



South Wisconsin District

Mission Lamp



SERVE THE LORD WITH GLADNESS!

November 2017

Why Do We Do What We Do?

At the end of a very busy day of volunteering have you ever laid your head on the pillow to reflect on what had been accomplished? In that reflection have you ever realized that precious time had been spent on tasks that didn't really help anyone? Let's review the various meanings of the word. Volunteer, as a verb

[no obj.] - freely offer to do something

[with obj.] - offer (help)

[reporting verb] - say or suggest something without being asked or work for an organization without being paid

Volunteering, freely offering to do something; saying something without being asked; can also mean getting together to join forces with others to reach goals.

What has always been the goal for the Lutheran Women in Mission? Quoting Rev. Dr. Lawrence R. Rast, Jr., in the Children's Message for LWML Sunday, "For 75 years they have shared God's truth with their neighbors, and through them God has changed millions of hearts and lives all over the world."



Why do we do what we do? We voluntarily share the love of Christ, not for tangible pay, but in thanksgiving for His voluntary sacrifice on our behalf, making every moment count for higher things.

Serving gladly with you,
Barb Kaun

Martin Luther said, "I cannot and will not recant anything, for to go against conscience is neither right nor safe. Here I stand, I can do no other, so help me God. Amen." The Reformation was a beginning of change in the church of God on earth. The Gospel was bringing to people the truth of Faith Alone, Scripture Alone, and Grace Alone. This Reformation is still ongoing today and needed more than ever. Our synod's message for all people is, "It's Still All About Jesus." In our Reformation Celebration Resources these are the statements we need to remember: "The cross alone is our theology. God's love is manifest in Jesus' sacrificial death on the cross. God's love is fulfilled through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. With the New Testament, we proclaim Christ and Him crucified."



The catechism teaches the fundamentals of the Christian faith: The Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, the Apostles' Creed, the Sacrament of Baptism, the Sacrament of the Altar, and the Office of the Keys and Confession. There is no better time than in this year of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation to review the catechism. Read it for yourself. Refresh the theology in your mind. Pray the catechism daily. Memorize it.

But even more, teach it. If you are a parent, teach it to your children. As you have opportunity, share it with your friends and peers. May this celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation be a time when we return to the Word and Sacraments, when we turn to Christ and His love. It's still all about Jesus."

In the Name of Jesus, Amen
Rev. Dale Blanchard
Senior Counselor – SWD-LWML



CONVENTION: MITES-IN-ACTION SPEAKERS

Steve and Nancy Cohen were one of the Mites in Action speakers at the Convention in Albuquerque. Steve gave a passionate speech about how he came to faith and how our grant money will help them reach the lost sheep of Israel. Steve is the founder of *The Apple of His Eye Ministry*. Steve was raised Jewish and had many Christian friends but not till he was 23 years of age did anyone speak to him about the gospel of Jesus. A layman confessed he was Christian and prayed for him for three years. Steve became a Jewish believer in Christ Jesus. For 42 years Steve has been in missions sharing the gospel. He asked us how many of us were born Christian. He then told us it was a trick question because no one is born Christian or Jewish. We are all born sinners.

Many of the Jewish people in Israel are not religious and have very little spiritual inclination. A small minority of Jewish people are religious and are praying for the first coming of the Messiah. In other countries the gospel can be piggybacked onto medical, educational, agricultural, or Bible translation missions, but not in Israel, as they have the Old Testament in the original Hebrew language and are very advanced in the medical, educational and agricultural fields. Reaching out to the Jewish people will be a simple proclamation of the gospel by direct evangelism and through direct relationship with the Jewish people. Israel has a Status Quo law established in 1948 regarding churches; if a church had two visas, they could continue to have that many missionaries. The LCMS had no established churches

in Israel in 1948, and thus has no visa available. Bringing the gospel to the lost sheep of Israel will be done by partnering with the Jewish Christian believers in Israel. The ministry will provide missionary training to those believers in Israel and work to establish pathways for ordinations.

Nancy Cohen has served as a missionary in Russian and speaks Hebrew and Russian which are the two major languages in Israel. Nancy already has partnerships and networks in Israel and thus can further invest there. Steve was very grateful that God brought Nancy into his life after his wife Jan died of Huntington's disease in 2007. Steve and Nancy married in 2008. Steve also announced that Reverend Doctor Robert Roegner and his wife Kristi, currently Chairman of Church Worker in Mission Task Force, will be joining The Apple of His Eye Ministry and will partner to bring the gospel to the lost sheep of Israel.



