

## Lutheran Women in Action

By Carolyn Blum, News Editor



### Mission Trip News!

#### Visit LCMS World Mission's New Blog!

Read up-to-the-minute mission news! Take advantage of the ability to post comments to missionaries in the field! Visit and bookmark LCMS World Mission's new blog at <http://blog.lcmsworldmission.org>.

The next three stories are courtesy of LCMS World Mission:

#### Mites from the Mountains

Please take this to do the Lord's work, stated Mrs. Chaiboua Yang, a woman in a poor area of Thailand's mountains, as she



Mrs. Chaiboua Yang

handed LCMS education worker Kalia Lo an LWML mite box. Months before, Kalia had explained to a group of Hmong Christian women how the mite box is prayerfully used to support the sharing of God's Word. This woman, whose family earns about \$500 per year, truly understands sharing her faith in the spirit of Mark 12:41 — giving all you have to the Lord — with her donation of 117 baht (about \$3.90).



LWML in Kenya

#### LWML Women Share Their Faith in Kenya

LWML women from Florida, Ohio, Nebraska, and California brought encouragement and leadership to equip women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Kenya for ministry to others, as they served on a short-term LCMS World Mission trip earlier this year. They taught Bible studies and care giving, and they established self-help projects. They fed orphans and shared their faith with

Ethiopian refugees, visited a facility for abandoned babies, and encouraged women in a local prison.

Team member Marilyn Treanor, Florida, shares: *It is my prayer that sharing with the people of Kenya was a blessing to them.*



Cambodian women

#### LWML Women Witness in Cambodia

Communicating through pictures, actions and hugs, LWMLers from Indiana and Iowa delved into the Word as they led a retreat for the women of Trinity Lutheran Church, Battambang, Cambodia. God melded the two groups together as they studied "peace with God, peace with each other, and peace within," report missionaries Chuck and Jeanette Groth. When the retreat ended, women from the two groups became prayer partners.



Team member Alice Farley shares: *This trip [an LCMS World Mission trip arranged by their short-term mission placement counselors] may be a model for other LWML groups as they respond to President Jan's challenge for each district to host two mission trips by 2010.*



Honduras

#### LWML Brings Gospel to Honduras

Children in Olanchito, Honduras, climbed trees in the downtown market area so they could see and hear a Gospel drama presented by LWML members from the Northern Illinois District on a MOST Ministries mission team last fall. Team member Susie Kolterman relates how grateful they were to bring God's Word to hundreds of children in the public school each morning and lead Bible studies each afternoon in the church. She adds: *A special blessing was the occasion to share Jesus' love with the hotel proprietors.*



#### LWML Purple Power



#### The "Purple Hat Society"

Women wearing matching purple hats on the streets of town are likely to raise the question: *Why are you all wearing purple hats?* LWML members from Christ Lutheran in Little Rock,

**Arkansas**, delight in answering that question while they share the Good News of Jesus and explain LWML and the color purple. Purple-hatter **Lazelle Hutchins** sewed matching purple-flowered aprons with “LWML” stitched on the pocket for each woman.



*Devotions on the bus*



*Mission Central*

## Ideas For You to Use

### Road Trip Rally

A zone rally held on a bus? The women of **Iowa East's Westgate Zone** implemented this unique idea last spring. Zone president **Yvonne Wehrkamp** conducted their usual business meeting as the bus rolled through the countryside, and zone counselor Rev. Matthew Versemann led the Bible study, appropriately entitled “Road Signs for Life.” Mid-morning refreshments were hosted at **Immanuel Lutheran Church in Rockwell City**.

The rally's program awaited them at their destination, **Mission Central in Mapleton, Iowa**. Host and LCMS Mission Developer **Gary Thies** reported on mission opportunities that are opening worldwide for the Lord's message to be spread. The women brought ingathering items for use at Mission Central. After lunch, everyone boarded the bus for

the return trip, stopping once again at Immanuel for their evening meal.

Attendee **Vivian Homeyer** reported: *Everyone had a wonderful time!*



### Retreat in the Pines

Many zones host rallies, events, or gatherings — but Desert Zone 25 in the **Pacific Southwest District** holds a weekend zone retreat in alternate years. Leaving the desert, they traveled earlier this year to a conference center in **Pine Valley, California**. Their theme was “Promise Quilting” with Jeremiah 29:11 as their Scripture verse. Activities included joining in a creative Bible

study, choosing prayer partners, quilting a “Promise Pillow,” singing, and celebrating a closing worship service. Zone Christian life chairman **Esther Foster** shared that *the women returned home renewed in spirit, knowing God makes and keeps His promises.*

### Music Download



Enjoy inspirational music from the “**Dear J**” movie soundtrack. Listen to the instrumental track “Timelessness” © 2007 by RMM Muñoz. Go to *Quarterly* icon at [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org) and click on the music download.

### NEW on [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org)!

Don't miss out! Make a weekly date to visit the LWML Web site! At the top of the home page, you'll see a changing “lead article” each week: timely news from President Jan, department prayers or devotions, giving opportunities, special features, and once-a-month shopping specials. Scroll down and check out the new Verse of the Week, too!



## Together in Prayer

Pray with the LWML every Monday at noon.

## News! News! News!



“Fork in the Road” is the theme for the Spring 2009 *Quarterly*. What life-changing decisions have you made? What guides you to choose one path over another? What roles do prayer, Bible study, friends, family, and your pastor play in your decision-making? How do you decide between two equally good (or bad) options? Has someone else's right or wrong decision ever impacted you? Has a seemingly wrong decision turned out to be the right one?

Please send pictures (electronic preferred, prints accepted) and stories to News Editor Carolyn Blum at [newseditor@lwml.org](mailto:newseditor@lwml.org) or to 911 Tara Hill East, Hartford, WI 53027 by September 15, 2008.



### When “Purple” is “Green”

The ultimate LWML recycler is **Margie Smith** of the **Florida-Georgia District**. She reports that she owns many, many purple tote bags from various LWML conventions. Rather than throw away those bags associated with such pleasant memories, she uses them for shopping bags. In doing so, she turns “purple” into “green” as she saves the environment from additional disposable plastic sacks. *As an added bonus*, Margie says, *the convention theme printed on each bag is a way to share the Gospel message!*

### Mite-y Purple Power

*Pack a purple pocket with mighty mites and prepare for a profusion of mission monies!* That was the challenge posed by former **Montana District** president, **Pam Kercher**. LWML members were asked to sew a purple pocket and deposit

one penny within it. In each successive month, they were to double their contribution. At the end of the year, each woman would have then collected an extra \$40.96!

Purple pockets, containing \$980 for mites, were gathered at the district's 2008 convention.

