



Tidings **NEWSLETTER**

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**LUTHERAN WOMEN OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA
and
NORTHERN TERRITORY**

JULY 2018

Our vision:

"To provide encouragement and support for all women that they may know Jesus and grow in his love."



52nd Convention - 2018 Report

Lutheran Women from South Australia came together at Victor Harbor Lutheran Centre on May 3rd for the 52nd annual Convention. While we were keeping warm and dry inside, meeting together under the theme of 'Bloom where you are planted', the rain was falling, and no doubt, many were thankful in anticipation of what would bloom in our gardens or on our farms, as we listened to the precipitation outside, following a long dry period.

A beautiful banner, decked in white daisies with yellow centres, adorned a front wall in the church, illustrating our theme. Pastor Andrew Vanderwal encouraged the 250 attendees with the words – Chins up Blossoms!! It is indeed pleasing to see a growing number of men joining in our Convention day.

Many church agencies favoured us with their displays and information, inviting our on-going support. All present received a bookmark illustrating the day's theme, and on the reverse side, a printed prayer, which members are encouraged to use regularly in their fellowships.

Pastor Peter Miller, head of Chaplaincy Services in SA, told us about the many aspects of his work in hospitals, prisons, remand centres, etc., and encouraged others to consider assisting in this field of church mission work.

Pastor Michael Prenzler, serving in his first parish, told of his ministry to the Magill congregation, which generously shares its church building with the members of the Adelaide Deaf Community Church. How special!

LWA President Tuula Contarino, of Ingham Queensland shared this thought with us – 'Sometimes I feel like a lonely bloom in the desert, but when we come together we look like a huge floral arrangement ... men are always welcome – they are the greenery in the church, and we are the Blooms'. She encouraged us to make the journey to Rosehill, Sydney, from September 30th – October 2nd for the LWA Convention.

In this Issue:

	PAGE
Convention Report	1-2
LWSA-NT President's Report	3-4
Hymns/Songs from Convention	4
South East Zone Women's Retreat	5
Upper North Zone Women's Retreat	5-6
Lutheran Community Care	6
Notices	6-7
Diary Dates	7
Stamps for Missions	8
2018/2019 LWSA-NT Executive Committee	9



52nd Convention - 2018 Report (cont.)

Paul and Annette Sabel, Victor Harbor locals who have used their God-given green fingers over many years to grow many a plant, provided a generous selection of plants which were eagerly purchased, with all the sales benefitting the work of Australian Lutheran World Service.

Pastor Paul Lohe, Spiritual advisor, conducted the closing devotion based on several verses preceding the day's text of Colossians 4:5-6, which was followed by the installation of the elected executive.

Many songs and hymns were enjoyed throughout the day – here's hoping that they were like fertiliser and added nutrients, taken in and absorbed, to encourage us to bloom in our own little patches in God's kingdom.

Submitted by Grace Kroehn

LWA President Tuula Contarino



LWSA-NT President's Report

Greetings to you all.

How are things growing at your place? Has the rain come in time? Did you get the fertiliser and plant foods applied to make the most of the rain that has fallen since it started at the time of our Convention at Victor Harbor? Much of our state had been dry until then, but I trust that the heaven-sent rain is making your gardens flourish. And how are you? I am hoping that you are growing to produce a bloom where you are planted, and that if you were in attendance at Victor Harbor, you received some fertiliser to encourage and sustain your spiritual life. Thank you to the Victor Harbor Coffee and Chat group for being our capable hosts.

Twelve months ago, in my first president's message to you, I concluded with a prayer for God to bless and sustain us to *bloom where we are planted*, so that we can share the joy and hope we all know, with those yet to experience it! Little did I know back then, that this would turn out to be the 2018 Convention theme. But God did! With all thanks to our Spiritual Advisor, Pastor Paul Lohe for his guidance and assistance in all the preparations. Now we say a thank you and farewell to Pastor Paul as he has asked to relinquish this role, which also coincides with him celebrating his 80th Birthday which was acknowledged with a cake made by Judy Tscharke, and presented on the day.



magazine, and welcome Maureen Turner to this role. A familiar person in LWA circles and you can read an article of Maureen and her life in the June/July issue of *Lutheran Women*. Her contact details, when you need to forward info from your guild/fellowship, are listed on page 9 of this Tidings issue.

