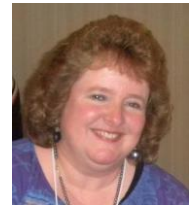




# New Jersey Mission Light



*A message from our president*



*Ready for Spring!*

I don't know about you, but I'm ready for Spring! We've had enough Nor'Easters, snow, downed trees, and power outages. I've had a lot of business travel so far this year, and I can confirm that Nor'Easters can really mess up airline flights and ground travel. Despite the storms in our life (Nor'Easters or otherwise), God promises to be with us, no matter what..."Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you; yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand." Isaiah 41:10. God's Word is in action all around us. I pray that you observe all the blessings that God provides and promises through His Word during this Lenten Season, as we prepare for Easter!

2018 is already shaping up to be a very exciting year! We have been busy with plans for our LWML District Convention, which will be held on August 17-19, 2018 in Morristown, NJ, the "Military Capital of the American Revolution." You'll want to take advantage of tours being offered before and after the Convention, along with other inspiring activities. (See p. 5 for details, or go to [www.lwmlnj.org](http://www.lwmlnj.org)) We will be electing new officers and selecting new mission grants for the coming biennium. If you're willing to serve as an officer in the LWML, consider putting your name in nomination. (See p. 7-8 for office responsibilities and nominating form). Also, be sure to select two delegates from each society to represent you at Convention!



Our Convention has an impressive line-up of guest speakers for you, along with our servant events, Mission Prayer Walk, and "Gifts of the Heart." Donna Pyle, noted CPH and LWML author, will lead us in Bible Study on our theme, "Connected to the Vine," based on John 15:5.

I want to thank our NorthEastern Zone as they continue to work very hard in planning and preparing for this Convention. Please stay tuned for further Convention information at your Spring Rallies and in coming mailings. Also, be sure to check out our new website when it rolls out in April with more Convention information!

God's Blessings!

Arlene Price, President,  
LWML NJ District

## In this issue:

President's Message

Spotlight on Mission  
Grants & Servant Events

Pastor's Corner

District Convention

LWML Quarterlies

Call for Nominations

Around the District...

Calendar of Events

And Much, Much,  
More...



*I am the vine,  
you are the branches*  
JOHN 15:5

# Gospel Outreach



**Calling all Mites!** Wow! Ladies we have almost completed our Mite Goal Grants. We just completed our Mite Grant to LIRS for bibles to detainees. Only one more left to complete. To complete our last grant, we need \$2,700 more in mites to finish the Grant for St. John's Food Bank by July 1<sup>st</sup>. We are asking our societies to do Mite Fundraisers, so we can complete our goals. Please take pictures of your creative Mite fundraisers and send them in with your mites so we can post them for others to see your fellowship ideas and wonderful work.



Caren Vogt

VP of Gospel Outreach  
LWML NJ District

**PAID!**





**Lutheran Heritage Foundation**  
A grant to translate "Bible Storybooks for Asian Immigrant Families", helping immigrant children in America understand and read bible stories in their native languages  
**\$2500**






**Feeding Neighbors & Sharing the Love of Christ**  
funds to stock the food bank and equipment to distribute groceries to the community in need while sharing the love of Christ.  
Submitted by St. John's Lutheran LWML  
**\$1500**






**Working on Mite Grant #5**

## 2016-18 Mission Grants

| Grant Report as of 03-21-18   | Total          | Paid           | Balance       |
|---|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| Bethesda Lutheran Communities:<br>Counseling for Parents expecting disabled children  | \$3000         | \$3000         | \$0           |
| Heart-2-Heart Sister Programming:<br>LWML - NJ District   | \$3000         | \$3000         | \$0           |
| Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Services:<br>Bibles for detainees  | \$3000         | \$3000         | \$0           |
| Lutheran Heritage Foundation:<br>Bible Story Books for Asian Immigrant Children   | \$2500         | \$2500         | \$0           |
| St. John's Bridegton, NJ:<br>"Feeding Families" – Food Bank<br>*partially funded at convention for \$1500, and voted on 3/11/17 to add \$1500 to this grant | \$3000         | \$0            | \$3000        |
| <b>TOTALS:</b>  | <b>\$14500</b> | <b>\$11500</b> | <b>\$3000</b> |

## Gospel Outreach – Servant Events!

What a wonderful Job of ingathering for our Flood Buckets at the Fall Retreat. Your generosity and gifts of thanks filled our Disaster Trailer to help the victims of our fall storms. A job well done Ladies!

