

Staying Connected

TIPS AND TOOLS TO GET AND STAY CONNECTED

More tips & tools at www.lutheranwomen.ca

Fall 2017

Pssst! LWML-Canada is turning 25 on June 20, 2018

What — another anniversary? This one is special...our silver anniversary. It seems like only yesterday that we were 20 and having a great party. Now it's a quarter century...so, let's get excited again!

You are invited to **celebrate with a thankful heart, making an offering to the Lord!!!** – a special financial gift and a gift of your time and thoughtfulness in serving others. You may find other ways.

See a separate article on page 8 for details about the financial gift, both where it will be used and how you might collect it.

Look through the *page of ideas* included with this mailing—choose a few; if your enthusiasm knows no

bounds—choose many!

A new *anniversary placemat* will soon be available. There will be a file posted online to print on 11 x 17" paper or you may order from the Resource Centre at a nominal cost plus shipping and handling.

Don't hide your anniversary celebration from your congregation! Let them share the party! Create awareness! Have fun!

Remember to take pictures and provide them plus a write-up of



your celebrations to Editor-in-Chief Marion Hollinger (e-mail and mailing address, bottom of page 2) with a cc to webmaster@lutheranwomen.ca and vpcommunication@lutheranwomen.ca so your submissions may be shared in many ways.

Reminiscing is always fun! A *special anniversary book* written by our first president, Eloise Schaan is in the works. Watch for details in coming issues.

Throughout this issue of *Staying Connected* there are several articles related to our anniversary including detail about the special offering and a request for photos.

Are you preparing for convention?

Watch for the convention PR bulletin #1...

... **When** – coming to you in mid November

... **How** – a print copy arriving in the mail

... **What** – containing information about the national convention

... **Why** – for fellowship, Bible study, guest speakers, mission grants and an important vote about restructuring

... **Where** – in Winnipeg at the Delta Hotel July 5 to 8, 2018

... **Who** – inviting you to attend

A poster will be included in this package. Registration forms will come in the new year in a second mailing.

Gail Mitchell, vpcommunication@lutheranwomen.ca



Urgent!

It's no Halloween prank! October 31, 2017 – the deadline for Mission Grant Proposal submission – is barely over one month away! Please, check the LWMLC website for mission grant ideas. More will follow as they emerge. Encourage each other to look for projects in your area. Info and forms for submission are on the web site at <https://lutheranwomen.ca/missions/how-to-submit-a-grant-proposal>. Include this information in your District newsletters: get the word out!

Keeping connections active and fruitful

Earlier this year the name of this newsletter changed from *Get Connected* to *Staying Connected*.



Iris Barta

Staying Connected is a tool used to provide ideas, tips and tools from national committees and leaders to leaders at all levels across Canada. We are an organization spread over a vast geographic area. To stay informed between gatherings is very important. It's important to keep us all on the right path toward our mission. It's also important to encourage and equip each other in our mission.

The idea of staying connected was described by Jesus to His disciples and to us, in John 15, using the illustration of a fruit tree. Jesus is the vine of the tree, we, the believers are the branches. We cannot survive unless we are connected to Jesus, the true vine. We are all part of one tree made abundantly fruitful by many branches with strong connections. God the Father is the vinedresser, pruning unfruitful branches to make the tree stronger. Whoever abides in the true vine (Jesus) will bear much fruit. Apart from the vine we will wither and die.

What does it mean to abide in Jesus? To abide means to live, to stay,

to continue. Through our baptism, we become part of Christ, we abide (live) in Him, and He lives in us. With the help of the Holy Spirit we stay connected to Jesus. Our hope in Christ is that we would continue to live in Him and He in us in our lives on earth and beyond the grave in everlasting life.

Abide is a verb, meaning this life in Christ is meant to have action. Part of our action is faithful worship and Bible study to continue and grow in our faith. Another part of the action is sharing the life and hope of Jesus with others. We want to point others to Christ so they can also be connected to the life giving vine.

