

**38<sup>TH</sup> BIENNIAL CONVENTION  
LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE  
MONTANA DISTRICT  
First Lutheran Church – Missoula, Montana  
April 20-22, 2018**

**“Every Tongue Confess”**

The 38<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) Montana District was held on April 20-22, 2018, at First Lutheran Church in Missoula, Montana. The convention theme was “Every Tongue Confess” based on Philippians 2:11: ... *and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father*. The convention also celebrated 75 years of God's grace to the women of the LWML in the Montana District.

**Friday, April 20, 2018  
Opening of Convention and First Meeting  
6:30 p.m.**

**Convention Opening and Call to Order** – President Shari Miller called the 38<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention of the LWML Montana District to order with the Invocation. Recording Secretary Bridget Michel, Parliamentarian Myrt White, and President's Page Savannah Reeves were introduced and were seated at the front during the entire convention. Vice President of Gospel Outreach Kathleen Scott was introduced as the vice president of the First Meeting. The Pledge to the Flag, the Pledge to the Cross, and the LWML Pledge were spoken by the convention body.

**Welcome** – On behalf of the ten LWML societies of the Western Zone, Western Zone President Dorothy Rummel and Convention Co-Chairman Deaconess Sonja Reeves welcomed everyone to Missoula and the 38<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention of the LWML Montana District. Zone President Rummel asked those present to peruse old LWML photographs and write down the name of anyone they could identify. President Miller expressed appreciation to the societies in the zone for their participation in preparing for the convention.

**Response** – Since the previous district convention was held in the Central Zone at Great Falls, Montana, Central Zone President Valerie Martin responded with appreciation for all the work done in preparation for the convention.

**Introduction of District Officials and Guests** – President Miller introduced special guests and speakers. In attendance were LWML Vice President of Communication Char Kroemer; Keynote Speakers Rev. Dr. Robert and Kristi Roegner, missionaries, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; LWML Montana District Pastoral Counselor Rev. Kyle Whaley; Past LWML Counselor, Bible study leader, and convention technician Rev. Larry A. Miller; host congregation pastors Rev. David Johnson and his wife Jane, Rev. Steve Carlson and his wife Mary; past LWML Montana District Presidents Barbara Going and husband Jim, Nennette Loftsgaarden, Pam Kercher, Christine Wallace; and Rev. Christopher Tabbert, First Vice President of the Montana District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

**Greetings** – Rev. Christopher Tabbert greeted the convention body on behalf of the Montana District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Rev. Tabbert read from Philippians chapter two and encouraged the women and men to share in the mission of exalting Jesus and sharing His message of salvation with others.

**Registration Report** – Convention Registration Chairman Charlotte Klofstad gave the credentials report as of 6:30 p.m.

	<u>4/20/2018</u>
Voting District Officers and Zone Presidents	18
Past District Presidents	4
Delegates	<u>54</u>
Total entitled to vote	76
Guests	37
Pastors	<u>8</u>
Total Registration	121

**(m/s/c – I) that the roll of delegates and voting members on April 20, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. be the official roll of voting members of the convention.**

President Miller declared the presence of a quorum and that the voting body of the convention was established.

**Minutes Review** – President Miller stated that the minutes from the 37<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention held in Great Falls, April 29-May 1, 2016, were reviewed and accepted by the minutes review committee. The minutes were filed, sent to the LWML Montana District Board of Directors (BOD), and posted on the LWML Montana District website.

**Approval of Convention Rules** – Structure Chairman Myrt White read the convention rules printed on page 7 in the convention manual.

**(m/s/c – II) that the proposed convention rules be adopted.**

#### **Approval of Convention Agenda**

The convention agenda was adopted as printed on pages 3-6 of the convention manual with necessary changes at the discretion of the president.

#### **Introduction of Committees**

**Minutes Review** – Financial Secretary Barb Kohs and Scholarship Chairman Edee Anderson

**Teller Committee** – Corresponding Secretary Janice Witt, Chairman; Valerie Martin, Central Zone; Marjorie O'Rourke, Divide Zone; Claudia Kransky, Eastern Zone; Virginia Nygaard, Flathead Zone; Shirley Zeller, Southern Zone; and Dorothy Rummel, Western Zone

**Crisis Management Team** – Jayne Hanich, RN; Rev. Kyle Whaley, Pastoral Counselor; Deaconess Sonja Reeves, Convention Co-Chairman; Christine Wallace, Convention Co-Chairman; and Shari Miller, LWML Montana District President

**Introduction of Officer Candidates** – Nominating Committee Chairman Christine Wallace thanked her committee for their assistance. All those elected will serve a term of four (4) years, with the exception of the Nominating Committee Chairman who will serve for two (2) years. The slate of candidates was introduced.