We have received grant proposals for the 2018-2020 Mite Goal Projects. We will prepare a slate to be voted on at our Convention in Morristown August 17-19<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Four of the grant proposals came from our own churches in New Jersey District, one from Millneck School for the deaf in New York and the other eight from all over the United States. What wonderful work for the Lord that we do through our Mite giving. So many people are blessed by your generous giving.

Start stocking up for our Convention ingathering. **“Socks of Love” for the homeless** is really a blessing bag held in a sock. For every 10 pair of socks:

- bring white or black Adult Socks, supplying 10 or more pairs per society
- bring snacks – granola bars, cheese and crackers, etc (20 individual size)
- a case of bottled water
- bring mini Hand Sanitizer bottles, 20 each
- provide mini tissues packs, 20 per.
- provide toothbrushes, 20 per
- provide (small tubes of) toothpaste, 20 per
- provide small bar of soap, 20 per
- provide combs, 10 per
- provide nail clippers, 10 per
- provide travel size detergent, 10 per
- provide travel size shampoo/conditioner, 10 per
- provide travel size hand wipes, 10 per
- provide travel size lotion, 10 per
- provide travel size deodorant, 10 per
- LWML Christian encouragement/ scripture card, 10 per



**Blankets** for seriously ill or traumatized children:

- 2 pieces of 1 ½ Yards of fleece.
- Bring Your hands, a ruler, a pair of scissors

We will be tying the two pieces of fleece together to make blankets for the children's hospital to give to seriously ill children as a warm security blanket when going through difficult times.

Can't wait to see all of you at your Spring Rallies and of course our Convention in August!

In His Service,



Caren Vogt,  
Vice President  
Gospel Outreach



## **In the Wilderness...**

**Rev. Rick Vossler**  
**Senior Pastoral Counselor**



When I started in the ministry, I was a pastor in New York City. One of my responsibilities was to lead a Bible Study at one of the housing projects in Harlem. One warm afternoon I was walking from the subway to the correct apartment in the project. Suddenly I began thinking about when I was back on our farm growing up. It was summer time and I was helping my cousins line up the hay bales so we could put the bales on the truck and into the barn. It was a carefree time, out in the fresh air in the country, ...

Wait a minute! This isn't the farm where I grew up. I'm in the middle of Harlem. What am I doing thinking about the family farm and working with the hay? I looked around and realized that the workers were in the process of mowing the lawn a short distance away, and they had just finished mowing the lawn on both sides of the sidewalk where I was walking. The smell of the cut grass transported me, in my mind, to the farm. It was type of wilderness in the middle of the city.

In the Gospels, we read how Jesus was in the wilderness, being tempted by the devil. Often times, when we think of the wilderness, we think of a scary place where we could become lost. The time when Jesus was in the wilderness is an example of this. And yet, we read here how the angels came and ministered to Him. The time in the wilderness can also be a time of growth. In the Old Testament we read how the children of Israel were in the desert for forty years. While this was a punishment for not trusting the Lord, we also read that during this time their clothes did not wear out and their feet did not swell up. They learned how to trust the Lord. We also read in the New Testament how Paul went in the wilderness following his conversion (Galatians 1:17). He may have gone into the wilderness to learn or to preach to the inhabitants in that area. Many things happen in the wilderness.

