

# The Voice of Service

Volume 40, Issue 2  
Spring 2007

Oklahoma District  
Lutheran Women's  
Missionary League

Events & Information

- *The Joy of Being God's Child* Christian Life Conference, March 2-3, 2007  
Messiah, OKC
- Easter, March 8
- BOD Meeting, May 5, 2007  
Immanuel, Kingfisher
- National Convention, June 21-24, 2007  
Sioux Falls, South Dakota
- Fall Mission Fests Sept. 15th & 29th
- Oklahoma District Mission Grant Submission Deadline September 30th
- Fall Women's Retreat, October 26-27th, Roman Nose State Park

"To proclaim the love of Christ with our voices and with our service"

## God's Child, Easter Joy, and ROCK

These are three seemingly disparate statements of which we might ask "what do they have in c o m m o n ? " Obviously, they have Christ in common, but could there be more?

Another correct answer is that they are all activities involving the women of the OK District LWML. The Christian Life Conference *The Joy of Being God's Child*. There is Easter joy on Easter morning. And then

the National Convention "ROCK-Rest On Christ the King"

We could change the perspective and say that we are God's child, and on Easter morning we experience Easter joy, and finally, we do ROCK-Rest On Christ the King. We can view these events from our baptism, in which we became God's child and were brought into His kingdom. We

celebrate Easter joy that comes from having been buried with Christ and raised with Him in His resurrection. Resting On Christ the King is what children of God do when Christ reigns in their life. That is what LWML is all about, being God's child, living and sharing Easter joy, all the while Resting On Christ the King!

Pastor Stoll,  
Sr. Pastoral  
Counselor

## President Patti

Be glad you're going to Sioux Falls for the LWML Convention in June!! I will not complain as I join in the "Rockin' Trail Mission Pledge Walk" no matter how hot it is! As is the custom, the National LWML Board of Directors (which includes all 40 District

LWML Presidents) met at the convention site in Sioux Falls February 2-4. We enjoyed daytime high temperatures of -3 and lows of -15 and 20 mph winds. In spite of the chilly weather the atmosphere was warm with LWML sisters from all across the states meeting

together.

Do you know the Oklahoma District women involved in national committees? Marguerite Christman from Midwest City is current Vice President of Servant Resources and is nominated for national president. Bev England from Tulsa is national



# President Patti

Public Relations Director and has traveled all over with President Linda Reiser over the past 4 years. Betty Reichert, Vinita, our Vice President of Servant Resources in the Oklahoma District is on the HOPE Committee. Myrna Lou Meyer from Guymon is on the Mustard Seed Task Force. DeeDee Wescoatt, Guymon, has been artist for the Gentle Greeting cards which the LWML sells in their catalog.

Your district is well represented by these joy-filled servants! Join them and thousands of other LWML women in Sioux Falls, June 21-24, where we will **ROCK!** Rest On Christ the King. I hope many of you were able to attend the Christian Life Conference, "The Joy of Being God's Child" in Oklahoma City March 2-3. A big thank you to Messiah Lutheran

Church for making their lovely church available. Vice President of Christian Life, Debbie Tabisz, Glenpool, and her Christian Life Committee members, Susan Copen, Muskogee, and Cindy Boster, Sallisaw, put in many hours of study, writing, organizing and praying to put our first conference together. Our thanks also to our Pastoral Counselors Barrie Henke and Steven Stoll and Debbie's husband, Pastor Rick for their input and doctrinal review. I hope you will appreciate their efforts and thank them.

You'll get a glimpse of things to come in the District in this issue of the Voice of Service. Check out our Delegates and newly chosen Young Women Representatives. The nominating committee is gearing up to get started on officer candidates for

2008. Fall Mission Fests will take the place of Zone Fall Fests this year with mission speakers and mission education on our new national LWML grants. Roman Nose State Park has again been reserved for our Fall Women's Retreat on October 26-27.

We are always looking for ways to live out our mission statement in what we do in our district. Please let your zone president know if you have suggestions or if you want certain programs. As always, pray for your district and zone and the women who serve you in LWML. Remember to be in prayer for them and our LWML missions on Mondays at noon as women around the states are "Together In Prayer" in Jesus' holy and precious name.

Serving With Gladness,

Patti



# Nominating Committee Members

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If you know a woman whom God has blessed with the gift of service, please consider nominating her for a position with the Oklahoma District. If you feel that God is calling you to greater service, please contact a committee member.

## Leave a Footprint - Special Gifts Fund



We hear so much these days about leaving a legacy. OK district LCEF vice-president and Gift-Planning counselor Johnny

Barfield can assist you in including LWML's Special Gifts Fund in your will or trust, as well as other bequests of money and property.

Johnny may be contacted toll free at

1.800.852.3264 or barfield9@aol.com.

