



“Serve the Lord with gladness.” Psalm 100:2

Oregon Leaguer

Spring 2015

The Back Story - Holy Communion



HOLY COMMUNION

Our Holy Supper, Communion, has a back story that we all know somewhere in the recesses of our catechetical days or Bible studies, but don't always cognitively recall.

The back story is the Passover. To Jews this was, and still is today, an integral part of their belief and religious practice. For the Jews it is an annual reminder of the way God saved them from His wrath against the Egyptian bondage.

They remember and retell of the night that the blood of a lamb painted on their door posts saved their first born from sure death. God's wrath was visited on the Egyptians' first born and the Jews were saved by the lamb's blood on their door posts.

Each Passover Seder is celebrated in the same way year after year, with the head of the family teaching, by way of the Passover (order/liturgy) Seder, through the meal itself.

Jesus was celebrating the Jewish Passover Seder the night He instituted the New Testament in His blood, our Holy Communion.

He was the head of the family and was teaching the story by the parts of the meal; how they represented the flight from Egypt, how the Jews were saved from the wrath of God by way of the lambs' blood. This method explained each food, drink and its meaning.

Everything changed dramatically when he got to the last cup of blessing. There he deviated from the long held custom of the liturgy/Seder (teaching/order) and gave up Himself as the Lamb that takes God's wrath upon Himself and saves us from original, and actual sin, our own sin of the flesh and the devil.

Imagine our pastor celebrating the Divine Service with Holy Communion and deviating from it in a drastic way. Changing something that has been the same for all our lives, now changed to mean something different. How the apostles must have wondered at Jesus' deviating from tradition.

When we come together to celebrate Holy Communion, we have our liturgy/Seder which teaches us, through the meal, to remember what God through Jesus our Savior has done for us, which is to save us from God's wrath which we deserve but gives us God's redemption, forgiveness and remission of all our sins, which Jesus has earned for us on the cross.

Let us think on the back story the next time the Holy Supper is celebrated and embrace its full meaning for our spiritual edification. That Holy Communion actually delivers the forgiveness won on the cross and declared from the open tomb. It is not just a remembrance but His actual presence delivering His gifts. Thanks be to God.

*Marianne Dolson
Recording Secretary, LWML Oregon District*

Table of Contents

Holy Communion.....	Page 1
From the President.....	Page 2
The Counselor's Chronicle.....	Page 3
Writers Wanted.....	Page 3
Bethesda Auxiliary.....	Page 4
Convention Info.....	Page 4
News.....	Page 5
Clip-n-Save, Misc.....	Page 6

Spring 2015



From the President ... Oh, Wonderous Joy!

There is a song in my head that will not go away. It has been there for nearly a month. It has been there through the stressful times and the gloomy days. It has been there in sunshine and rain, flowers blooming, trees falling, in sickness, and a great health report. My song is: Hymn 528, Lutheran Service Book, "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing".

It says that it is time to sing our great Redeemer's praise "The triumphs of His grace!" The Lenten season reminds us of just what our Redeemer has all done for us. The depth of His love is more than I can imagine. Even when I suffer through whatever is ailing me in body or mind; it is minor next to what Jesus did for me. His is the name that "charms our fears and bids our sorrows cease." It is "life and health and peace".

But Jesus brings even more than peace of mind and soul. He also brings strength and power. He sets us free from Satan's bondage and gives us the strength to resist His temptations and the power to proclaim His wonders to all. Because Jesus rose from the grave, we can be "strong and courageous"- Deut. 31: 6. What Joy!

This is spring and new things are happening everywhere – in the earth and sky but also in people. What a wonderful time to be alive in Christ. It is time to share with others. Just be a friend, like Jesus! Take time to listen to others without forming your own answer, but just to listen. Take time to see the expressions on people's faces and to touch someone. It is time for "just because I thought of you" letter or a phone call or a text. It is time to double the meal and take some of it to someone else. It is time to share an Easter donut or cup of coffee. It is time to make something new happen by breaking out of comfortable habits and taking Jesus at His word – "Do not fear, for I am with you; for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." Isaiah 41:10. With a promise like that, I pray you join me in singing, "Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing...." but also in speaking the words that this same Jesus is for them too. "Look and be saved through faith alone. Be justified by grace."

