

NID-Bits

A COMMUNICATION
FOR WOMEN OF THE
NORTHERN ILLINOIS
DISTRICT OF
LUTHERAN
WOMEN IN MISSION

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2023 Milwaukee Convention... A Mountaintop Experience



By LWML NID President Gayle Thanepohn

What an exciting event! It is difficult to describe it to those who were not in attendance, but we hope that you read and listen to anyone who attended as they share their experiences. Tons of photos were shared on the LWML NID Facebook page (thank you, Sherrie Smith). Thanks to Jan Gerzevske for keeping us on task as the NID volunteer 'bees' left the 'hive' to assist and guide the convention attendees. THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS! This convention would not have been as successful as it was without you!!!!!!

If you would like to relive the convention or watch the convention for the first time, you may go to livestream.com/TheLWML and watch any of the sessions and worship services.

Want to see the 2023-25 Adopted Mission Grants video? Go to lwml.org/mission-grants.

So what happens next? What will those of you who attended do with all that you gained from this convention?

Zone Delegates: Start formulating your report to the groups in your zones. Reach out to the groups and ask to be put on their agenda at their next meeting. You may be asked to share at an upcoming zone event. Put your thoughts down on paper while it is still fresh in your mind. Think about creating a visual presentation (PowerPoint? If you don't know how to do this, seek out a young person who can help you) or a written report that can be emailed or mailed to your zone's groups. Pray!!

All Attendees: I am going to share part of a 2-Minute Tuesday article that I receive every other Tuesday as District President. [You can also read 2-Minute Tuesday articles on the LWML app under "More".] It comes from Pam Kercher, Montana District President. Thank you, Pam.

We left the convention on an emotional and spiritual high. However, maintaining that motivation for sharing can be a challenge once we return to our daily routine. To ensure the long-term impact of this wonderful experience, it is important to implement effective steps to follow through.

1. Reflect on the Convention. Take time to reflect on the key teachings, insights, and messages you received during the convention. Pray!!
2. Create a Plan. How can I continue to share this in my group, zone and district? Pray!!
3. Seek out someone with whom you can share. You are more committed when you have someone to buddy with as you share. Pray!!
4. Stay in the Word, educating yourself through devotions, worship and Bible study. Pray!!

Attending an LWML convention can be an uplifting experience that empowers you to take action and make a lasting impression on fellow Lutheran Women in Mission.

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for allowing me [us] to be a part of this convention and continue to use me [us] to do Your will.

A Huge Thank You



By Anne Hartman, Chairman of the 2023 Convention Host Committee

There are no words to share the extent of my gratitude to the three host districts for the 2023 LWML Convention in June. Every time I got up to the podium to share announcements, I truly just wanted to point out all the volunteers and thank you for all you did to make this convention a truly God-honoring event. As I was waiting on Sunday afternoon for some final closures, I saw so many people preparing to leave for home, and one person after another continued to thank me for the incredible service and effort all the volunteers put forth for this event. I have served in many ways over the last 20 years for LWML and this is by far the most honoring and humbled service I have experienced. The friendships formed, the time in prayer and devotion, and the opportunity to welcome all to Milwaukee was so incredible. I want to thank the 2023 Host Committee for saying yes and committing to two years of incredible service. We have three pretty incredible districts. I had three wonderful LWML District Presidents to work with and two incredible servants who served as our Pastoral Counselors. To all the volunteers, I have no words. Watching you all walk forward on Sunday morning was so humbling, as well as the pride I had in knowing the joy each of you had in serving. It was evident to many. Thank you, thank you, thank you! It was a pure joy to serve the Lord with gladness with all of you Lutheran Women (and men) in Mission. To God be the glory!

Share your LWML Sunday story! Email publicationseditor@lwmlnid.org by mid-October.

Celebrating the Lord in Milwaukee!

Many ladies from the NID travelled to Milwaukee for the National Convention, each bringing home stories of their time there. The following are some of those stories. Thank you to each of our contributors!