One episode of the PBS drama series "Victoria" shows Queen Victoria and her husband, Prince Albert, wanting to retreat from the confines of London to the countryside of Scotland. From there they went out exploring, apart from their servants and security detail. Then they became hopelessly lost. While they were wandering around, they spotted a cabin with smoke coming from its chimney. They went there and were welcomed into the cabin by the kindly older couple. The couple did not recognize the Queen and Prince, but showed them hospitality and the safety of a bed for the night. It wasn't until the morning, when soldiers found the horses hitched up at the cabin door, that the couple realized they had given sanctuary to their Queen.

The forty days of Lent can be compared to travel through a wilderness. The wilderness can be many things for many people. It can be a place of fear, but it can also be a place of growth and a place of re-creation. During this time of Lent, we not only contemplate our sin and our need for a Savior, but we also come away refreshed, basking in the love that our Lord has given to us. We are also called at times to be like the cabin in the wilderness, giving sanctuary to those around us who are lost in their wilderness.

During Lent, my God grant us a time of contemplation and growth, as well as the opportunity to be sanctuary for our family, friends and neighbors who are lost in their wilderness.



## *Lutheran Women's Missionary League*

*New Jersey District - 24<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention*

*August 17-19, 2018*

### **Where:**

Hyatt Morristown  
3 Speedwell Ave  
Morristown, NJ 07960  
Ph: 973-647-1234

### **What to Bring:**

Yourself, your Bible & a friend!  
Your Pastor for the Saturday  
Pastor Recognition Luncheon;  
Themed Basket for Basket Bonanza;  
Baby Shower items for Today's  
Choice as our "Gift of the Heart;"  
Purple bling & Convention T-Shirt!

### **Guests:**

Rev. Dr. John & Monique Nunes  
President & First Lady of  
Concordia College Bronxville

Rev. Dr. Anthony Steinbronn  
President, LCMS NJ District

Clergy of the LCMS – NJ District

Donna Pyle, Bible Study Leader  
Noted Author, LWML & CPH

LWML Natl' Representative:  
Marilyn Schroeder, Natl' Treasurer

NJ District Disaster Relief Van  
Rev. Michael Dunn

Lily, the Comfort Dog  
Lutheran Church Charities

Mission Speakers, Exhibitors and  
Other Friends of LWML

**and YOU!!!!**



### **Event Highlights:**

#### **Friday Afternoon:**

Servant Events at the Hyatt  
Historical Revolutionary War Tour

#### **Friday Evening:**

Exhibits open  
Banner Processional  
Opening Worship Service  
President's Reception

#### **Saturday:**

Exhibits open  
Bible Study with Donna Pyle  
Officer & Committee Reports  
Pastor Recognition Luncheon  
Voting on Mission Grants  
Election of Officers  
LWML National Speaker  
Mission Speakers  
Mission Prayer Walk  
Evening Banquet & Keynote

#### **Sunday:**

YWR and H2H Sister Breakfast  
Worship Service  
"Gifts of the Heart" Dedication  
Mission Speakers  
Bible Study with Donna Pyle  
Results of Mission Grant Voting  
Installation of Officers

#### **Sunday Afternoon:**

High Tea followed by Tour of  
Hamilton/Schuyler Home

**Your Host: Northeastern Zone**

**Need more information or a registration form?**

Go to [www.lwmlnj.org](http://www.lwmlnj.org)

## LWML QUARTERLY SUBSCRIPTIONS:

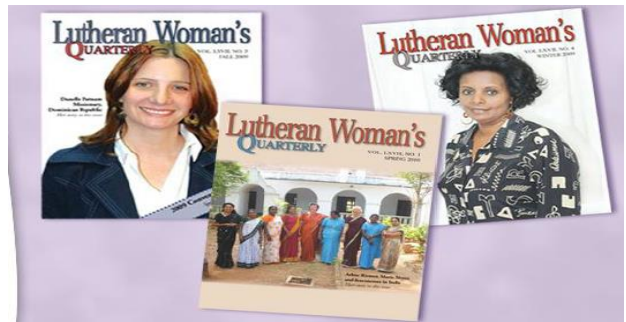
It's time to review the LWML Quarterly subscriptions for our New Jersey District! I will send the Zone Presidents and Treasurers a list of the societies/individuals that receive Quarterlies and if money is owed on their accounts. After each Zone has verified their lists and the quantities that are being requested, please return to me so that I can meet the national deadline of April 1<sup>st</sup> for orders for our LWML Quarterly.