That is the mission of LWMLC to equip, motivate and encourage

women to Grow in God's Word (abide in Him) Serve God's People and Share God's Son (get others connected).

As we begin our meetings for this last year of our triennium, we have much to prepare for and pray about. At our convention we will vote on mission grant proposals, a new executive will be considered either continuing under the current structure or under a new structure. It is important that our members and especially our leaders stay informed as we plan for the next triennium and the next 25 years in service to God.

Because we are connected to and by Christ, He will guide our decisions. He will abide in and with us making all things work together for good.

Change of hours at LWMLC Resource Centre

The LWML-Canada Resource Centre in Winnipeg will be open most Monday and Wednesday evenings. (Mondays 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. and Wednesdays 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.) and by appointment. Email will be answered at those times as well. If you need to speak to someone more urgently, please call Lutheran Church-Canada (1-800-588-4226) and ask to speak to Iris Barta.

Deadline for selecting delegates and alternates

The deadline for zones to choose their convention delegate and alternate is November 30, 2017.

The following information needs to be sent to your district president: name, address, phone number and email address.

Editor/Circulation
Marion Hollinger
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3074 Portage Avenue
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204-895-3433 Ext. 220
resourcecentre@lutheranwomen.ca



Order Line
1-888-596-5226
Ext: 220

Bits & Pieces

Download from <https://lutheranwomen.ca> a brief video of the mission grants to illustrate the LWMLC Sunday mission litany. Or order a copy from the Resource Centre via e-mail. It can be used in your meetings even after LWMLC Sunday.



Check the catalogue, section 1, for the new Christian Mission bookmark. To print your own, download a copy from the LWMLC website. There are eight per sheet. Or order 25 individual bookmarks, order number C-17-42; cost 25 for \$1.00. 2015-2018 Mission Grants are listed on the back.

Remember those kids from Costa Rica who are anxious to meet with their Nicaraguan counterparts at the youth gathering in Chinandega, October 28 to 31, 2017. If you chose not to make this a project for LWMLC Sunday there is still time to make a donation to help them achieve their goal. Funds may be collected and receipted by the same method your society uses for mite collection, then forward to LWMLC's Financial Secretary, Rachel Kuhl at 2 Tiffany Cres., Kanata, ON, K2K 1W2. Any donations will be sent to LCC who will look after providing them to the Costa Rica group.

Mission Grant Update

Thanks to the blessings of our God and the generosity of LWMLC women, \$720, part of our grant for the Feeding and Education program as well as \$900 as support for the deaconesses in Nicaragua, has been paid.

Our financial involvement in LCC's project in Atlantic Canada has been completed. Pastor Ron Mohr expressed his gratitude for our continued support in planting and maintaining congregations. Read details in the Winter 2017 issue of *Tapestry* coming in late October.

Pastor Ron Mohr has requested the remaining \$2,000 for the Quebec Outreach happening through the Reformation 500 activities. In his words: Thank you for your tremendous support for this work and for so many other aspects of LCC's mission work here and around the world.

Dr. David Somers adds his remarks: Thank you to LWML-Canada for this support allowing this project to move forward. Please convey my appreciation to LWMLC.LHM-Canada printed 4,000 French Luther booklets (with

Mission GRANTS 2015-2018

- \$7,200 – Curriculum Needs, Feeding & Christian Education Program, Nicaragua **\$5,040 (70%) paid**
- \$ 15,000 – Visiting and Site Pastor, Maritimes - **COMPLETED**
- \$ 16,000 – Canadian Teachers, Concordia Seminary, Odessa Ukraine **\$9,600 (60%) paid**
- \$ 5,000 – National Youth Gathering 2016, St. Catharines, Ontario - **COMPLETED**
- \$ 4,735 – Sewing School, Cambodia **\$1,735 (36%) paid**
- \$ 9,000 – Evangelists/Deaconesses, Nicaragua **\$6,300 (70%) paid**
- \$ 15,000 – Food, clothing and outreach, Community Cupboard, Kitchener, Ont. **\$10,000 (66%) paid**
- \$ 15,000 – Technology upgrade, Concordia Lutheran Seminary, Edmonton **\$10,401.54 (69%) paid**
- \$8,532.50 – Sister to Sister Seminar, Cambodia **0 paid**
- \$8,532.50 – Evangelists/Deaconesses, Cambodia **\$2,565 (30%) paid**

