

NID BITS

**Lutheran Women's Missionary League
Northern Illinois District**

**JANUARY-FEBRUARY
2014**



Jan's Jottings

Here we are in the middle of January. We have celebrated Christmas, wished everyone a Happy New Year and again we are pushing forward with another year. I know everyone says it, however, I must say it again; "Where does the time go?" How are your resolutions going? This year, I decided not to make any New Year's resolutions. I am just asking for an extra measure of the fruit of the Spirit, love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, and faithfulness. This is my prayer daily for me as well as for all of you.

Our 2012-2014 Biennium is more than three quarters over and LWML Northern Illinois is behind in the mite donations needed to support the grants we elected at our 2012 convention.

It is my prayer that as you meet with the women in your churches and societies you are encouraging donations to mites. We often think of mites as "the leftover change in our pocket", however, I am asking you to give mites a little more emphasis this year. Perhaps as we start off in the morning we could put a dollar or two in our mite box and then add the "change in our pocket" at the end of the day. Prayerfully consider your donations as you pray for the ministries of our grant recipients. Encourage your society leaders to forward mites regularly to our financial secretary at:

**LWML NID, P.O. Box 175
Westmont, IL 60559**

We are looking forward to welcoming you to Timber Creek Inn and Convention Center in Sandwich, IL September 26 and 27, 2014. It is in a beautiful wooded location and will provide a colorful backdrop for our convention and room for

families to participate in outdoor activities. Nearby towns have antique stores, quaint shops, and many other possibilities for families to enjoy a weekend away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life!

As lovely as the facility and surroundings are, I am sure we will be ready to welcome our keynote speaker, The Rev. Dien Ashley Taylor, Ph.D. Pastor Taylor is preparing to share with us his message on our theme "A Time to Encourage" based on Hebrews 3:13a, "Encourage one another daily".

We are also looking forward to our own "visit with Kay" as we enthusiastically welcome LWML President, Kay Kreklau, to Northern Illinois.

Our mission speaker is Gayle Sommerfeld who, with her husband Don, founded MOST Ministries 25 years ago. Gayle is currently working on a book which will be published this summer recounting the story of how

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MOST Ministries came to be. We have been pleased to work with Gayle and MOST Ministries to send women, and some men, on mission trips. She has an exciting story to tell and I am sure you will all want to read the book.

Watch for more information regarding convention as plans are confirmed. There is one thing we could be doing now that is collecting glasses for MOST Ministries. They are always needed and could be part of our on-site convention servant event.

Serving with Joy,

Jan Mauer, President,
LWML NID 2010-2014
president@lwmlnid.org

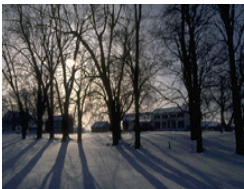
WE'RE ON THE WEB!!

www.lwmlnid.org

REFLECTIONS FROM PASTOR KLEIN

Do you realize how valuable you are? My suspicion is that there are many Christians that do not. It's sad but true that one of the most prevailing weaknesses of Christians is a lack of confidence. Perhaps that's because we think we need to have confidence in our own abilities to succeed or we compare ourselves to others. And when we try to measure up to how others perform or what others think of us we find ourselves – or so we believe – on the short end of the stick. But let me challenge you to think differently, especially now as we venture into a New Year. Consider this: God wants you to know how much you matter to Him. You are valuable to God!

Those are not statements of pride or boastfulness. Nor are they self-serving declarations with no concept of humility. On the contrary, they are rooted in the Word of God. After all, “God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” Many Christians have John 3:16 memorized yet in reality we still need to fully embrace and grow into the significance of those words from Christ every day.



Grab a hold of this Scriptural truth the next time the enemy whispers in your ear anything less than God's power and

victory in your life: God loves YOU so much that He provided His Son to take your sins, guilt,

and burdens from you. He has cleansed YOU in the waters of Baptism. He gives YOU His body and blood in the sacrament and provides unconditional forgiveness and grace. Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit. The reality of our life in Christ is that the sacraments and the Word of God have YOUR name written all over them and in effect God is saying to YOU, (Place your name in this space):

_____ : “You are valuable to Me and there is nothing I wouldn't do for you.”

More to the point: There is nothing that God hasn't already done for you. Talk about entering the New Year with purpose and mission! Our journey through Advent and Christmas reminded us of the gift of the Christ-child, God with us. Knowing that wherever we go, whatever circumstance develops or challenge that knocks on our door, God is ever-present. He is Immanuel! And God's desire is for everyone to come to faith in Him – to know what you know, and that is this: All people matter to Him.

