



Flashlight

"Going Forward in Love"



March 2025
Volume 35, Issue 2

VP District Administration ABC — Sherley Hearty

Going Forward in Love

What does 'going forward in love' look like to you? Going forward, typically refers to 'from now on' or 'in the future.' Do we know what tomorrow brings? We are instructed in God's Word "not to worry about tomorrow." In all that we do we are to "seek first his Kingdom and his righteousness." Matthew 6:33-34 ESV. In Christ we find our identity, not the circumstances of life, the stumbles along the way, the accomplishments or setbacks, or the opinions of others. We are 'loved by God' and our faith is in the Son of God, who loved us and gave himself for us. God loves us and has accepted us as His own, because of Jesus' redemptive love for us, knowing we will make mistakes, yet He is committed to us on this journey.

We know the road looks different for each one of us. We embrace our differences, support and encourage one another and move forward in love. We love one another modelling our love for one another after the way Christ loved people while he walked the earth, building one another up in love. Through whatever changes, we will stand firm on God's Word.

We know how we communicate is changing. Our LWMLC publication, Tapestry, a magazine written by women for women, needs to redefine some of the methods of distribution to deal with the rising costs.

Be sure to share your input by completing the survey [found here](#) by May 31, 2025.

The one constant is that Christ's love for us is always with us. Love "always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres." 1 Corinthians 13:7 ESV. As we reflect Christ's love to others, we express our thankfulness and gratitude in service to Him, going forward in love.

Thankful for His Love,
Sherley Hearty,
VPDA ABC, LWMLC, Inc



Christian Growth Committee Member — Pauline Huth

Going Forward in Love

There are over 100 references to the word “love” in the concordance in the back of my study Bible. That is a lot of guidance and direction when it comes to the word “LOVE.”

We often think of the word “Love” in a romantic way, but the Bible shows us other ways to express that love. The Bible tells us in 1 John 4:19 “We love because He first loved us.” God teaches us how to love through Jesus His Son. John 3:16 tells us “For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.” That is the best example of love, by both God the Father and God the Son, who obediently gave His life for our salvation.

When asked what was the greatest commandment Jesus replied as recorded in Matthew 22:37-38 “Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it; ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’” These are the guidelines the Bible gives to us when we think of how to love the way God wants us to love.

How can we show others how we love them daily? Our LWMLC Christian Growth Committee are currently working on a few projects to help you show love to others. We are preparing a small gift booklet for Confirmation gifts. The booklet will have Bible verses to encourage teens, as well as a QR code, so that they can download it onto their phones to have with them when they need comfort, or guidance from the Bible. These should be available in April. Watch for the promotion in the LWMLC Update.

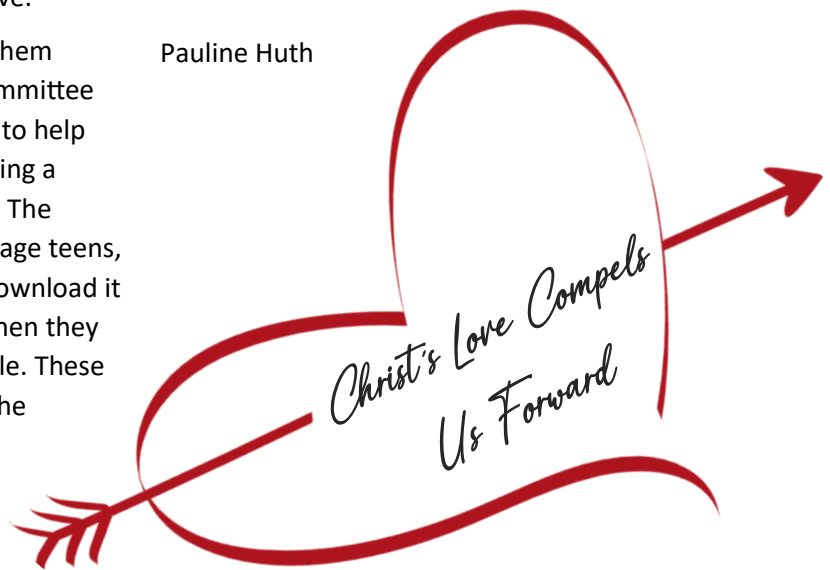
If you have not already seen the new devotional/recipe book that was published in July 2024, check out the resource center for “Feed My Body, Feed my Soul.” This little booklet would be excellent as a birthday, or wedding shower gift, a gift for your secret prayer sister. The resource center also has a cutting board as well as other items that could go together to make a perfect gift basket. These could be a gift of your love to others.