Vice President of Human Care – Susan Sweatman  
Vice President of Servant Resources – Linda Reilly  
Recording Secretary – Sherrie Murray  
Treasurer – Carol Holste  
Nominating Committee Chairman – Pam Kercher  
Pastoral Counselor – Rev. Blake Marshall

President Miller called for any additional nominations from the floor. No nominations were given. Nominations were closed. The slate of officers will be approved Saturday morning.

**A Legacy Moment** – Young Woman Representatives (YWR) Stephanie Edgar and Emy Stueve presented a moment in LWML history. Their sketch focused around the beginning (1940s – 1950s) of the Lutheran Women's Missionary

League 75 years ago. They listed the first mission projects in Montana and mentioned the planning of the first LWML district convention in Montana.

**Introduction of LWML Montana District BOD** – President Miller introduced the LWML Montana District BOD in a PowerPoint Presentation titled, “Where in the World is the LWML Woman?” and described a travel destination selected by each BOD member.

**Announcements** – Convention Co-Chairman Reeves asked the processional participants to line up at 7:45 p.m. Vice President of Servant Resources Pam Kercher explained the LWML store guidelines. Sample products displayed during the convention will be available for purchase after the banquet. Other items may be ordered for delivery to home addresses.

President Miller announced the First Meeting in recess at 7:38 p.m.

**Singing** – Convention Musicians led the assembly in song. The songbook featured hymns and songs compiled from previous LWML Montana District conventions.

**Convention Worship Service – 8 p.m.**

Society presidents and young women led the banner procession and were followed by the 2018 LWML Montana District convention banner carried by Western Zone President Rummel and the 2017 LWML Montana District convention banner carried by designer Recording Secretary Michel. Then followed the LWML Montana District BOD, light bearer Savannah Reeves, crucifer President Miller, and participating clergy. LWML Montana District Pastoral Counselor Rev. Kyle Whaley was the worship designer and proclaimer; past LWML Pastoral Counselor Rev. Larry A. Miller was liturgist and lector; and pastor of First Lutheran Church, Rev. David Johnson was celebrant for the opening worship service. Robin Stahlecker directed the LWML choir, and Christine Wallace accompanied the choir. The organist was Melissa Johns, and GraceNotes Bell Choir performed during the offertory. The service offering of \$1,070 was designated for the LWML Montana District 2018-2020 Mission Goal.

**Saturday, April 21, 2018**

Young Woman Co-Chairmen Rosanne Larson and Billye Roseleip hosted a breakfast for young women. LWML Vice President of Communication Char Kroemer attended the breakfast. Convention registration began at 7 a.m., and displays were open for viewing. Singing with Robin Stahlecker was enjoyed prior to the convention’s Second Meeting.

**Second Meeting  
8 a.m.**

**Call to Order** – President Miller called the Second Meeting of the 38<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention of the LWML Montana District to order. She led the convention body in reading the convention goal statement and objectives. She thanked Rev. Whaley for his message at the worship service. She noted that Dr. Kenneth Kosche, Trinity Lutheran Church, Billings, composed a special anthem for the convention choir in commemoration of the District’s 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. President Miller thanked choir director Robin Stahlecker, accompanist Christine Wallace, and organist Melissa Johns. Vice President of Servant Resources Pam Kercher was introduced as the meeting’s vice president. President Miller also pointed out the heart-shaped fleece pillows made during the servant event Friday afternoon for Mountain Home Montana.

**Bible Study** – Past LWML Pastoral Counselor Rev. Larry A. Miller led a Bible study based on Philippians 2:11, the theme verse of the convention. Rev. Miller led the group to see that Christians reflect God’s light to others, and that worldwide, members of God’s family confess the same message of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.

**Registration Report** – Convention Registration Chairman Klofstad presented the registration count for 8 a.m. Saturday, April 21, 2018.

	<u>Reported</u> <u>4/21/2018</u>
Voting District Officers and Zone Presidents	18
Past District Presidents	4
Delegates	<u>55</u>
Total entitled to vote	77
Guests	37
Pastors	<u>8</u>
Total Registration	122

President Miller declared the presence of a quorum and that the updated voting body of the convention was established.