- \$26,000 – Mission Opportunity Fund
 - Women of Worth conference for First Nations women in Pelican Narrows, Sask. – \$1,500 COMPLETED
 - Intercultural Ministry conference – \$3,000 COMPLETED
 - Quebec Reformation project – \$5,000 COMPLETED
 - Women's retreat, Costa Rica – \$1,600 COMPLETED
 - Booth material for Stratford Ploughfest – \$500 COMPLETED
 - Magazine shipping for Nicaragua – \$766.84 COMPLETED
 - Mission assistance for Thailand – \$3,000 COMPLETED

\$81,008.38 of \$130,000 paid

Remaining: \$49,008.46

LCC Reformation500 logo) distributed in Montreal by de l'Ascension Lutheran Church and the Canadian Bible Society; in Sherbrooke by la Réconciliation; in Quebec City by the office of ecumenism of the Roman Catholic Church. Funds were used to print/purchase posters/materials/presentations and for advertising.

continued next page

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Mission Grant update continued **Payments from the Mission Opportunity Fund**

General Council has also approved payment of \$3,000 to LCC to sustain mission work in Thailand. God makes good things happen through the diligence and generosity of the current missionary. The education of more mission helpers is planned as

funding allows.

General Council approved a request by Dr. Somers to cover the shipping cost of \$750 (plus exchange) for Good News magazines in Spanish for Nicaragua. The Orphan Grain Train will take the boxes to St. Louis, Mo, USA, to a container leaving the US in mid-September and arriving in Nicaragua in October.

A request for \$500 on behalf of the Stratford Circuit congregations was granted for CPH tracts, LLL Project Connect booklets, Bibles, etc. The circuit funded and operated a booth at the 100th International Ploughing Match held September 19-23 at Walton, Ontario, near Dashwood. The booth also incorporated the Luther Seal Lego Mosaic.

Who will serve us in the next triennium? Nominations are needed

Part of the preparation for our 2018 convention is creating a slate of nominees for election. For this convention we are preparing two slates. One based on our current structure and the second based on the proposed structure. The positions required are:

Current Structure

President
Treasurer
Financial Secretary
Recording Secretary
Vice-president Communication
Vice-president Christian Growth
Vice-president Christian Mission
Vice-president Member Development

Proposed Structure

President
Vice-president
Treasurer
Financial Secretary
Recording Secretary
One Director from each of the following areas:

- British Columbia
- Alberta
- Saskatchewan
- Manitoba and NW Ontario
- Ontario
- Laurentian

Job descriptions for the proposed structure are available at <https://lutheranwomen.ca/about-us/>

[structure](#). Current job descriptions may be obtained from the nominating committee, district presidents or any member of General Council.

Nomination and “willing to serve” forms are available from the nomination committee, your district president or on the LWML–Canada website (<https://lutheranwomen.ca/events/conventions/forms>).

Deadline for nominations is February 28, 2018.

Please prayerfully consider how you or someone you know might serve.

The members of the nominating committee, appointed by their districts are:

- ABC District – Nadine Darby nadineda@telus.net, 604-241-9057
- Central District – Marilyn Nett (Chairman) mnett58@gmail.com, 807-626-3871
- Ontario District – Doris Schaeffer dorisschaeffer@rogers.com, 519-893-8328
- Laurentian District – Elaine Stanfel elaine.stanfel@gmail.com, 613-687-6620

General Council announces convention offerings

• **A SPECIAL 25TH ANNIVERSARY OFFERING** to celebrate and commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League–Canada. The recipient of this offering will be a new program for deacons at Concordia Lutheran Seminary in Edmonton (see page 8 for details).

