



Lutheran Women in Mission

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

Back to the Basics

We have just finished celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. I think this is an appropriate time to go back and see what the basics are. The following is from page one of the LWML Handbook, (revised 2017).

WHAT IS THE LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE?

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) is the official women's auxiliary of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS).

- It has at its "mission heart" thousands of volunteers who are daily dedicating their lives to making a difference in this world.
- It is also "Lutheran Women in Mission," a phrase that reflects the object of the LWML, adopted by the Board of Directors in January 1998.
- It is women who are finding avenues to use their God-given talents as they meet the challenge to share the Gospel message.
- It is composed of individual women and women's groups within congregations of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, on campuses, in residence homes, or in other settings.
- It provides individual membership to women in LCMS congregations with or without a society affiliated with the LWML. Women may have an interest in the mission and ministry of the LWML and wish to be a part of the organization- but cannot, for a variety of reasons, be part of a local group. Individual membership is designed for these women.
- It seeks to develop and maintain a greater mission consciousness among the women of the Synod through education, inspiration, and service.

- It places a major emphasis on the support of mission and ministry throughout the world by means of Mite Box offerings. These Mite Box offerings have funded over 100 million dollars in mission grants since the organization's inception in 1942.

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE LUTHERAN WOMEN'S

MISSIONARY LEAGUE: The mission of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League is to assist each women 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 people of the world.

VISION STATEMENT OF THE LUTHERAN WOMEN'S

MISSIONARY LEAGUE: The LWML, the leading group for LCMS women, is the place where each woman is welcomed and encouraged to use her unique God-given gifts as she supports global missions and serves the Lord with gladness.

If you have a struggling society or would like to start a new one, take the time to read the LWML Handbook. It can be found at lwml.org, under the **About Us** tab, **Bylaws/Structure**.

The most important activity your society or women can engage in is Bible study. LWML has many excellent, doctrinally approved Bible studies. We cannot have a mission heart without knowing who Jesus is and what He has done for us.

Don't forget about the LWML Minnesota North District Convention, to be held June 18-20, 2017 at Bemidji. The theme is "Forever Written in His Hands". The Bible verse: *See, I have inscribed you on the palms of my hands* (Isaiah 49:16a NKJV).

Oh, how we are loved by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!



In His Name,
Marilyn Hiltel
LWML Minnesota North District President
president@lwmlmnn.org



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LWML HAS A NEW LOGO

A new logo for the LWML was presented at the 2017 LWML Convention in Albuquerque, NM. Visit lwml.org for more information and to view a video of its unveiling.

The *Minnesota Northern Light* 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.

CHRISTIAN LIFE

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 Kathy Steinmetz

Being in the Word

by Lori Salvhus

At times I have found it difficult to write the articles for the *Minnesota Northern Light*. There are so many things that I could write about, but what is going to be meaningful to my Christian sisters? I have a strong longing for every Christian to love reading and studying the Bible as much as I do. This desire to be in the Word didn't happen overnight for me. I had made attempts to read through the Bible, but always got stuck shortly after Genesis! It wasn't until I got a guide that I was able to actually stick with it and not give up when I found it tedious or boring. It is only recently that I have found Isaiah, Jeremiah and Ezekiel fascinating, even having read through them many times. Having a good study Bible like **The Lutheran Study Bible** really helps.

Individual Bible study is very important, but equally important for growth and understanding is group Bible study. Showing up on a regular basis is vital for continuity and comprehension. Of course it goes without saying that being present at worship regularly is extremely important since "faith comes by hearing" (Romans 10:17) and whenever we hear something repeatedly, it becomes a part of us. I do not memorize things easily, but with enough repetition, I can eventually recite it. I probably can't tell you chapter or verse, but I know it is in the Bible and can find it if necessary.

There are many excellent Bible studies that are easily accessed though the LWML website, lwml.org. I hope you will give them a try!

Here are a three of the Bible studies:

"Peter: From Fisherman to Fisher of Men"

– A DVD Bible Study by Donna Pyle.

