

President's Message

Dear LWML Sisters in Christ,

Looking Ahead!

January is often a 'quiet' time. The hustle and bustle of December is past and the January weather is a perfect excuse to stay in and curl up with a book, clean out a cluttered closet, or take time to make plans for the year ahead.

Looking ahead in 2024, I encourage you to stay in touch by signing up for free LWML email subscriptions at lwml.org/stayintouch. The online sign-up form allows you to select one or all of the following: 2-Minute Tuesday (biweekly), eNews (weekly or biweekly), Leadership Tips (biweekly), Mustard Seed Devotions (daily), and ShopLWML Specials (biweekly).

Planning for Lent? LWML Lenten Resources, including devotions, Bible studies, litanies, and a Lenten devotional template for Bible journaling are all available as free downloads on the LWML website. Type 'Lent' in the Search bar on lwml.org to find resources to be used by an individual or in a group to draw you closer to the Savior during this Lenten season.



Anticipating the 2024-2026 biennium? LWML SWD Convention, June 14–15, 2024, is the biennial "business" meeting for our district. On Friday, the Mission Walk, Servant Events, and Vesper service give us the opportunity to put our faith in action. On Saturday representatives from groups across the district elect officers and select mission grant recipients. It is a blessing to be part of a district committed to supporting missions,

equipping women, serving others, and proclaiming Christ.

Volunteering! Someone recently asked how the price of the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* is kept so low when the price of other publications is going up. The number one reason is volunteer authors, editors, and distributors. LWML is a volunteer organization focusing resources on mission outreach! Are you looking for a volunteer service opportunity? Contact me directly or fill out a Personnel Profile found on the district website, lwml-swd.org, under district resources.

Attending a retreat, Heart to Heart – Sisters of All Nations event, prayer service, zone rallies and convention provide opportunities for fellowship and encouragement as we continue to serve our Lord as Women in Mission.

Serving our Lord with you,
Cinda Poppe
LWML SWD President 2020–2024

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience
(Colossians 3:12).



From our Senior Pastoral Counselor

"Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the king of Israel!" (John 1:49).

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Nathaniel couldn't believe it. When his brother Philip invited him to meet Jesus, he had words of doubt. "Can anything good come from Nazareth?" Nathaniel wasn't going to fall for any parlor tricks or have the rug pulled out from under him.

There are people in your life that have the attitude of Nathaniel. They don't want anything to do with God. They are skeptical that anything good can come from church. They think they have it all figured out and God doesn't fit into their worldview. They might say, "What good can come from this?"

Philip said, "Come and see." Philip didn't let Nathaniel's doubt and unbelief be a barrier to share Jesus with him. Rather, he still took him to Jesus. By the power of the Holy Spirit, after Philip's witness, Nathaniel would say powerful words of faith, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the king of Israel!"

This is an important story for us today. The LWML is a group of Lutheran Women in Mission. Sometimes, we allow barriers and other's doubt to prevent us from sharing Jesus. We have our own excuses. We think we have done all we can do so we don't try again. We have faced rejection and can't take it anymore. The excuses and barriers are as numerous as the stars in the sky, but God calls us not to let those excuses stop us. We are called by God to say with Philip, "Come and see."

When others come to Jesus, their doubts can be erased. When they see that He is God in human flesh, the Holy Spirit empowers them to believe. When they hear that Jesus died

and rose for them, they can have eternal life with you. When they learn that God became human to serve them, they may join Nathaniel and say, "Rabbi, you are the son of God! You are the king of Israel!"

In Christ,

Pastor Gehrke



Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord (1 Timothy 1:2; 2 Timothy 1:2).

At some point you have probably heard a pastor begin his sermon by saying something similar to this verse from 1 Timothy. The 2024 Prayer Service is designed around those first three words — those three gifts that come to us from our gracious Father and our Savior — Grace, Mercy, and Peace. Rev. Michael Mattil is the author of the 2024 LWML Prayer Service and he served as a national LWML Pastoral Counselor from 2007–2011. The service is available for download at lwml.org and can be used at any large or small LWML group event.

Zion Lutheran in New Holstein is hosting a Prayer service on Wednesday, February 7 starting at 1:00 pm. The Nathan Federwitz family will also be visiting and sharing about their new ministry. Anyone interested in being part of this special event is invited. Please RSVP with the number attending as soon as possible to Kay Nett at kaynett19818@gmail.com.



2024 LWML SWD Convention News

The 2024 LWML SWD Convention is just a few months away! We will be gathering in convention on Friday, June 14, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Sun Prairie, for pre-convention activities. The business of the convention takes place on Saturday, June 15, 2024. The general registration form will be available online starting March 1, 2024.

TLC Scholarships are available for those who want to attend the 2024 LWML SWD Convention and need financial assistance in order to attend. Scholarships are kept confidential. You may find the TLC Scholarship Application on the LWML SWD website under Convention Resources, lwml-swd.org/events/convention.

Gifts from the Heart Recipients: UW Campus Ministries

Items to be brought:

Colorful writing utensils, highlighters, sticky notes. Individually packaged snacks (trail mix, granola bars, health bars). Packets of Emergen-C or equivalent, single serve coffee, tea or hot chocolate.

