

The Kansas Sunshine



Volume 81: Number 4

Summer 2024

LWML Kansas District

We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf (Hebrews 6:19–20a).

For those of you who don't know me, I am Elaine Engelman and I am blessed to have been elected President of the LWML Kansas District. I grew up in Arkansas City, Kansas, where my mother was active in her local LWML group, and during a time when my aunts and my grandmother traveled to all the district conventions and occasionally served on district committees. I graduated from Kansas State University with a degree in Early Childhood Education, married the love of my life, David, in 1977, and began attending local LWML events with my mother-in-law when David and I moved our family to Southeast Kansas, near Chanute.

I was asked to serve on a Kansas District committee in 1992. I was able to accept because my mother-in-law told me her gift to the LWML was to take care of my children when I needed to go to meetings and conventions away from home. I wasn't able to continue after those first four years because I was needed at home, but my dear friend, JoAnn Meyer, kept in touch with me, asking at every convention I attended if I was ready to come back to work on a district committee. When our youngest child was a junior in high school I was able to return to district activities to serve the Lord with gladness in a more visible role again. That lasted until 2021 when I was asked to serve as a member of the LWML Group and Leader Development Committee.

My local Bible study group recently finished discussing *A Little Book on Joy*, by Pastor Matthew Harrison. In the last chapter, "Joy — Anchor to the Future," Pastor Harrison reflected that remembering the past, and the meaningful way we are connected to it with "First Article creation joy," helps us stand against the future, even dash into the future with courage. In other words, Jesus, as our Anchor, doesn't hold us back or drag us down. He keeps us secure in the knowledge that He is drawing us forward toward an eternity in heaven with Him, so we can continuously serve the Lord with gladness here while we await that future joy.

As we begin this new biennium adventure of service together, please pray that God will blend the gifts of our LWML leaders into a unique "family" unit that can face the future with courage and joy, anchored together in Jesus.

Elaine Engelman
District President



Be sure to check out these pages ...

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COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Rev. John Werner | Pastoral Counselor

As I'm writing this article, I've just held a funeral for someone whom I would call a good friend. He was the head trustee when Sarah and I arrived here at our first pastoral call around nine years ago. In that time, he has helped our family and congregation in so many ways: installing a new bathroom in the parsonage, assisting in delivering a swing set to our backyard for our (now five) children, supervising the construction of our new fellowship hall at the church, and painting, oh so much painting.

As with most funerals, it's hard not to remember other loved ones who are now in the nearer presence of Jesus. I found myself remembering my sister, who died suddenly when I was in high school, now almost thirty years ago. I reflect upon the many times coming home from practice or events to "visit" my sister at the graveyard. Most of this was me processing my grief, expressing my loss, and sometimes having long discussions with God.

It's been a few years now since I've heard this, (and I wish I could remember who!) but a pastor once told me that the graveside is not necessarily the best place to "visit" our departed loved ones. He directed me to the Proper Preface during the liturgy of the Sacrament of Holy Communion. This prayer often ends with the words: "Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying."

It is then that the congregation erupts in singing the Sanctus. Holy, Holy, Holy.

It is here, in the Service of the Sacrament, said this pastor, that we can best remember and "commune" with our departed loved ones in the faith. I'm often drawn to the purpose and design in the architecture of churches. In many congregations, the cemetery is located just behind the church — on the other side of the wall where the altar stands.

Also, included in many of these churches, is a curved communion rail, reminding us that we are but a part of the church throughout time and space; including also those saints who are now buried and awaiting the resurrection of the dead in Christ's second coming, like the rest of us.

When we commune, we not only participate in a foretaste of the feast to come with angels and those in heaven, but also with the King of Heaven, Jesus the Christ, who gives His crucified body and blood as host and meal. We thank God for this Lord's Supper taken from the Old Testament Passover feast, to remember what God has done for us in Christ's life, death, resurrection, and ascension, but also to receive the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation to all who believe this. This is most certainly true.

Christ's Peace,

Pastor John Werner



CHRISTIAN LIFE

Sharon Daugherty | Committee Chair



Every morning, the very first thing I do is go to my kitchen window and look out at the world beyond. I can see our pond through the trees and sometimes several deer grazing in the meadow. Our bird feeder stands by the gold fish pond. The red cardinals, the orioles, the hummingbirds, the mourning doves, the blue jays, and many others come and go. I quickly see God's work, and it is then, with a refreshing breath, that I begin my day, usually with a song in my heart. How blessed are we?

