

Lamb Talk

September



2007

A Newsletter of Lamb of God Lutheran Church

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The Lord is with you when you are with him. If you seek him, he will be found by you, but if you forsake him, he will forsake you. 2 Chronicles 15:2

L.W.M.L. CONVENTION

By Bev Kuntzsch



R.O.C.K.—Rest On Christ the King. This was the theme of the 32nd Biennial Convention of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. The event was held June 21-24, 2007, in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. This convention also

commemorated sixty-five years of LWML—1942-2007.

For my friend Myra and myself, it started Tuesday, June 19. A friend of mine drove us to Green Bay where we were to be picked up the next morning. The coach arrived at 7:00 a.m. on Wednesday and seven of us got aboard. The coach made seven more stops in northern Wisconsin to pick up people. The last pick up was in Hudson at noon where we had lunch. With all forty-nine people on board we were now headed for South Dakota where we arrived at our convention hotel at 7:00 p.m.

Thursday we were on our own until 7:00 p.m. Myra and I took advantage of the free time and stopped in the Exhibit Hall. The convention officially opened with a worship service and communion in the sports arena which was way too small for the five thousand plus people in attendance. The clergy and delegates were seated

on the main floor. Everyone else sat in the upper deck.

Friday, after pre-convention music led by Dina Vendetti from Dover, Delaware, we were greeted by the mayor of Sioux Falls. He enjoyed the singing and he informed us it was the largest convention held in Sioux Falls. Other speakers were Rev. Dr. Gerald Kieschnick and his wife, Terry. During the business meeting we learned that the current Mission Grants goal was exceeded by \$55,000. The 2007/2009 Mission Grant goal is \$1,700,000 to be used for the new mission grants.

Dinner recess on Friday ran longer than planned. The food line was unbelievable. Myra and I waited almost an hour to get into the dining hall which had a seating capacity of 1,500. The entertainment for the evening was "The Amazing LWML Rock Star Idol Reality Show." There were a total of six acts introduced by Jan Struck, the hostess. The second act, "FISH on the Rocks" was done by our own SWD Teen LWML. It was great! In act five, "Rockin' Movin' Dancin'," was performed by the Rocky Mountain District. It was their rendition of "YMCA." Needless to say, it was a winning act.

Our Bible study each day was on the convention theme, "Rock On," Psalm 31:1-3. Saturday was more singing, business, voting and mission speakers.



There were more than five thousand registered attendees and over fifteen hundred were first-timers. I don't know how many

Teen LWML (known as F.I.S.H.—**F**riends **I**nto **S**erving **H**im) or YWR's (**Y**oung **W**omen **R**epresentatives) were in attendance, but their presence was evident. In 2001 Milwaukee had bid on the convention for 2007. Sioux Falls won. Once again Milwaukee bid on the convention for 2015. Des Moines, Iowa, won. An election was held; there were three candidates for president of LWML. I'm proud to announce that Jan Wendorf from South Wisconsin won. Another Wisconsin victory was that of Deaconess Sylvia Johnson from New Berlin English District who will be the Vice President of Human Care.

The Saturday dinner recess was much improved. Several meeting rooms in the convention center were opened for dining. Myra and I were seated in about fifteen minutes. The meals served both nights were very good.

Erin Bode provided the entertainment for Saturday evening. She is a singer and a musician with a mix of sophistication and class. She shared her experience with the Themba Girls in South Africa on screen and on stage as one of them flew in that afternoon to perform with her.

The convention closed Sunday with a "Service of Sending." The new officers

were installed and the ingathering of "Gifts from the Heart" was dedicated. At the close of the service the 32nd Biennial Convention was adjourned followed by a dazzling display of lights, music and convention memories.

This convention tested my patience with the long lines for food, long lines for restrooms and crowded conditions in the balcony, but I learned to accept the inconveniences and stop complaining, praise the Lord. I am thankful for the driver of our coach who went out of his way to accommodate us. Back at the hotel we said goodbye to those going home. Myra, myself and fifteen others were headed to Deadwood for a post-convention tour.