These ladies, listed below, have taken on something new and will be our delegation to the LWML convention in Des Moines, IA this June 25-28. Each of our nine zones has a delegate and an alternate to represent them at the convention. The delegates and the president are the only ones from the Oregon District, who can vote on the issues at the convention: where our funding will go in our world for the next two years, and who will be our leaders for the next four years. There are many worthy causes and many people in need, but our most important issue is to share Jesus. Each delegate needs the input from all of her sisters in Christ. She also needs prayers as she follows her Savior's lead as to where to put your money to bring more people to know Jesus, our Redeemer.

Zone	Delegates	Alternates
Emerald	Donna Geisler	Lorraine Joker
Interstate	Elizabeth Bier	Kathy Haas
Juniper	Charlotte Kolzow	Pat Reck
Mt. Hood	Mae Smith	Jan Croonquist
Myrtlewood	Laura Krumdieck	Bonnie Wagner
Pacific	Sara Pike	Janet Schultz
Southern	Kay Godfrey	Karen Young
West Hills	Debbie Faragalli	Carole Pletz
Willamette	Stephanie Rakos	Susanna Greig

There are also three other important people who will be going to the convention. Our Junior Pastoral Counselor: Rev. J. Wesley Beck and two Young Women Representatives. The two women selected by the Board of Directors are: Katelynn Ware of Medford and Keri Randklev of Portland.

Did you know???

- There are four convention offerings at the LWML convention. The first one is towards the mite goal for the next biennium. After that are three other individual offerings. To read about them go to www.lwml.org and click on Learn More under the 2015 Convention. To contribute – give your offering to your delegate from your area.
- The proposed mission grants are listed on the web too under the listing of offerings.
- The most up to date information as to where we are in completing this biennium's goal is found on the first page - "The Time is Now". Click on that picture.
- We have a new website but the same address - www.orlwml.org. Take a look and see pictures that are in a slide show.
- We are looking for some technically talented ladies who love to share the love of Jesus through technology? Contact me for more information.
- LWML has been asked to exhibit at the Northwest District LCMS conference. Display ideas are needed.

Carolyn Stucky, Oregon District LWML President

The Counselor's Chronicle

What is "The Time is NOW?" It is an initiative to help the LWML refocus on our basic common core values: being in God's Word, missions, service, and fellowship.

This is the week that changed salvation history. The time is now! Or so the crowds shouted as Jesus rode a donkey down the Mount of Olives and into Jerusalem. This time is now; they thought for the restoration of David's throne. They were right...and wrong. They were right according to Jesus' words that day, "Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out" (Jn 12:31). But they were also wrong as Jesus laments over the city; "Would that you, even you, had known on this day the things that make for peace!" (Lk 19:42). Instead your enemies will tear you to the ground and not one stone will remain upon another. The time is now when David's royal Son is revealed, the Son whose kingdom is not of this world.



The time is now for true worship as Jesus enters the Temple the next day, Monday. He makes a whip out of cords and drives out the merchants and the moneychangers. He sent oxen and sheep running, pigeons flapping and coins flying. My house shall be a house of prayer! To the Samaritan woman at Sychar he had said, "The hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him" (Jn 4:23). The time is now for true worship. The time is now for teaching as a practicum of parables fall from Jesus' lips on Tuesday and Wednesday. The two sons, the wicked tenants, the wedding feast; invaluable insights into our service in the kingdom. Who does the will of the Father? What will the owner do to those who would seize the kingdom? As many as can be found were invited, but are they clothed in the Son's righteousness? The time is now to open His Word in prayerful study; "You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me" (Jn 5:39).

The time is now for Sacrament on Thursday. "Take, eat; this is my body...Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins" (Mt 26:26, 27-28). The time is now to receive the forgiveness of sins, paid for on the cross, into your very person; His flesh and blood for your salvation. "As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes" (1 Cor 11:26). The time is now for Sacrament, God's gift to us.

The time is now for Sacrifice on Friday. In our stead, for our sins, the Lamb of God sheds His blood and dies. "And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth. Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief..." (Is 53:9-10). The time is now for Sacrifice as the Son of God gives up his life in our stead.

The time is now to keep the vigil. All this day and into the night, Saturday of Holy Week, the ancient church fasted and prayed. God's people have learned to wait on Him in any and every circumstance. Then, as midnight drew near, the catechumens approached the font and responded to the church's question; "I believe in the God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His Son only Son our Lord, who has conceived by the Holy Spirit..." Having confessed they were baptized into His death (Romans 6:4).

The time is now! He is risen on the eighth day of Holy Week, Sunday. The day on which the firstborn of the new creation walks away from the tomb and death's defeat is made visible in our Savior's hands and side. And we, with Thomas and the newly baptized, respond "My Lord and My God" (Jn 20:28). This is the week that changed salvation history; the promise has become reality, hope has become assurance, God's love revealed for His creation to His creation.

