

Lutheran Women’s Missionary League
 Nebraska North District
 42nd Biennial Convention
 June 28-29, 2024
 Christ Lutheran Church, Norfolk NE

The 42nd Biennial Convention of the LWML Nebraska North District was held on June 28-29, 2024, at Christ Lutheran Church and School in Norfolk Nebraska. The theme was, “His Mercies New Every Morning,” from Lam.3:22-23 which says: “The steadfast love of LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness”

CONVENTION SESSION-FRIDAY, JUNE 28, 2024

- **Registration** began at 7:30 -8:50 am before session 1 and then continued throughout the convention.
- **Music and Entertainment**
 - Hannah Nunnenkamp-Engelman provided musical selections on the piano throughout the convention
 - Kenzie Pasold and Tonya Waite provided humorous interruptions throughout the convention
- **Session 1** begins 9:00 AM
 - Opening Processional consisted of the BOD, YWR’s, Past District Presidents, speakers from National and current Zone Presidents carrying quilts from each zone, which will be donated back to someone or someplace in their zone.
 - Lana Erickson was Processional Announcer
 - On stage: Jeanette Beune, Financial Secretary and West Point Zone President, Crystal Miller, Parliamentarian and Shelley Freudenburg Recording secretary. It should be noted Crystal and Shelley remain on stage for the duration of convention.
 - The convention was called to order by District President Ladonna Stanosheck at 9:15 am
 - Jeanette Beune—gave opening prayer
 - Mallory Calvert and Kenzie Pasold past YWR’s lead Pledge of Allegiance and Pledge to the Christian flag
 - Deb Gutz-District Meeting Manage lead the LWML pledge
 - Jessica Johnson, LaDonna’s daughter lit the convention candle
 - LWML VP of Organizational resources, Arlene Naasz, LWML Gift planning counselor Carol von Soosten, Abby Johnson from Our Place-After School Care and newly elected Kansas District President Elaine Engelman, were introduced and welcomed by LaDonna
 - 2024 convention committee Lynette Koehler, Carol Taylor, Monique Wolske, Ann Steckelberg, Maggie Rutjens and registrar Glenna Gutz were thanked by President LaDonna Stanosheck
 - Welcome and announcements by Carol Taylor and Lynette Koehler, co-chairmen of convention
 - Welcome and information about Christ Lutheran School by Principal Drew Urban
 - Welcome by Pastor Mike Moreno from Christ Lutheran Church
 - LaDonna announced that Jessica Johnson is the convention page for the day
 - Instructions of who is eligible to vote given by President LaDonna

- **First Credential report** by Shelley Freudenburg, Recording Secretary

Executive Committee	11 (Note that two nonvoting members were included in this)
Zone Presidents	9
Delegates	83
Past District Presidents	6
Total eligible to vote	<u>109</u>
Non-voting BOD	5
Other registrants	114
Total non-voting attendees	<u>119</u>