This morning, being no different, the music of "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" came to mind. The lyrics, shown below, have a strong message that applies to the LWML at all levels. Our hearts are bound in Christ and we have such a strong fellowship. We pray, and those prayers include many things, good, bad, and ugly. We share our fears and woes of not being able to accomplish a new position, or just struggling with an old position. We reach out to each other for advice or just a care. How blessed are we to have sisters in Christ that are like-minded and so willing to serve in so many positions.

The District Christian Life Committee would like you to always remember this hymn. Find comfort in the message that Christ has bound our hearts with His. He is there for every meeting, at all levels, with every member of LWML. We are His to serve Him and should always remember that we are human, but we were created by God for Christ's purpose. We struggle and complain, but the ultimate goal is eternal life in heaven. How blessed are we?

1. Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above.

2. Before our Father's throne
We pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
Our comforts and our cares.

3. We share our mutual woes,
Our mutual burdens bear,
And often for each other flows
The sympathizing tear.

4. When here our pathways part,
We suffer bitter pain;
Yet, one in Christ and one in heart,
We hope to meet again.

5. From sorrow, toil, and pain,
And sin we shall be free
And perfect love and friendship reign
Through all eternity.

LSB 649

Public Domain

Colossians 2:2 is a good reference to bear in mind. It states, *that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ* (Colossians 2:2). As Lutheran Women in Mission, we are serving others and have been totally equipped by Christ.

In Case You Missed It (ICYMI) . . .

Congratulations to these new LWML Kansas District Executive Committee members:

*President, Elaine Engelman
Vice President of Caring Service, Linda Stanton
Vice President of Communication,
Allison Lehmann*

*Recording Secretary, Kathryn Richard
Financial Secretary, Carolyn Fishburn
Pastoral Counselor, Rev. Kenton Abbott
Meeting Manager, Joyce Hagemann*

CONVENTION OFFERINGS

Relda Galli | District Treasurer

Praise our Lord for the generous convention offerings that were given during and following the 2024 LWML Kansas District Convention! Included in this report are the convention offerings previously reported in the 2024 Post Convention *Sonshine*, as well as the online offerings that were given during and following the 2024 LWML Kansas District Convention. The option to donate to the convention offerings online ended on April 30, 2024.

Friday Night Service \$ 4,004.32
ONLINE OFFERING \$ 625.86
2024–2026 LWML Kansas District Mission Grants

Sunday Morning Service \$ 3,123.83
ONLINE OFFERING \$ 518.83
Artesian Ministries, Scripture from Scratch

Prayer Walk \$ 821.00
ONLINE OFFERING \$ 338.29
*Lutheran Church Charities, K-9 Comfort Dog Ministry,
Immanuel Lutheran Church, Ellsworth, Kansas*



*As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another,
as good stewards of God's varied grace
(1 Peter 4:10).*

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Carolyn Fishburn

I would like to introduce myself as the new Financial Secretary for the LWML Kansas District. Thank you to Kathryn Richard for her faithful service in this position during the past four years. Group and zone treasurers are requested to begin sending mite offerings and memorial monies to me if you are not already doing so. My address is listed in the box to the right. Be sure to include the remittance voucher found on the LWML Kansas District website, kansaslwml.org, on the [Organizational Resources](#) page, under the Expense and Remittance Vouchers tab. My address and a remittance voucher may also both be found on the website on the [Giving](#) page under both the Mite Offerings and By Mail tabs. As instructed on the remittance voucher, checks should be made payable to LWML Kansas District.

Carolyn Fishburn
LWML Kansas District
Financial Secretary
PO Box 491
Haven, KS 67543

You may also submit your individual, group, or zone mite offerings, memorial gifts, or other contributions online at kansaslwml.org/giving. Submitting online will save you the cost of a check, stamp, and envelope. Also, NO remittance voucher is needed with an online donation.

If you have questions about sending your contributions by mail or making donations online, please contact me at financialsecretary@kansaslwml.org.

GOSPEL OUTREACH

Julie Hatesohl | VP of Gospel Outreach

Following the LWML Kansas District Convention, the Gospel Outreach Committee, with its Anchor in tow, has been processing and distributing payments for God's Gracious Gift Fund grants. This year, three grant proposals were selected:

- SONshine Preschool and Childcare Center, Chanute, Kansas, for \$1,000;
- St. Paul's Redeemer Lutheran Churches (Joint Parish), Alta Visita, Junction City, and Eskridge, Kansas, for \$3,000; and
- Y4Life, Lutherans for Life, for \$3,464.33.