In a nutshell this is what all mission and ministry is about: Sharing with others what we have already received. And the LWML has a great history of engaging others with the love of Jesus Christ. That is why I am so joyful to begin serving with all of you along with Pastor Mau as your NID counselor. And I look forward to learning from all of you and Pastor Mau as we begin this wonderful journey together in 2014. I can hardly wait to see what the Lord has planned

for us!

And God does have plans for us. He has chosen all

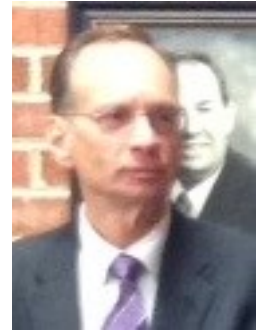
of us to serve Him, and the Holy Spirit directed us to the LWML to partner with Him to accomplish His plan. God equips us, sustains us, refreshes us and as Luther writes, “He richly and daily provides me with all I need to support this body and life.” With our life in this world under His authority, and with eternity secured in the reality of the empty tomb and the resurrection, we can mission together with bold confidence.

Part of the provision that God supplies, is the fellowship we enjoy in the NID LWML. Community and Christian fellowship is a powerful spiritual weapon that scoops up all the “negative waves” of this world and deposits them on the trash heap. And when we set our hearts and minds upon the living and active Word of God, there is a hedge of protection, surrounding us with promise and hope.

May each of us grow in the study of God's Word this year, embrace the fellowship of believers in our local congregations as well as with each other in the LWML, and celebrate the wondrous good news: YOU are valuable to God!

God bless you always and in all ways!

Pastor Klein





Lutheran Women's
Missionary League,
Northern Illinois District

Mission Grant Highlights for February 2014

PRAYER GUIDE FOR LWML NID MISSION GRANTS

February 2014

1. At the close of National Lutheran Schools Week, we rejoice with Trinity School in Tinley Park as they are blessed to teach children to know Jesus
2. Pray for Lutheran Hour Ministries. "How can they hear if nobody tells them." Romans 10:11
3. Remember individuals and families who are homeless
4. Ask God's blessing on Walcamp—50 yrs of Camping
5. During Black History Month, pray that the Lord will heal racial inequalities and offenses.
6. Give thanks for the troops serving our nation
7. Pray for the safety of those attending the Olympics
8. Have a Cup with Kay (pray for 9 minutes @ 9:00 am)
9. Give thanks for our churches where we receive Word and Sacrament
10. Praise God for the teachers and staff at Trinity, Tinley Park
11. Put the Word into action by serving others
12. Lord, use us to tell the Good News wherever and whenever you direct
13. Ask God to bless Walcamp as they prepare for another camping season.
14. "If you have only one smile in you, give it to the people you love." Advice from Maya Angelou's mother. Pray for those you love.
15. Send a card or call a "shut-in" from church sharing when and where they can see "Worship for Shut-ins" on your local television or cable station.
16. Rejoice in the Lord and give thanks for your pastor and church family
17. Thank you for US Presidents who have served our nation and guide the current leaders of our nation
18. Help us to be open-minded about the various cultures of the world and love all of our neighbors
19. Rest in the Lord. Attend church and Bible Class
20. Ask for God's generous gifts to fund mission grants
21. Pray for LWML-NID officers and Zone Presidents
22. Share "A Cup with Kay" – 9 minutes at 9 am
23. This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24
24. Pray for the missionaries of the Missouri Synod
25. Pray for the youth in your church that they remain faithful to their baptismal vows.
26. Send a note of encouragement to a confirmand
27. Pray for persecuted Christians
28. Bless the mites given for mission projects

Serve the Lord with Gladness!

Handicap Accessible Bathroom Repair

Walcamp Outdoor Ministries \$19,000

Walcamp, a LCMS camp in the Northern Illinois District, which shares the Gospel in a unique outdoor setting through Biblical teaching, small group devotions, and worship in God's creation. A place where some young people learn about the love of Jesus for the first time and others are strengthened in their faith to face the challenges of this world. Walcamp needs quality showers, bathrooms and facilities to maintain the overnight nature of this ministry, including facilities that are fully handicap accessible for participants with special needs. This grant will provide renovation of the 50 year old showers and plumbing in the original lodge building.