Our Keynote Speaker for the convention is Carolyn Blum. She is an historian, author, past LWML Vice President of Organizational Resources, *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* Associate Editor and News Editor, and past LWML SWD President. We are looking forward to her message!

Your sister in Christ,
Ann Nehring
LWML SWD Convention Publicity Chairman



How Do I Do This, Lord?

Surely, 2023 was one of those years! It had a lot of ups (like the LWML Convention in Milwaukee and making new friends along the way!) and downs (like spraining my ankle on Dec. 23). Of course, we had the BIG SNOW on January 12–13, which took away all power to my condo from Friday night to Sunday afternoon (waking up to 48 degrees in the house is not fun!) I had been feeling pretty low being trapped in the house once the weather changed, but I always had my Bible handy with my devotions and was able to talk to God at any time and bring to Him my troubles.

That is why I have chosen to direct you to *Equipping Saints to Serve*, the current LWML 2-year planner. The devotion for February, "How Do I Do This, Lord?" is perfect for EVERYONE, EVERY DAY of your lives! We all have needs arise, some which seem to hang around for too long! God loves us all and He definitely knows what we are going through. He wants to hear from you, to stay in connection with you daily. Consider using this devotion for an upcoming gathering. I find it to be most helpful to me!

Sandy Krainz
Christian Life Chair
mkrainz@aol.com

Serve the LORD with gladness!

Two Banner Years in a Row!

With 2023 having ended, a review shows that God has been good to the LWML SWD. From the perspective of this position, it means that all but one of the grants for this biennium have been paid with the sure hope that the final one will receive the necessary mites before March 31, 2024.

On December 16, Cinda Poppe, Patty Silah, and I gathered with folks at the SOS Center in Milwaukee with a \$20,000 check presentation. Executive Director, Lydia Beasley, was gracious enough to give an in-depth tour of the facility, serve a light lunch and regale us with stories. This non-profit, now 40 years old, has stood the test of time, declaring Jesus as Lord and Savior to the children and youth that pass through the doors. This grant is earmarked for work with older youth in developing leadership skills.

The Hispanic Outreach in Sheboygan County will benefit from the final grant giving them the tools to “tell the story” of the wonderful blessings showered upon this work with those of a different culture.

The position of “Deaf Liaison” has been reworked to include all nature of physical and mental challenges that may keep individuals from participating fully with our sisterhood of believers in the LWML.

Barb Schallock came on board as Missionary Outreach and Mission Education Committee Chairman.

Now, on to 2024. Heart to Heart – Sisters of All Nations is planning their annual event (see the invitation on the next page). The Mission Grant Committee is working to finalize the ballot for grant ranking at the June convention, all of this, and it is only one department of the LWML SWD! Other VPs have their own success stories to tell.

With the steady guidance of God himself and the diligence of the leadership of LWML, there is every reason to believe that 2024 will be another banner year. We can be sure of that!

But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere. For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing, to one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life. Who is sufficient for these things? For we are not, like so many, peddlers of God's word, but as men of sincerity, as commissioned by God, in the sight of God we speak in Christ (2 Corinthians 2:14-17).

LuAnn Roman

VP of Special Focus Ministries & Mission Grants

vpspecialfocusministries@lwml-swd.org

Bookstore News

It seems the LWML store is being updated right now, and there is not a big selection available online. Hopefully they will have a lot more posted before convention time in June. If you want to see what is available now, go to the website at lwml-cph.org and you can find the items currently for sale.

If you would like me to order something for you to pick up at the convention in June in Sun Prairie, please let me know by June 1 at dkamrath22@gmail.com.

Serving the Lord with Gladness,

Diane Kamrath
Bookstore Manager



Are YOU being Called?

My fellow sister in Christ, you know who you are ... you are the one that has been thinking about the position of Vice President of Communication. You've watched me these last four years thinking, "That Jennifer, she's such a blessing to this position. I don't know how she makes communication sound interesting and fun! I could never do that."

Dear sister, let me tell you how I've accomplished it ... it's all because of the Lord and the trust I placed in Him from the beginning. I simply came with the gifts He has given me and called me to use, just as the WONDERFUL women of the Communications Department, who each have been given gifts that they use for the district.

As a member of the Executive Committee, there are more WONDERFUL people to work with. We pray for each other, get to know each other, support each other, and work together to conduct the business of the district. Had I not listened to the Lord saying, "Jennifer, you can do this, I will be with you and you will work with some AMAZING people," I would have missed what these last four years have brought and taught me. At the time I was praying to connect with more LWML sisters in Christ, serving as the Vice President of Communication might not have been what I thought the answer would be, but the Lord sure knew! My prayers these last few months have been for YOU, sister in Christ, to hear the Lord calling you to accept a nomination for the Vice President of Communication. My prayers will continue to be with YOU, sister in Christ, as you begin your new journey, trusting in the Lord the WHOLE way.

If you are hearing the Lord whisper in your ear about serving the district in this position and have some questions about it all, please reach out to me, and I would be happy to chat with you.

Jennifer Olen - Vice President of Communication
vpcommunication@lwml-swd.org

HELP WANTED!

