



Mission Lamp

LWML South Wisconsin District

SERVE THE LORD WITH GLADNESS

May 2021

“HAVE to?” or “GET to?”

Dear Sisters in the LWML SWD,

When my children were young one of them would occasionally ask, “Do I HAVE to go to church?” and I would cheerfully answer, “No! You GET to go to church!” Have you ever thought about the difference between “HAVING” to do something and “GETTING” to do something? When we “HAVE” to do something there is a sense of obligation, but when we “GET” to do something there is a sense of privilege. A change of attitude changes a HAVE to into a GET to. Whether washing dishes or serving in the LWML, I remember I am serving the Lord in all that I do. Two passages encourage me to have an “I GET TO” attitude: *Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths,* (Psalm 25:4) and *For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them* (Ephesians 2:10).

How do we know what He has prepared for us? We pray and stay in His Word. Then we rejoice in serving Him in all that we do both at home and at church. One of my greatest joys is serving the Lord through the LWML. There are so many opportunities to use my time, talents, and treasures to spread the gospel message to those around me and throughout the world.

How do we GET to serve Him through the LWML in SWD?

We serve Him by our mites and the prayers we offer for mission grants. We pray He will bless the current SWD Grant, At Just the Right Time-Mission Central. Do you like to walk? Consider serving Him by organizing a group (society) mission walk for mites (Read about two opportunities to support mites in the

LWML Convention Virtual Photo Finish Mission Walk and the “TEE UP 4 MITES” articles.)

We serve Him by sharing news and resources from the lwml.org and lwml-swd.org websites, as not all have access to the internet. We know we can use these resources to reach out to others and help them to learn about the LWML through the LWML App, *On The Go* Podcasts, Bible studies, and the sharing the work of the mite to support the missions of the church. (Read more about *On The Go* Podcasts and share this connection to the Word with a busy young woman in your congregation.)

We serve Him as convention delegates and participants to the 39th LWML Convention in Lexington, KY. Delegates will be voting on a new Mission Goal and Grants, Officers, and Bylaw changes and bringing the news back to share in their zones. Some participants will attend the convention, and others may watch the conventions virtually as it is live streamed. (Read more in the “Livestreaming in Lexington” article.) We serve Him by supporting delegates through our prayers, rally offerings, and showing interest in learning about their experiences. Pray also for the LWML SWD Jr. Counselor Rev. Matthew Gehrke; Heart 2 Heart Sister Joanna Ellis, Bethany, Milwaukee; and our two Young Women Representatives: Alexandra Bramstadt, Divine Savior, North Fond du Lac, and Eugenia Ellis, Bethany, Milwaukee.

We serve Him as we prepare for the LWML SWD Convention on June 18, 2022, at St.

See “Have to?” or “Get to?” on page 2

“HAVE to?” or “GET to?”

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Paul Lutheran Church, Grafton. We serve by supporting the attendance of two delegates from each group (society), submitting candidate nominations for officers and grants proposals, and our prayers.

We serve Him as we prepare to host the 40th LWML Convention, June 22–25, 2023. Please pray about how you might serve, review the chart with the vacant chairman positions, read the article from Host Committee Chairman, Anne Hartman (both found in the Mission Lamp), talk to friends about how you might serve together, and pray some more! A while back, zones were asked to think of ways to help build the convention “start-up” fund. To date

\$2,777.20 has been submitted. Thank you! Keep up the good work! Some groups have “Muffins for Mites,” and perhaps a “Crafting for Convention” might be a way to generate funds.

May the Lord Bless you with “GET to” opportunities as you serve Him in all that you do!

Cinda Poppe
LWML SWD President



“Unlikely Servants” Podcasts



Lutheran Women’s Missionary League (LWML) *On The Go* Podcasts began a new devotional series called “Unlikely Servants” by Lou Garchow. These podcasts look at nine women who were encumbered by something in their lives which might seem to have made them unworthy to serve a Holy God. However, these women, loved and forgiven, were chosen by the Lord to fulfill a specific purpose for Him. These podcasts will encourage each of us to dedicate our lives and work to the Lord despite our shortcomings.

Over nine weeks, join with women and men around the world as we share how God worked in the lives of Ruth, encumbered by her background; the Samaritan woman, encumbered by her lifestyle; Hannah, encumbered by poor personal relationships; Eve, encumbered by doubt and pride; Sarah, encumbered by anger and impatience; Rebekah, encumbered by showing favoritism within the family; Esther, encumbered by age/ethnic background; Miriam, encumbered by jealousy; and Martha, encumbered by worry.

Podcasts are available at www.lwml.org, but many women find it easiest to listen to them on their smartphone through the LWML App. The LWML App is free through the App Store on your phone.

Podcasts are flexible, so tune in any time that fits your schedule. Join host Rebecca Fuddy as we learn just how much we are like many of these other “Unlikely Servants.”

From our District Counselor

What Lessons can we Learn from Eve's Life

Are you like me? Do you struggle following God's commands? Recently, at the Zone 15 Spring Rally, I had the privilege of leading a Bible Study. This time our Bible study was on Eve. It comes from a Bible study from CPH, called "Great Women of the Bible," part of the Small Group Bible Study Series. Our Zone 15 is taking time to use this book to learn about Eve, Sarah, Rebekah, Leah, and Rachel.

