



Mission Lamp

LWML South Wisconsin District

SERVE THE LORD WITH GLADNESS

August 2021

Convention? Past, Present or Future?

Dear Sisters in the LWML SWD,

A few months ago someone asked me a question about "convention" and I asked them, "Which convention?" With three conventions on my mind for the past year (LWML in Lexington 2021, LWML SWD on June 18, 2022, in Grafton, and the LWML 2023 in Milwaukee), please be sure to identify the convention YOU are referencing so we are both focusing on the same one!

In this issue of the Mission Lamp you will enjoy reading about the LWML Convention in Lexington as writers share their convention highlights and LWML "how tos" to encourage you as an LWML sister. Each article shares convention highlights for the individual writer. A personal favorite of mine is the Parade of Flags. Heart to Heart sisters and

others carry the flag from countries where an LWML Mission Grant was received. This year the parade had 82 flags including six new flags representing: Cambodia, Cameroon, Macau, Malawi, Rwanda, and Zambia. "*Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,*" (Matt. 28:19a).

Additional Lexington statistics include: registration just over 2800, including 72 from SWD; opening service including 60 pastors participating in communion distribution; and King's Kids, the child care program, with 45 participants, nursery through teens. An itemized list of Gifts from the Heart is found in eNews 342 on lwml.org and be sure to watch the 2021-2023 Mission Grants video also posted on lwml.org. Consider watching the convention at LWML on Livestream.

Special thanks to all who contributed Lexington Convention articles. Many are in this issue of the Mission Lamp, some will be shared in coming issues, and all the articles will be archived! Also, a huge thank you to Joan Anderson, travel coordinator. Words cannot fully express my appreciation and gratitude for the time she put into planning for the convention and arranging for the donation from Ocean Spray for the Milwaukee booth!

Serving our Lord with you,
Cinda Poppe, LWML SWD President

P.S. Soon the theme, verse, and logo for the Milwaukee 2023 convention will be announced. In November 2021, the first of many planning meetings will be held in Milwaukee. Host homes, sponsored meals, airport transportation, and host meeting locations will be needed each time the host committee "comes to town."

Also, review the committee chairmen and directors positions and give prayerful consideration to where you are called to serve. More information on supporting positions and sign-ups will be available at a later date!

Thanks to Karen Fairbrother for constructing the banner and to Alexandra and Eugenia for walking with me during the parade of banners.



From our District Counselor

Celebrating Mary

On August 15, the Church celebrates the life of Mary. She should be celebrated! Mary spoke to the angel, and her heart burst with joy knowing Christ was in her womb. At the home of Zechariah she prophesied to Elizabeth that she carried within her the Savior of the nations (Lk. 1:39-56). When studying the story of Noah's ark, we know how all the world was saved because God placed a small group and their animals in a boat. The boat carried the world's salvation for 40 days and 40 nights. Mary understood that her womb was a new kind of ark. She went on to sing *"My soul magnifies the Lord"* (Lk. 1:46). Within her body she housed the One who would save humanity from the flood of eternal death. At the birth of Christ, the shepherds arrived and Joseph remained faithful by her side. The angels sang (Lk.2) of Jesus' glory. Mary remained with Jesus for years.

First there was Simeon singing his song, *"Lord now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace"* (Lk. 2:29). The wise men would bring their gifts and then Mary fled with the Holy Family to avoid Herod's sword. She later attended the Cana wedding and saw the water turned into wine. Unfortunately, the wine would turn sour for her son. Her son would taste the bitter wine from a cross. And when the sword

was run into Christ it was also run into her. This is the kind of heartache she suffered (Lk. 2:35). Thanks be to God, every promise of Christ was made true three days later! The tomb was found empty. She saw her risen Lord and told of His resurrection. Her life is a life worth celebrating!

We do not pray directly to Mary and we do not worship her. If we worshiped Mary we would actually be dishonoring her! Consider her life. It was a life that lived for Christ; her son and Savior. She never asked for worship and she knew redemption was never in her hands. She is worth remembering because she remained faithful beside Jesus, in times of victory and times of absolute loss. She carried Jesus in her womb. But Jesus did the greater work. Jesus carried His cross for Mary. During August, remember Mary and honor her. She needs no worship. Worship belongs to Jesus. By Baptism you are a part of a new Holy Family, the family of Jesus. In the life to come you will see Mary and Joseph and all the faithful. You will be in that heavenly place because of the work of Christ alone. Come let us adore Him! Amen.

