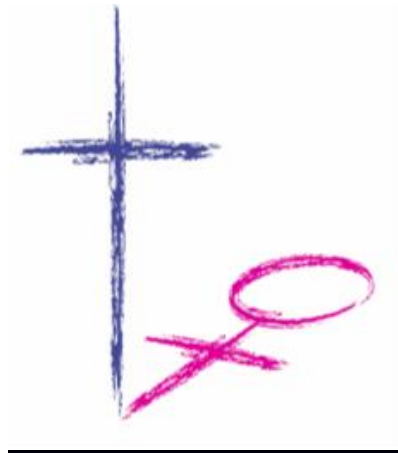


LUTHERAN

WOMEN *of* QUEENSLAND



NEWSLETTER JULY 2023

- No. 190

Let's take a look at the

***BUSINESS – FUN – FELLOWSHIP of the COMBINED
RETREAT / CONVENTION Held on 19-21 May 2023***

(At Maroochy Waterfront Camp & Conference Centre, 42 David Low Way)

**Long-lasting Wondrous Quality-time or Love Wondrously
Qualified – just two acronyms that could be used to describe our
first ever combined LWQ Retreat/Convention.**

Sincere thanks and gratitude to the Legendary Welcoming
Quirkiness of the West Moreton Zone for the capable manner of
hosting this Lively Widespread and Quaint event.

Everyone present was passionate about the work of our Lutheran Women of Queensland.

57 ladies, many accompanied by their husbands who then participated in a well organised men's program travelling to various local 'tourist' attractions and enjoying their 'fish 'n chips' on the water's edge, attended this initial event. We also welcomed our **LWA President, Grace Kroehn**, 2 Pastors and numerous guests. Within those present were **13 first timers**.

The theme, "**Courage to tell our story**" 1 Corinthians 16:13, was certainly illustrated when we heard testimonies and stories from members of the 'God Squad' motorcycle group (many ladies took the opportunity to be photographed sitting on these huge bikes). And again with our Dinner Speakers, Lyndal Mayer and Eunice Wallis, who participate in many projects in a Lutheran area of Kamuli, Uganda (building churches and schools) and have set up Dorcas Cottage where women learn to sew and make 'Birthing kits' and 'Dignity kits' for the local girls to allow them to attend school. They also sell garments at markets to have an income to continue this endeavour. Lyndal and Eunice are hoping to establish more sewing rooms in other areas. Both the God Squad and Lutheran Women of Uganda shared the >\$1800 offering. Lutheran Women of Uganda and LYQ Ministries will be the LWQ Projects commencing in 2024. Read their story pages 17-19 June-July LW Magazine.

On several occasions throughout the weekend, we were 'confined' to our animal cages! Each individual 'caged animal' produced a face mask from supplied 'junk' items to depict themselves. And then come up with a slogan to sell themselves! We had cages of llamas, elephants, meerkats, monkeys, koalas, pandas, giraffes, wombats, lorikeets and cassowaries – all manner of paws, claws, feathers and fur! We were back 'in our cages' for Bible Study



The Legendary Welcoming Quirky WMZ host ladies

Bible Studies are always heart-warming and inspirational and the Think produced some innovative ideas for ladies to take home to their Fellowships. We also heard from Christine Mathias speaking with passion on the initiatives of Grow Ministries.

Memorial candles were lit by the President or her Representative from each of our seven Zones. The two short Convention sessions ran smoothly and were efficiently conducted by Vice President Lyn Weise. The goodies bag contained puzzles, trinkets and Jaffas (Jesus Acts For Full Atonement & Salvation)

The uplifting and inspiring Sunday Worship Service included the Installation on the LWQ Exec – Val Kath (President), Hazel Weis (Vice President), Avalon Hall (Secretary), Leanne Warbroke (Treasurer) and Colette Mangan (Extra Member). The Sermon, delivered by Pr Paul Hage, LWQ Spiritual Adviser (retiring), brought together the 'Courage to tell our story' theme and Ascension Sunday with Pr Peter Geyer (WMZ Counsellor) leading the Service.

This Long aWaited Quintessential weekend wrapped up with the singing of the theme song 'Colours of Day'

*“So light up the fire and let the flame burn, open the door, let Jesus return.
Take seeds of his Spirit, let the fruit grow, tell the people of Jesus, let his love show.”*

INTRODUCING OUR NEWLY ELECTED LWQ PRESIDENT – Val Kath



Married to Wayne, Mother and Grandmother. We have lived in the small district of Gowrie Junction, west of Toowoomba, where we were part of a dairying family, which has now moved to Victoria. Wayne and I are enjoying our retirement and being part of the 'Grey Nomads Group' as much as possible.