One of the questions was very important to me as we studied. Question 15 asked as we studied Eve, "As Christians, what lessons can we learn from Eve's life?" One of the answers I had was that following God's commands can be difficult. After all, that is what got us in the mess of sin in the first place. God's command was shared with Eve. She wasn't supposed to eat the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. With Satan's help, she struggled with God's command. She broke God's command, and it had major consequences for God's perfect creation.

Those consequences are well known today. To be honest, we have similar experiences as Eve. We know what is right and wrong. We have the 10 commandments. We have plenty of clear passages from God telling us what we should and shouldn't do. Like Eve, we struggle. We listen to ourselves. We obey those edgy, new voices out there. We obey and listen to many different voices instead of God's clear, good commands. With the help of Satan, we continue to struggle with keeping God's commands.

Thankfully that was only the first lesson we can learn from Eve's life. The second is that God's promises are worth believing. After Adam and Eve had eaten the forbidden fruit, after they hid from God in the garden, after they played the blame game, after they introduced sin into the whole world, and after all the damage was

done, God graciously promised them a Savior. Despite Eve earlier doubting God's command, by God's grace Eve believed God's promise. After her mistake, Eve believed those precious words of a Savior, someone to crush the head of the serpent. Despite everything she and Adam had done, God left them with a promise, the most important promise of all. God was willing to save her — a Savior to love and save the whole world!

Again, that is a pattern of us. We so often disobey God's commands, but then we believe the promises God makes to us in our baptism, throughout His Word, and through His Son

I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel (Genesis 3:15).

Jesus, the promised Savior. It is an amazing dichotomy. We struggle with God's commands, but we believe God's promises. We believe that God through Jesus still loves all people so we continue to be supporters of mission work in our communities and around the world. God has

given us great promises, and we are moved by the Spirit to share those promises with others!

We believe God's promises because He kept His promise to Eve of a Savior. Satan crushed the heel of Jesus on the cross, but Jesus dealt Satan a mortal wound to his head on the cross. God kept that promise! Now we believe that one day the Savior will raise us from dead! We believe that we have forgiveness of sins because of Jesus. We believe so many great things because God promised it to us through Jesus. Every time we as the LWML support mission work and share God's promises with others, we demonstrate this important truth. We believe the promises of God.

Pastor Matthew Gehrke
SWD Pastoral Counselor

News from the Leadership Training Workshops

God be praised, approximately 75 women were able to attend the leadership workshops held this spring at St. John's, Random Lake, and Good Shepherd, Tomah. A special thanks to these congregations for hosting the workshops.

Our motto for this year's workshop was from Colossians 1:9-10, "Bearing Fruit and Growing in Knowledge." It was our hope that the women in LWML will now bear the fruit of the knowledge they gained from their experience at this workshop. We had some excellent presentations from Paulette Stecker and Jen Schneider, Jan Schadt and Jill Jones, Kristen Kolell and Emily McDermott, Diane Meyer, Jennifer Olen, Sandy



Kainz, and finally a question and answer session at the end with Cinda Poppe and some other LWML veterans. It was a wonderful day of learning, and it is the hope of the committee that our groups in the LWML SWD can move forward with

leadership of their organizations with some refreshing new ideas in a year where many changes have taken place. Please feel free to reach out with questions to any of these presenters, as they would be more than willing to answer any questions you may have about the information presented.

I am also including a quick overview of the session entitled "Going Beyond the Traditional Meeting," presented by Jan Schadt and myself. We put together a slideshow for you to enjoy with many useful links that may benefit you when planning how to interact and work with the ladies from your church group.

I would like to walk through some of the helpful highlights from this presentation. If you go to slide three, you will see the link to the various roles of

women in the Bible. Click on the link on this slide, and it will take you to the website of "Ten Women Leaders in the Bible." You may wish to use the featured women leaders in future Bible study classes. On slide four, there is a link that shows how to set up and host a virtual meeting through a Google Meet, and on the next slide I included some directions for how to set up a Zoom meeting.



Jan, on the next slide, discusses how to use Thrivent grants for some of your service projects, etc. Then on the next several slides, Jan and I share many great resources for Bible studies and workshops that we have used and found very valuable over the years. Finally, be sure to click on the link for the planning document that we used this past year with the women from our church. My hope is that these resources within this slideshow will be beneficial to you as you plan new ways of interacting with the women of your groups throughout the coming years.

As you all know, it takes a team of people to plan, prepare and put on these workshops. God certainly blessed this group
See Leadership Training on page 5



Leadership Training

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As we planned and prepared through virtual means for these leadership development days over the course of the last 8 months. I would like to thank the committee members: Pastoral Counselor Matthew Gehrke, Paulette Stecker, Jen Schneider, Amy Tikkanen, Jen Olen, and Peggy Buhler. Your leadership and help was much appreciated. Please consider joining our committee as we will be planning the next leadership development days for the spring of 2023. Also, don't hesitate to reach out if we can be of assistance to you in your planning of future group meetings and gatherings.

God's richest blessings to each and every one of you in this upcoming year. Please keep bearing in fruit and growing in knowledge as you move forward in 2021 and beyond.

In Christ,
Jill Jones, LML SWD Leadership Development
Chairman
jj.richwood.east@hotmail.com

LINK TO PRESENTATION

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1-t72IBapDJVUcEIQnQIUa3nmlzPw-JanrH3f-hoDoTM/edit?usp=sharing>



My LWML is Invisible

The Leadership Development Workshops held in March included a question and answer session. One of the questions submitted started out with "Our church's LWML is pretty invisible (except for quarterly mite gatherings and a salad supper now and again). How have other churches made LWML impactful in the lives of women?" In the next few Mission Lamps, I will provide some ideas on how your LWML can become more VISIBLE to your congregation.