"Balance" – Three different studies by Kay Meyer.

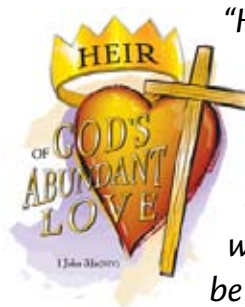
(A look at what gives balance to our lives.)

"Gifts, Chosen for You" – A study of the gifts of the Spirit.



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

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



"How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called the children of God!"

And that is what we are!"

1 John 3:1a (NIV)

LEADER DEVELOPMENT

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Ideas to Engage Membership

by Kathy Brandt

A common dilemma facing many LWML groups is how to encourage young women of the congregation to become active in LWML. Here are some ideas from the Leader Development Committee and Staff Lutheran Women's Missionary League 2017-2019.

Tips on How to Engage Younger Women

Begin by realizing that there is more than one way to do things. Be flexible and give others the opportunity to be innovative.

- 1) Make your newcomer feel welcome at an event.
 - Designate a member of your group as the greeter who welcomes new members.
 - Ensure someone from the group sits with the newcomer at church or during events.
- 2) Ask the working women and young mothers of your congregation what their schedules are like.
 - Remember not to pressure or make newcomers feel guilty about the time they have to commit to your group.
- 3) Consider alternating your meetings to different times and days during the week so working women or young mothers can be a part of the meeting.
- 4) Plan events that can be fun for the whole family.
- 5) Young women want to do things that make a difference. Investigate possibilities in your community, such as sorting donated items at a distribution center or assembling and delivering care packages to shut-ins. There are many needs today and, therefore many forms of serving. A service project will be attractive to women who cannot make long-term commitments. Invite and welcome them all. Consider inviting their friends and families to participate with them.
- 6) Consult with your pastor and make him aware of LWML Sunday and the benefits of observing the day. Talk with him about women being involved in LWML Sunday services and activities. Possibilities include making and displaying a banner, presenting a children's message, serving as ushers, providing special LWML bulletin covers, and distributing handouts. Use the resources found at www.lwml.org.

- 7) Identify an individual who enjoys writing to be responsible for the publicity for LWML and your events. Provide her with timely information so that she can publicize activities, meetings, and LWML resources. She can give a face to LWML by highlighting a member who can share her story. If your church has a website, ask her to post updates on LWML events or she could send periodic emails regarding the activities of the group.
- 8) *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* can be given to all women in the congregation. Young women may be more interested in reading the online version, the *eQuarterly*. Highlight one of the stories on a bulletin board or in the weekly worship folder. Offer *Quarterly* Bible studies to all women of the congregation and point out to the young women the special pages in that publication which are written by other young women. Subscribe to the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* by visiting www.lwml.org/lutheran-womans-quarterly. Enjoy getting to know the young women in your congregation! You will be a mentor to them and they may also become a mentor to you!

Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, and so train the young women to love their husbands and children to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled (Titus 2:3-5).

She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue. Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised (Proverbs 31:26 & 30).

MISSION GRANTS

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Moving Forward in Mission in "Mitey" Ways

by Susan Zeige

As we know, more and more individuals are not attending church, and the idea of following Christ is not on their radar screen. Therefore, it is so important that we continue witnessing to others about the love of Christ and our salvation through His death and resurrection. One of the ways that this is done is through the establishment of Christian schools. When it comes right down to it, it takes a lot of faith and support for congregations to make the decision to provide Christian education on a daily basis throughout the school year to

youth in their area.

Seven congregations in the cities of Alexandria, Crookston, Crown, Perham, St. Cloud, Thief River Falls, and Walker have made this decision to bring Jesus into the daily schedule of students by establishing Christian schools. Many of the students who attend these schools do not come from a church background. Many of these students, as a result of attending these schools, not only have received Christ, but have also continued in their education in our Missouri Synod colleges.

