

June 5, 2013

Dear Ladies of LWML,

Blessings to you all, and greetings from your LWML Board.

This past year has been a busy one for us, as we're sure it has been for you. We have been challenged to continue LWML and to provide for the membership activities which fit into the missions of both BV Lutheran Church and LWML. For these purposes, we adopted a new format to help us to GROW in our faith, participate in SERVICE projects, collect our MITES for missions, and to CONNECT in Christian fellowship with our LWML Sisters and the community.

Another challenge we accepted was to change the manner in which we communicate with the ladies of LWML and of the congregation. Announcements have appeared on the screen before Sunday Services, in the Weekly Newsletter, on the church website and on the LWML bulletin board in the hallway leading to the Fellowship Hall. "One-call" was used to remind members of the coming events. Hard copies were given to members who do not have e-mail.

During the past nine months we have had 1 meeting devoted to Bible Study, 2 Business meetings, 2 Service Project meetings, 1 mission report meeting and 3 special events, one of them specifically for Outreach. (The other two also brought in many non-members).

At the end of this year, there were 81 active members and 13 honorary members. The average attendance for the meetings was 66. The mite collection for the year was \$2,993. Praise the Lord for His gifts to us and for your gifts to mites!

In April, a questionnaire was distributed asking members to give the Board some guidance for the coming year. 33 were returned. On the next page is a brief summary of the results of the questionnaire.

TOPIC	YES	NO
Monthly Meetings?	23	6
Service Projects?	29	0
Bible Study?	24	3
All Evening Meetings?	5	24
Business Meetings Only?	13	14
Start Young Women's Group?	14	6
Special Mission Project?	17	12
Fund Raiser?	15	3
Return to Former Programming?	4	22
Sponsor another Guest Speaker?	21	3

There were many excellent comments. The Board members have copies of the full report, so if you would like to read it, please ask any of us. We appreciate those of you who took time to complete the questionnaire. We realize that the numbers represent less than half of the membership, but they do give us some guidance, which we appreciate.

Thank you all for helping out this year, especially with our three special events: Advent by Candlelight, the Donna Pyle presentation, and the Mother-Daughter Tea. Your participation made them very special!

We members also appreciate the work done by the Service Leaders and their teams. So many mission activities happen on a regular basis that sometimes we may forget how much time and love is going into each of them. LWML has many of these teams; Decorations, Quilting, Shoe-box Ministry, Bear Ministry, Greeting Cards, Printer Cartridges, School Kits for LWR, Beaded Ladies, Prayer Shawls, Box-tops/labels, Care Center Visitors, Friendship, and Prison Ministry. Now might be a good time for you to think about joining one of these groups. Your participation is needed and welcome.

Next up is the Summer Outing being planned by your vice-presidents, Nancy Manos and Sandy Foster. You will be hearing from them soon, if you haven't already.

Also on the agenda for summer are 1) the auditing of the books being done by Sharon Longnecker and Irma Meisbach, and 2) revision of the by-laws by Cheryl Cardin and Marilyn Jentzen. We appreciate their willingness to do these tasks.

So that's it for our wrap-up of the past year. Now for the coming year. Look for the news of that in August! Meanwhile, have a blessed summer.

Love in Christ,

LWML Board (Ruth Bruch, pres.)