At the end of Steve's presentation on how the ministry would be bringing the gospel to Israel, Patti presented him with the LWML grant check for \$100,000.00. We praise the Lord for this ministry and ask for your continual prayers as the ministry reaches out the people of Israel. Steve has requested we pray for his mother, Barbara Cohen, who does not know our Lord and Savior and who disowned Steve when he became a Christian. God bless this ministry as they bring the gospel to the people of Israel.

Submitted by Marilyn Belter



Winter Getaway

FINDING FAITH IN FILMS

January 19 & 20, 2018

Holiday Inn, Fond du Lac

Break away from the winter blues and come to the Winter Getaway! Speaker Rev. Raasch will be using the movie *The Green Mile* to demonstrate how we, as Christians, can use secular films to share our faith with, and to witness to, our unchurched friends and neighbors. Watching *The Green Mile* before the retreat will help equip you for engaging with your sisters in Christ. The movie will be shown Friday night if you don't view it on your own. Rev. Raasch advised us that even if you do not view the movie, you will still be able to enjoy and learn from his presentation.

Servant events include decorating onesies for Charis Pregnancy Center in Fond du Lac, making no-sew fleece hats and scarves to be distributed by the Fond du Lac Police Department, marking Bibles for prison ministry, assembling school kits for SWD LCMS schools, and assembling blessing bags. Each attendee will be able to take a blessing bag home with them to be given to someone in need. Go to lwml-swd.org/Events/Retreats for more information and registration forms.

Lori Kleinschmidt
PR chairman - Winter Getaway

A CLOSER LOOK – LWML-SWD Grant #6: Widow's Milk Mission Society — India



We know that God keeps a careful eye on the widow. He included 76 verses in the Bible mentioning widows. In Psalm 68:5 we learn that He is the “Father of the fatherless, a defender of widows.” Jesus cared for His widowed mother (John 19:25-17), and raised from the dead the son of the widow of Nain (Luke 7:11-17).

Jesus’ example of the poor widow who put two small copper coins into the temple mite box inspired LWML to adopt a Mite program. (Luke 21:1-4)

Within Bethel Lutheran Church, a member of the India Evangelical Lutheran Church, are more than 25 widows. The Bethel congregation wanted to help and turned to God’s Word for guidance.

“For I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” (Jeremiah 29:11) and also *“She looks well to the ways of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness.”* (Proverbs 31:27).

With the help of grant #6 from LWML-SWD, Bethel plans to provide a dairy cow to each widow. These widows would be able to take their cows for grazing in the open fields during the day. When the cow begins to produce milk, some

could be saved for family consumption and the remaining sold to provide income for the widow and her family. Not only would this project support widows by giving them hope for a way out of poverty, it could be a witness of Christianity as a ministry of the church.

We still have five grants to pay with mites before the June, 2018 LWML-SWD Convention. The amount needed is \$69,600.00. Share the Grant posters and bulletin inserts found on lwml-swd.org (under Resources) with your congregation. As each grant is paid, resources for the next grant in line will be posted. Pray that the Holy Spirit will bless us with thankful and generous hearts so we fulfill our commitments made in 2016.

Lord, I am amazed that through this offering I can help some widow on the other side of the world as she seeks to nourish and care for her family. Please bless the efforts of Bethel Lutheran Church in India to develop and administer its “Milk Society” program. But above all, let it be a means of sharing Your Gospel of forgiveness, life and salvation won through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Friend. Amen

Marge Frank
Mission Grant Committee Chairman

GRANT UPDATE

Greetings! I want to take this opportunity to thank the women in our district for their faithfulness and fortitude in carrying out the promises we made at the 2016 convention. At that convention, we adopted a mission mite goal of \$214,800.00 for this biennium. We have just fully funded grant #6 for the Widow's Mite Mission Society - India for \$5,000.00. Grant #7 is for the Free at Last Ministry to Women in the amount of \$25,000.00. You

can check the website to watch the progress. May God continue to bless each woman in the South Wisconsin District so that we can be a blessing to others, through our mite giving!

Kristen Kolell



The
Mission Lamp
is your news within the
South Wisconsin District of
the LWML. Please make copies
of this to share in your society
and church. You may also
download a copy from
lwml-swd.org.

LWML's Got Talent—What's Yours?

