

BYLAWS
GULF STATES DISTRICT LWML

CONTENTS

	Page No.
ARTICLE I – NAME -----	1
ARTICLE II – OBJECT -----	1
ARTICLE III – MEMBERS -----	1–2
ARTICLE IV – ORGANIZATION -----	3
ARTICLE V – CONVENTIONS AND REPRESENTATION -----	3–5
ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS AND ELECTIONS -----	5–6
ARTICLE VII – DUTIES OF OFFICERS -----	6–9
ARTICLE VIII – NOMINATIONS -----	9–10
ARTICLE IX – SPECIAL APPOINTED OFFICERS -----	10–12
ARTICLE X – PASTORAL COUNSELORS -----	12
ARTICLE XI – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE -----	13
ARTICLE XII – BOARD OF DIRECTORS -----	13–14
ARTICLE XIII – COMMITTEES -----	14–17
ARTICLE XIV – MISSION GRANTS -----	17–18
ARTICLE XV – OFFICIAL PUBLICATION -----	18--19
ARTICLE XVI – RESOLUTIONS -----	19
ARTICLE XVII – FINANCES -----	19–21
ARTICLE XVIII – FISCAL YEAR -----	21
ARTICLE XIX – DISSOLUTION -----	21
ARTICLE XX – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY -----	21
ARTICLE XXI – AMENDMENTS -----	21

**BYLAWS
GULF STATES DISTRICT
LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE**

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Lutheran Women's Missionary League Gulf States District, a subordinate organization of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (hereinafter referred to as LWML), an integrated auxiliary of The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod (hereinafter referred to as LCMS).

ARTICLE II – OBJECT

The object of this organization shall be:

- a. to develop and maintain a greater mission consciousness among the women of Synod through mission education, mission inspiration, and mission service;
- b. to gather funds for mission grants, either directly sponsored or approved by an LCMS Board, especially those for which no adequate provision has been made in LCMS budgets.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERS

Section 1

- a. Women's organizations within congregations of the LCMS, on campuses, in resident homes, or in other settings shall be eligible for membership as societies. The central location of the society shall determine zone LWML membership.
- b. One (1) or more societies affiliated with the District LWML within a congregation, on a campus, in a resident home, or other single setting shall be considered one (1) unit for the purpose of representation at the LWML and Gulf States District LWML Conventions.
- c. A woman who is a communicant member of an LCMS congregation is eligible for membership in a society.
- d. Society application for membership in the District LWML shall be with the consent of its congregation and submitted to the District LWML President for approval, subject to ratification by the Board of Directors.

Section 2

Individual membership is available to a woman in an LCMS congregation with or without a society affiliated with the District LWML. Application shall be made to the District LWML

President, subject to ratification by the Board of Directors. Individual membership is not considered a society or a unit.

ARTICLE IV – ORGANIZATION

The Gulf States District LWML is that part of the Southern District of the LCMS which includes Alabama, Southern Mississippi, and Northwest Florida. The Southern District LCMS shall counsel and advise the District LWML.

Section 1

The District LWML shall organize the societies into zones which shall

- a. promote the object of the LWML and provide opportunities for Christian fellowship;
- b. elect delegates for the purpose of representation at the biennial convention of the LWML;
- c. serve as rally centers and host District LWML Conventions.

Section 2

Societies are assigned to zones within a geographical area by the District LWML Board of Directors; LCMS circuit lines are preferred. Requests for reassignment may be submitted, in writing, to the Board of Directors.

Section 3

Each society and zone shall write its own bylaws, which shall conform with the articles on object, members, representation at national convention and parliamentary authority, as found in the LWML Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. These bylaws, and all subsequent proposed amendments, shall be submitted in triplicate to the District LWML Bylaws Chairman for approval by the District LWML Bylaws Committee, before being presented to the membership for adoption. A copy of the adopted bylaws shall be filed with the District LWML Bylaws Chairman.

ARTICLE V – CONVENTIONS AND REPRESENTATION

Section 1 – District

- a. A convention for the purpose of transacting the business of the District LWML shall be held biennially in the even-numbered years, preferably in the spring, at a site determined in a prior convention. District representation shall be as follows:
- b. One (1) of the zones shall host the convention and shall extend the invitation, to the District LWML President, by January 1 of the even-numbered year.

