



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

Sisters in Christ,

As we live through the pandemic, continue to. . .

- pray for our country;
- pray for our front-line medical workers;
- pray for Christians in our country and around the world who are facing persecution and danger;
- stay in contact with our fellow LWML sisters as there is much isolation and confinement.

Depression, anxiety, and feelings of insecurity are a result. Pray for them and keep in contact any way you can.

Some uplifting and exciting news... the LWML Convention is happening this summer (June 24-27, 2021). It will be held in Lexington, KY; the theme is: "Running the Race... Looking to Jesus". Details and registration forms can be found in your Winter 2020 *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*.

We have a committee looking into the possibility of our district chartering one or two buses to transport us to Lexington. Please be on the "look out" for that information. (Buses have specific hotels, so be aware of that when making hotel reservations. They will be shuttling attendees to and from the convention center, if needed.) They are also looking into the possibility of taking tours of the Creation Museum and Ark Encounter.

Please keep the LWML in your prayers as we move forward, proclaiming Jesus; continue to Serve the LORD with gladness! (Psalm 100:2).

In His Service,
Kathy Brandt

Bus to Convention



LWML Minnesota North District is planning to have a bus available to attend the convention in Lexington, Kentucky. The details are currently being finalized. For more information contact Nadine Drevlow at drevlowmn@hotmail.com or 218-770-3679, Esther Schlicker at 218-316-2924, or Kathy Brandt at 218-784-4772.



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

Thank you for your continued “giving of mites” during this difficult time of the pandemic. The ministries we support have also faced challenges, but we praise God that they continue to strive to meet the needs of the people they serve.

So that these ministries can continue to serve, we strive to continue filling our Mite Boxes. I’ve listed some ideas of how we can make that happen:

- Since we are not putting on as many miles with our vehicles, we could put the savings on gasoline in our Mite Box.
- Not entertaining guests in your home, as in the past? The dollars not spent on food could be placed in our Mite Box.
- One society held a virtual bazaar through Facebook.

Continue to find ways that you and your society can support our mission grants in 2021. God’s blessings in 2021, as you “Serve the Lord with Gladness!”



Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

2021 UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan 12	BOD Meeting
Jan 15	Christian Life Reports are due
Mar 15	<i>Minnesota Northern Light</i> Spring Issue articles due
Apr 20	BOD Meeting
Jun 15	<i>Minnesota Northern Light</i> Spring Issue articles due
Jun 24-27	LWML Convention in Lexington, Kentucky



Mustard Seed Devotions can be sent directly to your email daily.

Visit www.lwml.org/mustard-seed-devotions to sign up.

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BYLAW

Change to Article on Members or Membership

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

During the last two years, we have seen some of our LWML groups disband or go inactive. The women of these groups would like to belong to an active LWML group that meets in another church. However, it has come to my attention that bylaws for several groups contain language that does not permit them to join another LWML group.

Example: Under the article for members or membership, it reads “Membership is open to any woman who is a communicant member of the St John’s Lutheran congregation”. This prohibits anyone who is not a communicant member of St John’s Lutheran church from joining their LWML group. An LWML member from a group that has been disbanded or has gone inactive would have to join St John’s Lutheran Church to join their LWML group. These women do not want to join another church; they just want to join the LWML group in the church.

I would like all the LWML groups to consider changing the article on Member or Membership to the following: “Membership is open to any woman who is a communicant member of an LCMS Church. “

This change would give your fellow LWML women a place to continue their LWML work alongside their Sisters in Christ.

Thanking you in advance for giving the change your consideration. If you have any questions or concerns, please call or email me.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Valerie Johnson, Chairman • scholarships@lwmlmnn.org • 320-986-2848

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We reported in the Fall issue of the *Minnesota Northern Light* the list/information of recipients who are receiving scholarship money from LWML MN North—in distributing grant allocations to Men Preparing for Ordination and Full-Time Church Work Students.

Please continue to pray for these students:

Sarah J., Madison P., Jacob F., LeAnn G., Andrew H., Berett S., and Josef M.

May their studies continue, in spite of Covid-19 restrictions, and may God’s will be done.

CHRISTIAN LIFE

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Faith vs. Fear

In 2020, we all tired quickly of the phrases, “we’re all in this together,” social distancing,” “pandemic,” and “flatten the curve”. I struggled with whether or not to write this article about the obvious challenges we all faced during the past year. However, it gives me an opportunity to stress the importance of staying in touch with God and His Word. During my research, I ran across many articles about how to reduce the stress and anxiety associated with fear. But the most compelling articles were rooted in God’s Word.

