

The Lone Star Connection



July 2024

Quarterly Newsletter

Vol. 2, Issue 3

2024 Key Dates

Sept. 5–7 Executive Committee Meeting, Camp Lone Star

October LWML Sunday

2025 Dates

Feb. 12–16 EC, BOD, and Zone President Orientation, Camp Lone Star

June 26–29 LWML Convention, Omaha Nebraska

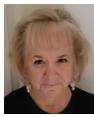
Meet Your New Officers



President
Sally Krueger
Sunshine Zone



Vice President of Christian Life
Brianne Stahlecker
Post Oak Zone



Vice President of Organizational Resources
Terri Wenzel
Gulf Coast Zone



Financial Secretary
Alissa Elley
North Alamo Zone



Pastoral Counselor
Rev. David Bailes
New Horizon Zone

Nominating Committee



Robyn Tarnowski, Chairman
Golden Harvest Zone



Amy Velasquez
Sunshine Zone



Laura Wilson
Golden Triangle Zone



Sharon Mills, Alternate
East Texas Zone



Wow! Y'all elected me to be your president! I am humbled and honored to accept the privilege of serving as your new president. I am grateful for the trust you have placed in me. I am filled with enthusiasm and, frankly, a bit of anxiety as I assume my new duties.

As I think about our future service together, I am reminded of the countless ways God has blessed me through this organization. It began with a very simple invitation to attend my first meeting. There I encountered other women who loved Jesus and wanted to proclaim Christ as Savior seeking ways to serve. I found opportunities to develop a servant's heart through simply saying "yes" to helping with VBS, Bible studies, writing a workshop, serving meals in a soup kitchen, making bed runners for hospice patients, and more. Working alongside others as a committee member or chairman infused my heart with joy as, together, we served the Lord with gladness. Having the privilege to serve at the zone and district levels, including as a district vice president honed my leadership skills, again, teaching me what team ministry looks like. All along the way I was enabled to mentor others the way I had been mentored. And here we are. I anticipate more blessings and more learning. It won't be my presidency or my legacy, it will be ours. Together with the amazing team you have elected to serve alongside me, we will be seeking God's will as we plan. I will be surrounding myself with former presidents as advisors and asking others for help in my areas of weakness. I want to hear your ideas. How can the district help you as you serve Jesus through Lutheran Women in Mission?

I ask you to lift up each officer and committee chairman by name in prayer, including me. Let us support and encourage one another, as we share the love of Christ with those in need.

I invite you to read Ephesians 3 beginning at the 14th verse. The heading in my Bible calls it a "Prayer of Spiritual Strength". I have and will continue to use this as my prayer as I serve you as president. The closing words of that chapter (verses 20–21) state, *Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations, forever and ever. Amen.*

Sally Krueger
LWML Texas District President



Past District Presidents in Attendance

(l to r) Front Row: Peggy Turnipseed, Eloise Kuhlmann, Dorothy Hunger. Back Row: Frances Molitor, Kathy Lowman, Lois Teinert, Debbie Curry.

The Anchor News

Lutheran Women's Missionary League Texas District

43rd Biennial Convention

June 13-15, 2024

Convention Offerings:

#1 \$6,065.30 — LWML Texas District 2024-2026 Mite Goal

#2 \$3,005.18 — Kleberg County Pregnancy Center

#3 \$3,117.08 — Divided equally between:

St. Paul Lutheran Early Learning Center, McAllen and
Lord of Life Lutheran Child Development Center, Corpus Christi

Moving for Mites — \$2,412.00

Convention attendance — 465

2024-2026 Mite Goal — \$403,000

2024-2026 Mission Grant Goal — \$225,000

(additional district abundance of \$47,314 from 2022-2024 to apply to mission grant payments)

2024-2026 25% to LWML National Mission — \$80,610

Off-Site Mission Events — 26 ladies participated

On-Site Mission Events:

- 77 — Spanish Bibles marked for Coastal Bend Detention Center, Robstown
- 3 — Fleece blankets for children at Ronald McDonald House, CC
- 11 — Fleece blankets for children at New Life Refuge Ministries, CC
- 145 — Breast pillows for Christus Spohn Cancer Center, CC
- 90 — Lap quilts completed for Fisher House, San Antonio
- 87 — Cards of appreciation for military emergency responders