Rev. Adam Barkley

Senior Pastoral Counselor

**Didn't attend convention
or missed parts of the
convention?**

**Watch the sessions at
livestream.com/TheLWML.**

***All sessions are archived for you to
view at your convenience!***



Go to Livestream ▶

Mission Grant Reflections...from Lexington

Pre-convention seminars were offered at the LWML convention, covering several topics. As the newly appointed Mission Grants Chairman for the SWD, I attended the seminar on mission grant proposals. Representatives from LWML and the LCMS Office of Missions were on hand to review the process of preparing grant proposals and answer questions from those in attendance. They stressed the importance of carefully following the guidelines for submitting grant proposals and closely considering the criteria that proposals must meet. We know that the needs of the mission field are many, but we must be sure that projects which ask for help are sustainable and most importantly that they serve to spread the gospel.

As our district convention 2022 nears, now is the time to consider submitting grants for our next biennium. A representative from the Synod Office of Missions reminded us that mission

projects do not necessarily need to be overseas or even across the country. In recent years, God has brought the mission field to our backyards. Many local and inner city congregations are in desperate need of assistance. Talk with your local pastors, church leaders, and others that may know of needs in your communities.

Check the grant proposal guidelines available at lwml-swd.org under the resources tab — district helps — forms. The first form listed is Guidelines for submitting LWML SWD grant proposals. If you are not sure about how to write a grant, please contact me and I will help or find someone who can. The deadline for submitting grants to be considered at the 2022 convention is October 31, 2021, but proposals will be considered at any time, sooner is better.

Kay Nett
LWML SWD Mission Grants Chairman

Mission Grant #6



The field is ripe in our own backyard for mission work through **POBLO** (People of the Book Lutheran Outreach). Their vision (and that of SWD) is to fund an

additional female missionary and train south Wisconsin congregations to begin International Friendship Centers on their campuses. These friendship centers are a deliberate and conscientious effort to reach into the community with kindness, love, and care. This has been an effective way to open the doors for the Holy Spirit to work in the lives of immigrants and refugees among us.

As you deposit your coins in your mite box, accompany that with fervent prayer for this and future grant recipients.



"I see 'pot casting' in every church in the country." Merging old and new ideas as brought to convention goes by Jan Struck and Abby Laske.

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



"As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

**LWML SWD Fall Retreat
Sept 17 & 18**

**Best Western Premier
Waterfront Hotel & Convention
Center in Oshkosh**

**Speakers, Servant Events
and Fellowship!**

YOU are invited to attend the 2021 LWML SWD Fall Retreat, *Jesus is the LIGHT*, September 17 & 18 at the Best Western Premier Waterfront Hotel and Convention Center in Oshkosh, Wis. Have you noticed the lighthouse logo for the Fall Retreat? Lighthouses generally work on the principle of reflecting a vertical light onto a horizontal surface. Sounds rather similar to our calling as children of Christ ... we are to reflect the light of Jesus (vertical light) to the world (horizontal surface)!

We will be blessed to have two deaconesses as speakers for our retreat, Deaconess Sandra Rhein, an international Hymnal Consultant, and Deaconess Katherine Rittner, Food & Clothing Coop Director at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne. Both women will be sharing how they are reflecting the light of Christ in their callings to serve the Lord. Bible study time will open up God's Word for us to explore, learn, and take in. Servant events of tying fleece hats and packing homeless hygiene kits will give us the opportunity to reflect the love of Christ with our hands! This retreat is overflowing with Christ's LIGHT and LOVE!

More information is available on the website www.lwml-swd/events/retreat (keep checking back for more updates as retreat gets closer; the Gifts from the Heart items needed to benefit the Lutheran Food Pantry in Oshkosh will be listed there).

I am taking orders for the LWML-SWD Bookstore to be picked up at the Fall Retreat on Sept. 17 & 18, 2021, at the Best Western in Oshkosh.

If you would like to place an order from the store go to the lwml-swd website and print off the bookstore order form, fill it out and send it to me, with your check made out to **LWML-SWD by Sept. 3, 2021**.

If you are unsure what is all available, or how to look for items go to the website lwml.org/store. You will be able to see all the items. If you need help, give me a call @920-387-3367 or email me at dkamrath22@gmail.com and I will be happy to help you.

