



"Serve the Lord with Gladness..." Psalm 100:2

Press On!

Greetings to all LWML Women in the Minnesota North District!

We enter the fall much like the spring and summer – with uncertainty regarding the Covid-19 virus and all the precautions needed to keep us healthy. Although this will affect our fall rallies, we can be creative in how we conduct them to allow for the gatherings, following the guidelines from the State of Minnesota.

We must not become discouraged during this pandemic, but increase our determination to "Serve the Lord with gladness" in any way possible. Here are few ideas to consider. . .

- You can mail cards and notes to members who choose not to participate in person.
- You can make phone calls to those who are homebound.
- You can share flowers or garden produce with shut-ins.

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another (John 13:34-36).

During this time, we need to continue to fund our mite fund for this biennium. We have so many worthy grants to support. Let us continue to contribute all we can. Our mites are more important now than ever before.

Then they also will answer, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' Then he will answer them, saying, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me (Matthew 25:44-45).



I encourage your group to take a look at the Mailbox Member Program developed by the LWML in the past few years. It is a monthly contact with members that includes a devotion and a note from the coordinator; sometimes a specific project is mailed. You could also include a monthly Mite Challenge Calendar and other useful information. This program is a good way to remain active until we meet again in person.

We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers (1 Thessalonians 1:2).

In His Service,
Kathy Brandt
LWML MN North District President



The mission of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League is to assist each woman of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in affirming her relationship with the Triune God so that she is enabled to use her gifts in ministry to the world.

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Mites Can Do “Mitey” Things

As we finish up another quarter of gathering our mites, I am praying that our mite offerings can continue as in years before. To be sure, this has been an extraordinary year—filled with many challenges as a result of Covid-19—and we still have no clearcut idea as to when things will turn around.

I am sure that many of our mite offerings would have been from rummage sales, bake sales, and other activities that the women of our district would typically have, but many of these activities have also been canceled.

I would like to encourage each of you to think of creative ways we can meet our mite goal. Here are a few suggestions:

- If you are “eating out” less, put the cost of a meal in your Mite Box.
- Consider giving a part of your tithe towards mites. (It’s still going towards God’s work!)
- Every time you receive a five-dollar bill, set it aside for your Mite Box.

These are just a few suggestions; I know you can think of many more. . .

Remember – there are students, camps, mission grants, etc., that are depending on our support. Be a cheerful giver and continue to serve the Lord with gladness. Stay safe and God bless each of you.



Mustard Seed Devotions can be sent directly to your email daily. Visit www.lwml.org/mustard-seed-devotions to sign up.

2020-21 UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct. - Nov. Fall zone rallies-visit website for details

11/15/2020 Human Care reports are due

11/15/2020 Group/Society President reports and fees due

01/12/2021 BOD Meeting

01/15/2021 Christian Life Reports are due



The *Minnesota Northern Light* newsletter is published quarterly. Article submission deadline is December 15, March 15, June 15 and September 15. Sign

up to receive the newsletter online. Go to lwmlmnn.org and look for the Subscribe button.



2020 RETREAT

On August 7-9, 2020, LWML MN North District members gathered at Lutheran Island Camp for their annual retreat. There were 33 participants, including six “first-timers”. This year’s theme was “Count your Blessings ~ See what God has done!”

The weekend started with a Bible study based on Ephesians 1:3-10 and was followed by participants exploring the many kinds of blessings that are received daily. There was also time to identify ways to be a blessing to others. Participants discovered that blessings play an important role in both this life and the next.

In addition, there was relaxing around the campfire, visiting with friends, and enjoying the beauty of the Island.

Mark your calendars – next year’s retreat is scheduled for August 13-15, 2021.



2020 LWML Retreat Participants



First-timers: Hannah Brandt, Heide Yost, Cheryl Sorenson, Jolene Henning, Nancy Moll, and Karen Carlson

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Holiday Preparations

Now that summer has ended and we are enjoying the cooler temperatures of autumn, our thoughts start turning to the upcoming holidays. LWML has resources that can keep us in The Word during the busy holiday preparations.

There are some interesting resources on the LWML webpage. The devotional helps that I am sharing here are also highlighted in the Fall 2020 edition of the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*.

