



MINNESOTA NORTHERN LIGHT

Lutheran Women's Missionary League
Minnesota North District

Serve the Lord with Gladness! Psalm 100:2



FALL 2012

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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.

Visit the LWML websites:
www.lwml.org
www.lwmlmn.org

*"Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord rises upon you"*

(Is. 16:1 NIV).

Greetings! This is my first article for the Minnesota Northern Light as your District President. Who am I? I am a wife, mother, mother-in-law, daughter, sister, grandmother, teacher of young children, congregational member, and LWML society member. But most of all, I am a child of God through baptism!



*President
JoNette Brogaard*

Although the 2012 Minnesota North District Convention held at Breezy Point Resort seems like ages ago, we go back to reflect on the many blessings that God bestowed on us in late June. President Cheryl, the district board and committees spent many hours preparing for and carrying out the activities that occurred.

We thank God for the host region, Park II, (especially Nuclei Chairman Peggy, committee members and workers), who took care of so many details. Speakers, worship leaders, special guests, entertainers, exhibitors, and musicians – all made the three-day event special. Delegates, guests, and Young Women found that the Bible study and fellowship were very uplifting. And the food was delicious!

We thank God for those willing to be candidates for district office. May God bless those in new positions on the district board and those who will serve God in other ways in using their talents.

We look forward to meeting our mission goal of \$135,000 and supporting the 12 mission grants that were chosen. To God be the Glory!

We look ahead now to "what's new." Be aware of the following activities and events:

- LWML Sunday materials are available. Celebrate with your congregation the worship service, "Salted for Service," written by LCMS President Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison.

- Zone fall rallies and workshops will be taking place. Plan to attend and to be inspired and nourished in God's Word. (Make sure that your society receives their Fall Packet.)
- The program PING (Prepare, Inspire, Nourish, Go) training is happening in mid-October in St. Louis. Please pray for our district attendees: Leader Development Committee Chairman Lynn Lahd, Christian Life Committee Chairman Mary Kuhnau, and myself, as President. We will return with plans to share and to lead training sessions in our zones and regions in the months to come.
- Make plans to attend the 2013 LWML Convention in Pittsburgh, Pa., next June, as a zone delegate or a guest. Watch for transportation plans that will be made available by our district in the future. The theme is "Quenched! by the Water."
- Above all, continue to grow in God's Word, serve Him daily, and pray continually.

*Salted for Service,
President JoNette Brogaard*

2013 LWML Convention verse:

[Jesus said:] " ... *but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life*" (John 4:14).



Pittsburgh – WOW!

Make your plans NOW to attend the 35th Biennial LWML Convention to be held at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, June 27-30, 2013.

Plans are already underway for this convention with the theme "Quenched! by the Water."

Convention attendees will welcome Dr. Dien Taylor as the Proclaimer at the Opening Worship Service; Key-note Speaker, Dr. LuJuana Butts; Bible Study Leader, Donna Pyle; Song Leader, Dr. Dina Vendetti; Humorous Interrupter, Elaine Bickel; and Dr. Victor Belton as Closing Worship Proclaimer.

Invite your friends, mark the dates on your calendar and watch for more details in the months to come.

Visit www.lwml.org/conventions for the latest in Pittsburgh convention news!

Did you know that Pittsburgh was where the popular long-running public television children's show, "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood," ran from 1967-2001?

Join your LWML neighbors in Pittsburgh in 2013



Looking for Young Woman Representatives to attend convention

We are looking for women ages 18-35 who would like to attend the 35th Biennial LWML Convention in Pittsburgh, Pa., June 27-30, 2013. LWML Minnesota North District is accepting applications for two young women to attend the convention (two alternates will also be chosen).

Attending the LWML Convention is a life-changing experience. Encourage a young woman to fill out the application, or if you are this age range, fill one out yourself!

Applications are due December 1 to Lynnette Roshell. They are available in the fall packets or online at www.lwmlmnn.org. Young women will need to have a reference by someone who knows them. Travel costs and expenses will be covered by the district.

YWR polling results

At the district convention this year, visitors to the YWR booth were asked what age they were when they first got involved in LWML. The results of this poll were very interesting. Two hundred and six of you placed dots on the chart.