LWML SWD needs volunteers for the following positions:

- ♦ Winter Getaway Chair and Co-Chair - work together to plan 2025 then Co-Chair would lead the 2026 event - new Co-Chair would join the team for 2026
- ♦ Assistant Music Coordinator - helps plan music for district events - reviews for copy-right compliance

Contact President Cinda Poppe if interested or with names to suggest.

president@lwml-swd.org



You are cordially invited to the Heart to Heart – Sisters of All Nations event on Saturday March 16

Location: Granville Lutheran School
8242 Granville Road, Milwaukee
(hosted by Benediction Lutheran Church, Milwaukee)

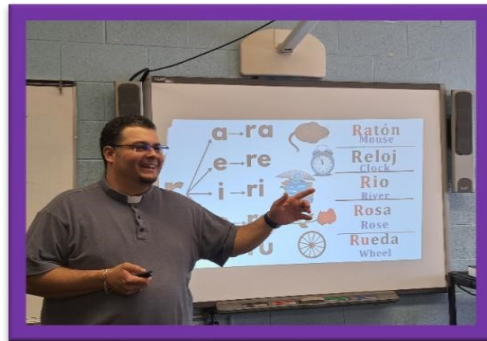
Theme: "Hearts for the Harvest" based on Matthew 9:37-38

Doors open at 8:30 a.m. and event ends at 2:30 p.m.

Be ready for some fun entertainment, trying yummy ethnic food, dances, door prizes, fellowship, and more. A free will offering will be taken. Please invite and bring as many fellow Women in Mission AND men as you can. This will be such a special celebration of different cultures and many have worked so hard to create a wonderful event! Please RSVP to Joanna Ellis at jamellis2003@yahoo.com.

2022-2024 LWML South Wisconsin District Mission Grant #12

Hispanic Outreach Sheboygan County Communication and Ministry Partnership Grant \$11,060



Over seven years ago, visionaries in Sheboygan County conceived a plan to reach out to the growing Hispanic community in their midst. Many churches and individuals got on board to support this ministry since it involves the specialized preaching/teaching in the language of the people. The outreach has resulted in a flourishing congregation meeting weekly for Bible Study and service in Spanish. Newcomers have been catechized and children baptized. The vision now is to continue and expand on this beginning but it will take new sources of revenue to provide financial support and prayers. This grant is instrumental in developing the visual message that will be shared, and for the training of local persons to carry on the work of spreading the message of the Hispanic Outreach with the goal of securing support for many years to come.

Mission Grant Prayer: Lord of the Nations, You have granted your people in Sheboygan County the blessing of a pastor to reach out to Spanish speaking people in the area and You have provided fruits of his labor in a growing congregation. With the continuing efforts to spread the joy and news of this outreach, we ask You to bless the purchase of equipment "to tell the story" and the training to make good use of it so that more people will be moved to support and pray for those involved. It is for the sake of Jesus' holy name being shared with Latinos that we pray in His name. Amen.



Abiding in Christ's LOVE

"Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him and he is in God. So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him." (1 John 4: 15-16 ESV)

Nominations Needed!

"Serve the Lord with Gladness" is the motto of LWML. How can you serve the Lord in the LWML? On June 14–15, 2024, the SWD Convention will be held at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Sun Prairie. There will be elections for President, Corresponding Secretary, Vice President of Communication, Vice President of Special Focus Ministries and Mission Grants, Treasurer, and Junior Pastoral Counselor.

Would you be willing to serve or do you know someone who would be a great fit to serve in one of these offices? All you need to do is email their name, email address, telephone number, mailing address, and to be a candidate for the office of, to nominations.lwml.swd@gmail.com. You also may fill out a 2024 South Wisconsin District LWML Officer Candidate Nominations form. The form is found on the district website: [lwml-sw.org/resources/2024 South Wisconsin District LWML Officers Candidate Nominations.pdf](http://lwml-sw.org/resources/2024%20South%20Wisconsin%20District%20LWML%20Officers%20Candidate%20Nominations.pdf). Information for emailing or sending it by US Postal Service is on the form. The Nominating Committee will contact the nominee and get further information. The job descriptions can also be found on the website under guidelines.

We ask for your prayers that many will be willing to "Serve the Lord with Gladness" in the LWML South Wisconsin District.

2024 Nominating Committee
Elaine Hull
Public Relations

Help Wanted in our Greenhouse!

It is the time of the year when nurseries are busy growing new plants for those of us who are anxious to fill our freshly dug gardens in spring. It takes many workers to nurture those young plants into strong, healthy plants that thrive in our gardens. The Renewal Committee needs a few new workers to help in our "nursery." LWML SWD has seen some groups add new members, and this is exciting. It is our prayer to have this trend of "new growth" continue and spread to other groups. Just as new plants need care and nurturing, so does the "new growth" in our LWML. Are you passionate about LWML and seeing our LWML groups grow and thrive? Are you interested in praying for and helping other LWML groups and ladies? Have you seen growth in your own LWML group? If so, you would be a great "worker" as part of our Renewal Committee.

We have had some committee members move on to other LWML positions. I am thankful for those who have been so committed to encouraging LWML ladies and groups in their areas. Please prayerfully consider being part of the Renewal Committee and willing to reach out to groups in your area to encourage and help them. Some of you already are doing that! As part of the Renewal Committee, you would share information with the rest of the committee on trends you are seeing in your areas, whether it be groups thriving or groups that need help. The committee can determine what changes are working to strengthen our groups and then be shared with groups that need help. Most of the communication is done through email or phone calls. If you are interested in being part of the Renewal Committee or know someone who would be a good member on the team, please contact me.