The C.R.O.S.S. Appeal (Congregations Reaching Out to Support Schools), is a grant that

was adopted for this biennium, is to supplement on an equal basis with all seven schools financial support that will be utilized for publicity, tuition, and to implement programs that they could not offer without this funding. When you put money in your Mite Box, you are making a huge difference in the life of each student that attends these schools. Who knows, some day your pastor may come to your congregation as a result of receiving education from one of these schools.



Mission Grants Committee Report

A total amount of \$9,900 in mites were raised for LWML MN North grants this past quarter. The Mission Grants Committee recommended and the BOD approved the payment of grant allocations as follows: \$2,000 for Scholarships for Men Preparing for Ordination, \$5,000 for Scholarships for Full-Time Church Work Students, \$2,900 for C.R.O.S.S. Appeal. The chart below details the current balance remaining for the 2016-2018 biennium.

	MISSION GRANTS FOR THE 2016-2018 BIENNIUM (Balance as of September 30, 2017)	GRANT AMOUNT	BALANCE REMAINING
Grant 1	Scholarships for Men Preparing for Ordination	\$15,000	\$5,500
Grant 2	Scholarships for Full-Time Church Work Students	\$50,000	\$17,500
Grant 3	Orphan Grain Train	\$9,000	PAID IN FULL
Grant 4	Lutheran Island Camp's Christ Serve Academy	\$10,000	PAID IN FULL
Grant 5	Caring for Our Pastors (Doxology)	\$10,000	\$5,000
Grant 6	C.R.O.S.S. Appeal	\$14,000	\$3,000
Grant 7	Gloria Dei School and Church Building in Cap Haitian, Haiti	\$15,000	PAID IN FULL
Grant 8	Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch Chapel Furnishings	\$5,000	PAID IN FULL
Grant 9	Love Works! Lutheran Braille Workers	\$5,000	\$5,000
Grant 10	Bible Translation Field Testing (Partially Funded)	\$4,000	PAID IN FULL
	TOTALS	\$137,000	\$36,000

STRUCTURE

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Leone Blommer • Nanette Dohrmann
Pearl Dohrmann

Bus Trip to Mission Central, IA by Carla Patton

The Arrowhead II Region hosted a trip to Mission Central on May 16th and 17th of 2017. The bus rolled out of Saint Cloud, MN, on its way to Mapleton, IA, on May 16th with thirty NOT NORMAL people (as Gary called them). The bus arrived in Cherokee, IA, around supper time. Trinity Lutheran Church in Cherokee, hosted a wonderful roasted pork meal. Pastor Jon Riggert, his family, the congregation, and the members of LWML supplied the meal and gave us a guided tour of Trinity Lutheran. Everyone was very appreciative of their wonderful hospitality.

The group left Cherokee, IA, early on May 17th and arrived at Mission Central around 9:15 AM where they met up with four more NOT NORMAL people for the guided tour. The following is an article from the Mission Central website (missioncentral.us).

Minnesota North LWML Bus Arrives With "Not Normal" People At The Lord's Mission Central

The huge bus rolled into Mission Central about 9:15 AM on Wednesday the 17th of May. What a blessing to welcome the bus load of NOT NORMAL people who came all the way from Northern Minnesota to see this Miracle Place! What an honor and privilege to have this group come and spend the day. They were such an attentive and interested group of missionaries.

We began the tour with an office full of people, who had the privilege of seeing and hearing the story of our Boss, whose picture is right above Missionary Gary's desk, and this group also had the opportunity to see the first two animals that will appear in our creation museum.

Then the group went to the Gallery of Famous Pictures, in the Ministry Center, and heard of the outstanding work being done by the Lord Jesus and HIS missionaries around the world. Then it was time to head to the World Famous Barn Museum, where the guests had the opportunity to hear of real NOT NORMAL MIRACLES, AND to see artifacts that they would probably never have seen before in their entire lives. What a JOY to have a group that was so interested and we didn't see one person even dozing a little!