• **MISSION WALK PROCEEDS**

Pledges collected from our convention mission walk will be directed toward continuing education for deaconesses in Central America. Without our support for the women who deliver the feeding and education programs in Central

America these programs would be destined for extinction.

• **CONVENTION OFFERINGS**

Our regular three convention offerings will go to

- 1) Mission Grants
- 2) PAT program – A program that supports mission efforts within Canada to prepare pastors for work with people from other countries
- 3) Costa Rica Women’s Retreat – Mission work with women in Costa Rica is ongoing and needs to remain funded to continue. The women are much encouraged by LWMLC’s support.

Thoughts to consider

There is nothing new in the following points, but just a few thoughts for our society/organization (and in the broader context of our church family).

- Are you actively sharing the goal of LWMLC to equip, motivate and encourage women to Grow in God's Word, Share God's Son and Serve God's people?

- Does your LWMLC society consider conflict as something to avoid or something leading to a resolution and reconciliation?

- Is there is a healthy and honest communication between members with no secrets or gossip?

- Do members think about each other often and communicate between meetings?

- Do members forgive each other? And pray for each other?

- Do members step up with help, support, and prayer when one member of the group is struggling?

- Do members actively invite their family and friends to meetings, events or to help out with specific projects?

- Do you speak the truth in love for the purpose of building one another up.

- Do you actively listen to one another?

Finally, it is still all about Jesus! He is the author and perfecter of our faith. With Him all things are possible. Fan into flame the gift of God!

We would welcome any feedback that you may have.

Lorraine Kaija, VP Member Development,
vpmemberdevelopment@lutheranwomen.ca

LWMLC launches a funeral planner

Two things in life are guaranteed... death and taxes! How often have we heard that? So, as citizens who follow the law, we pay our taxes...though we may grumble while doing so.

Death, though it's guaranteed, is something few people want to talk about. But, as Christians, the idea of death shouldn't cause us any fear. We live knowing that the life we have now is just a stepping stone on our way to something far more glorious!

So how prepared are you?

Tucked in at the front of my Bible is my Funeral Planner. In it I have indicated my favourite hymns and scripture readings and other things I'd like to be part of my service. My family knows that I want to donate any organs doctors can use. I have even indicated where I would like memorials to go. By making my wishes clear I have taken a huge burden off of my family.

When my uncle passed away my aunt called on me to help with planning his funeral. I kept wishing for just a few minutes of time with him so I could ask him what he would want. Not wanting to have to do that again, I have taken the time to sit with my mother to help her complete her Funeral Planner. It was not a sad time. It was a time to learn more about her; to hear stories about when she was young and what her Christian walk was like. Now, whenever our Good Lord calls her home, our family won't have to spend time wondering what she may have wanted.

To help you to be prepared we have created a Funeral Planner for you to complete. We encourage you to discuss funeral planning with the women of your society and order copies for all. Planners will be available from our Resource Centre and our website.

5 ideas for you to use

1. Using the members of your group, make a prayer calendar that allows you to pray for each other daily. Include also your society, church family and our organization as a whole.
2. Share Bible verses. Share your favourite Bible verse on Facebook or by phone with a friend. Explain why it is your favourite verse.
3. Put a Bible verse in your e-mail signature and change it frequently.
4. Ask for time during announcements on one Sunday of each month to highlight a mission grant, past or present, including a brief summary of the project and a prayer. Resources are available through our website.
5. Research some of the LWMLC mission grants over the years and share the story with others, stories of real people impacted by Jesus' love through LWMLC grants. It is exciting that the love of Jesus Christ is spreading throughout the world. Thank Him for the work He is doing through our mites. Thank Him that He has allowed us to be a part of His story. Tell everyone you know. Be a mission advocate.

Lorraine Kaija, VP Member Development

Monday prayers

As we celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, the Christian Growth committee has prepared a series of Monday prayers for the website that focus on our families and the church—two things that were very important to Martin Luther. We encourage you to take some time to go onto the website see all the resources that have been made available for you as we celebrate the Reformation.