Diane Meyer
Renewal Committee Chairman
dianemeyer424@gmail.com



New Year's Leadership Tips for You!

Happy New Year! How many of us started out our new year with a resolution or two? Most Americans do, but unfortunately for almost all, these resolutions don't seem to last more than seven days. Why is this? Maybe it is because we didn't take time to truly reflect on this resolution and plan for it. In his book, *The 15 Invaluable Laws of Growth*, John Maxwell teaches us about the Law of Reflection. He shares that experience is not the best teacher, but it is rather evaluated experience that is the best teacher. For many, reflection turns to insight. People have countless experiences every day, and many learn nothing from them because they never take time to pause and reflect. Maxwell states learning to pause allows growth to catch up with you.

We can also reflect on past leaders and look towards their ideas for leadership. An example of a past leader is Franklin D. Roosevelt (FDR), who is considered one of the greatest leaders in American history. FDR is credited for the 100 Day Plan concept, which is how every American president has been monitored since. When he took office in 1933, the United States was facing the Great Depression, and FDR brought forth an agenda called The New Deal.

FDR created a compelling spirit of optimism in the country and was able to get people to buy in and support it from all backgrounds across America. His leadership and plan for The New Deal guided the United States out of the Great Depression.

What did FDR do and what can we learn from it:

1. Assess — Determine where you are in life.
2. Prioritize — Identify what is important.

3. Implement — Define what steps must be taken.

4. Delegate — Determine who is responsible for helping you to accomplish your plan of action.

5. Accountability — Keep yourself visible, review the plan and adjust it when needed.

FDR's 100 Day Plan demonstrates a simple formula that can be used to create your own 100 day plan that sets your future on the road to a better tomorrow. Rather than setting goals or New Year's Resolutions, why not design a plan for your life? The 100 Day Plan was used to set the course for an entire nation, so why not use the same recipe to design your success?

New and exciting Leadership Development Workshops are coming your way in March 2025!

Interested in joining the Leadership Team? Please contact Jill Jones at

jj.richwood.east@hotmail.com.

LWML Gifts of Love Ministry

January brings about the feeling of starting fresh in the new year. Bringing order and simplicity is also a goal of estate planning. Do you have a list of all your assets in an organized fashion? It is hard to plan what to do with God's things when you don't really know what those things are. The gift planning process begins with organizing. Then you get the privilege of directing where God's things will go, to family and ministry, when He calls you home.

Have you considered the various funds within our own district? Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can help. Contact Carol von Soosten at carol.vonsoosten@lwnd.org

Pat Menden - Special Funds Coordinator

Serve the LORD with gladness!

A New Year's Resolution We Could ALL Make and Benefit From!

2024 is well underway and as February begins and as Jill mentions in her article, quite a few people look back at January and to the many resolutions that were made for the new year and likely already have NOT been kept! One resolution that everyone of us should consider, is a plan to read through the Bible in a year. This resolution can really be started at any time and would be beneficial to anyone who undertakes it. Our LWML has a wonderful resource which is available at lwml.org. At this time, the calendar is still for 2023 so the dates are off and there isn't a February 29 - but February, March and April are included in this issue to help get anyone interested off to a decent start. I suggest reading by the date rather than day of the week.



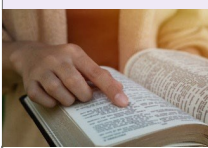
Our LWML SWD Pastoral team has offered suggestions for additional resources to use in your effort and willingness to take this on and spend more time both in your Bible and in prayer. Thank you to Pastor Gehrke and Pastor Polzin for their input in this article.

(Continued on page 11)

Reading Through The Bible In A Year



2023 FEBRUARY


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 	30	31	01 Genesis 41 Psalm 32 Luke 23:1-25	02 Genesis 42 Psalm 33 Luke 23:26-56	03 Genesis 43 Psalm 34 Luke 24:1-12	04 Genesis 44 Psalm 35 Luke 24:13-53
05 Gen. 45:1-46:27 Psalm 36 Hebrews 1	06 Gen. 46:28-47:31 Psalm 37 Hebrews 2	07 Genesis 48 Psalm 38 Hebrews 3:1-4:13	08 Genesis 49-50 Psalm 39 Heb. 4:14-6:12	09 Exodus 1-2 Psalm 40 Hebrews 6:13-20	10 Exodus 3-4 Psalm 41 Hebrews 7	11 Exodus 5:1-6:27 Proverbs 1 Hebrews 8
12 Exodus 6:28-8:32 Proverbs 2 Hebrews 9:1-22	13 Exodus 9-10 Proverbs 3 Heb. 9:23-10:18	14 Exodus 11-12 Proverbs 4 Hebrews 10:19-39	15 Exodus 13-14 Proverbs 5 Hebrews 11:1-22	16 Exodus 15 Proverbs 6:1-7:5 Hebrews 11:23-40	17 Exodus 16-17 Proverbs 7:6-27 Hebrews 12	18 Exodus 18-19 Proverbs 8 Hebrews 13
19 Exodus 20-21 Proverbs 9 Matthew 1	20 Exodus 22-23 Proverbs 10 Matthew 2	21 Exodus 24 Proverbs 11 Matthew 3	22 Exodus 25-27 Proverbs 12 Matthew 4	23 Exodus 28-29 Proverbs 13 Matthew 5:1-20	24 Exodus 30-32 Proverbs 14 Matthew 5:21-48	25 Exodus 33-34 Proverbs 15 Matthew 6:1-18
26 Exodus 35-36 Proverbs 16 Matthew 6:19-34	27 Exodus 37-38 Proverbs 17 Matthew 7	28 Exodus 39-40 Proverbs 18 Matthew 8:1-13				

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you (Psalm 32:8).