Our volunteer cooks prepared a nice meal for everyone and then Missionary Gary spoke about the work of the real MISSION OF THE CHURCH... AND THAT IS "TELLING PEOPLE ABOUT JESUS". We were so happy to have a report from a special guest, the honorable missionary Rev. Dan



Entire group that attended the tour in front of Mission Central Sign



Pastor Riggert in the Trinity Lutheran fellowship hall in Cherokee, IA



Lion to be placed in the Creation Museum

Continued on page 6.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

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Worthwhile blessings by Ruby Prochnow

Here we are in another beautiful season of God's creation – FALL! As I look back on the summer, there were LWML activities in my life that reflect back on some of the aspects of our organization that make it worthwhile and a blessing to me and others—reasons to get more women involved!

GROWING IN KNOWLEDGE OF GOD'S WORD AND FELLOWSHIP

The LWML Retreat, held at Lutheran Island Camp in early August, gave us lots to think about.

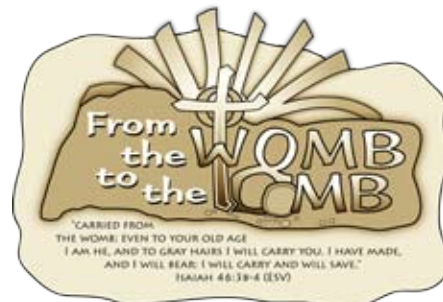
- Virginia Flo, Regional Director for Lutheran for Life, shared the Lutherans for Life stand on issues such as abortions, assisted suicide, embryo adoption, etc.
- Rev. Matthew Vrudny, our LWML MN North District Pastoral Counselor from Park Region, led us in God's Word through Bible Study.

- Lori Salvhus, LWML MN North Christian Life Chairman, and her committee, held it all together through humor, singing, and fellowship activities.

SHARING IDEAS AND WORKING TOGETHER

Our Regional Fall Rally Planning Meeting (Lakeland I) was held this summer. With 45 women gathered, ideas were shared and plans made to hold a "gathering of sisters" (Regional Fall Rally!) in Alexandria on October 13th. Women, in planning such an event, were able to share ideas and make plans to use their gifts and talents, while "Serving the Lord with gladness!"

I share these thoughts with you to encourage you to grow in God's Word and brainstorm as you gather for your society and zone meetings. Women in your congregation have ideas and gifts to share—the little spark that one gal can strike will grow as LWML sisters brainstorm. God will bless that spark and your society! "It only takes a spark to get a fire going. . ."



Virginia Flo



Attendees and Rev. Matthew Vrudny on the right.

Mission Central Cont.

McMiller, who told about his work for the Lord Jesus while working as the Executive Personnel Director for all Missionaries in the LCMS. Everyone there could see that he was NOT NORMAL EITHER! On page 5, you can see the picture of the bus that went, the visitors to the chapel and the entire group down by the Mission Central sign. It was indeed a special day, and the Lord answered our prayers – it was so much fun!



Tour of the office



Gary in the chapel

ARCHIVIST-HISTORIAN

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Preserving our history

by JoNette Brogaard

It's been a year now since being appointed as the LWML MN North Archivist-Historian—and I keep learning new things all the time!

- I've travelled to the District Office in Baxter, MN several times, where our archives are stored in a **special room**, along with items from other organizations. It's a process—keeping all of our documents organized!
- At our July BOD meeting, some of us took a look at what banners were in storage. Some will be saved; others we hope to find their "makers." More on that later. . .
- Did you attend the 2017 LWML Convention in Albuquerque, NM, this past summer—and purchase the MN North District **Group Photo**? In a group effort, we have identified the individuals in the photo. If you'd like to have the list, call me at 320.846.0984 or contact me at historian@lwmlmnn.org.
- Make sure there is an **individual responsible** for saving the important papers of your society and zone. It's "history in the making" as we work together to "Serve the Lord with gladness!"

Memorials and Honorariums

April 2017 - June 2017

Send memorials and honorariums to the Financial Secretary, Corles Rainer.

Corles Rainer
8813 71st Street SE
Clear Lake, MN 55319-9465.

