



## New Jersey Mission Light

### In this issue:

President's Message

Spotlight on  
Mission Grants

Pastor's Corner

Highlights from NJ  
District Convention

2019 National  
Convention in  
Mobile, AL

Upcoming Fall  
District Retreat

Calendar of Events

And Much, Much,  
More...



### *A message from our president...*



Greetings to my Sisters in Christ,

It is with humility that I want to thank the women of the New Jersey District for entrusting me with the office of presidency. My prayer is that I serve in this position with joy and dedication to our Lord. I view the NJ LWML District as team. Together, let us strengthen our faith so we can boldly proclaim Jesus Christ to those around us.

When asked "who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied with the parable of the Good Samaritan. He reminds us that all people of the world are our neighbors, starting with those we encounter every day. Whether our neighbor is a mother in need or a successful businessman, each needs Jesus in their lives for comfort and redemption. As women in mission, it is our duty to address the local needs we see every day while sharing Christ's love and redemption. While we continue to collect mites for our neighbors throughout the world, let's make it our focus over the next four years to bring Christ into our own communities.

Yes, we may feel discouraged because it seems we are few –even Jesus commented that the workers were few- but let's not forget that we have the saving message of Jesus, our crucified & risen savior. Therefore, let us be bold in prayer and witnessing. Then let us trust in the Holy Spirit to change hearts. I can't wait to see what God will do – can you?

Your fellow servant,

*Susan Harnos*, President, LWML- New Jersey District



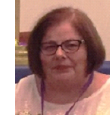
**Far Left:** Susan Harnos receives gavel from Past-President, Arlene Price.

**Left:** Rev. Rick Vossler inducts our new officers, Susan Harnos and Christy Ndem and our nominating committee, Susan Donnelly, Kyle Chedister, and Ola Odedele. (not pictured: Tina Lindquist)

# Gospel Outreach



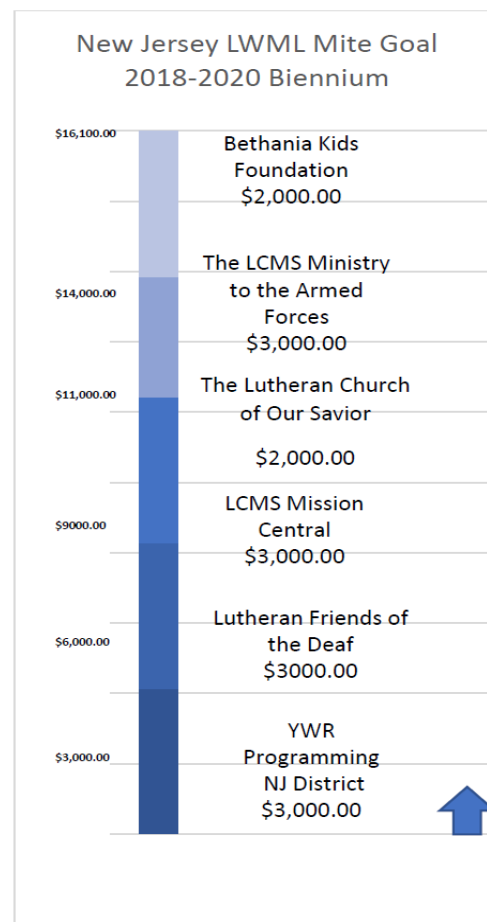
by Caren Vogt



How wonderful is our Lord! The blessings he has bestowed upon us and those we reach through our mite offerings is truly awesome. Dear women, you all deserve a huge thank you for the mites you collected in the last biennium. Our mite goal was met and slightly exceeded our goal a month prior to our Convention in Morristown. God is Good, and His servants are faithful! Our convention offerings, Basket Bonanza, and Prayer walk for missions has started us on our new mite goal of \$23,000.00. 25% of our mites will be going to our national mite goal; 5% will stay with the NJ District for administration costs; and 70% or \$16,00.00 will be used for our Mite Grants set at our convention:

1. YWR programming NJ \$3,000
2. Lutheran Friends of the Deaf \$3,000
3. LCMS Mission Central \$3,000
4. Our Savior Preschool, Stanhope \$2,000
5. LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces \$3,000
6. Bethania Kids Foundation \$2,000