The first mission grant for this biennium has been PAID! Light of the World Lutheran Church and Early Learning Center in De Soto, Kansas, has received \$8,000 to help with their new LCMS congregation, preschool, and daycare. This new congregation and preschool will bring Word and Sacrament ministry to a growing community where a new Panasonic plant will bring thousands of people to the area.

LWML KANSAS DISTRICT 2024-2026 MISSION GRANTS	
1. Light of the World Lutheran Church De Soto, Kansas (\$8,000)	
2. Concordia Theological Seminary Co-op Ft. Wayne, Indiana (\$5,000)	
3. Kansas University Campus Ministry Lawrence, Kansas (\$5,000)	
4. Shepherd's Canyon Retreat Wickenburg, Arizona (\$5,000)	
5. K-9 Comfort Dog Ministry Ellsworth, Kansas (\$5,000)	
6. Northeast Kansas Lutheran Early Response Team Gardner, Kansas (\$4,000)	
7. Lutheran Special School Kisumu, Kenya (\$5,000)	
8. Concordia Academy Wichita, Kansas (\$6,000)	
9. Linn Lutheran School Orchestra Linn, Kansas (\$7,500)	
10. Lutheran Braille Workers Yucaipa, California (\$600)	

Follow this biennium's eight mission grants by printing the latest mission grants bookmarks that are now available through the LWML Kansas District website on the [Gospel Outreach](#) page.

Over the past several years, the LWML Kansas District has assisted future called pastors through the Student Financial Aid program. This year, four pastors who have received student financial aid from the LWML Kansas District have received calls. We ask that you continue to support these pastors through your prayers as they go where God has led them into the mission field to shepherd their new flocks:

The Rev. Matthew Goltl, Associate Pastor, Risen Savior Lutheran Church, Wichita, Kansas;

The Rev. Jonah Schultz, Pastor, Salem Lutheran Church, Jacksonville, Illinois;

The Rev. Josiah Schultz, Pastor, St. John Lutheran Church, Keystone, Iowa; and

The Rev. Caleb Wehling, Associate Pastor, Our Savior Lutheran Church, Norfolk, Nebraska.

The Gospel Outreach Committee is looking forward to working with you, the LWML Kansas District, to support and fund the remaining mission grants and the Student Financial Aid recipients over the upcoming biennium. All praise and glory be to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!



SONshine Preschool, Chanute, God's Gracious Gift Fund recipient, received their funding on May 7, 2024. Those in the picture from left to right: local LWML member Ella Brazil, LWML Kansas District President Elaine Engelman, SONshine Preschool and Childcare Director Samantha James, and Zion Lutheran Board of Education chairman Susan Stich.

CARING SERVICE

Linda Stanton | VP of Caring Service

Another beautiful LWML Kansas District convention is over. Anchored in Jesus, we experienced so many wonderful moments together. Some of those great moments happened as we gathered Gifts from the Heart (GFTH) and worked together in servant events. We are very grateful for your generous gifts and outpouring of love — thank you! Take a minute to review your efforts in the Post-Convention issue of *The Kansas Sonshine*.

We want to express special gratitude to the members of the Holy Cross Lutheran Braille Ministry. They worked all afternoon with us to produce 22 Spanish braille books of John. It was no small task for them to bring their equipment and work the whole afternoon, sharing information about this amazing ministry. Thank you so much!

I want to thank our past committee members, Past Vice President of Caring Service Betty Amey, Jolene Stackhouse, and Cindy Mead for their service for the past two years. It was great working with you!

Moving forward, the Caring Service Committee will be chaired by Beth Ringwald. She is the returning member of the committee and is joined by three new members, Cindy Manche, Nancy Taylor, and Maria Keil. Welcome to these new members! The committee has already been working to determine the recipients for GFTH to be collected at the upcoming Kansas Assembly of Leaders (KAOL).

We look forward to serving the Lord with gladness along with all of you in the months to come. May our efforts be truly blessed by God as we endeavor to be a blessing to others through our work as Lutheran Women in Mission!



CARING SERVICE NEWS:

GIFTS FROM THE HEART TO BE COLLECTED AT
KANSAS ASSEMBLY OF LEADERS (KAOL) IN JULY

Items needed: laundry pods, individually wrapped healthy snacks, and shampoo and conditioner

Recipients: Salina Shares and Homestead Ministries

The mission of **Salina Shares** is to enrich lives and build a sense of community in the Salina area through generosity and acts of kindness. Projects include Laundry Love, assisting families at Christmas, and collecting various items for those in need.

