

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Better rewards

"Godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come." 1 Tim. 4:8



With those in her yoga class, an LWML member liked to speak of her faith and church. One woman scoffed: "The trouble with you is that you think you're better than the rest of us." "Not better," she replied, "just better off."

How true! The person who has come to God through faith in Christ is far better off than the one who has no Lord and Savior. With a thankful heart, when you lead a Christian life, deal honestly with your neighbors, live at peace with others and, by the help of the Holy Spirit, obey the laws of God and man, you are much better off than the person who cannot let go of past hurts, does not have a reliable guide for today and doesn't have God's promise for the future.

The rewards of the Christian faith are not just on the other side of the grave. We have many rewards in the present life, although they are sometimes hard to measure. Those rewards include peace, contentment, love, joy, a daily relationship with the very Son of God and the full assurance of ultimate victory. All of these will certainly result in less stress, anger, grudges and even sorrow.

We pray that our witness to others will show the great value of biblical godliness, not for our own credit but to the praise of Christ Jesus and His invitation to others for the same blessings in their life! Indeed, the believer in Christ is "better off" — both in this world and the next!

Rev. Matthew Vrudny
Park Region Pastoral Counselor

Plan now to attend 2020 convention

Plans are underway for the LWML Minnesota North District Convention, to be held June 22-24, 2020 at the Timberlake Lodge Hotel and Event Center in Grand Rapids.

The convention theme, "Drawn to the Cross," is based on Joshua 1:9b:

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

The keynote speaker will be Rev. Dr. Brent Smith, who serves as mission development counselor for Mission Central in Mapleton, Iowa.

More information will be provided as we get closer to 2020. Plan now to attend. If you are a part of the Arrowhead I Region (Iron Range, Kettle River and Lake Superior zones), you will have the added pleasure of volunteering to help with all of the duties that are needed to hold a convention.

Fellowship in Mobile

At the 38th Biennial Convention of the LWML in Mobile, Ala., in June, the district banners were displayed in the Jubilee Junction Exhibit Hall, as was the LWML store and many mission exhibitors.

From left, Miranda Garman and Daylin Paulson, district Young Woman Representatives, are pictured with Marilyn Hittel, LWML district president. The banner was designed and created by Pat Sakrismo of Twin Valley.



Prayer Service

In March, St. John's Lutheran Church, rural Ada, hosted the 2019 LWML Prayer Service. LWML groups were invited to participate in the service and breakfast. There were 22 ladies and spouses in attendance. The service was a wonderful reminder of the importance of prayer in our Christian life.

Assembly of Leaders workshops

The schedule for the Assembly of Leaders workshops this fall is:

- ▶ Lakeland II, Sept. 28 at St. John's, Madison
- ▶ Lakeland I, Oct. 5 at Zion, Alexandria
- ▶ Arrowhead II, Oct. 12 at Holy Cross, St. Cloud

Workshops begin at 9 a.m. with registration.

For more information, contact Kathy Brandt, Leader Development chairman, at leaderdevelopment@lwmlmnn.org or 218-784-4772.