We worship in the small congregation of Glencoe. I have been involved in teaching RE and Sunday School and President of our Ladies Fellowship C.O.F.F.E.E. (Christ Offers Forgiveness For Everyone Everywhere).

I have served as President of the DDZ over the years and was privileged to serve as Vice President of LWA in the early 2000's.

God has blessed me with a very supportive and encouraging husband and family, congregation and COFFEE group. All thanks and Praise be to God.

PRESIDENTS PAGE:

I greet you as the newly elected President of LWQ in the name of our risen and ascended Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit – our Comforter and Helper.

During the season of Easter, Ascension and Pentecost, we have again taken time to reflect and celebrate God's great and wonderful gifts to us. What a blessing it is to us as a Fellowship of Women to be able to count our blessings for what the Lord has done, and is doing for us, through his Son.

It was an amazing opportunity for us who were part of the first Retreat/Convention held at Maroochy Waterfront Camp and Conference Centre May 19-21, under the theme "Courage to Tell Our Story" based on 1 Corinth 16:13. Our hosts, West Morton Zone, under the leadership of their President Shirley Klinge, treated us to a time of love and fellowship and challenged us to have the "Courage to Tell Our Story", as we shared in our groups (cages). We were fed well, both spiritually and physically. Thank you ladies for the amazing effort put into hosting the weekend.

Avalon (LWQ Sec) and I have our seats booked to attend LWA Council meeting in Adelaide 26-27 July – quite a challenge for us both as we are not seasoned air travellers. With God's help and your prayers, we trust we will effectively represent LWQ as we join women from all states discussing matters of LWA and the work, we as God's Church carry out to His Glory. **LWA Convention** will be in the planning. It is to be held at **Murray Bridge SA, Oct 1-3 2024**. Please put these dates in your diary and programmes, and God willing hope many of us may be able to attend.

In closing, on your behalf, I wish to thank our outgoing President Shirley Horrigan for her dedication to LWQ and her Lord, and pray God's Peace and Grace be with her as she faces her health challenges. Shirley, God bless and be close to both you and Wayne. Please pray for all executive members (Zones, LWQ and LWA), as we face challenges trying to keep our fellowships functioning in these changing times for us all. May God bless and grant us His peace and joy as we are encouraged to "Tell our Story". To God be all praise and glory. Yours in Christ, Val Kath



with retiring LWQ President Shirley Horrigan

MEET OUR NEW VICE-PRESIDENT HAZEL WEIS



Up to the end of my primary schooling I lived on a farm in the Lockyer Valley. I was baptized and confirmed in the Presbyterian Church which I served in various capacities until I married John and joined the Lutheran Church through adult instruction. Somehow I fell into teaching after receiving scholarships to complete years 11 and 12, then 1 year at university and 1 year at teachers' college. Over the next 40 years I worked in state, Catholic and Lutheran schools under various titles and at various levels. With every new role I was given a new name badge so I have a real collection!

Over that time span I helped John raise 2 children, who now live in Sydney & Melbourne with our 4 grandchildren. I taught Sunday School, assisted in producing "Link thru exchange" pamphlet for Sunday School teachers, was a sales rep for World Book encyclopedia, trained in mediation and travelled to train teachers to use a career software package. (I retired in the role of career' educator). Since retiring I became more involved in church administration and a formal women's guild. Currently I serve the Darling Downs Zone as secretary. Many years ago I was required to adopt a personal "mission statement" which I have maintained ever since - *"And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly, and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God". Micah 6:8*



MARILYN JONAS our speaker for LWQ to Synod was applauded for her outline of what LWQ is all about and was questioned repeatedly throughout Synod from people who had no idea of the magnitude of our fundraising for Missions and our focus on Bible Study. A glowing report from one women with tears said how much drought aid had meant to her community on the Darling Downs. Others asked how they could receive N/letter and LW Magazine. One asked how can she be connected to a Fellowship and would like to participate in Retreats etc. Such a positive outcome. Marilyn suggested that we have copies to hand out next time. Church office wants to do a feature article on LWQ.