Reading Through The Bible In A Year



2023 MARCH


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			01 Leviticus 1–2 Proverbs 19 Matthew 8:14–34	02 Leviticus 3–4 Proverbs 20 Matthew 9:1–17	03 Leviticus 5–6 Proverbs 21 Matthew 9:18–38	04 Leviticus 7–8 Proverbs 22 Matthew 10:1–25
05 Leviticus 9–10 Proverbs 23 Matthew 10:26–42	06 Leviticus 11–12 Proverbs 24 Matthew 11:1–19	07 Leviticus 13 Proverbs 25 Matthew 11:20–30	08 Leviticus 14 Proverbs 26 Matthew 12:1–21	09 Leviticus 15–16 Proverbs 27 Matthew 12:22–50	10 Leviticus 17–18 Proverbs 28 Matthew 13:1–23	11 Leviticus 19 Proverbs 29 Matthew 13:24–58
12 Leviticus 20–21 Proverbs 30 Matthew 14:1–21	13 Leviticus 22–23 Proverbs 31 Matthew 14:22–36	14 Leviticus 24–25 Ecclesiastes 1:1–11 Matthew 15:1–20	15 Leviticus 26–27 Ecclesiastes 1:12–2:26 Matthew 15:21–39	16 Numbers 1–2 Ecclesiastes 3:1–15 Matthew 16	17 Numbers 3–4 Ecclesiastes 3:16–4:16 Matthew 17	18 Numbers 5–6 Ecclesiastes 5 Matthew 18:1–20
19 Numbers 7–8 Ecclesiastes 6 Matthew 18:21–35	20 Numbers 9–10 Ecclesiastes 7 Matthew 19:1–15	21 Numbers 11–12 Ecclesiastes 8 Matthew 19:16–30	22 Numbers 13–14 Ecclesiastes 9:1–12 Matthew 20:1–16	23 Numbers 15–16 Eccl. 9:13–10:20 Matthew 20:17–34	24 Numbers 17–18 Ecclesiastes 11:1–8 Matthew 21:1–27	25 Numbers 19–20 Eccl. 11:9–12:14 Matthew 21:28–46
26 Numbers 21 Song of Songs 1–2:7 Matthew 22:1–22	27 Numbers 22:1–40 Song of Songs 2:8–3:5 Matthew 22:23–46	28 Num. 22:41–23:26 Song of Songs 3:6–5:1 Matthew 23:1–12	29 Num. 23:27–24:25 Song of Songs 5:2–6:3 Matthew 23:13–39	30 Numbers 25–27 Song of Songs 6:4–8:4 Matthew 24:1–31	31 Numbers 28–29 Song of Songs 8:5–14 Matthew 24:32–51	

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it (Proverbs

Reading Through The Bible In A Year



2023 APRIL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						01 Numbers 30–31 Job 1 Matthew 25:1–30
02 Numbers 32–34 Job 2 Matthew 25:31–46	03 Numbers 35–36 Job 3 Matthew 26:1–25	04 Deuteronomy 1–2 Job 4 Matthew 26:26–46	05 Deuteronomy 3–4 Job 5 Matthew 26:47–75	06 Deuteronomy 5–6 Job 6 Matthew 27:1–31	07 Deuteronomy 7–8 Job 7 Matthew 27:32–66	08 Deuteronomy 9–10 Job 8 Matthew 28
09 Deuteronomy 11–12 Job 9 Acts 1	10 Deuteronomy 13–14 Job 10 Acts 2:1–13	11 Deuteronomy 15–16 Job 11 Acts 2:14–47	12 Deuteronomy 17–18 Job 12 Acts 3	13 Deuteronomy 19–20 Job 13 Acts 4:1–22	14 Deuteronomy 21–22 Job 14 Acts 4:23–37	15 Deuteronomy 23–24 Job 15 Acts 5:1–16
16 Deuteronomy 25–27 Job 16 Acts 5:17–42	17 Deuteronomy 28 Job 17 Acts 6	18 Deuteronomy 29–30 Job 18 Acts 7:1–22	19 Deuteronomy 31–32 Job 19 Acts 7:23–8:1	20 Deuteronomy 33–34 Job 20 Acts 8:2–25	21 Joshua 1–2 Job 21 Acts 8:26–40	22 Joshua 3:1–5:1 Job 22 Acts 9:1–25
23 Joshua 5:2–6:27 Job 23 Acts 9:26–43	24 Joshua 7–8 Job 24 Acts 10:1–33	25 Joshua 9–10 Job 25 Acts 10:34–48	26 Joshua 11–12 Job 26 Acts 11:1–18	27 Joshua 13–14 Job 27 Acts 11:19–30	28 Joshua 15–17 Job 28 Acts 12	29 Joshua 18–19 Job 29 Acts 13:1–25
30 Joshua 20–21 Job 30 Acts 13:26–52	<i>And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved (Acts 2:21).</i>					

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The following are their suggestions: *The Treasury of Daily Prayer* from Concordia Publishing House. It's not inexpensive, but worth the value. If you'd like to use it on your phone there is an app called "PrayNow" for Androids or "InPrayer" for Apple iPhones which can be accessed through a yearly subscription.