Below are five reminders of how and why to choose faith over fear.

- **Read and Study the Word** (Psalm 119:66)
Our knowledge of the Bible can be a factor in the strength or weakness of our faith. Knowing what God’s Word says gives us courage to stretch our faith in trusting God.
- **Obey the Word** (James 2:22)
Our actions reflect our obedience to God’s Word and give us confidence when we are confronted by fear. The more we step out in faith in obedience to the Word of God, the more our faith grows in the Lord and we are less afraid of the unknown.
- **Speak the Word** (Deuteronomy 30:14)
There’s something about repeating the Holy Scriptures that helps us to push forward when we want to give up. We speak the words within and out loud bolstering our faith and quieting our fears.
- **Pray the Word** (1 Timothy 4:4-5)
We don’t need to worry about how to pray, we just need to pray! Some of the best examples of prayer come straight from the Bible. Prayers of Moses, David, Daniel, Paul, and best of all—Jesus, serve as great examples. Many of the cries to God in the book of Psalms were written in fearful times, causing the author to remember the goodness and grace of God.
- **Live the Word** (Matthew 4:4)
A believer who studies, obeys, speaks, and prays the Word of God will live it out in faith and not fear. As we live out our faith, the Holy Spirit brings a greater assurance in our hearts. Through a renewed hope in God, we become more attuned to His will and unafraid to move in His direction.



CHRISTIAN LIFE (CONT'D)

As we continue to stay in the Word and look forward to 2021, the LWML has resources for your group to use at meetings, rallies, and other events. Here are the recommended topics for the first quarter of 2021:

January 2021: AFRAID OF WHAT?

Devotion — Afraid of What?

Bible Study — Faith Over Fear

February 2021: COMPASSIONATE CARING

Devotion — Compassionate Caring

Bible Study — How to Show Christ's

Compassion To Those Who Face Chronic Conditions

March 2021: JESUS' SERVANTS

Devotion — Jesus' Servants

Bible Study — God's True Desire for His Children

These resources, with suggested ice breakers and activities, are taken from the 2-year planner, reSOURCEs for Planning Programs, available as a free download at www.lwml.org.

If you need help finding these or other resources, feel free to contact Corles Rainer at christianlife@lwmlmnn.org or 320-743-2131.

YOUNG WOMEN

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With Christmas still fresh on our minds, we think of one of the wonderful messages of the season: "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people". Jesus, the infant, our Savior, born in a manger in Bethlehem, became one of us. He grew up walking the earth. He feels our sorrows and our pain. He took our sins to the cross. This good news drives fear away, whether it is Covid-19, civil unrest, loss of job, or death. Let us praise God for that message.

My mission is to be available to mentor young women in our district. We have a calling to help build spiritual vibrancy in the lives of the younger women in our congregations.

The LWML Minnesota North District is anxious to sponsor two young women from MN North District to attend an all-expense paid

SPIRITUAL JOURNEY to the 2021 LWML Convention in Lexington, Kentucky, held June 24 – 27. Lexington is the Horse Racing Capital of the United States. Knowing this, we understand the theme of the convention, "RUNNING THE RACE LOOKING TO JESUS".

Please watch future publications for info about our YWR delegates from Minnesota North District.

Yours in Christ, Ruby Prochnow
Minnesota North District Young Woman
Committee Chairman