Thanksgiving

The first idea is the "November Euchristeo Project: Reading and Writing Scripture – Giving Thanks to God". The instructions are to read a portion of Scripture each day, starting November 1. Next, select a verse (or verses) to write out on an index card, a note pad, or a journal. You may choose to string or clip the cards on a ribbon to make a "Thanksgiving Garland," include them in Thanksgiving cards, or use them as place cards at your table. Below are the recommended readings for each day:

<u>Day</u>	<u>Scripture Reading</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Scripture Reading</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Scripture Reading</u>
1	Chronicles 16:8-12	10	Psalms 100	19	1 Thessalonians 5:12-18
2	Psalms 107:1-9	11	1 Timothy 4:4	20	Psalms 111
3	Philippians 4:4-7	12	Psalms 75:1-3	21	2 Corinthians 9:6-15
4	Psalms 175:1-7	13	Colossians 4:12-17	22	Psalms 9:1-2, 7-10
5	Colossians 2:6-7	14	Psalms 30	23	1 Corinthians 15:50-56
6	Psalms 145:1-13	15	1 Chronicles 16:23-36	24	Psalms 118:19-24
7	Isaiah 12	16	Psalms 28:6-9	25	Revelation 4:8b-11
8	Psalms 136:1-9	17	Hebrews 12:28	26	Psalms 95:1-7
9	Ephesians 5:15-21	18	Psalms 116:12-19		

Advent

If you use an Advent devotion or Scripture reading plan, consider adding a visual response element this year.



Instructions for using the devotional template

In the margins of your devotion book, or on a piece of paper, summarize the devotion or Scripture reading in one or two sentences. (For example, if you read Matthew 1:22-23 you may write: "God fulfilled His promise of a Savior as prophesied in Isaiah.")

Next, narrow it even further, using fewer words to summarize what it says to you. Write those words inside a space on the template. (Based on the sentence above I may say, "God keeps His promises!")

Any word pictures or images that come to mind can be incorporated with, or instead of, words.

As you reflect and respond to each reading, you can look back and review previous responses. What is God revealing on your Advent journey?

Shown above is an image of a completed project. The template can be accessed at www.lwml.org, or if you prefer, give me a call at 320.743.2131 and I will either email or send a copy of the template to you.

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Sonshine Box

The year 2020 has been a time of uncertainty. The world is going through the Covid-19 pandemic. While the United States has been dealing with the pandemic, parts of the country have had to deal with destruction from flooding, derecho winds, Hurricane Laura, wildfires, and violent protests.

These situations have left many feeling despair and fear. Yet, we need to remember that we have a God of love who has promised to care for us. In II Corinthians 4:7-11 we read, *But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.* When I read the last sentence ...*that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh,* I am reminded that we need to show God's love to others.

Cyndee Ownbey has a wonderful website www.womensministrytoolbox.com. The site has

given me so many wonderful ideas to implement in our LWML group. She recently posted an article about the Sonshine Box idea.



As I read it, my mind came up with several ways this concept could be implemented and be a blessing to many. Cyndee Ownbey states "What is more cheerful and sunny than a box of

yellow treats?". I encourage each of you to go to her website and search for "Sonshine Box". I am sure you will be inspired too. I decorated a yellow bag, filled it with yellow items, and am delivering it to one of our members who has been recovering from an extensive surgery.

This is a project that can be done as an individual or group/congregation. Have a place where people can donate yellow items. When there is someone who needs some Sonshine, select items from the donations and make a box or bag to give to them. This truly will give the message "May God's Son shine on you"!

ARCHIVIST-HISTORIAN

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Have you ever wondered how to find out the "rules" to follow when writing items about your LWML group or upcoming LWML activity? Questions like: What should be capitalized? What's the proper order of our name? How do I write references to Bible passages? There is help available—the *Lutheran Women's Missionary League Style Guide*. It can be found on the LWML website. Go to lwml.org/ABOUT/Logos and *Style Guide/LWML Style Guide*. The resource is updated periodically; current update is 10/11/19.

A Learning Exercise: What corrections would you make to the sentence below?

The Minnesota North LWML District Board of Directors met on Tuesday, July 14th, 2020 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Corrected: The LWML Minnesota North District Board of Directors met on Tuesday, July 14, 2020, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Print a copy of the *LWML Style Guide*—you'll find that you'll use it a lot!

STRUCTURE

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Approval of Rally Minutes

But everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way (1 Corinthians 14:40 NIV).