Gifts from last quarter In Memory of: Nelda Winchester, Amanda Haefker, Gaylene Graham. In Honor of Bob & Karlene Rich's 50th Anniversary.

Special Gifts may be sent to OK District Treasurer Lisa Graf, POB 1094, Guymon, OK 73942 Direct questions to Marilyn Laramy, 31 Stoneridge Rd., Ponca City, OK 74604-3418

## Teens ROCK in Sioux Falls

Are you between the ages of 11 and 17? Are you going to Sioux Falls? Do you like hanging out with other Christian teens? If you answered "yes", we want to see you at the *Friends Into*

*Serving Him* teen hangout on Saturday, June 23rd. Teens will make new friends from across the country while participating in wild, crazy, and fun activities! Service, spiritual growth, and

leadership are the focus of this awesome time together. Mark your calendar and plan to attend "ROCK-Rest On Christ the King" in Sioux Falls. Watch the convention newspaper for more details.

## District Mission Grants

OK Dist. Ministerial Students-paid \$5000, balance \$5,000

Help SafeNet/Abuse Shelter-\$5,000 paid, \$0 balance

Hispanic V. B. S. Program - \$2,500 balance

Lutheran Braille Center-\$3,000 paid, balance \$0

Camp Lutherhaven \$5,000 balance

The Servant's Heart, Guatemala-\$4,200 paid, balance \$0

Camp Lutherhoma Scholarships- \$5,000 balance

Oaks Indian Mission-\$5,000 paid, \$0 balance

Feed the Children in Haiti-\$3,150 paid, balance \$0

OK Church Workers Student Aid-\$5,000 paid, \$5,000 balance

Redeemer Lutheran High School-\$5,000 balance

Help OK Teen LWML to '07 Convention-\$2,150 balance

Lutheran World

Relief has discontinued collection of clothing  
[www.lwr.org](http://www.lwr.org)

## Former LWML President Dies

Florence Montz, national LWML president from 1971-1975 received her heavenly crown last week at the age of 82 after years of work in the mission field. She was a registered nurse who came to the presidency at a mere 46 years of age after being president of North Dakota District. She held office amid the turmoil created by the "walkout" of professors and students at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, in 1974 and their subsequent founding of the Association of Evangelical Lutheran Churches.

Encouraged by President Montz, the LWML determined that it would not get bogged down in issues that could properly be determined only by the Synod. Instead the League focused on wholistic mission and ministry. She wrote the first league mission statement, and encouraged youth representatives at international convention.

She was on the LCMS Board of Directors for 13 years, and was staff executive for the Council for Christian Medical Work. She helped the council make the transition from early medical mission

approaches, such as building clinics and hospitals in urban areas to creating community-based health care in isolated rural areas of developing countries.

In this role she planned and supervised the training of health workers in India, Nigeria, the Philippines, Guatemala and elsewhere. She was also president of the Association of Lutheran Older Adults and continued to use her nursing and leadership skills in mission to those placed in her path.





# Turning Trash to Cash

Printer cartridges, old cell phones, PDA's, i-Pods, laptop computers, ALL are recyclable!

OK district is very blessed to have so many collecting all these items. The money has enabled

us to send an additional \$9,000 to national Mites, over \$3,960 to our Special Gifts Fund, and paying over \$14,000 in district leader expenses since November 2003. This recycling effort enables our mites to

go further in funding mission grants.

Call your local banks, city, county and state officials, tell your dentist, accountant, doctor, pharmacist and local businesses and pick up those cartridges!



The LWML Jewel Watch will add the perfect sparkle to your spring and summer wardrobe. Look for this and so much more at [lwml.org](http://lwml.org)

## Zone Cartridge Recycling Facilitators

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## Faith, OKC Presents "Sister Act"

Please join the women of Faith at their Fifth Annual Ladies Spring Banquet, "Sister Act" Saturday, April 21st, 11:00 a.m.

Banquet speaker Jeannie Merrill will

speak about being sisters in Christ, along with a skit, and music will provide entertainment for the luncheon.

Door prizes, 50's diner-inspired clothes (be sure to wear

yours!) and great music will make for a swingin' good time. Cost \$6 adults, \$4 under 10 years old

RSVP: Amy Anderson, 685-4016 or Nancy Purinton 691-2905

# Post-Secondary Student Care

Oklahoma District encourages all congregations and LWML societies to continue to track their post-secondary students, including those attending local colleges and trade schools, as well as those who move away from home to

attend universities or trade schools.

Check your church's copy of the Lutheran Annual for addresses of all churches, and send the student names and addresses to the nearest church. This gives churches the opportunity to

provide your students with pastoral care.

Some home congregations opt to send care packages and notes of encouragement to students, as well as keeping them in prayer.