The Homestead is a safe, residential, transitional care program for women who are survivors of the sex trafficking industry. They help women rebuild their lives through education, job apprenticeships, counseling, mentorships, health care, and Bible studies.

Those attending KAOL have the opportunity to bring with them any of the above listed items for this Gifts from the Heart collection!



POSTAGE STAMPS AND MOST MINISTRIES INFORMATION

We are **NOT** currently collecting postage stamps as we have no known outlet to sell them.

Please note that ***MOST Ministries will NOT accept broken eyeglasses, or lenses that have no frames. Good frames with no lenses ARE accepted.*** Please check the glasses that you donate to be sure they are in wearable condition. We also **do not** collect any heavy or hard cases as they are too expensive to ship.

SPECIAL FOCUS MINISTRIES

Sarah Kloepfer | VP Special Focus Ministries

I hope that you are all able to find some time this summer for relaxation, fun, and maybe some travel. Maybe you get to spend some quality time with your family or maybe you spend your summer at the ball fields. It's a great time to rejuvenate. I've always loved summer, especially when I was teaching!

The LWML Kansas District Convention was a great time of being in God's Word, seeing old friends, making new friends, and just being with awesome LWML ladies! The Special Focus Ministries Committee had ten great Young Woman Representatives (YWRs) at the convention. We had a great time with them, getting to know them, and having some fun at our after-hours get togethers!

Please encourage young women in your congregation to apply for the Young Woman Representative positions to the national LWML convention in Omaha, Nebraska. Look for applications in the fall!

Young Women
IN MISSION

CHURCH WORKERS IN MISSION (CWIM)

Joyce Duitsman | CWIM Coordinator



A warm LWML welcome to these servants of the Lord new to Kansas!

Rev. Timothy Wilcoxon, Trinity, Burlington

Lauran Delancy, Director of Parish Music, Beautiful Savior, Olathe

Prayer Mail Coordinator Announcement

President Elaine has announced that Mary Schmidt has been appointed to serve as Prayer Mail Coordinator. As soon as you see Mary's photo on the Appointed Personnel page of the Contact Us tab on the [website](#), she will be able to receive your email at pmail@kansaslwml.org. Written requests are necessary for Mary to send a prayer mail request (p-mail). P-mail is sent BCC (blind carbon copy) so that others cannot access your email address. If you do not currently receive P-mail, and would like to be added to the mailing list, please send your email address to Mary. If you currently receive P-mail, you may re-send your email address to Mary to make sure your address is still on the list.

President's note: A huge, heartfelt thank you to Velma Bass for her years of faithful service to LWML, not only recently, as Prayer Mail Coordinator, but throughout all her various elected and appointed positions. God's blessings to you, Velma, as you continue your adventure in serving the Lord with gladness!



COMMUNICATION

Allison Lehman | VP of Communication

Our Kansas weather has been pretty interesting this spring and summer; “active weather pattern” has been mentioned by our local meteorologists on almost a weekly basis. Isn’t it amazing, though, to be able to get weather information, updates, and special weather bulletins as we need them? Sometimes we hear the forecast on the TV, radio, internet, or maybe through a weather alert app on our phones. That sounds a little like what the LWML Kansas District Communication Committee does to bring LWML news to you.

- ⚓ Through the LWML Kansas District website, *The Kansas Sonshine* newsletter, and social media, you can find LWML upcoming and long range “forecast” information. The website not only has information about upcoming events, but you can also find current and archived issues of *The Kansas Sonshine*, information on giving and where to send mites, applications for financial aid and Young Woman Representatives, and links to *lwml.org*. If you have any special pictures or information to share on LWML Kansas District Facebook page, send them to facebook@kansaslwml.org; don’t forget to ‘like’ it! Any articles or information for the newsletter can be sent to sonshine@kansaslwml.org.
- ⚓ Download the LWML app through your app store and find devotions, *Lutheran Woman’s Quarterly*, the LWML *On the Go* Podcast, Monthly Featured Resources for ideas for your upcoming zone or local group event or meeting, and more.
- ⚓ Subscribe to electronic delivery on the LWML Kansas District website, kansaslwml.org/communications, and you may occasionally receive a special bulletin or e-blast for pertinent information. Stay in touch with LWML by signing up at lwml.org/stayintouch.
- ⚓ The LWML *Quarterly* provides interesting stories and Bible studies to use individually or with your group. Please make sure your group has paid the fees for the LWML *Quarterly* and the LWML Kansas District website maintenance. Payment should be remitted to Marj Aufdemberge, her contact information is on the remittance form ([here](#)). If you have questions about these fees, you are welcome to email me at communication@kansaslwml.org. If you don’t know your group’s status on the fees, please email Marj at distribution@kansaslwml.org.
- ⚓ The LWML Store sells items to use in all times of weather and seasons and can typically be found at the district convention, Kansas Assembly of Leaders (KAOL), and the Christian Life Retreat. The store now takes credit cards and offers a wide variety of items.
- ⚓ Please report any newly elected officers of your group to your Zone President so that they can be included in the District Directory for the use of officers and committees of the district and zones.