Remittance forms can be found on the LWML district website at (www.lwmlmnn.org) under the resources menu tab.

Jeanetta Heinrich in memory of Mildred Avery
Jane Asche in memory of Mildred Avery
Immanuel LWML, Parkers Prairie, in memory of Gerald Freudenberg
St. John's LWML, Ottertail, in memory of Raymond Schroder
Trinity Ladies' Guild, Staples, in memory of Donna Thiel
Zion LWML, Detroit Lakes, in memory of Margaret Krenelka
Darlene Rheingans in memory of Delores Mueller
St. John's LWML, Sauk Rapids, in memory of Henry Grabuski
Bev Erdmann in memory of Marlene Sommers
Zion Women's Fellowship, Alexandria, in memory of Mabel Hernwall
Zion Women's Fellowship, Alexandria, in memory of Stella Altnow
Trinity Ladies' Aid, Bemidji, in memory of Erma Stelter
Redeemer LWML, Willmar, in memory of Ted Bartel
Trinity Ladies' Aid, Bellingham, in memory of Mildred Avery
Our Savior's Afternoon Guild, Crookston, in memory of Jean Hoppe
Zion LWML, Detroit Lakes in memory of Marilyn Mellum
Gladys Wagner in memory of Jean Hoppe

EDITOR WANTED: Are you willing to use your talents as a witness of Christ's Love in Action? Consider a vocation as an Editor for the LWML Minnesota North District Board of Directors. One of the best benefits is sharing the work of the LWML to the world. We are looking for someone with computer skills and a gift for writing. The responsibilities of the Editor are;

the production of the quarterly *Minnesota Northern Light* newsletter, the monthly *Lutheran Witness* district supplement page and the Prayer & Praise Mite Calendars. For more information, contact LWML District President Marilyn Hittel, at 320-387-2219 or email her at president@lwmlmnn.org.

HANDS-ON TRAINING WILL BE PROVIDED.

YOUNG WOMEN

Beth Dinger, Chairman
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 218-389-0121



Committee Members

Beth Dinger, Chariman
 Rev. Bruce Timm - Pastoral Counselor
 Susan Zeige, BOD Liaison
 Karen Gorentz

The LWML Wants YOU!

by Beth Dinger

Greetings, young women of the LWML in the MN North District! I hope that you are enjoying the changing of the seasons with "pumpkin everything", cooler temps, and the back-to-school routines. It has been a particularly busy fall for me, as I am sure it has been for some of you. I now have a 15, 13, almost 9, and 6 year old. It seems that as my children get older we keep trying to add more and more activities to our schedule. Time is at a premium, to be sure!

We are all busy at this time in our lives (does it ever slow down?), and the LWML may not make your priority list. I understand! We can't, and shouldn't, do it all. I struggle with making time for myself amongst all of my children's needs and schedules. Some of my friends are excellent about making time to work out, or having the occasional girls night out. I think that's great!

For me, however, I struggle with feeling guilty taking time away from my family. I work outside of our home as an elementary teacher, and I work long hours. When I come home before I start planning and grading, I want to spend as much time as I can with my children before they need to get to bed. That doesn't leave much time for working out or going out with my friends, or even my husband for that matter!

And yet, I do realize that it is important to take care of ourselves so that we can be at our best to take care of our families. I do this by volunteering my time to various committees around our town and in the LWML. The occasional meetings and activities allow me to interact with other adults while serving others. I understand that more meetings in an already busy schedule may be the exact opposite of relaxing and refreshing to some of you, just as I find working out to be.

However, there are some of you out there who actually like meetings, and this message is for you. It is the time of year when the LWML begins looking for willing women to serve on the MN North District Board. Our nominating committee has been formed, and will be looking for willing women to serve on the LWML Board of Directors (BOD). Have you considered if this might be a good fit for you?