Decreases in LWML Quarterly subscriptions can be made only once a year. Increases and changes of address can be made anytime during the year. The subscription year runs from the Summer Issue (June) through the Spring issue (March), and all payments are due by March 1<sup>st</sup> for your annual subscription. Societies or zones should send their payments to Sara Hanson, our District Treasurer. (See remittance form below).

The rate for the LWML Quarterly is currently \$8.00 per subscription for less than 10 copies to the same address and \$6.50 per subscription for 10 or more copies to the same address. E-copies of the Quarterly can be ordered at [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org) and are \$6.50 for an annual subscription. Please contact me if you have any questions on your LWML Quarterly Subscriptions.

God's Blessings!

Gay Van Etten  
VP, Christian Life



### LWML New Jersey District Mite Box/Quarterly Remittance Form

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Society Name: \_\_\_\_\_ LWML Zone: \_\_\_\_\_

Church Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Church Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to:

**LWML NJ District**

Send remittance form and check to:

**Sara Hanson  
38 Penn Avenue  
Newton, NJ 07860**

Mite Box Offering: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

LWML Quarterly Subscription \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$6.50 for 10 copies or more

\$8.00 for 9 copies or less

**TOTAL REMITTANCE:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Society Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone and email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Seeking Nominations for LWML New Jersey District Offices:

We are asking your assistance in providing recommendations for the leadership of the New Jersey District LWML for the 2018-2020 biennium. We are in the process of assembling the candidates for the ballot that will be presented at the District Convention in Morristown, NJ on August 17-19, 2018. Nominations are being requested for the offices below (with brief descriptions):

**District President:** Member of National LWML Board of Directors, provide leadership and coordination for the District, write articles for the newsletter, assist inactive societies and new groups, review all contracts, lead Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings.

**VP of Christian Life:** Develop Christian Life programs and plan retreats to nurture women's spiritual lives; develop resources and training to assist existing LWML societies and help to start new LWML societies.

**VP of Special Focus Ministries:** Chair the Special Focus Ministries Committee and promote the YWR and H2H Sisters program within the NJ District; seek, develop and support young women and leaders in the LWML and in ethnic ministries.

**Nominating Committee:** (one person from each Zone) Present a slate of nominees for each elective office for the coming biennium and gather their biographical information for presentation at the LWML District Convention.

**Jr. Pastoral Counselor:** Responsible for worship services at District Convention and retreats; plans Bible Studies and devotions as requested, writes a Pastor's Message every other quarter for the District Newsletter, assists Executive Committee and Board in an advisory capacity.

\*\*\*\*\*

Please prayerfully consider women who have previously served or currently are serving in society, zone or district leadership positions for these offices.

- Submit their name for nomination on the enclosed form before **June 1, 2018**.
- Give a brief description of the individual's gifts and talents as they relate to the position.
- The nominating committee will contact them and provide more information about the position and its responsibilities.

How about you? If you feel called to serve the Lord at the District level, you may submit your own name for nomination and give a synopsis of your gifts and talents as they relate to the office.