The LWMLC website also has the Prayer Service available for downloading. Hope you all check out the website regularly.

Just a reminder that every month, the LWMLC website at: www.lutheranwomen.ca has a monthly devotion and Prayer Calendar that the Christian Growth committee has prepared for you. Just click on the word “Growth” to download, print or listen. You can also share them with others.

May God show us all each and every day how to “Go Forward in Love” the way God shows us to love.

Pauline Huth



Communication Committee — Becky Wandio

I hope this article finds you all thinking of spring and new life! Here on the prairies, we're moving out of the deep freeze and relishing in above 0 temperatures.

Mites in Action Webinars

Our first webinar of the new triennium focused on the Oromo (Ethiopian) ministry in Canada with Pastor Aredo of Shalom Lutheran Church in Winnipeg. We heard first-hand about his life before he came to Canada and his ministry in Winnipeg. The webinar continues to be available online. Gather some friends or watch it on your own at this link: <https://youtu.be/ewcgBiMVfwI> Our next webinar will be held on March 1st, featuring Pastor Schave of LAMP. If you were unable to attend the webinar, The Update will provide a link to watch at your convenience.

Blog Posts

The first blog posting on "Serving in His Strength" went up on January 6. Have you checked it out yet? A new posting will appear each Monday. Visit <https://lutheranwomen.ca/serving-in-his-strength/> each week for new encouragement.

Tapestry

Tapestry is celebrating 30 years this spring. During those thirty years the world around us, including within the church, has changed. How do those changes affect how LWMLC Inc. communicates as we seek to carry out the league's mission of enabling and encouraging all the women of Lutheran Church—Canada to grow in God's Word,

share God's Son and serve God's people? We need your input and have formulated a discussion/survey to help you provide it. Find the [survey here](#) to answer online or download the PDF and use the print version. Complete and submit by May 31, 2025.

RENEWALS FOR 2025-2026

It will take most of 2025 to receive and analyze your responses and to determine what is both possible and will meet your needs and the needs of our organization. There will, therefore, be no changes to renewal forms for 2025-26. They will be sent out this month or an order form may be downloaded from the LWMLC Inc. website. Please order as usual.

Blessings,
Becky Wandio



The theme for the June 2025 issue of the Flashlight is
"Growing in Service, What Can I Do"
Please remember to submit Zone and Society news!
Email submissions are due **May 15, 2025**.
Please send to
flashlight.abc.lwmlc@gmail.com