Kris B. (Trinity, Lisle)

I have been to many LWML conventions but never have worked as a volunteer at one. It was a joy to serve in that capacity, even though it was only for a few hours before I began my delegate duty. I can highly recommend being a delegate because you get awesome seating and really get to know the people around you. I also enjoyed the opening worship with over 3,000 people! There were so many inspiring speakers throughout the four days. I came away with a renewed spirit of missions and ministry.



Nancy wearing her new H2H sash

An Interview with Nancy Bundley, NID Vice President of Gospel Outreach

Walking into her first LWML convention, Nancy was amazed at the number of people; it was like the crowd at the auto show! Every woman was there for fellowship; you might find yourself sitting next to a District President and not even realize the esteemed company you were keeping. They were all sisters in harmony, each sharing and caring.

Nancy, as a new leader in the NID, attended the Heart to Heart Sisters training with Hannah Schauer. Reaching across cultures doesn't have to be complicated; it can be as simple as sitting down, talking, and sharing with our sisters in Christ. All LCMS ladies are welcome in LWML, but it's okay to just chat if someone's not ready to join a group yet! And don't forget that culture is not only defined by where we're from or the language we speak but also by the food we eat. The H2H ladies shared delicious treats from their various cultures. Nancy looks forward to being more involved in H2H; "[I'm] new [to H2H], but like a mustard seed, they're going to water me, and I'm going to grow!"

Nancy enjoyed everything about the convention—the exhibit hall, the kids' parade, the flag parade, the comedy sketch, and the services by the ministers! And her hat goes off to the worker bees who made it all possible. All-in-all, "it was totally, totally awesome!"

Wendy H.

It certainly was a great privilege to serve as part of the Host Committee for the convention. It was so much fun helping out in all areas and meeting all the wonderful ladies of LWML from all over. I know it was a lot of work behind the scenes, but it worked out great. Thank you for ALL your work! Serve the Lord with gladness!

Photo (right)

Delegates Sue S. and Judy P. enjoy a break during the convention.



Lyn M. (Saint John, Pecatonica)

The congregation (not just the LWML) of Saint John assembled 40 hygiene kits for Orphan Grain Train and 34 knit caps for Phil's Friends! One of their members, Lyn, shared her thoughts:

I went to my first LWML national convention this year. I didn't know what to expect. I can only describe it as amazing—over 3,500 people with like goals. The opening service Thursday night was special. We all had the opportunity to take communion. The speakers were informative and inspiring. It was never boring. It was interesting, even humorous at times. To learn how much our mites can do was surprising. I came away wanting to be involved in LWML projects. I went with two other ladies (Jen and Sue). Going with someone definitely made it more enjoyable. I hope to be able to go again.



Diane P. (Holy Cross, Cary)

I was so proud of the work of the host districts, including NID, to hold such an impressive meeting in a beautiful setting with accommodations at connecting hotels. Singing in the choir, wearing a 'worker bee' shirt to help out, and worshipping with 3,600 fellow believers were incredible experiences. The work of LWML is important to the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod through all the missions and projects that gain support from mighty MITES. Spending time together with sisters and brothers in Christ was an uplifting experience in our troubled world. To God be the praise!

Marcia P. (Immanuel, Mokena)

Convention was a blast. I met lots of people and made many good friendships. I learned so much about mites and grants and what an impact it makes. It was a life-changing experience to see so many wonderful caring people believing and working toward the same goals that benefit so many. I can't wait for the next convention!!

Lori S. (Trinity, Lombard)

One of my favorite parts of the convention was the parade of international flags, followed by all of the children and workers from Camp Celebrate... I just kept hearing Jesus's words, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations," from Matthew 28:19 (ESV) and "Let the little children come to me..." from Matthew 19:14 (ESV).

It was also pretty exhilarating to stand on the stage on Sunday morning as part of the Host Committee as all of the volunteer workers from the Northern Illinois District, and North and South Wisconsin Districts filled the front of the auditorium. It was a real, "wow, we did it!" moment.

I have never laughed so hard as I did during the Lutheran Ladies Lounge Family Feud game when Erin asked for the top things to add to Jell-O and Jan Struck piped up with "the correct color of the liturgical season." Oh my!

