

## GROWING IN GOD'S GRACE

2 Peter 3:18, "But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen"

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### Fall 2025 Greetings

Wow! How fortunate am I? I was able to attend a second NATIONAL convention and it was really terrific! This year it was held in the heartland in Omaha - close enough to drive and check out the countryside. We drove through OK and KS to get there, neither of which had I seen before. Diann Higgins and I drove and roomed together. We had such a great time. Fellowship! What a great gift from our Father in Heaven. I am so thankful to have had so much quality time together.

The theme of the convention was "Growing in God's Grace" and the scripture verse that was taken from was 2 Peter 3:18, "But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen". Boy, was God glorified at this convention. At the opening worship service, I believe that we had over 4,000 in attendance. It was the biggest Lutheran worship service I have ever been to. It was amazing. The message was proclaimed by Rev. Richard Snow, LCMS Nebraska District President. He shared a message of hope - "God is present in here because He is present in you" - in our sin-filled world. He shared with us, "The reality of sin endangers our very salvation and our relationship with Christ when we treat it as if it doesn't matter." But thanks be to God, "He has made you precious in the blood of Jesus Christ," and we continually grow in grace and knowledge because of that. He reminded us that we are His Easter people, that we are "resurrection rejoicers," and that we are His beloved. It was quite an uplifting message to kick off the convention!

# This Saturday!!



**Lutheran Women**  
*in Mission*

## TRINITY ZONE FALL RALLY 2025

ST. PAUL FELLOWSHIP HALL

1800 West Freeway, Ft. Worth, TX

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>, 10am – 12pm**

**Braille Ministry**

On behalf of: Lutheran Braille Workers

Presented by: Rachel Fruge, Deaconess

Braille Alphabet																																																													
The six dots of the braille cell are arranged and numbered:																																																													
The capital sign, dot 6, placed before a letter makes a capital letter.																																																													
The number sign, dots 3, 4, 5, 6 placed before the characters a through j, makes the numbers 1 through 0. For example a preceded by the number sign is 1, b is 2, etc.																																																													
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Please join your sisters in service to Jesus, and his people, to learn more about this necessary ministry and how you and your group may support it!

**Participate, Pack or Pray**

Another way in which we can grow in grace is to study scripture and we had an excellent Bible study leader at the convention in Christina Hergenrader. And, what's amazing is that she is going to be leading our Texas District Retreat on October 11th in Waco. She will be speaking on the topic of "Faith Over Fear." She will connect that to Psalm 23:4b, "...I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me." She is going to focus on one of her popular speaking topics — "Live a Better Story." In her sessions, she will focus on the truths of Psalm 23, encouraging us to move from fear to faith by trusting Jesus as our Good Shepherd. They have some fellowship opportunities on Friday night from 6:30- 8:00 p.m. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday and the retreat officially starts at 9:00 a.m. and ends at 3:00 p.m. The cost is \$50.00 and includes breakfast, lunch, and materials. It is being held at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 1301 Hogan Lane, Waco, TX. This is so close to us that I really hope that a lot of you ladies will take advantage of it. Registration deadline is fast approaching - September 10th. Registration forms and information are available on the District Retreat page of the website at [lwmltxdist.org/district-retreat](http://lwmltxdist.org/district-retreat).

We also did a lot of work at the convention. We voted on bylaws, elected officers, voted on mission grants, and worked on missions. Some of us made meals, tied quilts, wrote letters, colored cards, walked in the mission walk, and played golf in the golf tournament. There were a lot of creative ways to participate in missions! I colored cards to go out to cancer patients through Phil's Friends, which is an organization that supports cancer patients as they are fighting cancer. The cards had jokes on them like "How come a stadium is so windy? Because it's full of fans!"

When you submit a patient's name and address to Phil's Friends they send them a care package that has several items, including a blanket, hat, journal, playing cards, puzzle books, lotion, lip balm, socks, etc. And, it gets even better! They send them a personally colored card once a month for year. That's not all....They pray over that person for the entire year! I cannot speak highly enough about this organization. They are reaching out to people and being the hands and feet of Jesus at a time when these people desperately need it. To learn more about this organization check out their website at [www.philsfriends.org](http://www.philsfriends.org).

We also had Rev. Dr. John Reinke from Helping Hands for The Lutheran Deaf Outreach speak to us. He taught us all to share the Gospel through American Sign Language (ASL) signing, "Jesus loves me. Jesus loves you. Jesus forgives me and you. Jesus will come to meet us and take us to heaven." He was a very powerful speaker. He was full of the love of Jesus and shined His love on us all. He was definitely one of the highlights for me.