The most common age when women get involved in LWML was between ages 18-35. Part of the reason that this may have been the most popular category was that it was the widest age range. However, I chose this range specifically because it is the official age range for YWRs. But listening to the stories of the visitors to the YWR booth, I don't think that the wider span was the only reason for its popularity.

More than one woman related to me how once she was married she was allowed to join the LWML. One woman related how she got married on Friday, and on Sunday she was told that someone would be picking her up for the society meeting the following Tuesday afternoon. She has been involved ever since then.

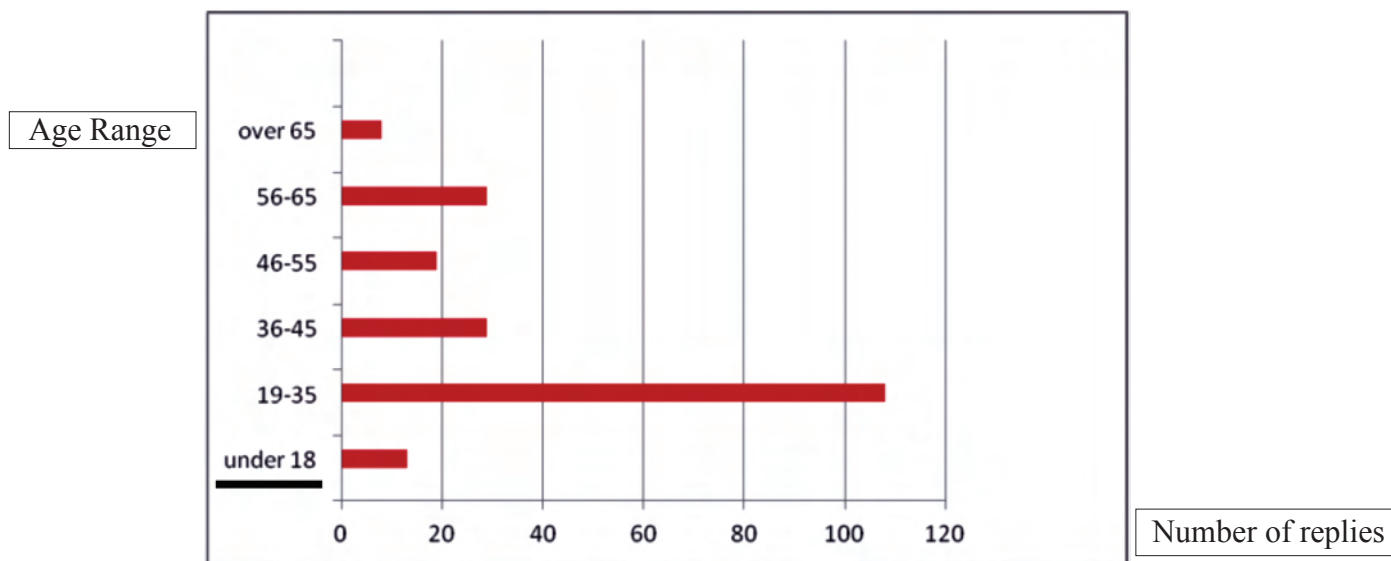
Another woman picked the "under 18" category. She told me how she had first gotten involved when she was four years old, attending meetings with her grandmother who raised her. She said she has been going to meetings every since.

One woman told me she had recently retired and was now able to attend the morning meetings of her local society. She was very happy she could now be involved.

Still other women did not know which category to pick because they had been active in the women's organizations of other synods for many years and they had only recently joined the LCMS and been introduced to the LWML.



Lynnette Rochelle
YWR Chairman



What the results tell me is that women get involved with the LWML at different stages in their lives. Is there a woman in your church who is embarking on a new phase of her life? Perhaps she is recently married, or recently widowed or the children have just left for college. Invite her to a society event. As in Ecclesiastes 3:1 (NIV), "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens."

Your loving hearts and hands

My husband and I just recently returned from a motorcycle ride to the Black Hills in South Dakota. As the passenger, I have a lot of time to “think” and “watch” as the miles go by. During this ride, I saw many displaced people holding signs asking for help, and this started my mind thinking about the person holding that sign.