- Motion by Shelley Freudenburg for credentials report to be adopted seconded by Joyce Buethe
Motion Carried and a quorum established
- Crystal Miller presented convention standing rules
Motion by Crystal Miller to adopt convention rules found on page 6 of the convention manual.
Seconded by Shelley Freudenburg Motion Carried Standing rules adopted.
- Sara Huwaldt presented the proposed agenda
Motion by Sara Huwaldt to accept agenda printed on pages 2-4 of convention manual with necessary digression made by the chair, seconded by Crystal Miller. Motion Carried.
- Financial Tellers for convention were announced: Jeanette Beune, Nancy Schlote & Joan Plummer
- Crisis Management announced: Pastor Cory Burma, Pam Williams and Virginia Von Seggern
- Robyn Vance-Fremont Zone President introduced Carol Gooden-Rice
- Carol Gooden-Rice from Lutheran Family Services and the Fatherhood Initiative shared many interesting facts about the work they are doing and about a retreat that will held in Omaha this weekend.
- **Session 1 resumes**
 - Jeanette Beune Financial Secretary announced her report could be found on page 36-39 of convention manual. No questions from convention attendees
 - Informed attendees that Omaha Tri zone is now two zones, including Omaha and Sarpy
 - Nancy Schlote Treasurer announced her report could be found on page 40 of the convention manual. No questions from convention attendees.
 - Nancy shared about the financial review which can be found on page 35 of the convention manual
No questions from convention attendees.
 - LaDonna announced that all mission grants were paid before the end of our fiscal year, which is March 31.
 - All rose and sang "Give Thanks" for this blessing that God granted.
 - Jeanette Beune read Resolution 1-24 for convention offerings, found on page 7 of convention manual.
Motion by Jeanette to adopt this resolution, seconded by Nancy Schlote. Motion carried.
 - Nancy Schlote read Resolution 2-24; Use of Special Gifts Fund found on page 7 of convention manual
Motion by Nancy and seconded by Jeanette Beune Motion Carried, Resolution adopted.
 - Robyn Vance gave information about the purple auction and how it will work
 - Drawing number 1 for door prize was done.
 - All ladies that have been in LWML for 50 years or more stood and were recognized.
 - Pam Williams presented resolution 3:24 Mission grant goal found on page 6 of convention manual.
This would include \$32,000 for scholarships and \$52,000 for proposed mission projects.
Motion by Pam Williams to adopt resolution 3:24 and seconded by Jeanette Beune
Motion carried. Resolution adopted.
 - Pam Williams announced the mission grant proposals found on page 5 of the manual
Motion by Pam Williams and seconded by Joyce Buethe to be the official ballot Motion Carried
 - Mission budget officially set at \$84,000
 - 1st offering taken for mites
- **Break from 9:58—10:25 am**

- **Session 2 Begins**

- VP of Servant Resources Sara Huwaldt on stage for Session 2
- Betsy Raymer, structure committee member gave prayer to open session 2
- Carol Weber introduced Keynote Speaker—Christina Hergenrader

- **Keynote Speaker**

Christina lives in Texas has been married for 25 years and has 4 children
She is an author of 12 books and a certified Growth Coach
Christina spoke for approximately 40 minutes
She shared and spoke about Julia Allen an ancestor from Nebraska and related how God is faithful thru all the years and every morning
She also shared a new term “frage” which is fear and rage at the same time. We need to bring frage to the Lord to handle the situation.

- **Session 2 Continues**

- *Humorous interruption #1, Mom teaching daughter about “mites”*
- Music break—singing “Shout to the Lord”
- Pastor Burma, Junior Pastoral Counselor gave Bible Study #1 for approximately 35 minutes highlighting our theme verse of Lamentations 3:22-23
- LaDonna welcomed Sherry Burger President of Nebraska South District
- Lisa Stirtz to podium to explained the 6 different servant events located over at the School.
- Lynette Koehler gave lunch instructions and provided the lunch prayer

Lunch break from 12:00 -1:20

- Singing with Hannah “How He loves you and me” and “I love you Lord”

- **Session 3 Begins**

- On stage—Nancy Schlote, Treasurer
- Ticket drawn for door prize by Robyn Vance
- Meta Barnett opened with prayer
- Crystal Miller introduced Gary Thies and Pastor Schulz
- Between Gary and Pastor Schulz they spoke and had a PowerPoint presentation approximately 35 minutes Many facts and figures were shared about the work of Mission Central
- Sara Huwaldt introduced Arlene Naaz, current National VP of Organizational Resources
- Arlene spoke 24 minutes and gave a great amount of information from the national level and shared a video from the National President Eden Keefe
- Suzanne Totten introduced Carol von Soosten, gift planning Counselor for LWML
- Carol spoke for 13 minutes and gave an overview on how Gifts of Love work utilizing a PowerPoint presentation and sharing a flyer that was included in the convention packets.
- LaDonna introduced President Bull from Concordia University NE at Seward to bring us greetings. President spoke for approximately 6 minutes
- Offering #2 for scholarships taken while singing “Beautiful Savior”