Susan R. (Saint Andrew, Rockton)

My first time attending the LWML Women's Convention was this year in Milwaukee. Sunday service and communion with thousands of women was beyond words.

I was amazed at the amount of money collected in mites to give to different missions, the voting for Mission grant selections, and the blessing it was to hear the Mites in Action speakers.

Walking through the exhibit hall and speaking to others, I learned many things about various missions. Our ladies at St. Andrew had made quilts for the Orphan Grain Train. In speaking to the exhibitors at their booth, they provided instructions for making pillowcase dresses. In the future, we have decided to make the dresses for the children, as well as the quilts. There were many exhibitors and so much information was gained from attending.

I was blessed to see how God worked through the women of the Lutheran church and how the Almighty God's hand was on the LWML.

I could go on and on about how wonderful it was to attend the convention and would encourage others that have not attended to come and bring a friend. I thank God for the friend that invited me.



Immanuel, Belvidere

Top left: Sarah K. of the Child Care Committee with her daughter

Top right: Ushers with Emelia W., Pages Director

Lower left: Sharon T., Zone 9 delegate, at her Lutherans in Medical Missions booth

Lower right: Cathy D. and Sue P. at the Belize Mission Society booth



St. Paul's, Bourbonnais

Five teens and their chaperones from St. Paul's attended the convention as workers and participated in one day of teen camp. These girls were also featured in The Celebration Chronicles!

Alena

Attending the LWML convention has taught and showed me many things. One of them being, that although I attended as a volunteer, it didn't really feel like I was there to work. I felt like I was just simply there and serving the Lord with many other women. That has taught me that volunteering doesn't have to feel like work; it can also just simply feel like serving the Lord with gladness. Another example that helped me grow was seeing that God has worked through every single one of the ladies that attended for all their lives and is still working through them. Sometimes we think that since we are done with the confirmation classes and moved on to high school that we are done with growing in our faith. But that's not at all true! This convention has shown that God still works through you as you grow older. This convention has helped me grow more towards God tremendously.

Chloe

I enjoyed being at the convention with like-minded people. Everyone was so kind, and I really felt inspired when I left to go home and be in mission. I love the atmosphere. Everyone was so laid-back and optimistic. I loved what the convention stood for—worship and serving others.

Hailey

The LWML Convention was a unique opportunity for us as high school girls to experience the work that Lutheran women older than we are do to contribute to our faith and those in need. We were able to help oversee the Orphan Grain Train service project, packing food bags. We also served as a page during their meetings, moving messages between rooms. We learned many things during our week of service at this convention, including teamwork, an appreciation for the missions and work these women have done and plan to do, and the fun our faith can provide doing service for others. We appreciate the lessons learned and the future opportunities we can support in the future!

Livvy

I enjoyed how everyone was so godly and happy. If something went wrong, they just went with the flow and figured out something different to make it work. It was a breath of fresh air being around everyone who believes the same thing as me. I love being around other people and listening and talking to them. It truly made me feel like I was a part of something bigger than myself. One of my favorite parts was going to the zoo with Camp Celebrate. Another was just being able to breathe and listen to what the Lord was saying to me without any distractions.

Natalie

I enjoyed being able to serve and to feel like I was doing something that mattered. I also enjoyed the “free” time we were able to have to visit with others, and to just have fun with people (the Fun Fest is a major highlight for me). I appreciate how warm and inviting everyone was, and to see how much good the LORD has done through the LWML was amazing. We are truly Lutheran Women in Mission.



LWML Teens Corner and a Note from the Vice President of Special Focus Ministries

By DCE Hannah Schauer, LWML NID VP of Special Focus Ministries

If my Heart to Heart Sisters training at National Convention taught me anything, it was the importance of making connections and focusing on developing relationships. No matter what you look like, where you live, how you grew up, or how old you are, you can find ways to connect with one another. Talk about your favorite foods, your hobbies, or your families. Take time to listen to one another and share with no agendas or business to handle. Simply get to know one another. So, my challenge is for you to do just that! We will be working on a couple of projects to connect with one another, like through pen pals, learning Bible verses in American Sign Language, and reaching out to teens.