The Basket Bonanza and Prayer Walk raised \$1,030.00 for mites. 70% (\$721.00) will go for our grants in NJ, 25% (\$257.50) will go to National mite grants and 5% (\$51.50) will go to administration. We add \$717.00 from our second offering at convention to the \$721.00 from the Basket Bonanza and Prayer walk for a total of \$1,438.00 towards our mite goal in NJ. We're almost halfway there to completing our first grant. Keep it up ladies and gentlemen! Send in your pictures of mite gathering events. Share what you are doing to help edify the kingdom. You are awesome servants of our Lord Jesus!



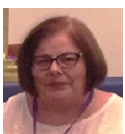
## Gifts of the Heart and Servant Events from Convention



Talk about being blessed. We thought our in-service events would produce 100 “socks of Love” for the homeless, 10 fleece blankets for the Morristown Children’s Hospital, and a few layettes for Today’s Choice Pregnancy Center. Our gifts were doubled to these agencies. 165 “Socks of Love” were made. 18 Blankets made and given to the hospital. Trunk, back seat, and passenger seat were filled with items for Today’s Choice. These recipients were overwhelmed by our items and generosity. (See Thank you notes on p.7) I personally loved the laughter and good conversation that occurred as we worked on these “Gifts of Love.” I can’t say it enough ladies and Pastors, you are truly a blessing!

As we get ready for our Fall Retreat and Fall Rallies we have set the Military as our in-service gathering. Chaplains are looking for items to give out to make a personal connection with the men and women. Cards, Candy, Treats, Beef Jerky, Trail Mix, Packaged cookies and crackers, Personal products such as sunscreen, lip balm, foot powder, Throat Lozenges, Toothpaste, Shampoo, Body wash, and deodorant. They also want to see who sent the items. Include pictures of you or your group. Send drawings for the troops from your preschool children or Sunday school. If you want to make baked goods Check Out Cakes in a Jar. They stay fresh for months. <https://www.military.com/spousebuzz/blog/2013/07/how-to-make-military-care-package-cake-in-a-jar.html> If you prefer to make from scratch here is a recipe for you <https://whatsgabycooking.com/cakes-in-a-jar/> . Bill Schmidt is getting us a list of chaplains to send the packages to for distribution. I can’t wait to see how God will bless this ingathering.

Looking forward to seeing your event pictures and the offering of mites you will collect. Wouldn’t it be great to complete 3 mite grants by June 30, 2019? God is Good and so are His faithful servants the Ladies of LWML. Continue to be connected to the vine!



Caren Vogt  
VP, Gospel Outreach  
LWML NJ District



## *An Important Lesson Learned at School*

*Rev. Richard Vossler  
Pastoral Counselor  
LWML NJ District*



School is back in session all over the country, including our church preschool where many children are attending for the first time. One little girl had been crying nonstop, refusing to nap, and her weary teacher had tried everything. Being in the hallway, I knelt down and opened my arms. The little child toddled over, put her arms around my neck, lay her head on my shoulder and, exhausted, fell asleep. As I held her in my arms and rocked her for the next hour, I thought how similar our relationship with our Lord is when compared to the little child.

For many little pre-schoolers, there is an important lesson that they must learn, and young children who go to Sunday School for the first time also must learn this same lesson: “It’s ok. Mommy will be back. She will pick you up, like she promised she would. You don’t have to worry. You don’t have to cry.” Interestingly enough, some moms (and dads) also need to learn a similar lesson. “It’s ok. Your child will be here when you come to pick them up. You don’t have to worry. You don’t have to cry!” (When your child goes off to college, the military, or off to other places on their own, you have to learn this lesson all over again.)

I don’t mean to minimize the emotions related to dropping off a child at pre-school (or at college, or their first home). The feelings (both the children’s and the parents’) are real, and the feelings are deep. However, I believe these feelings also help us understand the feelings Jesus’ disciples felt when Jesus was getting ready to go to the cross as well as when He ascended into heaven. Jesus told His disciples before He went to the cross “<sup>18</sup>I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. <sup>19</sup>Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live.” *John 14:18–19 (ESV)*. Then, following Jesus’ ascension, the angels encouraged the disciples with these words, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” *Acts 1:11 (ESV)*.