The one thing that amazes me most in my position as VP of Gospel Outreach and Christian Life is how God brings together a group of LWML ladies to form a committee. Often these ladies have accepted the invite to be on the committee feeling very inadequate to serve, like they really had no special talent or ability. As I watch these ladies planning out the details of the event, you can see that each one of them brings something to the table. Their personalities, abilities, and life experiences compliment the others on the committee, and together they make a great team. Hmmm, that sounds familiar doesn't it?

"For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness." Romans 12: 4-8

Sometimes God gives us an opportunity to serve, and our first reaction is to turn the other way because we feel inadequate, forgetting that God knows just how we will fit in with the rest of the body so together the task He has before us can be accomplished.

So, I encourage you to step out of your comfort zone and take a risk. Accept the opportunity to serve on a committee or fill an open position in your zone or the district. There will always be other members to assist you when needed, just as you will be there to assist others. You will find it to be a great experience; one where you will grow spiritually and where you will discover the joy of serving with other LWML ladies.

Diane Meyer

2018 District LWML Elections

Thank you to the LWML members who submitted nominations at the Fall retreat! BUT we still need more nominations. Remember -- You are not left alone in your elected position--there is always someone mentoring and helping you. The offices that will be voted on at the 2018 SWD-LWML District Convention are:

Recording Secretary
Financial Secretary
Vice President of Organizational Resources
Vice President of Gospel Outreach
Junior Counselor

For a further listing of position duties, please go to our new website at: lwml-swd.org/Resources/District_Helps and select District Guidelines. The positions are listed under Officers. The [nomination form](#) is also on the website. Look under Resources-District Helps. Nomination forms should be e-mailed to: nominations.lwml.swd@gmail.com Please contact any member of the Nominating Committee with names to submit or questions.

Diane Timm-Zone 5-Chairperson
Janis Mattson-Zone 1
Joan Begalke-Zone 9
Melody Roger-Zone 13
Judy Gitzlaff-Zone 17
Lori Henkes/Nancy Jensen-Zone 21
Judy Gitzlaff-PR-nominating committee



Mission Lamp Financial Report



Praise God from whom all blessings flow! On October 10th, grant #5, Fort Wayne Clothing and Food Bank for \$15,000, was paid. As of the last week of October we will be able to pay Grant #6, Widow's Milk Mission Society in India, for \$5,000. We have 5 grants, totaling \$69,600.00, left to pay, besides the 25% commitment to LWML of \$23,200.00. That's a total of \$92,800.00, before the next Biennium. Please continue to pray for these grants, and I pray you continue to fill my mailbox with your generous mite offerings. To God Be The Glory!

Diane Kamrath, Financial Secretary

Our Facebook page is a great way for us to share ideas with you and each other, remind you of upcoming events, share pictures, ask questions and stay connected.

So if you haven't already, "LIKE" us on Facebook and stay informed on the latest LWML SWD news and events.





2018 LWML SWD CONVENTION

June 22 & 23
Milwaukee Marriot West
West 231 North 1600 Corporate Ct.
Waukesha, WI 53186

Are you getting excited about convention?
These ladies certainly are!



The convention committee is meeting monthly to plan an engaging convention.



Kris Hebel at Fall Retreat practicing her Rocking 4 Mites.



Ann Nehring and Heidi Willison at Fall Retreat discussing their expectations for convention.

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHTS

Below we feature a few of the speakers you can expect to hear at convention...

Friday Breakout Speaker—Every Day Missions



Hannah Lull is a fun, bright, authentic woman who loves the LORD and loves people! She is a sophomore at CUW, studying to become a Director of Family Life with a minor in Missions. She has been on 15 mission trips including St. Louis, Milwaukee, Mexico, Hawaii, and India. She is passionate about walking with people as they become more involved with outreach, in the community and around the world, desperately wanting others to grow closer to Jesus. She loves what God is doing in the LWML and is eagerly inviting more young women to be involved. She is beyond honored and humbled to serve the LORD at this convention. Hannah will be sharing on how she shares Jesus with her generation as well as inviting others to join Jesus with their gifts and talents.

Friday Evening Speaker—Sharing Christ in Real Everyday Ways



Alan Lull is a Youth & Mission Director at St. John's Lutheran Church in West Bend. He will be teaching us how to share Christ in really fun ways! He has lived in China for two years and also has gone on short term mission trips in many places of the world; India, Russia, Hawaii, Mexico, Guatemala as well as all over the U.S. Alan has been married for 22 years, has a daughter going to Concordia University Mequon and a son that is a senior at West Bend High School. During our time together, Alan will give practical ways to share Christ in very enjoyable ways; He loves Jesus and hates people going to hell. You will not sleep when he speaks, just try! He loves to take people on 2 hour mission trip around the city; hang on to your spiritual hats, we are going to have fun!