This would be interesting, too. We had a new coach and a new

driver. The coach was very small, no bathroom, bumpy and air conditioning that worked ... most of the time. The four day/five night tour took us to Wall Drug where you could get a free glass of ice water and buy a cup of coffee for five cents. We traveled through ranch country and the Black Hills before arriving at Cadillac Jack's, our hotel for the next three nights.

Monday we toured Big Thunder Gold Mine. We had the opportunity to pan for gold and receive a certificate for our claim. We visited Mt. Rushmore. A park ranger gave us a very interesting talk about the pitfalls and success of this magnificent mountain

sculpture. Our last stop for the day was at the Circle B Ranch for a chuck wagon bar-B-Q. The family entertained us for about an hour after supper.

The itinerary for Tuesday was to visit Tatanka, tour Deadwood with local guides, free time in the afternoon and see the Passion Play in Spearfish in the evening.

Tatanka is a Lakota word for bison. There is a large bronze sculpture of fourteen bison being pursued by three American Indians on horses. In the educational center a young Indian woman talked to us about their culture and the value of bison. The attraction is owned by Kevin Costner. Our guide gave us coupons for lunch at Diamond Lil's in his hotel, Midnight Star, in Deadwood.

Next we toured Deadwood. This is a neat town, where you really get a taste of the Wild West. Deadwood was incorporated in 1876. The tour took us to the historic Main and Sherman Streets. It also took us to the famous Mt. Moriah Cemetery and stopped at the graves of Wild Bill Hickok and Calamity Jane. The guide stopped at the top of the hill where we could see the canyon that became home to thousands of gold seekers.

I can't say enough about the Passion Play. It is held in an outdoor amphitheater. Established in 1939, it is the oldest, continuously operating Passion Play in North America. The acting and costumes gave realism to

the story of the Passion of our Lord from His ministry to His crucifixion to His glorious resurrection.

Wednesday our travels took us through the Badlands National Park. The thirty-two mile Badlands Loop Scenic Byway has fourteen designated overlooks. We stopped at most of them and had lunch at Cedar Pass Lodge. Our overnight stay was in Mitchell, South Dakota, where we stopped at the famous Corn Palace.

Thursday we relaxed as we headed for our original pick up points. Since there were no more points of interest, Myra joined some of the ladies in some Sheepshead. I just reflected on the highlights of the convention and the tour as we thumped along. Sleep was not going to happen on this bus. At 7:30 p.m. we arrived in Green Bay and my friend was there to bring us the rest of the way home. Now I could have slept in this smooth riding mini van with leg room, but he just wanted to talk. All in all, it was a great convention and tour. With this convention behind me, I'm looking forward to 2009 when it will be in Portland, Oregon.

I thank the South Dakota District for a fine convention, Leah Lehman for arranging the post-convention tour, to all the drivers for safe driving, to Myra for her companionship and most of all to the Lord Jesus Christ for His never-ending love. He's my Rock!



MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS

On August 19 we had the joy of receiving new members into the Lamb of God Church family. With heartfelt delight we welcome Michael and Theresa Uden and their four children. If you haven't already met the family, please take the time to greet them and introduce yourself. The following shares a bit more about the Udens:



The Udens are new members at Lamb of God. Michael is a Professor of Education at Concordia University Wisconsin, where he is also the Chair of the Middle Childhood through Early

Adolescence Department. Theresa has been a high-school teacher but has devoted her full-time energy to raising their four children in recent years.

Dr. and Mrs. Uden have been blessed with four children: Siri, a freshman; Alexa, an eighth-grader; Chase, a fifth-grade student; and Zebadiah, a third-grade student.

The Udens love to travel and camp because they love to be together as a family. They are also eager to see what the Spirit has in store for them and their new church home.

Awesome God

When our lives are focused on God, awe and wonder lead us to worship God, filling our inner being with a fullness we would never have thought possible. Awe prepares the way in us for the power of God to transform us, and this transformation of our inner attitudes can only take place when awe leads us in turn to wonder, admiration, reverence, surrender and obedience toward God.