Our first one that I want you to jump on now is connecting with teens. We had some amazing teens come to National Convention to serve and have some fun with Camp Celebrate! Thank you to the girls from our district that worked hard and showed such kindness to all of those around them! For the rest of us, now is the time to reach out to the younger generations. Sometimes we say that teens are the future of the LWML, but I say that they can be a part of us NOW! So, we really want to challenge all of you ladies reading this to connect with the teens of your congregations and zones. Bring them together and invite them to events to start forming relationships. Check out our teens corner below for ideas on how to make this happen:



lwml YOUTH
in mission

But YOU are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. (1 Peter 2:9)

Our Objectives are to:

- Suggest ideas as to how to make YOUTH feel as though they are valued members of the body of Christ and the LWML
- Connect YOUTH with the big picture of LWML and its mission.
- Equip mentors with resources to engage youth in opportunities for spiritual growth, mission, and service.
- Provide ideas for YOUTH in Mission activities that encompass multiple generations.

Serve, Share, and Pray!

The school year is fast approaching! Our teens may need a little extra encouragement as they transition into a new grade or even phase of life. Ask your youth leader or pastor for a list of girls ages 13-18. Then, split them up amongst your LWML ladies to pray for and encourage. Here are some ideas to consider:

- Write cards with scripture and a prayer.
- Invite them to a special event where you pamper them with DIY spa treatments and manicures.
- Put together goodie bags with fun school supplies and snacks.
- Work with your church leaders to put on a special back to school blessing where you give them an encouraging key chain to put on their backpack. (This can be for everyone going back to school, not just the girls!)
- Show up to a youth event and serve them food.
- Meet with them after church for a special coffee hour and get to know them.

Have a fun story or pictures to share?
Email them to DCE Hannah Schauer at vpsfm@lwmlnid.org

Fall Gathering—September 29 and 30

This year we are gathering to learn about Scripture journaling and creating illustrated encouragement cards. Virtual Faith Ministry, featured in the Fall 2022 *Quarterly*, will guide us through Bible Study, a presentation about their ministry, and two unique workshops to teach us how using visual illustrations of Scripture verses can enhance our own spiritual faith walk and encourage others. Even if you don't think you are "creative," this workshop will have something for you!



Join us at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lombard! Find the registration form on page 13.

Gifts from the Heart

Voice of Hope Behind the Wall Ministry NID has evolved in the past three years, reports Deaconess Lori Wilbert. After 34 years of working behind the wall at Stateville Prison and working in ministry within the Northern Illinois District for 38 years, Deaconess Wilbert has transitioned into working with those being released from prison in the Illinois Dept. of Corrections.

The teaching ministry at Stateville continued during the COVID shutdown with the blessing of the warden and with staff he assigned to the ministry. Prison staff delivered class lessons and assignments to the cell houses each week, picked them up, and sent them back to Deaconess Wilbert. This teaching model continues.

As a result, there is time to assist those coming home from prison, ***something NOT allowed previously in Illinois***. The blessing and gift of ministry with those being released has become a part of the transitional journey on which these men are about to embark. Some of these individuals were part of the teaching ministry in the past. Things have come full circle! ☺

Deaconess Wilbert will provide spiritual counseling along with practical advice on making choices, finding employment, repairing family relationships, and the challenges of leaving an environment of negativity, confinement, and isolation. To have freedom after 20 to 30 years of being locked up can be an arduous journey in and of itself. The church can be there for these men coming home. The church has a message of hope, grace, and forgiveness.

Upon their release, former prisoners need items that help an individual set up an apartment. These Gifts from the Heart will enable each person to have a solid start as he re-integrates into his community.