Saturday Breakout Speaker—Serving the Lord in Africa



Rev. Ryan and Emily McDermott serve the Lord through The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) as career missionaries in West and Central Africa, based in Togo, working in deaf ministry. In this role, Ryan works with partner churches throughout the region to recognize and develop opportunities to reach the deaf with the Gospel. He also identifies and trains leaders, both pastors and laypeople, for working in deaf ministry. As needed, Ryan teaches courses in deaf ministry and theology at The Centre Luthérien d'Etudes Théologiques (CLET), or Lutheran Center for Theological Studies, in Dapaong, Togo. Ryan was born in Los Angeles. His home congregation is Messiah Lutheran Church, La Crescent, Minnesota. Emily was born in La Crosse, Wisconsin, and her home congregation is also Messiah Lutheran Church, La Crescent, Minnesota. Ryan and Emily enjoy spending time with their four children – Rhys, Evangeline, Joshua and Kaj.



Isaiah 52:7

2018 LWML SWD CONVENTION

June 22 & 23, 2017

Milwaukee Marriot West
West 231 North 1600 Corporate Ct.
Waukesha, WI 53186

What comes to mind when you think of these words:

‘Engaging, Encouraging, Educating, Equipping and Enjoying’?

Besides these being the LWML SWD goals we have set for this biennium, we want you to think of these words when asked about your experience at the 2018 LWML SWD Convention! At convention we will look to the Lord for His guidance in doing His work in the next biennium. Together we ask that the Lord Engage, Encourage, Educate and Equip each one of us to Enjoy being beautiful children of He who reigns!

Lord ENGAGE us, through our Fellowship with other attendees, in meeting new friends and getting caught up with those we have not seen recently, through the Mites in Action Events-walking, swimming or rocking our way to raising mites, and through hearing our Friday evening speaker-Alan Lull discussing *Sharing Christ In Real Everyday Ways*.

Lord ENCOURAGE us, through the Servant Events- helping to cut out Diana's Angels patterns, creating thank you cards for local veterans, and coloring LWML bookmarks, through our offerings to support the POBLO ministries, and through The Love of Christ (TLC) fund scholarships available for those needing assistance to attend convention.

Lord EDUCATE us, through visiting the Exhibit Hall to discover how the Lord is working through various missions and ministries, and discover ideas as to how our societies can join them in their work, and through Breakout Speakers Hannah Lull, Rev. Ryan McDermott, a LWML Representative and our district YWRs.

Lord EQUIP us, through our delegate voting for Mission Grants and New Officers, through our Ingathering for CHALO! ministries and Brookfield Lutheran VBS, and through the Divine worship service Friday afternoon at Elm Grove Lutheran.

We look forward to having you ENJOY and participate in this God filled two day event!

Registration available March 1st at www.lwml-swd.org

To encourage attendance by our Deaf LWML sisters, a grant to assist in costs for Deaf Interpreters has been applied for through Mill Neck Foundation for Deaf Ministry.



A FUN WAY TO BRING YOUR MITES TO CONVENTION!

For a small donation pick up a M&M's© treat, enjoy the chocolate, refill the tube with your coins for mites!

Look for the M&M's© Mites at these 2018 events:

- Winter Getaway
- Board of Directors Meeting
- Heart to Heart Event
- Spring Rallies



FALL RETREAT UPDATE

It was my pleasure to attend the Fall Retreat and to introduce five new missionaries to the women of the district. These five women have been called by the International Board of Missions of the LCMS to serve in their various vocations. They are: Kim Buelmann and Diedre Batiansila Christiansen headed to Germany to serve as Refugee Outreach Facilitators there; Natalie Howard will be Regional Business Administrator in the Dominican Republic area; Rachel Meyer, who will be primary school teacher in Uganda; and Cindy Wrucke Zirbel serving as Director of Communications in Eurasia. These ladies are now in their support raising stage, so if you are looking for a speaker please contact me for their contact information. Pray for them; they have made this decision to serve God on our behalf in areas where we may never go.

In regards to this, each missionary in the field usually sends out a newsletter. If you wish to be put on the list to receive the newsletters from the SWD missionaries, please [contact me](#). I will be glad to forward this information to you via email. Right now there are 54 persons on this list.