There is a special love that connects a child with his or her parents. Even when the child is at school, he or she stills feel that connection, which is confirmed when the parent comes to pick up the child. That same connection exists between us and our Lord Jesus Christ. Even more so, that connection exists in His heart toward us. And just as the parent returns to pick up the child to go home, so too our Lord is coming back for us to bring us to our heavenly home. Until that time, we wait with the same confident hope that the preschooler learns as school progresses — “Mommy’s coming back. You don’t have to cry. Mommy loves you.” **Yes, Jesus is coming back. We don’t have to cry. Jesus loves you. Amen.**

*Pastor Vossler*

# *"Connected to the Vine"*

*NEW JERSEY DISTRICT  
Convention Highlights  
24th Convention  
August 17-19, 2018*





## Convention Highlights from “CONNECTED TO THE VINE”



- Six new mission grants selected for this biennium:

1. YWR Programming and outreach for the LWML NJ District	\$3000
2. Lutheran Friends of the Deaf – Bible stories in sign language	\$3000
3. LCMS Mission Central to directly support missionaries	\$3000
4. OSLC Nursery School, Stanhope- outreach to unchurched families	\$2000
5. LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces – Chaplains & wives	\$3000
6. Bethania Kids – share gospel with orphans in India	\$2000
- Mites in Action: We heard from Kirsten Whitsett from Bethesda Communities, Rev. Larry Rockemann from Lutheran Heritage Foundation, and Bruce Sutherland from The Lutheran Hour Ministries about how our mites have been working in the mission field during our last biennium. Rev. Michael Dunne also updated us on the New Jersey Disaster Relief Van that the LCMS-NJD received as part of a national LMLW mite grant.
- Our Pastor Recognition Luncheon was a big success in honoring the service of our pastors with a gift book entitled, “Visitation.” We were also entertained by “The Singing Pastors” who were a huge hit!
- Lily, the comfort dog, and her handler, Linda Cinquegranna, from Lutheran Church Charities shared their ministry to people in need of comfort and care during our Saturday luncheon.
- Marilyn Schroeder, our National LWML Representative, updated us on new LWML initiatives and resources.
- Donna Pyle, noted CPH author, provided an inspirational message on being “Connected to the Vine” during our Bible Study time together. She also signed her books at the CPH exhibit.
- President Tony Steinbronn brought greetings from the LCMS-NJ District and Rev. Dr. John Nunes and his wife, Monique, were our keynote speakers for our Saturday evening banquet together.
- Our YWR, Kristin Dolby, and our H2H Sister, Roshay Wilson, enjoyed a Saturday morning Special Focus Breakfast, participated in a pinning ceremony, and performed a skit for us which highlighted the upcoming 2019 National LWML Convention in Mobile, AL.
- Morristown Memorial’s Children’s Hospital benefited from our servant event in which we tied 18 fleece blankets and delivered them to the hospital. We also made 165 “Socks of Love” which were given to Food Banks in Dover, NJ and Bridgeton, NJ to distribute to the homeless and those in need.
- We had a Mission Walk inside the hotel due to inclement weather, but still raised \$435 for mites. Our Basket Bonanza raised \$595.00 and we thank our societies for their creative baskets!
- We had 12 exhibitors in our exhibit hall that shared their mission work and resources with attendees.
- A musical note of thanks to Barbara Giaquinta for being our song leader extraordinaire!
- We elected Susan Harnos as our new President and Christy Ndem as our VP, Special Focus Ministries. Our nominating committee for the next biennium will be Susan Donnelly, Olajumoke Odedele, Tina Lindquist, and Kyle Chedister
- Special thanks to the NorthEastern Zone who did a great job hosting the convention!



## Thank You Notes

Sue Harnos  
NJ District LWML President  
709 Amherst Road  
Lanoka Harbor, NJ 08734

Dear Sue and the Members of the NJ District Women's Missionary League,

The members of St. John's First Evangelical Lutheran Church extend our most sincere gratitude for the generous gift given in the fulfillment of The Lutheran Women's Mission League (LWML) Grant monies. The \$3,000 will help to extend the love of Christ to many of our neighbors in need in the area of St. John's.