Household Items

New Products Only

- Toilet paper
- Paper towels/Kleenex
- Laundry detergent
- Dish soap
- Lysol toilet cleaner
- Cleaning cloths
- Kitchen towels/Dish cloths
- Bath towels/Washcloths
- Queen or Full Sheet sets
- Set of basic pots/pans
- Set of plates/coffee mugs/glasses
- Silverware

Personal Needs

Package sizes should be appropriate for an individual

- Bars of soap/Body wash
- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Toothpaste/Toothbrush
- Hair brush/Comb
- Disposable Shavers
- Shaving Cream
- Deodorant
- Lotion
- Gift cards for Walmart, Walgreens, or Jewel-Osco

Encouragement from the Lord



By Rev. Steven Warren, LWML NID Pastoral Counselor and Pastor of St. Paul, Austin (Chicago)

Isaiah 41:10 — *“Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”* (ESV)

In this passage, our Lord says several things that stand out and provide reassurance, hope, strength, and peace.

God says, “Fear not, for I am with you”: God is always with us, day and night and no matter what we are going through. That right there is a promise! We are commanded to “Fear not,” because God is with us, and what an encouragement that is! We have no reason to fear because God is with us.

God says, “Be not dismayed, for I am your God”: Dismay is another word for distress. Distress many times is brought about by something unexpected. Jesus Christ conquered death for us, so there really is no reason to be dismayed. So we should constantly remind ourselves of this especially when the curve balls of life come our way.

God says, “I will strengthen you, I will help you”: God promises to provide us with strength and help. In those times when you feel that you don’t know how you are going to make it through the day or you just can’t go on, remember that God is right there with you and He will give you the strength and help you need, no matter what you are facing.

God says, “I will uphold you with My righteous right hand”: Not only does God promise to uphold us, He promises to uphold us with His righteous right hand. So when you slip up in life, God is going to be there to hold you up, as long as you trust in Him. God’s righteous right hand is pure, virtuous, upstanding, ethical and honest. So regardless of situation, God is righteous and He will uphold you with His righteous right hand.

Whatever you face in life, remember God says: *“Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”* Isaiah 41:10 (ESV)

NID Mission Grant Highlight

NID Life Task Force: Spreading the Gospel of Life

\$9,000

The Northern Illinois District Life Task Force’s mission is to present unique education and outreach opportunities about the reverence of life from conception through natural death to church workers and their congregations, affirming God’s will to create and sustain mortal life in the anticipation of Life in Christ. A grant from the LWML will enable the Life Task Force to offer more, and affordable, opportunities within each region of the Northern Illinois District to educate many more people on Life Issues and empower them to take up the Christian cause for life in Illinois—a critical need in light of the current culture of death that is enveloping Illinois.

Find a printable poster about this mission grant on the LWML NID website’s Grant Information and Resources page (or [click here](#)).

2022-2024 NID Mission Grants

The delegates to the 2022 LWML NID Convention voted to approve the proposed mite goal of \$160,000. \$98,000 will fund our district's grants. This goal, if met, along with a \$1,000 transfer from last biennium's surplus, will allow us to fully fund nine mission grants!

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis—Increasing Student Enrollment **\$8,000**

Concordia Seminary asked for a mission grant to help them address The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod's (LCMS) considerable pastor shortage that is jeopardizing faithful pastoral care to church members.

Northern Illinois District Life Task Force: Spreading the Gospel of Life **\$9,000**

The grant will enable the Life Task Force to offer more, and affordable, opportunities within each region of the Northern Illinois District to educate many more people on Life Issues and empower them to take up the Christian cause for life in Illinois.

Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch **\$4,000**

The gift from the Northern Illinois District will be used as part of a larger project to transform the Kruse Memorial Chapel, creating a more trauma-sensitive, child-friendly environment that engages at-risk children, facilitating growth in the Gospel and Christ-centered healing.

Lutheran Bible Translators **\$15,000**

The majority of the Subula people of Cameroon are Muslims. The Subula people are eager for a revised version of the New Testament and for the Old Testament to be translated. Lutheran Bible Translators requested \$15,000 to translate fifteen chapters of Scripture to put God's Word in the hands of the Subula people.

Walcamp **\$18,000**

Walcamp's pavilion is used by many of their programs, as well as many user groups. A few local congregations utilize this area for Vacation Bible School, while another uses the area for a large congregation camp out. They are planning on adding a serving kitchen to the structure.