- c. Convention sites shall be determined by the convention body two (2) years in advance.
- d. The Board of Directors shall determine the dates of the convention.
- e. The official call to the convention shall appear in the fall issue of *Gulf States Glad Tidings* in the odd-numbered years.
- f. The voting assembly of the convention shall be
 - 1. one (1) elected delegate from each unit;
 - i. Each elected delegate shall have an elected alternate.
 - ii. The names of the delegates and alternates shall be submitted to the District LWML Recording Secretary thirty (30) days prior to the convention.
 - iii. In the event neither the delegate nor the alternate is able to serve, a member of the same unit may serve as delegate, upon certification in writing, by the Zone President and presentation to the District Recording Secretary.
 - 2. voting members of the Board of Directors. If a Zone President is unable to serve in her capacity, she will appoint an alternate who will be authorized to attend as the Zone Representative, and shall have voice and vote, but shall not be considered a member of the Board of Directors.
 - 3. past Presidents of the Gulf States District who are currently members of the LWML
- g. A member of the voting assembly shall vote in one (1) capacity only. Proxy votes are prohibited. A majority of the voting assembly shall constitute a quorum.
- h. In the event of any great emergency such as war, epidemic, disaster, or other prevailing conditions, making the holding of a convention inadvisable, the District LWML Executive Committee shall have the authority to determine whether the convention shall or shall not be held; a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Committee shall decide. The vote may be taken by electronic messaging or by phone and verified in writing by mail or fax. In the event the convention is not held, the Executive Committee shall have the authority to plan procedure for conducting the routine convention business. Such procedure shall be approved by the District LWML Board of Directors.

Section 2 – National

A convention for the purpose of transacting the business of the LWML shall be held biennially, in the odd numbered years, at a site determined in a prior convention. District representation shall be as follows:

- a. One (1) certified delegate from each zone having ten (10) or fewer units and one (1) certified delegate for each additional ten (10) units, or major fraction thereof, as of January 1 preceding the convention.
- b. The District LWML President as a voting member of the LWML Board of Directors. If she is

unable to attend, any elected District LWML officer may attend in her place and have voice, but not vote.

- c. Delegates may vote in only one (1) capacity. Proxy votes are prohibited.
- d. Each certified delegate shall have a certified alternate.
- e. Zone Presidents shall send the names of their elected delegate and alternate to the District LWML President for certification as delegates to the LWML convention immediately following their fall rally, in even-numbered years. The District LWML administration treasury shall pay travel and registration for the delegates to the LWML Convention.
- f. In the event neither the delegate nor the alternate is able to serve, a member of the same zone may serve as delegate, upon certification in writing by her LWML District President and presentation to the LWML Recording Secretary.
- g. All members of the District LWML may attend as guests.

ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1

The elected officers shall be
President
First Vice President
Second Vice President
Recording Secretary
Financial Secretary
Treasurer

Section 2

- a. The elected officers shall be elected by ballot at the biennial convention to serve for a term of four (4) years, or until their successors are elected. They shall be eligible for re-election to the same office for one (1) term of four years, either consecutively or at a later time.
- b. The election of officers shall be as follows:
 - 1. The President, First Vice President, and Financial Secretary shall be elected in one (1) convention.
 - 2. The Second Vice President, Recording Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected in the following convention.
 - 3. A majority vote shall elect.

4. In the event there are three (3) or more candidates for office and a majority vote has not been reached after two (2) ballots have been cast, the candidate with the lowest number of votes shall be removed from each successive ballot. This procedure shall be continued until one (1) candidate has received a majority vote.
- c. The retiring Financial Secretary and the Treasurer shall, within sixty (60) days following the election, turn over to their successors all materials pertaining to their offices. All other officers shall, within thirty (30) days following the election, turn over to their successors all material pertaining to their offices.
- d. The newly elected officers shall assume their duties at the close of the convention at which they are elected.

