

# Staying Connected

TIPS AND TOOLS TO GET AND STAY CONNECTED

More tips & tools at [lutheranwomen.ca](http://lutheranwomen.ca)

Winter 2019

## New cross designs available



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## Mission grant update

We recently heard from our vice-president of Christian Mission that additional mission grant money has been paid. We are awaiting more detail.

- 1) Joint retreat of those at the seminaries in Edmonton and St. Catharines to unify the curriculum for the Master of Divinity Course – \$3,000
- 2) Bethlehem Walk (live nativity scene portrayal) by Hope Lutheran Christian School, Port Coquitlam, B.C., for a tent – \$4,135.20
- 3) Completion of grant to Rev. Jan Pastucha – \$1,714.24

## Making fellowship a priority leads to amazing results

Food.  
That's it.  
The long and short of it.

Our small society meets once every two months over the breaking of bread—or slurping of homemade soup, or munching on finger foods, or eating ooey-gooey pizza! Yes, of course, food is not the only reason why we meet—in fact, our individual schedules are so jam-packed that we could more easily eat at home before the meeting. There has to be something more.

The Bible points out that the early followers of Christ would often meet in homes of fellow believers. Acts 2:46 states, “Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts” (NIV).

So how does it work? One woman agrees to be the hostess. We head to her home around 6:00 p.m. where she has prepared a simple meal. The hostess need not fret whether there is enough food—other women will often bring something to add to the meal. We begin with prayer and we eat around the table. Women will

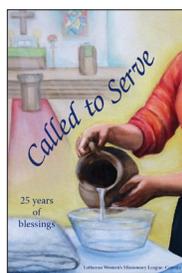
share updates, happy moments, desperate concerns and offer helpful suggestions. Over tea and coffee, there is a Bible study that is usually led by one person. If I lead the study, I will try to incorporate concerns from the earlier conversations into the study.

The actual business portion of our LWMLC meetings is kept to a strict minimum for a few reasons. The reading of meeting minutes can be dry—so we often use technology to share this information. Also, we do not want to overwhelm some of our new guests. As well, we decided years ago that our greatest priority for our meetings is fellowship, and therefore, abiding by the strict rules of meetings is simply secondary.

We have seen a pleasant growth in attendance since we started conducting our LWMLC meetings in this manner. Women from all walks have joined in the breaking of bread and have eventually joined LWMLC. We did not pressure these women into joining our group, but we welcomed them with open arms, met them where they are, and loved them through our ups and downs.

*Amy Boudreau*

## Copies available from the Resource Centre



Copies of LWML-Canada's 25-year-history were purchased for sale at the district conventions. Not all were sold so some are in hand at the Resource Centre. They may be ordered from there ([resourcecentre@lutheranwomen.ca](mailto:resourcecentre@lutheranwomen.ca)) until we run out, when they will continue to be available from Lulu.com.

# Perspectives from the President

## Another new beginning – serving our Lord and growing in Christ

As I was doing my Bible study this morning, 2 Thessalonians 3:13 was so simple and clear ... “As for you, brothers, do not grow weary in doing good.” It reminded me of the significant and wondrous work each of you offer in loving service to our Lord. I hear of our many societies who reach out to shut-ins, offering the gift of time—such a special treasure to offer. Many societies are preparing special, focused gifts for people in our communities who are homeless, or have limited resources—offering food baskets, toy donations, and financial support. And, again I am reminded that our Lord, through the Apostle Paul, says “Do not grow weary in doing good.”

Advent, the beginning of our New Year on the church calendar, is the moment when we make plans for the coming year, starting with many celebrations with family, church, and our special friends. We can easily become overwhelmed with the hurry and busyness around us. I encourage each of you to pause and take a deep breath, remembering that God gives us each day to focus on Him first.

Thinking about the coming year, I am so excited to encourage you to make room on your calendar for several opportunities our committees will be offering.

The **SEMINAR** committee is busy developing a seminar that will be offered in 2020, for our leaders and for our members to remember that we are ONE in Christ.

A **WEBINAR** (basically an online seminar) will be offered in the spring, to focus our members very specifically—*Called to Speak*.

Our Christian Growth Committee continues to help us to grow in Christ, through the development and revision of **devotions and resources**. They are actively working with members of the communication committee to make our resources available via **DOWNLOAD ON DEMAND**.

Although the plans take us into 2021, I am so pleased to tell you that our **CONVENTION** theme for 2021 has been confirmed—*Christ Lives in Me*, based on Galatians

2:20. Indeed, let us focus on the truth, “...Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”

Indeed, let us focus on Him—living in me—and responding to His love by living and serving Him in faith. There will be more details coming and invitations to each of you to help us with the necessary features that are part of the convention. I encourage you to reflect on this theme and remember that our celebrations and our service is our response to “what Christ did for us.” We will be meeting in the Lower Mainland part of British Columbia, July 8 – 11, 2021, specifically in Surrey, B.C.

Many of you have special reasons this season to think about blessings and people who are particularly dear to us. As you give thanks, I encourage you to remember the missions that LWMLC supports through your mite contributions. We are so grateful to each of you for your support, and we continue to receive requests for special, and important, missions that require our LWMLC financial support. Please remember to offer those gifts, as you are led by the Holy Spirit.

Remember always, during this season of preparation, to spend time praying for peace in our world, as “... great company of heavenly host .... saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to men on whom his favour rests’” (Luke 2:14).