To Live with Christ by Bo Giertz is also a wonderful and timeless daily resource.

A Year with the Church Fathers: Meditations for Each Day of the Church Year Concordia Publishing House is also a favorite.

Reading the Psalms with Luther in which Luther will introduce all the Psalms, while a schedule takes you through the reading of the Psalms for a year. This one is particularly helpful for devotions for meetings.

Submitted by your *Mission Lamp* editor

Lutheran Women in Mission Participate in the Tournament of Roses Parade

Lutheran Women in Mission President Eden Keefe spent New Year's Day riding on the Lutheran Hour float in the Rose Parade. Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) have had a float in the Rose Parade for 73 years. Their Petal Pusher volunteers helped decorate eight floats in the parade this year. The theme for this year's LHM float was "Make a Joyful Noise unto the LORD." If you missed the parade live, you can watch the KTLA broadcast on YouTube. President Eden and her husband Brad arrived in Pasadena a few days early and worked as Petal Pushers to decorate the float. Past LWML President Patti Ross brought some Petal Pushers this year and told President Eden, "Skip that cup of coffee in the morning" for a more comfortable ride on the float. Eden shared the response to "Jesus" along the route was both humbling and exhilarating! "It was such an honor to work on a float that joyfully proclaims Christ."



Treasure Trove of Information

There are many "gems" to be found at lwml.org as both President Cinda and Sandy Krainz have reminded us in their articles in this issue of the *Mission Lamp*. Now put on your mask and flippers and take a dive into the web site to find the many treasures available there, especially materials to enrich your upcoming Lenten journey. It's hard to believe but Ash Wednesday is on February 14 this year. That means Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday on March 24 and Easter is Sunday, March 31! I find something special EVERY time I "go for a swim!" May each person's journey be blessed with new resources to add to the meaning of this special season for Christians.





Update on Mission Grants

2023–2025 Mission Grant No. 2 - A HEALING SPACE FOR AT-RISK CHILDREN Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, North Dakota | \$100,000 **PAID IN FULL!**

A specialized chapel has been designed to provide hope and healing for at-risk children, ages 10 to 18, in the care of the Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, Bismarck, North Dakota, campus. Children at this facility have faced severe trauma in their lives, and need healing that only Jesus can give. This mission grant will help with building costs of the new chapel and provide spiritual care for these children, their families, and the Ranch staff.



Lutheran Women in Mission 2023–2025 MISSION GRANTS

1. **Orphan Grain Train Servant Center**
Orphan Grain Train, U.S.\$100,000
2. **A Healing Space for At-Risk Children**
Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, ND\$100,000
3. **Serving God's Children with Special Needs**
Journeys Lutheran School, Milwaukee, WI.....\$100,000
4. **Fortifying Faith in Those with Vision Impairment**
Lutheran Braille Workers.....\$100,000
5. **Disaster Response Team**
Trinity Lutheran Church, Tyler, TX.....\$50,000
6. **Mobile Kitchen**
Forged by Fire Services, Gulf Coast Region, U.S.\$85,000
7. **Upheld by God's Hand, Mental Health Outreach**
LCMS Life Ministry\$96,500
8. **Expanding Gospel Proclamation Worldwide**
Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO\$100,000
9. **Equipping Young Leaders — LCMS Youth Ministry**\$50,000
10. **Set Apart To Serve — LCMS Office of Pastoral Education**.....\$100,000
11. **Lutheran Women in Mission Finish the Job**
Ministry in Mission, Haiti\$85,000
12. **Sharing Christ Crucified with High School Youth**
Lutheran High School of Greater New Orleans, LA\$35,000
13. **Water and the Word**
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya\$80,000
14. **Enhancement of Deaf Ministry and Outreach**
Ephphatha Lutheran Mission Society, U.S.\$47,000
15. **Feeding Haitian Children Through Gospel and Meals**
Trinity HOPE.....\$58,082
16. **Care for Street Children of Western Kenya**
Capstone Ministries\$50,000
17. **Nurturing Faith for the Aging**
Lutheran Ministries Media (Worship Anew)\$100,000
18. **Zoe's Home Support**
Zoe's Home, Trinity Lutheran Church, Clinton, MO.....\$75,000
19. **Tanzania Children's Homes**
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania, Africa\$74,500
20. **Sharing Christ with Women and Children in Kazakhstan**
Lutheran Hour Ministries\$100,000
21. **Healthy Together: Healthy Workers, Healthy Church**
Lutheran Family Services, U.S.\$106,000
22. **Expanding Gospel Outreach to Hispanics in the U.S.**
Lutheran Hour Ministries\$100,000
23. **A Legacy of Love for Special Needs Children**
Lutheran Special Education Ministries, U.S.\$100,000
24. **God's Word for Central and South American Missions**
Lutheran Heritage Foundation.....\$100,000
25. **Bringing God's Word to India**
India Bible Translation Project\$100,000
26. **Life Connection Events and Kits — Lutherans for Life**.....\$70,000
27. **Siouxland Lutheran Hispanic Ministry**
Hope Lutheran, South Sioux City, NE.....\$50,000
28. **Growing Our Place: Care for Special Needs Students**
Our Place After School Care, Inc., NE\$20,000
29. **Repairs for St. Paul's Lutheran School**
St. Paul's Lutheran School, Cullman, AL\$50,000
30. **Showering Love on the Least of These**
Mercy Holistic Ministry, CA\$100,000
31. **Breaking Generational Poverty in Detroit**
Camp Restore Detroit, MI\$58,988