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

October 2020 - December 2020

- In memory of Christina Resendiz from Crookston, Our Saviors Afternoon Guild
In memory of Grace Judisch from Frazee, Bethlehem
In memory of Frances Christensen form Frazee, Bethlehem
In memory of Elden Lueders from Ottertail, St Johns LWML
In memory of Vi Carrico from Alexandria, Zion
In memory of Gail Walther from Rose(Bunny) Hein
In memory of Deloris Hayes from Corky Rainer
In memory of Virginia Ansorge from Kathy Brandt
In memory of Virginia Ansorge from Karena Lapolice
In memory of David LaChappelle from Ross and Thresea Warnsholz
In memory of Pearl Aadland from Laurie Brand
In memory of Pearl Aadland from Sandy Schroeden
In memory of Pearl Aadland from Mary Anderson
In memory of Pearl Aadland from Forest Lake, Lord of Lakes LWML
In memory of Marcia Weisbrich from Sauk Centre, Zion
In memory of Ken Ingrebrightson from Isle, St John
In memory of Virginia Ansorge from Irene Hoffman
In memory of Norman Barge from Parkers Prairie, Immanuel
In memory of Laurel Riedel from Parkers Prairie, Immanuel
In memory of Steve Turchin from Parkers Prairie, Immanuel
In memory of Werner Knapp from Parkers Prairie, Immanuel
In memory of Rose Wittenbel from Bellingham, Trinity
In memory of Wanda Missar from Marion Goetsch
In memory of Harriet Groth from Cambridge , Women of Joy
In memory of Deloris Ewoldt from Earl Ewoldt
In memory of Virginia Ansorge from Anita Peterson
In honor of Phyllis Schmidt for her 90th birthday
In honor of Phyllis Schmidt for her 90th birthday from De Larson
In memory of Bonnie Grossman from Staples, Trinity Ladies Guild
In memory of Marilyn Benting from Cambridge, Women of Joy
In memory of Marilyn Benting from Diane Althoff
In memory of Pat Reberg from Sauk Rapids, Trinity LWML
In memory of Audrey Fleck from Sauk Rapids, Trinity LWML
In memory of Rev.Dr. Jeffery Walther from Kathy Brandt
In memory of Virginia Ansorge from Marilyn Hiltel
In memory of Shirley Zipoy from Kimball, St John's
In memory of Clara Lotthammer from Bellingham, Trinity
In memory of Clara Lotthammer from Fran Wittnebel
In memory of Clara Lotthammer from Wayne and Jeanetta Heinrich
In memory of Sandy Lorenzen from Wayne and Jeanetta Heinrich
In memroy of Sandy Lorenzen from lone Asche
In memory of Sandy Lorenzen from Fran Wittnebel
In memory of Elaine Lundgren from Ottertail, St.John's LWML
In memory of Susan Swenson from Crookston, Our Saviors Afternoon Guild

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS (CONT'D)

In memory of Judy Penrose from Parkers Prairie, Immanuel LWML
In memory of Arlo Peterson from Parkers Prairie, Immanuel LWML

Memorial gifts and Honorariums should be sent to:

Peggy Pasche, Financial Secretary
16287 County Road 5
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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 www.lwmlmnn.org.

MISSION GRANT REPORT

A total amount of \$19,800 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: \$5,000 for Lutheran Island Camp and Christ Serve Ranch, \$8,000 for Scholarships for Full-Time Church Work Students, \$2,000 for Financial Assist for Food and Clothing Co-op, CTS Fort Wayne, \$2,300 for At Just the Right Time - Mission Central, and \$2,500 for "Main Street Living North" Ministry Outreach TV Program. The chart below details the current balance remaining for the 2020-2022 biennium.

	MISSION GRANTS FOR THE 2020-2022 BIENNIUM (Balance as of January 12, 2021)	GRANT AMOUNT	BALANCE REMAINING
Grant 1	Orphan Grain Train	\$9,000	\$6,000
Grant 2	Lutheran Island Camp and Christ Serve Ranch	\$10,000	\$5,000
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	\$16,800
Grant 6	Financial Assist for Food & Clothing Co-op, CTS Fort Wayne	\$10,000	\$8,000
Grant 7	At Just the Right Time - Mission Central	\$10,000	\$7,700
Grant 8	"Main Street Living North" Ministry Outreach TV Program	\$5,000	\$2,500
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	\$93,200

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Refine Your Listening Skills

Great leaders learn and forge consensus among their constituents by listening and by encouraging all group members to listen skillfully and with care to one another. To listen — really listen — is hard. Too often we:

- assume we already know what the other person will say, so we tune out;
- begin planning our response instead of focusing on understanding the other person's point of view;
- fail to note the non-verbal messages connected with the words of the other person and thus miss much of the communication;
- become defensive because we feel threatened, and scramble mentally to justify ourselves; or
- become impatient, because creating true consensus among a group takes time.

These behaviors and attitudes can short-circuit relationships. Yet, as we overcome these behaviors with God's help, our willingness to listen will benefit us and our organization in several ways:

- Listening helps calm and comfort the group during times of change, pain, fear, and stress.
- By listening, servant leaders discover roadblocks and opportunities, needs and strengths.
- Listening develops sensitivity to people's needs and interests, and this sensitivity builds trust.
- Those who listen to others find that others more readily listen to them.
- Listening deeply to others helps us avoid premature consensus on less-than-ideal decisions.

Enjoy the benefits by listening carefully as you lead!

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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.



LWML MIN 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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