Always include an announcement in the church bulletin and newsletter whenever you have a meeting or event. Include WHERE it is and WHAT you will be doing. Don't assume everyone knows where you meet. Don't just announce "LWML meeting will be May 10 at 1:00 PM". Instead, you should include details, such as "Trinity LWML will have their fellowship on May 10, 2021. We will be meeting in our Fellowship Hall. There will be a Bible study led by Pastor Mech. We will also make encouragement cards as a servant project. Contact Diane Meyer if you have any questions."

The Renewal Committee has received some completed "Group Health Checklist" forms, and I am finding some great ideas of what LWML groups are doing and can see a trend that groups having an activity such as a Bible study, speaker, or servant project rather than just a meeting seem to be thriving. If your group has not completed a "Group Health Checklist," please do so. The information is helpful to the committee as we evaluate what is working to strengthen our LWML and share that information with our LWML groups.

Diane Meyer
Renewal Committee Chairman
Phone: 920-912-3957



We hope all of our members, sisters, and well-wishers had a great Easter celebration. Did you use some time to access the lwml-swd.org facebook page or access the Virtual Cruise videos through the LWML SWD facebook page and watch the videos of

the Heart to Heart Sisters celebration so far? Well? It has been very interesting watching the introduction of the committee members and faith-filled devotion since the take off.

We are pleased to see the number of viewers every weekend and hope to see much more of every zone member and society friends and families view the videos. The best part of the series is forthcoming, so happy viewing!

Should you and your society or zone wish to get some insight about The Heart to Heart Sisters, the committee members are willing to send one or two of us to do a presentation. We are even open to having videos from our presentation be used at zone or society meetings.

Like the determined Ruth, whose characters we are using to guide us through our journey; In Ruth 1:16, we are determined to make sure we do our best in spreading God's word to all nations, cultures, and races.

God's continued Blessings!
Joanna Ellis
Heart to Heart Chairman

Events

June 15, 2021	Fall Rally Info due to PR
June 24- 27, 2021	LWML Convention in Lexington, KY
July 15, 2021	Mission Lamp articles due
August 14, 2021	Young Women Event
August 21, 2021	EC Meeting
September 17-18, 2021	LWML SWD Fall Retreat
September 25, 2021	BOD meeting

2021 Young Women Event

Date: August 14, 2021
Location: Trinity Lutheran
728 Church Street, Wisconsin Dells
Theme: Focused on Christ "My hope is in You all day long." Psalms 25:5

Geared for families with children of all ages. Fun servant events with children's messages to keep the kids engaged and growing in Christ.

Possible Online option!
Contact Amy Tikkanen at 608-369-2059 or atikkanen.lwml@gmail.com with any questions

Young Women's Event Who needs an event that the whole family can attend? That's right, the WHOLE family! The Young Women's Committee has planned an event that not only focuses on Jesus and service but is planned around the kids. We would like you to join us Saturday, August 14, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for some fun and spiritual growth.

We will have an in-person event at Trinity Lutheran in Wisconsin Dells or, if you can't join us in person, we will have the event on Zoom as well! We will have two to three children's type sermons/devotions, VBS type songs, learn about the church through children's eyes and, of course, servant events. If you are able to join us in person, we will be working on lap blankets for a local nursing home and making witness bracelets for MOST Ministries. For those on Zoom, as well as in person, we will have cards and bookmarks that can be colored for local nursing home residents. We hope you can join us. Make sure to bring your children and learn how we can remember ... *My hope is in You all day long* (Psalm 25:5 NIV).

To register for the event, please go to lwml-swd.org/Events/Workshops for the Young Women's Event Registration. The registration form can also be printed off and mailed in if you would prefer not to complete it online.



News Updates from the LWML Lexington Convention

Livestreaming in Lexington

The LWML will, once again, livestream all convention sessions in the Rupp arena. For those watching the convention at home, make plans to have a livestreaming party and invite the women in your congregation to watch it together. You will be able to participate in the convention's Bible study, hear the grateful and inspiring mission grant speakers, and be there when the new biennium's mission goal and mission grants are announced. Watch for information and directions coming soon to the LWML website.

2021 LWML Convention Virtual Photo Finish Mission Walk

A new opportunity for participants of the 39th Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) Convention is a virtual Photo Finish Mission Walk. If you are not able to attend the convention, you still have an opportunity to participate by organizing a mission pledge walk in your neighborhood or at your church. Any member or group can do this at any time up to June 4, 2021. What a great way to be a part of the convention and donate to the new LWML Mission Goal. Information on how to share your mission walk photos and send your pledges will be posted to the website in April.



EXTRA EXTRA

REGISTRATION OPEN!!!!

*Lutheran Women's Missionary League
Convention in Lexington, Kentucky Convention*

Registration which was temporarily closed due to COVID-19 restrictions at the Rupp Arena at Central Bank Center, where the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) convention will be held June 24–27, 2021, is now open.

We are excited to announce that due to recent developments and the release of government mandates on May 14th the registration is now fully open.

A mask will still be required and sanitizer will be available around the arena. Full stipulations will be published on the LWML.org website under the convention information as we get closer to the convention date.