TRINITY LUTHERAN WOMEN'S GUILD BOONAH – 100th ANNIVERSARY

THEME: *"HOW GREAT IS THE GRACE OF GOD"*

What a wonderful celebration was held at Trinity Lutheran Church Boonah on 19 February. The service was humble and dedicated to those who have served over the years followed by a scrumptious lunch presented by the ladies and a beautiful cake made and iced in red and white by Mrs Lee-Anne Stumer. As we entered the church with beautiful home grown flowers adorning the sanctuary and the wonderful banner made by Mrs Faye Gutzke, Guild President. The banner depicted the Boonah Church and around the outside 100 hearts, one for each year. The wording on the banner was "How Great is the Grace of God".

A big thank you to Boonah Guild Secretary, Mrs Maureen Itzstein, who waded through many Minute books and presented a comprehensive history of the Women's Guild. Sadly, for the sake of space, some sections I have shortened. As president of West Moreton Zone, I congratulate Boonah and the ladies past and present for the work they did and do for their Lord. Maureen thanked all those who assisted the guild over the year especially Pastor Peter Geyer and his wife Kaylene.

Shirley Klinge, President LWQWMZ

Maureen writes: Based on Ephesians 1:6-7 *"Let us praise God for his Glorious grace, for the free gift He gave us in His Dear Son!"*. Our sins are forgiven. HOW GREAT IS THE GRACE OF GOD which He gave to us in such large measure!

On February 1st, 1908, a Mission Guild was formed for the purpose of supporting Foreign missions. When Pastor and Mrs Seybold moved, the guild was discontinued. Pastor and Mrs Hiller arrived, and Mrs Hiller formed a Ladies Guild on February 8th 1923, with 39

members. Meetings were held at the parsonage until the hall was built. The Guild membership grew to almost 60 by 1964. On June 16th 1970, an evening meeting was established to cater for those unable to attend day-time meetings. This Night Circle continued for eighteen years and then went into recession.

By 1989 the attendance of Guild meetings was down to the mid-twenties. The Church had become the Trinity Lutheran Congregation around the mid 1990's, so Trinity Lutheran Women's Guild, Boonah, became our new name. By 1995 our membership surged to 50 again, with attendance at meetings approximately twenty. It was reported at our 90th Anniversary that the average attendance was 11 with a membership of 23.



"How Great is the Grace of God" banner featuring 100 hearts to depict 100 years of service of the Boonah Women's Guild

Today many mothers and Grandmothers are still in the work force or are available to deliver and pick up children from school or childcare etc. And many work with or for different charities, so it is difficult to gain new members. At present we have seven members. Today we remember those faithful members who have been called home to heaven. Many of these were in their 80s and 90s. Our prayers are also with passed members who are needing care in hospitals, aged care or cared for by family.

Our aims as a Guild are to advance its members in Christian faith and knowledge and foster Christian friendships, to assist our Congregation wherever we can, to support the projects of Lutheran Women Australia and Queensland, plus missions and other charitable endeavours. In spite of diversity, our amazing God has allowed us, over the last 10 years to raise over \$27,000 for our charities through offerings, funeral catering, a social day and donations.

Our priority at our meetings are: Bible Study, Devotions and Hymns. This is the food for our souls, and we appreciate the leadership of our Pastor and members who fill in when Pastor is absent.

Some of the projects we have supported over the last ten years: - Tabeel Rest Home Residence Amenities Fund; Samaritan's Purse Greatest Journey; Hospital Auxiliary; Christian Blind Mission; LWA and LWQ Projects; Bible Society; Historical Society; Asian Focus; Lutheran Bible Translators; Luth. Media; Luth. Tract Fund; Trinity Church; Faith College, Plainlands; Teviot Place Units; Mary and Martha's Refuge; Deborah Orphanage Bangkok; Student Assistant Fund and ALWS.

Boonah Guild is a member of the WMZ and we take our turn as Host Guild for annual Rallies and Fellowship days. Our members try and attend these special days and LWQ Retreats and Conventions where possible. So today, with deep humility and tremendous thanks and praise to our Heavenly Father for being our strength, we will continue to follow our Guild's Motto to "Serve the Lord with Gladness."

2 Peter 3:18 "Continue to grow in the GRACE and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, now and forever. Amen."

Maureen Itzstein, Boonah Guild Secretary

DARLING DOWNS ZONE 55th RALLY – 24th March 2023

THEME: "*Loving God by Loving Others*" from the text: 1 John 4:9 -11 "*This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.*"

Women of the Darling Downs Zone met at St Paul's Lutheran Church, Oakey, for their annual rally, hosted by Oakey and Norwin members. Pastor Ken Schultz and Lyn Schultz welcomed us all, and President Val Kath, welcomed 62 attendees to the Rally, and led us in prayer. Pr Schultz spoke on the theme for the day, "Loving God by Loving Others", which is based on 1 John 4: 9-11. "This is Love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins". It brought back memories of a sermon he preached on that text as a Vicar in Adelaide.