MOST Ministries **\$8,000**

MOST Ministries enables committed Christians to go on short-term missions and share God's love through both witness and acts of service. This grant will enable MOST Ministries to cover the cost of attending the Team Leader Training Orientation and one Team Leader Retreat for four Team Leader Trainees who begin their training in 2023 and 2024 (four Team Leader Trainees in each year).

Trinity Lutheran Church and School of Tinley Park **\$10,668.90**

Trinity Lutheran School is remodeling a room to be a "maker space" with building and crafting material storage along the walls. They will purchase new technological learning materials, and open up the room so students can collaborate together and explore the world God created.

LINC Chicago **\$16,340**

LINC's goal is to find leaders in Chicago neighborhoods with God-given dreams who want to impact their communities with the Gospel and to raise up the next generation of church planters, multi-ethnic leaders, and urban missionaries. Funding will enable them to continue to engage, equip, and empower current LINC leaders as well as leaders yet to be recruited.

Voice of Care **\$10,000**

Voice of Care will provide a district-wide high-level Respite and Companion Care Training program for church workers and lay volunteers. They are poised to train 175 individuals to provide much-needed qualified short term respite care to families and individuals.

2023 Spring Rallies



*Left:
Zone 1*

*Right:
Zone 19*

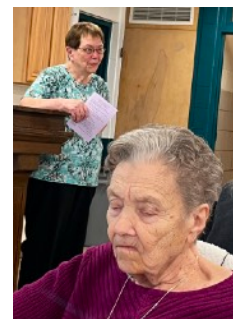
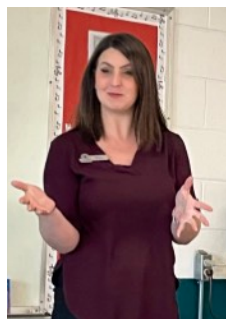


*Zone 3
also
below left*



*Zone 7
also
above right*

Zone 13





2023 Theme: God of Hope

The LWML NID theme for this year is “God of Hope” based on Romans 15:13. *“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.”* (ESV) Those who attend the 2023 activities will find that faith is being sure of that for which we hope.

NID Mites Address for 2022-2024

Please make **checks payable to: LWML NID**. Please write “Mites” on the memo line.

Address for sending mites and memorials:

LWML NID
PO Box 185
Westmont, IL 60559

Stamps for Missions Address

Did you know that cancelled postage stamps can earn money to support mites?

Learn more at <https://lwmlnid.org/missions/stamps-for-missions/>

The LCMS NID office has relocated, so please send or deliver cancelled postage stamps to:

LWML NID
c/o Trinity Lutheran Church
1101 Kimberly Way
Lisle, IL 60532

Calendar

- September 11, 2023 — LWML NID Fall Gathering **Registration Deadline** (see pp. 8, 13-14)
- September 29-30, 2023 — LWML NID **Fall Gathering** in Lombard, IL (see pp. 8, 13-14)
- January 15, 2024 — LWML NID **Mission Grant Proposal Submission Deadline**
- June 26-29, 2025 — LWML **National Convention** in Omaha, NE

Announcements

- **No NID-Bits Book Club?!** Don't worry! *Last Summer at Eden's* article will appear in the November edition of NID-Bits.
- Zones can send meeting announcements to be posted on the LWML NID website, Facebook, and Instagram to president@LWMLNID.org for distribution.
- Follow the District on social media for the latest updates! Use the links below, or click the icons on the www.LWMLNID.org website.
 - Facebook: LWMLNID — www.facebook.com/LWMLNID/
 - Instagram: LWMLNID — <https://www.instagram.com/lwmlnid/>
 - X (formerly Twitter): LWML NID — <https://twitter.com/LWMLNID>
 - YouTube: LWML NID — <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChA9AnqU21h2no7Q7QMiazw>