# Transportation to Sioux Falls



Thanks to you, we have a bus going to Sioux Falls from Oklahoma! A total of approximately 46 bus riders will leave from OKC and Tulsa early Wednesday and make their way north to Sioux Falls in time to participate in servant events, choir rehearsal, delegate

orientation and Young Women Representatives' orientation bright and early Thursday morning.

These bus riders will be housed at the Hampton Inn and ride the bus as a shuttle between the hotel and the convention center.

This has all been coordinated through our bus chairman, Terri Sullivan, from Tulsa who has put in many hours. The bus from Kincaid Travel will return late night

on Sunday the 24<sup>th</sup>. Bus riders will be receiving a detailed letter around the 2<sup>nd</sup> week in March with more information. Other attendees from Oklahoma may request rooms at the Hampton Inn or our second choice, Holiday Inn Express or our third choice, Staybridge Suites. Registrations opened March 1<sup>st</sup>. Get your registration in soon! A great convention awaits you!

# YWR's Chosen for Convention

Charity Pendley of Good Shepherd, OKC, and Jennifer Griffith of Grace, Tulsa will represent the OK District LWML as Young Women Representatives at the National Convention in Sioux Falls, ND.

Charity is the wife of Steve and mother to three children. She works as an outreach specialist and with Good Shepherd's Teen LWML, and enjoys music and choir.

Jennifer Griffith is a wife and mother of two teenage sons. She teaches Sunday School at Grace, Tulsa and works for the Owasso Public Schools. Jennifer also enjoys photography and scrapbooking.

# Lutheran Women in Mission

## Enid Zone:

Redeemer Lutheran Church in Enid was the location for the meeting. Twelve members were present.

The meeting opened with devotion. The vice-presidents reported about their experiences at ZOOM (Zone Officers On the Move). It was educational and enjoyed by all. Deadlines for upcoming events were discussed.

Reports from the District Board meeting were copied and shared. Sioux Falls Convention was discussed. Several are anxious to see the new catalog. Christian Life Conference, "The Joy of Being God's Child" will be our Spring Fling. Each society president was encouraged to encourage her members to sign up and go. The next meeting will be February 17, 2007, at Redeemer Lutheran in Enid.

## Kingfisher Zone:

The fall quarter was a busy one for everybody. Nearly all societies had projects during the month of November that involved the local food bank or giving to a needy family so they'd have a good Thanksgiving dinner. December brought the same type projects. Trinity, El Reno hosted birthday parties at two nursing homes. St. John's, Okarche Lamplighters held an Advent Dinner, with the proceeds going to help their ladies attend Sioux Falls. Sunday School students in Kingfisher presented their LWML with a check for \$700 for mite money collected throughout the year. Kingfisher kids ROCK!

## Lawton Zone:

St. Peter's, Apache LWML helped organize and carry out the 100th Anniversary. Also, they helped purchase and sack candy for Christmas. A Thrivent matching funds dinner raised \$1400 to help pay college costs for two students.

St. John's, Granite sponsored a Christmas caroling party, raising over \$500 for the local food bank.

St. John's, Lawton held their annual turkey dinner in November, sending \$451 to mites. St. John's celebrated their 90th anniversary with a dinner. Other projects include: Lutheran TV, Salvation Army, Alice Brauer, the Anos family, missionaries in the Philippines. They also provide monthly support to two seminary students and one vicar. And their society has

added five new members this year!

## OKC Zone:

Christ, Mustang hosted the luncheon for the circuit pastors' meeting, and provided an angel tree to Youth and Family Services.

St. John's, Moore collected and distributed food for the needy, collected and distributed items for Birth Choice, served Advent meals, and held fundraisers to assist women going to Sioux Falls.

Trinity, Norman sponsored an annual turkey dinner, sponsored an angel tree for children of prisoners, and presented gifts to 42 children. Used a Thrivent grant to provide gift cards for youth at Independent Living Services. Provided 10 gifts of clothing to the Veterans Center. Faith, OKC sponsored a Mission Mites Sunday, Oktoberfest dinner, Indian taco supper, a bakeless bake sale for the cantata, food baskets for needy families at Thanksgiving and Christmas, suppers for Advent services, the Cantata receptions, Socks, Gloves and Hat tree for Fillmore Elementary, provided candy sacks for Christmas, flowers and caroling to shut-ins, gifts to pastor and organists, volunteered at Angel Food Ministry.

Immanuel, OKC set up mini trees for shut-ins, Jr. LWMLers made cards for nursing home residents, decorated and filled Christmas Candy bags, and assembled kits for LWR. St. Mark, OKC sponsored a dinner/talent show for the angel tree.

Holy Trinity, OKC hosted the CCCS Conference with 96 in attendance. Held their 4th annual crafts bazaar and sent \$3,000 to CCCS. Served Advent lunches, sponsored an angel tree for children with parents in prison.