Lutheran School Improvement Project

Trinity Lutheran School Tinley Park, IL \$780

Trinity Lutheran School exists to teach children about Jesus! Most students are from families of believers, but some are from unchurched families. In either case, students learn the Gospel and the importance of spreading it, now and throughout their lives. The school was blessed with an unexpected increase in enrollment in 2011, such that many children were turned away due to limited space. The church and school are committed to adding equipment and supplies as well as classroom space to increase the number of children reached. This grant would help with purchasing educational materials and some of the building expenses.

Although we have not suggested monetary amounts for each day, it is our prayer for you to give generously to mite offerings on a regular basis.

Praise the LORD, O my soul!
With all that is within me, praise his holy name!
Praise the LORD, O my soul!
Do not forget all his kind deeds!
He is the one who forgives all your sins,
who heals all your diseases,
who delivers your life from the Pit,
who crowns you with his loyal love and compassion,
who satisfies your life with good things,
so your youth is renewed like an eagle's. Psalm 103:1-5

WE'RE ON THE WEB!!
www.lwmlnid.org



HUMAN CARE COMMITTEE UPDATE

**THE HUMAN CARE COMMITTEE
IS ANTICIPATING AN EXCITING YEAR!!**

Gifts From The Heart in-gatherings have been planned for our two Board of Director's meetings in 2014, as well as a servant event and district wide in-gathering for our NID Convention on September 26th & 27th.

One duty of the Human Care Committee is to encourage sensitivity in women toward those who are hurting and in need. Through generous donations in 2013, LWML women heeded that call and came front and center to help provide for those less fortunate in our district. We followed the words of our Lord in Matthew 25:40. "whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine. you did for me."

Last year, **GFTH** collections provided bingo prizes for the Arlington Nursing Home; baby and toddler necessities for the Swaddling Clothes Ministry at River of Life Lutheran Church in Channahon and an entire van full of GFTH items for the Crisis Center of South Suburbia.



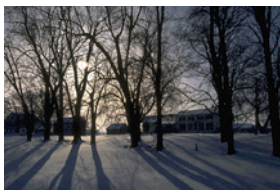
When the LWML NID meets in Convention this September, they will have an opportunity to learn about MOST ministries of Ann Arbor, MI. The founder of Mission Opportunities Short Term, Gayle Sommerfeld, has graciously accepted an invitation to speak at our convention. The eyeglass mission trip is one of the MOST ministries. Donated eye glasses are fitted and given to folks in the USA and countries abroad who do not have the means of purchasing corrective lenses.

Our Friday convention servant event will be to clean, sort and organize glasses as well as make felt eye glass cases for MOST. So, begin collecting all kinds of eye glasses in your Churches and Zones and have your Zone President bring them to the July Board of Director's meeting. Also, be watching for the list of GFTH items you can bring to convention to assist MOST with their ministries.

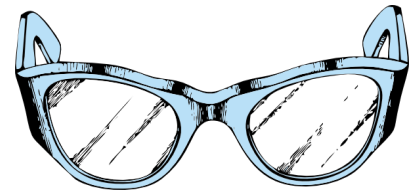


The Human Care Committee gives thanks for you, our Lutheran Sisters. And looks forward to your participation in our GFTH events in 2014.

Barbara Copeland-Belanski
VP, Human Care



Send Mites to:
LWML NID
P.O. Box 175
Westmont, IL 60559



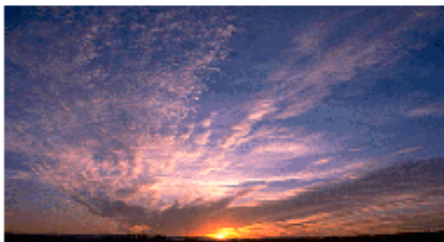


**Lutheran Women's Missionary League
Northern Illinois District**

"TIME FOR PONDERING"

" ... as we remember the great gift of Jesus ..."