—James Houston, *The Transforming Power of Prayer*—



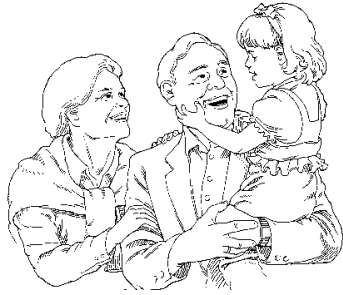
Take time to ...

pray	it is the greatest power on earth
read	it is the fountain of wisdom
think	it is the source of strength
love and be loved	it is a God-given privilege
give	it is too short a day to be selfish
be friendly	it is the road to happiness
laugh	it is the music of the soul
play	it is the secret of perpetual youth
work	it is the price of success

Grandparents Day

In 1970, a West Virginia housewife, Marian Lucille Herndon McQuade, initiated a campaign to set aside a special day just for grandparents. Through concerted efforts on the part of civic, business, church, and political leaders this campaign expanded statewide. Senator Jennings Randolph (D-WV) was especially instrumental in the project. The first Grandparents Day was proclaimed in 1973 in West Virginia by Governor Arch Moore. Also in 1973, Senator Randolph introduced a Grandparents Day resolution in the United States Senate. The resolution languished in committee.

Mrs. McQuade and her team turned to the media to garner support. They also began contacting governors, senators and congressmen in every state. And they sent letters to churches, businesses, and numerous



national organizations interested in senior citizens. In 1978, five years after its West Virginia inception, the United States Congress passed legislation proclaiming the first Sunday after Labor Day as National Grandparents Day. The proclamation was signed by President Jimmy Carter. (September was chosen for the holiday, to signify the "autumn years" of life.)

Today this event, begun by only a few, is observed by millions throughout the United States. Why celebrate Grandparents Day? The day has a threefold purpose: to honor grandparents; to give grandparents an opportunity to show love for their children's children; and to help children become aware of the strength, information and guidance older people can offer.

An Exercise in Reading

Cna yuo raed tihs? Olny 55 plepoe out of 100 can. fi yuo cna raed tihs, yuo hvae a sgtrane mnid too.

I cdnuolt blveiee taht I cluod aulacty uesdnatnrd waht I was rdanieg. The phaonmneal pweor of the hmuan mnid, aoccdrnig to a rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it dseno't mtaetr in waht oerdr the ltteres in a wrod are, the olny iproamtnt tihng is taht the frsitr and lsat ltteer be in the rghit pclae. The rset can be a taotl mses and you can sitll raed it whotuit a pboerlm. Tihs is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe. Aزانمى، huh? Yaeh, and I awlyas tghuhot spleling was ipmorantt!

A CHAIN OF LOVE



He almost didn't see the old lady, stranded on the side of the road, but even in the dim

light of day, he could see she needed help. So he pulled in front of her Mercedes and got out. His Pontiac was still sputtering when he approached her. Even with the smile on his face, she was worried. No one had stopped to help for the last hour or so. Was he going to hurt her? He didn't look safe; he looked poor and hungry. He could see that she was frightened. He said, "I'm here to help you, ma'am. Why don't you wait in the car where it's warm? By the way, my name is Bryan Anderson."

Well, all she had was a flat tire, but for an old lady, that was bad enough. Bryan crawled under the car looking for a place to put the jack, skinning his knuckles a time or two. Soon he was able to change the tire, but he had to get dirty and his hands hurt to do it. As he was tightening the lug nuts, she rolled down the window and began to talk to him. She told him that she was from St. Louis and was only just passing through. She couldn't thank him enough for coming to her aid. Bryan just smiled as he closed her trunk. The lady asked how much she

owed him. Any amount would have been all right with her. She already imagined all the awful things that could have happened had he not stopped. Bryan never thought twice about being paid. This was not a job to him. This was helping someone in need, and God knows there were plenty who had given him a hand in the past. He had lived his whole life that way, and it never occurred to him to act any other way. He told her that if she really wanted to pay him back, the next time she saw someone who needed help, she could give that person the assistance they needed. Bryan added, "And think of me." He waited until she started her car and drove off. It had been a cold and depressing day, but he felt good as he headed for home, disappearing into the twilight.

A few miles down the road the lady saw a small café with two old gas pumps outside. She went in to grab a bite to eat, and take the chill off before she made the last leg of her trip home. It was a dingy looking place; the whole scene was unfamiliar to her.