Session 4 Begins

- On stage Pam Williams VP Gospel Outreach
- **Second Credential report** by Shelley Freudenburg Recording Secretary

Executive Committee	9
Zone Presidents	9
Delegates	84
Past District Presidents	6
Total eligible to vote	<u>108</u>
Non-voting BOD	5
Other registrants	123
Total non-voting attendees	<u>132</u>
- Motion by Shelley for credentials report to be adopted. Seconded by Tony Waite Motion Carried.
- Karen Peters Plainview Zone President introduced Addie Johnson from Our Place After School Care
- Addie spoke for 20 minutes and shared many interesting facts about the first of its kind program in Nebraska which helps teens with disabilities gain independence.
- It should be noted that this program was a National LWML grant recipient in 2023 at Milwaukee
- LaDonna announced that Jessie Rinke has asked to remove her name from the ballot. The electronic ballots will reflect this change.
- Carol Taylor, Chairman of the District Nominating Committee for this biennium, presented the slate of candidates. The candidates are listed on pages 14-18 of the convention manual. Carol announced the candidates with LaDonna asking for floor nominations

VP of Communications	Carol Weber
VP of Human Care	Meta Barnett and Lynette Koehler
Recording Secretary	Maggie Rutjens and Donna Taylor
VP of Christian	Shelley Freudenburg and Tonya Waite
Jr. Pastoral Counselor	Pastor Joseph Leech and Pastor Michael Moreno
Nominating Committee	
Ainsworth Zone	Betsy Raymer
Columbus Zone	Kristi Ulferts
Fremont Zone	Robyn Vance
Norfolk Zone	Monique Wolske
Omaha Zone	Jody Wells-Padron
Plainview Zone	Janyce Warneke
Sarpy Zone	Pam List
Wayne Zone	Sheila Floyd
West Point Zone	Maren Reppert
- Motion by Carol to adopt the ballot, seconded by Crystal Miller Motion Carried. These names will be on the official ballot
- Carol introduced all candidates in front of stage followed by the nominating committee candidates
- Edie Aerni, Columbus Zone President read Resolution 4-24; Candidate Appreciation found on page 7
- Edie motioned to move adoption, seconded by Pam Williams Motion carried and resolution adopted.
- *Humorous Interrupter #2 continues to inform daughter about mustard seeds and wearing purple.*
- Lynette Koehler reminded everyone to take pictures at the photo booth, located in the gym.
- LaDonna dismissed everyone except voting members to begin servant events.

- Virginia VonSeggern announced that the proposed amendments have been distributed to every society to review. Motion by Virginia to dispense with the reading of the proposed amendments, seconded by Carol Weber Motion Carried
- Motion by Virginia VonSeggern and seconded by Pam Williams to adopt the ballot of the proposed bylaws amendments as written Motion carried
- Virginia mentioned her report can be found on page 27. Cheryl Baker's name was inadvertently missed as a committee member of the Structure committee.
- Monique Wolske-Chairman of endowment task force proposed that an endowment be established to secure the future of the LWML NE North District. Questions were answered by Monique and LaDonna Motion by Monique to move to place establishment of an endowment fund on the ballot, seconded by floor delegate Motion Carried.
- Crystal Miller, Parliamentarian gave instruction on where and how to vote
- Assistants to help Crystal in the voting room, Carol Weber and Lana Erickson
- Suzanne Totten, VP Human Care lead the prayer before voting
- LaDonna dismissed the group to vote, do servant events, visit the purple auction or the LWML store.

Servant Events and voting occurred until around 5:30 pm

Dinner from around 5:30-6:30

Musical entertainment by Julie Crouch from 6:30-7:00 pm

Music Bingo from 7:00 pm to 8:00 PM

CONVENTION SESSION-SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 2024

- 7:30 am registration open, LWML store, exhibits and purple auction in gym
- **Session 4- Opening Worship Service**
 - Opening Processional consisted of the Processional cross, and Pastors present for the service.
 - A Communion Service was held from 9:30-10:30 am. Pastor Burma was the Proclaimer. He based his message on the convention theme. Pastor Moreno was the Celebrant
 - Several other Pastors were present and assisted with communion, done at the rail.
 - Hannah Nunenkamp-Engelman played the piano for the worship service
 - Christ Lutheran Church-Norfolk was the Communion Host Congregation
 - Bulletins printed by Peace Lutheran –Columbus
 - The third offering was collected during the worship service. This offering was for the Lutheran schools in the Norfolk Zone.

