

## The Christian Life Retreat is Coming!



Mark your calendars for **September 19-21, in Williamsburg, VA**, for the Christian Life Retreat, which will be held at the Doubletree Hotel. You'll read about the CLR in other places in this issue of the Breeze, so let me just pique your interest a little more!

Our Bible study leader for the weekend will be **Lindsay Hausch**, a speaker and author of a number of devotional books that seek to help the reader grow in her relationship with the Lord. She writes about encountering God's strength, and the beauty of human relationships in the face of our struggles, insecurities and vulnerability. The theme for this Retreat is "*God's Grace in the Wilderness*." Come and find out how God speaks to you in the midst of whatever "wilderness" you may find yourself in. Do you find yourself worrying about family, friends, health diagnoses, relationships, loneliness, decisions about the future? Other? Come and hear what God has to say to you.

We have some interesting **interest sessions** lined up that you will be able to choose from!

**Sally Hiller** will talk about "*Crisis Preparation in Ordinary Times*." There are so many "disasters" these days. Do we ever think that one could happen to us or in a way that we haven't imagined? Come and find out what Sally, our District's Disaster Relief Coordinator, can share about personal readiness, along with how we can be prepared to help others.

**Donna Siverd** will lead an interest session titled "*Sheep, Wool and Our Good Shepherd*." Did you know that Donna (Penmar Zone chair) and her husband raise sheep and sell the wool? Donna knows more than most of us will ever have an opportunity to know about raising sheep. She's also reflected on how God carefully leads us just as a shepherd leads his or her flock. Join Donna in her interest session.

**Bill Rose**, from *Shades of the Past*, our Saturday evening entertainment group, will share with us about the religious beliefs of the colonists and how that affected the founding of the colonies. He will also talk about the beliefs of our founding fathers. Come and find out what effect beliefs had on the beginning of our country.

If you haven't been to Williamsburg (or like me, maybe not for a long time!) you may want to sign up for a pre or post-CLR **Williamsburg walking tour**. Look for details and cost on the registration form.

A new offering this year will be an **early Sunday morning Bible study**, led by Christine Maconachy, our District President. If you are an "up and at 'em" person, who loves to start with Bible study, this one is for you!

We will have the **activities** that many have come to love and look forward to: Mite Walk, Servant Events, Silent Auction (start saving those interesting items!), Ingathering for local agencies that show mercy, time to meet (party?) with your Zone members, worshipful music, opportunity to shop at the LWML store, updates about Mission Grants, prayer room and of course, free time!

We will have buffet meals for both lunch and dinner this year, which the planning committee thought would give women more choices. And there's more! Come and see.

Our closing worship service with Communion will conclude our time together and ground us in the Word as we prepare to go back to whatever is next in our lives.

Remember the jingle "You deserve a break today"? You do – but never a break from our loving Father. Come, relax, and hear how He loves you! I hope to see you in September! Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Faith Evans, Christian Life Chair  
[bfrevans@gmail.com](mailto:bfrevans@gmail.com)



## God's Grace in the Wilderness

*Be refreshed, restored, and reminded of God's Grace!*

Registration opens at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, September 19, 2025

Retreat begins at 7:00 pm on Friday

Retreat adjourns at 11:00 am on Sunday

### Check-in at the Doubletree by Hilton is 4:00 pm.

**Reservations:** Everyone should contact the Doubletree Hotel, Williamsburg directly 855-222-8194 and request the LWML Retreat room block for the correct room rate, which is \$159 per night plus tax. Rates are valid for up to 4 adults in a room. A deposit will be requested. Changes or cancellations are accepted 72 hours prior to arrival. There will be no refunds for early check-out. **ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY AUGUST 27, 2025.** Parking is \$6 a night (normally it is \$12 a night).

**Amenities:** All guest rooms have a mini fridge and coffee maker. Hotel offers fitness center, indoor pool, arcade games and places to eat. (Dinner is on your own Friday evening).

**Registration & Servant Events and Prayer Room** open at 4:00 pm on Friday. Retreat starts at 7:00 pm.

**What to wear:** Come casual and comfortable. Pack a sweater in case meeting room is a little chilly.

**Retreat Leader:** Lindsay Hausch is a Christian author, speaker, Pastor's wife and mother of 3 delightful children. She calls San Diego home and loves polka dots!! Lindsay finds hope in life's every day struggles.