Storytellers and study writers needed

Tellers of tall tales is not what we have in mind when referring to storytellers. Rather, because *Tapestry* is a magazine for women by women, we want input from all corners of our church. From short anecdotes to longer, thoughtful articles, all are welcome. What do you enjoy reading? Perhaps it reminds you of something you can share.

We encourage you to invite the women of your congregation to consider contributing...perhaps through your bulletin or newsletter somewhat like the paragraph above. If they don't receive *Tapestry* they will also want the following information and a copy of the magazine to peruse so they know how what they might write fits. Thanks for the help.

Marion Hollinger, editor



tapestry – LWML–Canada's
official publication
and a magazine for all women
of Lutheran Church–Canada

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datamanager@lutheranwomen.ca or 1-780-299-6123

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Consider contributing a faith-based story.

For details on themes, deadlines and how to submit visit
<https://lutheranwomen.ca/publications-and-forms/tapestry>

Spring 2018

In Christ we're not afraid to do the right thing...BY TURNING THE OTHER CHEEK

**Deadline for submissions:
November 1, 2017**

We'd love to have you write for *Tapestry*. Consider the following ideas and your life experiences or life-learning to help readers of the magazine grow in faith and action.

- Is turning the other cheek a passive action? Is it the brand of tolerance, of the sameness, demanded in today's society? Jesus is the ultimate example of turning the other cheek. How has Scripture helped you to know when to take a stand and when to turn the other cheek?
- In the world today turning the other cheek makes us different. Such behaviour is counter-culture in Canada today. How does Christ invite us to respond to what is

presented in the media? How have you put it into action?

- When we have been hurt by others, especially family, do we hurt them back? Seek revenge? Treating them with love can demand control of self. Illustrate how the Spirit, through the Word, can help us know what to do.

Any of the above might tie into the Lent or Easter season or perhaps you have an activity, recipe or story to share.

Summer 2018

ONE: one body, one spirit, one purpose

**Deadline for submissions:
February 1, 2018**

Scripture says we, the Church, are one body with Christ our head. Our convention scripture verses call us to have one mind, the mind of Christ. In the summer 2018 issue of *Tapestry* we hope to explore, with your help, that "oneness." We provide you with two questions and with ideas drawn from our 2018 convention Scripture verses.

- What draws you and others into that oneness? It might have been the welcome received from the congregation or a group within the congregation that drew you into their circle (and eventually the larger circle of the Church). It might have been encouragement received, help to find the right niche to use the gifts God has given, receiving comfort and support during a difficult time, etc.)
- How can you, or other individuals, as part of the body, maintain the oneness of the body? What have you witnessed or experienced? Examples can include avoiding rivalry and conceit, counting others more significant than ourselves, looking out for the

continued next page

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LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE—CANADA FINANCIAL REPORT – April 1, 2015 – August 31, 2017