Please keep the Host Committee, Convention Management Team, and the LWML Convention Planning Committee in your prayers as we regroup again!

As a member of the Convention Management Team it has been a blessing to have the support and prayers from across the country. On to PLAN C or D as we finish Running the Race....Looking to Jesus.

See you in Lexington!

Ruth Weckwerth
LWML Convention Housing Manager

Mission Grant Reflections...

During the time that we continue to collect mites, the upcoming grant requesters are being patient and trusting in God's timing. Such is true with the most recent grant. While looking for a suitable replacement vehicle for their ministry work, A Place of Refuge Ministries was patient. We are praising God that prayers have been answered and that, as this article is being written, \$20,000 is on its way for that purpose. The privilege of being able to support this life-affirming work is now part of our LWML legacy for this grant cycle. See the aplaceofrefuge.com webpage for more of their

exciting work.

Our next grant recipient, waiting patiently, is Mission Central in Iowa. They have requested \$15,000 to continue their work in supporting missionaries here and abroad. Check them out at missioncentral.us and get excited to know the role they play in support of those precious missionary families. Just a reminder that sending mites early in the month to Marilyn Belter, financial secretary, helps our bookkeeping and staying on top of grant payments in a timely manner.

In other news, you will most likely take note of the Mission Lamp articles from our Heart to Heart Sisters Chair, Joanna Ellis, and Missionary Outreach and Mission Education Chair, Rachel Wegener. Kay Nett, Mission Grants Chair, and Kathy Herbst, Special Focus Ministries, are also in a position to help you and LWML SWD fulfill its purpose of joyfully spreading the Gospel news. In a world desperate for the love of Jesus, we must continue to use the ways and means of the LWML to get resources to where they are needed. Pray God's will be done in this and in all our daily concerns.

LuAnn Roman
VP of Special Focus Ministries and Mission



Christ is risen! Happy Easter, my friends!

This spring are you looking for something different to do? A place your group can safely volunteer for a day? Want more information on Christian resources in South Wisconsin?

I have a new resource available for you! We used to have a lending library, but its lack of use led us to create something we think will be more helpful. Soon you will be able to request a Referral Library from me. It contains a list of organizations from Orphan Grain Train to the seminaries — which have way more resources on their websites than I previously realized! Under each organization there are bullet points listing resources on their website. Stay tuned for more information!

Rachel Wegener
Missionary Outreach and Mission Education

Engage in Missions by Funding Missions



Mite Goal for 2020–2022 biennium is \$205,000.00, with \$153,750.00 designated for SWD mite grants and \$51,250.00 designated for LWML mite grants.

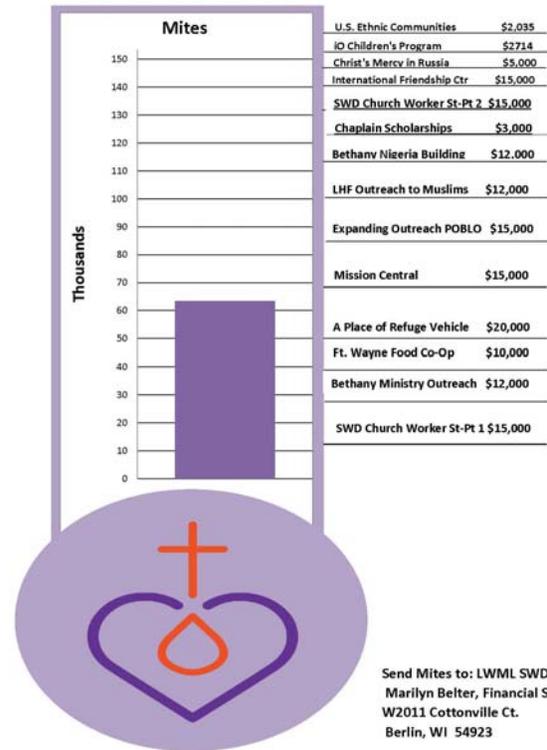
Keep those mites coming to my mailbox! Please make checks payable to LWML SWD.

Memorial and celebration cards are available.

Do you have a skill in data entry? Do you like to receive mail? Do you love the LWML? If so, please consider allowing your name to be nominated for the Financial Secretary position in 2022. I'm so glad that I agreed to be on the ballot in 2018. I have been truly blessed by the notes of encouragement I receive from some of the wonderful society and zone treasurers. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at: financialsecretary.lwml.swd@gmail.com