President of LWQ, Shirley Horrigan thanked the ladies of Oakey and Norwin for their work in preparing for Rally Day. She encouraged attendance at LWQ Retreat/Convention May 19th – 21st 2023, hosted by WM Zone. We were reminded to be thankful to God for all His blessings, and that we are able to gather together more freely now since COVID.

Avalon Hall extended greetings from LWQ, reminding us that God is Love, and His greatest Commandment is to Love One Another. Greetings and an apology were also received from Shirley Klinge of West Moreton Zone with the words of Romans 12:12 "*Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.*"

Our opening song, "Glorify Your Name". Pr Schultz led us in Bible Study based on John 4:7-19. He shared with us about his time as a Prison Chaplain, where he learnt the strategy to "Listen, Listen, Love, Love". We were all challenged to do this by listening to our partners as we told them what we heard in the text. "There is no fear in love" was discussed. We were reminded that love is a "doing" word. We ought to show love to our neighbour by first listening. We love, because He first loved us.

Bishop of LCAQD, Mark Vainika expanded on his report. He spoke about the sadness and challenges of closures of various congregations, but also of the hope for the future in the opening of new communities and churches with the help of funds which have been donated following closures. There are concerns that we are unable to follow the constitution, amidst the struggle to find people to fill positions in congregations, guilds and fellowships. He reminded us that Church House at Milton is there to help us all through the difficulties with overwhelming governance rules and processes that we face today. In endeavouring to explain the constitution, he reminded us that the Constitution serves the Church, not the other way around. There is possibly a need to change the constitution to allow restructuring and simplifying of LWA and LWQ.

Our Guest Speaker, Kat Medland, a Youth Officer working with PCYC at Oakey. She spoke of the difficulties we face in teaching Christian values, about love and how God loves us, in these days. We were reminded that love should be non-judgemental and unconditional. Kat's work is currently funded by New Hope group, but that funding ceases in 2024. Her role is to bring Youth services to Oakey. We were amazed by the number of programs and events that she has been involved in to bring these services to the young people. With the help of QPS a Respect Program, Reset program for children suspended from school, and Breaking the Cycle programs are all aimed at getting children back on the right path. Mental Health programs, Friends groups, and sports programs are also run. May God continue to bless Kat and her work and we pray that funding will continue to be provided into the future so that this wonderful program may continue. Joy Wurst presented Kat with a basket of fruit and thanked her for her dedication to this amazing work. \$1,000 – the offering for the day, was donated to support the work of the Youth worker at PCYC in Oakey.

Lutheran Drought Aid will continue to be our Zone Project for 2023. Fellowship Day will be hosted by Pittsworth/Nobby ladies on a date to be advised at Pittsworth. Rally day 2024 will be hosted by Crows Nest/Haden ladies at Haden. Val Kath encouraged all ladies who are



in congregations without a formal Guild/Fellowship, but still gathering for Bible study and fellowship to still become financial members of LWQ, to allow the work of LWQ to continue. Val stood down as president at the end of the day. Jenny Stollznow (Glencoe) becomes President and a vacancy for Extra Member was filled

By Robyn Williams from Moree. Pr Demmer presided over the Rite of Installation.

DD Zone Executive: Jenny Stollznow President, Cheryl Peters 1st Vice, Val Kath 2nd Vice, Avalon Hall Treasurer, Joy Wurst Extra Member, Hazel Weis Secretary, Robin Williams, Gloria Hamilton & Cheryl Vonhoff Extra Members.

A vote of thanks by Del Priebbenow (Nobby), to all involved in making Rally Day a wonderful success. The closing devotion by Lyn Schultz, talking about her and Pr Ken's trip to Germany a few years ago, and displaying some beautifully crafted works from there. We sang the hymn, 'Love one Another' and we said Grace together before gathering in the hall to enjoy our self-catered lunch and fellowship. Reporter – Dawn Fagan

BRISBANE SOUTH & GOLD COAST ZONE RALLY – 21st March 2023

On a beautiful day, following a week of hot exhausting weather, 38 people travelled to Bethesda, Beenleigh and were heartily welcomed by the hosting ladies. A wonderful, inspiring display of wedding dresses, wedding photos, albums and paraphernalia were enjoyed by all and surfaced many memories. We were greeted with a lovely cuppa and delicious bun loaf.