I have been working on the board in the appointed position of YWR Chairman for the last year and a half, and it has been a treat. I love learning more about the LWML and getting to know more of the faithful women in our district by attending the quarterly meetings in LCMS District Office in Baxter, MN. There is no better way to learn about the inner workings of the LWML than by serving on the BOD. Even if you have only been involved with the LWML for a short time, or your activities have been limited due to other commitments, the wonderful women of the LWML want, and need, your skills and talents.

Do not let a limited knowledge of the LWML hold you back! There is no better way to learn than to put your name forth for a position on the BOD! For some of you, the timing is not right. For others, it may be. Think about it, and pray about it. Whether the time is now, or a few years down the road, the LWML women in purple will be here, ready to support you in your endeavors.

LWML MN NORTH DISTRICT 2017-2018 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The following positions will be voted upon at the 2018 LWML District Convention.

- Executive Vice President/Christian Life
- Recording Secretary
- Financial Secretary
- Regional Vice Presidents for Arrowhead II, Lakeland II, and Park II
- Park Region Pastoral Counselor

If you have any names or know of anyone willing to serve on the district board, please contact.

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 Nominating Committee Chairman
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Committee Members:

Carol Ann Sander, Arrowhead I, Kettle River; Tori Nerud, Arrowhead II, Rum River; Mary Schirm, Lakeland II, Appleton; Jean Tester, Park I, Crookston; Tessa Giru, Park II, Brainerd

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Committee Members

Elizabeth McTighe, Chairman
Rev. Don Klatt - Pastoral Counselor
Donna Blesi • Darcy Kleven

Scholarship Recipients

by Elizabeth McTighe

In the past fifty plus years the LWML Minnesota North District has been supporting full-time church work students through scholarships. For the 2017-2018 school year we have awarded scholarships to three seminary students and eight college students. Let me introduce you to our scholarship recipients.



Riley Springer is in his second year at Concordia Chicago, IL. He is studying to be a Lutheran teacher with an emphasis on choral music. While at Concordia he participates in several choirs.



Michael Thomas is in his second year at Concordia Chicago, IL. He is planning to attend seminary after college. He is very involved in musical groups at Concordia.

Emily Safarik (*not pictured*) is pursuing a career as a Lutheran School teacher at Concordia St. Paul, MN. She is in her second year at Concordia.

Aubrey (Akerson) Browne (*not pictured*) is studying to become a Director of Christian Education and will also have a major in Theology. She attends Concordia Seward, NE. Aubrey was married this August.



Cara Schmidtke states Col. 3:17b, "do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." is the foundation for her education and career choice. She attends Concordia St. Paul, MN, where she is studying to be a math teacher.



Stephanie Wilde has entered the Deaconess Program at Concordia Seminary in Ft. Wayne, IN. She has been involved in theater and plans to use this in her work with others.



Eve Vrudny attends Concordia St. Paul, MN, and has plans to become a deaconess. She would like to work in a hospital setting and use music to help others.



Andrew Coop is in his final year at Concordia Seminary St. Louis, MO. He served his vicarage in Wisconsin, and was a pastor intern in Arizona. He was married to Ashley in May of this year.



Madison Schellack studies at Concordia St. Paul, MN. She plans to be a Director of Christian Education. She has attended The Beautiful Feet Mission Conference twice, and is one of two students selected to be on the planning team for the next conference.



Josef Muench is in his first year at Concordia Seminary Ft. Wayne, IN. He has served as a proctor for CTSFW's Christ Academy High School.



Berett Steffen attends Concordia Seminary Ft. Wayne, IN. He is involved with music at seminary and became engaged this year.



District Website: www.lwmlmnn.org

LWML Website: www.lwml.org

2017 UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct-Nov - Zone Fall Rallies

(Visit the Rallies web page at www.lwmlmnn.org for dates and times.)

Nov 10 - Lutheran Witness

supplement page deadline.

Nov 15 - Society Report form due

Dec 1 - Zone Report form due

Dec 15 - Minnesota Northern

Light newsletter 2018
Winter issue deadline.

Submit your 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.

LWML Minnesota North District Board of Directors

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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.