2023–2025 Mission Grant No. 3 - SERVING GOD'S CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS Journeys Lutheran School | \$100,000

Journeys Lutheran School in Milwaukee is Serving God's Children with Special Needs by providing educational opportunities in a specialized setting to meet the children's needs. The vans purchased with grant funds will be used to transport the children to and from events, internships, and other activities.



2023–2025 Mission Grant No. 5 - DISASTER RESPONSE TEAM Trinity Lutheran Church, Tyler, Texas | \$50,000 **PAID IN FULL!**

The Disaster Response Team of Trinity Lutheran Church in Tyler, Texas, responds to help victims of natural disasters. They are called to serve, have a presence on the ground, and assist with cleanup. While providing help, they listen to the victims and share the love of Jesus and bring hope, encouragement, and healing through God's Word and prayer.



2023–2025 Mission Grant No. 6 - MOBILE KITCHEN Forged by Fire Services | \$85,000

Forged by Fire Services prepares food for communities following natural disasters. They will come into a community with their trailer of supplies; set up their tent and kitchen. Grant money will purchase a mobile kitchen trailer. The trailer will allow for faster setup, protection from weather changes, and require less space.



Pages 12 and 13 provide information on the mission grants selected at the Milwaukee convention in June. The mission grant goal and list of grants are pretty amazing. They are being blessed by God with every coin dropped in a mite box. Grants #2, #5, #21, and #24 have already been paid in full. Grants #3, #6, and #16 have received partial payments. Also included is more specific information on a few of the current grants. These recaps are just a small representation of the information available at lwml.org. Videos, the full story of each grant, more pictures, prayers, bulletin blurbs, etc. are there for you to use in your congregations to share these wonderful stories.

A Special Prayer for Mites

Dear Jesus, we ask that these mites be used to extend your kingdom at home and around the globe. We also remember Your words: *"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also"* (Matthew 6:19–20). In Your precious name we pray - Amen.

MITE PRAYER CALENDAR

A partial theme for this issue has become resources for intentional, daily connections with God, the Bible, etc. Another resource available at lwml.org is a Mite Prayer Calendar. This monthly resource, which replaces the Mite Challenge Calendar, encourages being in prayer as we support missions together. Watch the web site for future calendars.



FEBRUARY

This is a monthly prayer guide for your daily use. Each day as you pray, please feed your Mite Box in support of district and LWML Mission Grants. As you lift up the countries and mission grants listed, pray that the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ would be heard by those who live there or are served by our mite offerings. Each country listed has been a recipient of a mission grant from LWML at some time since 1942. What a joy it is to bring these prayers to our Father's listening ears!



1. For your LWML sisters.
2. For LWML Mission Grant #4.
3. For Bolivia, one of the 83 countries where LWML has supported a grant.
4. For your church organist.
5. For those fighting cancer.
6. For our Lutheran Women in Mission Vice President of Christian Life.
7. For the country of Botswana.
8. Pray the LWML Pledge.
9. For the needs of those on the mission field.
10. For the country of Brazil.
11. For those in the Armed Forces.
12. For the President of the United States.
13. For love in your heart for your neighbor.
14. For Christ's sacrifice for us.
15. For the country of Cambodia.
16. For the LWML Kansas District.
17. For those who are caregivers.
18. For an opportunity to share your faith.
19. For the country of Cameroon.
20. For those who write devotions and Bible studies.
21. For LWML Mission Grant #5.
22. For those facing the loss of a loved one.
23. For the country of Canada.
24. For the LWML Missouri District.
25. For your LWML district officers.
26. For the country of Chile.
27. For your LWML group members.
28. For the lonely to feel God's presence.
29. For God's gift of another year of your life.

Lutheran Woman's Quarterly

Have you sent in your *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* order yet?

I would like to introduce myself as the NEW Quarterly Manager. My name is Paula Keefer and I have lived in Wisconsin for two years. I was very active in the LWML Oklahoma District before moving north to be near my three grandkids. I am excited to have a chance to serve in my new district and I ask for your patience with me as I learn my new role. In that regard, it would be very helpful to me if everyone could send in their payments promptly so that I have time to learn and complete the process in a timely manner.

March 15 is the deadline for your 2024 *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* order form!