An official welcome by President of Bethesda, Lynette Freiberg set the tone of the day to be one of **“Come and – you are welcome”**. Zone President Naomi Marks welcomed all, emphasizing we encourage all Lutheran women and their friends to attend our functions whether they meet as an official guild, as a Bible study group or are individuals who are looking for fellowship. Our official roll call revealed 72 current members but that many Guilds were having difficulty finding office bearers. Pastor David Haak, from the hosting congregation further extended the theme of the day: “Come to the Banquet” in his devotion Luke 14:15, the parable of the great banquet, reminding all that by grace we go into the kingdom of God. Come to the Banquet – there's a place for you – All are invited. This was followed by the singing of “Come to the banquet, there's a place for you”.

Reports from the Qld Bishop, the LWQ President and the Zone Treasurer had been distributed prior to Rally. The Zone President read her report noting our zone functions by individual guilds are getting less, ladies are still active in their own churches, particularly behind the scenes in cleaning, arranging flowers, catering, morning teas and supporting their congregations financially. We continue to serve our church families and communities with the gifts God has given us.

ALWS tells us: in the light of a world facing many challenges – war in Ukraine, earthquakes in Turkey & Syria, famine in Somalia; how does a small community like ours in Australia, facing its own challenges, bring love to life? It has been one year since Russia began its illegal invasion of Ukraine and 40,000 people including over 400 children have been killed; more than 46,000 people died in the earthquakes and in Somalia, millions are facing famine. It was noted that Somalia donations attract an 18-1 matching grant. Hence a proposal was carried that our Zone project for this year and our offering from today which amounted to \$603 be split into three equal parts to be directed to victims of the war, earthquakes and famine through ALWS.



Guests enjoying their “Banquet”

Each Guild/Fellowship was given opportunity to send along one member to each executive meeting of the Zone. This will give more ideas and input which will be greatly appreciated. This proposal met with sincere favour.

The gathering was entertained by a solo rendition of “O Perfect Love”, skits that entertained us as they portrayed our theme of the day as did the trivia which had many delving deep to find answers like:

“The only food that never goes bad”, “Where French fries come from”, “How long a wedding celebration lasted in Bible times” and “What is Batology the study of” among other strange questions and even stranger answers. Pastor David brought all the thoughts of the day together in his closing devotion reminding us to be thankful for the invitation we have received from Christ and that the door is always open for us to invite others, through our sharing of God’s love and our helping hands. What a treasure and life changing invitation God’s grace is. Prayer to God reflected these thoughts also.

We closed with singing “Jesus please watch over us” and the singing of Grace: ‘Bless our friends, Bless our food’ before partaking of a wonderful banquet with a variety of foods brought by all those attending – a true reminder of how fortunate we are to be able to meet together under the covenant of God’s banner in peace with an abundance of food when others in our world are suffering so much.

Reporter: Kay Rossmann – Secretary

LWQ WEST MORETON ZONE 55th RALLY DAY – 28th March 2023



Pr Geyer installing the Executive of WMZ

“*Caring for others*” was the theme for the day, from 1 Peter 4:10 “Each of you should use whatever gift you received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms”. 30 people enjoyed morning tea served on the deck of Hopeland Hall, Tabeel Retirement Village Laidley. The day honoured Tabeel and ANUHA Services.

Pr. Jing challenged us to know what we are good at in his devotion. Gifts refer to hospitality. Learn to serve home, work and church. “Brother let me be your servant” was sung with enthusiasm.

Zone President, Shirley Klinge, welcomed all present – greetings were read. A visual display of banners from Tabeel and ANUHA, plus a wheelchair with a crochet rug, a wheelie walker completed the display beside a large table draped in orange with words “CARE FOR OTHERS” displayed across the front. Reports and greetings as printed in the Book of reports were taken as read. President Shirley spoke on the decline in membership, general discussion on a way forward, and Guild/Fellowship groups to discuss and report back for the future of our Zone. As WMZ are the hosts, an update was given on Retreat/Convention 2023. With no nominations Shirley Klinge accepted for another 12 months. Other positions remained unchanged.

ANUHA: (Polynesian meaning – Peace/Sanctuary) aptly named and run by Peace Lutheran Church Gatton. Robert Evelyn reported 135 on books, 125 supported. NDIS insurance, best practice over past 12 months. Run Tip Shop, recycling program and cottage Kitchen. New structure with Peace Church in the Coffee Shop and Homeless care and financial disadvantaged folk, more in need of support.