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As I sit here recapping convention for all of you, I feel the fire reigniting in me that was stirred as I attended convention. I am so thankful for the opportunities that I have had as your zone president these past three years. It has been an honor to serve the Trinity Zone and I have learned so much. I have made wonderful friends and have really grown in my walk with the Lord. It occurs to me that this time next year we will be electing the next zone president. I am praying for you now. I pray that if God is calling out to you to consider serving our zone as president that you would reach out to me so we can talk about it. I can tell you what's involved. It's a lot less scary when you know what you are taking on! This is such a rewarding experience. If He leads you into a position of service, He will give you what you need to do the job. As I close, I just want to extend this blessing from Romans 15:13, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

God Bless, Wendy Hart Trinity Zone President

## Upcoming Events:



### Texas District Retreat October 10th and 11<sup>th</sup>

\$50.00

including two meals &  
materials

St. Paul Lutheran Church,  
1301 Hogan Lane  
Waco, Texas-

**September 10 registration  
Deadline**  
[lwmltxdist.org/district-  
retreat](http://lwmltxdist.org/district-retreat)

### LWR Ingathering Dates

We did it! We had a great outpouring of quilts, school, health, fabric, and infant kits for Lutheran World Relief (LWR) in 2024. Let's do it again! Mark your calendars now for the 2025 in-gatherings.

**November 1 9:00 am—2:00 pm**  
Houston  
Epiphany, 14423 West Road

**November 5 9:00 am—3:00 pm**  
Marion (San Antonio area)  
St. John, 600 S. Center Street

**November 8 9:00 am—2:00 pm**  
Plano (Dallas area)  
Messiah, 1801 W. Plano Parkway

Visit [www.lwmltxdist.org/mission-service](http://www.lwmltxdist.org/mission-service).  
A listing of kit items and quilt specifics can  
be found at [www.lwr.org](http://www.lwr.org)



## Prayer

### Requests?

If you have a prayer request for our prayer chain, please email it to Sue Heffner at [grannysueh@yahoo.com](mailto:grannysueh@yahoo.com)

Prayer Chain requests are emailed to all Trinity Zone LWML group presidents & executive board members. We hope group presidents will then forward requests to their members.



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# MISSION EVENT

A hands on activity  
at Our Savior in  
Granbury with  
Ascension helping  
host.

More details to  
come!



## 2025–2027 LWML Mission Grants

Total Mission Grant Goal Voted — \$2,622,270

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1. Regional Disaster Response LERT Shower Trailers — LCMS Office of National Mission, Disaster Response Ministry, U.S. — \$81,500
2. Help for Ukraine's Orphans and Displaced Persons — Orphan Grain Train, Europe — \$100,000
3. Portable Laundry Trailer — Forged by Fire Services, U.S. — \$100,700
4. The Perpetual Call for Pastors and Teachers — LCMS Office of Pastoral Education, U.S. — \$100,000
5. Growing Together to Share Braille and Large Print — Lutheran Braille Workers, U.S. — \$100,000
6. Christ-Centered Hope for Cancer Patients — Phil's Friends, U.S.— \$100,000
7. Light of Jesus Christ to Unwed Homeless Mothers — A Place of Refuge Ministries of South WI, Inc., Wisconsin — \$75,000
8. Building a Place of Care — Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, North Dakota — \$60,000
9. Introducing Muslims to the Savior — Lutheran Heritage Foundation, Global — \$100,000
10. Healing Your Heart — Faith-based Child Counseling — Lutheran Counseling and Family Services of Wisconsin, U.S.— \$100,000
11. NOT ALONE: Gospel Help for Families in Crisis — Lutheran Family Service, Iowa — \$92,500
12. Gospel Outreach through the Digital Mission Field — Lutheran Hour Ministries, U.S. — \$100,000
13. Reaching God's Children in Haiti — Trinity HOPE, Haiti — \$61,782
14. Reaching Jewish People with the Gospel in Israel — The Apple of His Eye Mission Society, Asia — \$100,000
15. Arch Books for Immigrant Children in the USA — Concordia Publishing House — Concordia Gospel Outreach, U.S. — \$125,000
16. The Teaching of Lutheran Pastors in West Africa — Sierra Leone and Liberia — Project: Pastoral Education West Africa — \$86,000
17. Mobilizing After School Care for Teens — Our Place After School Care Inc., Hastings, Nebraska — \$69,500
18. Scholarships to Support International Deaconesses — Tanzania — Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Africa — \$100,000
19. Support Rev. Roberto and Katie Weber — LCMS Missionaries to the Dominican Republic, North America — \$10,000
20. Mercy Triumphs: LCMS Prison Ministry — LCMS Office of National Mission, U.S. — \$84,500
21. Shining a Bright Gospel Light — Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church and School, Mobile, Alabama — \$78,675
22. Redeeming Life New Moms and Babies Transition Home — Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries, Illinois — \$100,000
23. Sharing Faith and Food with Single Mothers — Risen Savior Lutheran Church, Wichita, Kansas — \$38,800
24. Ministry Scholarships for Shepherd's Canyon Retreat — Arizona, U.S.— \$100,000
25. Pastoral Wellness: Pastor Family Week — Camp Linn Haven, North Carolina — \$15,000
26. Developing Capable Christian High School Leaders — Sioux Falls Lutheran School, South Dakota — \$100,000
27. Teaching Christ to the Physically Handicapped — Lutheran High School of Greater New Orleans, Louisiana — \$12,000
28. Mission Opportunities for a New Generation — MOST Ministries, Global — \$50,000
29. Sharing God's Love and Changing Lives of Families — Camp Restore Detroit, Michigan — \$81,313
30. Increasing Access to Lutheran Counseling Services — Concordia Counseling: A Lutheran Outreach Ministry, Inc., Indiana — \$100,000
31. Speaking Truth Around the Table — Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty, U.S.— \$75,000
32. Proclaiming Christ in Honduras — Mission Evangelica Luterana Confesional en Honduras, Central America — \$25,000
33. Reaching Out with God's Love in a Safe Place — Forward, a Ministry of Trinity Lutheran Church, Lincoln, Nebraska — \$100,000