Section 3

- a. In the event a vacancy occurs in the office of President, the First Vice President shall assume the office.
- b. In the event a vacancy occurs in any other elective office or appointive position, such vacancy shall be filled by appointment of the Executive Committee and approved by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VII – DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1

The President shall:

- a. preside at the convention of the District LWML and at all meetings of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee;
- b. be responsible for appointing standing committees, appointed officers, and special appointed personnel, with the approval of the Executive Committee;
- c. receive and approve vouchers for payment of legitimately-incurred expenditures and forward vouchers to the Treasurer for issuance of checks;
- d. be an ex-officio member of all committees, except the Nominating Committee;
- e. be responsible for the execution of resolutions passed by the voting delegates at District LWML Conventions, Board of Directors, and Executive Committee;
- f. give or send a resume of Executive Committee meetings to members of the Board of Directors;

- g. present a report to District LWML Convention, including activities of the Board of Directors;
- h. transfer all official records to the successor in office within thirty (30) days following the date of change;
- i. represent District LWML as a voting member at LWML Conventions and Board of Directors' meetings.

Section 2

The First Vice President may serve as assistant to the President and may perform the duties of the President, in her absence or at her request, and shall:

- a. in the event of an emergency or unexpected vacancy in the office of President, fill the vacancy;
- b. be authorized to sign checks for the Treasurer in an emergency;
- c. serve as Chairman of the Bylaws Committee;
- d. serve as subscription agent and contact person for the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*;
- e. present a report to District LWML Conventions and Executive Committee and Board of Directors' meetings;
- f. transfer all official records to the successor in office within thirty (30) days following the date of change.

Section 3

The Second Vice President may perform the duties of the President, at the request of the President or in the absence of the President and the First Vice President, and shall:

- a. serve as Chairman of the Mission Grants Committee;
- b. serve as Chairman of the Scholarship Committee according to Standing Rule #1;
- c. be custodian of the District LWML banners;
- d. present a report to District LWML Conventions and Executive Committee and Board of Directors' meetings;
- e. transfer all official records to the successor in office within thirty (30) days following the date of change.

Section 4

The Recording Secretary shall:

- a. record the District LWML Convention proceedings and meetings of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee;
- b. provide each member of the Board of Directors, the LWML President, and the office of the Southern District LCMS, with a copy of the minutes of board meetings within thirty (30) days of the meetings and of the conventions within sixty (60) days of the conventions;
- c. provide each member of the Executive Committee with a copy of the minutes of its meetings within thirty (30) days of the meetings;
- d. mail a Delegate Certification Form to each society by February 1st, in the year of the District LWML Convention, together with a memo requesting the form be returned at least thirty (30) days prior to the convention;
- e. compile and be responsible for the printing of the District LWML Convention Manual;
- f. provide a copy of the District LWML Convention minutes to each delegate within sixty (60) days of the convention;
- g. present a report to the District LWML Convention;
- h. transfer all official records to the successor in office within thirty (30) days following the date of change.

Section 5

The Financial Secretary shall:

- a. receive all monies and deposit them in a financial institution approved by the Executive Committee;
- b. keep an itemized account of all receipts;
- c. transfer monies received to the District LWML Treasurer;
- d. submit quarterly reports to the Board of Directors;
- e. maintain a supply of Mite Boxes for distribution;
- f. notify societies by October 31, of the current year, the amount due the District LWML for

copies of the *Quarterly* and *Gulf States Glad Tidings* they will receive the following year;

- g. present a financial report to the District LWML Convention;
- h. submit records for financial review at the close of each fiscal year and with the change of officer;
- i. transfer all official records and funds to the successor in office within sixty (60) days following the date of change.

Section 6

The Treasurer shall:

- a. receive all funds from the District LWML Financial Secretary and deposit them in a financial institution (member of FDIC or FSLIC) approved by the Executive Committee;
- b. keep an itemized account of all receipts and disbursements;
- c. make payments for expenses as authorized by the District LWML President;
- d. make payments for adopted mission grants as authorized by the District LWML President;
- e. submit quarterly reports to the Board of Directors;
- f. be responsible for the preparation of the mission goal budget with the assistance of the President, for consideration by the Board of Directors at its regular meeting closest to the District LWML Convention;
- g. present the mission goal budget to the convention voting body for consideration and adoption;
- h. present a financial report to the District LWML Convention;
- i. submit records for financial review (or professional audit if a fee is paid) at the close of each fiscal year and with change of officer;
- j. transfer all records and funds to the successor in office within sixty (60) days following the date of change.