The thoughtfulness and prayers of the New Jersey LWML women and the sacrifice of money in the way of "mites" have also served as a great encouragement to the members of our congregation. Your support will help us to respond to families in need of food as well as the opportunity for Christian care in the form of a hug, carrying groceries, and most importantly through spoken prayers and conversational witness.

We also thank you for the gifting of the service project. The socks filled with personal hygiene items were an excellent idea in both the packaging and in need. Each of you involved in providing the toiletries and assembling of the socks are to be commend before God for your loving kindness in serving as the hands and heart of Christ.

May our good and merciful God continue to bless the endeavors of the LWML as they continue to respond to the opportunities our Lord sets before them to "serve the Lord with gladness."

In Sincere Appreciation for All that You are in the Spirit's Power,



Don Rogers, Jr., Acting President  
On Behalf of the membership of  
St. John's First Ev. Lutheran Church



Rev. Gary Hall accepts \$3000 mite grant for St. John's Food Bank in Bridgeton along with 85 Socks of Love for those in need at their Food Bank. (see Thank-You note to left)



Second note of thanks from "Faith Kitchen" in Dover, NJ which received 82 "Socks of Love" for people in need at their soup kitchen. .



**From:** Faith Kitchen <[faithkitchendover@gmail.com](mailto:faithkitchendover@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** August 28, 2018 at 1:46:08 PM EDT  
**To:** [aliciastarrett@yahoo.com](mailto:aliciastarrett@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** THANK YOU!

To: NJ District LWML

Thank you for your thoughtful donation of homeless sock kits filled with needed toiletries, along with Nutri grain bars and bottled water to Faith Kitchen. We are a small charity with a big mission and we truly can keep going because of your donation. We are very grateful for your support and help in serving meals to those in need.

As Dover's "soup kitchen," we currently serve approximately 75-100 people daily, Monday through Saturday. It is only through donations of food and monetary contributions that we are able to feed as many people as we do. We served over 34,000 meals in 2017.

We will continue, with God's help, to provide these nutritious meals. Your support of Faith Kitchen is very much appreciated.

Warmest,  
Joanne Blecker  
Executive Director, Faith Kitchen



## **YWR and H2H Sister Applications Online for National Convention in Mobile, AL**

Interested in being a YWR (Young Woman Representative) or H2H (Heart-2-Heart) Sister? Check out our District Website at [www.lwmlnj.org](http://www.lwmlnj.org) and fill out an online application for the National Convention on June 20-23, 2019. Applications will be reviewed by the VP of Special Focus Ministries in conjunction with the Executive Committee of the LWML NJ District. Travel expenses are paid by the NJ District and there is special programming at the Convention for all YWRs and H2H Sisters to use their God-given talents in serving the Lord with Gladness!



**Are you a woman between the ages of 18 and 35?**

**Are you a Lutheran?**

**Then join the LWML NJ District Young Women!**

**Click this link to join the mailing list:**

**<https://goo.gl/forms/Zkr7ORJ3JeUvODtm2>**

**For more information, email [lwmlnjywr@gmail.com](mailto:lwmlnjywr@gmail.com)**





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).*



### **Post Convention Cruise out of Mobile, Ala. to Costa Maya and Cozumel!**

Following the 2019 LWML Convention, join your LWML family on a five-night, post-convention cruise for well-deserved rest and relaxation as well as fun and fellowship with old and new friends. Carnival Cruise Line's Fantasy will be sailing June 24–29, 2019 out of Mobile, Ala. to Costa Maya and Cozumel.



Would you like to take part in this fun getaway? Registration is now open, so book as early as possible to get the cabin you prefer. McGehee Cruise & Vacation Inc. will assist with all reservations for the cruise. [Use this secure link for further information and questions!](#)

### Banner Submissions Should Be Sent to:

Susan Harnos, President  
LWML NJ District  
709 Amherst Road  
Lanoka Harbor, NJ 08734

[seharnos@verizon.net](mailto:seharnos@verizon.net)



### Seeking LWML National Convention Banner Design Submissions

To all you crafty women out there...