Heb. 9:28



2014 Lenten Inspiration**

Saturday, April 5, 2014

9:00am—2:00pm

Zion Lutheran Church

11007 South Book Road

Naperville, IL 60564-5306

**** There will be only one Lenten Inspiration in 2014**

LWML NID is pleased to present **Vivette V. Payne**, President of Avery Payne Group as the main inspirational speaker at the 2014 Lenten Inspiration. Her expertise includes leadership coaching, team building, skill development programs, and the facilitation of planning and strategy development. Vivette is the author of "The Team Building Workbook" and three American Management Association self-study books: *First Level Leadership*, *Planning and Managing Change*, and *Coaching for High Performance*.

Renee D. Tabor, Founder and CEO of Metamorphosis, Perfecting Performance, will be the song leader and also give an inspirational speech.

Both presenters are members of Trinity Lutheran Church in Tinley Park, IL.

COST: \$15.00 (INCLUDES MORNING COFFEE & ROLLS AND LUNCH)

Registration Form

Name _____

Address _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Congregation _____

Send Registration form and check or money order for \$15.00 to:

Registrar: **Mary Jo Shickles** 241 Hosmer Street Loves Park, IL 61111
(815) 708-1454 maryjo2633@aol.com

WE'RE ON THE WEB!!
www.lwmlnid.org

SAVE THE DATE: CONVENTION 2014 September 26th & 27th



Visit us on our new website: lwmlnid.org

Timber Creek Inn & Suites and Convention Center

3300 Drew Avenue
Sandwich, IL 60548
630-273-6000 P
630-273-6100 F

GUEST ROOM COMMITMENT:

The facility is holding the following room block under the name; *Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention*. Please direct your guests to *use your block name when calling* the hotel directly to reserve their rooms; [630-273-6000](tel:630-273-6000).

<u>DATE</u>	<u>STANDARD ROOM WITH DOUBLE/QUEEN</u>	<u>TOTAL ROOMS</u>
Fri. Sept. 26th & Sat. Sept. 27th 2014	\$89.99- Includes Hot Breakfast Buffet	70

The room rates do not include 9% (6% state tax, 3% municipal tax) occupancy tax.

****The group rate will be available 1 day pre-event and 1 day post-event and is subject to space availability.**

CUT-OFF DATE:

No later than close-of-business **September 5, 2014**, all guest rooms still held but not reserved will be released back into inventory for sale to the general public. Any reservation requests received after this time and date (including reservation modifications, name changes and/or additions) will be accepted on a first-come, first-served space and rate available basis only.

CHECK-IN/CHECK-OUT:

Check-in time is 4:00pm CST. Early arrival requests are accommodated on a space-available basis only and subject to additional charges.

Check-out time is 11:00am CST. Late check-out requests will be reviewed based on hotel occupancy and may be subject to additional charges.

TRANSPORTATION:

Timber Creek Inn & Suites has agreed to arrange pick-up and drop-off of guests at the Plano Amtrak Station during the LWML Convention.

**We're on the web:
www.lwmlnid.org**



CALL FOR BANNER DESIGNS LWML NID CONVENTION, 2014

IN PREPARATION FOR THE 2014 LWML NID CONVENTION, Banner designs are being accepted. Deadline: February 12, 2014

Please review and use the theme, text, goal statement and objectives when designing your banner. Please submit your designs with information regarding fabrics to be used and who will be fabricating the banner to:

Jan Mauer, President, LWML NID
lwmlnid.president@gmail.com

Theme: A Time to Encourage

Text: "Encourage one another daily" Hebrews 3:13a

Goal: As a result of attending LWML NID Convention 2014, all participants will go away enabled to make a difference for the Lord

Objectives:

Through the fellowship of Word, worship, and sharing at Convention, participants will grow in a personal relationship with Christ.

Through examples and teaching at Convention, participants and in turn, others they meet in life will grow as encouragers in their daily walk.

Banner Specifications:

- Banner should reflect the theme of the convention
- Finished banner size is to be 3' X 5'. Added fringe may be longer
- Finished banner must have a tie on the back 12" from the bottom

Please note, electronic submissions will be appreciated. If you will need to mail your designs and fabricating information, please contact me for additional information.

If you have any questions, please contact Jan Mauer at lwml.nidpresident@gmail.com

Visit us on our new website: lwmlnid.org



MISSION TRIP OPPORTUNITIES

Appalachia Servant Trip~June 21-28, 2014

Join with members of Mt Olive Lutheran, Rockford for a trip to Clinchco, VA. This is an area of Virginia where unemployment is nearly 60%. In previous years, members of Mt Olive have done construction and remodeling which included laying new flooring, installing wall board and taping it and painting. The team also needs people who are willing organize the food preparation.