ARTICLE VIII – NOMINATIONS

Section 1

- a. A Nominating Committee of three (3) members shall be elected by ballot at each District LWML Convention from a slate of five (5) candidates from at least five (5) zones. A

member of the Nominating Committee is not eligible to serve consecutive terms. Plurality vote shall elect.

- b. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall be the Chairman and shall be a non-voting member of the District LWML Board of Directors.
- c. A vacancy on the Nominating Committee shall be filled by the candidate receiving the next highest number of votes.

Section 2

The Nominating Committee shall:

- a. receive nominations for elective offices from societies and zones by October 31 of the odd-numbered years;
- b. submit the names of at least two (2) candidates, who have served at the zone level and are active in their society, for each elective office to be filled for the biennium;
- c. submit the names of five candidates for the Nominating Committee;
- d. receive names of pastors for nominations for Pastoral Counselor from zone presidents no later than eight (8) weeks prior to the regular fall meeting of the District LWML Board of Directors in the odd-numbered year;
- e. submit the names of nominees for Pastoral Counselor to the President of the Southern District LCMS for approval;
- f. present the names for Pastoral Counselor to the District LWML Board of Directors who shall elect four (4);
- g. submit the names of two (2) candidates for Pastoral Counselor for ballot from the nominees elected by the District LWML Board of Directors;
- h. obtain written consent of all nominees to serve, if elected;
- i. submit the complete slate of candidates to *Gulf States Glad Tidings* for inclusion in the issue published closest to the District LWML Convention;
- j. prepare printed ballots listing candidates for each office in alphabetical order.

Section 3

Additional nominations for elective offices, except that of Pastoral Counselor, may be made from the floor of the convention. The written consent of the nominee, if elected, shall have been secured.

ARTICLE IX – SPECIAL APPOINTED OFFICERS

Section 1

The Special Appointed Officers shall be
Archivist-Historian
Editor of *Gulf States Glad Tidings*
Parliamentarian
Public Relations Chairman
Secretary to the President

Section 2

The Special Appointed Officers shall:

- a. be members of the Gulf States District LWML;
- b. be appointed by the President, with the approval of the District LWML Board of Directors, and be responsible to the President;
- c. serve a term of two (2) years and be eligible for reappointment;
- d. attend meetings of the District LWML Board of Directors, in an advisory capacity, without vote.

Section 3

The Archivist-Historian shall:

- a. write a history of the activities of the District LWML for the biennium;
- b. gather and preserve records and other materials of historical significance to the District LWML;
- c. report to the District LWML Board of Directors and the District LWML Convention.

Section 4

The Editor shall be responsible for the publication of *Gulf States Glad Tidings*.

Section 5

The Parliamentarian shall serve as adviser on parliamentary procedure upon request.

Section 6

The Public Relations Chairman shall:

- a. gather news of the LWML and District LWML and publicize it to the members of the church-at-large and the general public;
- b. serve in an advisory capacity to the District LWML by developing publicity promoting LWML goals and actions;
- c. encourage appointment of a public relations director in each zone;
- d. be responsible for submitting news of District LWML events to publications such as *Spirit of Southern*, especially pre-convention and post-convention, pre-seminar and post-seminar, etc.;
- e. report to the District LWML Board of Directors and the District LWML Convention.

Section 7

The Secretary to the President shall perform duties as defined by the President.

ARTICLE X – PASTORAL COUNSELORS

Section 1

The Pastoral Counselors shall be two (2) pastors of the LCMS who are serving the parish ministry in the Southern District LCMS within Gulf States District LWML area. They shall serve a term of four (4) years and shall not be eligible for re-election to consecutive terms. If a pastor accepts a call or cannot fulfill his duties as Pastoral Counselor, the District LWML Board of Directors shall appoint a pastor according to Article VIII, Section 2.d.e.h., and he shall be eligible for election as Pastoral Counselor at the next District LWML Convention. One Pastoral Counselor shall be elected at each convention. A majority vote shall elect. Vacancies shall be filled by the Board of Directors from the list submitted to the Nominating Committee for the previous convention.

