



Flashlight

"Growing in Service, What Can I Do?"



June 2025
Volume 35, Issue 3

VP District Administration ABC — Sherley Hearty

Growing in Service, What Can I Do?

Why do we grow in service? Ephesians 4:12 tells us, *"to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up"* NIV. Serving allows us to experience Jesus' power firsthand. Recently, at a Joint Zone Retreat, I had the privilege to lead a session based on John 2:1-11, Jesus' first miracle at a wedding in Cana, turning water into wine. Jesus' our good wine, kept the best for last. The wedding attendees benefited from the new wine, the wedding party saved face in their community, but the servers had opportunity to witness Jesus' power firsthand.

Serving allows us to experience Jesus' power, and that experience grows our faith. When we use our God-given gifts and talents in His service, others see Christ's work through us. We experience joy and God gets the glory. May we continue to serve until that day we drink of the good wine of Jesus, *"in the Wedding Supper of the Lamb"*

Revelations 19:9 NIV.

Later in June I have the honour and the privilege to represent LWMLC on behalf of President Marilyn Witte at the LWML Convention in Omaha. I look forward to the experience and to 'Growing in God's Grace' the convention theme; growing in Word & Sacrament, I will grow in grace to serve our Lord and proclaim His glory.

What can you do to serve your church and community and experience the Joy that is found in serving Jesus?

In His Service,
Sherley Hearty



Christian Growth Committee Member — Pauline Huth

Growing in Service, What Can I Do?

“Be joyful always; pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

As we age, there are some things we just can’t do anymore. Since I lost my eyesight in my left eye, and the vision in my right eye is diminishing, I have had to scale down some of my activities. There is always one thing I can do. I can pray. The above passage was on my mind through the many eye surgeries I had after I lost the vision in my left eye. Now, 8 years later, it is still one of the Bible passages that I think on daily. I like the way that they are all active things we can do daily. We can choose to be “Joyful”, praying with thanksgiving for all we do have, helps us to be joyful. Knowing that it is God’s will for us, gives us a daily purpose for our lives. I challenge all of you, when life is hard, focus on this Bible passage and pray. Romans 8:26 tells us that *“In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express.”* We may not be able to go out and serve in the ways we used to serve, but by praying for those who need or who ask for prayer, you are serving them with love and knowing that as in 1 Thessalonians 5:18, it says: *“It is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”* Prayer is a powerful way to serve and something we can all do.

The Christian growth team for LWMLC has just completed working on a new confirmation booklet for teens entitled **“Texts from God.”** They can be ordered from the LWMLC Resource center. The booklets are \$10.00 each and have a QR code that teens can download on their phones, so that they can take the wisdom of the Bible verses along with them.

We continue to work on a new prayer service for 2026. I hope you are all enjoying the monthly prayer calendars and the devotions that can be found at the beginning of each month on our web page at www.lutheranwomen.ca.

Just click on [“Growing in God’s Word”](#) to download, print or listen to the devotion. We are focusing our monthly devotions on hymns and well known Christian songs. We hope they are inspiring in some way to all of you.

How can we grow in service by praying? Perhaps today we cannot use our hands or feet to volunteer to serve, but we can talk to God about our concerns for others in this world around us. What, or who is on your heart today? Instead of worrying, tell God about it, and ask Him to look after all that we cannot. We can all serve those we love every day by “PRAYING!” Go and serve today.