Gifts from the Heart:

Upbring Children's Centers — 159 sheet sets and 171 towel sets

Rainbow Rooms — 208 bottles of shampoo — 228 bottles of body wash
— 263 toothpaste — 27 toothbrushes — 50 combs

Pregnancy Center of the Coastal Bend gift cards — \$2,595

Life Refuge Ministries gift cards — \$2,593.69

Convention Newsletters #1 and #2 are available on the website



Do you have pictures you took at the convention?

We would like to put them on our website. Did you happen to take a picture of the new Executive Committee after the convention? We would really like to receive a good picture of this group. Please send your pictures to communication@lwmltxdist.org. We greatly appreciate you sharing your photos with us.

All photos will be up on the website soon. It is a slow process to get each picture sized and saved to the convention photos page of the website. Please have patience while we work on the large amount of photos we have received.

We would like to express a large thank you to Lisa Gerlich and Pam Mendenhall from the Convention Host Committee for walking around the entire convention and taking lots and lots of great pictures.



Twenty teens attended the LWML Texas District Convention in Corpus Christi. They formed friendships to last a lifetime, already planning on seeing each other in Austin for the 2026 Convention. They participated in their own teen activities, in Bible study, servant events, and a mock mission grant vote. A highlight was meeting humorous interrupter, Abby Goehring. The teen committee enjoyed meeting these younger Lutheran Women in Mission and look forward to seeing how they will take leadership positions in the future.



2024–2026 Mission Grants

Mission Grant	Amount
Scholarships for Seminarians — Texas District LCMS	\$60,000
New Life Children’s Center Spiritual Care Program — Canyon Lake	\$20,000
Disaster Response Team — Trinity Lutheran Church, Tyler	\$15,000
Orphan Grain Train Shipping Supplies — Houston	\$15,000
Proclaiming Christ to People Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired — LBW	\$20,000
Let It Shine Academy — Bethany, Austin	\$10,000
Adventure Woods Day Camp Outreach — Camp Lone Star, Tomball	\$20,000
Shepherd’s Canyon Retreat Ministry Scholarships	\$15,000
Hereford Hispanic Outreach Program — Hereford	\$25,000
Offering Women Hope: Blue Blossom Pregnancy Centers and Maternal Assistance Program — Houston	\$ 8,000
Disciple and Mobilize Youth for Gospel Outreach — Glocal Mission, Houston	\$12,000
Little Lambs Parents’ Day Out Ministry Playground Equipment — Sulphur Springs	\$10,000
Christian Education Scholarships K–12 — Central Texas	\$25,000
Ysleta Lutheran Mission Human Care Warehouse Repairs — El Paso (partial funding)	\$17,314
Total (includes \$47,314 abundance from 2022–2024 biennium)	\$272,314

And the winner is....

As your endowment committee, it was a delight to meet so many of our fellow Women *in Mission*, and share our enthusiasm for the endowments and how they contribute to our mission work each biennium! Did you miss the endowment booth at the convention? Visit lwmltxdist.org/endowments to learn more about the history and work of the endowments. You will also find contact information for our committee. Please reach out! We’d love to share more with you.

In celebration of God’s blessings on our LWML Texas District endowments, supporters put together a special gift basket for a celebratory giveaway at convention. Congratulations to the lucky winner Tina K. from the Golden Triangle Zone!



CHRIST IS OUR ANCHOR



Total as of June 30, 2024

2024–2026 Mite Goal	\$403,000.00
Mites Received	43,349.05
Total Mites Still Needed	\$403,000.00
Mission Grants Paid	

Send your mite offerings along with a remittance form to:

LWML Texas District
Attn: Alissa Elley, Financial Secretary,
PO Box 183, Seguin, TX 78156

Remittance forms can be found at lwmltxdist.org/about-mites.

Mites can also be given online. Simply follow the instructions under the “Donate” button.

