

The Mission Voice

LWML Louisiana-Mississippi District

2025 Fall Edition

Giving Thanks with a Grateful Heart

Our Lord is a rich and generous God who provides for all of our needs of body and soul, so we, you and I, have much to be thankful for in our lives, too much to address in this brief article. But, as I reflect on my time of service as a Pastoral Counselor for the LAMS LWML District, I have and will continue to give thanks to God for the opportunity to work with you. It has been a rich and rewarding time of service, not to mention a humbling experience, to walk alongside of all you Lutheran Women in Mission as you joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.

I know that you, individually and collectively, face many challenges as you seek to live out your mission statement; challenges that, at times, might feel daunting and overwhelming, but I encourage you to remember the words of the Apostle Paul, “be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.”(1 Cor. 15:58)

As Pastor Portier and I begin our preparations for your upcoming biennial convention, I am confident that he will serve you well as your next Sr. Pastoral Counselor. I am also looking forward with anticipation to see who the Lord of the church will raise up to serve as leaders in the LWML LA-MS District as you continue to grow in God’s grace.

Your servant in Christ,
Pastor Boldt

Key District Dates

January 2026	2026 District Convention Registration Form Released
April 16, 2026	LA-MS District EC meeting, Houma
April 17, 2026	LA-MS District BOD meeting, Houma



*Save
the
Date*

*2026 LA-MS District Convention
April 17 - 19
Grace Lutheran Church
Houma, LA*

The Month of Hearts and Helping Hands
Supporting Phil's Friends in February 2026



As we prepare for the 2026 LA-MS District Convention, one of the servant events will be to support Phil's Friends. Phil's Friends support others through Care Packages, weekly cards, and prayer because of the support Phil received on his own cancer journey. The Christ-centered organization engages thousands of volunteers, who, in turn, enable the organization to support hundreds of thousands of our friends with cancer across the United States through Care Packages, Cards of Hope, and prayer.

The LA-MS District Board of Directors would like to encourage each society to participate in a fun volunteer service opportunity in February 2026. Our district societies can support Phil's Friends' mission by organizing a heart-themed service project and creating items for the Care Packages, such as blankets, hats, handmade cards, decorated journals, and chemo port pillows. By sharing Phil's Friends' mission service activities with our church family, neighbors, and community groups, we can make a difference by spreading hope.

- **Blanket or Hat Party:** Blankets and hats are two items included in every Care Package to help patients stay warm. These items also serve as a reminder that they are covered in God's love. Blankets and hats can be crocheted, knitted, quilted, fleece-tied, or store-bought. A blanket party is an excellent activity for a quilting or knitting group, as a classroom project, or for anyone who can tie a knot. To host a fleece blanket party, purchase and cut the fleece, and tie each knot. A [step-by-step instructional video](#) is available.
- **Cards for a Cause Party (Handmade Cards & Journals):** Handmade cards (different from monthly Cards of Hope) and handmade journals (decorated composition books) are included in every Care Package to add an extra personal touch. Both can be designed by adults or children. They can be created using construction paper or cardstock. Be as creative as you want. Cut up used greeting cards, color or paint them, and embellish with stickers and ribbons. The creative ideas are endless. And always appreciated!

An example of an event: The LWML Society of Trinity Lutheran Church in Leesville, LA, will invite community members for an afternoon of fellowship with light snacks. Our ladies will determine which items we will make for Phil's Friends Care Packages. Our ladies' group will write a Thrivent grant to cover the necessary supplies and request donations from local businesses for this community event. The Trinity ladies hope this will become a yearly event in our community.

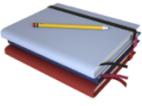
For more details of care package items, please use this link: <https://philsfriends.org/volunteer/>

Each individual and society is asked to bring the items made to the 2026 LA-MS District Convention in Houma, LA. Please do not hesitate to contact Rhonda Jackson at rlsj.lwml@gmail.com with any questions you may have.



The image is a flyer for Phil's Friends, a organization that provides support for cancer patients. The top left features a large, stylized blue and yellow 'URGENT' graphic. To the right is the 'phil's friends' logo with the tagline 'cancer is strong. hope is stronger.' Below the logo is a statement: 'As diagnoses increase and awareness of the Phil's Friends mission grows, we anticipate a continued rise in demand.' A call to action follows: 'Please help so no one is turned away!' It encourages gathering items or ordering from an Amazon Wishlist, collecting items from neighborhood, church, or business organizations, and bringing them to a Hope Center or shipping them to a Crown Point location.

CARE PACKAGE NEEDS

BLANKETS Throw blankets, crocheted, or fleece tied	HATS Knitted & Crocheted	FUZZY SOCKS Women's Only	TISSUES
			
JOURNALS 	PUZZLE BOOKS 	LOTIONS Fragrance-free; 6oz. or smaller 	MOUTH RINSE Alcohol-free 4-8oz. or smaller 
PLAYING CARDS No Casino Decks 	GIFT CARDS * \$20 value or higher 	MONETARY GIFTS 	SCAN QR CODES AMAZON LIST  PF DONATE 
<small>Please note: all items need to be new and unused because our friends with cancer have compromised immune systems. ** Gift Cards are used to purchase needed items. We do not put them in the care packages.</small>			

God's Earthbound Love Song Retreat

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Pineville, LA, is sponsoring a women's retreat, *God's Earthbound Love Song* — a weekend where we will listen, respond, and be renewed by the melody of heaven breaking into earth. This is a time to rest in God's Word, to sing with the church, and to receive the gifts He delights to give. The retreat will be at Grand Coteau Retreats on January 30th through February 1st, 2026. Please find a hyperlink to the registration form - [Registration Link](#). The total cost is \$245 for shared accommodation and \$285 for private accommodation. If it is full, please add your name to the waiting list.

With love and prayers,

Deaconess Alene Kidd

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Pineville, LA

News from the Vice-President of Gospel Outreach

District Mission Grants



We have collected \$20,000 towards our 2024 – 2026, \$30,000 Mission Grant Goal

Goal for Mission Grant #5



We have collected \$1,508.46 towards Grant #5

Reminder - Memorials go directly to District Mission Grants!

**We need to bring in \$7,000 in mites by the end of December 2025.
We need to bring in \$10,000 in mites by the end of February 2026**

Send in your Mighty Mites for District Mission Grants!!!

Lutheran Woman's Quarterly Subscription Rates

Please be reminded of the new *LQW* subscription rates that took effect with the Fall 2025 issue. \$8.00 per subscription for one to nine copies to one address, and \$6.50 per subscription for 10 or more copies to one address. This pricing will remain in effect through 2026.

These price increases were communicated at the Presidents' Assembly in January and June 2025.

Visit the LWML LA-MS District website <https://www.lwml-lams.org> for more information.