*Deb Anderson, Human Care
Chairman and her husband,
Eugene*

At one town, as we rode in, I saw a middle aged man sitting on the sidewalk in front of a grocery store. We then went on to find a room for the night and happened to ride back by that same store. Now there were several police talking to this man, and he was lying down on the sidewalk.

My heart went out to him. Where was his family? Why was he alone on a sidewalk? Why were the police there with him? Was he unable to find employment? But most of all, did he know Christ? If so, at this very moment, did he remember that God loves him dearly?

I had all these questions, with no answers available. Obviously since the police were on the scene, and I had no idea who this person was, I knew I could not intervene, except my prayers were definitely with him at that moment.

My prayers are still with this man, even though he may have no idea that he touched my heart that day.

This scene made me very thankful for all the Lord blessings. It gives me the incentive to find even more ways that I can spread God’s Word and share my blessings. There is no “one way” to show our love to those in need.

God may have blessed you with the gift to sew, crochet, knit, or quilt. Or He may have blessed you with the gift of financial security, the gift of speech, or the gift of wisdom. The list goes on and on. How you share your “gifts” is your choice.

I encourage each of you to continue in your many LWML projects. These go a long way to help those people in need. I challenge you to find a unique way

of helping someone “up close and personal.”

As you fulfill this challenge, please share your experience with me so I, in turn, can share these ideas with other LWML women through the website and the newsletter. Your ideas and enthusiasm may be just what another woman needs to get started to find a way to share her blessings with others.

The overwhelming response of the ingathering at the last convention shows how you help through loving hearts and hands. Thank you.

Please take a few moments and read Psalm 34. Our blessings come from our Lord and Savior. Let us truly share these blessings with everyone we meet.

There are many ongoing projects, such as collecting supplies for veteran homes, assisted living homes, and fire victims. Other projects are collecting phone cards for our seminary students, collecting soup labels and stamps, making pillow case dresses, recycling greeting cards, and many more.

I have been given lots of information regarding previous LWML projects which I am glad to share at any time. I am anxious to receive information from each society that I can then share with YOU, the backbone of the LWML.



This picture was taken at Lutheran Island Camp during the 60th anniversary celebration in June. Pictured are: Louis “Crusoe” Blocker (summer staff, 2010-2011, Summer Program Assistant, 2012); Ken Erlandson (summer staff, 1982; Summer Program Director, 1985; Camp Director, 2001-present); John Westlunch (Program Director, 1990s); Katie “Peach” Peske (summer staff, 2011; Summer Program Director, 2012); Mark Peske (summer staff, 1976-77; Program Director, 1978-1980); Judy Schultz (summer staff, 1970s); Bill Schultz (first Camp Director, beginning in 1976; past president of Board of Directors; Director of Planning and Resource Development, early 2000s-present); and Virginia Ansorge (volunteer and employee at LIC for many years, beginning in the 1940s). See more photos at Lutheran Island Camp and Retreat Center. [Photo courtesy of Cheryl Petersen.]

Second Chances

In the years that my husband and I have been married, I wonder how many times I've served him food that was burned or inedible. After each of those incidents, my husband has never said, "That's it. I'm never eating another bite of your cooking." He has always choked down the food. He has always returned for the next meal. He's always given me another chance to learn from my failures and to become a better cook.

Many times in my spiritual life I have failed. There were times when I have known something was a sin, but I went ahead and did it anyway. I have been the person described in James 4:17 who knows the good I ought to do and doesn't do it. Does God ever give up on me? No. When I confess my sins, He forgives and purifies me from my unrighteousness. Then He gives me another chance.

The Bible has many examples of people who God has given a second chance. Although God became angry with the children of Israel for their murmuring and complaining when they were in the desert, He gave them chance after chance. Eventually the consequence for their disobedience was 40 years in the desert. But God was faithful to His promise to lead them into the Promised Land.

Then there was Jonah. He ran in the opposite direction when God called him to preach repentance to the Ninevites. After Jonah's experience in the whale, God gave him a second chance to go to Nineveh. When Jonah preached that God would destroy their city, the Ninevites repented, and God gave them a second chance by not bringing the destruction he had threatened.

How about Peter? Before Jesus' arrest and trial, Peter had boasted, "Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will." Or "Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death." Peter did not keep those promises, but denied that he even knew Jesus three times. Did Jesus give up on Him? No; after Peter received the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, he became a powerful preacher leading many to Christ.