You can reach the NID-Bits Editor at publicationseditor@lwmlnid.org



2023 Fall Gathering

Sept 29 & 30, 2023



Trinity Lutheran Church
1165 S Westmore-Meyers Ave
Lombard, IL 60148

This year we are gathering to learn about Scripture journaling and creating illustrated encouragement cards. Virtual Faith Ministry, featured in the Fall 2022 Quarterly, will guide us through Bible Study, a presentation about their ministry, and two unique workshops to teach us how using visual illustrations of Scripture verses can enhance our own spiritual faith walk and encourage others. **Even if you don't think you are "creative," this workshop will have something for you!**



Dionne Lovstad-Jones volunteers for Visual Faith Ministry as a vision team member, digital missionary, and coach. In her professional vocation she serves as the gift planning counselor for the LCMS Foundation in Northern Illinois. Having spent extensive time in both hospitality and fundraising, Dionne understands thoroughly the joy that comes from giving and the giving of ourselves through radical hospitality. She resides in small-town Indiana with her husband Howard where they can often be seen hanging out in the backyard gazebo with their dogs, friends and neighbors.

Friday, September 29, 2023 7-9 PM Scripture Journaling Workshop

\$10 Includes **Fellowship and Dessert**

Saturday, September 30, 2023 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM Bible Study, Presentation

and hands on workshops to create illustrated encouragement cards

\$25 Includes light breakfast and lunch

You may come to one or both of the events.

Children 12 and over are welcome with an adult.

Contact Kris Blackwell 630-234-1491 or kbwrk123@gmail.com for information

Consider making this a complete Girls' Getaway. You can choose dining and shopping in the outdoor Oak Brook Center Mall under 3 miles east or visit the indoor Yorktown Mall just 3 miles to the west!

Below are just three of the hotels in the area. Google each mall and find more! No rooms are blocked so you can make your own choices.

Hyatt Place Chicago - Lombard/Oak Brook, 1.5 miles
2340 South Fountain Square Drive, Lombard, IL 60148
630.932.6501
<https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/hotel/illinois/hyatt-place-chicago-lombard-oak-brook/chizl>

Comfort Suites Oakbrook Terrace, 1.4 miles
17 West 445 Roosevelt Road, Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181
630.916.1000
<https://www.choicehotels.com/illinois/oakbrook-terrace/comfort-suites-hotels/il074>

Crowne Plaza Hotel Glen Ellyn/Lombard, 2 miles
1250 Roosevelt Road, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
630.629.6000
<https://www.ihg.com/crowneplaza/hotels/us/en/glen-ellyn/chige/hoteldetail>

-----2023 LWML NID Fall Gathering-----

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Zone # _____ Church _____ City _____

I will be attending:

____ Friday Night \$10 _____ Saturday \$25 _____ Total \$ _____

Saturday Box Lunch _____ Turkey _____ Ham _____ Gluten Free Veg _____

Make checks payable to LWML NID and clearly mark the memo Fall Gathering

Send by September 11, 2023 to:

LWML NID

PO Box 185

Westmont, IL 60559

Or register online:

<https://lwmlnid.org/event/fall-gathering/>



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 30, 2023

Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention 40th Biennial Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League, also known as Lutheran Women in Mission, welcomed over 3,500 people to their 40th biennial convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, June 22–25, 2023, under the theme “Celebrate the Lord of the Nations.” The convention theme was based on Psalm 33:12–13.

2023–2025 Mission Goal and Mission Grants

The Lutheran Women in Mission voting body adopted a \$2,350,000 mission goal for the 2023–2025 biennium. This goal, by the grace of God, will fund 31 mission grants, as women and men respond in prayer and mite offerings during the next two years. Here is the list of Mission Grant Recipients:

1. Orphan Grain Train Servant Center — Orphan Grain Train, U.S. \$100,000
2. A Healing Space for At-Risk Children — Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, North Dakota \$100,000
3. Serving God's Children with Special Needs — Journeys Lutheran School, Milwaukee, Wisconsin \$100,000
4. Fortifying Faith in Those with Vision Impairment — Lutheran Braille Workers \$100,000
5. Disaster Response Team — Trinity Lutheran Church, Tyler, Texas \$50,000
6. Mobile Kitchen — Forged by Fire Services, Gulf Coast Region, U.S. \$85,000
7. Upheld by God's Hand, Mental Health Outreach — LCMS Life Ministry \$96,500
8. Expanding Gospel Proclamation Worldwide — Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri \$100,000
9. Equipping Young Leaders — LCMS Youth Ministry \$50,000
10. Set Apart To Serve — LCMS Office of Pastoral Education \$100,000
11. Lutheran Women in Mission Finish the Job — Ministry in Mission, Haiti \$85,000
12. Sharing Christ Crucified with High School Youth — Lutheran High School of Greater New Orleans, Louisiana \$35,000
13. Water and the Word — Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya \$80,000