### Bring:

- Bible; comfortable walking shoes; your checkbook or credit card to purchase great items from the LWML Store and for bidding on the Silent Auction items
- Items for the Silent Auction (optional). Donations will go to District Mites
- Devotional Books, new or gently used for exchange
- Eyeglasses and sunglasses for MOST Ministries
- Food items for FISH – Williamsburg - Suggestions listed below
- Requested Items for House of Mercy – Williamsburg - Suggestions listed below
- Gifts Cards for seminarians from Walmart or Target (\$10-\$20). Write amount of gift on card.



### Gifts from the Heart:

- **FISH** (Nonperishable items ) Kid cereals, hot cereals, dried spaghetti & other pastas, canned spaghetti sauce, brownie mix, pancake mix & syrup, canned tuna, peanut butter & jelly
- **House of Mercy** (Requested Items) Shampoo (14-22 ounces), deodorant, soap, toothpaste, feminine hygiene products, diapers & wipes, cleaning products, large trash bags, paper towels
- **Gift Cards for Seminarians:** Walmart or Target (\$10-\$20) - St. Louis and Ft. Wayne Seminaries
- **Mission Opportunities Short Term** (MOST) Eyeglasses and sunglasses for adults and children (The cost of a pair of glasses in many developing nations can exceed a month's salary.)

**Offerings:** Sunday worship offering will go to the Chesapeake District LWML Mission Projects.

**Mission Walk:** Saturday afternoon from 2:45 -3:30 pm. Enjoy a casual walk with your LWML sisters. Use the pledge form to get sponsors who are not able to participate. All funds go to District Mission Projects.

**Entertainment:** Actors from "Shades of the Past."

**Tours of Williamsburg:** A pre and post-tour of Williamsburg is offered. Visit Williamsburg!

**Don't Miss:** Bible Study, Fellowship with LWML sisters, Mission Walk, LWML store, Silent Auction.



## GOD'S GRACE IN THE WILDERNESS

### Christian Life Retreat Schedule

Registration opens at 4:00 pm on Friday, September 19, 2025

Retreat begins at 7:00 pm on Friday; Retreat adjourns at 11:00 am on Sunday  
(Dinner on your own Friday and no Breakfasts in meal plan)

### Friday, September 19, 2025

Registration and Resource Room (Open 4:00–7:00 pm)

Prayer/Meditation Room (Open 4:00 – 11:00 pm)

6:45 pm Gathering Music

7:00 pm Welcome and Introductions

Sing: *LWML Women One and All*

7:15 pm SED President Rev. Bill Harmon

7:30 pm Bible Study Session #1

8:30 pm Bid on Silent Auction Items

8:45 pm Zone Gatherings & Fellowship

### Saturday, September 20, 2025

Resource Room and Prayer Room (Rooms open when  
Retreat is not in Session)

7:00 am Breakfast on your Own

8:45 am Gathering Music

9:00 am Opening & Prayer

Sing: *Serve the Lord with Gladness*

9:10am Mission Updates

9:20 am Bible Study Session #2

10:15 am Break

10:30 am Bible Study Session #3

12:00 pm Lunch

12:45 pm Gathering Music

1:00 pm Afternoon Greetings

Dedication of Gifts of the Heart

Sing: *Praise God from Whom All  
Blessings Flow*

1:15 pm Interest Sessions

2:30 pm FREE TIME — ENJOY!

2:45 pm Pledge Walk for Mites

2:45 pm Servant Activities (Optional)

4:30 pm Resource Room Closed

4:30 pm Silent Auction Bidding Closed

4:30 pm Prayer Room Closed

6:00 pm Dinner

7:30 pm Entertainment

8:30 pm Silent Auction Winners Announced

8:45 pm Fun & Fellowship Reception

### Sunday, September 21, 2025

7:00 am Breakfast on your Own

7:30 am Bible Study by President Maconachy

8:45 am Gathering Music

9:00 am LWML President Update

9:15 am Young Women Representatives

9:20 am Heart to Heart Coordinator

9:25 am Invite to 2026 LWML District Convention  
(Hosted by Tidewater Zone)

9:30 am Thoughts on God's goodness

10:00 am Worship Service with Communion

11:00 am Departure

### One Hour Walking Tours of Williamsburg offered.

See Registration information

4:00 pm Friday: Discover Williamsburg

1:00 pm Sunday: Murder, Mayhem, and Scandal

### Presenting our Grant check of \$6000

to the Southeastern District-LCMS  
which provides financial aid to stu-  
dents studying to become profes-  
sional church workers within the SED.