**Voting for Officers**

**(m/s/c – III) that the slate of officer candidates be unanimously elected as presented.**

**Prayer** – Web Coordinator Stephanie Edgar offered a prayer of thanksgiving for the unanimous election of officers, for the guidance of the newly elected BOD members, and for the continued support of all the district officers.

President Miller introduced the newly elected officers:

- Vice President of Human Care – Susan Sweatman
- Vice President of Servant Resources – Linda Reilly
- Recording Secretary – Sherrie Murray
- Treasurer – Carol Holste
- Nominating Committee Chairman – Pam Kercher
- Pastoral Counselor – Rev. Blake Marshall

**Proposed 2018-2020 Biennium Mission Goal/Budget** – Treasurer Ruth Denning reported that, by the grace of God, the LWML Montana District exceeded the mission goal of \$55,156.50 for the 2016-2018 biennium by \$4,557.65, making a total of \$59,714.15.

The proposed 2018-2020 Biennium Budget reflects an increase of approximately one percent over the previous biennium to \$55,700. The Budget, as recommended by the LWML Montana District BOD, was presented:

Administrative Expenses	35%	\$19,495
Grants	40%	\$22,280
LWML Mites	<u>25%</u>	<u>\$13,925</u>
Totals	100%	\$55,700

**(m/c – IV) by the direction of the LWML Montana District Board of Directors, to adopt the proposed mission goal of \$55,700 for the 2018-2020 biennium of the LWML Montana District and the subsequent budget as printed on page 21 in the convention manual.**

**Prayer** – Financial Secretary Barb Kohs led the convention in prayer prior to voting on the proposed 2018-2020 Biennium Budget.

**Voting on Proposed Mission Goal/Budget** – By a required two-thirds vote of the voting delegates in attendance, the 2018-2020 Biennium Mission Goal/Budget of \$55,700 was approved. President Miller led the assembly in a joyful singing of the *Doxology*.

Following the vote, President Miller explained that at the 2016 LWML Montana District Convention, two grants tied, and each one was partially funded. The BOD directed that those two grants be fully funded as originally

proposed. At the 2016 District Convention, Sharing Jesus in the Dominican Republic requested \$3,000 and was granted \$1,417.56. It was given an additional \$1,582.44. Operation Barnabas for Comfort Dog Congregations requested \$2,000 and received \$945.04 in 2016 and was granted an additional \$1,054.96 following the vote of the BOD at their February 2018 meeting.

**Singing Break** – Robin Stahlecker led the convention body in song.

**Bylaws Presentation** – Structure Chairman Myrt White presented proposed changes to the LWML Montana District Bylaws as recommended by the BOD. These proposed changes to Article IV.2., Article V.2., Article IX.3.b., Article VI.2.4., and VI.5.b. were read as printed on page 17 in the convention manual. The LWML Structure Committee reviewed these changes and approved them.

1. As adopted, in Article IV.2., the following changes will be made:  
“These officers shall be elected at the biennial convention to serve a term of four (4) years, with the exception of the Nominating Committee Chairman who shall serve a two-year term, or until their successors are elected and shall not be eligible for immediate re-election to the same office.”  
Article V.2., “One Pastoral Counselor shall be elected at each biennial convention for a four-year term and shall not be eligible for immediate re-election.”
2. As adopted, Article IX.3.b., will read: “The Officer and Mission Grants Teller Committee Chairman shall not be a Teller Committee member, the Nominating Committee Chairman, or the Vice President of Gospel Outreach.”  
Article VI.2.4., “send balloting information sheets to the Officer and Mission Grants Teller Committee Chairman.”  
Article VI.5.b., “send balloting information sheets to the Officer and Mission Grants Teller Committee Chairman.”  
**(m/c – V) by direction of the LWML Montana District Board of Directors, to adopt the proposed amendments to the LWML Montana District Bylaws as presented.**

**Prayer** – Young Woman Co-Chairman Rosanne Larson led the convention body in prayer prior to voting on the bylaws changes.

**Voting on Proposed Bylaws Changes** – President Miller announced that by a vote of two-thirds majority, the delegates adopted the proposed amendments to the LWML Montana District Bylaws.