Serving the Lord with Gladness,
Diane Kamrath- SWD Bookstore Manager





Convention: A Mountaintop Experience

How many of us have had a mountaintop experience before? A time where we have been wholeheartedly inspired? A time where we have had to work hard to endure a lot to get to the finish line? Linda Reiser, past LWML president and the keynote speaker at this year's convention, contends that people have felt a mountaintop experience before, where we have made significant connections and have been inspired by the people or events we have been a part of, but have we really looked at God's purpose for putting us in or at these events? What does God want us to take away from this experience? What does He want us to do with this experience? These questions get at the purpose or the intentions of why this mountaintop experience was given to us. We need to share what we have learned with others. This work of sharing our experiences or doing our next service for our Lord is done in the valleys of the mountains.

Linda began her address by telling us about the annual 5K run on July 4 in Seward, Alaska, that goes up a mountain and down the other side. With no fixed course, runners endure

rocks, mud, and tundra; it is a dangerous run, so why do they do it? They do it because this is a mountaintop experience in their lives. God gives us many examples of mountaintop experiences in the Bible to understand and learn from, like when Moses went to the mountain to talk to God or when Elijah stood before God on the mountaintop. Jesus even gave us a sermon to remember for all time on a mountain. Linda stressed that it is a view from the mountain which makes all the difference in our lives. It is attending a convention, participating in a workshop, studying God's word, and participating in mission pledge walks. It is the people we meet who mentor and inspire us. It is the new insightful view from the mountaintop which moves us to act, but "our hard work is in the valley." She reminded everyone that none of us is here by chance and that "God has a purpose for you," so think about what the purpose is for the mountaintop experiences in your life, and then get into the valley and go to work!

Jill Jones
Leader Development and Zone 18 President

Convention: Past and Present

Greetings! I had the privilege to serve as Zone 4 delegate to the Lexington convention. I have been to three other national conventions, each time sharing the experience with my dear mom, Elaine Boettcher. This was going to be the first convention to attend since she passed away. I was a bit tentative as grief sloshed around in my heart, yet I was very excited because I knew what a great experience it could be. I can wholeheartedly say I am so happy to have attended! The Bible studies were encouraging and focused, listening to the Mites In Action speakers brought the grant stories full circle, and the fellowship with almost 3,000 other Lutheran women was amazing and uplifting! A highlight for me was that I had the opportunity to update a photo from 40 years ago. The first was taken at the Milwaukee convention in 1981. LWML Past President Virginia Von Seggern was the convention manager, and I served as her personal page! The second photo was updated at the Lexington convention. It was a smile-filled reunion! (We both told each other we hadn't changed a bit!! HaHa!).

Kristen Kolell
Zone 4 President





Wake up with the Word Bible Studies

What a better way to begin the days of the convention than being in God's Word! On both Friday and Saturday mornings, at 6:45 a.m., there were four different choices for studying Scripture. I attended "Running the Race" with author Shari Miller on Friday morning. Shari is from Helena, Mo., and has authored 35 Bible studies that have been in the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*. This one was in the Spring 2019 issue.

We focused on "Ready. Set. Go!" As we thanked the Holy Spirit who gives us faith in Jesus and readies us for the race, sets our path through Word and Sacraments and spurs us to go and run the race as witnesses to all that Jesus has done for us, we looked at passages that noted Paul's journey through life.

On Saturday morning I attended the study, "Born to Run...Away, Reborn to Run with God." by Rev. Heckmann. We looked at some of the characteristics of horse training and horse racing and related them with our lives as God's children. Created in God's image, mankind disobeyed and 'lost' the race. A racehorse only gets one chance at the Kentucky Derby.

Praise God that even though we blew our first chance in the garden and since conception have been blowing it ever since, our story doesn't stop there. We looked at various Bible characters who ran away, only to be brought back by God. God has bred us to run the race He has prepared for us. Throughout our lives we are trained through Bible study, Sacraments, daily devotion, and fellowship. We know the final outcome of our race. We know our 'winner's circle' is already prepared for us. We know we will rest in the powerful arms of our loving Savior for all eternity. Thanks to Jesus, our plan of eternity looks incredible. Until then we run with Jesus, doing the things that have been prepared in advance for us to do.

-Ruth Mueller



South
Wisconsin
District



Convention: Exhibits

Convention Gospel Outreach Exhibit

During the 2021 Lexington Convention, I was one of the volunteers “manning” the Gospel Outreach booth. The booth table had three plexiglass stands. One had a copy of the Monthly Mite Challenge Calendar, another one of the “I Love to Tell the Story” *LWML Quarterly* articles and the last a copy of a mission service activity. We were to point these out to anyone showing an interest in our booth. Most of the women we talked to were familiar with at least one of the above-mentioned items. The most familiar to them was the Monthly Mite Challenge Calendar. We were still able to give them more information about those items and kept repeating they are all found on the

lwml.org website along with many other programs, devotions, etc.