Good Shepherd, OKC send contributions and cards to Bethesda and the Good Samaritan program. Conducted nursing home visits, and sponsored fundraisers to assist women going to Sioux Falls. Teen LWML met with four other teen groups at Immanuel. Christo Rey held a Prayer and Praise service Febuary 17th, with a special offering going to national mites.

## Panhandle Zone:

Boise City continues to set the

pace in mite offerings.

Buffalo provided the meat for a congregational Christmas dinner. Some members meet monthly to make quilts for LWR.

Guymon's Piecemakers are busy, too. More than 60 quilts have been completed.

Ladies Aid & Lamplighters, Hooker sponsored an Advent candlelight service for women of the church and community. Ladies Aid gathered a special mission offering at their Christmas party. An ingathering was collected for Hope Crisis Pregnancy Center.

Texhoma assembled care packages for college students. They support a congregational member attending Concordia, Seward, and held an ingathering for Hope Crisis Pregnancy Center, Guymon.

## Special Notices

Enid Zone: Wilma Grimes

Kingfisher Zone:  
Maxine Masquelier

Lawton Zone: Gayle Anderson

Miami Zone: Jean Rathsam

OKC Zone: Jeannie Merrill,  
Alex & Chystel Davis

Panhandle Zone: June Wadley

Ponca City Zone: Leola  
Thiemann

Tulsa Zone: Mary Ames

Woodward welcomed new pastor Greg Brown, made Quiet Bags for small children to use during worship, purchased toys for needy children, and made quilts for LWR.

## Ponca City Zone:

Blackwell launched a monthly congregational fellowship/games night. Stillwater society joined with the Altar Guild to refurbish/replace Chrismons.

## Tulsa Zone:

Zone officers met at Bev England's for dinner in December. Job descriptions have been re-written for Tulsa zone officers and are in review. Susan Copen, zone president, is participating in the preparation of the Bible studies for the Christian Life conference. Susan will visit each of her societies during the year.



# Gor F orward In F aith-80 in '08

When the Lutheran Women's League of Oklahoma was beginning, what did those behind the movement hope to realize? These women were not eager for outward show and glory, but had high ambitions and wished to show that, though the Missouri Synod churches in Oklahoma at that time were small and few in number, and though the women of these churches possessed only limited means, these same women could still accomplish much for the growth of God's Kingdom if they were united and worked with singleness of purpose. Under what name they were to serve was incidental, but in whose Name was the thing of consequence. Those pioneer Christian women only wished to serve in the name of Jesus, to dedicate themselves and their service to Him, so that whatever they might do would be to His honor and glory. This ambition became a realization as a venture of faith spread out over the state, in order that a nucleus might convene, gaining members with more power to do the Lord's work.

Still farther down in the hearts of those responsible for the

existence of the League there lay another ambition, namely, the hope that someday the Lutheran Women's League of Oklahoma might be a link in a Synod-wide women's organization to make women alive to the immense opportunities for service to the church. Such a hope was eventually realized.

Those women responsible for organizing the League were willing to be led by the Spirit of God in a special ministry. Their faith had a force which changed situations and circumstances. They realized their special gift of faith from God. With faith in Him they operated with power and were witnesses of their faith as the early-day organization exemplified in acts of love and devotion.

Already, when the organization was not quite two years old, a few obstacles had to be overcome..."but the work will go on and a new year lies before us with its opportunities for consecrated service," reported the founders. There were spheres of service open which were peculiar to women during those days. Much had been

done during the first two years, yet only the surface had been scratched. A united prayer went out ..."thanking our Heavenly Father for the seeds which have been sown to bring forth fruit in our hearts...calling upon the name of Jesus...believing that every blessing we have in this world is a direct gift from Him...by His precious blood...that we may give for His Kingdom and the furtherance of His work...a tribute to God" What an allegiance this was!

"If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit", Galatians 5:24. With this one major force of power (the force of faith) born into the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, along with the force of the love of God, the Oklahoma District LWML has grown these 80 years in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ; thus enabling her to "Serve the Lord with Gladness".

This introduction was taken from the Fiftieth Anniversary of The Lutheran Women's Missionary League Oklahoma District. Compiled and written by Mildred Oppel, Watonga, Oklahoma.

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Gifts of the Heart for the Christian Life Conference will go to Infant Crisis Services of Oklahoma City.

Infant Crisis Services, Inc. is an emergency clothing and food pantry providing essential items to babies and toddlers from birth to 48 months who are in crisis situations.



Serve the Lord with Gladness...Psalm 100:2

## Heart-to-Heart Sisters

More than one hundred school children in El Manto, Zacatecas Mexico received backpacks from a mission project at the '06 District Convention in Enid.

Often there is only one box of crayons for an entire classroom, and these children have one just for them. This servant event was a wonderful blessing for all those needy children, and even more for the volunteers.

Watch for more on the website, [www.oklwml.org](http://www.oklwml.org)