Please include group or individual name, church name, and church city in the note section in order for your LWML group to receive credit for your mite donation. Please indicate if it is for something other than mites (endowments or retreat). You will receive an email receipt for your donation.

For additional information or if you need assistance, contact financialsecretary@lwmltxdist.org.

My dear friends, I simply want to say thank you again for gifting me with the privilege of serving you and LWML as your district president. The Lord is good and provided me with officers who performed tasks outside of their elected positions as well as the many prayers from the Board of Directors and friends. After all, it is not what "I" did, but what the Lord has done through you, the members. And look at what He did through you and our supporters! Two biennia of bold abundance, even after the pandemic and inflation, to provide additional mites for missions! What a joy it has been to have been along for the ride. I now look forward to seeing what the Lord produces through the new Executive Committee being led by President Sally. Congratulations my friends. You will be in my prayers.

Frances Molitor
Past President 2020–2024



Joining her mother and grandmother at the LWML Texas District convention in Corpus Christi is 11 month old Sophia Elizabeth Molitor, granddaughter to outgoing LWML Texas District President Frances Molitor.

Congratulations to these four young women that have been selected by the LWML Texas District Scholarship Committee to each receive a \$2,250 scholarship for the 2024–2025 school year. Thank you to all the amazing applicants that applied for the scholarship. Please lift these young women up in prayer as they pursue the plans God has in store for them.



Caroline Browning
St. Paul Lutheran Church, Ft. Worth
Freshman at Concordia University Nebraska

Dear Texas District LWML,

Thank you for your generous support. I look forward to pursuing God’s calling as I begin my studies at Concordia University Nebraska. Thank you for supporting me as I work to become a teacher in a Lutheran school.

Caroline Browning

Proverbs 3:5–6



Elizabeth Crawford
Faith Lutheran Church, Plano
Freshman at Concordia University Nebraska

Dear Texas District LWML,

Thank you so much for gifting me this generous scholarship! It will be a great benefit to me as I attend Concordia University, Nebraska to pursue God’s calling to serve as a Lutheran school teacher and to study music. Thank you for supporting me and others who desire to serve through various church work vocations. I appreciate your generosity and welcome your ongoing prayers!

In Christ,

Elizabeth Crawford



Olivia Hitz
 Faith Lutheran Church, Plano
 Senior at Concordia University Chicago

Dear LWML Texas District Scholarship Committee,

Thank you so much for choosing me to receive the LWML Texas District schoolscholarship!

I cannot begin to express how much your support and prayers mean to me as I continue in my vocation as a student. As I have continued to study as a part of the CUC community, I have become more and more eager to receive a call to a Lutheran school. The friends that I have made and the wisdom I have learned from professors and pastors have been such a blessing to me these past years. Thank you again for helping me as I prepare for the career to which God has called me.

Peace in Christ,
 Olivia Hitz



Abigail Velten
 Grace Lutheran Church, Denison
 Senior at Concordia University Nebraska

Dear LWML Scholarship Committee,

I want to personally thank you for selecting me as one of the recipients of this scholarship. Being awarded the scholarship is a great gift and I am thankful to be one of the students selected. By rewarding me the scholarship, you have lightened my financial burden, which allows me to focus more on the most important aspect of school: learning. Your generosity has inspired me to help others and give back to the community. I hope one day I will be able to help students achieve their goals just as you have helped me.

Thank you very much once again!

Praying for the work that you do and those you serve.
 Abigail Velten

Mission Grant Guidelines and the Mission Grant Proposal form for the 2025 LWML Convention are now available on the LWML website, lwml.org.

Please note: The final deadline for submission of Mission Grant Proposals is **midnight, Central Standard Time, September 1, 2024**.



Are you receiving the district's email news releases? Anyone can sign up to receive these, but we especially need zone and group presidents to sign up to receive current district news. Visit the homepage of our website, lwmltxdist.org to sign up now.

If your email has changed since you originally signed up or you need assistance, email communication@lwmltxdist.org.

Stay Connected ...

Send LWML news and photos to the *District News* editor at districtnews@lwmltxdist.org.

For website and social media, send information and photos to the Vice President of Communication at communication@lwmltxdist.org.



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