Lutheran Women's Missionary League-Canada
Revenue Report to January 31, 2025

Revenue	Current January 1 to 31, 2025	Trienium April 1, 2024 - Mar.31, 2027	Proposed Budget April 1, 2024 - Mar.31, 2027
Growing in Faith			
Sale of LWMLC Resources	\$ 456.78	\$ 4,362.27	\$ 18,900.00
Sale of 2024 Convention Video	\$ 25.00	\$ 50.00	
Putting Faith into Action			
** Mites	\$ 35,993.02	\$ 99,232.69	\$ 270,000.00
Gifts for Growth - Honoraium/Memorial	\$ 1,180.00	\$ 3,765.00	\$ 10,000.00
Flexi GIC	\$ -	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
Flexi GIC - Interest	\$ -	\$ 154.11	\$ -
Gifts for Growth & Gertrude Pollex - Interest			\$ 7,425.00
Gifts for Growth & Gertrude Pollex - Bursaries		\$ 2,500.00	
Encouraging One Another in Faith			
Advertising Income - Tapestry	\$ 1,205.00	\$ 3,959.55	\$ 16,000.00
Subscription Income - Tapestry	\$ 512.00	\$ 2,275.00	\$ 70,000.00
Working Together in Faith			
Convention 2024 Registration	\$ 350.00	\$ 44,140.00	\$ 104,000.00
** Convention 2024 Offerings	\$ -	\$ 13,005.01	\$ 22,000.00
* Convention 2024 Revenue - deferred	\$ -	\$ 6,960.00	\$ -
Convention 2021 Revenue - deferred	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,666.00
GST Rebate (50%)	\$ 2,297.53	\$ 5,270.31	\$ 3,300.00
Investment Support	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 46,150.00
TOTAL (excluding deferred)	\$ 42,019.33	\$ 198,713.94	\$ 581,441.00
Prepared by Penny Bobier, Financial Secretary			
* 2024 Convention Revenue - Deferred	\$ 6,900.00		
* 2024 Convention Offerings - Deferred	\$ 60.00		
** Year to date Mites (13,815.93 + 85,413.76)	\$ 99,232.69		
Convetion Offering # 1 and Mission Movement	\$ 13,815.93		
Mite offerings to date	\$ 85,416.76		
2024 Convention Report			
2024 Convention Registration	\$ 350.00	\$ 44,140.00	
2024 Convention Offerings 2, 3 and ingatherings		\$ 13,005.01	
Offering #1 Mites (including Mission Movement pledges of \$7,349.85)		\$ 13,815.93	
Total Convention	\$ 350.00	\$ 70,960.94	

Lutheran Women's Missionary League - Canada Inc.
Working Expense Budget 2024 - 2027

	<u>Current Expenses</u>		<u>YTD Expenses</u>		<u>Current Budget</u>	
	<u>Jan. 1, 2025 -</u>		<u>Apr 1, 2024</u>		<u>April 1 2024</u>	
	<u>Jan. 1, 2025 -</u>		<u>Dec. 31, 2024</u>		<u>Mar 31 2027</u>	
<u>Growing in Faith</u>						
Christian Growth Committee	\$	10.00	\$	24.00	\$	2,500.00
Resource Centre Stock	\$	146.90	\$	2,895.12	\$	10,500.00
Resource Centre Administration	\$	-	\$	523.45	\$	4,000.00
Subtotals	\$	156.90	\$	3,442.57	\$	17,000.00
<u>Putting Faith Into Action</u>						
Christian Mission Committee	\$	-	\$	-	\$	2,500.00
Gifts for Growth Fund	\$	-	\$	2,695.00	\$	7,500.00
Flexi Gic	\$	-	\$	-	\$	6,991.00
Investment Pollex Bursary	\$	-	\$	-		
Mission Grants	\$	11,985.00	\$	15,353.45	\$	251,200.00
Special Outreach Supprt**	\$	-	\$	2,500.00	\$	7,500.00
Convention Offerings Payout**	\$	-	\$	13,045.01	\$	20,000.00
Subtotals	\$	11,985.00	\$	33,593.46	\$	295,691.00
<u>Encouraging One Another in Faith</u>						
Communication Committee	\$	-	\$	-	\$	2,500.00
Tech Support & Education	\$	896.89	\$	5,002.82	\$	20,000.00
Member Development Committee	\$	-	\$	2.00	\$	2,500.00
Tapestry	\$	756.69	\$	11,584.74	\$	64,000.00
Subtotals	\$	1,653.58	\$	16,589.56	\$	89,000.00
<u>Working Together in Faith</u>						
Advertising	\$	-	\$	1,288.00	\$	5,000.00
Bk Chgs/Visa/MC	\$	27.36	\$	959.62	\$	3,000.00
Convention Expenses	\$	-	\$	85,454.75	\$	94,150.00
Executive Expenses	\$	52.80	\$	813.12	\$	7,500.00
General Council Meeting	\$	-	\$	4,713.01	\$	10,000.00
Inter Committee Meeting	\$	-	\$	14,574.33	\$	30,000.00
GST	\$	121.17	\$	3,204.43	\$	3,500.00
Liability Insurance	\$	2,185.00	\$	2,185.00	\$	5,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$	-	\$	967.27	\$	-
ProfessionaI Fees	\$	1,303.15	\$	5,856.95	\$	8,300.00
Resource Centre Rent	\$	-	\$	-	\$	3,000.00
District Support from LWMLC	\$	-	\$	109.30	\$	15,000.00
Subtotals	\$	3,689.48	\$	120,125.78	\$	184,450.00
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$	17,484.96	\$	173,751.37	\$	586,141.00