I am humbled to be elected to serve as VP of the LWML Kansas District Communication Committee. I join an incredible team of women: Sherri Rose, *The Kansas Sonshine* Editor; Elise Christensen, Website Manager; Brenda Piester, Directory Manager; Marj Aufdemberge, Distribution Manager; and our new members Sara Deepe, Social Media Manager, and Jill Lowe, Store Manager. Thank you to Kris Osler, past VP of Communication and Shelly Keller, past Social Media Manager for all their work over the past four years!



The LWML Kansas District Communication Committee is looking for a Technology Manager. Are you someone who enjoys working on the computer and would be able to assist with technology for district events like convention, KAOL, and the Christian Life Retreat?

If you are interested, or would like more information, please contact Allison, VP of Communication at communication@kansaslwml.org.

ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES

Carol Olson | Committee Chair

As we start a new biennium, I want to thank everyone again for their commitment and dedication to updating their bylaws. Everyone has done a wonderful job! It's been fun for me to put faces to names as I get the opportunity to meet those I have worked with. We are still in the final review process for the Manhattan, Wichita, and Southeast Zones. We hope to have these reviews completed soon so that the recommended bylaws amendments can be presented at upcoming zone meetings.

Looking ahead at bylaws reviews for the 2024–2026 biennium, we'll start with Lincoln Zone in September/October and then KC Crossroads in November/December.

But for now, I pray that each of you has a safe, fun, and Christ filled summer! Blessings to you all.

Bylaws Revisions Schedule

2024

Lincoln — September/October
KC Crossroads — November/
December

2025

Topeka — January/February
Herington — March/April
Linn — May/June
Northwest — July/August
Northeast — September/October
Hutchinson — November/December

2026

Manhattan — January/February
Wichita — March/April
Southeast — May/June



Lutheran Women in Mission

invites you to the

41st Biennial Convention

Thursday, June 26–Sunday, June 29, 2025

Omaha, Nebraska



Convention Theme: *Growing in God's Grace*

Scripture Verse: *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 (2 Peter 3:18).*

Convention Goal Statement: Through Word and Sacrament, I will grow in grace to serve our Lord and proclaim His glory.

Visit lwml.org for all things LWML Convention!

TRAVEL CHAIRMAN NEEDED!

Are YOU interested in serving our district as the Awesome Travel Chairman (ATC) to the 2025 LWML Convention in Omaha, Nebraska, June 26–29, 2025? If so, please contact President Elaine, president@kansaslwml.org, as soon as possible. You may also contact President Elaine with questions and for Travel Chairman duties. This is a job that blesses others and comes with its own blessings!



Headed to Omaha!