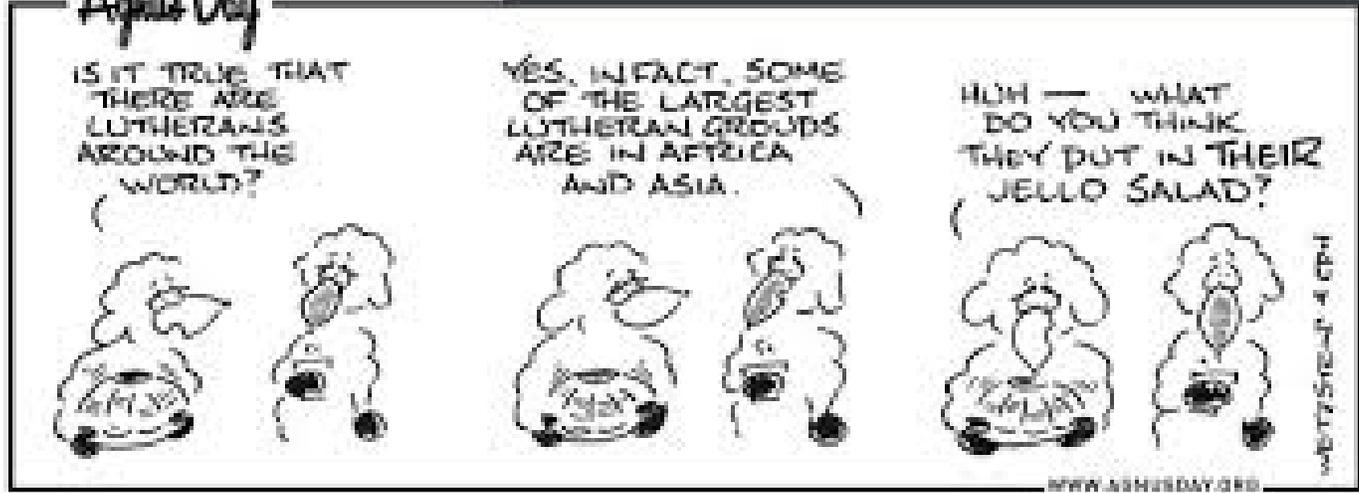
Marilyn Belter
LWML SWD Financial Secretary

South Wisconsin Mite Goal 2020-2022 April 2021



Lutheranism 101

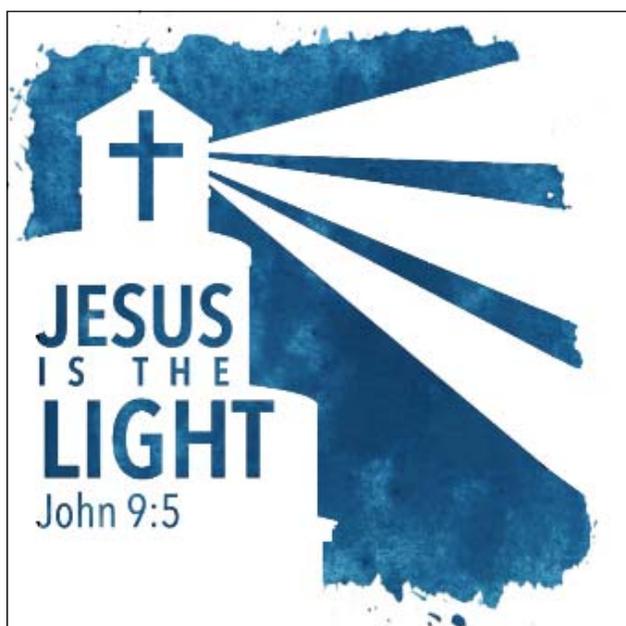
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2021 LWML SWD Fall Retreat - *Jesus is the LIGHT*

2021 LWML SWD Fall Retreat — “JESUS is the LIGHT,” September 17 & 18 at Best Western Premier Waterfront Hotel & Convention Center.

The Fall Retreat Committee invites you to gather with us at the retreat under the theme “JESUS is the LIGHT,” based on John 9:5: *As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.*



How is the light of Jesus reflected in the world? Through women like ...

- Deaconess Sandra Rhein, an International Hymnal Consultant for the LCMS. Deaconess Sandra will share with us how she helps to bring hymnals to life in native languages such as Swahili, Mandarin Chinese, and Amharic.
- Deaconess Katherine Rittner, Food & Clothing Coop Director at the Concordia Theological Seminary Fort Wayne, who will be our Mites in Action speaker.
- YOU ... who will help to tie fleece hats and scarves, pack homeless hygiene kits for the Milwaukee Urban Ministry, and bless others with your offering and Gifts from the Heart.

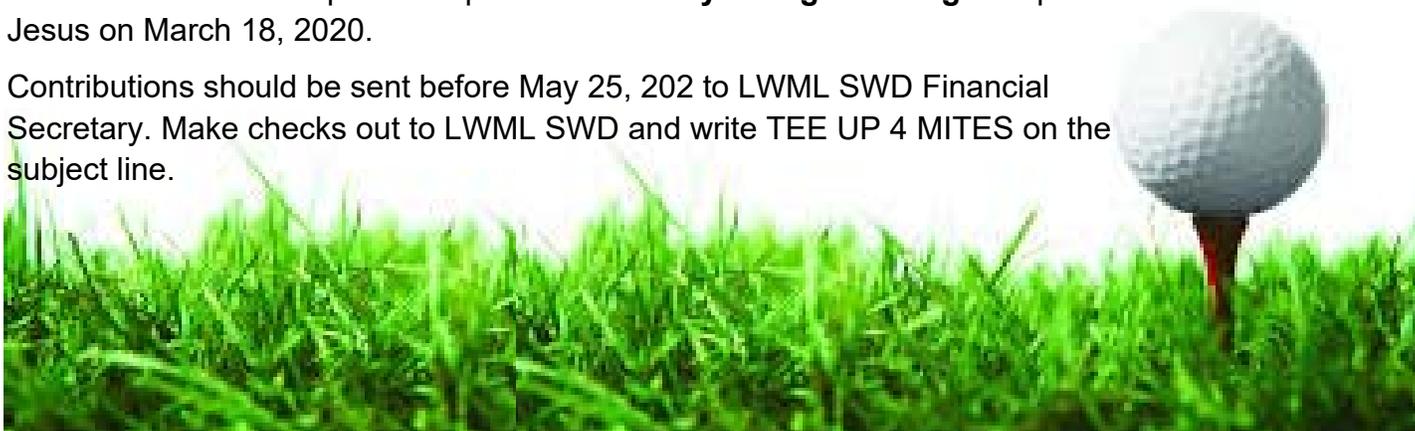
Registration forms and posters are available on our district website (www.lwml-swd.org/events/retreat). Get that registration in now! Invite a friend to attend! Continue to pray for this event!