The Gospel Outreach Committee is interested in hearing about stories from our LWML sisters telling about the impact our Savior had on some aspect of their life. If they wrote about their story and brought it back to the booth, they were able to pick a prize. I am not sure how many women returned with their story. It was most interesting talking to Christian women from all over the country!

Judy Gitzlaff
District VP Gospel Outreach and Christian Life

Walking with a Mission in Mind

Over a thousand showed up to walk for missions on the streets of downtown Lexington, Ky. The Photo Mission Walk was quite the success story, raising over \$96,232.92 toward the new biennium grants that total \$2,150,000.

The walk began with a prayer by Rev. Mark Moog from the LWML Indiana District, followed by a Ceremonial Call to Post, performed by a local trumpeter from the University of Kentucky. Lutheran Church Charities Comfort Dogs were present to help cheer on the almost 1,100 participants who walked the 1.5-mile loop down Main Street, around Thoroughbred Park, and back to the start. Walkers were treated to bluegrass music at Thoroughbred Park, performed by the Lueker family children.

Participants enjoyed the beautiful city of Lexington, the painted murals, water

features, and historical markers. As they strolled alongside local walkers, they shared the path and the love of Jesus, singing and praising the Lord.

God be praised for the success of another mission walk!

Jill Jones
Leader Development and Zone 18 President



At right: Some of the SWD walkers making a strong finish despite the Kentucky heat.



Convention: Seminars

What Does An Archivist-Historian Do?

An Archivist-Historian collects historical documents or records providing information about a place, institution, or group of people. My purpose is to collect information about the LWML SWD, so I collect rally programs, executive committee and board of directors minutes and reports, mission lamps, mission grants, convention manuals and any other printed materials that have to do with the district. I also write a biennium report to be included in the convention manual describing the activities in the district. I'm often asked, "Who really looks at the archives?" Archives are helpful when a society or district is celebrating an anniversary or when names of

past officers are needed. I also make displays for the Winter Getaway, the Fall Retreat, and the district convention.

I attended the Archivist-Historian seminar at the Lexington Convention which was led by Caroline Honeycutt, Synodical LWML Archivist-Historian. The following items should be archived: executive board and rally meeting minutes, newsletters, workshop printed materials, and prayer services. Photo albums from retreats and conventions are saved for future events and for the joy of reminiscing. I have learned much about the women who serve in the LWML SWD, and they are truly talented and inspirational Christian women!

Mary Zuehlsdorf
LWML SWD Archivist-Historian

Structure Committee Seminar

The two-hour seminar that I attended at the Lexington convention was led by the LWML Structure Committee and covered guidelines for electronic meetings. In the last 1½ years we have all discovered electronic ways to carry on our business. Our bylaws MUST specifically authorize alternative (electronic) meetings. We discussed why electronic meetings should be allowed and some of the rules for electronic meetings (e.g., only in certain situations or all the time and for all levels of the organization, or only certain types of meetings)?

If current bylaws do not authorize alternative meeting formats, decisions that are made at such meetings can be ratified at the next 'legal' meeting by a motion. Other considerations that may come into the decision to hold electronic meetings may include the disadvantage of members who are not tech savvy; the loss of community;

technical assistance for large meetings; recording the meeting and taking minutes; difficulty in taking secret ballots.

An organization's bylaws should cover the basics. This would be the structure that would not be changed frequently, such as authorizing alternative meetings. At the end of the bylaws may be a list of standing rules. These would include some operations that may be subject to change as the organization operates, such as what the procedures of an electronic meeting would be. The standing rules are approved at convention and can be suspended as needed. The organization's secretary should keep the list of standing rules up to date.

The seminar gave us the opportunity to ask questions of the Structure Committee. Whenever SWD needs to amend our bylaws, they must be approved by the LWML Structure Committee since they have to be in line with the LWML bylaws.

