

## *Tulsa Zone at Convention*



I love lots of things about convention...The singing, the communion with almost 5000 other Christians who love their Savior Jesus Christ as much as I do. The missionaries who are on the front lines doing the Lord's work. The telling of all the schools, hospitals and orphanages etc. that LWML has helped build with our mite money. God continues to bless us in many ways...May we continue to worship Him...Sharon Schmidt – Christ the Redeemer

The whole convention impressed me. How God puts you by women from all parts of the country and you have something in common with them, especially our Lord. Ruthie – Our Savior

My most interesting time at the convention was the Bible Study. Dr. Lesing is so knowledgeable and a great teacher. Alice Hembree – Our Savior

I loved the time on the bus as we talked, sang songs and played games. The worship services are always so meaningful to me. The entertainment on Saturday was great. I also enjoyed the entertainment on Friday evening. Jean Sappington – Our Savior

I enjoyed hanging out with the teens and doing the servant events. Corrina Paschal – Our Savior teen

I was impressed by the calmness with which Jan Wendorf, President, handled all of the suggestions to amend the amendments to the bylaws. Krystine Gibson – King of Kings

As a “first-timer” to a National Convention, I enjoyed everything! Walking into the arena and seeing all the people was a wonderful sight. During the singing, having all those voices so loud and joyous was so awesome. The entertainment both nights was great. I really enjoyed Katie Stam. She was so inspiring and has such a beautiful voice. The “Deluxe Coach” rides up and back was great. I really enjoyed meeting so many nice women. All in all, it was a wonderful, inspiring six days. Vicki Wing – King of Kings

## Being with Jesus living on the edge – A Word from Your Convention Delegate

My trip to the 2011 National LWML Convention was the first one for me. I went as a delegate from the Tulsa Zone. My adventure began at noon Wednesday by boarding the LWML bus in Tulsa at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. After an overnight stop, we arrived in Peoria, Illinois at noon on Thursday. We checked into our motel and then it was on to the convention hall to register.

We were let off at one door with a very long walk to the other end of the convention center to register. I wore the wrong shoes. Boy, were my feet hurting by evening. Next, we had delegate orientation, district caucus and Oklahoma photo. That evening we had the fabulous Dr. Ken Klaus and a communion service. Very moving. The Oklahoma delegates were seated at tables on the arena floor six rows from the stage. We used voting machines to elect officers, and select our new Mission Grant total of \$1,825,000.00. Then it was on to the challenge of selecting the actual Mission Grants to support.

I was impressed with Lana Gibbons leading us in songs, Kristine Stout soloist on hand bells, Rev. Dr. Reed Lessing for bible study, Heidi Floyd, dressed in her bathrobe, with her humorous interruptions. Also, it was good to hear how our mites are changing lives. I did my share of purchases in the LWML store. All in all it was a great trip and I was glad to be home safe.

Lanece Young,

### A Word from a First Timer

From the opening service to the closing service, the convention was spiritually uplifting, exciting and joyful. 6000 people raising hearts and voices in praise and prayer was an experience too few church members have had, but if only everyone could. I noticed, in particular, when we rose to profess our faith in the words of the Niceness Creed, there was no mumbling of old familiar words, but rather a loud proclaiming of voices in a common faith: "I believe in one God..." What a thrill!

The procession of banners from the many districts of the LWML was impressive, and the procession of the flags of the nations--carried by people of many nationalities--was moving as it reminded me of how The Great Commission of our Lord continues to be carried on today through the work of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League.

Stories told by several missionaries of the work that is being carried on in the name of Jesus through the support of Mission Mites were encouraging and moving. It confirmed how important those mite box gifts really are, and how much they can accomplish when blessed by God.

Business was handled in a manner reflective of rules and regulations designed for good order, yet with respect and courtesy that is sometimes lacking in meetings local and national. And when it came to the various offerings during the convention, I saw ladies scrambling to participate in the offering not escape from it. It reminded me of what St. Paul said of some people in his day that they gave of their income, but first they gave of their hearts.

There is so much more to tell, but the best way is to experience it for yourself. Consider attending. You won't be disappointed.

Rev. Virgil Bening

### Your Fall Speaker

Ruth Kruse was born and raised on a farm in Illinois. She is the second oldest of nine children. She graduated from Silver Cross School of Nursing in Joliet, Illinois. After graduation, she worked in a doctor's office, a church camp for two summers, then went to Concordia Teacher's College for one year and Nigeria for six years. After returning from Nigeria, she received a BA in Health Arts from St. Francis College, Joliet, Illinois. Ruth moved to Tulsa and worked at the Tulsa City-County Health Department for 23 years before retiring.