20-minute break Singing of "As the Deer "and "Here I am Lord"

- **Session 5 begins**
 - Ladonna announced that Connie Anderson would be the page for the day
 - On stage VP of Communication Carol Weber
 - Robyn Vance drew door prize
 - Joyce Peterson, nominating committee member leads in opening prayer
 - LaDonna thanked Lisa Stirtz and Kari Maser for putting together a wonderful servant event.

- LaDonna introduced President Snow NE LCMS District President to stage
- President Snow gave overview of current activities and goals for the district along with encouragement. to be in the word and in Bible Study. He spoke for around 17 minutes
- Joyce Buethe Sarpy Zone President introduced the next speaker, Valorie Snow
- Valorie spoke about “Dots” Daughters of the Savior—depending on the Savior. This group is for Pastor wives. A retreat is held every February. She spoke for about 8 minutes
- LaDonna introduced Mick Onnen LLL President to give greetings
- Mick gave a PowerPoint presentation and spoke about what the LLL does for around 9 minutes
- LaDonna introduced Hannah Fouts a scholarship recipient
- Hannah thanked the assembly for her monetary donation and spoke for 2 minutes.
- LaDonna introduced Keynote speaker Christina to give her second presentation. She spoke for 28 minutes weaving more stories about how God works in all stories. She asks for prayers for her writing, to continue, to connect with each other and share a relationship with another women. She also encouraged everyone to be in Bible Study.
- Stretch Break by singing “Thy Word” led by Hannah on piano

● **Session 6 Begins**

- On stage VP of Human Care Suzanne Totten
- LaDonna introduced Scott Roberts from LCEF and thanked them for the purple tote bags
- Scott Roberts gave greetings and gave out door prize. He briefly described how LCEF works. He spoke for 4 minutes.
- *Humorous interruption #3 Mom continues to educate daughter on “mission grants”*
- Carol Taylor gave announcements before lunch and encouraged all to fill out evaluation sheets. She encouraged anyone who wants to work on jean pockets at home to see Lisa Stirtz
- JoAnn Serr, Ainsworth Zone President lead us in prayer before lunch.
- Robyn Vance drew another door prize

Lunch break from 12:26 to 1:30 pm

● **Session 7 Begins**

- On Stage VP of Christian Life Lynette Koehler
- Deb Hill, Human Care committee member lead us in prayer to begin session 5
- Pastor Burma lead second half of Bible Study. He started with requested prayers from the prayer table. During his Bible study he encouraged us to always hand over all problems to God as His Mercies are new every morning. He spoke for around 27 minutes.
- LaDonna asked for a show of hand on how many would be interested in getting a bus to National convention in Omaha in June of 2025.
- LaDonna welcomed back Pam Williams to give results of the mission grant voting.

● **Mission Grants results** the results can be recorded on page 6 of the convention manual

1) People of the Book Lutheran Outreach for Muslims in NE	\$10,000	54 votes
2) Concordia International Radio Saves Lives	\$5811.50	27 votes
3) Concordia Seminary St. Louis	\$5000	30 votes
4) World Lutheran Deaf Outreach	\$7000	39 votes
5) In Every Tongue (MOST)	\$6000	17 votes
6) Intellectual & Developmental Disability Dominican Republic	\$7500	18 votes

