

The Lone Star Connection



May 2026

Monthly Newsletter

Vol. 4, Issue 5



Pastor Dustin Beck
Senior Pastoral Counselor

In my 1,463 days as a District Pastoral Counselor...

I have had the great joy of seeing Lutheran Women in Mission for Christ. I have provided “tech support” in a few places. I have led Bible studies in which I have learned and my faith has grown every bit as much as those participating in the study! I have strummed guitar to a few hymns along the way. I have had phone calls with two wonderful LWML District Presidents and reminded them both that God is still in control, that Christ is still risen, and that everything is going to work out even better than we can imagine—there have also been times when I needed to hear the same good news and they both joyfully lifted me up. And I have conducted Doctrinal Review countless times. DR is so much bigger than reviewing doctrine. Sometimes it provides a teachable moment. Other times, it’s a timely reminder to check in, see how you’re doing, and hopefully provide a little encouragement. I could describe more of what the last four years have looked like, but it might be best to sum it up like this: serving in this office has been a constant reminder of what I love about the LWML.

The thing that always excites me about Lutheran Women in Mission is just how much y’all are able to do! And with smiles on your faces! Serve the Lord with gladness! It’s more than a motto—it’s who you are. It is so inspiring to see just how engaged you are in mission for the sake of Christ and His Church. I know what some of you are thinking when you read that... Engaged in mission for Christ? Me? Some of you do well to make it to the monthly meeting and to drop a modest handful of coins into the mite box. But God is in the business of taking the stuff that’s small or insignificant in the eyes of the world and using it to do His incredible, eternal, life-giving work! It has been a joy to serve alongside each of you in this amazing organization, to remember you in my prayers, to rejoice in your willingness to labor in our Lord’s field, and to watch as mites multiply and bless others around the world. God is faithful. He is so very good to us. I leave you with the encouragement to keep your eyes fixed on Jesus and His by-grace-through-faith gift of salvation that you have received. Don’t lose heart. Rejoice in the midst of hardships, because ours is a God who promises to care for us, to send forth His Spirit wherever His Word is proclaimed, and finally, He promises that our labor in the Lord is never in vain. Sisters in Christ, thank you for the joy of allowing me to serve in this office. The Lord be with you! Christ is risen! Alleluia! Amen.

2026 Key Dates

May 1–8: Late Registration for Convention and Hotel Reservations

June 11–13: Texas District 44th Biennial Convention—Austin

Are you a fan of our endowments? Us too! Stop by the Endowment Committee exhibit at convention to hear more about how our endowments fund missions and scholarships. We would love to hear your legacy story and share how you can help us cheer on the endowments!



LWML Texas District
44th Biennial Convention
June 11–13, 2026
Hilton Doubletree, Austin

Celebrate the Goodness of God
Romans 12:1

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

**Registration and Hotel Reservations
end May 8, 2026.**



In Loving Memory of Patricia "Pat" Kieschnick Biar



We give thanks for the life and faithful service of our past District President, Pat Biar, who served the Lutheran Women *in Mission* of the Texas District from 1992 to 1996.

Pat was a woman who loved her Lord, loved His people, and loved the mission of sharing the Gospel. During her years of leadership, she guided this district with grace, steadiness, and a deep commitment to encouraging women in their service to Christ. Her influence shaped not only the work of her biennium, but the generations of leaders who followed her.

We give thanks for the countless hours she devoted to this organization, for the prayers she offered, for the women she mentored, and for the joy she brought to every gathering. Pat served with a heart anchored in Christ, and her legacy continues in the mission work we carry forward today.

We remember her family in our prayers, asking that the Lord comfort them with the hope of the resurrection and the promise that in Christ, death does not have the final word.

Memorial contributions can be made to Holy Cross Lutheran Church; any of several endowments managed by Legacy Deo in Cedar Park, Texas, including the LWML Mission Goal Endowment (EN334), LWML Mission Inreach Endowment (EN165), LWML Scholarship Endowment (EN057), the Alvin and Martha Kieschnick Scholarship Endowment (EN155), and the Louis E. and Patricia Ann K. Biar Endowment (EN321), which benefits Holy Cross, Texas District LWML, Texas Partners in Mission and Lutheran Outdoors Ministry; or the charity of your choice.



From Around the District

Greetings from the Golden Harvest Zone!

Memorial Lutheran Women *in Mission* coordinated a Bible & Brunch along with women's ministry leaders who helped serve as table hostesses. They used this as an opportunity to extend an invitation to their church preschool's moms as well. The Palm Sunday eve gathering's theme was "Loved and Sent." Tiffany Harmon shared her Endowment Committee Bible study "His Story is Our Story" which looks at how God calls us as believers into the greatest story of all: His story. The morning was a lovely time of fellowship, proclaiming Christ, and equipping women to support and serve others



LCMS Texas District Evangelist Training

Congratulations to the following Lutheran Women *in Mission* Texas District ladies who completed their Evangelist Training.

Sandy Birnbaum
Elizabeth Burnett
Nancy Butt
Kim Cobb
Debbie Curry

Mary Embry
Susie Hill
Roberta Lowrey
Betsy Martino
Frances Molitor
Sherry Pettit

Linda Piel
Rachel Schimank
Giovanne Turincio
Dena Wagner
Currently enrolled:
Cindy LaPardi



Cindy Birnbaum receiving her certificate from her pastor.



Debbie Curry and Susie Hill at their sending service with other church members who completed the training.



Amy Heard at her sending service with Shari Stinnette, trainer for Area A, and her pastors.