What a bargain! If you order 10 or more, they are only \$6.00 each. To order, fill out a 2024 *Quarterly* order form, LWML SWD Receipt Voucher along with your check made out to LWML SWD. Mail them all to LWML SWD Financial Secretary Wendie Staus (address on Receipt Voucher). You should have received this information from your zone president in the fall of 2023. If not, the 2024 *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* order form and 2022–2024 LWML SWD Receipt Voucher are available on the LWML SWD webpage under Resources/Society. The sooner you get them in the better. Remember, I'm new and learning a new process!

Questions? Please contact me by email. Marilyn is still listed on the form and will be helping me through this first ordering cycle. The 2024 *Quarterly* subscription orders begin with the 2024 Summer issue and end with the 2025 Spring issue.

Paula Keefer
LWQ Manager
paulajkeefe@gmail.com

WE LOVE MISSIONS!

If anyone is experiencing the 'Winter Blues,' there is an easy cure. Simply go to the LWML SWD website under the 'Missions' tab and access the list of mission grants for this biennium — your mood will immediately change from "Blue" to bright PURPLE! As of January 2024, only one grant remains to be paid before the upcoming June convention.

This list of fully funded grant projects is truly a testament to the love and dedication of the women of the LWML SWD. Many prayers have gone into Mite Boxes, along with the generous donations that make these projects possible. Now that we are so close to funding this biennium's grant proposals, the time has come to consider projects for the next two years. Numerous grant applications have been received and reviewed. When the review process is complete, the proposals will be presented to the SWD Board of Directors before being put on the ballot for the June SWD 2024 District Convention. At the convention, delegates will vote for which projects will be funded in 2025–2027.

Many opportunities to support very worthy missions will be represented by the grants selected. The delegates attending the convention will be asked to prayerfully consider the projects in advance of the convention. We pray that God will direct their choices.

Kay Nett - Mission Grants Committee Chairman
kaynett19818@gmail.com



Partnering in Missions!

As I write this, it is excruciatingly cold outside, but when I check my mailbox, it warms me up to find mite contributions from our local SWD groups! Thank you very much for your generosity. Because of your efforts, we are close to funding all of our mission grants this biennium, the last being the Hispanic Ministry in Sheboygan County.

As a reminder to the local group treasurers, when sending your order form and payment to me for the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*, please remember to include receipt voucher with your order. This is basically for bookkeeping purposes, but it is important. I appreciate your help. The receipt vouchers are found on our website, lwml-swd.org, choosing the 'Resource' tab, 'Society Helps' tab, and scroll down to 'Receipt Voucher.'

Thank you for your continued support of our mission grants!

Wendie Staus
LWML SWD Financial Secretary
financialsecretary@lwml-swd.org



2022 –2024 LWML SWD Theme, Bible verse, and goals!

Abiding in Christ's LOVE

Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him and he is in God. So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him (1 John 4:15-16).

Serve one another

Study Scripture to know, and

Share CHRIST'S LOVE!



2022-2024 Mission Grants

These are the 2022-2024 Mission Grants:

- Orphan Grain Train - Wisconsin Branch
Paid in FULL! \$15,000
- In School Counseling for Mental Health of Students
Paid in FULL! \$10,000
- SWD Church Worker Grant
Paid in FULL! \$30,000
- Financial Assistance for CTS, Fort Wayne Food & Clothing Co-op
Paid in FULL! \$10,000
- Outreach to Female Inmates
FUNDS RETURNED \$15,000
- A Place of Refuge Ministries/House remodel
Paid in FULL! \$25,000
- Camp LuWiSoMo Camper Scholarships
Paid in FULL! \$20,000
- Bethany Ev. Lutheran Church Ministry Outreach
Paid in FULL! \$14,000
- A Playground as an Oasis - St Martini/LUMIN
Paid in FULL! \$15,000
- Care for Clergy Wives - Doxology
Paid in FULL! \$ 8,000
- SOS Center Designed for Success
Paid in FULL! \$ 20,000
- Hispanic Ministry \$ 11,060

Total: \$178,060

Please see the website lwml-swd.org for Mission Grant information. Look under Resources, District then Grants.



2024 Events to Remember

- February 2-3 Winter Getaway - Milwaukee
Marriott West - Waukesha
- Feb 10 Executive Committee meeting
St Paul Lutheran - Oconomowoc
- Feb 12 BOD reports due to Corr Sec
- Feb 24 BOD meeting
Bethlehem Lutheran - Sun Prairie
- March 2 BOD snow date
- March 15 Heart to Heart – Sisters of all
Nations event - Granville Lutheran
School - Milwaukee
- April 15 May *Mission Lamp* articles due
- April 30 Female Church Worker
Scholarship applications due
- May 1 TLC Scholarship deadline
- May 18 Pre-Convention EC meeting
Our Savior Lutheran - Baraboo
- June 14 Pre-Convention BOD meeting
Bethlehem Lutheran - Sun Prairie
- June 14-15 2024 SWD Convention
Bethlehem Lutheran - Sun Prairie
- June 15 Fall Rally PR due to PR Chair



See page 3 of this issue or
lwml-swd.org for more details
about events taking place during
convention.

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Vaunie Weaver, *Mission Lamp* editor

Wendie Staus, assistant editor

*The Book of the Law shall not depart from
your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day
and night, so that you may be careful to do
according to all that is written in it. For then
you will make your way prosperous, and then
you will have good success (Joshua 1:8).*