If you are interested in joining the team, contact Jan Gerzevske, lwmlnidshortmiss@gmail.com or call 630.294.5014.

GUATEMALA EYEGGLASS/VBS TEAM

"Here Am I, Send Me!"

Do you enjoy working with children? Would you like to experience the joy in someone's eyes when they see clearly for the first time in years? Both of these experiences will happen in Guatemala May 30-June 7, 2014.

Do you like to travel and have a desire to help people? Fulfill that desire by joining the 2014 short term mission team to Guatemala. Daily clinics will be held to test vision and distribute eyeglasses and sunglasses to those in need. Vacation Bible school session will be held daily for the children in the area—help by assisting with games, crafts, singing and teaching.

Please pray for the Lord's guidance and answer his call to serve in Guatemala next year. For more information, contact Jan Gerzevske, lwmlnidshortmiss@gmail.com or 630.294.5014

Send Mites to:
LWML NID
P.O. Box 175
Westmont, IL 60559

IS GOD CALLING YOU TO SERVE?

We are looking for leaders to fill the following positions:

OFFICERS TO BE ELECTED AT 2014 CONVENTION

4 Year Terms:

Pastoral Counselor President
Vice President of Human Resources
Vice President of Gospel Outreach
Corresponding Secretary Treasurer

2 Tear Terms:

Nominating Committee

(1 woman from each region to be elected. The candidate with the highest number of votes is elected chairman.) East West North South

Please contact a member of the Nominating Committee if you have the heart to be a leader!
We will answer any questions you may have about a certain position.

Marge Michaelsen, Chairman, Nominating Committee: SOUTH

(630) 257-6052; ericmichaelsen@comcast.net

Jewel Sims: EAST

(773) 277-2690; jsgrand5@att.net

Darlyne Watts-Jurgens: WEST

(779) 552-8820 (home), (815) 762-0546 (cell); darlynelark@aol.com

Jan Stantus: NORTH

(630) 208-7353; jlstan21cen@att.net

**We're on the web:
www.lwmlnid.org**

LWMLNID Goes Live with New Website

by Teena Dorn, Design Coordinator

Are you on the front page? There is a new website in town! It's the new LWMLNID website with user friendly bells and whistles that are ready to bring LWMLNID into the current century. Visit the new website at www.lwmlnid.org. You will notice the LWML is in front of the NID on the new site. This is to satisfy some legal issues.

The old website, www.nidlwml.org, is still up and current and will stay up for an undetermined amount of time. Some things we can do on the new site (www.lwmlnid.org):

- Post pictures through Flickr (set up an account at www.flickr.com)
- Register for events (soon)
- Sign up for the newsletter (today)
- Post it, pin it, tweet it, etc. to social media sites
- Access the (new) LWMLNID Facebook page through the website. Yes, this had to change as well for legal reasons, so check it out and while you're there "Like" it so you will be in the know when there are posts.
- Plus all the great information on the old site: mission grants, mission trip info, calendar
- And more!

We hope to share some tips in the future to help us all get better acquainted with the new site. What do you want to know how to do?

Let us know if there is a concern we need to address or a mini lesson you would like to hear about.

Contact someone in Communications:

Webmaster, Wendy at webmaster@lwmlnid.org

Madlyn Johnson, Vice President of Communications at vpcommunications@lwmlnid.org

Design Coordinator, Teena Dorn at teenadorn@aol.com



We have moved!



If you have a Facebook account, keep reading! The LWML Northern Illinois District has moved to a new Facebook page, complete with the latest updates on events, opportunities to share blessings and stories, and more to come. If you "Liked" our old page, please "Like" our new one as that is the one we will be using in the future (the old one will be deleted soon). In order to do this, simply search for:

"Lutheran Women's Missionary League Northern Illinois District"

or go to this web address:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Lutheran-Womens-Missionary-League-Northern-Illinois-District/598809193519733> and click "Like" in the upper right-hand corner. Once you have "Liked" the new

page, please invite all your LWML friends as well by using the "Invite Friends" bar on the right-hand side of the screen.

**Remember, all women members of a Lutheran Church Missouri Synod are part of LWML ...
THEY JUST DON'T KNOW IT UNTIL WE TELL THEM, SO SPREAD THE WORD TODAY!**