Section 2

The Pastoral Counselors shall:

- a. serve the District LWML in an advisory capacity;
- b. attend the District LWML Conventions and meetings of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors, as non-voting members; attend the LWML Conventions as directed by the Executive Committee.

- c. serve as spiritual leaders to the officers and members of LWML.
- d. prepare devotions and worship services as requested.

ARTICLE XI – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1

The voting members of the Executive Committee shall be the District LWML elected officers. The Pastoral Counselors shall be advisory members.

Section 2

- a. The Executive Committee shall meet at the call of the District LWML President. In an emergency, action may be conducted by mail, telephone or electronic messaging;
- b. Special meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by written request of three (3) voting members of the committee;
- c. Three (3) voting members shall constitute a quorum of the Executive Committee.

Section 3

The Executive Committee shall:

- a. transact the necessary business between meetings of the District LWML Board of Directors;
- b. plan the program of the District LWML Convention and create the convention budget;
- c. approve the financial institutions for deposit of funds;
- d. approve appointed officers, committee appointments, and special appointed personnel;
- e. fill vacancies occurring in the elective or appointive offices, with the approval of the Board of Directors, except the office of President.

ARTICLE XII – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1

The Board of Directors shall be the elected officers, zone presidents, and Standing Committee Chairmen, all of whom shall have voice and vote. The Pastoral Counselors and appointed officers shall be advisory members. The immediate past president shall be an advisory, non-voting member for one (1) year.

Section 2

- a. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held no less than two (2) times per year at the call of the President (preferably once in spring and once in fall).
- b. A pre-convention meeting shall be held in the convention city.
- c. Special meetings of the Board of Directors shall be called by written request of five (5) voting board members. Time and place for holding such meetings shall be determined by the President, with the approval of the Executive Committee.
- d. In case of an emergency, action may be taken by phone or electronic messaging and verified in writing by mail or fax.
- e. A majority of the voting members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

Section 3

The Board of Directors shall:

- a. transact the business of the District LWML between conventions;
- b. consider recommendations, resolutions, and special appeals for presentation to the convention;
- c. conduct the business of the District LWML which was approved in convention;
- d. elect four (4) candidates for Pastoral Counselor to be submitted to the Nominating Committee;
- e. ratify membership of societies and individual members;
- f. determine and approve the mission goal budget;
- g. determine the place of the convention when such selection has not been made at a convention;
- h. ratify the program of the convention and approve the convention budget;
- i. ratify Executive Committee appointments to fill vacancies in elective or appointive offices, except in the office of President.

ARTICLE XIII – COMMITTEES

Section 1

- a. The Standing Committees shall be

Christian Life
Special Focus Ministries
Organizational Resources

- b. The Chairman and members of each Standing Committee shall be appointed by the President, with the approval of the Executive Committee. The Chairman shall be a voting member of the Board of Directors.
- c. The Chairman and members of the committee shall serve a term of two (2) years, or until successors are appointed and shall be eligible for re-appointment.

Section 2

The Christian Life Committee, consisting of three (3) or more members including the chairman, shall:

- a. provide materials to enable women of the church to grow spiritually and encourage active participation;
- b. implement suggestions from the LWML Christian Life Committee;
- c. work closely with Zone Christian Life Chairmen;
- d. present suggestions and offer advice for conducting Christian Life programs on the district, zone, and society levels;
- e. keep a current file of program helps and other Christian Life materials from LWML and encourage societies to use same;
- f. have its chairman report to each regular meeting of the Board of Directors and to the District LWML Convention.

Section 3

The Special Focus Ministries Committee, consisting of three (3) or more members including the chairman, shall:

- a. alert members to opportunities and challenges for human care in the church, community, and world;
- b. encourage active participation and provide materials and suggestions for human care programs;
- c. implement suggestions from the LWML Special Focus Ministries Committee;
- d. have its chairman report to each regular meeting of the Board of Directors and to the District

LWML Convention.

Section 4

The Organizational Resources Committee, consisting of three (3) or more members including the chairman, shall:

- a. encourage and equip women to reach out in love;
- b. provide materials and training to enable each LWML member to increase skills for leadership in the LWML;
- c. create and provide ideas, techniques, and resources, which will enrich and stimulate individuals to increase membership within their societies;
- d. implement suggestions from the LWML Organizational Resources Committee;
- e. have its chairman report to each regular meeting of the Board of Directors and to the District LWML Convention.