Residential Liaison: Blake Gray has been in the role for 6 months. His role includes community liaison admissions, etc. Bridges the gap between home and residential care.

Tabeel Chaplain Noel Burton, gave a short history with power point and spoke of the volume of paperwork. He shares Bible study, Fellowship and Tabeel Praise once a week.

Services each Sunday with HC each fortnight. While he doesn't condone Voluntary Assisted Dying, he is happy to discuss it with people.

All guests received a token thank you from Delma Barrett. Vice President, Faye Gutzke, gave a comprehensive vote of thanks to all and presented Shirley with a small handmade quilt. Rob Bellani, Volunteer chaplain, entertained with 3 songs, one his own composition and lead our praise session. Pr Peter Geyer installed the new executive. In his closing devotion he encouraged us to continue our care as, 'Lutheran Care is looking after people'. Pr Peter spoke on the care at Hopevale (aboriginal tribal fights), in our aged and disability services, hospital chaplaincy, RE in schools. Why do we care for others? The answer is WE CARE, and GOD CARES FOR US. It is important to point them to Jesus who cares for them. The offering for the day, \$630.00, was divided between ANUHA – Tabeel services-Home care, Retirement Village and Tabeel Ambrose St.

The day closed with the LWQ Prayer and the Lord's Prayer, benediction and Closing Hymn "To God be the Glory". A great day of Fellowship was enjoyed by all who attended.

Reporter: Wendy Paech

BRISBANE NORTH & SUNSHINE COAST ZONE RALLY – 19th April 2023

We gathered at Calvary, Glasshouse Mountains with the Theme taken from Genesis 1:2425, "All creatures great and small". 38 in attendance to close off our year and make plans for 2023. After a cuppa we were welcomed by Zone President, Marilyn Jonas.

"All creatures great and small" was the opening hymn. Pr Tom Jantke opened with a devotion based on forgiveness. If you forgive your sins they are forgiven. Jesus said to Thomas "Blesses are those who have not seen yet believe". We all have wounds – Marks



of scars – emotional scars remain. God forgives, all honour Praise and Glory to Jesus.

LCAQD 1AB, Pr Ben Hentschke gave a report of the ebb and flow in the Church. Churches who are struggling or closing. St Paul, Cor 1:19 wrote to the people of Corinth so that they would know right from wrong. Christ is our redeemer. We are to share in communion with Him. We are to encourage one another and be a blessing to many people in our Guilds/Fellowships and those we meet.

Marilyn Jonas retiring BN&SCZ WITH 1AB Pr Ben Hentschke

LWQ President: Shirley Horrigan in her absence, her written report was read.

ZONE President: Marilyn Jonas, gave her report of Fellowships in our Zone. Marilyn will be stepping down as she has become a Grandma to twin boys and will help her daughter.

ZONE Treasurer: Pam Flessler, announced that \$1,244.00 Project money 2022 will be forwarded to LYQ. LWA & LWQ Project monies amounted to \$5,270.00.

Pam spoke to **Proposal 1** – that the offering for the day be given to “Blaze Aid” for the work they do volunteering – helping farmers affected by bush fires and floods. **Guest Speaker** – Lois Spann enlightened us further on the work done by those who travel throughout Australia with their caravans, stopping and helping for a day or two or a few weeks. **Proposal 2** – that the project for 2023 be to LYQ for support for Upper Primary students to attend camps. **Guest Speaker** – Lyn Jantke gave us an overview of her wildlife photography since retiring. It started as a hobby to document the wildlife in the native garden she and husband Pr Tom developed in their first retirement home. Her hobby now encompasses a wider understanding of Australian biodiversity.

Ruth Geitz was welcomed as the new President. The Zone executive was installed by Pr Tom Jantke. Jill Schefe gave us an interesting take on the Animals of the Bible in her closing devotion. To get things done, she encouraged us to work together like “ANTS”. The dove represents the Holy Spirit who loyally watches over us.

Fellowship over lunch ended our day. Zone Fellowship Day will be held on 20th Sept 2023 at Immanuel Buderim.

Reporter: Pam Flesser

WIDE BAY BURNETT ZONE RALLY DAY – 21st April 2023

St John’s Lutheran Church, Kingaroy, was the setting where 30 Ladies gathered for Rally Day, with the theme “ONE BODY, ONE SPIRIT, ONE HOPE”. A welcome morning tea was followed with a Holy Communion Service using the Modern Liturgy, conducted by Orana Aged Care Chaplain, Jordan Bennett.