We now look forward to Convention in 2019 which will see us meeting at Para Vista Lutheran Church on Saturday May 18th. Please mark this date in your diaries.

Business from Convention: As our state membership numbers are decreasing and administration costs have risen the first proposal was to increase the LWSA-NT membership donation to \$5 (previously \$3) effective in 2019, was approved.

Furthermore the second proposal was to add Lutheran Secondary School Encouragement Award to our state project list was accepted. For quite a number of years, these awards, (13 x \$150) have been funded by member donations, but as our state membership numbers are decreasing, it has been necessary to look for an alternate source of funds.

Many people expressed their delight and joy in singing the hymns/songs at Convention and have asked for the numbers of these as they were not yet all chosen when the March Tidings (containing the Convention program) was prepared. They are listed separately below my report.

In the coming weeks/months, the majority of our Zone Fellowship/Rally days will be held. I was delighted to attend the Eyre Peninsula Day early in March at Wudinna, when many ladies travelled long distances to come together, and we heard of the work of 'Angel Flight' – pilots and people generously giving their time and resources to assist others to travel long distances, in much less time – to attend specialist appointments. Carol Cummings told us of her work as a Pastoral Support Worker at Wudinna Area School. Carol encouraged everyone to pray for all children as many of the things they are being bombarded with or are witnessing, are not beneficial to their lives, and leave some of them confused, angry and on the wrong path in life.

May God bless all the preparations/planning for these days, and give strength and encouragement to each and every zone member to attend, and experience the joy of fellowship. God-willing, an executive member will attend each of these days.



Back: Grace Kroehn, Josie Hunt, Rosalie Polkinghorne, Joan Schiller. Front: Pastor Paul Lohe, Heather Zimmermann, Grace Bock, Tracy Smith, Ruth Kaesler. Absent: Faye Jenke.

While all executive committee persons were re-elected, we sincerely thank Helen Fiebiger for her 6 years of service as the Statelink reporter to the *Lutheran Women*

The group travel plans for LWSA-NT members to attend the LWA Convention in Sydney are all going ahead, with thanks to your positive responses to the plan put together and negotiated by executive committee member Tracy Smith. You will have heard from Tracy by now and been requested to make the necessary payments so that she can proceed with all the booking details. For all those attending the Convention please make your registrations to attend on-line.

In recent weeks, my husband Neil and I have been to Western Australia (by plane) and travelled by road through New South Wales and Victoria. The purpose of these trips included both business and pleasure. We met people we had previously only spoken to by phone, and also spent time with relatives. Of note was a visit/overnight stay with my 86 year-old aunt in Walla Walla NSW. An evening meal, time catching up in conversation and a cosy bed, but most importantly, coming away with the inspiration – and prayer – that I might be granted to be able to follow her example, and be able to live in my own home and take care of a garden, play the organ in church on a Sunday, assist to drive other community members to appointments in Albury and Wagga Wagga, play croquet and lawn bowls most weeks, and convene the flower section and stage flowers at her local show at Walbundrie! Praise God for His care of this wonderful lady!

It is important, for our well-being, during these cold, wintry days, to make the effort and get out and spend time in conversation, away from our everyday home environment. May God grant us all the strength, good health and desire to serve where we can in our communities. Every blessing to you. Praise God!

Christian Greetings to you all,
Grace Kroehn, President LWSA-NT

Hymns/Songs from Convention:

Opening Worship Service:

Song 364 (All Together Ok) In you is gladness
Song 357 (All Together Ok) Give us hearts to know you Lord

Receiving morning offering:

Song 425 (All Together Whatever) God moving

Memorial Hymn:

Hymn 891 v 1, 2, 6, 7 (Lutheran Hymnal Supplement) The Silent moon has risen

Table Grace:

Hymn 638 (Lutheran Hymnal Supplement)
Great God, thou giver of all good

After lunch:

Hymn 824 (Lutheran Hymnal Supplement)
Your Word, O Lord, is gentle dew

Afternoon opening Devotion:

Song 311 (All Together Ok)
Be still and know that I am God

Receiving afternoon offering:

Song 615 (All Together All Right) In Christ alone

Afternoon:

Song 635 (All Together All Right)
How deep the Father's Love for us

Closing Worship:

Hymn 809 v 1, 3, 6, 7 (sung to tune 808)
(Lutheran Hymnal Supplement)
Go out, my heart, and seek delight

A note from the state Treasurer:

The Convention offering, including some received since then, has amounted to \$11,237.05 and has been donated equally to Adelaide Deaf Community Church, Chaplaincy Ministries and Australian Lutheran College Women's Auxiliary.