	April 1/15 - Aug. 31, 2017	Budget 2015-2018
REVENUE		
Sale of LWMLC Resources	\$10,653.75	\$ 30,000.00
Designated For Mission Grants	8,920.19	7,859.00
Donations	61,864.71	2,850.00
Endowment Proceeds	1,462.46	1,200.00
Gifts For Growth - Donations	8,727.03	12,000.00
Gifts For Growth - Interest	5,666.35	12,000.00
Mites from Districts	134,007.65	206,900.00
Nicaragua Youth Gathering	1,000.00	-
Communication	500.00	500.00
Advertising Income - Tapestry	13,888.85	18,100.00
Subscription Income - Tapestry	57,023.50	66,387.00
Sister to Sister pins	460.00	-
Convention 2015 Revenue	109,722.20	110,503.00
General Council & Intercommittee Meeting	925.66	-
GST Rebate	984.77	4,000.00
Ontario District Donation	5,070.73	-
Miscellaneous	21.00	100.00
REVENUE TOTALS	\$ 420,898.85	\$ 472,399.00
*General Council & Intercommittee Meeting (funds transferred from Manulife Account originally received in previous triennium)	\$ 16,957.61	\$ 22,400.00
BUDGET TOTALS	\$ 437,856.46	\$ 494,799.00
EXPENSES		
Christian Growth Committee	\$ 456.68	\$ 2,000.00
Resource Centre Operations	11,178.08	30,000.00
Christian Mission Committee	50.00	4,000.00
Gifts For Growth Fund - Seminary Scholarships	8,328.91	12,000.00
Mission Grants	79,200.80	130,000.00
Communication Committee	15,328.50	24,119.00
Member Development Committee	562.96	2,000.00
Tapestry	62,953.67	84,487.00
Archives	-	250.00
Bank Charges	203.92	540.00
Convention Expenses	95,351.56	110,503.00
Executive Expenses	4,896.44	10,000.00
General Council Meetings	15,629.65	35,000.00
*General Council & Intercommittee meeting	21,063.11	22,400.00
GST (50%)	5,790.62	4,000.00
Master Card/Visa Fees	798.53	3,000.00
Miscellaneous	543.15	2,500.00
Professional Fees	3,500.00	3,500.00
Resource Centre Administration	3,170.94	6,000.00
Resource Centre Rent	4,000.00	6,000.00
Structure Committee	7,319.60	2,500.00
Strategic Planning Committee	277.25	-
TOTALS	\$ 340,604.37	\$ 494,799.00

Revenue report prepared by Rachel Kuhl, financial secretary.

Expense report prepared by Lorraine Weir, treasurer.

Please direct any questions regarding the financial report to treasurer,
Lorraine Weir, treasurer@lutheranwomen.ca, 204-269-6737.

Storytellers, continued

interests of others, etc.

- This topic lends itself to many short stories each focusing on something specific rather than the broad topic. We all know, of course, that it is the work of the Spirit we are talking about here but His work is revealed in the people around us, in their actions and the results.

In the Fall 2018 issue we will discuss being God's agents of faith.

Send to: Editor-in-chief, Marion Hollinger,
2816 Calder Avenue, Saskatoon, SK S7J 1W1;
tapestry@lutheranwomen.ca

Convention overtures invited

At the 2018 convention a resolution in the form of new bylaws will be presented for vote. There may be other business resolutions that societies would like to have presented at the convention. If the new bylaws are not accepted, there may be changes needed to our current bylaws. If you have such recommendations, they are to be submitted to the president (see contact information below) in the form of overtures. The deadline for submissions of overtures is October 31, 2017. Janice Buchner, President Ontario District, has been appointed chairman of the resolution committee. Two more members of the committee will be appointed. The resolutions committee will review the overtures submitted and submit them as resolutions to be voted on at convention.

Sources re 25 ideas to celebrate

#5 - The hymn written by Deborah Pakrul for the Founding Convention is titled "Come and Praise the Lord, our King!" It and the LWML-Canada hymns can be found on the MORE Program Planning Made Easy CD if you have a copy or order from the LWML-Canada Resource Centre.

#6 - A copy of our mission and vision is posted on our website at <https://lutheranwomen.ca/about-us/mission>. They also were printed on the inside back cover of *Tapestry, Winter 2012*.

#19 - Two alternatives for marking Bibles were used at the 2012 convention during the servant event. The instructions are also available from the Resource Centre. "God's Plan for Your Life" #C-12-59, \$.50; "His Forever Because He Loves You" #C-12-60, \$.50.



Helping you celebrate — happy birthday/anniversary everyone!

As mentioned on page 1, you will find a page of ideas for celebrating our anniversary with great thankfulness included. You may wish to celebrate on our birthday, June 20, sometime that month, or even wait for LWML–Canada Sunday next fall.

Special thank-offering

We invite each member of LWML–Canada to participate in a special thank-offering through your society. Your General Council considered a number of ways this offering could be used. They were particularly interested in something that would support women and also be of benefit to the church.

