debbie Curry, Nominating Committee Chairman. She can be contacted at nominatingch@lwmltxdist.org.



Rebecca Moses joined LWML to be a servant for the Lord and to help members of her church and community. A member of the Evening Circle at Grace, Brenham, Rebecca is a leader who has chaired many committees and organizes the Grace Caring Ministry which delivers meals to the sick and homebound.

In addition to teaching the ladies Bible study and participating in choir, hand bells, and altar guild, she helps with the Grace radio ministry, drives members to their doctors' appointments, delivers goody bags to members in nursing homes, and makes greeting cards for members in need. She also started the Grace Quilters which makes quilts, school bags, and clothing for children in Sudan, Africa.

Rebecca Moses serves the Lord with gladness and she is the Heart of the LWML.



Endowments
Giftng Today To Bless Tomorrow



SAVE THE DATE

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

Be looking for more information on the website soon.

LWML Texas District



eConnection

News you don't want to miss!

Help Us Keep You Updated, Informed, and Connected

Are you receiving the district's email news releases? Anyone can sign up to receive these, but we especially need zone and group presidents to sign up to receive current district news. Visit the homepage of our website, lwmltxdist.org to sign up now.

If your email has changed since you originally signed up or you need assistance, email communication@lwmltxdist.org.

Stay Connected ...

Send LWML news and photos to the *District News* editor at districtnews@lwmltxdist.org.

For website and social media, send information and photos to the Vice President of Communication at communication@lwmltxdist.org.

Visit the website often

www.lwmltxdist.org

Follow us on social media

Facebook.com/LWMLTexas

2023 LWML Convention in Milwaukee — Photos Needed

Do you have photos from the LWML Convention in Milwaukee? Please share them by email to communication@lwmltxdist.org. Be sure to give the names of those in the pictures.

Convention photos will be posted on the website at lwmltxdist.org/galleries in the next few weeks.

2023 LWML Convention in Milwaukee

There were over 3,500 in attendance. The voting body adopted a \$2,350,000 mission goal for the 2023–2025 biennium which will fund 31 mission grants. A complete list of mission grants for 2023–2025 can be found at lwml.org/mission-grants.

The Texas District was well represented at the convention. Approximately 130 Texas residents were in attendance including exhibitors, guests, and twenty-six voting delegates.

We had thirteen first time attendees to an LWML convention.

Our new District Young Women Representatives, Laura Fisher and Amanda Nelson, attended the convention.

The LWML Board of Directors approved the appointment of Cheryl Mattil, Dal-North Zone, as Strategic Plan Facilitator.

The newly elected LWML officers for the 2023-2027 term are:

President: Eden Keefe, LWML Kansas District

Vice President of Organizational Resources: Arlene Naasz, LWML South Dakota District

Vice President of Special Focus Ministries: Karol Selle, LWML North Wisconsin District

Treasurer: Anita Werner, LWML Rocky Mountain District

Pastoral Counselor: Rev. Mark Maas, LWML Wyoming District

Meditations and Bible Studies

Have you visited the Christian Life page on the website and downloaded the monthly Bible studies or the weekly meditations? If you have not, now is the time to check out these resources to use on your own or with groups. Visit lwmltxdist.org/meditations-and-bible-studies and get started. The VP of Christian Life would like to know what you think of these resources. Please email her at christianlife@lwmltxdist.org with any comments or suggestions.

GREAT IS HIS *Faithfulness!*

58% 100%

Totals as of June 30, 2023

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| 2022–2024 Mite Goal | \$390,000 |
| Mites Received | \$225,745 |
| Total Mites Still Needed | \$164,255 |
| Mission Grants Paid | \$133,814 |

Send your mite offerings along with a remittance form to: LWML Texas District Attn: Kathy Walther Financial Secretary, PO Box 124, Giddings, TX 78942

Remittance forms can be found at lwmltxdist.org/about-mites.

Mites can also be given online. Simply follow the instructions under the “Donate” button.

Please include group name, church name, and church city in the note section in order for your LWML group to receive credit for your mite donation. If it is an individual donation to mites, please note that. Please indicate if it is for something other than mites (endowments or retreat). You will receive an email receipt for your donation.

For additional information or if you need assistance, contact financialsecretary@lwmltxdist.org.