Section 5

- a. The Special Standing Committees shall be
Bylaws
Mission Grants
- b. The other members of the Special Standing Committees shall be appointed by the President for a term of two (2) years, or until successors are appointed, and shall be eligible for reappointment.

Section 6

The Bylaws Committee, consisting of three (3) or more members including the First Vice President as chairman, shall:

- a. study the LWML Bylaws and scrutinize the District LWML Bylaws for compliance with LWML;
- b. submit to the District LWML Board of Directors for approval, such amendments as it deems advisable.
- c. receive and examine zone and society bylaws and proposed amendments, and approve those not in conflict with LWML and District Bylaws.

Section 7

The Mission Grants Committee, consisting of three (3) or more members, including the Second Vice President as chairman, shall:

- a. provide materials and suggestions to encourage greater mission consciousness and active participation among the women of the District LWML;
- b. investigate, evaluate, and select proposed mission grants for the District LWML Convention ballot to be submitted to the District Board of Directors for approval;
- c. send a copy of the list of the mission grants to each unit within two (2) weeks after approval by the District LWML Board of Directors;
- d. prepare the District LWML Convention ballot for mission grants;
- e. investigate and determine that a project is ready for payment and certify to that effect to the District LWML President;
- f. maintain a running roster with pictures and information regarding past and present mission grants of the District LWML.

Section 8

Convention Committees of Tellers, Resolutions, and Minutes Review shall be appointed by the District LWML President, with approval of the Executive Committee, and shall serve during the convention.

ARTICLE XIV – MISSION GRANTS

Section 1

- a. Mission grant proposals may be submitted by individual members, societies, zones, the Southern District LCMS Board of Directors and/or Executive Assistant for Parish Ministries, LCMS World Missions, LCMS Board for Mission Services, or an LCMS Recognized Service Organization (RSO).
- b. At least three (3) copies of proposals for all mission grants must be submitted to the District LWML Mission Grants Chairman (Second Vice President) by October 31 in the odd-numbered years.

Section 2

- a. The Mission Grants Chairman shall present the grant proposals to the President of the Southern District LCMS for evaluation and approval.
- b. The Mission Grants Committee shall evaluate the proposed grants, after which the committee shall present them to the District LWML Board of Directors at its regular meeting

- closest to the convention.
- c. The Board of Directors shall select the grant proposals to appear on the ballot. Priority shall be given to grant proposals within the Gulf States District.
 - d. District grants shall meet the criteria used for LWML grants.

Section 3

The Mission Grants Chairman shall be responsible for the presentation of the selected mission grant proposals at the District LWML Convention, in accordance with guidelines approved by the District LWML Board of Directors.

Section 4

Funds voted for a mission grant must be disbursed or put into use within a three-year (3) period from the time of the District LWML Convention vote, or be returned to the District LWML Treasury for reallocation.

Section 5

In the event that changes in mission grant plans occur, the Executive Committee shall consider the change and authorize the action to be taken.

Section 6

Funds not expended shall be reallocated for grants in the succeeding biennium.

ARTICLE XV – OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

Section 1

The official publication of the District LWML shall be called *Gulf States Glad Tidings*. It shall be published quarterly.

Section 2

The purpose of *Gulf States Glad Tidings* shall be to:

- a. promote the object of the LWML;
- b. inform the membership of the activities of officers and committees, and include items which members need to consider.

Section 3

The Editor shall have editorial privileges.

Section 4

- a. Cost of publication shall be provided from the District LWML Treasury.
- b. Societies shall be billed annually for reimbursement to the District LWML Treasury.

Section 5

The publication shall be mailed, in the number requested, to the societies for distribution to members.

ARTICLE XVI – RESOLUTIONS

Section 1

Miscellaneous resolutions and appeals, other than for mission grants, may be presented to a convention by societies or zones. Such resolutions shall be in triplicate form and sent to the District LWML President by January 1 of the even-numbered year.

Section 2

Resolutions not received in the prescribed time may, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors, be presented to the convention for consideration.