Ruth Mueller
VP Special Organizational Resources

Convention: Information Luncheons

Partners in Mission: Pastors, Church Workers, and LWML Impacting Lives

We were introduced to the Church Workers in Mission Committee, which is chaired by Christie Steffens and also includes Molly Dixon and DCE Kristina Parker. We viewed the LWML Church Workers in Mission video (under 3 minutes) which can be found on lwml.org under Service. Is there a barrier between church workers and the LWML ladies? There shouldn't be! Does your LWML ministry plan align with your church's ministry plan? To begin the discussion, we were asked to consider four questions:

- 1) What do you/your LWML group do when you have a new church worker at your church/school to reach out to the new worker?
- 2) What does your LWML group do to reach out to the wife of your male church worker? How do you make her feel welcome (not something that is part of her "job" because of who she is married to)?
- 3) How can the LWML help you as a church worker, or how can the LWML help you to support church workers in your area?
- 4) Are there any resources that LWML might be able to provide that would fill a need for you as a church worker serving in your context?

Discussion included how LWML events were publicized, how the mite box is used, how to "pound the pastor" with a food shower of a pound of flour, sugar, noodles, etc., as well as extending invitations to conventions and rallies, and sharing the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*. Consider prayerfully your next encouraging, uplifting actions!

The committee has updated the Church Workers in Mission (CWIM) page on the LWML website as well as the CWIM brochure which is available in print and as a download. They have shared lists of new church workers with your district president.

Please strengthen, refresh, and renew your support of our church workers as we work together in the harvest field and *Serve the LORD with gladness!* (Psalm 100:2).

Pamela Muther
Zone 5 President

Lunch with the *LWQ* staff, Friday

Several items of trivia were asked in order to better acquaint us with every issue of the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*. There are several regular features or columns in every issue. One of these is the *INK Spot* (*I Never Knew*). There are always three Bible studies with one of them also in Spanish, all of which now require a leader's guide. It usually takes three months to put an issue together, and the themes are determined two years in advance at a yearly meeting of the staff. Anyone can send ideas for articles to the editor and information of local or district events to the news editor. The *LWQ* was first published in 1943, 78 years ago. Stories about many countries and grant recipients have been printed in the *Quarterly*. All published articles have been vetted for agreement with LCMS doctrine.

Ruth Mueller, VP Organizational Resources



Diane Meyer, Diane Kamrath and Carol Smith



Convention: Information Luncheons

Why Households Matter: Lutheran Hour Ministry Presentation

When I chose the Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) for my luncheon speaker, I expected to hear a report on LHM mission throughout the world. What I didn't expect was to actually experience that mission outreach myself. Ashley Bayless did a wonderful job filling in for Rev. Dr. Michael Ziegler, who at the last minute was unable to come.

Through Ashley's presentation we learned why households matter. God relates to us as individuals and as congregations. God also relates to us as households. Did you know God mentions households more than 2,100 times in the Bible? Households have rituals and relationships, but what makes a spiritually vibrant household? There are three core habits that foster a spiritually vibrant household. These are (1) applying spiritual disciplines, (2) extending hospitality, and (3) engaging in spiritual conversations.

Spiritual disciplines would be things like praying together every day or two, reading the Bible together at least weekly, and having non-family visitors often. It is easier to engage in spiritual conversation when children are in the household, but when people extend hospitality to others they have more discussions about God and faith. One fact that really stood out to me was the households that engage in spiritual conversations were more likely to do other things together.

In closing, Ashley challenged us to a 30-day devotion challenge. Lhm.org has many resources available to help you have a spiritually vibrant household. You will find these resources under the Barna+LHM tab; then click on Households of Faith.

Diane Meyer
Zone 9 President

Rev. Zagore: LCMS Office of Nation Mission

Rev. Zagore shared that "Making Disciples for Life" is to focus on making disciples and not just another binder provided by Synod. This plan is to change how we create, identify, distribute and prioritize resources for congregations.

The biggest questions members have is — will the church be there when needed and will my children go to heaven?

The responsibility of the church is to (1) evangelize the lost, (2) retain the faithful, (3) strengthen congregations (trust the Holy Spirit for guidance with this), and (4) plant new churches and schools (this is a mission we shouldn't forget). Is your church's plan to just survive or to grow? We are sent by God and not a victim of this world.

Rev. Zagore suggested not scrapping all your churches programs, but tweak and make the most of those that are working and seek resources through makingdisciples.lcms.org. This is a resource of shared information from individuals, congregations, districts and synods to help guide and strengthen your church. Another recommendation he suggested listening to is our Lutheran Radio at kfuo.org. He mentioned the podcasts of Friends for Life, but I also learned at the LWML Convention that the Lutheran Ladies Lounge is very popular with our women.