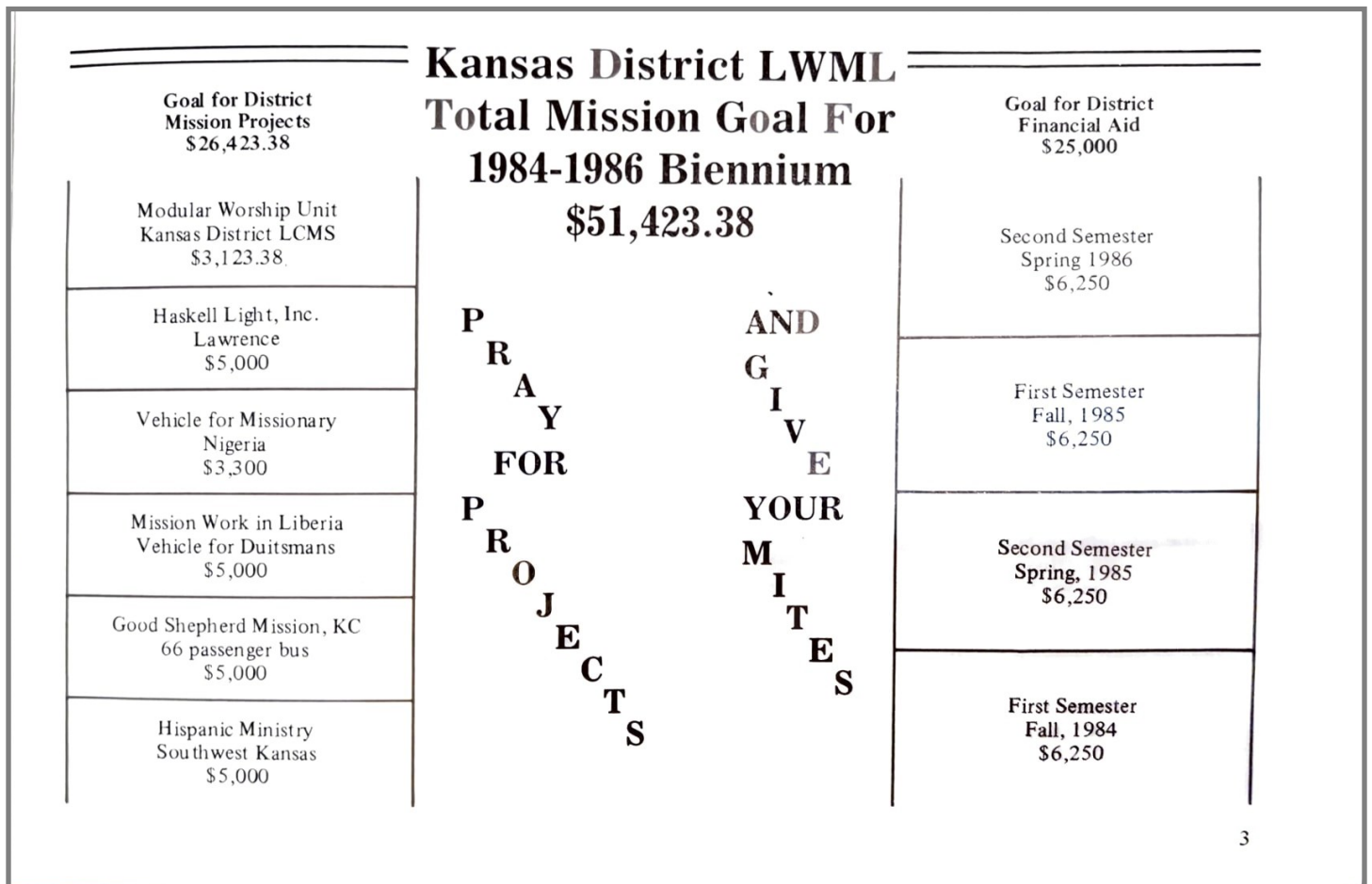
ARCHIVIST/HISTORIAN COMMITTEE

Marie Roth | Archivist/Historian Co-Chair

Let's look at the difference 40 years can make. Below is the 1984–1986 biennium poster for mission grants and scholarship recipients. Compare these numbers to the 2024–2026 biennium:

- ◆ Total goal: \$26,423.38 vs. \$53,100 (includes interest from endowment fund).
- ◆ Number of projects: 6 vs. 10.
- ◆ Scholarships awarded each term: \$6,250 vs. \$10,000.

To God be the glory!



LWML KANSAS DISTRICT ZONE AND LOCAL GROUP NEWS

The LWML **WOMEN IN GOD'S SERVICE (WINGS) GROUP, IMMANUEL, HEPLER** has had a busy Spring. They started the year with a project day in January, making quilted heart ornaments with a scripture card attached, that were used as table favors for the low-income housing groups' Valentines Day Party. They colored, wrote personal messages, and attached Bible verses to Valentine and Easter Cards that were distributed to the local assisted living facility. In February, 12 women of the congregation and 13 guests enjoyed a Saturday morning brunch, including the Bible study, *The Women in Christ's Genealogy*. April brought the LWML Kansas District Convention in Wichita; six members attended. Some of the convention attendees visited the Orphan Grain Train as their servant event and delivered items they had been collecting for donation. The group also assisted the Immanuel congregation with the LCMS Kansas District Faith at Work Initiative, including collecting food and funds for the local food pantry; collecting diapers, baby items, and funds for Vie Medical Center; and collecting personal care items for Immanuel's comfort station for cross country bicycle riders.