Thank you and blessings on your summer — see you in the Fall!
2021 LWML SWD Fall Retreat Committee

TEE Up 4 Mites!!!!

The LWML SWD is collecting donations towards sponsorship at the LWML TEE UP 4 Mites at the LWML Convention in Lexington, KY this June. **All donations go towards mites for the 2021-2023 biennium.** Our SWD sponsorship will honor **Marlys Taege Moberg** who passed into the arms of Jesus on March 18, 2020.

Contributions should be sent before May 25, 2021 to LWML SWD Financial Secretary. Make checks out to LWML SWD and write TEE UP 4 MITES on the subject line.



Christian Growth

WHAT IS YOUR TREASURE?

Do you ever stop and take the time to look around your home and see every item for what it is? God has blessed us with earthly treasures that we can use and enjoy, but if you have ever had to clean out the home of a deceased loved one, you often realize that it is just stuff, never to be used again by the one who was called home.

So very often the verses from Matthew 6:19-21 come to my mind: *Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy ... but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven ... For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

The www.lwml.org website has a single session Bible study, "Heavenly Treasure — Our Number One Priority," that speaks to this issue. Where is YOUR heart's home? There is also a Mite Offering Litany, "Where My Treasure Is," incorporating the hymn verses from "Jesus, Thou Art Mine Forever," TLH 357.

I encourage everyone to take the time to review the resources LWML has for use, individually or at gatherings. Jesus is our priceless treasure and one day we will be with Him, leaving behind all that we have received from God's goodness while we lived on this earth.

Sandy Krainz
Christian Life



Time for RENEWAL?

Have you had times when you just are not feeling well? It is nothing you can put your finger on, but you just don't feel right. You might wait a week, then a month, and then four months have passed. You haven't gotten worse, so you just continue not feeling quite well. Eventually you do see a doctor. He knows what is wrong, and his treatment plan for you is to make some lifestyle changes. You need to do things differently than you have done before. Soon you are feeling and doing much better.

Your LWML group can also feel "not quite well." Maybe it has been feeling that way for a long time already and you have just gotten used to it. The Renewal Committee has developed a "Group Health Checklist." We asked the zone presidents to distribute it to each LWML group in their zone. This checklist is a helpful tool to determine if your group has some "unhealthy" habits causing it to lose energy. By completing this form and returning it to us, the Renewal Committee will be able to help you make changes that will bring back the excitement and energy to serve the Lord through LWML that you once had.

Here are just a few of the indicators that tell us your group could use some help:

1. You have had the same president for more than 10 years.
2. You have had no new members for the past two years.
3. You haven't made any changes to your group to meet the needs of your members or women in your congregation.

The Renewal Committee would welcome the opportunity to help your group feel strong as you focus on studying God's Word, being engaged in missions, and actively serving others.

You can find the Group Health Checklist and a Renewal Committee skit on the LWML SWD website. Look under Resources and Society Helps. Here are the links: [Group Health Checklist](#) and [Lucy's Wonderfully, Marvelous Licks](#).

Diane Meyer, Renewal Committee Chairman
Phone: 920-912-3957

Mission Grant Applications due October 31

Jesus said to his disciples “Open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.” The hymn writer tells us to respond “Send me, send me!” when workers for the harvest fields are called. As Lutheran Women in Mission, we are very aware that the mission fields of the world are in need of workers. Whether those fields are on the other side of the globe or in our own neighborhoods, the need to share Christ with others is ever-present. Some of us have been willing and able to go into those mission fields. But those of us who are not able to are still called upon to be actively mission-minded. One way we can do that is by being aware of mission opportunities in need of financial help, now more than ever.

The time of year to submit mission grant proposals to be considered at our next district convention is here. If you are aware of a mission project in need, please consider submitting an application. Detailed information and guidelines for mission grant proposals can be found on the website lwml-swd.org under the Resources tab for district. Please direct

questions to any member of the Mission Grants committee.

Deadline for submitting proposals is October 31, 2021; however, applications may be submitted anytime — the



sooner the better! This will allow the committee ample time to consider the proposals. Also available on the website are bulletin inserts and posters to promote current district mission grants which you are encouraged to use in your churches, zones, and groups. God’s blessings as you search out projects where our mites can make a difference.

Kay Nett, Mission Grants Chairman

Nominations for SWD Officers for 2022

Discover the JOY of serving to God’s glory. In 2022 the delegates of the LWML SWD will be electing some new officers at the LWML SWD convention. There are dedicated women of the LWML and pastors who are willing to fill these positions:

VP Organizational Resources
VP Gospel Outreach and Christian Life
Recording Secretary
Financial Secretary
Jr Pastoral Counselor

If you or someone you know would be a good fit for these positions, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee: Debbie Volden — Zone 3-Chair, Carolyn Fish — Zone 19, Marge Frank — Zone 19, Barb Schallock — Zone 7, Barb Kahn — Zone 11, Jean Lietz — Zone 15.