At the luncheon, I learned a couple resources from an LWML sister. Her church drew members into returning to Bible study through relaxed settings. For the men, they met at an establishment for Bible and Brew, the ladies Wine, Women and the Word (WWW).

"Running the Race ... Looking to Jesus!"

Melody Rodger
Zone 13 President

Convention: In Pictures



South Wisconsin YWR's were pinned by their mothers during the SWD caucus. Left to right: President Cinda Poppe, Joanna (also H2H) and Eugenia Ellis, Alexandra and Linda Bramdstadt

Tee Up 4 Mites Bronze Sponsorship in honor of Marlys Taege-Moberg

SWD ladies making Braille Mustard Seeds during the servant events.



Featuring the first ever men's choir at a LWML convention, receiving great reviews, will likely return.



A Note from Pastor Gehrke

Thank you for the privilege to “Run the Race” with the ladies of the LWML SWD, surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses! It’s amazing how exciting a 12-hour bus ride one way can be with the ladies of the LWML SWD and then to see the excitement of over 3,000 Lutheran women from across the country and even from around the world was uplifting and encouraging.

It was a tremendous privilege to serve Holy Communion to many of those women of the LWML (even if I was in the packed section of the stadium). What a tremendous blessing to meet so many different people, make new eternal friends in Christ from across the country, run into old friends, high five many of the walkers for mites, continually make rounds in the exhibit hall, sit and sing with our delegates on the convention floor, and too many other blessings to name, all so that we

can continue to proclaim the joy of the Lord and run the race that Jesus has graciously given to us.

Another tremendous blessing of the convention was to be able to attend the luncheon with Rev. Dr. Michael Ziegler from the Lutheran Hour. After having another delicious meal, Pastor Ziegler relayed a story about three people: Emmanuel, Grace, and Paul. He weaved the history of Lexington into his message as he shared his story about a sewing school in Cameroon that demonstrated the truth of God’s undeserved grace and love. This sewing school was a beneficiary of the LWML mites in action. It is amazing how Jesus brings others into our race together so that we can be surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses by God’s grace.

Pastor Matthew Gehrke
Junior Pastoral Counselor LWML SWD

LWML’s Gift Planning Counselors are experienced professionals who can assist you with transferring your blessings to family, heirs, and ministry. When you ask for assistance you can expect:

- A prayerful approach to our work together.
- Convenient meeting time and place.
- No charge for Gift Planning Counselor services.
- Guidance and options to organize and implement your Christian estate/gift plan.
- Complete confidentiality.

You will receive a variety of choices available to you in developing your plan, such as charitable trusts, gift annuities, donor advised funds and endowments. You will also receive a general overview of other planning techniques like wills and living trusts, as well as help to guide you through sensitive end of life planning and decisions.

For information about charitable gift/estate planning, contact:
Carol von Soosten
carol.vonsoosten@lfn.org
800-741-4138





39th Biennial Convention of the LWML
South Wisconsin District

June 18, 2022

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Grafton, WI
80th Anniversary of LWML

It is not too early to plan to attend the 39th Biennial Convention of the LWML South Wisconsin District. The Convention Steering Committee is planning a one-day convention. We again want to encourage every Lutheran woman to enjoy the convention. We look forward to being able to meet in-person for this convention. Housing will be available at Concordia University – Wisconsin for anyone who wishes to stay in the area for the convention.

The convention theme is “Strengthened through His Spirit” based on Ephesians 3:16-17a: “*I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being.*” We all experience challenges in our daily lives that are out of our control and require different skills/strengths. We are reminded in Ephesians that we have the opportunity to seek

the greatest strength needed to face these challenges from our Lord, and He offers it freely through the Holy Spirit.

Our guest speaker is David Fiala. David is a Mission Advocate for The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. From his biography: “David Fiala serves as a personal link to the mission and ministry of the LCMS.” He has served as a missionary in Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Poland, and Hungary and as a missionary recruiter. Fiala has earned Lutheran teaching credentials, a bachelor’s degree in theology and a director of Christian education (DCE) certification at Concordia University, Nebraska. He also has a master’s degree in religion from Concordia University Chicago, River Forest, IL.

David Fiala and his wife Radka, were married in 2002. They have two sons and two daughters. The Fialas live in Herculaneum, MO and are members of Webster Gardens Lutheran Church, Webster Groves, MO.