**Stretching Exercises** were led by Young Woman Co-Chairman Billye Roseleip.

**Singing Break** – Robin Stahlecker led the group in song.

**Report from LWML** – Char Kroemer, LWML Vice President of Communication, extended greetings and encouragement from the national LWML and Lutheran Women in Mission across the nation. She spoke about the resources developed by LWML to discover and prepare leaders. She presented a video in which LWML President Patti Ross pictured today’s LWML, shared the new LWML logo, and presented the grants for the 2017-2019 biennium. Vice President Kroemer highlighted Bible studies, resources, and volunteer opportunities on the LWML Facebook page and website. She also provided information about the 2019 LWML Convention in Mobile, Alabama.

**A Legacy Moment** – YWRs Emy Stueve and Stephanie Edgar presented a sketch highlighting the LWML in Montana during the 1960s and 1970s.

**Mites in Action Speaker #1** – Rev. Doug and Angie Thompson serve as missionaries in Sierra Leone, Africa, and were recipients of a portion of the 2016 LWML Montana District Convention Grant Montana Pastors in Foreign Mission Fields. They also received a \$50 Honorarium given by LWML Montana District through the Montana

Missionary Fund. Rev. Thompson and Angie sent greetings via video. They served as guest instructors at Nekemte Christian College in Ethiopia, and at the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ghana Seminary in Akra, prior to their move to Sierra Leone. Rev. Thompson serves as a theological educator. They asked for prayers for perseverance and strength, suggested correspondence through Facebook, and provided information about financial support at [lcms.org/thompson](http://lcms.org/thompson).

**2018-2020 Biennium Mission Grant Proposals** – Vice President of Gospel Outreach Scott explained that the 2018-2020 biennium mission goal approved earlier in the convention identifies \$22,280 for grants. Included in these grants are student scholarships and the selected Mission Grant Proposals. Each will be voted on separately. Thirteen proposals were submitted, and nine were chosen.

**(m/c – VI) by direction of the LWML Montana District Board of Directors, that a sum of \$3,000 be allocated for Scholarship Grants and deducted from the total grant money available.**

Vice President of Gospel Outreach Scott presented the slate of Mission Grant Proposals:

1. Proclaiming the Gospel through Streaming Video	\$4,000
2. Lutheran Books for Missionaries around the World	\$2,000
3. Emmaus Lutheran Mission, Livingston, Montana	\$3,000
4. Lutherans for Life Post-Abortion Crisis Hotline	\$1,000
5. “Wonderfully Made”–Sharing God’s Love/Preserving Life	\$3,000
6. Changing Lives through Montana Lutheran Camps	\$3,000
7. Camp Courage: A Place of Hope and Healing	\$4,000
8. Post Seminary Applied Learning and Support (PALS)	\$2,000
9. Deaconess Ministries in the Mission Field	<u>\$2,000</u>
Total	\$24,000

**Prayer** – Treasurer Ruth Denning led a prayer prior to voting for the Mission Grant Proposals.

**Voting on Mission Grant Proposals** – The Teller Committee distributed prepared ballots. Delegates were instructed to vote for four (4), and only four (4), of the nine (9) Mission Grant Proposals. Voting for more than four (4) proposals would result in an illegal ballot that would not be counted. The delegates were reminded that a total of \$22,280 is budgeted for grants. A vote designated \$3,000 for scholarships. The remaining \$19,280 is for mission grants. Ballots were collected by the Teller Committee and were tallied later.

**Singing Break** – Following a brief singing break led by Robin Stahlecker, the meeting resumed. President Miller presented the progression of Mite Boxes starting with a Mite Box from the North Dakota-Montana District through the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary version of the Mite Box. A round Mite Box and children’s Mite Boxes were also on display.

**Keynote Speakers** – Rev. Dr. Robert and Kristi Roegner, Missionaries, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, have served over 37 years in various mission endeavors, beginning as church planters and leadership trainers in Liberia. Beginning in 2019, they will serve as missionaries to Israel with the Apple of His Eye Mission Society. Expanding on Acts 1:8, Rev. Dr. Roegner spoke about the four arenas of God’s mission: where a person is planted; a little farther away but with similar people; different cultures around a person; and in a different culture farther away. Using statistics gathered on both national and international levels, he defined the vastness of the mission field.

**Greetings** – Jeff Snyder, representative of Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF), brought greetings and thanked the women of LWML for their mission efforts and their service to others. President Miller thanked him and LCEF for providing the purple convention bags.