Have you sat at a zone rally and listened to the Zone Secretary's minutes being read, only to have forgotten half of what you are hearing? Perhaps you were thinking, "I don't think I can remember that long ago; I don't know that I should vote to approve the minutes." I certainly know that I have. After researching the reading of the annual rally minutes, I have the following suggestion to help us all:

Pre-approval of the minutes

You can pre-approve the Zone Secretary's minutes one week after the rally and then finalize the approval at the next rally. How can this be accomplished?

1. Assign a committee to read the minutes within one week of the rally. Any corrections or additions would be made; the minutes would then be "pre-approved".
2. The Secretary would send the pre-approved minutes to the Society Presidents one month before the next rally. This would give the Society Presidents time to have their members review them, if necessary.
3. At the rally, give the voting body an opportunity to approve (or make corrections on) each page. (They will need some time to read through each page.)
4. The Zone President would then state that the minutes are approved.

I believe this method would be beneficial in keeping the integrity of the minutes. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this approach, please contact the Structure Chairman.

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

July 2020 - September 2020

In memory of Bea Jacobs from Parkers Prairie, Immanuel
 In memory of Larrol Hilgren from Parkers Prairie, Immanuel
 In memory of Charles Jenson from Parkers Prairie, Immanuel
 In memory of El Jeanne Bormann from Ottertail, St Johns
 In memory of Rose Wittnebel from Bellingham, Trinity
 In memory of Kathleen (Kitty) Rosin from Elbow Lake, Christ
 In memory of Ruth Gottschalk from Sauk Rapids, Trinity
 In memory of Rev. William Stockmann from Kathy Brandt
 In memory of Marilyn Streich from Jeanetta Heinrich
 In memory of Rose Wittnebel from Fran Wittnebel
 In memory of Wanda Misar from Fran Wittnebel
 In memory of Wanda Misar from Jane Asche
 In memory of Wanda Misar from Jeanetta Heinrich
 In memory of Ardy Pykkonen from Judith Uran
 In memory of Irene Friedrich from Pastor Robert Friedrich
 In memory of Corrine Frank from Detroit Lakes, Zion
 In Honor of Erin Lemke from Sartell, Messiah
 In memory of Phyllis Henkelman from Darlene Rheingans
 In memory of Barbara Speck from Carol Sorenson
 In memory of Barbara Speck from De Larson
 In memory of Barbara Speck from Bemidji, Trinity
 In memory of Elaine Schaumburg from De Larson
 In memory of Elaine Schaumburg from Bemidji, Trinity
 In memory of Sandy Abbott from De Larson
 In memory of Claire Halamka from Evelyn Pingel
 In memory of Jerry Wussow from Parkers Prairie, Emmanuel

Memorial gifts and Honorariums should be sent to the Financial Secretary, Peggy Pasche, 16287 County Road 5, Hoffman MN 56339. Phone: 320-986-2452 (H), 218-731-7629 (C), financialsec@lwmlmnn.org. Financial Remittance Form can be downloaded from the Resources page of our district website at lwmlmnn.org.

And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' Then I said, 'Here am I! Send me.' (Isaiah 6:8)

SCHOLARSHIPS

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In the past fifty plus years, LWML Minnesota North District has been supporting full-time church work students through scholarships. At the LWML Minnesota North District Board of Directors meeting in July 2020, we awarded scholarships to two seminary students and six college students (preparing to become full-time church workers). They are as follows:

COLLEGE STUDENTS



Jayme Aume, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Parkers Prairie, MN, is attending Concordia University, St Paul, studying Christian Ministries-DEC. Pastor: Rev. Kirk Lee



Sarah Jeppesen, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Willmar, MN, is attending Concordia University, St Paul, studying English Education. Pastor: Rev. Matthew Canion



Madison Patrow, Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Cohasset, MN, is attending Concordia University, St Paul, studying Christian Ministry-DEC. Pastor: Rev. Mark Peske



Jacob Frank, Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Duluth, MN, is attending Concordia University, Chicago, studying Theological Languages-Major, Philosophy. Pastor: Rev. Robert Frank



LeAnn Gregoire, Trinity Lutheran Church, Isle, MN, is attending Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, IN, in the Distance program, studying Masters in Deaconess Studies. Pastor: Rev. Mark Maunula



Andrew Hopfensperger, St Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Eden Valley, MN, is attending Concordia University, Wisconsin, studying Parish Music. Pastor: Rev. Bryan Hopfensperger

SEMINARY STUDENTS



Berett Steffen, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Willmar, MN, is attending Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, IN – Masters of Divinity. Pastor: Rev. Matthew Canion. Berett has been an exchange student in Germany during the Covid-19 pandemic. Please pray for safe travels for Berett as he returns to the United States.