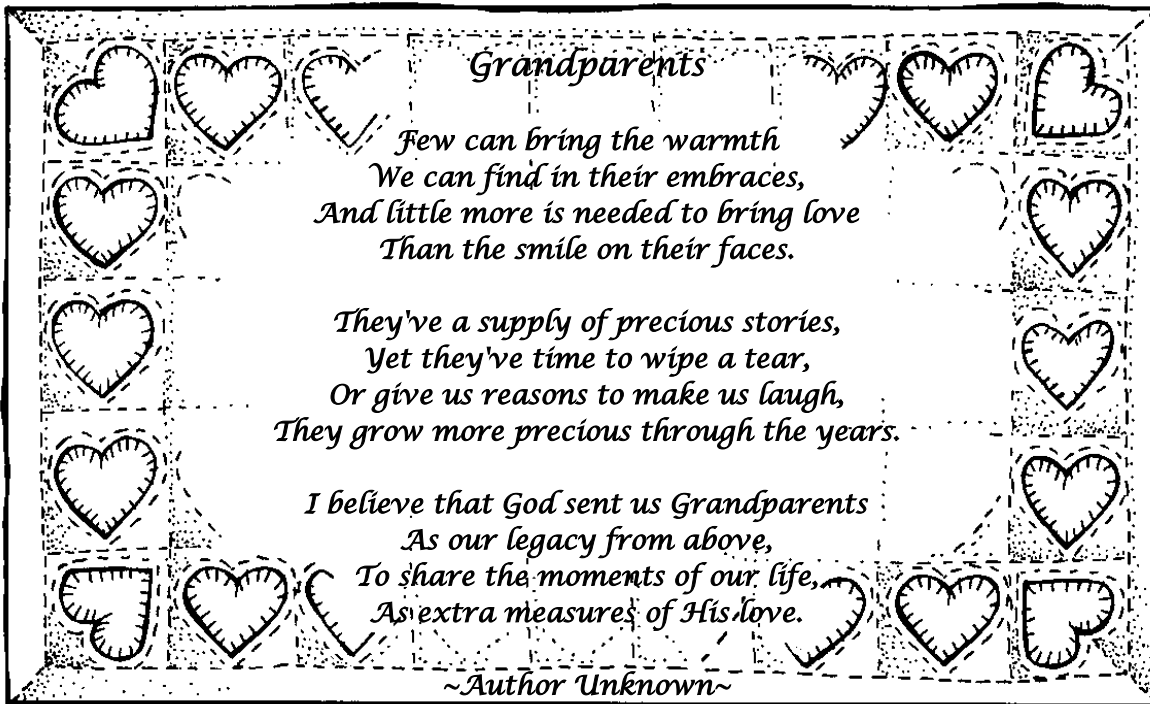
The waitress came to the table. She had a sweet smile, one that couldn't be erased even after being on her feet for many hours. The lady noticed the waitress was far along in her

pregnancy, but she never let the strain change her attitude. The old lady wondered how someone who had so little could be so giving to a stranger. Then she remembered Bryan.

After the lady finished her meal, she paid with a hundred dollar bill. As the waitress turned to get change, the old lady slipped out the door. When the waitress returned to the table she wondered where the lady could be, but then she noticed something written on the napkin that was still on the table. There were tears in her eyes when she read what the lady wrote: "You don't owe me anything. I have been there, too. Somebody once helped me out, the way I'm helping you. If you really want to pay me back, here is what you

do: Do not let this chain of love end with you." Under the napkin were four more \$100 bills.

Well, there were tables to clear, sugar bowls to fill, and people to serve, but the waitress made it through her shift. Late that night when she got home from work and climbed into bed, she was thinking about the money and what the lady had written. How could the lady have known how much she and her husband needed it? With the baby due next month, it was going to be hard. She knew how worried her husband was, and as he lay sleeping next to her, she gave him a gentle kiss and whispered soft and low, "Everything's going to be all right. I love you, Bryan Anderson."