President of Kingaroy Fellowship welcomed all to the Rally with an apology from Zone President Nola Zerner. Elected office bearers for the 2023-24 were: President Nola Zerner, 1st Vice Bev Jorgensen, 2nd Vice Pam Prange, Secretary Joan Yappa, Treasurer Karen Bryce, Extra Members Muriel Hess and Evelyn Dunemann. The Zone project for the year will be “Eva’s Place”. The offering of the day, \$510.00, will benefit “The Pantry” in Kingaroy which supplies food and grocery items for the needy.

Jordan Bennett led the Bible Study from Eph. 4:1-16 “Wholeness for a Broken World”. During the discussions as a group with this study we learnt we need to be united with each other but need not necessarily be the same. We are connected to the Spirit through Holy Communion when we remember Christ’s death and resurrection. We also recognize we all have different talents, we can each use our talent whatever it is to love and serve each other, and our journey of faith will grow as we do this and we can all look forward to eternity with our Lord and Saviour.

After Lunch we met again in the church. Janice Hogan addressed us on the theme, then beautifully sang “They need you, “They need me, They need Christ”, emphasizing we need to share the good news of our hope in Christ Jesus with everyone.

The afternoon guest speaker, Jenny Hoare from “Eva’s Place” a not-for-profit organisation, helping pregnant teens and mothers-to-be with planning and making decisions for the future. There is support from trained counsellors as well as gifts of baby clothes etc. Hire options for cots, prams etc. “Eva’s Place” also helps with issues of domestic violence, homelessness and drug problems. 50 Christian volunteers covering Toowoomba, Dalby, Roma and Kingaroy work to help these people in need.

A most enjoyable day was completed with devotion read by Joan Crumpton. A quick cuppa before everyone made their journey home.

Reporter: Judy Guse

Replenish / Grace Laced - A Camp for Women in our church.

Set **13-15** October 2023 in your diary to attend the camp at LUTHER HEIGHTS, Coolum. It is called *Replenish*, giving women in our church the opportunity to have a weekend away from a busy life, relaxing with old and new friends. Time to refresh and replenish their souls. Free time as well a special devotion time on Saturday and Sunday to worship and attend a nearby church. A part of the weekend is called *Grace Laced* where we receive love and support through the grace of each other and our amazing Father God. It is also a wonderful time to meet and get to know the wives of our Pastors.

We welcome anyone who might be visiting Qld in October this year, to join us, including all Lutheran Women of Australia and Pastor's wives.

For more information please look on the web sites LYQ/replenish camp or LCAQD



Choir Master, Norm Auricht, celebrated his 90th Birthday with a morning of music by the Immanuel Church Choir Buderim. The choir celebrates 50 years with Norm at the helm, giving leadership and providing faith, praise and thanksgiving through music in Gospel based supportive ways.

Regular worship services, Carols in the park at Christmas, entertaining the residents of Immanuel Gardens, concerts & Conventions across the state and interstate tours.

Norm celebrated these special events with thanks to God for a long church-music career. As a Primary school teacher and Head Master, Norm conducted many a school orchestra.

Norm has always been willing to step in with Bible study, in the absence of our Pastor while attending Immanuel Women's Fellowship meeting with wife Lola.

NB Check out the next Newsletter for the answers to the Quizzes in the Convention/Retreat goodies bag.

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION: Deadline for November 2023 issue 7th October 2023

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Format for material MS WORD DOC high resolution photos, please





ROS SELLS: Speaker on behalf of the God Squad “tells us her story”.

I was born in Brisbane, my family moved to Townsville when I was 5 yrs old. I am the second of 4 children. My family was dysfunctional, alcohol, abuse etc. I loved going to church, and being part of visiting the sick in hospital. I was married at 19, but then found I was dealing with the same situation I grew up with. (After my Mother's passing, I realised she was a closet believer). Before God's Squad, and after my marriage ended, I asked the Lord in prayer, 'Where to now'?

I have two daughters; one was in Uni. and my second daughter was in her first job. Daughters needed my car, so I bought my first bike – I hadn't ridden before. At this point in my life, I turned back to the Lord. My focus on the Lord more so, especially when I'm in unfamiliar situations, and I was answering the call from God. I also have a black belt in Martial Art.

I joined a group from church, to do street ministry which meant very late nights and travelling between Brisbane and Gympie for two years. We saw children on the streets, from pre-teens, escaping from their home situation.