**Announcements** – Convention Co-Chairman Wallace announced the details of picking up sack lunches and encouraged women to shop at the LWML store and visit the exhibit tables. She also requested that the envelopes in the registration packets be used for Sunday’s special offering.

**Prayer Requests** – Rev. Whaley prayed for special requests and led a prayer of thanksgiving for lunch.

President Miller announced the convention in recess.

**Lunch Recess**  
**12 noon**

**Singing** – Robin Stahlecker led a hymn-sing prior to the convention’s third meeting. Christine Wallace accompanied the singing on the piano.

**Third Meeting**

**1:30 p.m.**

**Call to Order** – President Miller called the Third Meeting of the 38<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention of the LWML Montana District to order. Vice President of Human Care Deborah Knudsen was introduced as the meeting’s vice president. President Miller also acknowledged Treasurer Ruth Denning as being in charge of the floor during the convention.

**Bible Study** – Past LWML Pastoral Counselor Rev. Larry A. Miller led the second part of his Bible study on confessing Jesus as Lord. He focused on how and what we confess as Christians, and he asked each person to write her or his personal confession.

**A Legacy Moment** – The Legacy Players discussed worship services and the distractions of the 1980s and 1990s. They talked about the joys of LWML societies in Montana, and the beginnings of the LWML in Canada.

**Keynote Speakers** – Keynote Speakers Rev. Dr. Robert and Kristi Roegner shared 1 Peter 2:9-11 and discussed how all Christians are part of God’s plan for salvation. They expounded on how Christians can respond: learning, praying, giving, telling (the Gospel), sending, going, and celebrating.

**Designated Offering** – A 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Thankoffering was taken. The offering of \$1,617 will be placed in the LWML Montana District Grants Account.

**Singing** – LWML Montana District President Miller declared a singing break, and the convention body rose to sing.

**Results of Voting for 2016-2018 Biennium Mission Grants** – President Miller announced the results from the voting for the 2018-2020 Biennium Mission Grants. An earlier vote approved \$3,000 to fund scholarships for the 2018-2020 Biennium; \$19,280 will fund the selected mission grants. The following mission grants for the 2018-2020 Biennium were approved for funding as a result of the balloting:

Plurality Ranking	Votes Received	Name of Grant	Amount Funded
1	58	Proclaiming the Gospel through Streaming Video	\$4,000
2	53	Changing Lives through Montana Lutheran Camps	\$3,000
3	38	Emmaus Lutheran Mission, Livingston, Montana	\$3,000
4/5	35	Lutheran Books for Missionaries around the World	\$2,000
4/5	35	Lutherans for Life Post-Abortion Crisis Hotline	\$1,000
6	33	Camp Courage: A Place of Hope and Healing	\$4,000
7	26	Deaconess Ministries in the Mission Field	\$2,000
8/9	11	“Wonderfully Made”–Sharing God’s Love/Preserving Life	\$168
8/9	11	Post Seminary Applied Learning and Support (PALS)	\$112
Total			\$19,280

Vice President of Gospel Outreach Scott and her committee were thanked for their hard work. **(m/s/c – VII) that the ballots used in voting during the convention be destroyed.**

**Mites in Action Speaker #2** – Rev. David and Shelee Warner received a portion of the 2016 LWML Montana District Convention Grant Montana Pastors in Foreign Mission Fields and a \$50 Honorarium given by LWML Montana District through the Montana Missionary Fund. Another grant approved at the 2016 LWML Montana District Convention assisted with rent for Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Madrid. The Warners serve as career missionaries in Spain. They thanked the LWML women in Montana for their support. Rev. Warner reported on an Easter retreat at Centro Sarepta, which was attended by 30 Spanish Lutheran Church members and 15 guests. They requested prayers for their mission work and Shelee’s anxiety due to language challenges. Rev. Warner may be contacted at [pastorwarner@outlook.com](mailto:pastorwarner@outlook.com) and supported at [lcms.org/warner](http://lcms.org/warner).

**Response from Mites in Action Speakers #1** – Rev. Doug and Angie Thompson

Young Woman Co-Chairman Billye Roseleip contacted Angie and Rev. Thompson to ask if they heard the convention body’s thank-you applause following the video presentation. They responded with praise and thanksgiving for the encouragement.