“But you dear friends, build yourselves up in your most holy faith, and pray in the Holy Spirit.” Jude 1:20

In His Service,
Pauline Huth



Lutheran Women's Missionary League-Canada

Revenue Report to April 30, 2025

Revenue	Current April 1 - 30, 2025	Trienium April 1, 2024 - Mar.31, 2027	Budget April 1, 2024 - Mar.31, 2027
Growing in Faith			
Sale of LWMLC Resources	\$ 667.39	\$ 6,214.88	\$ 18,900.00
Sale of 2024 Convention Video	\$ -	\$ 50.00	
Putting Faith into Action			
** Mites	\$ 9,961.47	\$ 134,430.55	\$ 270,000.00
Gifts for Growth - Honoraum/Memorial	\$ 1,620.00	\$ 6,050.00	\$ 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	\$ -	\$ 5,693.55	\$ 16,000.00
Subscription Income - Tapestry	\$ 1,981.00	\$ 16,337.12	\$ 70,000.00
Working Together in Faith			
Convention 2024 Registration	\$ -	\$ 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%)	\$ -	\$ 5,270.31	\$ 3,300.00
Investment Support	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 46,150.00
TOTAL (excluding deferred)	\$ 14,229.86	\$ 253,845.53	\$ 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 + 110.653.15)	\$ 134,430.55		
Convention Offering # 1 and Mission Movement	\$ 13,815.93		
Mite offerings to date	\$ 120,614.62		
2024 Convention Report	Current	Trienium	
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>Apr. 1, 2025 -</u>	<u>Apr. 1, 2024</u>	<u>April 1 2024</u>
	<u>Apr. 30, 2025 -</u>	<u>Apr. 30, 2025</u>	<u>Mar 31 2027</u>
<u>Growing in Faith</u>			
Christian Growth Committee	\$ -	\$ 24.00	\$ 2,500.00
Resource Centre Stock	\$ 199.76	\$ 5,833.44	\$ 10,500.00
Resource Centre Administration	\$ -	\$ 523.45	\$ 4,000.00
Subtotals	\$ 199.76	\$ 6,380.89	\$ 17,000.00
<u>Putting Faith Into Action</u>			
Christian Mission Committee	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,500.00
Gifts for Growth Fund	\$ 565.00	\$ 5,100.00	\$ 7,500.00
Flexi Gic	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,991.00
Mission Grants	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 66,156.78	\$ 251,200.00
Bursary & Sem. Student Support	\$ -	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 7,500.00
Convention Offerings Payout	\$ -	\$ 13,045.01	\$ 20,000.00
Subtotals	\$ 3,565.00	\$ 86,801.79	\$ 295,691.00
<u>Encouraging One Another in Faith</u>			
Communication Committee	\$ 115.00	\$ 115.00	\$ 2,500.00
Tech Support & Education	\$ -	\$ 5,895.47	\$ 20,000.00
Member Development Committee	\$ -	\$ 2.00	\$ 2,500.00
Tapestry	\$ -	\$ 17,531.22	\$ 64,000.00
Subtotals	\$ 115.00	\$ 23,543.69	\$ 89,000.00
<u>Working Together in Faith</u>			
Advertising	\$ -	\$ 1,288.00	\$ 5,000.00
Bank Charges/Visa/MC	\$ 124.65	\$ 1,182.04	\$ 3,000.00
Convention Expenses	\$ -	\$ 85,454.75	\$ 94,150.00
Executive Expenses	\$ 1,506.19	\$ 2,368.82	\$ 7,500.00
General Council Meeting	\$ -	\$ 4,713.01	\$ 10,000.00
Inter Committee Meeting	\$ -	\$ 14,574.33	\$ 30,000.00
GST	\$ 89.50	\$ 3,615.14	\$ 3,500.00
Liability Insurance	\$ -	\$ 2,185.00	\$ 5,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ 967.27	\$ -
Professional Fees	\$ 735.50	\$ 6,592.45	\$ 8,300.00
Resource Centre Rent	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
District Support from LWMLC	\$ -	\$ 109.30	\$ 15,000.00
Subtotals	\$ 2,455.84	\$ 124,050.11	\$ 184,450.00
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$ 6,335.60	\$ 240,776.48	\$ 586,141.00