Question 1: What is it like being a woman in a predominantly male club? Internally to the club, but more importantly with external relationships?

(a) Even though, initially there were female members in God's Squad in Melbourne, when I started riding with the Brisbane Chapter, there was apprehension with many of the members, which may have been because I was a 'single female' at the time? May have been concerned for my safety/welfare within the scene?

(b) I realised I had to earn trust within the scene and the Ministry, hence testing my patience, and proving to be consistently turning up, and not be put off by what I would see. Concern about the lack of my safety travelling on my own. I was invited to their church-meet to see what God Squad was about.

God's Squad offered more Ministry, structure and training. Hence broadening my calling in the Ministry. With a lot of prayer, I decided to be part of God's Squad. I was invited to their yearly National Run in Wagga, in June. My first big ride with them. I met Rev. John Smith and was welcomed into the Ministry. I completed the initial training, and stepped up to a Companion/Member. A few years after, I took part in a two-week Mission to Townsville. By invitation we visited schools and the Uni. About 5 years on, I moved from Brisbane South to Brisbane North. I started attending a new church, when this man, my now husband, showing his face. He was persistent, so I gave some time to the church functions to check him out. Two years later we were married and so celebrating 23 years this year. God definitely had His hand in this. Overall, I have been riding with the God Squad for over 27 years, and still today.

Question 2: What makes your club involvement unique, and can you summarise the key success you have in that role?

With persistence, patience and ensuring I was walking with the Lord, I was being ministered to by Him, and I in turn shared with those who were seeking answers. I was blessed to be invited to travel for two weeks on the “Mission to Cunnamulla”, which Dr. Rev. John Smith the founding member wanted to do as his last venture – “The long Journey Home” with Steve Grace, the Christian recording artist. Friday and Saturday nights were our time to do Ministry, sometimes Saturday and Sundays.

I have been involved in correctional centre visits for women whom I have spoken to before they were interned. I have been to many funerals, some marriages and church visits to present the Ministry of God’s Squad. My time in this unique ministry, has been amazing. Mind you it is not for everyone. It is definitely a calling of God, which is voluntary, to have the love of bikes and willing to give up the time needed.

When God calls, we need to listen.

Question 3: How can the ladies at a conference support the ministry of God’s Squad CMC, given that most don’t ride a Harley, and aren’t interested in late nights with bikers? (Leading into us needing prayer warrior support)

As this Ministry is very different, a lot of training, working closely as a team and the need to be very aware of what is happening around you, we really need to be supported with prayer, so if you feel the need, please commit some time to include God’s Squad members, who are answering the call of God, to help those living on the fringe.



I would like to say a huge Thank You to the God’s Squad members, who believed in me, supported and trusted me in the ministry I believe I had been called to. They realised I would watch their backs as they did for me.

Thank you for inviting me and the God’s Squad to share our unique Ministry, and my Ministry to serve God. May God continue to bless you, each and everyone.

*“I wish for you my friend, this happiness that I’ve found;
You can depend on Him, it matters not where you’re bound;
I’ll shout it from the mountain top; I want my world to know,
The Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on.”*

LH 806 by Kurt Kaiser.



CONVENTION/RETREAT “Theme”

portrayed by our Hosts
West Moreton Zone.

The megaphone represented speaking out in many places about our faith and the ribbon and chain tying us to the WMZ Banner was to let everyone know we can be one in Christ. When the chain is broken we are no longer one in Christ.

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EVENTS CALENDAR

LWA Convention will be held on 1st – 3rd October 2024

Venue: Unity College, Murray Bridge South Australia.

LCANZ General Convention follows on 4th – 7th October.

Venue: Concordia College, Highgate. South Australia.

Look for more information after LWA Council meets late July.

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LWQ RETREAT: 2nd weekend in March 8th 9th 10th 2024

Venue: Maroochy Waterfront Camp and Conference Centre

Hosts: Brisbane South & Gold Coast Zone

Find information in November. Newsletter.

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Brisbane North & Sunshine Coast Fellowship Day: Wednesday 20th September 2023.

Venue: Immanuel Church Buderim

Hosts: Immanuel Buderim. Theme “Shepherd” Be shepherds of the Church of God.

Darling Downs Zone Fellowship Day: Monday 4th September 2023

Venue: Pittsworth, Theme “Singing from the heart” Guest Speaker Josh Arnold

FAITH IS LIKE WI-FI

*IT'S INVISIBLE BUT HAS THE
POWER TO CONNECT YOU TO
WHAT YOU NEED.*