**Website Report** – Web Coordinator Stephanie Edgar also serves as Web Coordinator in Missouri. Web Coordinator Edgar posts materials on [www.mtdistrictlwml.org](http://www.mtdistrictlwml.org). She requested photos and Word documents for LWML Montana District activities. She shared a video to familiarize people with the website. Although she has accepted a call to teach at a Lutheran school in Jacksonville, Florida, she will serve as webmaster for the LWML Montana District.

**Recognition of Past District Presidents** – 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Chairman Marjorie O’Rourke introduced past LWML Montana District Presidents in attendance at the convention: Barbara Going (1982-1988), Nenette Loftsgaarden (1992-1996), Pam Kercher (2004-2008), Shari Miller (2008-2012), and Christine Wallace (2012-2016). Twenty women have served as President of the LWML Montana District. Edith Ketterling, who was District President from 1974-1978, received her crown of glory January 4, 2016, as well as Jo Young, District President 2000-2004, on July 7, 2016. The complete list of Past District Presidents is on page 38 of the convention manual.

**Invitation to the 2019 LWML Convention Mobile, Alabama** – Edee Anderson, Claudia Kransky, Dorothy Rummel, and Shirley Zeller presented a delightful sketch encouraging women to attend the convention.



**Announcements** – Convention Co-Chairman Reeves announced that the banquet hall opens at 6:15 p.m. and the banquet begins at 6:30 p.m. She encouraged each person to complete a yellow evaluation form and turn in the name badge holders when leaving the convention. President Miller recognized and thanked the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee. She encouraged the women of the nine charter societies to sit together as they will be recognized during the banquet: St. Mark Ladies Association and St. Mark Guild of Butte

First Lutheran Ladies Aid of Missoula  
Grace Lutheran Ladies Aid of Hamilton  
St. Paul Lutheran Ladies Aid of Pablo  
First Ladies Aid, Dorcas Circle, Mary-Martha Guild of Helena  
St. John Ladies Aid of Deer Lodge  
Redeemer Ladies Aid of Anaconda  
Zion Ladies Aid of Power  
Trinity Lutheran Mission Society of Billings

**Prayer Requests** – LWML Montana District Pastoral Counselor Rev. Whaley led the convention body in prayer.

President Miller announced the convention in recess.

**Fourth Meeting**  
**6:30 p.m.**

**Evening Banquet** – The evening banquet and Fourth Meeting was held in the fellowship hall at First Lutheran Church with Myrt White as Master of Ceremonies. Many women dressed in hats and/or attire from the past. 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Chairman O'Rourke led the opening prayer. Past Presidents Barbara Going, Nnette Loftsgaarden, Pam Kercher, Shari Miller, and Christine Wallace each presented highlights from their terms as District Presidents. Statements sent by Past Presidents Louise Eayrs and Marlene (Koenig) Toepke were read aloud. *From Generation to Generation* was a touching sketch presented by women from the Western Zone. Banquet attendees were led in the closing prayer by 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee member Barb Kohs.

**Sunday, April 22, 2018**

**Worship Service**  
**8:30 a.m.**

The closing worship service was held in conjunction with the service at First Lutheran Church, and host pastor Rev. David Johnson officiated. Host pastor Rev. Steven Carlson gave a children's message and preached the sermon. The LWML choir praised God with their singing, and GraceNotes performed "Rejoice with Gladness." An offering in the amount of \$1,439 was designated for First and Messiah Lutheran Pre-Schools in Missoula, Montana. Each school will receive \$719.50.

**Fifth Meeting**  
**10 a.m.**

**Call to Order** – President Miller called the Fifth Meeting of the 38<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention of the LWML Montana District to order. Vice President of Christian Life Reeves joined President Miller, Parliamentarian White, Page Savannah Reeves, and Recording Secretary Michel at the front. Corresponding Secretary Witt read a devotion entitled "Out There" and led the opening prayer.

**Final Registration Report** – Convention Registration Chairman Klofstad presented the registration count for 10 a.m. Sunday, April 22, 2018.

	<u>4/22/2018</u>
Voting District Officers and Zone Presidents	18
Past District Presidents	4
Delegates	<u>55</u>
Total entitled to vote	77
Guests	37
Pastors	<u>8</u>
Total Registration	122

**Young Woman Representatives 2017 Albuquerque Convention Report** – Young Woman Co-Chairman Billye Roseleip introduced Stephanie Edgar and Emy Stueve, LWML Montana District’s Young Woman Representatives at the 2017 LWML Convention held in Albuquerque, New Mexico. They presented a PowerPoint Presentation showing highlights of the servant events, Young Woman activities, and meetings. They especially liked that President Miller gave each of them the chance to choose one of the mission grants for the biennium and then President Miller cast one of her votes for that grant. They thanked the LWML and the Montana District for investing in them and encouraging their participation in the organization.