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7) The Payne Family in Tanzania Mission Central	\$10,000	46 votes
8) Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch	\$7500.	40 votes
9) Lutheran Heritage Foundation South Sudan	\$7200	23 votes
10) Students in Mission CUNE	\$10,000	45 votes
11) Lutheran Braille Workers	\$5000	28 votes
12) Ukrainian Mission OGT	\$10,000	59 votes
13) Jesus Our Savior Lutheran Preschool	\$2,163	47 votes
14) CTSFW Co-op purchase food	\$10,000	43 votes
15) Shepherd's Canyon	\$6000	20 votes
16) Siouxland Lutheran Hispanic Ministry	\$10,000	54 votes

*Votes tallied: 590; Abstentions: 1
 Grants awarded are as follows read by LaDonna*

- Ukrainian Mission and Ministry OGT \$10,000
- New Female Missionary for Christian Outreach (POBLO) \$10,000
- Siouxland Lutheran Hispanic Ministry \$10,000
- Christian Outreach Resources for JOS Preschool Winnebago \$2,163
- The Payne Family Tanzania Mission Central \$10,000
- Students in Mission CUNE \$9,837.00 (partial payment)
- Pam Williams motioned to accept above report, seconded by floor delegate Motion Carried.

- Crystal Miller made a motion to amended resolution 3-24 to increase the Mission Grant Goal to \$84,163. Increasing the mission grant projects amount to \$52,163. This amount will allow for the final payment to Students in Mission at CUNE to \$10,000. Seconded by floor delegate Motion carried. The resolution has been amended and the amount to CUNE will be \$10,000.

- LaDonna introduced our past YWR's from Milwaukee National convention
- Mallory Calvert and Kenzie Pasold then introduced the 5 YWR's that are attending today.
- The YWR's voted for their project with an amount of \$2,024.
 - Briggs and Barrett Project 4 votes
 - Birthright of Norfolk 1 vote
- The Young women representatives have voted to support the Briggs and Barrett Project
- LaDonna introduced Sherry Burger—NE South LWML District
- Sherry gave overview of what their district is doing, she spoke for 6 minutes
- LaDonna introduced Tonya Waite and Joyce Buethe to invite us to the 2026 NE North District convention at Good Shepherd in Gretna NE June 25-26, 2026 hosted by the Omaha and Sarpy Zones
- Tonya Waite introduced Kelly Bristow from Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch in North Dakota
- Kelly shared many interesting facts about the Ranch and the work they are doing there. She spoke for approximately 18 minutes.
- Crystal Miller -Parliamentarian and Chairman of the 2025 National Convention Host Committee spoke for a few minutes about the convention and encouraged everyone to sign up to be a volunteer
- Robyn Vance gave an update on the Purple Auction. \$2,017 received from 40 items donated.

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- **Ingathering Report** by Suzanne Totten

- **For the 5 schools in the Norfolk Zone:**

- 261 reams of copy paper
 - \$190.00 in cash and checks

- **For Jesus our Savior Preschool:**

- Gift cards and cash \$875.00
 - 238 stamps
 - 51 pkgs napkins, towels, toilet paper
 - 4 pkgs of glue sticks
 - 23 pkgs plastic dinnerware
 - 29 pkgs paper plates
 - 8 containers counter cleaner
 - 1 pkg cotton swabs
 - 1 entryway rug
 - 1 push broom
 - 6 pkgs modeling clay
 - 2 pkgs of kinetic sand

- 31 boxes of greeting cards
 - 7 pk of craft/ notebook paper
 - 44 bags of cotton balls
 - 7 pkgs of paper cups
 - 11 pkgs fruit/pudding cups
 - 13 boxes snack crackers
 - 4 boxes tissues
 - 4 pkgs sanitary wipes
 - 1 cartridge printer toner
 - 3 large totes
 - 4 pkgs plastic sheet protectors
 - 2 deodorizer plug in refills

- Meta Barnett and Deb Hill, Human Care Committee members came on stage with some of the items.