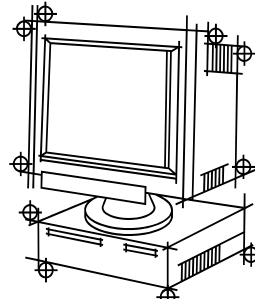


Installing Love

Tech Support: Hello. You've reached Tech support. How can I help you?

Customer: Well, I've decided to install Love onto my hard drive, but I think I need some help. Can you guide me through the process?

Tech Support: Yes. I can help you with that. Are you ready to proceed?



Customer: Well, I'm not very technical, but I think I'm ready. What do I do first?

Tech Support: The first step is to open your Heart. Have you located your Heart?

Customer: Yes, but there are several other programs running now. Is it okay to try to install Love while they are running?

Tech Support: What programs do you have running?

Customer: Let's see, I have Past Hurt, Grudge and Resentment running right now.

Tech Support: No problem. Love will gradually erase Past Hurt from your current operating system. It may remain in your permanent memory but it will no longer disrupt the other programs. However, you'll have to completely turn off Grudge and Resentment. Those programs prevent Love from being properly installed. Can you turn those off?

Customer: I don't know how to turn them off. How do I do that?

Tech Support: Go to your Start menu and when the box comes up, click on Forgiveness. It usually takes more than one time. Do this as many times as necessary until Grudge and Resentment have been completely erased.

Customer: Okay, done! Hey, cool! Love has started installing itself.

Tech Support: Good, but remember that you have only the base program. In order to get the upgrades you need to operate your own program properly, you have to connect to other Hearts.

Customer: And how do I do that?

Tech Support: That one gets easier and easier as you get the hang of it. You just have to leave your Heart open to others and try to treat them in a loving way. But because all of these programs are imperfect at this time, you must also realize that others won't always treat you that way, so you have to remember to use your Forgiveness program to keep things in balance.

Customer: Okay. I'll try to remember all that, but I may need to call you back for more Tech Support now and then.

Tech Support: No problem. That's what I'm here for. We're open 24/7.

Customer: Great. Uh-oh! I'm getting an error message already. It says, "Error—Program does not run on external components." What should I do?

Tech Support: Don't worry. That just means that the Love program is set up to run on Internal Hearts. It simply means you have to learn to Love others and yourself.



Customer: So, what should I do?

Tech Support: Pull down Self-Acceptance; then click on the following files: Forgive Self; Realize Your Worth; and Acknowledge Your Limitations.

Customer: Okay, done.

Tech Support: Now, copy them to the My Heart directory. The system will overwrite any conflicting files and begin patching faulty programming. Also, you need to delete Constant Self-Criticism from all directories. Have you done that? Okay, now empty your Recycle Bin to make sure it is completely gone and doesn't come back.

Customer: Got it. Wow! My Heart is starting to fill up with new files. Is this normal? Smile is playing on my monitor and Joy and Contentment are beginning to copy themselves all over My Heart.

Tech Support: That's the way it's supposed to work, but it isn't always done that quickly. For most people it takes several attempts to complete the installation, but eventually everything works together at the proper time. So Love is installed and running? One more thing before we hang up. Love is Freeware. Be sure to give it and its various modules to everyone you meet. They will in turn share it with others and they'll also return some cool modules back to you.

Customer: Okay. Great! Thank you, God.

What Is a Grandparent?

Written by a Class of Eight-Year-Olds

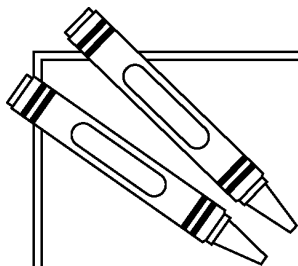
- ◆ Grandparents are a lady and a man who have no little children of their own. They like other people's.
- ◆ Usually grandmothers are fat but not too fat to tie your shoes.
- ◆ A grandmother let's you put your vegetables back in the pot if you don't want to eat them.
- ◆ Grandparents don't have to do anything except be there when we come to see them. They are so old they shouldn't play hard or run. It is good if they drive us to the shops and give us money.
- ◆ When they take us for walks, they slow down past things like pretty leaves and caterpillars.
- ◆ They show us and talk to us about the color of the flowers and also why we shouldn't step on "cracks."