Dear sisters in Christ, the time is now to share that joy which knows no limit of time or place or person. Joy, in God's rich grace, that finds expression in word and deed, mission and service. Joy that is grounded in His Word and rejoicing in our fellowship. The time is now. Amen.

Pastor Jim Beck, Junior Pastoral Counselor

Willing Writers Wanted

Has God given you the gift to write? Are you willing to use that gift in service to the Lord through LWML?

The LWML is looking for Bible studies (preferably 20 to 30 minutes long), devotions (one page), sketches (preferably four participants or less), litanies, readings, retreats/workshops, and brief icebreakers/mixers that will enable today's women to grow in the Lord and impact their world for Christ, as well as add meaning and interest to their gatherings and meetings. Submissions go through an extensive review before being used by LWML. Please prayerfully consider how our Lord might use you in this important way. Thank you in advance.

Please send your items to depcl@lwml.org along with your name, address, and phone number.

News from the Bethesda Auxiliary



Thank you Oregon District LWML members for making an AMAZING CAMPING EXPERIENCE available for youth (14+ years) and adults available through your mission grant to Bethesda Auxiliary. OASIS (Oregon Adventures in Service) at Camp Lutherwood, Cheshire, Oregon is an opportunity to “Be A

Friend” to a camper with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Relationships, developed as Jesus is shared among the campers and the volunteers, are life changing. You are making this happen as you join us, “Reaching Forward in Faith!” The next camp session is July 12-17. For more information, visit www.lutherwood-oregon.org.

Bethesda Auxiliary is offering financial assistance for camp



registration to volunteers with the prayer that the Holy Spirit will work in their hearts to develop a passion for ministry with people with developmental disabilities and to develop leadership skills.

Applications are available at www.BethesdaAuxiliary.org and are due May 1. Camperships are also available to other Bethesda Lutheran Communities camps. For more information, visit www.bethesdalutherancommunities.org/camps.

Please encourage youth in your congregation to consider this amazing opportunity. Please stop by our exhibit at the LWML convention in Des Moines! See you there!

2015 National LWML Convention-June 25-28-Des Moines, Iowa

2015 Convention Goal Statement

Through Christ’s bountiful love and blessings of Word and Sacraments, I am equipped by the Holy Spirit to work in my Father’s harvest field.

2015 Convention Objectives

Convention attendees will be:

- Fed by God’s Word and Sacrament
- Nurtured through worship and fellowship
- Equipped to sow, nourish, and reap in the Father’s field

Theme

"Bountiful! Sow • Nourish • Reap"

Scripture Verse

And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work (2 Corinthians 9:8 NIV)

Register Online Today

www.lwml.org/convention



Christian Life Committee News

When touring in Jerusalem, you might see some small signs asking to pray that peace will come to Jerusalem. Yes, they would like peace from all their current conflicts; however, peace for Jerusalem means more than that. According to our tour guide, Christians and Jews alike know that peace will come to Jerusalem when Christ returns (finally comes) to earth. As we hear news reports from here and around the world, we want to pray for that same peace: "Come, Lord Jesus"! But He is giving us

time to continue our work of proclaiming the gospel to the world. The Christian Life Committee has a goal to help each of you to produce the fruits of the gospel God has chosen for you. We look forward to seeing you at the district retreat in September, as well as welcome you to contact our committee at anytime for suggestions and encouragement as you proclaim.

*Patricia Wetzel
Christian Life Committee Member*

Submit a grant for the 2016-2018 biennium

THE TIME IS NOW to submit a grant for the 2016-2018 biennium. Oregon District mission grant proposals may be submitted now and postmarked no later than September 30, 2015. Individual LWML members, societies, zones or LCMS boards may submit grant proposals. The application is available on the Oregon District LWML website at www.orlwml.org under the heading of Missions. You may also contact: Janet Schultz, VP of Gospel Outreach, janet.h.schultz@gmail.com or 503-648-6871.

Another special opportunity

One of our current mission grants is "GO" (Gospel Outreach)-Share Jesus. This grant allows Oregon District LWML members to apply for financial assistance when they are participating in a mission trip associated with a LCMS church, international partner church or a LCMS Recognized Service Organization (RSO's). For further information or an application, contact Janet Schultz, VP of Gospel Outreach, janet.h.schultz@gmail.com or 503-648-6871.

Gospel Outreach News

I will recount the steadfast love of the Lord, the praises of the Lord, according to all that the Lord has granted us. Isaiah 63:7

Two more mission grants have been funded!