- **3rd Credential Report** by Shelley Freudenburg

- Executive committee 9
 - Zone Presidents 9
 - Past District Pres 6
 - Total Worship attendance 208

- **Financial Report** by Jeanette Beune

- Offering #1 \$ 3,400
 - Offering #2 \$ 3,841
 - Offering #3 \$ 3,931
 - Total thus far: \$11,172

- LaDonna announced that the assembly has voted that all proposed bylaws amendments have been accepted and establishment of an endowment fund has been approved. LaDonna will appoint an Endowment committee after this convention

The vote was as follows:

- **Bylaw Approval**

- Yes 103 votes
 - No 0 votes

- **Endowment Establishment**

- Yes 100 votes
 - No 2 votes

- Sara Huwaldt read Resolution 5-24 Resolution of Thanks for Outgoing Officers
 - Motion by Sara to accept Resolution 5-24, seconded by Eddie Aerni Motion Carried.
 - Jeanette Beune, Lynette Koehler, Shelley Freudenburg, Suzanne Totten on stage as outgoing officers
 - Everyone stood and sang the Doxology in thanks to God for all these faithful servants.

- **Officer Election Results**

- LaDonna invited Carl Taylor to the stage to announce the result of the officer’s election.

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- o Recording of the results done on page 5 of the convention manual

VP of Communication 103 votes tallied Abstain 2
 Carol Weber 103 votes

VP of Human Care 105 votes tallied Abstain 0
 Meta Barnett 59 votes
 Lynette Koehler 46 votes

Financial Secretary 104 votes tallied Abstain 1
 Joan Plummer 104 votes

Recording Secretary 104 votes tallied Abstain 1
 Maggie Rutjens 59 votes
 Donna Taylor 45 votes

VP of Christian Life 105 votes tallied Abstain 0
 Shelley Freudenburg 76 votes
 Tonya Waite 29 votes

Junior Pastoral Counselor 105 votes tallied Abstain 0
 Rev. Mike Moreno 81 votes
 Rev. Joseph Leech 24 votes

Nominating Committee 488 votes tallied Abstain 0
 Betsy Raymer 59 votes
 Kristi Ulferts 44 votes
 Robyn Vance 62 votes
 Monique Wolske 81 votes
 Jody Wells-Padron 26 votes
 Janyce Warneke 62 votes
 Pam List 60 votes
 Sheila Floyd 70 votes
 Paula Verzani 39 votes
 Maren Reppert 55 votes

LaDonna announced those that have been elected:

Carol Weber to the office of Vice President for Communication
 Meta Barnett to the office of Vice President of Human Care
 Joan Plummer to the office of Financial Secretary
 Maggie Rutjens to the office of Recording Secretary
 Shelley Freudenburg to the office of Vice President of Christian Life
 Rev. Mike Moreno as Junior Pastor Counselor

Nominating committee
 Monique Wolske Norfolk Zone Chairman
 Janyce Warneke Plainview Zone
 Robyn Vance Fremont Zone
 Pam List Sarpy Zone
 Betsy Raymer Ainsworth Zone

Motion by Carol Taylor to accept this report, seconded by Sara Huwaldt Motion Carried.

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- *Humorous Interrupter # 4 The daughter is convinced that LWML is a good thing.*
- Shelley Freudenburg read Resolution 6-24 Thanks for Blessings
- Motion by Shelley, seconded by Lynette Koehler to adopt resolution Motion Carried
- Resolution adopted and assembly rose with a round of applause
- Hannah sang "The Blessing"---A blessing from LaDonna
- LaDonna reminded everyone to fill out evaluation forms
- LaDonna threw out some trivia questions to the assembly.
- Singing with Hannah "In Christ Alone"

- **Installation of newly elected officers**
 - Officers both retiring and newly elected were brought to the floor in front of the stage
 - A prayer was said for all officers and then the retiring officers were excused
 - Pastor Calvin Kapels then installed the new officers

- **Adjournment**
 - Ladonna thanked the board, convention committee and Hannah and Aaron for music and IT work.
 - LaDonna adjourned the convention at 3:20 pm

Note: Throughout the convention during breaks the LWML Store, the Exhibitor Booths and the Purple Auction were all taking place.

Respectfully Submitted



Shelley Freudenburg, Recording Secretary NE North LWML District