Another exciting thing is that we have a MOST Ministry contact in Wisconsin. She is Debby Suchyta, living now in the Kaukauna area. If you wish to have her speak on short term mission trips, she can be reached at E-mail: dsuchyta@mostministries.org or phone: 920-759-5321

Submitted by LuAnn Roman
Missionary Outreach/Mission Education Chairman

We enjoyed our 2017 Fall Retreat on the shores of Green Lake. The committee welcomed 154 women to Green Lake Conference Center the weekend of September 21. The optional Thursday evening stay was enjoyed by 25 women. Our Thursday evening Vesper Service was led by Pastor Douglas Peters. With the extra day, the ladies spent Friday exploring Green Lake Conference Center and nearby Princeton prior to our Friday evening opening.

Following Friday dinner in the Kraft Centre, we opened the retreat with Ice Breaker Bingo and had seven winners. Pastor Peters led us in our Bible Study entitled "*What Does Ephesians 2:10 Mean*". The rest of the evening was spent in fellowship. We offered a variety of activities including making fleece scarves, making cards for Honor Flight and Military, a bonfire with sing-a-long, and snacks. There was also time for the ladies to visit our 21 exhibits and the LWML store.

Saturday began with LWML SWD President Barb Kaun's address. She welcomed Mite in Action Speaker, Trish Kagerbauer, who spoke on the progress of A Place of Refuge house improvements. We were then inspired by our Keynote Speaker, Sarah Long-Radloff, North Wisconsin District Heart to Heart Leader. Prior to our lunch break, we heard from our breakout speaker, Vicar David Blas, about his work with our Hispanic brothers and sisters in Sheboygan county and his actions to bring Christ to them. Following lunch, we heard from our second breakout speaker, Kim Trombley from Bethesda Lutheran Communities about how we can welcome all people into our church families.

We were blessed to receive \$1200.60 in offerings of which \$900.45 will support the work of Vicar Blas in the Hispanic ministry and \$300.15 to LWML SWD Female Church Worker Scholarship Fund. Our ingathering gifts were given to Bethesda Lutheran Communities.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindi Gill
2017 Fall Retreat Chair



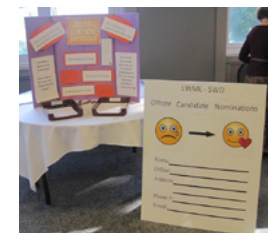
Diane Oppeneer, Mary TerMatt, Debbie Thiel



Karen Gerhartz, Carol Krepline, Marcia Beineke, Ruth Kohler



Sarah Long-Radloff



Joan Anderson, Debbie Volden, Jean Kruse



Jean Timpel, Laurie Hutchins, Meghan Hutchins, Bonnie Meyer



2017 UPCOMING EVENTS

- December 1, 2017: TLC Scholarship applications due for Winter Getaway
- December 15, 2017: Spring Rally Dates due to PR
- January 20, 2018: BOD Reports due
- January 19-20, 2018: WINTER GETAWAY
- February 10, 2018: EC meeting, Peace, Beaver Dam (pictures taken for convention manual)
- February 24, 2018: BOD meeting, Peace, Beaver Dam (pictures taken for convention manual)
- March 17, 2018: Heart to Heart Event, Brookfield
- April 1, 2018: Resurrection Day

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President

Barb Kaun

lwml.swd.pres@gmail.com

VP, Organizational Resources

Ann Nehring

ann.nehring@gmail.com

VP, Gospel Outreach/Christian Life

Diane Meyer

dianemeyer424@gmail.com

VP, Special Focus Ministries/Mission Grants

Kristen Kollé

ypsfm.lwml.swd@gmail.com

VP, Communication

Ruth Weckwerth

ruth.lwml@gmail.com

Recording Secretary

Ruth Mueller

ram53213@sbcglobal.net

Corresponding Secretary

Claudia Fairfield

correspondingsecretar.lwml.swd@gmail.com

Financial Secretary (receives funds)

Diane Kamrath

dkamrath22@gmail.com

Treasurer (pays bills)

Kris Hebel

treasurer.lwml.swd@gmail.com

Senior Counselor

Rev. Dale Blanchard

pastorblanchardlcm@gmail.com

Junior Counselor

Rev. Douglas Peters

jr.counselor.lwml.swd@gmail.com

Want to share your news? What do you find uplifting or inspiring as you serve the Lord? Is there something you would like your fellow LWMers to know? The Mission Lamp is a great way to share photos, ideas, and upcoming events!

The deadline for the next issue is
January 15, 2018.

Holly Anderson, Mission Lamp Editor
holkanders@gmail.com