# Mite Update!



## Mite Report through June 2025

Biennium ends March 31, 2026

2024–2026 Mission Goal	\$403,000.00
Mites Received	\$228,711.43
<b>Total Still Needed</b>	<b>\$174,288.57</b>
Projected 25% to LWML National Mission	\$80,335.00
Mission Grant Goal	\$225,000.00

## Mite Remittance



Remittance forms can be found at [lwmltxdist.org/about-mites](http://lwmltxdist.org/about-mites).

Mites can also be given online.

Simply follow the instructions under the “Donate” button.

Our new QR code will take you to the website. The “Donate” button is at the top of every page.

Please include group or individual name, church name, and church city in the note section in order for your LWML group to receive credit for your mite donation.

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](mailto:financialsecretary@lwmltxdist.org).

## 2024–2026 Mission Grants

Mission Grant	Disbursed	Still Need
Seminarian Scholarship for Texas Students — \$60,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
New Life Children’s Center Spiritual Care Program, Canyon Lake — \$20,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Disaster Response Team, Trinity Lutheran Church, Tyler — \$15,000	\$10,000	\$5,000
Orphan Grain Train Shipping Supplies, Houston — \$15,000	\$7,500	\$7,500
Proclaiming Christ to People Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired (LBW) — \$20,000	\$15,000	\$5,000
Let It Shine Academy, Bethany, Austin, Lutheran Special Education Ministries — \$10,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Adventure Woods Day Camp Outreach, Camp Lone Star, Tomball — \$20,000	\$15,000	\$5,000
Shepherd’s Canyon Retreat Ministry Scholarships — \$15,000	\$15,000	\$0
Hereford Hispanic Outreach Program, Hereford — \$25,000	\$15,000	\$10,000
Offering Women Hope: Blue Blossom Pregnancy Centers and Maternal Assistance Program, Houston — \$8,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
Disciple and Mobilize Youth for Gospel Outreach, Glocal Mission, Houston — \$12,000	\$9,000	\$3,000
Little Lambs Parents’ Day Out Ministry Playground Equipment, Sulphur Springs — \$10,000	\$0	\$10,000
Christian Education Scholarships K–12, Central Texas — \$25,000	\$12,500	\$12,500
Ysleta Lutheran Mission Human Care Warehouse Repairs, El Paso — \$17,314 (partial funding)	\$17,314	\$0
<b>Total — \$272,314*</b> 2024–2026 Mission Grant Goal \$225,000 *(includes \$47,314 mission abundance from 2020–2024)	<b>\$165,314</b>	<b>\$107,000</b>

## Officer Nominations Needed

Do you know someone that would make a great officer for LWML Texas District? That person may even be YOU! Please prayerfully consider running for an office for 2026–2030. Encourage each other to submit names of women who show a deep, active interest in the LWML, and who are willing to devote their time and energy to serve the Lord in a leadership position. Offices open for election at the 2026 Convention in Austin are Vice President of Gospel Outreach, Vice President of Communication, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and Nominating Committee. Nominees shall be active members of the LWML. It is not necessary to solicit their consent or to determine their qualifications. This is the duty of the 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](http://lwmltxdist.org/nominating-committee). Nominations are due by November 1, to Robyn Tarnowski, Nominating Committee Chairman at [nominatingch@lwmltxdist.org](mailto:nominatingch@lwmltxdist.org).



This is a group photo from the convention. Can you spot any familiar faces?



Texas attendees following the district caucus meeting.





# Call for Grant Proposals

Mission Grant Proposals Being Accepted for the 2026-28 Biennium  
Mission grant proposals for the LWML Texas District are now being accepted.

Proposals need to be submitted by November 1. I

t is strongly recommended you communicate with the VP of Gospel Outreach by Oct. 1. Any LWML member, group, or zone of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League Texas District may submit mission grant proposals. Do you have a ministry that could benefit from a mission grant? If so, the ministry should: Be mission-focused. Applicants must demonstrate clearly how the mission grant will promote or support the proclamation of the Gospel to all. Align with the goals and objectives of the Texas District LCMS. Be current and ready for implementation. Be ongoing in nature, with a plan for continuance after the mission grant money has been expended. Be well-documented. Request funding for no more than two years to correspond with the LWML biennium. Agencies, organizations, and programs that help people to serve, grow, and spread God's Word will be considered. Forms and information are on the Texas District website at [lwmltxdist.org/mission-grant-proposals](http://lwmltxdist.org/mission-grant-proposals).