Our Gifts of the Heart (ingathering) recipients have also been selected. We will be assisting two shelters. The mission of The Haven of Manitowoc County is to advocate for homeless men while providing community resources and an interfaith approach towards self-sufficiency. The mission of Safe Harbor of Sheboygan County is to provide services to reach out to those affected by sexual assault and domestic abuse. More details about the items on their wish lists will be provided at a later date.

Look for more information about the convention in future issues of the Mission Lamp as it becomes available.

Bonnie Sperberg, Publicity Chairman
2022 LWML SWD Convention Committee

What's in a Card?

The ladies of St. Paul Grafton, Zone 5, have discovered a unique way to serve the Lord, reach into their creative talents and involve everyone in their small but active group.

It began in February 2009 with an opportunity to make cards for shut-ins which was approximately 70 cards. Several members made samples and provided materials to make Valentines. The cards were delivered by the pastors as they made visits. Soon we were branching out to make Spring and Easter cards. Extra cards were offered to our members to send to family and friends.

In November 2015 we began making cards for our Veterans to coincide with the Veteran's Day celebrations held by our day school children. Cards were given out at the Veteran's Breakfast. For those unable to attend, cards were mailed. Currently all the Veteran cards are mailed not only to members but those we know within the community, approximately 65 cards.

We began our official Card Ministry in March 2021. The main focus is to provide all occasion cards for the congregation and beyond. The cards are handcrafted by LWML ladies with an invitation for anyone to participate. Each month there are work sessions for special cards. Everyone has a job regardless of their experience with cardmaking. A Thrivent Action Team Grant has assisted in purchasing a display rack and table located in the Gathering Hall. With the remaining funds, additional tools and supplies were purchased.

Cards can be purchased by a free will offering. All monies collected go to Mite projects. A large Mite Box graces the display indicating the current project. To date, the display and cards have been well received. The biggest winners are the Mite projects! To God be the Glory!

Dorothy Monson

St. Paul Lutheran LWML, Grafton

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.



Please make checks payable to LWML SWD.

Marilyn Belter – LWML SWD
Financial Secretary

South Wisconsin Mite Goal 2020-2022 July 2021



Send Mites to: LWML SWD Mites
Marilyn Belter, Financial Secretar
W2011 Cottonville Ct.
Berlin, WI 54923

We serve God with JOY for what He has done for us!

Having just returned from the LWML convention in Lexington, Ky., we are witnesses to the work so many dedicated women do to serve the Lord with gladness throughout the country. We also need women to serve in our South Wisconsin District. God has gifted many of you with talent to serve in these positions.

In June 2022 the delegates of the LWML SWD will be electing some new officers at the SWD convention. Please pray for and encourage devoted women of the LWML and pastors to fill these positions:

Vice President of Organizational Resources
Vice President of Gospel Outreach and
Christian Life
Recording Secretary
Financial Secretary
Junior 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, Chairman; Carolyn Fish, Zone 19, Marge Frank, Zone 19; Barb Schallock, Zone 7, Barb Kaun, Zone 11, or 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 forms can be found on the lwml-swd.org website under Resources. Deadline for nominations is December 1, 2021.

Living in Hope, Faithfully Focused on Christ

"Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer."
Romans 12:11-12 (NIV)

Zone 10 Spring Rally It's about TIME!

The Women in Mission of zone 10 were thrilled to be able to gather IN PERSON for the spring rally held on Tuesday, May 4, at Grace Lutheran in Elkhart Lake. After cancelling both rallies in 2020, it was certainly



about time that we were able to get together. The ladies at Grace prepared little goody bags for attendees along with cookies freshly baked that morning by their president, Clare Peitsch!! Zone Counselor, Rev. Tom Fleischmann,

shared a specially themed Bible study, **It's About Time**, and Grace Pastor Peter Peitsch tied in a **timely** themed welcoming devotion! In the business meeting, revised bylaws were approved; it was also **about time** that was taken care of!! A wonderful collection of Gifts from the Heart was gathered for the benefit of Pathways to a Better Life Treatment Center in Kiel! While only 28 attended in person, a number of ladies sent donations and offerings, which provided a total offering of over \$560 and a collection for



mites of over \$110. The photos are of the goody bag provided and the Gifts from the Heart collected! We were so thankful for our **TIME** of fellowship together and are looking forward to more **TIMES** to gather together in person!

Vaunie Weaver
Zone 10
President

How is your Race Going?