**Gifts from the Heart Report** – Vice President of Human Care Knudsen listed items given to Mountain Home Montana: 29 boxes of disposable diapers, 90 packages of baby wipes, 19 containers of formula, over 50 baby products such as shampoo or lotion, 11 blankets, one box of baby clothes, three sets of sheets, and a bag of grooming items. Women at the servant event tied and stuffed 43 heart-shaped pillows that the American Heritage Girls Troop in Hamilton had cut out. The pillows will also go to Mountain Home Montana.

Vice President Knudsen gave a final tally for Orphan Grain Train (OGT) donations. The OGT driver estimated that the 10,000 pounds of clothing, Hygiene Kits, and quilts filled about half the truck. Other donations included a bicycle, a wheelchair, and school desks. The driver left with a full truck.

**Dedication of the Gifts from the Heart** – LWML Montana District Pastoral Counselor Rev. Whaley led the convention body in the Gifts from the Heart Litany found on page 48 in the convention manual.

**A Legacy Moment** – The Legacy Players dressed in current styles (2000s) and mentioned the 46 societies and 619 women of the LWML Montana District. They commented on the 2017 LWML Convention and the joy of 75 years of Lutheran Women in Mission.

**Recognition of Legacy Players** – Young Woman Co-Chairman Rosanne Larson introduced YWRs Stephanie Edgar and Emy Stueve as the Legacy Players and thanked them for their entertaining *Legacy Moments* throughout the convention. President Miller was thanked for authoring the sketches, the introduction of the BOD members, and a number of the historical items printed in the convention manual.

**Announcements** –Guests were reminded to return the name tags for reuse at the next convention and to hand in the evaluation forms. President Miller described the gifts given to various speakers at the convention.

**Recognition of Host Committee** – President Miller thanked Convention Co-Chairmen Sonja Reeves and Christine Wallace; the women of First Lutheran LWML, Missoula, Montana; and the Western Zone for hosting a wonderful convention. Convention leaders are listed below:

Advisor: President Shari Miller  
Banner: Barb Kohs & Doris Wyland  
Co-Chairmen: Sonja Reeves and Christine Wallace  
Choir Director: Robin Stahlecker  
Coordinator: Sonja Reeves  
Decorations: Lu Lehmann and Dei Roberts  
Entertainment: Western Zone  
Gifts from the Heart: Gail Grimes  
Manual: Shari Miller, Bridget Michel,  
Janice Witt, and an Action Grant from  
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans  
Music: Melissa Johns, Christine Wallace, and  
Robin Stahlecker

Nurse: Jayne Hanich, RN  
Organist: Melissa Johns  
Parliamentarian: Myrt White  
Publicity: Nenette Loftsgaarden  
Refreshments: Jane Johnson and Mary Carlson  
Registration: Char Klofstad  
Servant Events: Doris Wyland  
Technician: Rev. Larry A. Miller  
*The Declaration*: Brook Gerard  
Tote Bags: Lutheran Church Extension  
Fund and Jeff Snyder

**Invitation to 39<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention of the LWML Montana District** – Southern Zone President Shirley Zeller and the women from the Southern Zone extended an invitation to the 39<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention of the LWML Montana District to be held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Billings, Montana, in 2020.

**Installation of Elected Officers** – LWML Montana District Pastoral Counselor Rev. Whaley installed the newly elected officers and offered a prayer on their behalf that they would faithfully serve the Lord with gladness.


**Closing Remarks** – President Miller asked the convention body to turn to page 39 of the convention manual. Then she wove the LWML Montana Convention themes from 1944 to the present into a history of the LWML Montana District.

**Closing Prayer** – LWML Montana District Pastoral Counselor Rev. Kyle Whaley concluded the convention with prayer.

**Adjournment** – The 38<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention of the LWML Montana District was closed by 2016-2020 President Miller at 11:50 a.m.

A Post-Convention BOD Meeting for all continuing, incoming, and outgoing BOD members will be held in the fellowship hall immediately following the close of the convention.

  
Bridget A. Michel, Recording Secretary

  
Sharon J. Miller, President