The diaconate program being established at Concordia Lutheran Seminary, Edmonton, serves both women and men but particularly women going into full-time church work. Many costs are involved and our gifts will be most welcome. This program benefits the whole church. As seminary president, Rev. James Gimbel, noted in a letter to LWMLC president, Iris Barta, “We envision that most aspects of our CLS and LCC communities will be enhanced by deacons and pastors going through training together; we believe that deacons will be provided strong theological and practical foundations.”

The diaconate program was originally offered through Concordia University of Edmonton. Unfortunately, by 2012 Concordia felt that it could no longer support a full-time program director and it was served by two successive part-time coordinators (Garry Dombrosky and Jennifer Frim) until the eventual cancellation of the

DPS program along with all other church-work related programs in 2015. In 2016 Concordia University of Edmonton officially severed its ties to LCC. Since the discontinuation of the church work programs at Concordia, Jennifer Frim has been coordinating the placement needs of the few remaining students with the assistance of Concordia Lutheran Seminary in Edmonton. The seminary has developed a new version of the Director of Parish Services (DPS) program to be offered through their institution and is currently providing for the placement and supervision of one intern for the 2017–2018 academic year. They hope to be able to accept new students shortly.

Members of the diaconate share their thoughts

Several graduates from the Director of Parish Services training program formerly at Concordia University of Alberta and pastors who have been blessed by their service were asked to share their experience. Below you hear from Amanda Hastings; in *Tapestry, Winter 2017* you will hear from Regan Schultz.

“I came into the DPS program as a colloquy student having just finished my undergraduate degree in French, of all things. As I went through the DPS program I assumed that this would be much the same as my undergraduate degree; several assignments that would be forgotten as soon as I handed them in. These were words I very humbly had to retract once I was able to use an assignment, with some slight tweaking, as the basis for a program that I used when I was out in the field!

“While I appreciated the classroom

preparation, the connection that was formed between the students, both past and present, is the greatest takeaway from the program. As a DPS I have had to transition into many new vocations; from a single, sometimes (often), foolish young woman to a married, sometimes (often) tired mom, and the support of a community of people who understands your situation is a huge benefit! The academic and social aspects of the DPS program prepared me for a beginning in ministry but have also been the encouragement I needed to continue on in this challenging, but incredibly rewarding, career.”

Receipts

We have included a page of labels that can be copied (colour or grayscale) and one given to each member to paste on an envelope for their special offering. Your special offering should be sent to LWML–Canada’s financial secretary, Rachel Kuhl, at 2 Tiffany Crescent, Kanata, ON K2K 1W2.

For donors to receive a tax receipt, their gifts may be handled like mites... going through the congregation’s account and being receipted by the congregation before being forwarded in lump sum to the financial secretary of LWML–Canada.

Donations going through a society’s account with the cheque coming from the society can be received with thanks but cannot be receipted.

Q & A regarding restructuring

In life, change is inevitable. We have all gone through changes, a new job, retirement, marriage, divorce, the death of a loved one, a move. The list goes on. Ironically negative changes and positive changes both create stress in our lives. Sometimes the unknown factors of a change cause the most stress and fear.

I believe we know it's time for a change to the way LWMLC is organized. The difficulty is coming to agreement about the changes and navigating through the [transition](#). [There](#) are many unknown factors about transitioning to the proposed structure if it is adopted; there are also unknown factors about how we will continue into the future if we continue under the current structure.

Some questions we can't answer. One of the characteristics of change is that we don't usually know the details of what things will look like after the fact. Hindsight is 20/20, looking into the future, the view is not so clear.

Some questions we can answer. The following questions have been submitted to the restructuring leaders:

1. **Are we sure this is the final version?**

The final version has been submitted to our lawyer to create new corporate bylaws. There may be some small changes based on the lawyer's recommendations. There may also



be some editorial changes. The final version to be voted on at convention will be sent to each society with the convention business bulletin. According to our current bylaws this must be in societies by April 1.

2. **What happens to our input?**

All input is shared with the restructuring committee. We have considered all input and done our best to come up with a proposed structure that will enable LWMLC to carry on our mission with the resources we have.