Hearts and Cards

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Kaylie Pinedo and Keren

Backpacks for OGT

Carol and John Kratzer and Comfort Dog, Keren

HOLY CROSS LWML, WICHITA, packed backpacks with items for school kits for Orphan Grain Train before enjoying a delicious potluck dinner on May 7. Following the meal, Carol and John Kratzer with Immanuel Lutheran Church, Ellsworth, Kansas, spoke about their ministry with Lutheran Church Charities K-9 Comfort Dog Ministry. They shared how they became involved in the ministry, how expenses are handled, and stories of ways Keren, the Comfort Dog, has provided comfort to people in many situations. Through this ministry, they share the mercy, compassion, presence, and proclamation of Jesus Christ to those hurting and in need. When giving Keren "plushies" to people, they share Keren's Bible verse, *The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever* (Isaiah 40:8).

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HUTCHINSON ZONE LADIES AID AND BETHANY GUILD OF ST. PAUL LUTHERAN, PRESTON have had a busy spring. During the 40 days of Lent, we asked all members of our congregation to remove 40 items from their closets (one item each day) that they no longer needed and put them in a large trash bag. At the end of the 40 days, the bags, along with 25 quilts made by our quilt group, were taken to the Wichita Branch of Orphan Grain Train. On March 17, a potato bar and raffle were held after worship, with proceeds given toward expenses of our church's **125th Anniversary** celebration in 2025. In April, we took part in the Kids' Fair held at Lemon Park in Pratt. We gave away over 200 *I Love My Neighborhood* booklets from Lutheran Hour Ministry's (LHM) Project Connect, as well as cotton candy! Our booth had a waiting line until the last minute of closing! On June 3, in Pratt, we served chicken and noodles to approximately 150 at the 75ers dinner. All area residents 75 and older plus the Miss Kansas Pageant contestants enjoyed the meal and program. Pastor Michael Schotte, St. Paul, blessed the meal.



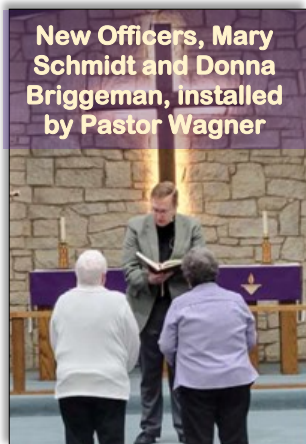
Kids' Fair, Pratt, COTTON CANDY!!

LWML KANSAS DISTRICT ZONE AND LOCAL GROUP NEWS

The **NORTHEAST ZONE** held a Spring Gathering at Christ Lutheran Church, Wathena. Twenty-seven LWML ladies and Pastor Wolfe from Christ were in attendance. The guest speaker was Trina Earl from the Doniphan County Pet Rescue. She not only rescues all kinds of animals, but also trains animals. She has a tracking dog that has assisted with many different kinds of rescues. We would like to thank everyone who donated to the Gifts from the Heart. Three different places in our zone received 501 pairs of socks, 336 pairs of underwear, 6 deodorants and \$450 in cash and gift cards. All have been delivered and all was very much appreciated. Eighteen Northeast Zone LWML members attended the LWML Kansas District Convention. We were blessed to be able to provide many convention helpers, as well as one of the convention co-chairs.



The **HUTCHINSON ZONE LWML** held their Spring Meeting on Saturday, March 16, 2024, from 9 a.m.–2 p.m. at Christ the King, Salina. Forty-two members, guests, and pastors attended. Gifts from the Heart were collected for Salina Shares, which provides gift bags with home goods for those starting over with nothing. Salina Shares runs Laundry Love in Salina by paying for those who can't afford to use the laundry mat. They also collect socks, underclothing, winter coats, and gloves for those in need. Pastor Wagner led opening devotions. Our mission speaker was Susan Rathgeber from Lutheran Braille Workers, Holy Cross, Wichita. She shared that Lutheran Braille Workers began in 1943 and they have served over 140 countries. Providing translations of the Bible to the blind and visually impaired free of charge is an amazing mission to bring everyone the Word of God! Darla Abbott is Hutchinson Zone's 2026 Convention Co-Chairman. Christ The King members provided a lovely lunch followed by the business meeting and election of officers. Pastor Wagner held the installation of officers and led closing devotions.