Banner designs to represent the LWML NJ District at our upcoming National Convention in Mobile, AL are due by February 1, 2019. Designs based on the convention theme, "In Praise to the Lord" are to be on an 8.5"x11" sheet of paper and include your name and contact information on the back. Designs cannot use the convention logo which is pictured on p.9. The final banner size is to be 3' x 5'. Specifications for the banner will be sent to the person whose design is selected by the LWML NJ District Executive Committee.

The entrant whose design is chosen will be responsible for the construction of the banner, including dowel and cord. The LWML NJ District will reimburse for construction costs. Get those creative juices going and send in your ideas!

## Mark Your LWML Calendars!

Date	Time	Event
Sept. 23, 2018	3:00pm – 5:00pm	NorthEastern Zone Fall Rally at Our Savior - Fairlawn 22-15 Broadway, Fairlawn, NJ 07410
Sept. 30, 2018	5:00pm EST	LWML National Mission Grant Proposals Due! Email to: Angelina Jauregui at <a href="mailto:depgo@lwml.org">depgo@lwml.org</a>
Oct. 13, 2018	3:00pm – 5:00pm	MidEastern Zone Fall Rally at St. John's – Clifton, NJ 810 Broad Street, Clifton, NJ 07013
Oct 21, 2018	3:00pm – 5:00pm	Lakeland Zone Fall Rally at Our Savior – Stanhope, NJ 143 Brooklyn Road, Stanhope, NJ 07874
Nov. 3, 2018	8:30am – 4:00pm	NJ District Fall Retreat at Crane's Mill – Hinman Hall 459 Passaic Ave, West Caldwell, NJ 07006 Theme: "Come to the Vineyard" – John 15:1-17
March 9, 2019	9am – 10am 10am – 12:00pm	Executive Committee Board Meeting at LCMS NJ District Office
June 20-23, 2019	All-day programming	National LWML Convention - Mobile, AL "In Praise to the Lord" – 1 Chronicles 16:23-24



# LWML District Fall Retreat

11/3/18, 8:30am – 4:00pm  
Crane's Mill – Hinman Hall

BIBLE STUDY AND SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION  
JOHN 15 :1-17 - "COME TO THE VINEYARD"



## "Come to the Vineyard"

11/3/18, 8:30am – 4:00pm  
Registration Form



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

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

Email : \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Zone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Please join us for fun, food, fellowship and Bible Study!**  
Our Gift of the Heart will be CVS, Walgreens, or Walmart gift cards for hurricane victims.  
If you or your society would like to bring these gift cards, they should be in \$10 increments.  
Our servant event will be putting together "care packages" for our military, to be distributed by LCMS chaplains.

Retreat Registration fee is \$30. Make checks payable to LWML NJ District. Please write "Fall Retreat" on the memo line and mail by 10/31/18 to:  
Sara Hanson, 38 Penn Ave, Newton, NJ 07860. Questions or Special Needs? Contact Gay VanEffen at 908-362-0208.

**See you on Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> at Crane's Mill, Hinman Hall  
459 Passaic Ave, West Caldwell, NJ**



## **LWML New Jersey District Board of Directors**

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### **Susan Harnos**

709 Amherst Road  
Lanoka Harbor, NJ 08734  
Email: [seharnos@verizon.net](mailto:seharnos@verizon.net)

### **President – NJ District**

\*Home ph: 609-971-9786  
Cell ph: 732-597-6103



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### **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



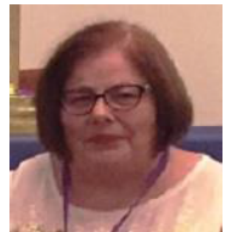
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### **Caren Vogt**

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



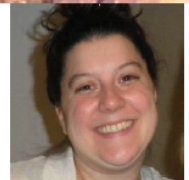
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### **Alicia Starrett**

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

### **Secretary**

\*Cell ph: 908-500-6395



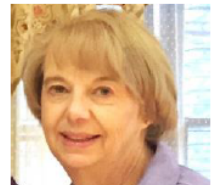
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### **Sara Hanson**

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

### **Treasurer**

\*Home ph: 973-786-6312



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### **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



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### **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



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### **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