ARTICLE XVII – FINANCES

Section 1

- a. Mite offerings in societies shall be gathered using the Mite Box or other means;
- b. Mite offerings shall be remitted to the District LWML Financial Secretary;
- c. The District LWML Treasurer shall remit twenty-five percent (25%) or more of such Mite offerings to the LWML, at least four (4) times a year for approved mission grants and administration of the LWML;
- d. The District LWML shall retain seventy-five percent (75%) or less in its treasury for approved mission grants and administration of the District LWML.

Section 2

The expenses of meetings of the Board of Directors, Executive Committee, Committee Chairmen, and other routine administration expenses incurred in the management of the District LWML, shall be paid from the treasury.

Section 3

The District LWML administration treasury shall:

The District LWML administration treasurer shall:

- a. provide for the cost of subscriptions of the LWML *Lutheran Women's Quarterly* and copies of the District *Gulf States Glad Tidings*. Societies shall be billed annually for reimbursement to the District;
- b. pay transportation for the District LWML Board of directors and Pastoral Counselors to all board meetings and to District Conventions not to exceed the current rate with Southern District LCMS.
- c. pay the registration and travel for the District LWML delegates to LWML Conventions;
- d. pay the registration for the District LWML President to LWML Conventions, plus cost of lodging and meals during the convention;
- e. pay the registration, transportation, lodging and meals of the Pastoral Counselor for LWML Conventions.
- f. pay registration, transportation, lodging and meal expenses for the Young Woman's Representative to the LWML Convention.

Section 4

- a. The Christian Life Committee shall be funded from offerings received at Zone Christian Life Workshops. If needed, additional funds may be received from the District LWML Treasury, as approved by the District LWML Board of Directors;
- b. Special Focus Ministries and Organizational Resources Committee's needs shall be funded from the District LWML Treasury, as approved by the District LWML Board of Directors.

Section 5

- a. Zones shall not support monetary projects other than those of District and LWML.
- b. A registration fee and/or offering at rallies may be received and used by zones to pay expenses incurred by the zone.
- c. Zones may use proceeds and offerings from rallies for expenses of their delegate to the LWML Conventions.
- d. Funds in excess of zone needs shall be sent to the District LWML Financial Secretary for credit to the District LWML administration treasury.

Section 6

The District LWML Board of Directors shall decide allocation of offerings received at District LWML Conventions.

Section 7

The Executive Committee shall set the registration fee, which finances the District LWML Convention, with approval by the District LWML Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XVIII – FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the District LWML shall be from January 31 to January 30 inclusive. The Treasurer and Financial Secretary of the District LWML shall adhere to these dates in closing their books

ARTICLE XIX – DISSOLUTION

If the District LWML dissolves, all monies, materials, files, goods, etc. shall revert to the LWML.

ARTICLE XX – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the proceedings of the District LWML in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the LWML Bylaws, applicable law, or Christian principles.

ARTICLE XXI – AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting at the District LWML Convention. The proposed amendments shall first be approved by the District LWML Board of Directors, and then be sent to the LWML Structure Committee for approval and published in *Gulf States Glad Tidings* in an issue prior to the District LWML Convention or in a mailing to the voting assembly. By unanimous vote a proposed amendment may be presented to the District LWML Convention without prior notice. A three-fourths (3/4) vote shall be required for adoption.

Adopted by the Sixteenth Biennial Convention, Gadsden, Alabama, April 23-25, 1976

Adopted by the Twentieth Biennial Convention, Mobile, Alabama, April 26-28, 1984

Adopted by the Twenty-fourth Biennial Convention, Biloxi, Mississippi, April 24-26, 1992

Adopted by the Twenty-eighth Biennial Convention, Ft. Walton Beach, Florida, April 28-30, 2000

Adopted by the Thirtieth Biennial Convention, Biloxi, Mississippi, April 23-25, 2004

Adopted by the Thirty-first Biennial Convention, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, April 28-30, 2006

Adopted by the Thirty-second Biennial Convention, Mobile, Alabama, April 11-13, 2008

Adopted by the Thirty-third Biennial Convention, Guntersville, Alabama, April 16-18, 2010

Adopted by the Thirty-fourth Biennial Convention, Destin, Florida, April 27-29, 2012

Adopted by the Thirty-fifth Biennial Convention, Prattville, Alabama, April 25-27, 2014

Adopted 4.26.2014