Prepared January 15, 2025

Linda Horton - LWML-Canada Inc., Treasurer

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE - CANADA
FINANCIAL POSITION
January, 2025

CIBC Bank Balance as at December 31, 2024	\$ 70,800.83	General Funds	\$70,240.83
Gifts For Growth Fund	\$ 102,909.74	Designated Funds	\$560.00
CIBC Flexi GIC	\$ 31,937.81	Gifts For Growth Fund	\$102,909.74
Total:	<u><u>\$205,648.38</u></u>	CIBC Flexi GIC	<u><u>\$31,937.81</u></u>
		Total:	<u><u>\$205,648.38</u></u>

Change In Cash Position

Previous GL Balance as at Dec. 31, 2025	\$ 46,266.46
Deposits January 1, 2025 to January 31, 2025	\$ 42,019.33
Expenses January 1, 2025 to January 31, 2025	\$ (17,484.96)
G/L Balance as at January 31, 2025	\$ 70,800.83

Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce

Flexi GIC 12 mo. @ 4% July 25, 2024 (Net bal @ May 17, 2024)	\$ 51,937.81
Interest Earned May 29, 2023 to May 28, 2024	\$ 154.11
Deposits	\$ -
Less: Withdrawals (July 2024)	\$ (20,154.11)
CIBC Flexi GIC as at Dec. 31, 2024	\$ 31,937.81

Gifts For Growth Fund:

Net balance as at Jan 1, 2024	\$ 87,971.84
(Gifts For Growth \$52,143.43 and Pollex B. \$35,828.41)	
Funds Deposited from CIBC - Jan. 1, 2024 - Nov. 30, 2024	\$ 9,963.80
Investment Returns to Sept. 30, 2024	\$ 1,879.28
Unrealized Gains & (Losses) to Sept. 30, 2024	\$ 6,302.84
LFC Administration Fee (0.60% of fund per year) to Sept.30	\$ (422.19)
Investment Management Fee to Sept. 30, 2024	\$ (285.83)
Fund Withdrawals - Bursary & Sem Students to Nov.30/24	\$ (2,500.00)
Gifts For Growth Balance Dec. 31, 2024	\$ 102,909.74
(Gifts For Growth \$67,992.11 and Pollex B. \$34,917.63)	

Less:

Designated Funds:

Convention Offerings	\$ -
Gifts For Growth	\$ 560.00
TOTAL Designated Funds:	\$ 560.00

TOTAL General Funds: **\$ 70,240.83**

Prepared by:

Linda Horton - LWML-Canada Inc., Treasurer
 January. 15, 2025

News from the Zones and Societies

Concordia Zone



33 ladies gathered December 14, 2024, to enjoy a "Sweet Christmas" Social. The program used was based on an adapted version of "Sweet Christmas" a short program of scripture and hymns from our USA sisters, Lutheran Women in Mission, www.lwml.org. As the story of our Lord's birth was shared, Martha Feculak, played the accordion, and led in singing, and Helga Danielson shared little baggies of "sweetness" to be enjoyed by all.

Afterwards, Maureen Tiedeman explained the Prayer Pal program which has been in place at Grace for many years. Kristy Tiedemann gave a testimony about the strength she felt from the prayers her pal gave for her during the last year and how blessed she felt knowing someone had her in mind. Wendy added that by praying for someone else we, ourselves, are also strengthened. We all benefit from prayer! Gifts from Prayer Pals were exchanged as well as for our Wellspring ladies and other guests.