Mary Kuhnau
Christian Life
Chairman

In Acts 13:13 we learn of a young man, Barnabas' cousin, who was called John Mark. He went with Paul and Barnabas on the first missionary journey. Paul and Barnabas experienced persecution on this journey. We are not told if it was because of this persecution or another reason, but John Mark left Paul and Barnabas during the journey and returned to Jerusalem.

When Paul and Barnabas decided to take a second missionary journey, Barnabas wanted to give John Mark another chance by taking him along. Paul felt that it was not wise to take John Mark because he had deserted them once. This disagreement caused Paul and Barnabas to split up. John Mark and Barnabas went one way. Paul partnered with Silas and went another direction. (Acts 15:36-41)

Because John Mark was given his second chance, he was able to be helpful to Paul in ministry (see 2 Timothy 4:11). Twice as many people were told the good news of Jesus Christ because there were two missionary trips instead of one. John Mark is also credited for giving us the Gospel of Mark.

Why does God give us so many chances when we keep failing? The answer is found in Psalm 103:8-10 & 14: "The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities ... For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust."

LWML Primary Targets 2011-2013 Biennium



GROWING in the Lord

Women of today find guidance for their lives, encouragement for their walk, and inspiration for joyful service through intentional study of the Word.

VALUING all women

Women of all ages, stages of life, races, locations, and cultures are welcomed, mentored, and encouraged to be active partners in the shared mission of LWML.

LIVING the mission

As the "Face of LWML," women are engaged in opportunities to use their gifts to impact the world for Christ in their daily lives.

WHAT, WHO ME? Be an officer, a leader, oh no!



Who am I Lord? I can't do that!

Have you ever had thoughts like these? You are not alone. Many in LWML have asked these same questions. Sometimes we say them quietly to ourselves. Sometimes we will even voice them out loud when asked to take on a leadership position or be on a committee. Are we simply afraid we will make mistakes or that others will think we won't do a good enough job?

If we look in Exodus 4:10 & 13, we can read that Moses had some of these same thoughts. When God asked Moses to lead His people out of Egypt, this is what the Bible tells us: *Moses said to the LORD, "Oh, my Lord, I am not eloquent, either in the past or since you have spoken to your servant, but I am slow of speech and of tongue." ... "Oh, my Lord, please send someone else."*

Do we, like Moses, raise objections when offered an opportunity to be a servant leader? Are we afraid?

Let us all take our fears to God in prayer, asking Him to give us courageous dependence on Him.

Step out in confidence; don't be afraid to join a committee when asked or take on a leadership role. There are many LWML sisters who are willing to assist you in whatever role you accept.

The LWML has a lot of great handouts that can give you ideas and suggestions when you take on a new role or join a committee.

There is a favorite hymn of mine that expresses what I would like my answer to be when asked to participate in any servant opportunity for my Lord, instead of a, "What, Who Me?" response. That hymn is "Take My Life and Let It Be." It has always been a sort of summation and descriptive guide for the women of LWML.

"Take My Life and Let It Be" (#783 Lutheran Service Book)

Text: Frances R. Havergal: Public Domain

Take my life and let it be
Consecrated Lord to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of thy love;
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee.
Take my voice and let me sing
Always, only for my King;
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee.
Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use
Every power Thou shalt choose.
Take my will and make it Thine,
It shall be longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own,
It shall be Thy royal throne.
Take my love, my Lord I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only all for Thee.

Does this describe the
LWML women you know?
Does this describe you?

The next time you are
asked to help out on a
committee, as a leader or
a supporter, let's respond
confidently: "Who me? –
Yes, Lord, me!"



Lynn Lahd,
Leader Development
Committee Chairman

"I can do all things through
Christ who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13).



May the blessing of God Almighty – Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit – be and remain with you always.
Amen.



*Judy Uran
Mission Grants
Chairman*

Sisters in Christ,

It is again my privilege to serve the district as Mission Grants Chairman.

Your generous mites and prayers will be needed to meet our 2012-2014 Mission Goal. We have the opportunity to fund a variety of grants over the next two years. Together our mites have great impact, whether it is to provide food and clothing, transportation, books about our Savior, or other missions.