- ◆ When they read to us, they don't skip. They don't mind if we ask for the same story over again.
- ◆ Grandparents don't have to be smart.
- ◆ They can take their teeth and gums out.
- ◆ Everybody should try to have a grandmother, especially if you don't have television because they are the only grownups who like to spend time with us.
- ◆ They know we should have snacktime before bedtime and they say prayers with us every time and kiss us even when we've acted bad.
- ◆ They don't say, "Hurry up."
- ◆ They wear glasses and funny underwear.
- ◆ A grandmother says she has a very good memory, but she can't remember her age.
- ◆ Grandpa is the smartest man on earth! He teaches me good things but I don't get to see him enough to get as smart as him.



KIDS ZONE

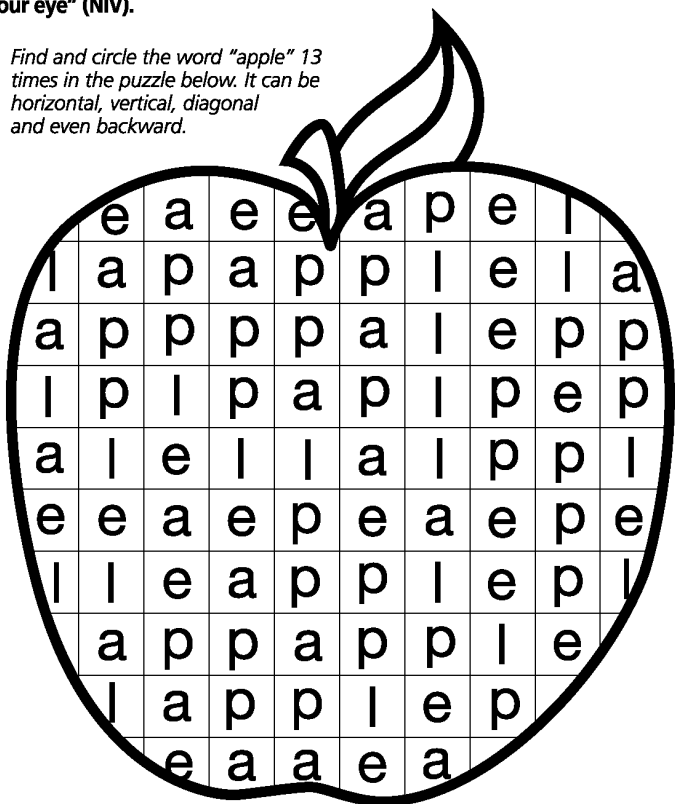


Just for **KIDS**

Apple of Your Eye

When something is said to be the "apple of your eye," it means it's precious to you and you would protect it as you would your own eye. With school starting up again, we should remember God's instructions in Proverbs 7:2: "Keep my commands and you will live; guard my teachings as the apple of your eye" (NIV).

Find and circle the word "apple" 13 times in the puzzle below. It can be horizontal, vertical, diagonal and even backward.



Easy Applesauce Muffins

This healthy recipe will make a great start to your day, a great snack or a great gift for your teacher and classmates.

What you need:

- 6 tablespoons butter
- 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 eggs
- 2/3 cup brown sugar
- 1 1/2 cups chunky applesauce
- Baking cups



What you do:

1. With an adult's help, heat the oven to 375 degrees. Line a 12-cup muffin tin with baking cups and set aside.
2. In a small, microwave-safe bowl, melt the butter on high for about 30 seconds; set aside to cool slightly.
3. Sift together the flour, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon and salt in to a large mixing bowl.
4. In another large bowl, whisk together the eggs and brown sugar. Stir in the applesauce and melted butter until the mixture is smooth.
5. Pour the apple mixture over the flour mixture. Stir with a wooden spoon just until the flour disappears. (This will produce muffins with a nice, crumbly texture.)
6. Fill the baking cups about two-thirds full with batter. (For mess-free muffins, use an ice-cream scoop to spoon batter into the baking cups.)
7. Bake for 20 minutes or until light brown. Test for doneness by inserting a toothpick in the middle; if it comes out clean, the muffins are ready to eat. Makes 12.