Special treats brought in for our brunch were enjoyed, while working on Christmas trivia. Kristy reviewed the answers with the group and declared the winners. A time for visiting followed.

It was great to have so many guests join us for this special fellowship. The "Wellspring Ladies" thanked us for supporting them in their recovery journey and said this event was a highlight in their Christmas season.



Thanks be to God for blessing all the efforts to share the Christmas message of Jesus' birth and His Salvation for us!

Grace Society, Concordia Zone, LWMLC, Inc.

News from the Zones and Societies

Grace Lutheran, Port Alberni Society



The theme for LWMLC Inc. Sunday 2024 is “Making Melody to the Lord”.

This theme was definitely seen as appropriate by the members of Grace LWMLC in Port Alberni because following the service on October 6, Rev. Richard Klein presented the Grace LWML members with a certificate from Linda Long, LWML–Canada President for our 60th Anniversary in front of the congregation.

It was a day to celebrate and thank God for his guidance and blessings.

In the picture from left to right -Judie Donaldson, Linda Fenske, Shirley Besler, Audrey Barron, Joan Denninger, Cathy Redlack, Rosmarie Klein and Rev. Klein.

Grace LWMLC charter date was April 9, 1964. Two of our members, Linda Fenske and Audrey Barron were part of the group. Mary Rowe and her daughter, Arlene Hoffman, were also members back then. Arlene passed away last September and Mary passed away last December. All of these ladies have been a blessing to our group over the years.

Following the presentation, the congregation joined us for coffee with cupcakes decorated with the LWMLC logo made by Audrey Barron’s daughter, Barb Olstad.

Zion Lutheran, Prince George Society

Each year the ladies of Zion LWMLC Prince George hold a Christmas Luncheon hosted at a member’s home. In the previous weeks we invite our guests. This year we had all our members (6) and 5 guests in attendance.

In the past we have had our prayer pal reveal, gift exchange and bought gifts for an adopted family received through the Salvation Army. This year we decided to have our prayer pal reveal and gift giving separate from the luncheon. Instead, we asked each attendee to bring a small gift (\$10.00 or less in value) and played a Dice Gift Exchange game. With all the noise and laughter, it seems everyone enjoyed themselves and the food was awesome!

This year our family was from the Church membership. The gratitude from the family was expressed with tears and hugs. This shows us that we need to be aware of those in our congregation who are struggling and whom we can bless. We are so grateful that we were able to help this family with Christmas gifts and food.



Members and guests



Food and Christmas Gifts for our adopted family

Called to Glory

Helen Third was called home to be with her Lord and Savior on January 9, 2025.



She was a Charter Member of our LWMLC Society at St. John's Lutheran Church in Vernon, BC. Helen was born in Vernon on September 19, 1934. She was baptized, confirmed, married, and had her Celebration of Life all at St. John's.

Helen was a kind, caring woman who loved being with family and friends and always ready to lend a helping hand. She was an active and contributing member of LWMLC. Helen was very involved in the mission service work of LWMLC and was very generous with her time in helping others and served as treasurer for many years for our society.

She will be fondly remembered.

Prayers

Congratulations to Amanda Wolf Armstrong, ABC District Member Development Committee member, and to her family welcoming their newest addition Dorthea. Please pray for the family and Dorthea that God would keep His healing hand upon little Dorthea. Please keep the medical team at the NICU in your prayers as they continue to figure out her heart rhythm issues and medications.

We give thanks to God for Amanda and Ryan's strong faith and their powerful witness. Recently the family shared that they were listening to the song "Battle Belongs" by Phil Wickham. Amanda shared that it was a great reminder that this fight we are fighting is not ours to fight. God's in control, and as the lyrics say, If He is for us who (or what) could be against us? Dorthea is strong but God is who gives her that strength. Without Him we are weak.



"So when I fight, I'll fight on my knees
With my hands lifted high
Oh God, the battle belongs to You
And every fear I lay at Your feet
I'll sing through the night
Oh God, the battle belongs to You."