Pictured: Anita Roberson; District  
President Rev. Bill Harmon; LWML  
President Christine Maconachy; Linda  
Roscoe; Linda Nau.



## Christian Life Retreat Interest Sessions

(45 minutes) (Choose one)

### Crisis Preparation in Ordinary Times

(Deaconess Sally Hiller)

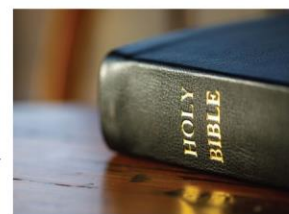
When the call for compassionate response goes out during a disaster, our Lutheran family is quick to respond. But did you know that even during ordinary times, when the need is not as critical, you can be preparing and responding? This workshop will explore the ways individuals, LWML societies, and congregations can prepare and be ready to serve.



### Faiths of the Founding Fathers and Mothers

(PowerPoint Presentation by *Shades of Our Past*)

In the presentation, we will look at the founding of each colony paying close attention to the reason for their individual founding. We will also examine how Religion is practiced in the early British colonies by considering the differences and similarities by colony and by region. We will look at “*The Enlightenment*” and compare and contrast the “*The Great Awakening*,” “*Deism*,” and “*Intellectualism*.” Then, we will examine some of the men and women who were founders of our nation (such as: the Washingtons, the Adams, and the Jeffersons) and see what their lives and writings tell us about their individual beliefs.



### Sheep, Wool, and Our Good Shepherd

(Donna Siverd, VP Christian Life)

The words “sheep, lambs, flocks etc. can be found more than 500 times in the Bible. Many people view them as mindless and defenseless animals. Truth is their behaviors in many ways parallel ours as children of God. As followers of Jesus, we are referred to as the sheep of His pasture. Learn from a present-day shepherdess, interesting facts about sheep and their value in biblical times and now. Observe the ways the Shepherd watches over, cares for, and guides His flock throughout their lives and ours.



### Williamsburg Tours

(One hour walking tour by “*Shades of the Past*”)

This year since we are in Williamsburg, a tourist destination, we are offering a pre and post-retreat tours.

**Discover Williamsburg** — Friday, Sept 19 at 4 pm.

Walk the streets of this Colonial Capitol and learn how it came to be as well as how to manage your stay. Learn the importance of its history and what you can do to make your time here a historical treat.

A one-hour walking tour limited to 25 people. Cost \$25.

**Murder, Mayhem and Scandal** – Sunday, Sept 21 at 1 pm.

This one-hour character led walking tour delves into the seamier side of Williamsburg. Find out what people were doing that they ought not to do.

Tour limited to 25 participants. Cost \$25.



## Mission Walk at the Retreat

The Mission Walk at the Retreat will be held on Saturday, September 20 from 2:45-3:30 pm. The form below will give those attending and our sisters and brothers in Christ at home a chance to support our District Mite Projects by pledging to be a **Mission Mite Walker!** Use the form below to obtain pledges/donations from friends and family. All monies collected will go to the Chesapeake District Mite Projects. Checks should be made payable to **Chesapeake District LWML** with "Walk for Mites" in the memo. So pack your walking shoes and join us at the Doubletree Hotel-Williamsburg, September 19-21, 2025. *Make extra copies if needed.*

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Congregation \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

### Pledges for "God's Grace in the Wilderness" Mission Mite Walk

Name	Amount Pledged
------	----------------

- |          |          |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | \$ _____ |
| 2. _____ | \$ _____ |
| 3. _____ | \$ _____ |
| 4. _____ | \$ _____ |
| 5. _____ | \$ _____ |
- 

### Retreat Speaker - Lindsay Hausch

Grace is not deserved or earned, and yet, it is God providing for our needs and /or supplying strength to endure our unmet needs. *"The wilderness makes or breaks a man; it provides strength of will and character. The strength provided by the wilderness, however, was not the strength of self-sufficiency, but the strength that comes from a knowledge of the living God."* Peter Craigie



We see the Israelites in the wilderness looking for escape—escape to return to slavery, or escape through deliverance to the Promise Land. Yet what we see in the Israelites' story is an invitation to transformation through relationship and experience. Lindsay takes us on a journey of transformation through the book of Exodus as she uncovers God's grace tucked within the story. Together we'll look at: God's Grace for Everyday, God's Grace in Our Weakness and God's Grace is His Presence. Join Lindsay at our Christian Life Retreat for a message of refreshment and hope as we honestly confront how challenging this wilderness life is and how good God is in the midst of it.