LWML KANSAS DISTRICT ZONE AND LOCAL GROUP NEWS

CHRIST THE KING (CTK) LWML, Salina, held their annual Spring Wrap Up Retreat on Monday, April 29, 2024, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at Harmony Hideaway. Harmony Hideaway is a spacious home in the country offering lodging, house concerts, and event hosting. The Salina Area Chamber of Commerce says this is one of Salina's hidden gems offering a very relaxing atmosphere. Sixteen LWML ladies gathered at Harmony Hideaway, received a tour of the facilities by the host Milt Allen, enjoyed a large charcuterie board and were entertained by Mr. Milt playing the keyboard and singing. CTK LWML will not meet again until August 26, 2024, with their annual salad supper, guest speaker, and Trinity LWML as guests.



Mr. Milt Allen



Retreat Attendees



Wonderful Food!



BETHANY, WICHITA, LWML ladies have been collecting eyeglasses, sunglasses, reading glasses and soft glasses cases for MOST Ministries, a project involving not only our LWML ladies but many members of our congregation. We continue to collect glasses and make cases throughout the year. Our newest project is to gather new or slightly used suitcases, backpacks, and/or duffelbags for children to hold their belongings when they arrive at local foster facilities. Many foster children arrive with all of their belongings in a paper bag or a trash bag. Our ladies want to show our love for these children in this small way. On LWML Sunday, 2023, we draped quilts on the backs of our church pews. These quilts were made by our quilting ladies, also part of LWML. So far in 2024, our quilting group has made more than 100 quilts for Lutheran World Relief. They are sent after LWML Sunday in October, along with hygiene, school, and layette kits.



Bethany LWML Board
 Dian Merrick, Treasurer; Ruth Valdez, President; Marci Hampton, Vice President; not pictured, Mary Morton, Secretary



Bethany, Wichita Quilts for Lutheran World Relief



Northwest Zone Spring Gathering

Attendees of the **NORTHWEST ZONE** Spring Gathering, held at Immanuel, Norton, in March, assembled school supplies that will become part of a shoebox gift for Operation Christmas Child. In addition to school supplies, each shoebox, when fully assembled, will contain quality toys and personal care items along with the Gospel story booklet, *The Greatest Gift*, so each child can learn about Jesus and His love for them.

LWML KANSAS DISTRICT ZONE AND LOCAL GROUP NEWS

The **LINN ZONE LWML** Spring Event was held at Zion, Linn, on March 17. President Sheryl Kruse opened the meeting and Pastor Tim Koch, Zion, Linn, led the group in a devotion. Pastor Koch spoke to the group about the Jesus Door-2-Door program and Hispanic Ministries in Washington County and Kansas. Julie Hatesohl, LWML Kansas District VP of Gospel Outreach, promoted the LWML Kansas District Convention, Wichita, April 12–14. During the business meeting, election of officers was held. An ingathering of diapers, wipes, and food items was collected for Swaddling Clothes and the food banks of Clay, Marshall, and Washington counties. Zone Pastoral Advisor, Pastor Mark Gaschler, installed the new officers and closed the meeting with devotions. Refreshments were served by Zion, Linn, and door prizes were given.

DATES TO REMEMBER

2024

July 11	Executive Committee meeting, Christ the King, Salina
July 12	Board of Directors Meeting, Christ the King, Salina
July 13	KAOL/Interdepartmental Meeting, Christ the King, Salina
November 1–2	EC Meeting, Manhattan (location TBD)
November	Site visits for 2028 convention

2025

June 26–29	LWML Convention, Omaha, Nebraska
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The Kansas Sonshine deadlines are listed on the LWML Kansas District website, kansaslwml.org/sonshine-schedule.

LWML INFORMATION FOR YOU:

As your group or zone elects new leaders, please send officers' contact information to Brenda Piester, directory@kansaslwml.org.

Please contact President Elaine, president@kansaslwml.org, as soon as your zone has chosen a date for your fall event.

Find LWML summer resources at lwml.org/summer. There are Bible studies, devotions, a variety of mission service activities, and Gifts from the Heart ideas. Don't miss these resources for this summer, or for any time of the year!

Need information about Orphan Grain Train kits? Visit kansaslwml.org/caring-service.

Need Christian Life resources? Visit kansaslwml.org/christian-life.

Want to print the current Mission Grant Poster? Visit kansaslwml.org/gospel-outreach

Be sure to visit kansaslwml.org for answers to LWML questions you may have.



Mission Statement

Led by the Holy Spirit, the LWML Kansas District will equip women to proclaim Christ, support missions, and serve the Lord with gladness.