Deaconess Heidi Goehmann led us in Bible Study in two separate time slots. Her focus was on a portion of the theme Bible verse: "... let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus..."

"How is your race going?" kept coming up as she made the following points:

1. Running this earthly race toward heaven requires us to shed our backpacks filled with sin, grief, pain, hurt which weigh us down. That which slows us down is present in every generation, time, place and person.
2. Jesus Himself takes the load of our backpacks permanently and frees us to run the race set before us...to heaven. He has done it all!
3. That does not mean we do not bear the

consequence of inherited sin. Endurance is a big component of our lives this side of eternity. Endurance carries with it the idea of suffering (discomfort, hardship) but WITH HOPE which leads to a godly resilience to see us through.

As believers in Christ, the bottom line is this: Looking to Jesus, and through His grace, we are given His gifts of life (without the weight that slows us down), salvation and endurance. Enduring, with hope, to the end assures our place in heaven with Him. The race does not end until God Himself calls us home but He remains with us in every little detail of our lives. Jesus, the solid ground, is the hope that does not disappoint.

Luann Roman
VP of Special Focus Ministries and Mission Grants

LWML Sunday

The first Sunday in October is traditionally set aside for the observation of LWML Sunday, but it may be celebrated at any time.

"Our Hearts in His Hand" is the theme for LWML Sunday 2021 and is based on Peter's first letter to persecuted Christians in Asia Minor. In chapter 4:8, Peter tells them, *Above all, keep loving one another earnestly*. The heart of the LWML is its members; our hearts have been made holy by God. We are fully dedicated to serving Him, by serving His Church at home and abroad. Our hearts for Christ are in His hand of service, wherever and when He has need of us.

2021 LWML Sunday downloadable materials, authored by Dr. Dale A. Meyer, are now available at lwml.org.



Our hearts
in HIS hand

Above all, keep loving one another earnestly (1 Peter 4:8).

Milwaukee 2023! Wow! So many leader positions have already been filled!
The following positions are still available. Are you feeling led to apply? Are you encouraging someone else? Consider joining the Convention 2023 team!! Host Committee Guidelines and Coordinator/Chairman Volunteer Applications are both on the LWML SWD website!

Working under Publicity Chairman:
Carolyn Blum

Hosting Dist. Newsletter editor
Hosting Dist. Bulletin Bits

Working under Facility Chairman:
Barb Kaun

Properties Chairman: Debbie Volden

-Communications & Inventory Control
-Exhibitors/Signage Support
-Properties Room

Ushers Chairman:

-Pages
-Portal Ushers(Use when Assembly Hall in arena)

Worship Support Chairman:

Sue Pfeil

-Elements/Communion ware Packaging

Working under Guest Services Chairman:
Jennifer Olen

Child/Youth Care Chair:

-Nursery
-Primary
-Intermediate
-Teen

Food Services Chair:

-Hostess Scheduling
-Server Liaison & Spec. Meals
-Traffic Supervisor
-Packet assembly/Registration Assistance

Working under Tours Chairman:
Jan Koopman

-City Tours/ Tour Information

Transportation Chair

-Airport Greeters/luggage room
-District Charter Buses
-Hotel Greeters
-Hotel Shuttle Buses
-VP Drivers

Working under Personnel Chairman:
Sherri Smith

under Hospitality Chairman:

Carol Smith

-Information Desk
-Wheelchair Rentals & Assist. Seating

Personnel Data Management Chairman:
Ruth Mueller and Allison Hein

-Worker Scheduling
-Worker's room

Special Dress Chairman

-LWML Store Assistance
-Special Dress and Distribution

Working under Creative Chairman:
Joan Anderson

Activities Chairman
Golf Outing
-Servant Activities(2)-Centerpieces
-Photo Op
-Choir mailing/support

*Job descriptions and titles may vary with each convention but ,the need for many workers is great.
Join the committee and welcome the LWML Convention to Milwaukee in 2023.*



Alexandra getting a little hug from one of the Comfort Dogs.

Events

August 21, 2021	EC meeting, Janesville
September 1, 2021	Board reports due to Corresponding Secretary
September 17 and 18	Fall Retreat
September 25, 2021	BOD meeting, Berlin
October 15, 2021	Mission Lamp articles due
October 31, 2021	Mission Grant Applications due
December 1, 2021	SWD officer nominations due

Executive Committee

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*Thanks to all for your wonderful articles, photos
and stories of adventures in Lexington. I hope
this issue renews the excitement
of that awesome event.*

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