*Lindsay Hausch is an author, speaker, and pastor's wife. She co-leads a mental health support prayer group at her church and enjoys speaking to women and other church groups about seeking God's heart in the midst of a fast-paced life. Lindsay is passionate about hope in life's everyday struggles, overcoming anxious thoughts, depression, and difficult emotions. She most enjoys serving alongside her husband, discipling her three children, and getting quiet with God whenever she can.*

**God's Grace in the Wilderness - Chesapeake District LWML Christian Life Retreat**  
**September 19-21, 2025**

at the Doubletree by Hilton, 50 Kingsmill Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185

Rooms are \$159 per room night +tax. Make your room reservations directly with the Doubletree. Call 855-222-8194. Ask for the room block under LWML Retreat to get the special room rate. **Room reservation deadline is August 27, 2025.**

**Registration Fee:** Early Bird before August 19-\$250 and after August 19-\$265. The registration fee includes all sessions led by Lindsay Hausch, Saturday lunch and dinner, Interest Sessions, Entertainment by *Shades of the Past*, Silent Auction, Mission Walk and more. **Note: You are on your own for Friday dinner and Saturday/Sunday breakfast. Registration deadline for the Retreat is Wednesday, September 10, 2025.**

**Contact:** Donna Siverd, VP Christian Life, [dsiverd2@gmail.com](mailto:dsiverd2@gmail.com), 410-371-7636 or  
Karen Matthiesen, Meeting Manager, [karenmatthiesen@verizon.net](mailto:karenmatthiesen@verizon.net), 301-774-5899 or  
Faith Evans, Christian Life Chair, [bfrevans@gmail.com](mailto:bfrevans@gmail.com), 301-643-3808

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Mail this registration form to: **Linda Nau, 1810 Ethelred Ct. Midlothian, VA 23113 with a check payable to "Chesapeake District LWML" or register on our district website.**

<https://www.lwmlchesapeake.org/district-christian-life-retreat.html>

Note: If a check is returned, the individual who wrote it will be charged the bank fees.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name on Badge \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

LWML Zone \_\_\_\_\_ Church Name, City, State \_\_\_\_\_

Need to purchase EXTRA Meals: \_\_\_\_\_ Lunch @\$50 \_\_\_\_\_ Dinner w/ Entertainment @\$75

Special Dietary Needs: No \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Specify \_\_\_\_\_

Interested in Mission Mite Walk? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ (Saturday 2:45 – 3:30 p.m.) Birth Month \_\_\_\_\_

**Interest Sessions** (Choose one)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Crisis Preparation in Ordinary Times (Deaconess Sally Hiller)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Faith of our Founding Fathers and Mothers (Shades of the Past – Bill Rose)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Sheep, Wool and Our Good Shepherd (Donna Siverd. (VP Christian Life)

**Sunday Morning Bible Class lead by Christine Maconachy at 7:30 am** \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

**Tours Pre & Post (Walking Tours)** (Pay with Registration Fee)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Discover Williamsburg – Friday, Sept. 19 at 4:00 pm. Cost \$25.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Murder, Mayhem and Scandal – Sunday, Sept 21 at 1:00 pm. Cost \$25.

**Can you help with one of the following:**

Registration \_\_\_\_\_ Greeters \_\_\_\_\_ Ushers \_\_\_\_\_ LWML Store \_\_\_\_\_ Silent Auction \_\_\_\_\_ As Needed \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Fees:**

Early Registration (postmarked by August 19) \$250 \_\_\_\_\_  
Regular Registration (after August 19) \$265 \_\_\_\_\_  
Teen, YWR or Deaconess Registration \$100 \_\_\_\_\_

**Meal Prices for unregistered guests:**

Buffet Lunch \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ Buffet Dinner w/Entertainment \_\_\_\_\_ \$75 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Williamsburg Tours @\$25 \_\_\_\_\_ Friday \_\_\_\_\_ Sunday \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_