14. Enhancement of Deaf Ministry and Outreach — Ephphatha Lutheran Mission Society, U.S. \$47,000
15. Feeding Haitian Children Through Gospel and Meals — Trinity HOPE \$58,082
16. Care for Street Children of Western Kenya — Capstone Ministries \$50,000
17. Nurturing Faith for the Aging — Lutheran Ministries Media (Worship Anew) \$100,000
18. Zoe's Home Support — Zoe's Home, Trinity Lutheran Church, Clinton, Missouri \$75,000
19. Tanzania Children's Homes — Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania, Africa \$74,500
20. Sharing Christ with Women and Children in Kazakhstan — Lutheran Hour Ministries \$100,000
21. Healthy Together: Healthy Workers, Healthy Church — Lutheran Family Services \$106,000
22. Expanding Gospel Outreach to Hispanics in the United States — Lutheran Hour Ministries \$100,000
23. A Legacy of Love for Special Needs Children — Lutheran Special Education Ministries \$100,000
24. God's Word for Central & South American Missions — Lutheran Heritage Foundation \$100,000
25. Bringing God's Word to India — India Bible Translation Project \$100,000
26. Life Connection Events and Kits — Lutherans for Life \$70,000
27. Siouxland Lutheran Hispanic Ministry — Hope Lutheran, South Sioux City, Nebraska \$50,000
28. Growing Our Place: Care for Special Needs Students — Our Place After School Care, Inc., Nebraska \$20,000
29. Repairs for St. Paul's Lutheran School — St. Paul's Lutheran School, Cullman, Alabama \$50,000
30. Showering Love on the Least of These — Mercy Holistic Ministry, California \$100,000
31. Breaking Generational Poverty in Detroit— Camp Restore Detroit, Michigan, Partial Payment of \$58,988.62

LWML Elects New Leaders to the Board of Directors

The newly elected officers for the 2023–2027 term are:

President: Eden Keefe, LWML Kansas District

Vice President of Organizational Resources: Arlene Naasz, LWML South Dakota District

Vice President of Special Focus Ministries: Karol Selle, LWML North Wisconsin District

Treasurer: Anita Werner, LWML Rocky Mountain District

Pastoral Counselor: Rev. Mark Maas, LWML Wyoming District

The LWML Nominating Committee Was Elected for the 2023–2025 Biennium

The newly elected members of the Nominating Committee are:

Chairman: Olajumoke Odedele, LWML New Jersey District

Committee Member: Deaconess Betty Knapp, LWML North Wisconsin District

Committee Member: Laura Strattman, LWML Central Illinois District

Committee Member: Melissa Vance, LWML South Dakota District

Committee Member: Roxanne Pieper, LWML Minnesota South District

The LWML Board of Directors Approved Appointed Officers

The newly Appointed Officers are:

Strategic Plan Facilitator: Cheryl Mattil, LWML Texas District

Meeting Manager: Leslie Colligan, LWML New England District

Public Relations Director: Debbie Yocky, LWML Rocky Mountain District

Thank You for Your Generous Support

Convention offerings, the Mission Pledge Walk, and Tee Up for Mites donations are still being received. Final totals will be announced in an eNews article. Gifts from the Heart donation totals and recipients will also be provided.

About LWML

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) is the leading women's organization of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Since 1942, LWML has focused on affirming each woman's relationship with Christ, encouraging and equipping women to live out their Christian lives in active mission ministries, and to support global missions. We're a nonprofit organization that encourages women to joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and to honor God by serving others.



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