Send nominations to:

Gay VanEtten, Chair  
24 Stone Bridge Road  
Newton, NJ 07860  
Email: [glvanetten22@gmail.com](mailto:glvanetten22@gmail.com)

Brenda Breza, Co-Chair  
420 Chestnut Drive  
Lanoka Harbor, NJ 08734  
Email: [auditranger2@aol.com](mailto:auditranger2@aol.com)



## Nomination Form for District Office

LWML New Jersey District Convention  
Aug. 17-19, 2018  
Morristown, NJ

(Bylaws: Article XIII, Section 2)

District position on ballot: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Home congregation & zone: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of consent by nominee:

\_\_\_\_\_

**Send Nomination Form to:**

Gay VanEtten, Chairman

24 Stone Bridge Road

Newton, NJ 07680

Cell: 973-903-2069

Email: glvanetten22@gmail.com

Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Zone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please give this completed form to the person you are nominating and ask that she sign the consent line.

**Deadline for submitting Nominating Forms June 1, 2018**



## *Around the District:*



Mark your calendars for the next  
**LWML NJ Lakeland Zone Rally!!**  
You won't want to miss it!

When: **April 22<sup>nd</sup>**, 3PM – 5PM

Where: **Holy Faith Lutheran Church**, Oak Ridge, NJ

Who: **MaryAnn Diorio, PhD, MFA**

What: ***The Power of the Dream***

Dr. MaryAnn Diorio is a widely published, award-winning author of fiction and non-fiction for both adults and children. She is also a Certified Life Coach, a Certified Biblical Counselor, and a Certified Behavior Consultant. Her writing is based not on opinion, interpretation, or cultural consensus, but on Scriptural truth. At all times, she remains faithful to Biblical principles.



Her daughter, Lia, shared with us only a few rallies ago her wonderful story “and then we were 7” of adoption through Lutheran Social Ministries.

We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Maryann as she shares the message our Lord placed on her heart.

*Dr. MaryAnn will have some of her books with her to purchase and sign.* You may learn more about her at <http://maryanndiorio.com/about-new>.

Heart-Mending Stories for the Young and the Young-at-Heart

Book 1: The Madonna of Pisano

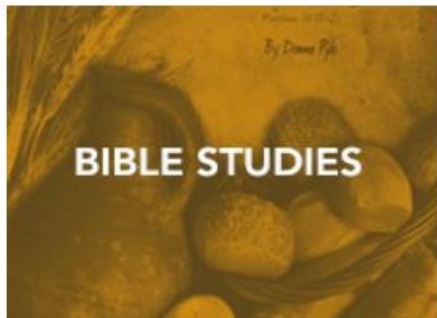
Book 2: A Sicilian Farewell

Book 3: Return to Bella Terra



## Lutheran Women in Mission

For more information on LWML resources, go to [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org)



## LWML NJ District Receives CHEF Grant for Technology Update!

We're happy to announce that the LWML – New Jersey District received a CHEF (Christian Heritage Endowment Fund) grant for \$2500 for technology upgrades for the coming biennium.

The mission statement of CHEF (LCMS NJ District) emphasizes using CHEF funds “for the furthering of New Jersey District Ministries. LWML – NJ District is the official auxillary of the LCMS- NJ District.

The LWML NJ District consists of 5 zones, 45 societies, and roughly 500 active members at the congregational level. However, this only represents 10% of the total number of female communicant members in the LCMS NJ District. Some of our societies have become inactive, and we would like to use this technology grant to help reactivate these societies and reach more women within our NJ District. We are also rolling out programming opportunities for young women and multicultural women and we'd like to get them involved in LWML and their local church ministries. Our goal is to double our active members over the next 5 years and continue to help women of the NJ District reaffirm their relationship with Christ, and encourage and equip them to support mission ministries.