Prepared May 06, 2025

Linda Horton - LWML–Canada Inc., Treasurer

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

CIBC Bank Balance as at April 30, 2025	\$ 58,907.31	General Funds	\$57,287.31
		Designated Funds	\$1,620.00
Gifts For Growth Fund	\$ 104,110.44	Gifts F.Growth Fund & Pollex B.	\$104,110.44
CIBC Flexi GIC	\$ 31,937.81	CIBC Flexi GIC	\$31,937.81
Total:	\$194,955.56	Total:	\$194,955.56

Change In Cash Position

Previous GL Balance as at Mar. 30, 2025	\$ 51,013.05
Deposits April 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025	\$ 14,229.86
Expenses April 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025	\$ (6,335.60)
G/L Balance as at April 30, 2025	\$ 58,907.31

Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce

Flexi GIC 12 mo.@ 4% July 25, 2024 (Net bal @ May 17, 2024)	\$ 51,305.94
Interest Earned Jan. 01, 2024 to Dec. 31. 2024	\$ 785.98
Deposits	\$ -
Less: Withdrawals (July 2024)	\$ (20,154.11)
CIBC Flexi GIC as at Apr. 30, 2025	\$ 31,937.81

Gifts For Growth Fund & Pollex Bursary:

Net balance as at Jan 1, 2024	\$ 87,971.84
(Gifts For Growth \$52,143.43 and Pollex B. \$35,828.41)	
Gifts F. Growth funds Deposited from CIBC-Jan.1/24-Dec.31/24	\$ 9,963.80
Investment Returns to Dec. 31, 2024	\$ 4,926.60
Unrealized Gains & (Losses) to Dec. 31, 2024	\$ 4,709.04
LFC Administration Fee (0.60% of fund per year)Dec.31/24	\$ (575.40)
Investment Management Fee to Dec. 31, 2024	\$ (385.44)
Fund Withdrawals - Bursary & Sem Students to Dec.31/24	\$ (2,500.00)
Gifts For Growth & Pollex B. Balance Dec. 31, 2024	\$ 104,110.44
(Gifts For Growth \$68,784.57 and Pollex B. \$35,325.87)	

Less:

Designated Funds:

Convention Offerings	\$ -
Gifts For Growth	\$ 1,620.00
TOTAL Designated Funds:	\$ 1,620.00

TOTAL General Funds: \$ 57,287.31

Prepared by:

Linda Horton - LWML-Canada Inc., Treasurer

May. 19, 2025

2025 LWMLC Vicars Dinner



**Celebrating Vicar Ben Rast and Pastor Jean-Luc Damas
2025 LWMLC Vicars Dinner, Friday, May 9th
Bethel Lutheran Church, Sherwood Park, AB**



LWMLC ABC gives thanks to God for the willing service of the ladies from Bethel Lutheran Church, Sherwood Park, AB, for Concordia Lutheran Seminary, Edmonton, for forming 'Servants for Jesus' Sake' and for LCC.



News from the Zones and Societies

Concordia and Evergreen Zones Joint Retreat March 21-23, 2025

Twenty-two women gathered at the Star of the North Retreat Centre in St Albert, AB for the combined



Concordia and Evergreen Zones joint retreat. The theme for the weekend was Café Chocolat and focused on God's glorious grace, based on Ephesians 1:6, which compared the sweetness of God's grace to chocolate. We began our first session after dinner on Friday and the second session was a

servant project of putting together Caring Cups for women in the Hope Mission Wellspring Recovery Program.



Saturday included sessions, a Bible study led by Pastor Jan Pastucha (Concordia Zone Pastoral Counsellor), personal reflection time, and concluded with a Saturday evening Worship Service of Light. The retreat concluded with a Sunday morning Worship and Communion Service. It was a wonderful time for reconnecting with our sisters



in Christ, studying and growing in God's Word, and having an opportunity to pause and reflect in the peacefulness and tranquility that the facilities provide.



News from the Zones and Societies

Okanagan Zone Spring Event Saturday May 3, 2025

Okanagan Zone's Spring Event was hosted by the Vernon Society at St. John's Lutheran Church, with 25 ladies and four special guests attending.