Bookmarks

The images above are a copy of the front and back of the bookmark prepared by the LWSA-NT executive and distributed at the last Convention. Please encourage its use by members both in personal use and in meetings.

South East Zone Women's Retreat

This year's retreat was held at Tarooki Uniting Church camp, Robe, on 23rd – 25th February, 2018.

In attendance were 23 fulltime and 13 day participants who focussed on the retreat's theme – 'Higher affections: Set your mind on things above' – based on Colossians 3:2. Friday evening's meal was provided by the planning committee. After a welcome and devotion, Zoe Fisher and Jessame Wagenknecht organised an evening of activities designed to introduce ourselves to other retreaters. There were puzzle pieces to colour in over the weekend. These were put together on Sunday to reveal our theme poster of a hot air balloon displaying 'Set your mind on things above'. Board games were played after supper.

Saturday began with an early bird walk to see the delightful scenery at Robe before breakfast. After singing from Altogether song books, an opening devotion introduced our bible study time. Pastor Murray Smith, Bordertown Parish, led the studies which delved into our relationship with God our creator. Faith is the key which focusses our mind on God as faith enables us to trust in God and to love him. As we serve one another every day, God blesses our faith by setting our minds on things above.

The second study looked at changing affections, since sin entered the world and people have struggled to trust God and instead follow their worldly desires. We are transformed to God's pattern for living by the renewal of our minds to love one another. This includes forgiving one another. Having our minds set on things above can free us of the love of money, help us to be content, give us trust in God's promise that he will never leave us and have confidence that God is our helper. We need not be afraid. We can rejoice that we participate in the sufferings of Christ Jesus.

The final study on Sunday morning looked at how we are blessed in shared affections with God and other people. God speaks to us through Jesus, his Son, who is the exact representation of God the Father. People respond to God by praising him – 'how majestic is your name in all the earth', by caring for the earth's environment and its creatures, by serving others so that they praise God and set their minds on things above. Our affections for God blesses others, having a clear mind and self-control so that we can pray, giving us deep love for others, forgiving freely.

In summary, as we set our minds on things above, we are thankful and let the word of Christ rule in our hearts. We teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs, have gratitude in our hearts to God, do all things in the name of Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Jesus, our Saviour.

The retreat guest speakers, Tracy Smith, assisted by Rosemary Winderlich, spoke of their 2017 trip to Debora Homes in Sumatra, Indonesia. Tracy shared how she prepared for the trip, attending LCA child safety training and Missions Interlink Short-term Training (MIST) for cultural preparation, and she related her experiences of living in a different culture. She served the Debora children and staff by being there with them, showing her love and acceptance and interest in their lives. The photos of their trip helped us visualise the people and their activities and we learnt of the hopes for employment of the students and of their love of God. An offering of \$770.00 will be forwarded to Debora Home student Anita Situmeang, to assist her in her 2018 nursing study costs.

We reflected on our theme of 'higher affections' as we came together to worship God the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit in the Uniting Church at Tarooki camp on Saturday evening.

Submitted by Alicia Graham

Upper North Zone Women's Retreat

Lutheran Women of the Upper North Zone met for their 48th annual Retreat at the end of February, enjoying peaceful surrounds and lovely weather. Held at Camp Willochra, north of Melrose, the theme this year was "Loving is Serving". After a short ice-breaker session on Friday night, our camp chaplain, Pastor Robin Zadow, led us in a Holy Communion service, reminding us that God loves us so much and asking: How do we show love to others?

Over the weekend the theme was brought out with Bible Studies, Guest Speakers and sing-a-longs. As we found out, towers built with straws need a strong foundation. Good works we do in response to God's love for us are done with love on the foundation of faith.

Guest Speakers June and Geoff Harrison from Seafarers Mission on York Peninsula go aboard ships that come to Port Giles, providing a wide range of assistance to the seafarers who are often homesick, have a hard and risky job in prisoner-like conditions, fatigued by long

working hours and sometimes not having been paid. If the Captain allows them shore leave, the Mission takes the crew to their Centre where they can relax with a meal, play games and have the opportunity to contact their families with provided phone cards. They may also take them shopping or visit a farm – whatever they would like to do. Some just need a hug.