Remember, God does not call the equipped; He equips those He called. You may nominate others or yourself. Please prayerfully consider who you might nominate. Nomination papers can found on the lwml-swd.org website under Resources/District Helps/Forms.

LWML offers many opportunities to serve our Lord!

My passion, my heart of and with LWML is the emphasis we place on missions. Over 40 years ago I was 'sold' on LWML when I attended a district convention in Iowa, and they had to vote on how to spend \$6,000 EXTRA from their mites collection!! I was just learning about LWML then. I love to hear the stories of our missionaries and the work they are doing for the Lord and the extension of His kingdom, through the Holy Spirit, throughout the world! Many times, these stories include struggles and challenges, just like we all face, but our faith and trust in our gracious and merciful God shows us that we are all "in His grip!" Through the various roles I have had with LWML on all levels, I have learned many aspects of mission work. God has granted many joys and blessings through these opportunities.

My role as VP Organizational Resources oversees 5 committees that deal with our district organization:

From the historical aspect, the Archivist-Historian helps to preserve happenings throughout the district by gathering rally programs and other materials each biennium as she puts them in the archives at Concordia University in Mequon. She also writes a biennium history for each district convention manual.

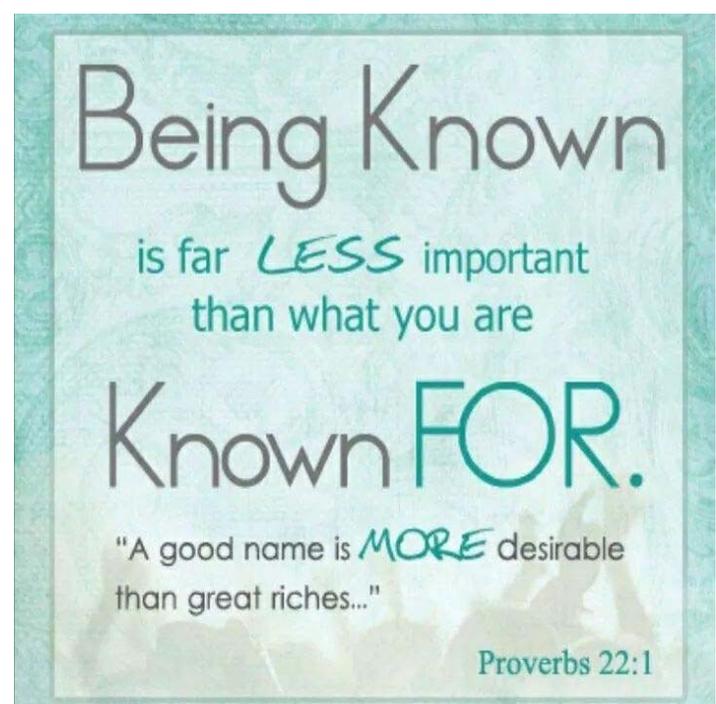
Dealing with the current organization, the Structure Committee works at updating bylaws and guidelines when updates are suggested and keeping them in a consistent format. The Leader Development Committee plans and runs the bi-yearly workshops to encourage leadership roles and service growth.

As to the future strength of our district, the Renewal Committee is proactive in being available to keep our groups alive and active. Then there is the Nominating Committee, who is always looking for the next elected officers of our district. These committees serve in keeping

our South Wisconsin District working efficiently. I have just begun to realize the past, present, and future this position holds.

My term is up in June 2022. As with all of the roles we have in LWML, we learn and grow in our faith and service, knowing God leads us and uses us to accomplish His plan. Nominations are needed for this position along with the positions of VP of Gospel Outreach and Christian Life (overseeing retreats and young women events), Recording Secretary (taking minutes at EC, BOD meetings, and district conventions), Financial Secretary (receiving and recording all donations) and Jr. Pastoral Counselor. The deadline for nominations is December 1, 2021. Please keep this process and all our district officers in your prayers as we serve the Lord with gladness ... wherever and whenever He has need of us!

Serving our Lord,
Ruth Mueller
LWML SWD VP of Organizational Resources



LWML Convention comes to Milwaukee, 2023



Greetings from your 2023 Host Committee Chairman! It has been exciting to see volunteer applications coming in my mailbox and my email inbox as well. This whole thing all became a little more real for me in early March. I got to go to Lexington, KY, to meet with the current Host Committee.

I had been on a few Zoom calls with the committee, just to observe and connect with the members of the committee. It was so great to be in Lexington, meet the men and women serving for the Host Committee for Lexington, and tour the convention center in downtown Lexington. The current committee has had to deal with many situations due to COVID and they are a wonderful group of volunteers.

One of the issues that this committee has had to deal with is that Lexington itself only has two Lutheran churches, and neither of them have an active LWML. That has been a real challenge for some of the committees that would really benefit having a local volunteer

working with them. While we were there, meeting at one of these churches, four women stepped up and came to meet with the committee, letting them know they will do all they can to recruit some local volunteers. God is so good! This shouldn't be a problem for us, because in a recent search on the LCMS website I input the city Milwaukee, and 27 churches came up!

I'm still in need of many committee chairmen. Please reach out to me if you have any questions or want more information. All of the positions are on your district website. My next newsletter article will include positions still needing to be filled. Ideally I would like to have all positions filled by August 15, 2021. Our first meeting of the Host Committee will be in November 2021. I look forward to serving with you over the next 2 years.