3. **When the districts disappear, what will hold the larger regions together?**

Under the new structure there will be six members of the board of directors from across Canada. These directors will be a link between zones and the board of directors. There will be a renewed emphasis on the role of zones. The "work" of LWMLC happens in societies and zones. The

board of directors and committees of the boards will be to provide resources and communications for the zones and societies (LWMLC Updates; *Tapestry*; Staying Connected; others that may be developed).

4. **How will training occur at the zone level, when some of the zones are so widespread?**

Training materials will be created and provided from the resource centre and online. An intercommittee meeting is being planned for the fall of 2018. Training will be provided for board and committee members at that meeting. The materials will be designed to be easily shared in zones and societies.

As I noted above it is not possible to answer all the questions. As women with a deep faith in Christ, we trust that whatever happens, it will be okay because we "look to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God" (Hebrews 12:2).

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go" (Joshua 1:9).

Iris Barta, on behalf of the restructuring leaders

Anniversary committee looking for your help

The July 5-8, 2018, LWML-Canada 10th Convention is fast approaching. We will also be celebrating our 25th anniversary as LWML-Canada!! Now that is exciting! The anniversary committee has been brainstorming and now need your participation for a memorable celebration.

1) We are looking for pictures of past LWML-Canada conventions, events, seminars, etc. If possible send them electronically to Linda Horton at linda.horton2@shaw.ca or mail to 90 Sierra Morena Green, SW Calgary, AB T3H 3H8 (403-984-2508).

2) To make the banquet

memorable we are inviting and encouraging everyone to dress in shades of the LWMLC BLUES and/ or WHITE!! What a picture that will make. More information to come in the next *Staying Connected*.

25th Anniversary
Chairperson: Lorraine Kaija
Committee Members: Fay Schatschneider,
Karen Kaija and Linda Horton



Happy Anniversary! LWML-Canada is 25 on June 20, 2018

- 25 years 25 ways to celebrate!**
- | | | | |
|----|--|----|--|
| 1 | Collect a special offering for the diaconate program | 17 | Organize a cookie bake in the church kitchen. Provide a general invitation but especially invite those who live alone. |
| 2 | Have a tea party on our birthday, June 20 | 18 | Hold a mission fair to highlight mission grants and other mission activities |
| 3 | Celebrate with a banquet or potluck supper of thanksgiving, in June, near LWMLC Sunday or Thanksgiving Day | 19 | Purchase and mark Bibles for your pastor to give to visitors who inquire about our faith** |
| 4 | Provide thanksgiving prayers for each day in June; pray at the same time each day | 20 | Gather a group of women from your congregation and knit or crochet prayer shawls for those in need of prayer. |
| 5 | Hold a service of thanksgiving with the hymn written for the Founding Convention** and LWMLC hymns** | 21 | Honour long-time society members at a congregational event and give a donation to mites in their honour |
| 6 | Contribute an article about LWML-Canada to your congregation's newsletter - highlight our mission and goals** | 22 | Organize a "knit teddy bears for CLWR" project in your congregation |
| 7 | Celebrate with a special song and a soup luncheon on LWML-Canada Sunday or during the month of June | 23 | Plan a retreat for the entire congregation courtesy of your LWMLC society |
| 8 | Involve families in a celebration walk for missions/mites - children, moms with strollers, fathers, grandparents... | 24 | Host a special "what is LWMLC all about" event |
| 9 | Be the way others in your congregation learn about all the devotions, studies, retreats and other resources available from LWMLC | 25 | Make a memory quilt or special banner to mark the event |
| 10 | Sponsor a prayer vigil for women - in a park | | |

**JOIN THE PARTY
HAVE SOME FUN
SHARE GOD'S GIFTS**

**Additional information to help carry out some of these ideas is available from the LWML-Canada Resource Centre (1-888-596-5226 ext.220; resourcecentre@lutheranwomen.ca) or online at www.lutheranwomen.ca. See back page of *Get Connected, Fall 2017* for details.



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Silver Anniversary!

My gift \$ _____ Name _____



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