In our 2012 LWML Sunday Service, we are reminded that we are "Salted for Service." May we look to the Word to keep this salt in our lives.

*Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, how will you make it salty again?
Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another (Mark 9:50).*

Mission Grants

#1 Orphan Grain Train - \$8,500

Orphan Grain Train (OGT) is a humanitarian aid organization and a Recognized Service Organization (RSO) of LCMS. OGT has shipped 63 million pounds of food, clothing, medical supplies and other merchandise to 43 countries. Volunteer hours in many regional sites make it possible for this program to continue.

The destinations vary from local disasters in our country to international locations, thus benefitting those in crisis throughout the world. Pastors and missions generally distribute the items, along with the Word of God and His love for them.

While the majority of the items are donated, the cost of shipping them is a great challenge. This grant will help meet the transportation costs for the spiritual and physical needs of His beloved people, whether in this country or to the far reaches of the world.



**2012-2014
Mission Goal
Status as of
September 30,
2012**

	Goal	Balance
Orphan Grain Train	\$ 8,500	5,500.00
Scholarships Full-Time Church Work Students	\$ 50,000	40,000.00
Financial Support and Staff Training LIC	\$ 10,000	9,000.00
Food and Clothing Co-op, Ft. Wayne	\$ 10,000	8,000.00
Scholarships Men Preparing for Ordination	\$ 5,000	3,138.02
Vehicles for Pastors and Vicars in Haiti	\$ 20,000	18,000.00
Christian Education Dakota Boys/Girls Ranch	\$ 5,000	5,000.00
Classroom Bldg Yambio, South Sudan (LHF)	\$ 10,000	5,000.00
Christian Storybooks for SE Asia (LBT)	\$ 1,000	1,000.00
Anyuak Ministry, Sauk Rapids	\$ 5,000	2,011.81
Servant Events Fond du Lac Reservation	\$ 5,000	5,000.00
Mary Okeyo Student Scholarship Fund	\$ 5,500	5,500.00
TOTAL	\$135,000	107,149.83

Scholarships

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 ... (Rom. 12:4-6b).

The 2012-2013 academic year is underway. Although we, individually, are not enrolled in classes, we are there in spirit as we pray for the students who have received scholarship grants from the LWML Minnesota North District. Your generous and regular giving of mites has made it possible for 18 future Church Workers to receive financial assistance with their education and training.

This year there are three men preparing for ordination into the pastoral ministry:

- John Bakou, Concordia Seminary, St Louis
- John Koopman, Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft Wayne
- Andrew Noble Concordia Seminary, St Louis

There are four men enrolled in the Pre-seminary Program:

- Andrew Coop, Concordia University Wisconsin
- Mark Langton, Concordia University St Paul
- Josef Muench, Concordia University St Paul
- Kyle Sorkness, Concordia University St Paul

There is one student enrolled in the Deaconess Program:

- Leah Timm, Concordia University St Paul

Two students are enrolled in the Director of Christian Education Program:

- Jessica Borchardt, Concordia University St Paul
- Stephanie Wilde, Concordia University St Paul

Eight students are seeking to become teachers:

- Sarah Berg, Concordia University St Paul
- Kayla Blair, Concordia University St Paul
- Kyria Kleckner, Concordia University Wisconsin
- Mackenzie Lindquist, Concordia University St Paul
- Levi Perzine, Concordia University Wisconsin
- Anna Schield, Concordia University St Paul
- Andrea Timm, Concordia University St Paul
- Rachel Vrudny, Concordia University St Paul



*Linda Jeske
Scholarships
Chairman*

I wish it were possible for each of you to read the essays submitted by these students with their applications. Their eagerness to serve the Lord is inspiring. We need to remember each of them in our prayers that they remain steadfast to God's Word and trust Him in their challenges.

Several students have sent notes expressing their appreciation for the scholarship grants received. I hope to include excerpts from some of these in future articles.