Josef Muench, Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Duluth, MN, is attending Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, IN – Masters of Divinity. Pastor: Rev. Jeremy Rhode of Capistrano Beach, CA. Blessings to Josef and his wife on the birth of their first child.

We thank God for those willing to commit to full-time church work and to the Great Commission to:

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19).

MISSION GRANT REPORT

A total amount of \$10,900 in mites for LWML MN North grants was raised this past quarter. The Mission Grant Committee recommended and the BOD approved the payment of grant allocations as follows: \$2,000 for Scholarships for Men Preparing for Ordination, \$3,600 for Scholarships for Full-Time Church Work Students, \$2,800 for Project 24 Christ’s Care for Children - Kenya, and \$2,500 for LSF Haiti - Jacmel Lutheran Home and Center of Refuge Orphanage. The chart below details the current balance remaining for the 2020-2022 biennium.

	MISSION GRANTS FOR THE 2020-2022 BIENNIUM (Balance as of October 13, 2020)	GRANT AMOUNT	BALANCE REMAINING
Grant 1	Orphan Grain Train	\$9,000	\$6,000
Grant 2	Lutheran Island Camp and Christ Serve Ranch	\$10,000	\$10,000
Grant 3	Scholarships for Men Preparing for Ordination	\$8,000	\$6,000
Grant 4	C.R.O.S.S. Appeal	\$18,000	\$11,000
Grant 5	Scholarships for Full-Time Church Work Students	\$32,000	\$24,800
Grant 6	Financial Assist for Food & Clothing Co-op, CTS Fort Wayne	\$10,000	\$10,000
Grant 7	At Just the Right Time - Mission Central	\$10,000	\$10,000
Grant 8	“Main Street Living North” Ministry Outreach TV Program	\$5,000	\$5,000
Grant 9	Doxology Pastoral Care and Well-being	\$15,000	\$12,000
Grant 10	Project 24, Christ’s Care for Children - Kenya	\$10,800	\$8,000
Grant 11	LSF Haiti - Jacmel Lutheran Home & Center of Refuge Orphanage	\$10,000	\$7,500
Grant 12	Connecting People in an inclusive Christian Housing Community (partially funded)	\$2,700	\$2,700
TOTALS		\$140,500	\$113,000

YOUNG WOMEN

Two Young Woman Representatives (YWR) are being sought to attend the LWML 39th Biennial Convention June 24-27, 2021, in Lexington, Kentucky. YWRs must be a member of a Minnesota North District congregation and have not previously attended an LWML convention (on the national level) as a YWR.

The age preference is between 18 and 35 years old. A candidate will have a deep love and devotion for her Lord Jesus Christ and be willing to participate in the full scope of the convention, including all special YWR activities. Potential YWRs will need to be able to be away from home/ work for the entire convention and the travel time involved.

The LWML Minnesota North District has made a financial commitment to send selected YWRs to the convention in Lexington. The two selected YWRs must commit to providing a convention report at the LWML Minnesota North District Convention in 2022.

Applications can be found at www.lwml.org/posts/young-women-resources/ywr-application and in the 2020 fall packet that will be handed out in the fall. Applications are due by January 1, 2021. For more information about YWR activities or how to apply, contact the Young Women Chairman, at youngwomen@lwmlmnn.org.

LWML Minnesota North District Board of Directors



LWML MN North District
www.lwmlmnn.org
 LWML: www.lwml.org

Submit an article

Does your zone or society have an event or story to share? Please send your article and pictures to the Editor at:
editor@lwmlmnn.org.

Minnesota Northern Light

Sign up to receive an email notice each quarter announcing when the *Minnesota Northern Light* is ready to download from the district website:
www.lwmlmnn.org.

Prayer & Praise Mite Calendar

A great help in your prayer and praise life – especially remembering the mission grants we’re supporting. Download this month’s calendar from the Publication Menu.

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