The theme for the event was "We Are All God's Children" based on the Bible verse 1 John 3:1 *"How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God. And that is what we are!"*

We opened with a warm welcome from the Vernon President, Irene Hirschmiller. The Osoyoos ladies provided our morning devotion, with the song 'Children of the Heavenly Father' as a focal point for their devotion. We then recited the LWMLC Pledge and did some singing; followed by a short skit with a big message - "Who have you Told?" We were encouraged to be bold in sharing Jesus with others. Why? Because we might be the only witness they ever get!

Our special guest presenter for the day was Naomi Heye, the founder and director of Treasures of God Children's Home in Guatemala. It is a home for special needs girls and their mission statement "Is to love, value and become family to these children, simply because they are fearfully and wonderfully made by God!" Naomi shared her story of how it all came to be; how God has been beside her and leading her the whole time; and how He continues to bless and work in her life as well as in the lives of the girls and staff at Treasures of God Children's Home.

A PowerPoint presentation accompanied Naomi's heartfelt and emotional talk sharing some of the

girls' personal stories, and also sharing the joyful news that they have recently moved into a newly built, special 'forever earthly home'. And, to add to her joy, Naomi shared that she officially adopted three of the girls last year. Shirley, Bri and Marcy accompanied Naomi to our event which was a treat for all of us to meet them.

At the present time, since October 2024, Naomi and her daughters are on a two year furlough and are living in Kamloops, B.C. (Naomi's home town). It was an inspirational presentation reaffirming that "we are all God's children' indeed!"

If you are interested to learn more please visit <https://www.treasuresofgod.org/home.html> or check out their facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/TreasuresOfGodChildrensHome>



Guest speaker Naomi Heye with her adopted children, Shirley, Bri & Marcy.

Our two Ingatherings were designated specifically for this outreach mission's Building Fund where \$63,000 is outstanding on their new home. Praise God, we raised over \$2150.00! God is good!



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News from the Zones and Societies

Continued from page 8

After this wonderful presentation we had our lunch break which included a soup buffet with assorted breads and a build your own Sundae dessert. A special cake was served as we acknowledged one of our long-time Society and Zone members, Sydney Rushoway, who will be moving to the Olds, Alberta area at the end of May. We wish her and her husband God's richest blessings in their move and new home.

Our afternoon session was an interactive Bible study, written by our own Pauline Huth. We broke into four groups. Each group had a different biblical topic that related to us all being God's

children - starting with Genesis! We concluded the study by having a representative from each group summarizing their portion and what was significant about it and what was learned from it.

The Penticton Society led our closing devotion, 'Go my Children with my Blessing', interspersed with us singing one verse at a time of this beautiful hymn.

A closing prayer, farewell blessing and the singing of the Common Doxology ended our day. We are thankful to God for the opportunity to share in these Zone Events with our LWMLC sisters.

Debbie Breitreutz, Event Chair

Trinity Lutheran Church LWMLC Valentine Project

In February the LWMLC ladies from Richmond, BC lovingly prepared Valentine treats to honour our church Pastors, teachers, and office workers with special chocolate goodies and thank you notes for all they do for us at Trinity Lutheran Church.



Stella Lai, Gretchen Schellenberg, Joan MacKenzie



Ready for delivery!

SAVE THE DATE – Saturday, November 1, 2025

All Saints Day Prayer Retreat

Mark your calendars for an LWMLC ABC District "Lord, Teach Us to Pray" Lutheran Prayer Retreat. Plan to attend at the broadcast centre (TBD) or gather ladies together at your church or in your home. Tentative time frame 10 am to 4 pm MST.

The theme for the September 2025 issue of the Flashlight is

"Celebrating the Harvest with Joy"

Please remember to submit Zone and Society news!

Email submissions are due **August 15, 2025**.

Please send to

flashlight.abc.lwmlc@gmail.com