Picture 450 children playing soccer and being encompassed with the Word of God at a Soccer Clinic sponsored by Ascension Lutheran Church in Portland. The grant: A Bridge to Jesus-the SSS Soccer Clinic and Beyond will help to fund this wonderful opportunity for many children and their families this summer.

Do you have a favorite camping experience? Building memories, friendships, and a love for our Lord during a camp experience is a part of the mission of the grant: Assisting Youth/College Students to "Be a Friend"/ Camp Counselor at Bethesda Lutheran Communities Summer Camps. The youth will have the opportunity to work with campers who have intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Thank you dear LWML Sisters for your faithful giving.

*Your Servants in Christ,
The Gospel Outreach Committee*

LET THE REDEEMED OF THE LORD SAY SO! PSALMS 107:2

~ September 2015 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 PRAY	2 NOW	3 ABOUT	4 COMING	5 TO THE
6 RETREAT	7 WE	8 ARE	9 EXCITED	10 ABOUT	11 THIS	12 THEME
13 AND	14 SITE	15 COST:\$140	16 NEAR SALEM	17 OFF HWY 22	18 LOTS OF	19 LEVEL
20 PATHS	21 MODERN	22 BUILDINGS	23 TO	24 ENJOY	25 LWML Retreat	26 LWML Retreat
27 LWML Retreat	28 AND	29 FRIENDS TO	30 MEET	Note: Please save these dates - Where: MacCley Christian Center See: experiencemacclay.org WHY: LET THE REDEEMED OF THE LORD SAY SO. PS: 107:2		

Fall Retreat

SAVE THIS DATE!!!
SEPTEMBER 25-27, 2015

LWML FALL RETREAT

"Let the redeemed of the Lord, say so."
Psalm 107:2

Where?

MacCley Conference and Retreat Center (off of HWY 22 - 10 minutes from I-5)
www.experiencemacclay.org

The registration form and further details will be available in the Summer Leaguer.

Please plan to attend.

Funding Factory

There are 100's of us LWML'ers in our Oregon District!

We could FLOOD the Funding Factory in Pennsylvania

with our boxes full of re-cycled items sent via our FREE UPS SHIPPING LABELS!

Your Zone Presidents HAVE the labels or they know how to get them! Let's DO it!!

Each Society could really "get on this" if they chose 2 ladies to partner together for this on-going District support project. Again -Let's DO it!!



CLIP-N-SAVE

RALLIES

Interstate Zone, St. John & St. Michael Lutheran, Portland...April 11, 2015
Myrtlewood Zone, Christ Lutheran, Coos Bay...April 11, 2015
West Hills Zone, Triumphant King Lutheran, Lake Oswego...April 11, 2015
Mt. Hood Zone, Calvary Lutheran, Portland...April 18, 2015
Willamette Zone, Our Savior Lutheran, Waldport...April 18, 2015
Emerald Zone, Messiah Lutheran, Santa Clara...April 25, 2015
Jupiter Zone, Faith Lutheran, LaPine...April 25, 2015
Southern Zone, St. John's Lutheran, Eagle Point...April 25, 2015

IMPORTANT DATES IN 2015-2016

Bethesda Auxiliary Meeting, Trinity, Hillsboro...May 2, 2015
NOW District of the LCMS Convention, Portland Convention Center, Portland...June 11-13, 2015
LWML Convention, Des Moines, IA...June 25-28, 2015
Oregon District EC/BOD Meeting...September 25, 2015
Oregon District Retreat, Macleay Christian Retreat...September 25-27, 2015
Oregon District LWML Convention, Hilton Hotel, Eugene...June 3-5, 2016

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HUMAN CARE NEWS

Until our next District Convention in 2016, our Human Care Committee will be working together with the Christian Life Committee to help each of us more actively share our commitment to TELL the story of Jesus and His love. We as believers need to verbally share the Good News as well as witness with our lives. Some have never HEARD the message of Salvation from God's own Holy Word"

Are you a Go-Go-er, a Slo-Go-er, or a No-Go-er?

God has a plenty for you to do in His kingdom, whether you are on the go or not. An interactive program of Bible study, discussion, skits, and sharing on "10 Gospel Promises for Later in Life" is available thorough the Special Ministries Committee. It is resource your

LWML zone, society or congregation (senior men would enjoy it) can use independently, or we can facilitate for your group. A two and one-half hour time frame works well.

For additional information, contact Terry Putnam at terryatnetarts@gmail.com.