# Mark Your LWML Calendars!

| Date                        | Time                   | Event   |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|---|
| <b>Apr 15, 2018</b>         | 3pm                    | NorthEastern Spring Rally – St. Paul’s in Closter, NJ<br>Planning for District Convention, hosted by NE Zone  |
| <b>Apr 15, 2018</b>         | 3pm                    | MidEastern Spring Rally – St. John’s in Bloomfield, NJ<br>Program TBD   |
| <b>Apr 22, 2018</b>         | 3pm                    | Lakeland Spring Rally at Holy Faith in Oak Ridge, NJ<br>“The Power of the Dream” by MaryAnn Diorio, PhD, MFA<br>Book-signing afterwards with light supper |
| <b>May __, 2018</b>         | 3pm                    | Raritan/South Spring Rally –Village Lutheran Church,<br>Lanoka Harbor, NJ   |
| <b>June 23, 2018</b>        | 10am                   | Board Meeting at the Hyatt in Morristown –<br>Convention Preparation  |
| <b>Aug. 17-19,<br/>2018</b> | All day<br>programming | NJ District Convention – Hyatt in Morristown, NJ<br>Theme: “Connected to the Vine” - John 15:5  |
| <b>Nov. 3, 2018</b>         | 8:30am –<br>4:00pm     | NJ District Fall Retreat at Crane’s Mill in West Caldwell, NJ,<br>Theme TBD   |



June 20–23, 2019

38<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention

Mobile, Alabama

[www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org)

*Sing to the Lord, all the earth!  
Tell of his salvation from day to day.  
Declare his glory among the nations  
(1 Chronicles 16:23–24a).*





## LWML New Jersey District Board of Directors

---

### Arlene Price

13 Mariner Drive  
Randolph, NJ 07869  
Email: [arlene.lwml@optimum.net](mailto:arlene.lwml@optimum.net)

### President – NJ District

\*Cell ph: 973-479-4971



---

### Gay VanEtten

24 Stone Bridge Road  
Newton, NJ 07860  
Email: [glvanetten22@gmail.com](mailto:glvanetten22@gmail.com)

### VP – Christian Life Nominating Committee

\*Home ph: 908-362-0208  
cell ph: 973-903-2069



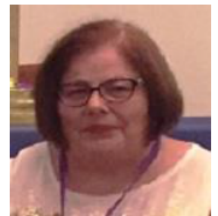
---

### Caren Vogt

251 Wheatsworth Road  
Hamburg, NJ 07419  
Home Email: [seevogt46@yahoo.com](mailto:seevogt46@yahoo.com)

### VP – Gospel Outreach

Home ph: 973-827-7437  
\*Cell ph: 973-222-2152



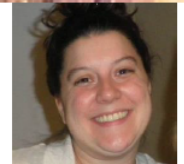
---

### Name: Alicia Starrett

214 Route 46, P.O. Box 321  
Vienna, NJ 07889  
Email: [aliciastarrett@yahoo.com](mailto:aliciastarrett@yahoo.com)

### Secretary

\*Cell ph: 908-500-6395



---

### Sara Hanson

38 Penn Ave  
Newton, NJ 07860  
Email: [hansonks@embarqmail.com](mailto:hansonks@embarqmail.com)

### Treasurer

\*Home ph: 973-786-6312



---

### Christy Ndem

P.O. Box 272  
Peapack, NJ 07977-0272  
Email: [csndm@aol.com](mailto:csndm@aol.com)

### VP- Special Focus Ministries

\*Home ph: 908-719-7762  
Cell: 908-392-5549



---

### Rev Rick Vossler

3 Berkeley Terrace  
Livingston, NJ 07039  
Email: [GLCFamilyPastor@gmail.com](mailto:GLCFamilyPastor@gmail.com)

### Pastoral Counselor

Grace Lutheran– Livingston, NJ  
Home ph: 973-992-2843  
\*Cell: 973-303-8250



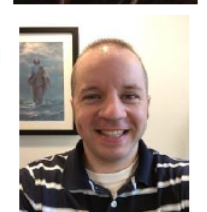
---

### Rev Ben Dolby

34 Front Street  
Denville, NJ 07834  
Email: [Bendolby@gmail.com](mailto:Bendolby@gmail.com)

### Pastoral Counselor

King of Kings – Mountain Lakes, NJ  
Phone: 973-334-8333



\*preferred phone number