Serve the Lord with gladness! (Psalm 100:2).

Serving Him-
Anne Hartman
annelwml@gmail.com

Milwaukee LWML 2023 Convention, Chairman positions filled and vacant as of 4/13/21

Department and Committees	Name	District
Host Committee Chairman	Anne Hartman	
TREASURER	Pam Pfankuch	NWD
COMMUNICATIONS	Mary Harrington	NWD
Prayer Chair	Sue Neider	NWD
-Pray Chapel	Dawn Via	NWD
Publicity Chair	Carolyn Blum	SWD
-Hosting Dist. Newsletter editor		
-Hosting Dist. Bulletin Bits		
-Convention Logo Polo shirt sales		
Secretary/Staff Service Chair	Sonja Baumeister	NWD

Milwaukee LWML 2023 Convention, Chairman positions filled and vacant as of 4/13/21

Department and Committees	Name	District
CREATIVE		
Activities Chair		
-Blood Drive	Kristen Kolell	SWD
-Mission Pledge Walk (Milwaukee area chairman requested)		
-Golf Outing (Milwaukee area chairman requested)		
-Servant Activities (2)		
Decorations Chairman	Lorrie Wilson	SWD
-Banners/Mission Flags		
-Centerpieces		
-Convention Favors		
-Photo Op		
Music Chairman	Dawn Johnson	NWD
-Choir mailing/support		
FACILITY (Milwaukee area chairman requested)		
Properties Chair (Milwaukee area chairman requested)		
-Communications & Inventory Control		
-Exhibitors/Signage Support		
-Properties Room		
Ushers Chair	Mary Scharenbrock	NWD
-Handouts		
-Pages		
-Portal Ushers (Use when Assembly in arena)		
Worship Support Chair	Sue Pfeil	NWD
-Elements/Communion ware Packaging		
GUEST SERVICES		
Child/Youth Care Chair	Barb Kaun	SWD
-Nursery		
-Primary		
-Intermediate		
-Teen		
Food Services Chair		
-Hostess Scheduling		
-Server Liaison & Special Meals		
-Traffic Supervisor		
Packet Materials/ Registration Chair	Linda Arnold/Carol Fuys	NID
-Packet assembly/Registration Assistance		
Tour Chair	Jan Koopman	SWD
-City Tours/ Tour Information		

Milwaukee LWML 2023 Convention, Chairman positions filled and vacant as of 4/13/21

Department and Committees	Name	District
Transportation Chair		
-Airport Greeters/luggage room		
-District Charter Buses		
-Hotel Greeters		
-Hotel Shuttle Buses		
-VIP Drivers		
PERSONNEL	Sherri Smith	NIL
Hospitality Chair	Carol Smith	SWI
-Exhibits		
-Information Desk		
-Lost and Found		
-Onsite Hostesses		
-Wheelchair Rentals & Assist. Seating		
Personnel Data Management Chair	Becky Haultaufferheid	NWI
-Worker Scheduling		
-Worker's room		
Special Dress Chairman		
-LWML Store Assistance		
-Special Dress and Distribution		
Pastoral Counselors	Rev. Kris Whitby, NID, and	
District Presidents	Cinda Poppe, Becky Haultaufferheid, Janice Gerzevske	



Questions & Answers

Answering Questions: A question from the LWML SWD BOD on February 20, 2021, regarding counting event attendance.

Question: Do you count virtual views in attendance or just virtual participants? Example: A zone hosted a prayer service; there were 5 present, 12 virtual participants, and another 65 viewed at a later date.

President Debbie Larson responded, "I would count attendance by saying, "Seventeen participated with an additional 65 who viewed the recording, totaling 82.

Answer: Count all those in attendance at the time of the event, in person or virtually, and make a note of those who viewed at a later time.

Gladness Rags

Do you have any LWML or purple clothing that is still in good shape but is either too small or too large or just tired of it?

The Gladness Rags would love to have it for the clothes rack at the next LWML event. You can bring your items to a Board of Directors meeting or to the Fall Retreat in September. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Marilyn Belter
Gladness Rags Chairman



Executive Committee

President Cinda Poppe

president.lwml.swd@gmail.com

VP, Organizational Resources Ruth Mueller

vporgresources.lwml.swd@gmail.com

VP, Gospel Outreach and Christian Growth
Judy Gitzlaff

vpgospeloutreach.lwml.swd@gmail.com

VP, Special Focus Ministries and Mission
Grants LuAnn Roman

vpsfm.lwml.swd@gmail.com

VP, Communication Jennifer Olen

vpcommunication.lwml.swd@gmail.com

Recording Secretary Ruth Weckwerth

ruth.lwml@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary Jan Koopman

correspondingsecretar.lwml.swd@gmail.com

Financial Secretary Marilyn Belter

financialsecretary.lwml.swd@gmail.com

Treasurer Patricia Silah

treasurer.lwml.swd@gmail.com

Counselor Rev. Adam Barkley

pastor.luthermemorial@gmail.com

Counselor Rev. Matthew Gehrke

Matthew.gehrke@cuw.edu

*Next deadline is July 15th so get
those newsworthy items ready.*

"Serve the Lord with Gladness"

*Ruth Weckwerth, Mission Lamp editor
Wendie Staus, assistant editor*