Julie Krause, from Australian Lutheran World Service (ALWS), travels to many trouble spots in the world and she shared with us how ALWS is helping in various situations. People in poor countries don't want us to do the work for them – they would rather be given the training and the means to do the work themselves. This brings them dignity. They always speak to a community in the first instance to determine their needs. Camper Katrina Rohrlach spoke of her time spent in Cambodia as part of the Grow Leadership Course she was part of last year. The group helped with some farm work and spent time entertaining children with games, hygiene lessons and sharing cultural differences.

Saturday night we were well entertained by many talented people and a wide variety of items, giving us all a good laugh. Second hand items brought along for 'Containers of Hope' were sorted and packed Sunday morning, after which a Holy Communion service was held. Cook for retreat Chris Grieger capably kept us fed and we thank him and his 'apprentice' for their time and expertise. Accommodation was improved with new beds and mattresses and was much appreciated by us all.



After a most uplifting, interesting and joyous time we said our farewells and departed for home, looking forward to meeting again next year.

Submitted by Jan Thomas

Lutheran Community Care & Clothing Committee

The Director of Lutheran Community Care (LCC), Helen Lockwood, is retiring this year at the end of August. She extends a 'thank you' for all the support Lutheran Women have given to LCC, with either food, clothing or money.

The Op Shops Coordinator, Di Gerrie requested that we check the LCC website to see how the Op Shops are promoted and for

information on how Facebook can be used to learn about the needs of the shops and the bus trips planned to visit these shops. Volunteers are always needed to keep these shops open.

Do you like sewing and could spare a few hours to sew material bags for the customers to purchase and use to carry their items they have bought? A sewing machine and all necessary material will be provided at LCC Blair Athol. Di would like the Op Shops to be known as 'the green shops' by not using plastic bags.

It is encouraged that money be donated towards transportation of goods to go to Alice Springs or if you would like to send boxes of goods to Alice Springs yourself, then the preferred carrier that LCC uses is ABC Transport and then you will have to take your boxes to the depot at: 563 Grand Junction Road, Wingfield, SA. Phone: (08) 8262 5255. Label boxes with the delivery address. Cost: \$1.00 per kilogram.

For further information contact Di Gerrie
Mobile: 0439 223 37



NOTICES

Birthing Kits

A reminder that **ALL** completed Birthing Kits should **ONLY** be left at the LCA National Office, 197 Archer Street, North Adelaide.

Any spare items left over after completing kits can also be left at the National Office.

Clearly labelled: "Birthing Kit – Surplus items". However, there are lots of singlets, face washers, plastic gloves and metres of tape on a large spool. If you would like some of these items to make up your kits, then please get in touch with me. For a list of items to include in the BIRTHING KITS check details on the Website: <http://www.sant.lca.org.au/departments/ministry-partners/> Thankyou

Joan Koster Phone (08) 8336 2309

Found after LWSA-NT Convention at Victor Harbor ... in the vicinity of the Display Tables in the Small Hall ...



Small Fawn/Gold vinyl type bag with straps, with several zippered compartments on the outside. It contains two pens, several sets of ear phones for either a phone or radio used when walking. The only identification in the bag is a sales slip from Kmart, Tea Tree Plaza, stating containers were purchased/plastic.

Please contact Gwen Koch at 08 8552 8702 if this bag belongs to you. If not claimed by 30th September the bag will be disposed of.

Note from the LWSA-NT TREASURER

- * Please remember to make all cheques payable to LWSA-NT - **not** the projects you are supporting.
- * Membership donations: \$10.00 annually per member from 2019. This is to be sent to the LWSA-NT Treasurer. [\$5.00 for LWSA-NT, \$5.00 for LWA]. Do NOT send 2019 membership donations before 30th November 2018.
- * Zone Treasurers - \$50 annually from each Zone which holds an annual Fellowship/Rally day.
- * Donations towards Hampers for Lutheran Community Care and any Australian Lutheran World Service funds can also be sent to the LWSA-NT treasurer.



Ruth Kaesler Phone (08) 8388 7784

Email: kaeslerj@bigpond.com

Project Notes:

Lutheran Secondary Education Encouragement Awards

All South Australian and Northern Territory Secondary schools or Colleges who have Year 10 upwards qualify for this award. The following is a copy of the guidelines for these awards:

Criteria for selection

Eligibility: A student in either Year 10 or 11

Recommendation: The whole amount be given to one student.