I pray that God will bless each of you with a truly, Christ-centred time of preparation as we, together, prepare to celebrate the birthday of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In faithful service to our Lord and to all of the women who lead LWMLC.



Linda Long,  
president

I am so excited to encourage you to make room on your calendar for several opportunities our committees will be offering.

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### Resources for you

The Christian Growth committee is busy reviewing past resource materials and accepting new materials. Some details are still in the works but keep an eye on the LWML–Canada Updates as the next step will be to make our devotions, skits, studies and other program helps available as *Download on Demand*. You will be among the first to know about this new feature of having materials with just the click of your mouse.

We also remind you that a monthly devotion and a prayer calendar are available on LWMC website ([lutheranwomen.ca](http://lutheranwomen.ca)). Scroll to the bottom of the home page and there you will find them under the “What’s New” column. Click on the heading “Devotion” or “Prayer Calendar” and they are ready for your use.

### Info you can use

*“And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful”* (Colossians 3:15).

As we head into November towards Advent, one cannot help but give thanks for all that the Lord has done for us, every single day. I especially am thankful for the continued dedication, service and ministry of all the women of LWMLC.

A huge thanks to Lydia Parker, who has resigned as our webmaster, but continues to serve the Lord in her new role as Vice-President Communication for Central District. Thanks to Lydia for her tireless dedication and for quickly training our new webmaster to take over those duties. A big welcome to Stephanie Nielsen, who prayerfully has accepted the request to take over as our new webmaster.

We have some exciting opportunities coming up in the next year. Final training is being done on a pilot webinar – *Called to Speak* (to launch in spring). A seminar for 2020 is being planned for late spring and planning has started on the national convention in 2021. Please watch future publications for more information on each of these exciting events!

Contacting the Resource Centre will now be done only via email as we’ve terminated the toll free 1-888 number in Winnipeg. Please note when emailing that we use the Canadian spelling of centre, not the American spelling (center). You can also access the resource catalogue and contact information for the Resource Centre under the Resources tab on the LWML–Canada website ([lutheranwomen.ca](http://lutheranwomen.ca)). There’s an email form available that can be filled out right on the site, as well as phone numbers to contact Tom Sperling directly. As well, you can still email the Resource Centre at [resourcecentre@lutheranwomen.ca](mailto:resourcecentre@lutheranwomen.ca).

We continue to post all the district newsletters, as well as any rally/ renewal/or retreat information on the district web pages. Please take some time to check those out!

If you ever are unable to find what you need on the website, please do not hesitate to contact me ([vpcommunication@lutheranwomen.ca](mailto:vpcommunication@lutheranwomen.ca)) or Stephanie ([webmaster@lutheranwomen.ca](mailto:webmaster@lutheranwomen.ca)) and we’ll do our best to point you in the right direction!

*God bless,  
Becky Wandio*

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**SAVE THE DATE**

**Next national convention — July 8-11, 2021 — hosted by ABC District**

## LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE—CANADA FINANCIAL REPORT – April 1, 2018 – September 30, 2019

	April 1/18 - Sept 30/19	Budget 2018-2021
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Sale of LWMLC Resources	\$7,296.28	\$ 15,000.00
Designated For Mission Grants	4,624.51	10,000.00
Donations	26,599.44	1,000.00
Endowment Proceeds	584.82	1,500.00
Gifts For Growth - Donations	0.00	12,000.00
Gifts For Growth - Interest	4,411.55	9,000.00
Mites from Districts	80,300.55	196,740.00
Advertising Income - Tapestry	2,796.25	15,600.00
Subscription Income - Tapestry	35,736.91	70,350.00
Anniversary Offering	7,065.95	0.00
Convention 2018 Revenue	88,024.54	111,350.00
Convention Mite Offering	150.00	3,000.00
GST Rebate	1,091.87	3,600.00
Miscellaneous	7,265.00	100.00
<b>REVENUE TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 265,947.67</b>	<b>\$ 449,240.00</b>
*General Council & Intercommittee Meeting (funds transferred from Gifts for Growth Fund)	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
<b>BUDGET TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 300,947.67</b>	<b>\$ 469,240.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Christian Growth Committee	\$ 772.84	\$ 1,000.00
Resource Centre Operations	7,593.24	15,000.00
Christian Mission Committee	995.89	3,000.00
Gifts For Growth Fund	2,000.00	9,000.00
Mission Grants	62,838.50	130,000.00
Communication Committee	7,421.04	27,990.00
Rebranding	2,093.21	2,000.00
Member Development Committee	0.00	1,000.00
Tapestry	37,821.19	85,950.00
Archives	0.00	250.00
Bank Charges	205.15	500.00
Convention Expenses	94,774.63	111,350.00
Executive Expenses	3,320.43	6,000.00
General Council Meetings	7,663.51	30,000.00
*General Council & Intercommittee meeting	39,510.80	20,000.00
GST (50%)	7,114.49	7,200.00
Master Card/Visa Fees	1,068.54	1,500.00
Miscellaneous	7,638.65	1,000.00
Professional Fees	15,858.75	3,500.00
Resource Centre Administration	880.00	4,000.00
Resource Centre Rent	0.00	6,000.00
Structure Committee	0.00	3,000.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 299,570.86</b>	<b>\$ 469,240.00</b>

Revenue report prepared by Fay Schatschneider, financial secretary.  
Expense report prepared by Karen Nerbas, treasurer.

Please direct any questions regarding the financial report to treasurer,  
Karen Nerbas, treasurer@lutheranwomen.ca, 250-495-0655.