Most recently a note was received from the Anyuak Ministry at Trinity in Sauk Rapids. They write "On behalf of all the Anyuak here at Trinity, thank you for the seminary scholarship ... John Bakou is on staff here at Trinity three days per week. On those days he is working on his seminary online class, visiting his members and preparing for the weekly worship service. ... John takes four classes a year and so he plans to be ordained in the spring of 2015. After John completes his fifth course at the seminary he will become a vicar. So in December of this year, as a vicar, John will bring both Word and Sacrament ministry to the Sunday noon Anyuak Worship service."

Let us all take time to meditate on the words of the LWML League Pledge and not grow weary in our service to Him who gave us His all, that we might spend eternity with Him.

Changes in the fall

I look forward to each changing season – and the changes that come with each season. Guess I think about it more in the fall when there are more events that take place.

Some changes are exciting. Some changes bring about concerns. As we encounter changes, good and not so good, remember that our Heavenly Father is with us always. He says so in His Word.



*Doris Weispfennig
Structure Committee
Chairman*

With the thought of "change," the Structure Committee has completed the steps to make amendments and changes in the LWML Minnesota North District Bylaws. The final copy was sent to the LWML Structure Committee and returned with their approval. Copies will be in the Fall Packets. Please review them.

- Do you understand what they are saying?
- Is it what the district is doing?
- Do you need to change your zone or society bylaws?

We will be meeting together and reviewing the district bylaws again very soon. Therefore, if you have questions, comments or changes, now is the time to contact me or one of the committee members.



The goal of bylaws is to be user friendly (understandable). It is the objective of bylaws that your organization should conduct business in a God pleasing manner. "Let all things be done decently and in order" 1 Corinthians 14:40 (KJV).

Structure Committee members: Phyllis Jastram, Underwood; Kaylene Motschenbacher, Barnesville; Betty Kuelbs, Alexandria; Pastoral Counselor Rev. Ron Hobbie, Montevideo.

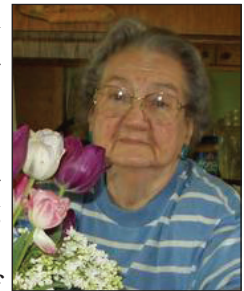


- Immanuel, Parkers Prairie, for Harlan Angell
- Trinity, Sauk Rapids, for Eva Sova
- Zion Evening Guild, Alexandria, for Marion Kleweno
- Shirley Berndt for Mark Kreklau

Memorial and honor gifts should be sent to:
LWML MN North District,
c/o Financial Secretary Marilyn Hiltel
6850 Golden Spike Road
Sauk Rapids, MN 56379-9715

Lydia Bode dies at age 95

LWML Minnesota North District's first president, Lydia Bode, of Wood Lake, Minn., died on Tuesday, July 31, 2012. As of April 2011, Lydia was a resident of Parkview Nursing Home in Belview, Minn.

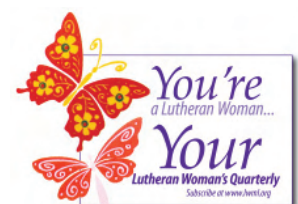


Lydia was a charter member of LWML and helped organize the circuits. Minnesota was organized as a whole circuit on May 19, 1942. She served as Vice President of LWML Minnesota. LWML Minnesota North District was organized in 1963. She served as President from 1964 to 1968 and served as our district's first Archivist-Historian for ten years.

Lydia was active with her family, church and community. She enjoyed flower gardening and making flower arrangements. Many of these arrangements were worn on the hats she wore and archived these hats as part of her legacy for our district.

Subscriptions available to eQuarterly

LWML is now offering subscriptions to eQuarterly, the electronic version of the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*, which will allow for download directly to a smartphone, tablet, or computer! In fact, all LWML downloadable sources from Shop LWML are now available for those who want this electronic option. To subscribe to eQuarterly, go to www.lwml.org and click on the tab "Shop LWML."



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LWML Minnesota North:
www.lwmlmnn.org



2012-2014 Board of Directors

Back row: Linda Jeske, Rev. Don Sauty, Rev. Ron Hobbie, James Wagner, Rev. Anthony Cloose, Lynnette Roshell.
Middle row: Janet Hasbargen, Mary Kuhnau, Kathleen Brehmer, Lynn Lahd, Deb Anderson, Kristin Olsen.
Front row: Judy Uran, Doris Weispfennig, JoNette Brogaard, Jenny Biorn, Marilyn Hiltel, Tessa Giru.