Any one or more of the following can be considered in determining a suitable recipient:

1. A student who has given service to the school or wider community, eg chapel, service project, [aside from sport].
2. A student who plans a future vocation within the Church, eg Pastor, lay worker, school teacher.
3. A student who has been an effective ambassador for the school, showing honesty, integrity, self-discipline and pride in the school.
4. A student who has shown initiative and willingness to support others through encouragement and a sense of responsibility to all people.
5. A student who has shown a positive attitude to studies during the past year and needs financial help with fees or books.

These notes are provided so that there can be a greater understanding about how these awards are given.

DIARY DATES



2018 Zone Days

- * **South East Rally**
Wednesday 1st August at St Martins Lutheran Church, Mount Gambier.
- * **Metropolitan North Fellowship Day**
Thursday 16th August at Zion Lutheran Church, Glynde.
Theme: "Let the little children come ..."
- * **Upper North Fellowship Day**
Saturday 18th August at Trinity Lutheran Church, Port Augusta.
Theme: "Your work in the Lord is never wasted"
- * **Riverland Rally**
Wednesday 5th September at St Peters Lutheran Church, Loxton.
Theme: "Bloom where you are planted"
- * **Light Zone Fellowship Day**
Wednesday 12th September at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Point Pass.
- * **Adelaide Hills Fellowship Day**
Wednesday 19th September at Lutheran Church, Strathalbyn.
- * **Barossa Fellowship Day**
Friday 21st September at St Pauls Lutheran Church, Tanunda.
Theme: "Clothe ourselves with the armour of God"

LWSA-NT Retreat

Date: Friday 18th January – Sunday 20th January, 2019

Venue: Australian Lutheran College, North Adelaide

Chaplain: Pastor Nigel Rosenzweig
Enrolment form together with other detail will be included with the October Tidings.

Upper North Zone Retreat

Friday 22nd – Sunday 24th February, 2019 at Camp Willochra, Melrose





God has wonderful ways of turning simple gifts into great blessings. The Lutheran Church of Australia's Stamps for Missions project has raised nearly **\$410,000!** All proceeds are donated to LCA International Mission programs and projects. This is possible due to the dedication of volunteers who collect, clean, package and sell the stamps. Stamps for Missions was established in 1938 through the efforts of Pastor Ted Koch and Mr Ern Unger. Ern became the first stamp receiver and did this for the next 65 years, encouraging many others along the way. 2018 marks ten years since LCA International Mission (formally Board for Mission) took over the Stamps for Mission project from the Lutheran Youth of Australia. It is overwhelming to think how much money has been raised from those seemingly worthless used stamps. We thank God for His blessing through this project.

If you would like to join in God's mission in this way, please send your used stamps to one of the volunteer stamp receivers in South Australia:



Erica Bowden, Box 1926, McLAREN FLAT SA 5171;
Joy Mules, Box 141, BARMERA SA 5345
Geoff Roocke, 15 Chitunga Road, EDEN HILLS SA 5050
Jackie Standish, 7 East Parkway, Fulham, SA 5024
Sadie Voigt, 12 Stuart Street, NURIOOTPA SA 5355.



Stamps can also be left at the LCA National Office, 197 Archer Street, NORTH ADELAIDE SA 5006
For information: National Project Director - Mr Peter Nitschke, 24 Gameau Road, PARADISE SA 5076
Phone: 08 8365 7717 Email: pmnitschke@bigpond.com



While all address details have been checked against the 2018 Statistics Forms please check again that your details are correct. If corrections need to be made, please let me know.

Secretary, Mrs Joan Schiller, who is also the Tidings Editor (details below).

125th Anniversary of the Bethlehem Women's Guild Adelaide

Sunday 21st October 2018

**Thanksgiving Service
at 9.00am**

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church
170 Flinders Street
Adelaide**

Please bring food to share

Past Members are cordially invited to attend



Contact: Annette Wessling Ph 8379 5210

Email bawessling@adam.com.au

or Pamela Mibus Ph 8261 3237 Mobile 0403 960 230

Email: pammibus@adam.com.au

for more information, or to advise of attendance.

Parking: U Park \$8 per day

All Information for the October issue of the "Tidings" must be received by

15th September, 2018

Send articles to the Editor:

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***[Editor's Note:
Keep this page for future reference.]***