Ruth attends Our Savior Lutheran Church in Tulsa. She is active in the LWML as well as Sow and Sew, Young in Spirit, office assistant, choir, money counter, Social Ministry and retired Sunday School Teacher.

She has been on a Mission trip to Guatemala with King of Kings Lutheran Church in Glenpool and to Haiti with MUCH Ministries which is based in Georgia. Ruth gives all glory to God for blessing her and putting people in her life that have been a true blessing to her. She hopes that God has blessed you in ways that has made your life a true blessing.

# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

## 2012

March 31 – Spring Market from 9:30-3:00 at the Glenpool Conference Center

Sponsored by King of King's Servants of the King LWML

April 13-14 – LWML District Convention – Dominion House in Guthrie, OK

September — LWML Fall Event

October— Pastor Appreciation Month

## *A Note from Your President*

This has been an interesting and busy year for me.

### **On a personal level:**

- During this year my mother, who turned 95 this month, had several visits to the hospital, spent months in skilled nursing, and has now moved into assisted living. I am lucky she is in Tulsa so no traveling is involved as I supervise her care.

### **On the LWML level:**

- I attended the Peoria Convention . This was my 2nd national convention and if you have never attended one, I hope you will put that on your to-do list. The speakers, especially those who tell about our mission grants are interesting and informative. Seeing what our mites have done and where they will go for the next biennium is the highlight of the convention for me. Surprisingly enough, it was a phrase from Pastor Ken Klaus during the opening worship service that I have pondered most in the last few months. “*Don't mess with the LWML*” was received with laughter and cheers but I have wondered since if that is how non-LWMLers receive it. It is a phrase that could be very negative— don't mess with them, they always get their way and run things around here. Or, it could be—don't mess with them, they are a great mission group and do a lot of good things for our church. I pray that your society falls in the positive camp and that all of you work hard to encourage new members and the participation and support of your Pastor.

My term as President of my society ended this fall. For the first time in years, I will be just a member and following instead of leading. My favorite aspect of LWML is partici• participating in the LWR projects. We get together to quilt almost weekly and the fun and laughter we share makes it a day of building friendships as well as serving others.

- Remember to register now for the Fall Retreat  
October 20-21.
- Plan now to attend the District Convention  
April 13-14 ,2012.

# Where is your MITE BOX?

Following are typical answers I receive when asking this question

**What is it?** It is a small box for collecting loose change during the month to donate to mission at your LWML meeting or on LWML Sunday if your church has one. The money goes to the mission grants selected by LWML members during Convention, 25% goes to National Goals and 75% goes toward meeting the Oklahoma District Goals.

**I'm not a member of LWML so don't ask me.** Everyone is encouraged to participate, not just LWML members, so encourage your friends to use one also. This is a great way to contribute a little to missions on a regular basis and to introduce your kids to missions.

**I don't have one.** Your Society President should have some available.

**It's somewhere but I forget to use it** – Believe it or not this is the #1 answer.

**This might help:**

Keep it in the car and drop in some change from the fast food drive-thru

Keep it in the laundry room and fill it with change when you empty pockets on washday

Keep it with your devotional material and drop in a few pennies as you pray for our missionaries and mission grants. Print the mite calendar from [lwml.org](http://lwml.org) to help you.

Keep it on the dresser to catch coins when you change purses or clothes.

**It's full but I forget to bring it.** I have no solution for this one, just a few suggestions. I'm take a minute to put it in the car and then you will only have to go back to the parking lot when you realize this is the day to bring it. Have someone in your society send an e-mail reminder. Put a reminder in your bulletin the week before LWML or Mite Sunday at your church.

## Free Mite Money

What if Lutheran Women's Missionary League - LWML - National Mites (St. Louis MO) earned a donation every time you searched the Internet? Or how about if a percentage of every purchase you made online went to support our cause? **Well, now it can!**

**GoodSearch.com** is a Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. Use it just as you would any search engine, get quality search results from Yahoo, and watch the donations add up!

**GoodShop.com** is an online shopping mall which donates up to 30 percent of each purchase to your favorite cause! Hundreds of great stores including Amazon, Target, Gap, Best Buy, eBay, Macy's and Barnes & Noble have teamed up with GoodShop and every time you place an order, you'll be supporting your favorite cause.

And if you download the GoodSearch – Lutheran Women's Missionary League - LWML - National (St. Louis MO) toolbar, our cause will earn money every time you shop and search online - even if you forget to go to GoodShop or GoodSearch first! Add the Lutheran Women's Missionary League - LWML - National (St. Louis MO) toolbar at

<http://www.goodsearch.com/toolbar/lutheran-womens-missionary-league-lwml-national>

